

# Lecture 9: More derivatives. Chain Rule.

Recall:

$$(\sin(x))' = \cos(x) \quad (\cos(x))' = -\sin(x)$$

What about  $(\tan(x))'$ ? Quotient rule

$$\begin{aligned} (\tan(x))' &= \left( \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)} \right)' \quad \text{Quotient rule} \\ &= \frac{(\sin(x))' \cos(x) - \sin(x) (\cos(x))'}{\cos^2(x)} \\ &= \frac{\cos(x) \cos(x) - \sin(x) (-\sin(x))}{\cos^2(x)} = \\ &= \frac{\cos^2(x) + \sin^2(x)}{\cos^2(x)} = \frac{1}{\cos^2(x)} = \sec^2(x) \\ &= \frac{\cos^2(x)}{\cos^2(x)} + \frac{\sin^2(x)}{\cos^2(x)} = 1 + \tan^2(x) \end{aligned}$$

Ex: Let

$$f(x) = \frac{\sin^2(x) + 1}{\cos(x)}$$

① Find  $f'(x)$ .

Note:  $f(x) = \frac{\sin^2(x)}{\cos(x)} + \frac{1}{\cos(x)}$

$= \sin(x) \cdot \left( \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)} \right) + \frac{1}{\cos(x)}$

$= \sin(x) \tan(x) + \frac{1}{\cos(x)}$

$$f'(x) = \left( \sin(x) \tan(x) + \frac{1}{\cos(x)} \right)' =$$

$$= (\sin(x) \tan(x))' + \left( \frac{1}{\cos(x)} \right)' =$$

$$= \sin'(x) \tan(x) + \sin(x) \tan'(x) + \frac{(1) \cancel{\cos(x)} - 1 \cdot \cancel{\cos(x)}}{\cos^2(x)}$$

$= \cos(x) \tan(x) + \sin(x) \sec^2(x) + \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos^2(x)}$

$= \sin(x) \cdot \frac{1}{\cos^2(x)}$

~~$= \cos(x) \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)} + \sin(x) \sec^2(x) + \sin(x) \sec^2(x)$~~

$= \sin(x) (1 + 2 \sec^2(x))$

2

② Find the values of  $x$  for which the graph of  $f$  has a horizontal tangent line at  $(x, f(x))$ .

Sol: "Horizontal tangent line at  $(x, f(x))$ "

$$\uparrow \\ "f'(x) = 0"$$

We need to solve

$$f'(x) = \sin(x)(1 + 2\sec^2(x)) = 0$$

This happens if:

a)  $\sin(x) = 0 : x = 0, \pi, 2\pi, -\pi, -2\pi, \dots$

$$= k\pi, k \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

$$\{ \dots, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots \}$$

b)  $1 + 2\sec^2(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \sec^2(x) = -\frac{1}{2}$  IMPOSS.

$$\text{VI} \quad (\sec^2(x) = (\sec(x))^2)$$

The  $x$ 's we want are  $k\pi, k \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

Ex: Find the 17<sup>th</sup> derivative of  
 $f(x) = e^x \sin(x)$

Sol: DEFINITELY Do Not Compute  
17 derivatives.

Pro-tip: Compute higher derivatives until you see a "pattern" or a "cycle" and then use the properties of derivatives to find  $f^{(17)}(x)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}f'(x) &= (e^x)' \sin(x) + (e^x) \sin'(x) = \\&= e^x \sin(x) + e^x \cos(x) \\&= e^x (\sin(x) + \cos(x))\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}f''(x) &= (f'(x))' = (e^x (\sin(x) + \cos(x)))' \quad \text{Product rule} \\&= e^x (\sin(x) + \cos(x)) + e^x (\cos(x) - \sin(x)) \\&= e^x (\sin(x) + \cos(x) + \cos(x) - \sin(x)) \\&= 2e^x \cos(x)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f''(x) &= (2e^x \cos(x))' \\
 &= 2(e^x \cos(x) + e^x (-\sin(x))) \\
 &\stackrel{!}{=} 2e^x (\cos(x) - \sin(x))
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f^{(4)}(x) &= (2e^x (\cos(x) - \sin(x)))' \\
 &= 2(e^x (\cos(x) - \sin(x)) + e^x (-\sin(x) - \cos(x))) \\
 &\stackrel{!}{=} 2e^x (\cos(x) - \sin(x) - \sin(x) - \cos(x)) \\
 &\stackrel{!}{=} -4e^x \sin(x) = -4f(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

This gives us a "cycle":

$$f^{(5)}(x) = (f^{(4)}(x))' = (-4f(x))' = -4f'(x)$$

$$f^{(6)}(x) = (-4f'(x))' = -4f''(x)$$

$$f^{(7)}(x) = (-4f''(x))' = -4f'''(x)$$

$$f^{(8)}(x) = (-4f'''(x))' = -4f^{(4)}(x) =$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{4.2} &= f(4) (-4f(x)) = 16f(x) \\
 \text{4.2} &\xrightarrow{157}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$f^{(16)}(x) = (-4)(-4)(-4)(-4)f(x)$$

$16 = 4 \cdot 4$

$$= 256 f(x)$$

$$f^{(17)}(x) = 256 f'(x) = 256 (e^x (\sin(x) + 6 \cos(x)))$$

## • The (dreaded) Chain rule

↑ Let's fix this

Recall:  $(f \circ g)(x) = f(g(x))$

The chain rule tells you how to compute the derivative of a composite function  $f \circ g$ .

Chain Rule: Suppose  $g$  is differentiable at  $x$  (that is,  $g'(x)$  exists) and  $f$  is differentiable at  $g(x)$ . Then  $f \circ g$  is differentiable at  $x$  and

$$(f(g(x)))' = (f \circ g(x))' = f'$$

derivative  
of the outer  
function

$(g(x))$

evaluated  
at the  
inner  
function

•  $g'(x)$

derivative  
of the  
inner  
function

Ex: Derive  $F(x) = \sin(\cos(x))$

Sol:  $F(x) = \sin(\cos(x)) = f(g(x))$

where:  $f(t) = \sin(t)$

$f'(t) = \cos(t)$

$g(x) = \cos(x)$

$g'(x) = -\sin(x)$

$x \xrightarrow{g} \cos(x) \xrightarrow{f} \sin(\cos(x)) = F(x)$

$$(\sin(\cos(x)))' = \underbrace{\sin'(\cos(x))}_{f'(g(x))} \cdot \underbrace{(\cos(x))'}_{g'(x)}$$

$$\sin'(t) = \cos(t) \rightarrow$$

$$t = \cos(x)$$

$$= \cos(\cos(x)) \cdot (-\sin(x))$$

$$= -\sin(x) \cdot \cos(\cos(x))$$

## • Another approach to the chain rule

Recall: We also write

$$\frac{d}{dx}(f(x))$$

to mean  $f'(x)$ .

Let's compute  $h'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(h(x))$ ,  
where  $h(x) = (\sin(x))^2$ .

We have:  $h(x) = f(g(x))$   
with  $f(x) = x^2$   
 $g(x) = \sin(x)$

Now:

$$\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) = 2x \quad \frac{d}{dt}(t^2) = 2t$$

$$\frac{d}{d(\sin(x))}((\sin(x))^2) = 2 \sin(x)$$

$\boxed{g}$

## Chain rule:

$$\frac{d}{dx} ((\sin(x))^2) = \frac{d}{d(\sin(x))} ((\sin(x))^2) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (\sin(x))$$

!  $\frac{d((\sin(x))^2)}{d(\sin(x))}$   $\cdot \frac{d(\sin(x))}{dx}$

=  $2 \sin(x) \cdot \cos(x)$   
"  $h'(x)$

In general

## Chain rule:

$$\frac{d(f(g(x))}{dx} = \frac{d(f(g(x))}{dg(x)} \cdot \frac{dg(x)}{dx}$$

derivative of the outer function  
with respect to the  
inner function

derivative  
of the  
inner funct.  
with respect  
to x.

Ex: Derive

$$F(x) = (x^7 + e^x)^8$$

Sol:  $F(x) = f(g(x))$

$$f(t) = t^8$$

$$g(x) = x^7 + e^x$$

$$f'(t) = 8t^7$$

$$g'(x) = 7x^6 + e^x$$

$$x \xrightarrow{g} x^7 + e^x \xrightarrow{f} F(x)$$

$$(F(x))' = ((x^7 + e^x)^8)'$$

$$= f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$$

$$(t^8)' = 8t^7$$

$$t = x^7 + e^x \quad = 8(x^7 + e^x)^7 \cdot (7x^6 + e^x)$$

In general, for  $n$  any number

$$(g(x)^n)' = n(g(x))^{n-1} \cdot g'(x)$$

**Ex:** If  $F = f(h(x)^2)$  and  
 $h(1) = 2$ ,  $h'(0) = 7$ ,  $h'(1) = -1$ ,  
 $f(1) = 3$ ,  $f'(4) = 3$ , find  $F'(1)$ .

Sol: Use the chain rule.

$$\begin{aligned} F'(x) &= f'(h(x)^2) \cdot (h(x)^2)' \\ &= f'(h(x)^2) \cdot 2h(x)h'(x) \end{aligned}$$

Chain rule  $f(g(x)) = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$   
with  $f(t) = t^2$   
 $g(x) = h(x)$

Now, take  $x = 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} F'(1) &= f'(h(1)^2) \cdot 2h(1)h'(1) \\ &= f'(2^2) \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot (-1) \end{aligned}$$

$$= f'(4) \cdot (-4) = 3 \cdot (-4) = -12$$

Ex: Compute  $F'(x)$  if

$$F(x) = \frac{\sin(e^{\sqrt{3x^2+1}})}{\cos(x)}$$

For next class:

- Review Sections 2.7-3.3 for the quiz (Check "Fourth Quiz info" on OWL -Announcements)
- Complete the Midterm feedback questionnaire at [feedback.uwo.ca](http://feedback.uwo.ca)
- Do the exercises of Section 3.4.
- We will do Section 3.5.