

CHAPTER  
12

## DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS 2 DIFFERENTIATION BY RULE

### Differentiation by Rule

Differentiation from first principles can become tedious and difficult. Fortunately, it is not always necessary to use first principles. There are a few rules (which can be derived from first principles) which enable us to write down the derivative of a function quite easily.

#### Rule 1: General Rule

If:

$$\begin{aligned}y &= x^n \quad \text{then} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = nx^{n-1} \\y &= ax^n \quad \text{then} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = nax^{n-1}\end{aligned}$$

In words:

Multiply by the power and reduce the power by 1.

#### Example ▼

Differentiate with respect to  $x$ :

- |                     |                               |                               |                          |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (i) $y = x^5$       | (ii) $y = -3x^2$              | (iii) $y = 5x$                | (iv) $y = \frac{8}{x^2}$ |
| (v) $y = 6\sqrt{x}$ | (vi) $y = \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}}$ | (vii) $y = \frac{6}{x^{1/3}}$ | (viii) $y = 7$           |

**Solution:**

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| (i) $y = x^5$                      | $\frac{dy}{dx} = 5x^{5-1} = 5x^4$                                   |
| (ii) $y = -3x^2$                   | $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \times -3x^{2-1} = -6x$                          |
| (iii) $y = 5x = 5x^1$              | $\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 \times 5x^{1-1} = 5x^0 = 5 \quad (x^0 = 1)$      |
| (iv) $y = \frac{8}{x^2} = 8x^{-2}$ | $\frac{dy}{dx} = -2 \times 8x^{-2-1} = -16x^{-3} = -\frac{16}{x^3}$ |

<b>(v)</b> $y = 6\sqrt{x} = 6x^{1/2}$ <b>(vi)</b> $y = \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}} = 2x^{-1/2}$ <b>(vii)</b> $y = \frac{6}{x^{1/3}} = 6x^{-1/3}$ <b>(viii)</b> $y = 7 = 7x^0$	$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} \times 6x^{1/2-1} = 3x^{-1/2} = \frac{3}{x^{1/2}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{x}}$ $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{2} \times 2x^{-1/2-1} = -1x^{-3/2} = -\frac{1}{x^{3/2}}$ $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{3} \times 6x^{-1/3-1} = -2x^{-4/3} = -\frac{2}{x^{4/3}}$ $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \times 7x^{0-1} = 0$
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Part (viii) leads to the rule:

The derivative of a constant = 0.

Note: The line  $y = 7$  is a horizontal line. Its slope is 0.

Therefore its derivative (also its slope) equals 0.

In other words, the derivative of a constant always equals zero.

### Sum or Difference

If the expression to be differentiated contains more than one term, just differentiate, separately, each term in the expression.

#### Example ▾

Find  $f'(x)$  for each of the following:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad f(x) &= x + \frac{1}{x^2} \\ \text{(ii)} \quad f(x) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}} - \frac{1}{x^4} + 5 \end{aligned}$$

#### Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad f(x) &= x + \frac{1}{x^2} \\ f(x) &= x + x^{-2} \\ f'(x) &= 1 - 2x^{-3} \\ f'(x) &= 1 - \frac{2}{x^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad f(x) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}} - \frac{1}{x^4} + 5 \\ f(x) &= 2x^{-1/2} - x^{-4} + 5 \\ f'(x) &= -x^{-3/2} + 4x^{-5} \\ f'(x) &= -\frac{1}{x^{3/2}} + \frac{4}{x^5} \end{aligned}$$

## Evaluating Derivatives

Often we have to evaluate a derivative for a particular value.

### Example ▾

- (i) If  $s = 3t^2 + 5t - 7$ , find the value of  $\frac{ds}{dt}$  when  $t = 2$ .  
(ii) If  $f(x) = \sqrt{x} + 3x$ , evaluate  $f'(4)$ .

**Solution:**

(i) 
$$\begin{aligned}s &= 3t^2 + 5t - 7 \\ \frac{ds}{dt} &= 6t + 5 \\ \left. \frac{ds}{dt} \right|_{t=2} &= 6(2) + 5 \\ &= 12 + 5 = 17\end{aligned}$$

(ii) 
$$\begin{aligned}f(x) &= \sqrt{x} + 3x \\ f(x) &= x^{1/2} + 3x \\ f'(x) &= \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2} + 3 \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} + 3 \\ f'(4) &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{4}} + 3 \\ &= \frac{1}{4} + 3 = 3\frac{1}{4}\end{aligned}$$

parately, each

$\frac{ds}{dt}$  is the derivative of  $s$  with respect to  $t$ .  $\frac{dA}{dr}$  is the derivative of  $A$  with respect to  $r$ .

## Second Derivatives

The derivative of  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ , that is  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)$ , is denoted by  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  and is called the 'second derivative of  $y$  with respect to  $x$ '.

$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  is pronounced 'dee two  $y$ , dee  $x$  squared'.

The derivative of  $f'(x)$  is denoted by  $f''(x)$  and is called the 'second derivative of  $f(x)$  with respect to  $x$ '.

**Example**

(i) If  $f(x) = x + \frac{1}{x}$ , find  $f''(x)$  and  $f''(2)$ .

(ii) If  $h = 10 + 30t^2 - 4t^3$ , evaluate  $\frac{d^2h}{dt^2}$  when  $t = 3$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad f(x) &= x + \frac{1}{x} \\ f(x) &= x + x^{-1} \\ f'(x) &= 1 - x^{-2} \\ f''(x) &= 2x^{-3} \\ &= \frac{2}{x^3} \\ \therefore f''(2) &= \frac{2}{2^3} = \frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad h &= 10 + 30t^2 - 4t^3 \\ \frac{dh}{dt} &= 60t - 12t^2 \\ \frac{d^2h}{dt^2} &= 60 - 24t \\ \left. \frac{d^2h}{dt^2} \right|_{t=3} &= 60 - 24(3) = -12 \end{aligned}$$

**Example**

If  $y = x^4$ , show that  $\frac{4y}{3} \left( \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right) - \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 = 0$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} y &= x^4 \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= 4x^3 \\ \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} &= 12x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{4y}{3} \left( \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right) - \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 \\ = \frac{4x^4}{3} (12x^2) - (4x^3)^2 \\ = 16x^6 - 16x^6 \\ = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Note:  $\left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 \neq \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$

**Exercise 12.1**

Differentiate each of the following with respect to  $x$ :

1.  $x^3$

2.  $3x^4$

3.  $-5x^2$

4.  $3x$

5.  $-2x$

6. 5

7. -3

8.  $\frac{1}{x^2}$

9.  $\frac{2}{x^3}$

10.  $-\frac{2}{x^5}$

$$11. 6x^{1/3}$$

$$12. \frac{1}{x}$$

$$13. \sqrt{x}$$

$$14. \frac{4}{\sqrt{x}}$$

$$15. \frac{1}{x^{2/3}}$$

$$16. x^3 - 5x$$

$$17. 1 - x^2$$

$$18. x^2 - \frac{5}{x}$$

$$19. 2x^2 - \frac{3}{x^4}$$

$$20. \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x}$$

$$21. x^4 - \frac{2}{x^2}$$

$$22. 6\sqrt{x} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{x}}$$

$$23. \frac{3}{x} + \frac{2}{x^2} + \frac{6}{x^{1/3}}$$

$$24. \frac{2}{x} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{3}{x^{1/3}}$$

Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  for each of the following:

$$25. y = 4x^3 + 6x^2$$

$$26. y = x^2 - x^4$$

$$27. y = 6x^3 - 12x^2 - 8x + 4$$

$$28. y = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$29. y = x^2 - \frac{8}{x}$$

$$30. y = \sqrt{x}$$

$$31. y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + \sqrt{x}$$

$$32. y = 8\sqrt{x} - \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$33. y = 9x^{1/3} + \frac{18}{x^{1/3}}$$

34. If  $f(x) = 3x^2 - 4x - 7$ , evaluate (i)  $f'(2)$  (ii)  $f''(-1)$ .

35. If  $f(x) = -4\sqrt{x}$ , evaluate  $f''(9)$ .

36. If  $A = 3r^2 - 5r$ , find the value of  $\frac{dA}{dr}$  when  $r = 3$ .

37. If  $s = 3t - 2t^2$ , find the value of (i)  $\frac{ds}{dt}$  (ii)  $\frac{d^2s}{dt^2}$  when  $t = 2$ .

38. If  $V = 3h - h^2 - 3h^3$ , find  $\frac{dV}{dh}$  when  $h = 1$ .

39. If  $A = \pi r^2$ , find  $\frac{dA}{dr}$  when  $\frac{r}{5} = 1$ .

40. If  $V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$ , find  $\frac{dV}{dr}$  when  $2r - 5 = 0$ .

41.  $f(x) = 3x^2 - 4x$ . If  $f'(k) = 8$ , find the value of  $k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ .

42.  $f(x) = x^3 + 1$ . If  $f''(a) = 18$ , find the value of  $a$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

43. If  $y = 3x^2 + 2x$ , show that  $y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3x \frac{dy}{dx} - 6x = 0$ .

44. If  $y = 4x^3 - 6x^2$ , show that  $x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2x \frac{dy}{dx} - 12x = 0$ .

Find the values of  $x$  for which (i)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$  (ii)  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$ .

45. If  $y = \frac{1}{x^2}$ , show that  $y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 - 10y^3 = 0$ .

# Product, Quotient and Chain Rules

## Rule 2: Product Rule

Suppose  $u$  and  $v$  are functions of  $x$ .

If  $y = uv$ ,

$$\text{then } \frac{dy}{dx} = u \frac{dv}{dx} + v \frac{du}{dx}.$$

In words:

First by the derivative of the second + second by the derivative of the first.

### Example ▾

If  $y = (x^2 - 3x + 2)(x^2 - 2)$ , find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

Solution:

$$\text{Let } u = x^2 - 3x + 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \text{let } v = x^2 - 2$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 2x - 3 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dv}{dx} = 2x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= u \frac{dv}{dx} + v \frac{du}{dx} && \text{(product rule)} \\ &= (x^2 - 3x + 2)(2x) + (x^2 - 2)(2x - 3) \\ &= 2x^3 - 6x^2 + 4x + 2x^3 - 3x^2 - 4x + 6 \\ &= 4x^3 - 9x^2 + 6 \end{aligned}$$

## Rule 3: Quotient Rule

Suppose  $u$  and  $v$  are functions of  $x$ .

$$\text{If } y = \frac{u}{v}$$

$$\text{then } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{v \frac{du}{dx} - u \frac{dv}{dx}}{v^2}.$$

In words:

$$\frac{\text{Bottom by the derivative of the top} - \text{Top by the derivative of the bottom}}{(\text{Bottom})^2}$$

*Example* ▾

If  $y = \frac{x^2}{x-2}$ , find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } u &= x^2 & \text{and} & \quad \text{let } v = x - 2 \\ \frac{du}{dx} &= 2x & \text{and} & \quad \frac{dv}{dx} = 1 \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{v \frac{du}{dx} - u \frac{dv}{dx}}{v^2} & & \text{(quotient rule)} \\ &= \frac{(x-2)(2x) - (x^2)(1)}{(x-2)^2} \\ &= \frac{2x^2 - 4x - x^2}{(x-2)^2} \\ &= \frac{x^2 - 4x}{(x-2)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Note: It is usual practice to simplify the top but **not** the bottom.

**Function of a function**

When we write, for example,  $y = (x+5)^3$ , we say that  $y$  is a function of  $x$ .

If we let  $u = (x+5)$ , then  $y = u^3$ , where  $u = (x+5)$ .

We say that  $y$  is a function  $u$ , and  $u$  is a function of  $x$ .

The new variable,  $u$ , is the **link** between the two expressions.

**Rule 4: Chain Rule**

Suppose  $u$  is a function of  $x$ .

If  $y = u^n$

$$\text{then } \frac{dy}{dx} = nu^{n-1} \frac{du}{dx}.$$

The chain rule should be done in **one** step.

### Example ▾

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for each of the following:

$$(i) \quad y = (x^2 - 3x)^4$$

$$(ii) \quad y = \frac{3}{2x+5}$$

$$(iii) \quad y = \sqrt{4x-3}$$

$$(iv) \quad y = \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^3$$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} (i) \quad y &= (x^2 - 3x)^4 \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= 4(x^2 - 3x)^3(2x - 3) \\ &= (8x - 12)(x^2 - 3x)^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (ii) \quad y &= \frac{3}{2x+5} \\ y &= 3(2x+5)^{-1} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= -3(2x+5)^{-2}(2) \\ &= \frac{-6}{(2x+5)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (iii) \quad y &= \sqrt{4x-3} \\ y &= (4x-3)^{1/2} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{1}{2}(4x-3)^{-1/2}(4) \\ &= \frac{2}{(4x-3)^{1/2}} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{4x-3}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (iv) \quad y &= \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^3 \\ y &= (x^2 + x^{-1})^3 \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= 3(x^2 + x^{-1})^2(2x - x^{-2}) \\ &= 3\left(x^2 + \frac{1}{x}\right)^2 \left(2x - \frac{1}{x^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Often we have to deal with a combination of the product, quotient or chain rules.

### Example ▾

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  if (i)  $y = x\sqrt{9-x^2}$  (ii)  $y = \sqrt{\frac{1-x}{1+x}}$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} (i) \quad y &= x\sqrt{9-x^2} \\ y &= x(9-x^2)^{1/2} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= (x) \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}(9-x^2)^{-1/2}(-2x)}_{\text{(chain rule here)}} + (9-x^2)^{1/2}(1) && \text{(product rule and chain rule)} \\ &= -x^2(9-x^2)^{-1/2} + (9-x^2)^{1/2} \\ &= \frac{-x^2}{\sqrt{9-x^2}} + \sqrt{9-x^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$(ii) \quad y = \sqrt{\frac{1-x}{1+x}}$$

$$y = \left(\frac{1-x}{1+x}\right)^{1/2}$$

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

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

$$= \frac{(1+x)^{1/2}}{2(1-x)^{1/2}} \cdot \frac{-2}{(1+x)^2}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{(1-x)^{1/2}(1+x)^{3/2}}$$

(chain rule followed by  
the quotient rule)

$$\left(\left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^{-n} = \left(\frac{b}{a}\right)^n\right)$$

### Exercise 12.2 ▾

In questions 1 to 6, use the product rule to find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ :

$$1. \quad y = (2x+3)(x-4)$$

$$2. \quad y = (x+5)(x^2 - 3x + 2)$$

$$3. \quad y = (3x-4)(x^2 - 2x + 3)$$

$$4. \quad y = (x+3)(x^2 - 6x + 8)$$

$$5. \quad y = (5x^2 - 3x)(x^2 - 5x)$$

$$6. \quad y = (3x^3 - 2x^2 + 4)(2x - 1)$$

In questions 7 to 12, use the quotient rule to find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ :

$$7. \quad y = \frac{3x+2}{x+1}$$

$$8. \quad y = \frac{2x-1}{x+3}$$

$$9. \quad y = \frac{3x-1}{x^2-2}$$

$$10. \quad y = \frac{x^2-1}{x^2+1}$$

$$11. \quad y = \frac{1-x}{2x-x^2}$$

$$12. \quad y = \frac{x^2-x-6}{x^2+x-6}$$

In questions 13–18, use the chain rule to find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ :

$$13. \quad y = (3x+2)^4$$

$$14. \quad y = (x^2 + 2x)^3$$

$$15. \quad y = (2x^2 + 1)^5$$

$$16. \quad y = \sqrt{4x+2}$$

$$17. \quad y = \frac{1}{2x-5}$$

$$18. \quad y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2x^2-4x}}$$

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  if:

$$19. \quad y = x^2(x+3)^4$$

$$20. \quad y = 3x(x+2)^3$$

$$21. \quad y = 3x^2(2x+3)^2$$

$$22. \quad y = x^2\sqrt{2x+1}$$

$$23. \quad y = x\sqrt{1+x^2}$$

$$24. \quad y = \sqrt{\frac{x+1}{x}}$$

$$25. \quad \text{If } f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{x}{x+3}}, \text{ find the value of } f'(1).$$

$$26. \quad \text{If } f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{x-1}{x+1}}, \text{ find the value of } f'(\frac{5}{4}).$$

## Differentiation of Trigonometric Functions

The rules for differentiating also apply to trigonometric functions.

The following are in the tables on page 41, but they are shown only for  $x$ .

The chain rule is used throughout, assuming  $u$  is a function of  $x$ .

Therefore, if you are using the tables, replace  $x$  with  $u$  and **always** multiply by  $\frac{du}{dx}$ .

Basic rule (page 41 tables)	
$f(x)$	$f'(x)$
$\cos x$	$-\sin x$
$\sin x$	$\cos x$
$\tan x$	$\sec^2 x$
$\sec x$	$\sec x \tan x$
$\operatorname{cosec} x$	$-\operatorname{cosec} x \cot x$
$\cot x$	$-\operatorname{cosec}^2 x$

Chain rule	
$f(u)$	$f'(u) \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
$\cos u$	$-\sin u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
$\sin u$	$\cos u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
$\tan u$	$\sec^2 u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
$\sec u$	$\sec u \tan u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
$\operatorname{cosec} u$	$-\operatorname{cosec} u \cot u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
$\cot u$	$-\operatorname{cosec}^2 u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$

### Example ▾

Find the derivatives of the functions:

(i)  $\cos 3x$       (ii)  $\tan^3 5x$       (iii)  $x \sin x$       (iv)  $\sqrt{\cos x}$

Solution:

(i)  $y = \cos 3x$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = (-\sin 3x)(3)$   
 $= -3 \sin 3x$

(ii)  $t = \tan^3 5x$   
 $y = (\tan 5x)^3$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3(\tan 5x)^2(\sec^2 5x)(5)$   
[PTA: (power) (trig. function) (angle)]  
 $= 15 \tan^2 5x \sec^2 5x$

(iii)  $y = x \sin x$   
(use the product rule)  
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = (x)(\cos x) + (\sin x)(1)$   
 $= x \cos x + \sin x$

(iv)  $y = \sqrt{\cos x}$   
 $y = (\cos x)^{1/2}$   
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2}(\cos x)^{-1/2}(-\sin x)$   
 $= \frac{-\sin x}{2\sqrt{\cos x}}$

**Example ▾**

If  $f(x) = \frac{x^2}{x + \cos x}$ , evaluate  $f'(\frac{\pi}{2})$ .

Solution:

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

$$f'(x) = \frac{(x + \cos x)(2x) - x^2(1 - \sin x)}{(x + \cos x)^2} \quad (\text{quotient rule})$$

$$f'(\frac{\pi}{2}) = \frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \cos \frac{\pi}{2}\right)(\pi) - \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2 \left(1 - \sin \frac{\pi}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + \cos \frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2}$$

(Don't simplify:  
put in  $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ )

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + 0\right)(\pi) - \left(\frac{\pi^2}{4}\right)(1 - 1)}{\left(\frac{\pi}{2} + 0\right)^2} \quad \left(\cos \frac{\pi}{2} = 0, \sin \frac{\pi}{2} = 1\right)$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)(\pi) - \left(\frac{\pi^2}{4}\right)(0)}{\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2} = \frac{\frac{\pi^2}{2}}{\frac{\pi^2}{4}} = \frac{2\pi^2}{\pi^2} = 2$$

**Exercise 12.3 ▾**

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  if:

1.  $y = \sin 4x$

2.  $y = \cos 3x$

3.  $y = \tan 2x$

4.  $y = \sec 5x$

5.  $y = -\operatorname{cosec} 6x$

6.  $y = -2 \cot 4x$

7.  $y = \sin(2x - 3)$

8.  $y = \tan(3x + 2)$

9.  $y = 2 \tan x + \sec x$

10.  $y = x^2 \sin x$

11.  $y = 3x \tan x$

12.  $y = x^2 \cos 2x$

13.  $y = \frac{\sin x}{x}$

14.  $y = \frac{1}{1 - \sin x}$

15.  $y = \frac{1 + \sin x}{\cos x}$

16.  $y = \cos^3 x$

17.  $y = \sin^2 4x$

18.  $y = \tan^4 3x$

19.  $y = (1 + \sin^2 x)^3$

20.  $y = \sqrt{\sin x}$

21.  $y = \sqrt{\cos 2x}$

22.  $f(x) = \frac{\cos x + \sin x}{\cos x - \sin x}$ . Show that  $f'(x) = \frac{2}{1 - \sin 2x}$ .

23. If  $y = \cos 3x$ , show that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -9y$ .

24. If  $y = 3 \cos x + \sin x$ , show that:

$$(i) \quad \cos x \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right) + y \sin x - 1 = 0 \qquad (ii) \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3 \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right) + 2y - 10 \sin x = 0.$$

25. If  $f(x) = \sin x \cos x$ , evaluate  $f' \left( \frac{\pi}{4} \right)$ .

26. If  $y = \cos 2x + 2 \sin x$ , evaluate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at  $x = \frac{\pi}{6}$ .

27.  $f(x) = \frac{\sin x}{1 + \tan x}$ . Evaluate  $f'(0)$ .

## Implicit Differentiation

If  $y = f(x)$ , the variable  $y$  is given **explicitly** (clearly) in terms of  $x$ .

For example,  $y = x^3 - 2x^2 + 5x - 4$  is an explicit function.

Some curves are defined by implicit functions, that is, functions which cannot be expressed in the form  $y = f(x)$ .

For example,  $x^2 + xy + y^3 = 7$  is an **implicit function**.

It cannot be written in the form  $y = f(x)$ .

It is for this reason that we must have a method for differentiating explicit functions.

An implicit function involving  $x$  and  $y$  can be differentiated with respect to  $x$  as it stands, using the chain rule.

Method for differentiating implicit functions:

1. Differentiate, term by term, on both sides with respect to  $x$ .
2. Bring all terms with  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  to the left and bring all other terms to the right.
3. Make  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  the subject of the equation.

It is useful to remember that, by the chain rule,

$$\frac{d}{dx}(y^2) = 2y \frac{dy}{dx} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{d}{dx}(y^3) = 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx}$$

as  $y$  is considered as a function of  $x$ .

$$\frac{d}{dx}(y^n) = ny^{n-1} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)$$

**Example**

Given that  $2x^3 + 3xy^2 - y^3 + 6 = 0$ , evaluate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at the point  $(-1, 1)$ .

**Solution:**

(use product rule here)

$$\begin{aligned} & 2x^3 + 3xy^2 - y^3 + 6 = 0 \\ & 6x^2 + 3\left[x \cdot 2y \frac{dy}{dx} + y^2(1)\right] - 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \\ & 6x^2 + 6xy \frac{dy}{dx} + 3y^2 - 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \quad (\text{divide each term by } -3) \\ & 6xy \frac{dy}{dx} - 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = -6x^2 - 3y^2 \\ & \frac{dy}{dx}(6xy - 3y^2) = -6x^2 - 3y^2 \\ & \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-6x^2 - 3y^2}{6xy - 3y^2} = \frac{2x^2 + y^2}{y^2 - 2xy} = \frac{2x^2 + y^2}{y(y - 2x)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{\substack{x=-1 \\ y=1}} = \frac{2(-1)^2 + (1)^2}{1(1+2)} = \frac{3}{3} = 1$$

Note: To evaluate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  we used both coordinates of the point.

**Exercise 12.4**

For each of the following curves, express  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ :

1.  $x^2 + y^2 = 4$

2.  $x^2 + 2y - y^2 = 5$

3.  $x^2 - 6y^3 + y = 0$

4.  $x^2 + y^2 - 4x - 6y + 9 = 0$

5.  $x^2 + xy + y^2 = 13$

6.  $x^2 + 3xy + 2y^2 = 6$

7.  $x^2y - 5x = 2$

8.  $xy^2 + x^2 = 2$

9.  $x^2y + xy^2 = 2$

Find the value of  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at the point specified:

10.  $x^2 + y^2 = 25$  at the point  $(3, -4)$

11.  $x^2 + xy + 2y^2 = 28$  at the point  $(2, -4)$

12.  $x^2 + 4xy - 2y^2 - 8 = 0$  at the point  $(0, 2)$

13.  $x^3 + y^2 + 3x^2y = 21$  at the point  $(2, 1)$

14. Find the slope of the tangent to the curve  $y^2 + 3xy + 2x^2 = 6$  at the point  $(1, 1)$ .

15. Find the slope of the tangent to the curve  $x \sin y + y^2 = 1 + \frac{\pi^2}{4}$  at the point  $\left(1, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ .

Note:  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin y) = \cos y \frac{dy}{dx}$ .

## Parametric Differentiation

If  $x$  and  $y$  are each expressed in terms of a third variable,  $t$  say (or  $\theta$ ), called the **parameter**, then  $x = f(t)$  and  $y = g(t)$  give the parametric forms of the equation relating to  $x$  and  $y$  respectively.

To find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  do the following:

1. Find  $\frac{dx}{dt}$  and  $\frac{dy}{dt}$ , separately.
2. Use  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dt} \cdot \frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}}$ .

### Example ▾

- (i) If  $x = 4t^3$  and  $y = (1 + 3t^2)^2$ , express  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of  $t$ .

Hence, or otherwise, evaluate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  when  $t = -1$ .

- (ii) Let  $x = a(\cos \theta + \theta \sin \theta)$  and  $y = a(\sin \theta - \theta \cos \theta)$ ; show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \tan \theta$ .

$$\left[ a \neq 0, -\pi < \theta < \pi \quad \text{and} \quad \theta \neq \pm \frac{\pi}{2} \right]$$

**Solution:**

$$x = 4t^3$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 12t^2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{dt}}{\frac{dx}{dt}} = \frac{12t(1+3t^2)}{12t^2} = \frac{1+3t^2}{t}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{t=-1} = \frac{1+3(-1)^2}{-1} = \frac{1+3}{-1} = \frac{4}{-1} = -4$$

$$y = (1 + 3t^2)^2 \quad (\text{chain rule})$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2(1 + 3t^2)^1(6t) = 12t(1 + 3t^2)$$

(ii)  $x = a(\cos \theta + \theta \sin \theta)$   
 $\frac{dx}{d\theta} = a(-\sin \theta + \theta \cdot \cos \theta + \sin \theta \cdot 1)$   
 $= a(-\sin \theta + \theta \cos \theta + \sin \theta)$   
 $= a\theta \cos \theta$

$$\begin{aligned}y &= a(\sin \theta - \theta \cos \theta) \\ \frac{dy}{d\theta} &= a[\cos \theta - (\theta \cdot -\sin \theta + \cos \theta \cdot 1)] \\ &= a(\cos \theta + \theta \sin \theta - \cos \theta) \\ &= a\theta \sin \theta\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dy}{d\theta}}{\frac{dx}{d\theta}} = \frac{a\theta \sin \theta}{a\theta \cos \theta} = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \tan \theta$$

### Exercise 12.5 ▶

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ , in terms of  $t$ , if:

1.  $x = 2t$ ,  $y = t^2$

2.  $x = 2t + 3$ ,  $y = 2t^3$

3.  $x = t^2 + 1$ ,  $y = t^3$

4.  $x = 3t^4$ ,  $y = 2t^2 + 5$

5.  $x = t(1-t)$ ,  $y = t(1-t^2)$

6.  $x = 6t + 5$ ,  $y = (2t-1)^3$

7.  $x = \frac{1}{t}$ ,  $y = t^2 + 4t$

8.  $x = 2\sqrt{t}$ ,  $y = 5t + 4$

9.  $x = 1 + \frac{1}{t}$ ,  $y = t + \frac{1}{t}$

10.  $x = \frac{t^2}{1+t^3}$ ,  $y = \frac{t^3}{1+t^3}$

11.  $x = \frac{t-2}{t+1}$  and  $y = \frac{t+2}{t+1}$ . If  $\frac{dy}{dx} = k$ , find the value of  $k$ .

12. If  $x = \frac{2}{t}$  and  $y = 3t^2 - 1$ , express  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of  $t$ . Evaluate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at the point  $(2, 2)$ .

13. If  $x = \frac{3t-1}{t}$  and  $y = \frac{t^2+4}{t}$ , express  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of  $t$ .

Find the values of  $t$  for which  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ .

14. If  $x = 2t + \sin 2t$  and  $y = \cos 2t$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\tan t$ .

15. If  $x = \sec \theta$  and  $y = \tan \theta$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \operatorname{cosec} \theta$ .

16. If  $x = k(\theta - \sin \theta)$  and  $y = k(1 - \cos \theta)$ ,  $k \in \mathbf{R}$ , find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

17. Given  $y = \sin \theta \cos \theta - \theta$  and  $x = 2 \cos \theta$ , show that (i)  $\frac{dy}{d\theta} = -2 \sin^2 \theta$  (ii)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sin \theta$ .

18. If  $x = 3 \cos \theta - 4 \sin \theta$  and  $y = 4 \cos \theta + 3 \sin \theta$ , evaluate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

19. If  $x = \sin \theta$  and  $y = \sin n\theta$ , where  $n \in \mathbf{R}$ , show that  $(1 - x^2) \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 - n^2(1 - y^2) = 0$ .

20.  $x = k(1 + \cos \theta)$ ,  $y = 2k \sin^2 \theta$ , where  $0 \leq \theta \leq \pi$  and  $k$  is a positive constant.

(i) Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in the form  $p \cos \theta$  where  $p \in \mathbf{Z}$ .

(ii) Find, in terms of  $k$ , the coordinates of the point  $q$  where  $\theta = \tan^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{7}}{3}$ .

## Differentiation of Inverse Trigonometric Functions

The rules for differentiating also apply to inverse trigonometric functions.

The following are in the tables on page 41, but they are shown only for  $x$ .

The chain rule is used throughout, assuming  $u$  is a function of  $x$ .

Replace  $a$  with 1,  $x$  with  $u$ , and always multiply by  $\frac{du}{dx}$ .

Basic rule (page 41 tables)	
$f(x)$	$f'(x)$
$\sin^{-1} \frac{x}{a}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}$
$\tan^{-1} \frac{x}{a}$	$\frac{a}{a^2 + x^2}$

Chain rule	
$f(u)$	$f'(u) \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
$\sin^{-1} u$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - u^2}} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
$\tan^{-1} u$	$\frac{1}{1 + u^2} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$

Note: The derivative of  $\cos^{-1} u$  is **not** in the syllabus.

### Example ▼

(i) If  $y = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{1+x} \right)$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2x^2 + 2x + 1}$ ,  $x \neq -1$ .

(ii) Given  $y = \sin^{-1}(3x - 1)$ , calculate the value of  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at  $x = \frac{1}{3}$ .

### Solution:

$$y = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{x}{1+x} \right)$$

(quotient rule)

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{1 + \left( \frac{x}{1+x} \right)^2} \cdot \frac{(1+x)(-1) - (x)(1)}{(1+x)^2}$$

$y = \tan^{-1} u$ $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{1 + u^2} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
--

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

(multiply the top and bottom  
of the first fraction by  $(1+x)^2$ )

(ii)  $y = \sin^{-1}(3x - 1)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(3x-1)^2}} \cdot (3) \\
 &= \frac{3}{\sqrt{1-(3x-1)^2}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= \sin^{-1} u \\
 \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{x=\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{1-(0)^2}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{1}} + \frac{3}{1} = 3$$

### Exercise 12.6 ▼

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for each of the following:

1.  $y = \sin^{-1} 2x$
2.  $y = \tan^{-1} 3x$
3.  $y = \sin^{-1}(x - 1)$
4.  $y = \tan^{-1}(2x + 1)$
5.  $y = \tan^{-1} x^2$
6.  $y = \sin^{-1} 2x^3$
7.  $y = (\sin^{-1} 5x)^2$
8.  $y = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)$
9.  $y = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$
10.  $y = \sin^{-1}(\cos x)$
11.  $y = x \sin^{-1} x$
12.  $y = 6x \tan^{-1} 2x$
13. Given  $y = \sin^{-1}(4x - 1)$ , calculate the value of  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at  $x = \frac{1}{4}$ .
14. Given  $y = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{1+x^2}$ .
15. Given  $y = \tan^{-1}(\cos x)$ , calculate the value of  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at  $x = \frac{\pi}{6}$ .
16. If  $y = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{a}{a^2 + x^2}$ .
17. Explain why  $p\sqrt{1-q} = \sqrt{p^2 - p^2q}$ ,  $p, q \in \mathbb{R}$ .  
If  $y = \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 - x^2}}$ .

18.  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x} \sin^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$ . Show that  $f'(\sqrt{2}) = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\pi}{8}$ .

19. If  $y = \tan^{-1} x$ , show that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}(1+x^2) + 2x \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ .

20. If  $u = \frac{1+x}{1-x}$ , show that  $\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{2}{(1-x)^2}$ .

Hence, if  $y = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right)$ , find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

Verify that  $2x\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 + \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$ .

21. Explain why  $\sqrt{a} = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a}}$ ,  $a \in \mathbf{R}$ ,  $a \neq 0$ .

Given  $y = \sin^{-1} x + x\sqrt{1-x^2}$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2\sqrt{1-x^2}$ .

## Differentiation of Exponential Functions

The rules for differentiating apply also to exponential functions.

**Exponent** is another word for index. A function such as  $y = 2^x$ , in which the variable occurs as an index, is called ‘an exponential function’.

The function  $y = e^x$  is called ‘**the exponential function**’ or ‘**natural exponential function**’.

$e$  is an irrational constant whose value is 2.71828 correct to six significant figures.

$e^x$  is the only basic function which is its own derivative. That is:

$$\text{If } y = e^x, \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = e^x.$$

Note: The positive number  $e$  behaves just like other positive numbers such as 2 or 5.  
 $e^x$  obeys all the usual laws of indices or exponents.

Using the chain rule:

Suppose  $u$  is a function of  $x$ .

If  $y = e^u$

$$\text{then } \frac{dy}{dx} = e^u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}.$$

### Example ▼

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  if      (i)  $y = e^{x^2-3x}$       (ii)  $y = \frac{2}{e^{3x}}$       (iii)  $y = e^{\sin 2x}$       (iv)  $y = \frac{x}{e^{2x}}$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad y &= e^{x^2-3x} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= e^{x^2-3x}(2x-3) \\ &= (2x-3)e^{x^2-3x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad y &= \frac{2}{e^{3x}} = 2e^{-3x} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= 2e^{-3x}(-3) \\ &= -6e^{-3x} = -\frac{6}{e^{3x}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iii)} \quad y &= e^{\sin 2x} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= e^{\sin 2x}(\cos 2x)(2) \\ &= (2 \cos 2x)e^{\sin 2x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iv)} \quad y &= \frac{x}{e^{2x}} = xe^{-2x} \\ &\text{(use the product rule)} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= xe^{-2x}(-2) + e^{-2x}(1) \\ &= -2xe^{-2x} + e^{-2x} \\ &= e^{-2x}(1-2x) = \frac{1-2x}{e^{2x}} \end{aligned}$$

Note: The quotient rule could also be used.

### Example ▼

If  $y = xe^{-x}$ , show that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2 \frac{dy}{dx} + y = 0$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} y &= xe^{-x} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= x[e^{-x}(-1)] + e^{-x}(1) && \text{(product rule)} \\ &= -xe^{-x} + e^{-x} \\ &= e^{-x}(1-x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} &= e^{-x}(-1) + (1-x)[e^{-x}(-1)] && \text{(product rule, again)} \\ &= -e^{-x} + (1-x)(-e^{-x}) \\ &= -e^{-x} - e^{-x} + xe^{-x} \\ &= xe^{-x} - 2e^{-x} \\ &= e^{-x}(x-2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2 \frac{dy}{dx} + y &= e^{-x}(x-2) + 2[e^{-x}(1-x)] + (xe^{-x}) \\ &= xe^{-x} - 2e^{-x} + 2e^{-x} - 2xe^{-x} + xe^{-x} \\ &= e^{-x}(x-2+2-2x+x) = e^{-x}(0) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

### Exercise 12.7 ▾

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for each of the following:

1.  $y = e^{4x}$

2.  $y = 2e^{3x}$

3.  $y = e^{x^2}$

4.  $y = e^{x^2 - 5x}$

5.  $y = e^{4x^2}$

6.  $y = e^{-x}$

7.  $y = \frac{5}{e^{2x}}$

8.  $y = \frac{2}{e^{x^2}}$

9.  $y = e^{\sin x}$

10.  $y = e^{\cos 2x}$

11.  $y = e^{4 \tan x}$

12.  $y = e^{x \sin x}$

13.  $y = xe^x$

14.  $y = x^2 e^{5x}$

15.  $y = e^{2x} \cos x$

16.  $y = e^{-x^2} \sin x$

17.  $y = \frac{x^2}{e^{2x}}$

18.  $y = (3 + e^{x^2})^4$

19.  $y = \frac{1}{3 - e^{2x^2}}$

20.  $y = \sqrt{1 - 2e^{4x}}$

21. If  $f(x) = \frac{1 + e^x}{1 - e^x}$ , show that  $f'(x) = \frac{2e^x}{(1 - e^x)^2}$ . 22. If  $f(\theta) = e^{1 + \sin \theta}$ , evaluate (i)  $f'(0)$  (ii)  $f''(0)$

23. If  $y = e^{2x}$ , show that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 0$ . 24. If  $y = xe^{-2x}$ , show that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 4 \frac{dy}{dx} + 4y = 0$ .

25. If  $y = e^x \sin x$ , show that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 0$ .

26. Given that  $y = x + \sin^{-1} x$ , show that  $(1 - x^2) \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - x \frac{dy}{dx} + x = 0$ .

27. If  $y = e^{kx}$ , find the values of  $k \in \mathbb{R}$  for which  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 0$ .

28. If  $y = e^{2t}$  and  $x = e^t$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2e^t$ .

29. If  $y = te^t$  and  $x = t^2 e^t$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{t+1}{t(t+2)}$ .

30. Given  $y = e^\theta \cos \theta$  and  $x = e^\theta \sin \theta$ , where  $-\frac{3\pi}{4} < \theta < \frac{\pi}{4}$ , show that  $\left(\frac{dy}{d\theta}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dx}{d\theta}\right)^2 = 2e^{2\theta}$ .

Evaluate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

31. If  $y = e^{-nx} \cos kx$ ,  $n, k \in \mathbb{R}$ , show that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2n \frac{dy}{dx} + (n^2 + k^2)y = 0$ .

## Differentiation of Natural Logarithmic Functions

Logarithms to the base  $e$  are called '**natural logarithms**'.

The notation  $\ln x$  is used as an abbreviation of  $\log_e x$ .

The function  $y = \ln x$  is the inverse function of  $y = e^x$   
(exponents and logs are inverse functions of each other).

**Note:**  $\log_e x$  or  $\ln x$  is defined only for  $x > 0$ .

Natural logarithms obey the same laws as logarithms to any other base.

<b>Laws of Logs:</b>	$\ln ab = \ln a + \ln b$	$\ln \frac{a}{b} = \ln a - \ln b$	$\ln a^n = n \ln a$
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Using the laws of logs before differentiating can simplify the work.

The following is worth remembering when evaluating the derivatives of natural logarithmic functions:

$$\ln e^k = k, \quad \text{for any } k \in \mathbb{R}.$$

For example,

$$\ln 1 = \ln e^0 = 0,$$

$$\ln e = \ln e^1 = 1,$$

$$\ln e^2 = 2,$$

$$\ln \sqrt{e} = \ln e^{1/2} = \frac{1}{2}.$$

The rules for differentiating also apply to natural logarithmic functions.

Suppose  $u$  is a function of  $x$ .

If  $y = \ln u$

$$\text{then } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}.$$

### Example ▼

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  if (i)  $y = \ln(x^2 + 1)$  (ii)  $y = \ln(\sin x)$  (iii)  $y = \ln\sqrt{x^2 - 3}$  (iv)  $y = x \ln x$ .

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad & y = \ln(x^2 + 1) \\ & \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x^2 + 1} \cdot 2x \\ & = \frac{2x}{x^2 + 1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii)} \quad & y = \ln(\sin x) \\ & \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sin x} \cdot \cos x \\ & = \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} = \cot x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iii)} \quad & y = \ln\sqrt{x^2 - 3} \\ & y = \ln(x^2 - 3)^{1/2} = \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2 - 3) \\ & (\text{using } \ln a^n = n \ln a) \\ & \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{x^2 - 3} \cdot 2x \\ & = \frac{x}{x^2 - 3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(iv)} \quad & y = x \ln x \\ & \frac{dy}{dx} = x \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) + \ln(x)(1) \\ & (\text{using the product rule}) \\ & = 1 + \ln x \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 12.8 ▾**

Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for each of the following:

1.  $y = \ln 5x$

2.  $y = \ln(2x + 3)$

3.  $y = \ln(x^2 + 3)$

4.  $y = \ln(\cos x)$

5.  $y = \ln\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$

6.  $y = \ln(e^x + 2)$

7.  $y = \ln(\sin 2x)$

8.  $y = \ln(\tan 3x)$

9.  $y = \ln(e^{2x})$

10.  $y = x \ln x^2$

11.  $y = x^3 \ln(x + 1)$

12.  $y = x^2 \ln 4x$

Use the rules of logarithms, or otherwise, to find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for each of the following:

13.  $y = \ln\left(\frac{2x}{x+1}\right)$

14.  $y = \ln(2x + 3)^2$

15.  $y = \ln\left(\frac{1}{e^x}\right)$

16.  $y = \ln\sqrt{1+x^2}$

17.  $y = \ln\sqrt{\sin x}$

18.  $y = \ln\sqrt{\frac{x}{1+x}}$

19. If  $f(x) = \ln(e^x \cos x)$ , show that  $f'(x) = 1 - \tan x$ .

20. If  $y = \ln(\sec x + \tan x)$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sec x$ .

21. If  $f(x) = x^2 \ln x$ , evaluate (i)  $f'(e)$  (ii)  $f'(1)$ .

22. Given  $f(x) = \ln\left(\frac{1+\cos x}{1-\cos x}\right)$ , show that  $f'(x) = -2 \operatorname{cosec} x$ .

23. If  $f(x) = \ln(\ln x)$ , evaluate  $f'(e)$ .

24. If  $f(x) = \ln\left(\frac{e^x}{1+e^x}\right)$  evaluate  $f'(0)$ .

25. If  $y = \frac{\ln x}{x}$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1-\ln x}{x^2}$ .

Evaluate  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  at  $x = e$ .

26. Given  $f(x) = e^x \ln x$ ,  $x > 0$ , evaluate  $f''(1)$ .

27. Given  $y = \ln(t+1)$  and  $x = 1 + \ln t$ , express  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of  $t$ .

28. If  $y = e^{t+1}$  and  $x = e^t$ , find the value of  $\ln\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)$ .

29. If  $y = \ln t$  and  $x + \frac{1}{2}\left(t + \frac{1}{t}\right)$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2t}{t^2-1}$ .

30. If  $x = \ln\left(\frac{e^t}{1+e^t}\right)$  and  $y = \ln\left(\frac{1+e^t}{e^t}\right)$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , evaluate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

31. Given  $y = x \ln(x^2)$ , show that  $x\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right) - 2x = y$ .

**32.** Using  $\ln \frac{a}{b} = \ln a - \ln b$ , or otherwise, show that if  $y = \ln\left(\frac{1+x}{1-x}\right)$ ,

$$\text{(i)} \quad (1-x^2) \frac{dy}{dx} = 2$$

$$\text{(ii)} \quad \left(\frac{2x}{1-x^2}\right) \frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0.$$

**33.** Factorise  $a^x + a^{2x}$ . If  $y = \ln(1 + e^x)$ , show that  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 = \frac{dy}{dx}$ .

**34.** If  $y = \ln e^{-x} \sqrt{\frac{1+2x}{1-2x}}$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1+4x^2}{1-4x^2}$ .

Find the value of  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at  $x = -1$ .

(Hint:  $\ln \frac{ab}{c} = \ln a + \ln b - \ln c$ )

## Logarithmic Differentiation

Functions of the form  $2^x$ ,  $x^x$  or  $3^{\sin x}$  are differentiated using '**logarithmic differentiation**'.

The method involves three steps:

1. Take natural logs of both sides and use the fact that  $\ln a^x = x \ln a$ .
2. Differentiate both sides with respect to  $x$ , using implicit differentiation.
3. Multiply both sides by  $y$  to get  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  on its own.

### Example ▾

Differentiate (i)  $2^x$  (ii)  $x^x$  with respect to  $x$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i) Let } y &= 2^x \\ \ln y &= \ln 2^x \\ \ln y &= x \ln 2 \\ \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \ln 2 \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= y \ln 2 \\ &= 2^x \ln 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(ii) Let } y &= x^x \\ \ln y &= \ln x^x \\ \ln y &= x \ln x \\ \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} &= x \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) + \ln x(1) \\ (\text{using the product rule}) \quad \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} &= 1 + \ln x \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= y(1 + \ln x) \\ &= x^x(1 + \ln x) \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 12.9**

Use logarithmic differentiation to find the derivative of each of the following:

1.  $3^x$

2.  $5^x$

3.  $3^{2x}$

4.  $4^{3x+1}$

5.  $2^{\sin x}$

6.  $2^{\ln x}$

7.  $(\sin x)^x$

8.  $2^x x^2$

9. If  $f(x) = x4^x$ , evaluate  $f'(1)$ .

10. If  $y = a^x$ ,  $a > 0$ ,  $a \in \mathbf{R}$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = a^x \ln a$ .

11. If  $x^y = e^x$ , show that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x-y}{x \ln x}$  or  $\frac{\ln x - 1}{(\ln x)^2}$ .