

SUCCESSIVE DIFFERENTIATION

Consider a function $y = f(x)$. The derivatives of y w.r.t. x are:
 $\frac{dy}{dx}, \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}, \frac{d^3y}{dx^3}, \dots, \frac{d^ny}{dx^n}, \text{ etc.}$

These are called as successive derivatives.

An alternate notation is:

$$y', y'', y''', \dots, y^{(n)}, \text{ etc.}$$

$$\text{OR } y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_n, \text{ etc.} \quad \leftarrow \text{(Remember)}$$

n^{th} DERIVATIVE OF SOME STANDARD FUNCTIONS

- ① $y = e^{ax}$
Differentiate w.r.t. x ;

$$y_1 = a e^{ax}$$

$$y_2 = a^2 e^{ax}$$

Generalize,

$$y_n = a^n e^{ax}$$

- ② $y = (ax+b)^m$
Differentiate w.r.t. x ;

$$y_1 = am(ax+b)^{m-1}$$

$$y_2 = a^2 m(m-1)(ax+b)^{m-2}$$

$$y_3 = a^3 m(m-1)(m-2)(ax+b)^{m-3}$$

Generalize,

$$y_n = a^n m(m-1)(m-2) \dots [m-(n-1)] (ax+b)^{m-n}$$

- ③ $y = \log_e(ax+b)$

Differentiate w.r.t. x ;

$$y_1 = \frac{a}{(ax+b)}$$

$$y_2 = a \times \frac{-1}{(ax+b)^2} \times a = -\frac{a^2}{(ax+b)^2} = \frac{(-1)^1 1! a^2}{(ax+b)^2}$$

$$y_3 = -a^2 \times \frac{-2}{(ax+b)^3} \times a = +\frac{2a^3}{(ax+b)^3} = \frac{(-1)^2 2! a^3}{(ax+b)^3}$$

$$y_4 = 2a^3 \times \frac{-3}{(ax+b)^4} \times a = -\frac{3 \cdot 2 a^4}{(ax+b)^4} = \frac{(-1)^3 3! a^4}{(ax+b)^4}$$

Generalize,

$$y_n = \frac{(-1)^{n-1} (n-1)! a^n}{(ax+b)^n}$$

- ④ $y = \sin(ax+b)$

Differentiate w.r.t. x ;

$$y_1 = a \cos(ax+b) = a \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + ax+b\right)$$

$$\star \cos \theta = \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \theta \right)$$

$$y_2 = a^2 \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{2} + ax + b \right) = a^2 \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \frac{\pi}{2} + ax + b \right) = a^2 \sin \left(\frac{2\pi}{2} + ax + b \right)$$

Generalize,

$$y_n = a^n \sin \left(\frac{n\pi}{2} + ax + b \right)$$

⑤

$$y = \cos(ax + b)$$

Differentiate w.r.t. x ;

$$y_1 = -a \sin(ax + b) = a \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{2} + ax + b \right)$$

$$\star -\sin \theta = \cos \left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \theta \right)$$

$$y_2 = -a^2 \sin \left(\frac{\pi}{2} + ax + b \right) = a^2 \cos \left(\frac{2\pi}{2} + ax + b \right)$$

Generalize,

$$y_n = a^n \cos \left(\frac{n\pi}{2} + ax + b \right)$$

⑥

$$y = e^{ax} \sin(bx + c)$$

Differentiate w.r.t. x ;

$$y_1 = e^{ax} b \cos(bx + c) + a e^{ax} \sin(bx + c) = e^{ax} [b \cos(bx + c) + a \sin(bx + c)]$$

$$\star \sin A \cos B + \cos A \sin B = \sin(A + B)$$

Let $b = r \sin \theta$ & $a = r \cos \theta$

Squaring and adding;

$$a^2 + b^2 = r^2 \Rightarrow r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

Dividing;

$$\frac{b}{a} = \tan \theta \Rightarrow \theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{b}{a} \right)$$

$$\therefore y_1 = e^{ax} [r \sin \theta \cos(bx + c) + r \cos \theta \sin(bx + c)] = r e^{ax} \sin[\theta + (bx + c)]$$

Generalize, $y_n = r^n e^{ax} \sin[n\theta + (bx + c)]$ where $r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$ & $\theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{b}{a} \right)$

⑦

$$y = e^{ax} \cos(bx + c)$$

Differentiate w.r.t. x ;

$$y_1 = -e^{ax} b \sin(bx + c) + a e^{ax} \cos(bx + c) = e^{ax} [a \cos(bx + c) - b \sin(bx + c)]$$

$$\star \cos A \cos B - \sin A \sin B = \cos(A + B)$$

Let $b = r \sin \theta$ & $a = r \cos \theta$

Squaring and adding;

$$a^2 + b^2 = r^2 \Rightarrow r = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$$

Dividing;

$$\frac{b}{a} = \tan \theta \Rightarrow \theta = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{b}{a} \right)$$

$$\therefore y_1 = e^{ax} [r \cos \theta \cos(bx + c) - r \sin \theta \sin(bx + c)] = r e^{ax} \cos[\theta + (bx + c)]$$

Generalize, $y_n = x^n e^{ax} \cos [n\theta + (bx+c)]$ where $r = \sqrt{a^2+b^2}$ & $\theta = \tan^{-1}(\frac{b}{a})$

Ques 1 Find the n^{th} derivative of:

(a) $\frac{5+2x}{x^2-5x+6}$

(b) $\frac{x^3}{x^2-1}$

(c) $\sin 5x \cos 3x$

(d) $\frac{x^n-1}{x-1}, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Sol (a) let $y = \frac{5+2x}{x^2-5x+6}$

$$= \frac{5+2x}{(x-2)(x-3)}$$

let $\frac{5+2x}{(x-2)(x-3)} = \frac{A}{x-2} + \frac{B}{x-3}$ (by partial fractions)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{5+2x}{(x-2)(x-3)} = \frac{A(x-3) + B(x-2)}{(x-2)(x-3)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 5+2x = A(x-3) + B(x-2)$$

Put $x=3, \quad 11 = B$

Put $x=2, \quad -9 = A$

$$\therefore y = \frac{-9}{x-2} + \frac{11}{x-3}$$

Differentiate w.r.t. x ;

$$y_1 = 9 \left[\frac{1}{(x-2)^2} \right] + 11 \left[\frac{-1}{(x-3)^2} \right]$$

$$y_2 = 9 \left[\frac{-(2 \cdot 1)}{(x-2)^3} \right] + 11 \left[\frac{-(-2 \cdot 1)}{(x-3)^3} \right]$$

$$y_3 = 9 \left[\frac{(-1)(3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1)}{(x-2)^4} \right] + 11 \left[\frac{(-1)^2 (3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1)}{(x-3)^4} \right]$$

Generalize, $y_n = 9 \frac{(-1)^{n-1} n!}{(x-2)^{n+1}} + 11 \frac{(-1)^{n-1} n!}{(x-3)^{n+1}}$

Can be hidden

(b) let $y = \frac{x^3}{x^2-1}$

$$\Rightarrow y = x + \frac{x}{x^2-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = x + \frac{x}{(x-1)(x+1)} = x + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{x-1} + \frac{1}{x+1} \right]$$

Differentiate w.r.t. x ;

$$y_1 = 1 + \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{-1}{(x-1)^2} + \frac{(-1)}{(x+1)^2} \right]$$

$$y_2 = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{(-1)^2 \cdot 2!}{(x-1)^3} + \frac{(-1)^2 \cdot 2!}{(x+1)^3} \right]$$

Generalize, $y_n = \frac{1}{2} (-1)^n n! \left[\frac{1}{(x-1)^{n+1}} + \frac{1}{(x+1)^{n+1}} \right]$

(c) let $y = \sin 5x \cos 3x$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{2} (2 \sin 5x \cos 3x)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\sin 8x + \sin 2x]$$

★ $2 \sin A \cos B = \sin(A+B) + \sin(A-B)$

Differentiate w.r.t. x 'n' times;

$$y_n = \frac{1}{2} \left[8^n \sin \left(\frac{n\pi}{2} + 8x \right) + 2^n \sin \left(\frac{n\pi}{2} + 2x \right) \right]$$

USE RESULT FOR $D^n \sin(ax+bx)$

Q1) Let $y = \frac{x^n - 1}{x - 1}$, n is a positive integer

$$\begin{array}{r}
 x-1 \overline{) \begin{array}{l} x^n - 1 \\ x^{n-1} + x^{n-2} + \dots + 1 \end{array} } \\
 \underline{-(+x^{n-1})} \\
 x^{n-2} - 1 \\
 \underline{-(+x^{n-2})} \\
 x^{n-3} - 1 \\
 \vdots \\
 \underline{-(+x^1)} \\
 x^0 - 1 \\
 \underline{-(+x^0)} \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

$$\therefore y = x^{n-1} + x^{n-2} + \dots + 1$$

Differentiate 'n' times, $y_n = 0$

LEIBNITZ THEOREM

Let 'u' and 'v' be functions of 'x' whose n^{th} derivatives are known. Then

$$D^n(uv) = {}^nC_0(D^n u)(D^0 v) + {}^nC_1(D^{n-1} u)(D^1 v) + {}^nC_2(D^{n-2} u)(D^2 v) + \dots + {}^nC_n(D^0 u)(D^n v)$$

PROOF

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{We know that } D(uv) &= u_1 v + u v_1 = {}^1C_0 D(u) D^0(v) + {}^1C_1 D^0(u) D^1(v) \\
 D^2(uv) &= D[D(uv)] = D(u_1 v) + D(u v_1) \\
 &= u_2 v + u_1 v_1 + u_1 v_1 + u v_2 \\
 &= u_2 v + 2u_1 v_1 + u v_2 \\
 &= {}^2C_0 D^2(u) D^0(v) + {}^2C_1 D(u) D^2(v) + {}^2C_2 D^0(u) D^2(v)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Generalize, } D^n(uv) = {}^nC_0(D^n u)(D^0 v) + {}^nC_1(D^{n-1} u)(D^1 v) + {}^nC_2(D^{n-2} u)(D^2 v) + \dots + {}^nC_n(D^0 u)(D^n v)$$

REMARKS

- * $D^0(u) = u$, $D^0(v) = v$ & $D^n(y_k) = y_{k+n}$
- * ${}^nC_r = \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!}$ i.e. ${}^nC_0 = 1$, ${}^nC_1 = n$, ${}^nC_2 = \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}$, ${}^nC_3 = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{3!}$, etc.
- * ${}^nC_r = {}^nC_{n-r}$ i.e. ${}^nC_n = {}^nC_0 = 1$, ${}^nC_{n-1} = {}^nC_1 = n$, etc.
- * The polynomials are generally taken as 'v'.
- * $(y_n)_0$ denote the value of y_n evaluated at $x=0$

Ques 2) If $y = x^2 e^{2x}$, prove that $(y_n)_0 = 2^{n-2} n(n-1)$

Sol) Diff. n times using LT;

$$\begin{aligned}
 D^n(y) &= D^n(x^2 e^{2x}) \\
 \Rightarrow y_n &= {}^nC_0(D^n x^2)(D^0 e^{2x}) + {}^nC_1(D^{n-1} x^2)(D^1 e^{2x}) + {}^nC_2(D^{n-2} x^2)(D^2 e^{2x}) \\
 &= (2^n e^{2x})(x^2) + n(2^{n-1} e^{2x})(2x) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!}(2^{n-2} e^{2x})(2) \\
 \Rightarrow y_n &= 2^n x^2 e^{2x} + 2^n n x e^{2x} + n(n-1) 2^{n-2} e^{2x}
 \end{aligned}$$

Put $x=0$,

$$(y_n)_0 = n(n-1) 2^{n-2}$$

Ques 2 Find the n^{th} derivative of:

(a) $x^2 \sin x$

(b) $x^2 e^x \sin x$

Sol (a) $D^n [x^2 \sin x] = {}^nC_0 (D^n \sin x) (D^0 x^2) + {}^nC_1 (D^{n-1} \sin x) (D^1 x^2) + {}^nC_2 (D^{n-2} \sin x) (D^2 x^2)$
 $= \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2} + x\right) (x^2) + n \left[\sin\left(\frac{(n-1)\pi}{2} + x\right) (2x) + n(n-1) \sin\left(\frac{(n-2)\pi}{2} + x\right) \right]$

How?

★ $D^n \sin(x+b) = a^n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2} + ax+b\right)$
 Put $a=1, b=0$
 $D^n (\sin x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2} + x\right)$

(b) $D^n [e^x \sin x \cdot x^2]$
 $= {}^nC_0 D^n (e^x \sin x) (x^2) + {}^nC_1 D^{n-1} (e^x \sin x) D(x^2) + {}^nC_2 D^{n-2} (e^x \sin x) \cdot D^2(x^2)$
 $= 2^{n/2} e^x \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{4} + x\right) x^2 + n 2^{\frac{n-1}{2}} e^x \sin\left[\frac{(n-1)\pi}{4} + x\right] (2x) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} 2^{\frac{n-2}{2}} e^x \sin\left[\frac{(n-2)\pi}{4} + x\right] (2)$
 $= e^x \left[x^2 2^{n/2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{4} + x\right) + n x 2^{\frac{n-1}{2}} \sin\left[\frac{(n-1)\pi}{4} + x\right] + n(n-1) 2^{\frac{n-2}{2}} \sin\left[\frac{(n-2)\pi}{4} + x\right] \right]$

How?

★ $D^n e^{ax} \sin(bx+c) = x^n e^{ax} \sin[n\theta + (bx+c)]$
 where $x = \sqrt{a^2+b^2}$ & $\theta = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{b}{a}\right)$
 Put $a=1, b=1, c=0$
 $D^n [e^x \sin x] = 2^{n/2} e^x \sin\left[\frac{n\pi}{4} + x\right]$

Ques 3 If $y = x^n \log x$, prove that $y_{n+1} = \frac{n!}{x}$

Sol $y = x^n \log x$
 diff. w.r.t. x , $y_1 = x^n \times \frac{1}{x} + n x^{n-1} \cdot \log x$

$\Rightarrow x y_1 = x^n + n x^n \log x$
 $\Rightarrow x y_1 = x^n + n y$

NOTE THIS STEP

Diff. n times using LT; $D^n [y_1 x] = D^n [x^n] + n D^n [y]$

$\Rightarrow [{}^nC_0 (D^n y_1) (D^0 x) + {}^nC_1 (D^{n-1} y_1) (D^1 x)] = n! + n y_n$

$\Rightarrow x y_{n+1} + n y_n = n! + n y_n \Rightarrow y_{n+1} = \frac{n!}{x}$

★ y_{n+1}
 Use LT to diff. further n times
 Diff. n times as earlier

Ques 4 If $y = (x^2-1)^n$, prove that $(x^2-1) y_{n+2} + 2x y_{n+1} - n(n+1) y_n = 0$

Sol $y = (x^2-1)^n$
 diff. w.r.t. x ; $y_1 = n(x^2-1)^{n-1} \times 2x$
 $\Rightarrow y_1 = 2nx \frac{(x^2-1)^n}{(x^2-1)}$

$\Rightarrow (x^2-1) y_1 = 2nx y$

NOTE THIS STEP

diff. w.r.t. x ;

$(x^2-1) y_2 + 2x y_1 = 2n(x y_1 + y)$

$\Rightarrow (x^2-1) y_2 + 2x y_1 - 2n x y_1 - 2n y = 0$

diff. n times using L.T.

$D^n [(x^2-1) y_2] + 2 D^n [x y_1] - 2n D^n [x y_1] - 2n D^n [y] = D^n [0]$

$\Rightarrow [{}^nC_0 (D^n y_2) (x^2-1) + {}^nC_1 (D^{n-1} y_2) D^1(x^2-1) + {}^nC_2 (D^{n-2} y_2) D^2(x^2-1)]$

$+ 2 [{}^nC_0 (D^n y_1) (x) + {}^nC_1 (D^{n-1} y_1) (Dx)] - 2n [{}^nC_0 (D^n y_1) (x) + {}^nC_1 (D^{n-1} y_1) (Dx)] - 2n y_n = 0$

$\Rightarrow [y_{n+2} (x^2-1) + n y_{n+1} (2x) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} y_n (2)] + 2 [y_{n+1} x + n y_n] - 2n [y_{n+1} x + n y_n] - 2n y_n = 0$

$\Rightarrow (x^2-1) y_{n+2} + 2x y_{n+1} + (n^2-n-2n^2) y_n = 0$

$\Rightarrow (x^2-1) y_{n+2} + 2x y_{n+1} - n(n+1) y_n = 0$

Ques 5 If $y = \sin [\log (x^2 + 2x + 1)]$, prove that $(x+1)^2 y_{n+2} + (2n+1)(x+1) y_{n+1} + (n^2 + 4) y_n = 0$

Sol $y = \sin [\log (x+1)^2] = \sin [2 \log (x+1)]$

diff. wrt x ; $y_1 = \cos [2 \log (x+1)] \times \left(\frac{2}{x+1} \right)$

$\Rightarrow (x+1) y_1 = 2 \cos [2 \log (x+1)]$

diff. again; $(x+1) y_2 + y_1 = -2 \sin [2 \log (x+1)] \times \frac{2}{(x+1)}$

$\Rightarrow (x+1)^2 y_2 + (x+1) y_1 = -4 y$

diff. n times using L.T.; $D^n [y_2 (x+1)^2] + D^n [y_1 (x+1)] = -4 D^n [y]$

$\Rightarrow [{}^nC_0 (D^n y_2) (x+1)^2 + {}^nC_1 (D^{n-1} y_2) D(x+1)^2 + {}^nC_2 (D^{n-2} y_2) D^2(x+1)^2]$

$+ [{}^nC_0 (D^n y_1) (x+1) + {}^nC_1 (D^{n-1} y_1) D(x+1)] = -4 y_n$

$\Rightarrow [(x+1)^2 y_{n+2} + n y_{n+1} 2(x+1) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} y_n (2)] + [(x+1) y_{n+1} + n y_n] + 4 y_n = 0$

$\Rightarrow (x+1)^2 y_{n+2} + (2n+1)(x+1) y_{n+1} + [n(n-1) + n + 4] y_n = 0$

$\Rightarrow (x+1)^2 y_{n+2} + (2n+1)(x+1) y_{n+1} + (n^2 + 4) y_n = 0$

Ques 6 If $y = a \cos(\log x) + b \sin(\log x)$, prove $x^2 y_{n+2} + (2n+1)x y_{n+1} + (n^2 + 1) y_n = 0$

Sol Diff. w.r.t. x ; $y_1 = -a \sin(\log x) \times \frac{1}{x} + b \cos(\log x) \times \frac{1}{x}$

$\Rightarrow x y_1 = -a \sin(\log x) + b \cos(\log x)$

Diff. again,

$x y_2 + y_1 = -a \cos(\log x) \times \frac{1}{x} - b \sin(\log x) \times \frac{1}{x}$

$\Rightarrow x^2 y_2 + x y_1 = -y$ ← NOTE THIS STEP

Diff. n times using L.T.; $D^n [y_2 x^2] + D^n [y_1 x] = -D^n [y]$

$\Rightarrow [{}^nC_0 (D^n y_2) (x^2) + {}^nC_1 (D^{n-1} y_2) (D x^2) + {}^nC_2 (D^{n-2} y_2) (D^2 x^2)] + [{}^nC_0 (D^n y_1) (x) + {}^nC_1 (D^{n-1} y_1) (D x)] = -y_n$

$\Rightarrow x^2 y_{n+2} + (2n+1)x y_{n+1} + (n^2 + 1) y_n = 0$

Ques 7 If $y = \log (x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1})$, prove that
(a) $(y_n)_0 = 0$ (b) $(y_{2n+1})_0 = (-1)^n [1^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdots (2n-1)^2]$

Sol Here $y = \log (x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1})$
Diff. w.r.t. x ; $y_1 = \left(\frac{1}{x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1}} \right) \cdot \left(1 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} \cdot 2x \right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$
or $y_1 \cdot \sqrt{x^2 + 1} = 1$ ————— (1)

Squaring; $(x^2 + 1) y_1^2 = 1$ ← GET RID OF FRACTIONAL POWERS!

Diff. again,

$(x^2 + 1) 2 y_1 y_2 + 2x y_1^2 = 0$

$\Rightarrow y_2 (x^2 + 1) + x y_1 = 0$ ————— (2)

Diff. using L.T;

$D^n [y_2 (x^2 + 1)] + D^n [y_1 \cdot x] = D^n [0]$

$\Rightarrow [D^n (y_2) \cdot (x^2 + 1) + n D^{n-1} (y_2) \cdot D(x^2 + 1) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2} D^{n-2} (y_2) \cdot D^2(x^2 + 1)] + [D^n (y_1) \cdot (x) + n D^{n-1} (y_1) \cdot D(x)] = 0$

$\Rightarrow [y_{n+2} \cdot (x^2 + 1) + n y_{n+1} \cdot (2x) + \frac{n(n-1)}{2} y_n (2)] + [y_{n+1} \cdot (x) + n y_n] = 0$

$\Rightarrow (x^2 + 1) y_{n+2} + (2n+1)x y_{n+1} + n^2 y_n = 0$ ————— (3)

Put $x=0$ in (1), (2) and (3);

$$(y_1)_0 = 1 \text{ ————— (a)}$$

$$\& (y_2)_0 = 0 \text{ ————— (b)}$$

$$\& (y_{n+2})_0 = -n^2 (y_n)_0$$

$$\text{Put } n=1, (y_3)_0 = -1^2 (y_1)_0 = -1^2 \text{ ————— (c)}$$

$$\text{Put } n=2, (y_4)_0 = -2^2 (y_2)_0 = 0 \text{ ————— (d)}$$

$$\text{Put } n=3, (y_5)_0 = -3^2 (y_3)_0 = -3^2 \times -1^2 = 3^2 \cdot 1^2 \text{ ————— (e)}$$

$$\text{Put } n=4, (y_6)_0 = -4^2 (y_4)_0 = 0 \text{ ————— (f)}$$

$$\text{Put } n=5, (y_7)_0 = -5^2 (y_5)_0 = -5^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 1^2 \text{ ————— (g)}$$

Do this until
you see a pattern

Generalizing, $(y_{2n})_0 = 0$ from (b), (d) and (f)

$$\& (y_{2n+1})_0 = (-1)^n [1^2 \cdot 3^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdots (2n-1)^2] \text{ from (a), (c), (e) \& (g)}$$