



**Problem 1.** For each of the following functions  $f : (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , prove that  $f$  is differentiable at any point  $a > 0$  and find  $f'(a)$ .

- (a)  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$   
(b)  $f(x) = \sqrt{x}$

(a) Claim:  $f'(a) = -\frac{1}{a^2}$

Pf: for  $h \neq 0$ :

$$\frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \frac{\frac{1}{a+h} - \frac{1}{a}}{h} = \frac{\frac{a - a - h}{a(a+h)h}}{h} = \frac{-1}{a(a+h)} = -\frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{1}{a+h}$$

• Using limit law of multiplication,

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(-\frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{1}{a+h}\right) \Leftrightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(-\frac{1}{a}\right) \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{a+h}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{a} \cdot \frac{1}{a} = -\frac{1}{a^2}$$

□

(b) Claim:  $f'(a) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}}$

Pf: for  $h \neq 0$ :

$$\frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \frac{\sqrt{a+h} - \sqrt{a}}{h} \Leftrightarrow \frac{(\sqrt{a+h} - \sqrt{a})(\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a})}{h(\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a})}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{a+h - a}{h(\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a})} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{a+h} + \sqrt{a}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a} + \sqrt{a}} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{a}}$$

as wanted

□

**Problem 2.** Consider the function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $f(x) = \max\{0, x\}$ . For each  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , determine if  $f$  is differentiable at  $a$  and prove your answer.

2

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x \leq 0 \\ x, & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

①  $a < 0$   $f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{0}{h} = 0$

②  $a > 0$   $f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a+h-a}{h} = 1$

③  $a = 0$   $f(x)$  changes definition, so need to examine if  $f'(0^-) = f'(0^+)$

$$\cdot f'(0^-) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{0}{h} = 0$$

$$\cdot f'(0^+) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{0+h-0}{h} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{f'(0^-) \neq f'(0^+)}.$$

$\Rightarrow f$  is differentiable for  $a > 0, a < 0$ .  
but not at  $a = 0$ . □

3

**Problem 3.** Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function, and suppose that  $f$  is differentiable at  $a$  for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(a) Prove that for any constant  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , the function  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g(x) = f(x) + c$  is differentiable at any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $g'(a) = f'(a)$ .

(b) Prove that for any constant  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , the function  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g(x) = f(x + c)$  is differentiable at any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $g'(a) = f'(a + c)$ .

(a) By differential law for addition (Lec)

$$g'(a) = f'(a) + c'$$

$$\text{while } c' = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{c - c}{h} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow g'(a) = f'(a)$$

(b). By chain rule (Lec)

$$g'(a) = f'(a+c) \cdot x'|_{x=a}$$

$$\text{while, } x'|_{x=a} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{a+h-a}{h} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow g'(a) = f'(a+c) \quad \text{as wanted.}$$

□

4

**Problem 4.** Suppose that  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function that satisfies  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f'(0) = 0$ . Define the function  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) \cdot \sin \frac{1}{x} & \text{if } x \neq 0, \\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0. \end{cases}$$

Prove that  $g$  is differentiable at 0 and  $g'(0) = 0$ .

for  $h \neq 0$ .

$$\frac{g(0+h) - g(0)}{h} = \frac{f(h) \sin \frac{1}{h}}{h} \quad (*)$$

given that :  $\begin{cases} f(0) = 0 \\ f'(0) = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h) - f(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h)}{h} = 0$

So, combined with limit law for multiplication,

$$(*) \Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(0+h) - g(0)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(h)}{h} \cdot \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin \frac{1}{h} = 0.$$

i.e.  $g'(0) = 0$  as wanted

□

**Problem 5.** Prove that the function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x) = |x|^3$  is twice differentiable at any point  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , but is not three-times differentiable at 0.

[5]

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^3 & x > 0 \\ -x^3 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\textcircled{1} a > 0: \text{ for } h \neq 0 \quad \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} = \frac{(a+h)^3 - a^3}{h} = 3a^2 + 3ah + h^2$$

$$\text{so } f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 3a^2 + 3ah + h^2 = 3a^2$$

$$f''(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{3(a+h)^2 - 3a^2}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} 6a + 3h = 6a$$

$\Rightarrow$  twice differentiable for  $a > 0$

$$\textcircled{2} a < 0: \text{ for } h \neq 0:$$

$$f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-(a+h)^3 - (-a^3)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-3ah^2 - 3a^2h - h^3}{h} = -3a^2$$

$$f''(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-3(a+h)^2 + 3a^2}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{-6ah - 3h^2}{h} = -6a$$

$\Rightarrow$  twice differentiable for  $a < 0$

$$\textcircled{3} a = 0: \text{ for } h \neq 0:$$

$$\bullet \frac{f(0+h) - f(0)}{h} = \begin{cases} \frac{h^3 - 0}{h} = h^2 & h > 0 \\ \frac{-h^3 - 0}{h} = -h^2 & h < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow f'(0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \pm h^2 = 0$$

$$\bullet \frac{f'(0+h) - f'(0)}{h} = 0 \Rightarrow f''(0) = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  twice differentiable at  $a = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{f''(a) = |6a| \text{ for } a \in \mathbb{R}}$$

\* But we saw from lec that  $g'(0)$  DNE for  $g(x) = |x|$

SO, by differentiation law,  $f'''(0) = 6 \cdot g'(0)$ , DNE  $\square$