

Week 4 - Friday, 9/18

CSM.

Differentiation formulas and rules

(I) Formulas.

Using the definition

$$(*) \quad f'(x) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x},$$

we can derive the following formulas:

	$f(x)$	$f'(x)$
(A ₀)	1	0
(A ₁)	x	1
(A ₂)	x^2	$2x$
(A ₃)	x^3	$3x^2$
(A)	x^p (p a constant)	$p x^{p-1}$
(B)	$\sin(x)$	$\cos(x)$
(C)	$\cos(x)$	$-\sin(x)$
(D)	$\tan(x)$	$\sec^2(x)$

We'll also need a formula for exponential functions, meaning functions like

$$f(x) = b^x \quad (b \text{ a positive constant})$$

Examples: $f(x) = 2^x$, $f(x) = (1/3)^x$, $f(x) = \pi^x$, etc.

Let's do it: if $f(x) = b^x$, then

← definitions:

$$\tan(x) = \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)}$$

$$\sec(x) = 1/\cos(x)$$

$$\sec^2(x) \text{ means } (\sec(x))^2$$

$$f'(x) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{b^{x+\Delta x} - b^x}{\Delta x}$$

$$= \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{b^x b^{\Delta x} - b^x}{\Delta x} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{b^x (b^{\Delta x} - 1)}{\Delta x}$$

$$\stackrel{\curvearrowright}{=} b^x \left(\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{b^{\Delta x} - 1}{\Delta x} \right)$$

b^x does not
depend on Δx ,
so pull b^x out
front

Call this number
 k_b : it depends only
on b !!

To summarize:

(E) If $f(x) = b^x$, then

$$f'(x) = k_b \cdot b^x \text{ for some constant } k_b.$$

Notes:

(1) In other words: the rate of change of an exponential function is proportional to the magnitude of the function itself.

(2) For any given b , k_b can be approximated by

$$k_b \approx \frac{b^{\Delta x} - 1}{\Delta x},$$

for Δx small.

Examples:

we compute that

$$k_2 \approx \frac{2^{0.00001} - 1}{0.00001} = 0.6931\dots,$$

$$k_3 \approx \frac{3^{0.00001} - 1}{0.00001} = 1.0986\dots,$$

$$k_{1/4} \approx \frac{(\frac{1}{4})^{0.00001} - 1}{0.00001} = -1.3862\dots,$$

etc.

II) Rules.

Let's write

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x)] \text{ for } f'(x).$$

E.g. $\frac{d}{dx}[x^3] = 3x^2, \quad \frac{d}{dx}[3^x] = k_3 \cdot 3^x,$

etc.

Then we have:

(A) The "constant multiple" rule:

$$\frac{d}{dx}[cf(x)] = c f'(x) \text{ for any constant } c.$$

(B) The "sum" rule:

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(x) + g(x)] = f'(x) + g'(x).$$

(III) Examples (DIY: what formulas/rules are we using?)

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$$(i) \frac{d}{dx} [x^{25}] = 25x^{24}$$

$$(ii) \frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{1}{x^{25}} \right] = \frac{d}{dx} [x^{-25}] = -25x^{-26} = -\frac{25}{x^{26}}$$

$$(iii) \frac{d}{dx} \left[\sqrt[25]{x} \right] = \frac{d}{dx} [x^{1/25}] = \frac{1}{25} x^{\frac{1}{25}-1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{25} x^{-24/25} = \frac{1}{25 \cdot \sqrt[25]{x^{24}}}$$

$$(iv) \frac{d}{dx} [17x^{25}] = 17 \cdot \frac{d}{dx} [x^{25}] = 17 \cdot 25x^{24}$$

$$= 425x^{24}$$

$$(v) \frac{d}{dx} [x^{12} + 5\sin(x)] = \frac{d}{dx} [x^{12}] + 5 \frac{d}{dx} [\sin(x)]$$

$$12x^{11} + 5\cos(x)$$

$$(vi) \frac{d}{dx} [x^{\pi} + \pi^x]$$

$$= \pi x^{\pi-1} + \ln(\pi) \cdot \pi^x$$

$$(vii) \frac{d}{dx} [\sin(x^2)] = ?$$

Come back Monday.