

Last time: Differentiation laws

$$\textcircled{1} (cf)'(a) = c \cdot f'(a) \quad \forall c \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\textcircled{2} (f+g)'(a) = f'(a) + g'(a)$$

Thm (Product rule) Let $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be an open interval, $f, g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and $a \in I$. If f and g are differentiable at a , then fg is differentiable at a and

$$(fg)'(a) = f'(a)g(a) + f(a)g'(a).$$

Pf: For $h \neq 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{f(a+h)g(a+h) - f(a)g(a)}{h} \\ &= \frac{f(a+h)g(a+h) - f(a)g(a+h) + f(a)g(a+h) - f(a)g(a)}{h} \\ &= \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \cdot g(a+h) + f(a) \cdot \frac{g(a+h) - g(a)}{h} \end{aligned}$$

As f and g are differentiable at a , we know:

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

$$\textcircled{2} \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(a+h) - g(a)}{h} = g'(a)$$

$\textcircled{3}$ g continuous at a (by lecture 22)

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = g(a)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} g(a+h) = g(a)$$

Therefore, by the limit laws,

$$\begin{aligned} & \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h)g(a+h) - f(a)g(a)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[\frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \cdot g(a+h) + f(a) \cdot \frac{g(a+h) - g(a)}{h} \right] \\ &= f'(a) \cdot g(a) + f(a) \cdot g'(a) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } (fg)'(a) = f'(a)g(a) + f(a)g'(a). \quad \square$$

Thm (Quotient rule) Let $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be an open interval, $f, g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, and $a \in I$. If f and g are differentiable at a and $g(a) \neq 0$, then $\frac{f}{g}$ is differentiable at a and

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

Pf: It suffices to show

$$\left(\frac{1}{g}\right)'(a) = -\frac{g'(a)}{g(a)^2}.$$

Indeed, once we prove this, then by the product rule we have

$$\begin{aligned} (f \cdot \frac{1}{g})'(a) &= f'(a) \cdot \frac{1}{g(a)} + f(a) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{g}\right)'(a) \\ &= \frac{f'(a)}{g(a)} - \frac{f(a)g'(a)}{g(a)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{f'(a)g(a) - f(a)g'(a)}{g(a)^2}.$$

Want: $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{g(a+h)} - \frac{1}{g(a)}}{h} = - \frac{g'(a)}{g(a)^2}$. As g is continuous at a (by Lecture 22) and $g(a) \neq 0$, then $\exists \delta > 0$ s.t. $g(x) \neq 0 \ \forall x \in (a-\delta, a+\delta)$ (by Lecture 15). So for $h \in (-\delta, \delta)$, $\frac{1}{g(a+h)}$ makes sense and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\frac{1}{g(a+h)} - \frac{1}{g(a)}}{h} &= \frac{g(a) - g(a+h)}{h \cdot g(a) \cdot g(a+h)} \\ &= - \frac{g(a+h) - g(a)}{h} \cdot \frac{1}{g(a)g(a+h)} \end{aligned}$$

As g is differentiable at a , we know:

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

$\textcircled{2} \ g$ continuous at a (by Lecture 22)

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = g(a)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} g(a+h) = g(a) \quad \text{and} \quad g(a) \neq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{g(a)g(a+h)} = \frac{1}{g(a)^2}$$

Together, by the limit laws,

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\frac{1}{g(a+h)} - \frac{1}{g(a)}}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left[- \frac{g(a+h) - g(a)}{h} \cdot \frac{1}{g(a)g(a+h)} \right]$$

$$= -g'(a) \cdot \frac{1}{g(a)^2}$$

$$\text{So } \left(\frac{1}{g}\right)'(a) = -\frac{g'(a)}{g(a)^2}.$$

□

$$\text{Ex } \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad \frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}.$$

Pf: Case: $n \geq 0$. Already know (Lecture 24).

Case: $n < 0$. Then $x^n = \frac{1}{x^{-n}}$ with $-n > 0$.

Fix $a \neq 0$. We know $g(x) = x^{-n}$ is differentiable with $g'(a) = -na^{-n-1}$ and $g(a) = a^{-n} \neq 0$. So, by the quotient rule,

$$\begin{aligned} (x^n)'(a) &= \left(\frac{1}{g}\right)'(a) = -\frac{g'(a)}{g(a)^2} \\ &= -\frac{(-n)a^{-n-1}}{(a^{-n})^2} = na^{-n-1+2n} = na^{n-1}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Ex Let $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = \frac{x}{x^2+1}$. Prove f is differentiable, and find its derivative.

Pf: Fix $a \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$(x)'(a) = 1, \quad (x^2+1)'(a) = 2a$$

(These are polynomials, which we already know are differentiable on \mathbb{R} .) As $a^2+1 \neq 0$

(since $a^2 \geq 0$), then by the quotient rule we have

$$f'(a) = \frac{1 \cdot (a^2+1) - a \cdot 2a}{(a^2+1)^2} = \frac{-a^2+1}{(a^2+1)^2} . \quad \square$$

Thm (Chain rule) Let $I, J \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be open intervals, $f: I \rightarrow J$ and $g: J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be functions, and $a \in I$. If f is differentiable at a and g is differentiable at $f(a)$, then $g \circ f$ is differentiable at a and

$$(g \circ f)'(a) = g'(f(a)) \cdot f'(a).$$