

16 Derivative Rules

Example 16.1 (Problem 4.1.14)

$f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable at x_0 .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0 - h)}{h} &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h} + \frac{f(x_0) - f(x_0 - h)}{h} \right) \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h} + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0) - f(x_0 - h)}{-h} \\ &= f'(x_0) + f'(x_0) = 2f'(x_0) \end{aligned}$$

16.1 Differentiation Rules

Assume $f'(x_0)$ and $g'(x_0)$ exist.

1. Sum Rule:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{(f+g)x - (f+g)x_0}{x - x_0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \left(\frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} + \frac{g(x) - g(x_0)}{x - x_0} \right) = f'(x_0) + g'(x_0)$$

$$\text{So, } \boxed{(f+g)'(x_0) = f'(x_0) + g'(x_0)}$$

Note 16.2

Proposition 4.5 ** states that if $f'(x_0)$ exists, then f is continuous at x_0 .

2. Product Rule

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f(x)g(x) - f(x_0)g(x_0)}{x - x_0} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f(x)g(x) - f(x)g(x_0)}{x - x_0} + \frac{f(x)g(x_0) - f(x_0)g(x_0)}{x - x_0} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) \left(\frac{g(x) - g(x_0)}{x - x_0} \right) + \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \left[\frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} g(x_0) \right] \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} f(x) \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{g(x) - g(x_0)}{x - x_0} + \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} g(x_0) \\ &= f(x_0)g'(x_0) + f'(x_0)g(x_0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } \boxed{(fg)'(x_0) = f(x_0)g'(x_0) + f'(x_0)g(x_0)}$$

Note 16.3

If $g'(x_0)$ exists and $g'(x_0) \neq 0$, then

$$\left(\frac{1}{g} \right)'(x_0) = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \frac{1/g(x) - 1/g(x_0)}{x - x_0} = \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} \left[\frac{g(x_0) - g(x)}{x - x_0} \frac{1}{g(x)g(x_0)} \right] = \frac{g'(x_0)}{(g(x_0))^2}$$

3. Quotient Rule: If $g(x) \neq 0$ for all x in the neighborhood of x_0 , then

$$\left(\frac{f}{g} \right)' = \frac{g(x_0)f'(x_0) - f(x_0)g'(x_0)}{(g(x_0))^2}$$

For the proof, use $\frac{f}{g}(x) = (f(x)\frac{1}{g(x)})$ and use the Product Rule with the note above.

Note 16.4

All polynomials and all rational functions are differentiable.

Example 16.5

$$f(x) = 3x^{15} - x^6 + \pi x - 4 \implies f'(x) = 45x^{14} - 6x^5 + \pi$$

$$g(x) = \frac{x^2-5}{x^3+1} \implies g'(x) = \frac{(x^3+1)(2x) - (x^2-5)(3x^2)}{(x^3+1)^2}$$

Theorem 16.6 (Thm 3.29)

If I is an interval and $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is strictly monotone on I , then f^{-1} is continuous.

Theorem 16.7 (Thm 4.11)

Let I be a neighborhood of x_0 , let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ where f is continuous and strictly monotone.

Assume $f'(x_0)$ exists, but $f'(x_0) \neq 0$. If $f(x_0) = y_0$, then $(f^{-1})'(y_0) = \frac{1}{f'(x_0)}$.

Proof. Let $f(x_0) = y_0$, so $f^{-1}(y_0) = x_0$. Let $y_n \rightarrow y_0$.
Then $x_n = f^{-1}(y_n) \rightarrow x_0$ by Thm 3.29

Then

$$(f^{-1})'(y_0) \leftarrow \frac{f^{-1}(y_n) - f^{-1}(y_0)}{y_n - y_0} = \frac{x_n - x_0}{y_n - y_0} = \frac{x_n - x_0}{f(x_n) - f(x_0)} = \frac{1}{\frac{f(x_n) - f(x_0)}{x_n - x_0}} \rightarrow \frac{1}{f'(x_0)}$$

□

Example 16.8

$g(x) = x^n$ for $x \geq 0$ and $n \geq 1$. Show $(g^{-1})(x)$ exists for $x > 0$, and find a formula for it.

Solution: g is one to one, so g^{-1} exists and g^{-1} is strictly increasing.

Also, $g^{-1}(y) = x = y^{1/n}$ for $y \geq 0$.

Then

$$(g^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{g'(x)} = \frac{1}{nx^{n-1}} = \frac{1}{n(y^{1/n})^{n-1}} = \frac{1}{ny^{1-1/n}} = \frac{1}{n}y^{1/n-1}$$

Example 16.9

Let $f(x) = \sin x$ for $-\frac{\pi}{2} \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$. Find a formula for $(f^{-1})'(y)$ for $-1 < y < 1$.

Solution: $\sin x$ is strictly increasing on $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$, so f^{-1} exists on $[-1, 1]$.
Let y be in $(-1, 1)$.

Then

$$(f^{-1})'(y) = \frac{1}{f'(x)} = \frac{1}{\frac{d}{dx} \sin x} = \frac{1}{\cos x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2 x}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - y^2}} \quad \text{since } y = \sin x$$

Theorem 16.10 (Chain Rule - Thm 4.14)

Let $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $g : J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $f(I) \subseteq J$. Assume $f'(x_0)$ exists, and $g'(f(x_0))$ exists.

Then $(g \circ f)'(x_0)$ exists, and $(g \circ f)'(x_0) = (g'(f(x_0))) f'(x_0)$

Proof. partial proof where $f(x) \neq f(x_0)$ for all x near x_0 .

Let $f(x) = y$, $f(x_0) = y_0$. Then if $x_n \rightarrow x_0$, then

$$\begin{aligned}(g \circ f)'(x_0) &\leftarrow \frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(x_0))}{x - x_0} = \frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(x_0))}{y - y_0} \left(\frac{y - y_0}{x - x_0} \right) \\ &= \frac{g(y) - g(y_0)}{y - y_0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} \rightarrow (g'(f(x_0)))f'(x_0)\end{aligned}$$

Example 16.11

$h(x) = (1 - x^2)^{3/2}$. Find $h'(x)$

Solution: Let $f(x) = 1 - x^2$ (inner function), and let $g(x) = x^{3/2}$ (outer function).

Then $h(x) = g(f(x))$, so by chain rule, $h'(x) = (g'(f(x)))f'(x) = \frac{3}{2}(1 - x^2)^{1/2}(-2x)$

□