MAT – 112: Calculus I and Modeling Product Rule

Thomas R. Cameron

February 12, 2018

Instructions

Write out your own proof of the product using the outline below. Fill in the blanks and follow the prompts given.

Product Rule. Let f and g be functions that are differentiable at x, then

$$\frac{d}{dx}(fg)(x) = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x).$$

Proof. Note that

$$\frac{d}{dx}(fg)(x) = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{(fg)(x+h) - fg(x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x+h)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x+h)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x+h) + f(x)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h} \quad \text{(Justify)}$$

$$= \underline{\qquad \qquad \qquad \text{(Use sum limit rule)}}$$

$$= \lim_{h \to 0} g(x+h) \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} + \lim_{h \to 0} f(x) \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \quad \text{(Justify)}$$

$$= g(x)f'(x) + f(x)g'(x)$$

$$= f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x).$$