

11 Lesson 11

11.1 Derivative of the Natural Logarithmic Function (and More Chain Rule)

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\ln(x)] = \frac{1}{x}$$

Example 1: Suppose $f(x) = 7 \ln(x)$. Find $f'(x)$.

$$f'(x) = 7 \cdot (\ln'(x)) = 7/x$$

Example 2: Suppose $f(x) = \ln(x^2 + 4x + 1)$. Find $f'(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned} u &= g(x) = x^2 + 4x + 1 & y' &= \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} \\ y &= f(u) = \ln(u) & &= \frac{1}{u} \cdot (2x + 4) \\ f'(u) &= 1/u & &= \frac{2x + 4}{x^2 + 4x + 1} \\ g'(x) &= 2x + 4 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3: Suppose $f(x) = \underbrace{(5x^2 - x)^2}_{h(x)} \sqrt[3]{3x}$. Find $f'(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned} h'(x) &= 2(5x^2 - x)(10x - 1) = 100x^3 - 30x^2 + 2x & h'(x) &= \frac{1}{3}(3x)^{-2/3} \cdot 3 = (3x)^{-2/3} \\ &\quad \uparrow \text{chain rule} & &\quad \uparrow \text{chain rule} \end{aligned}$$

$$f'(x) = (100x^3 - 30x^2 + 2x) \sqrt[3]{3x} + (3x)^{-2/3} (5x^2 - x)^2$$

$\uparrow \text{product rule}$ $\uparrow (3x)^{-1/3}$ $\uparrow 25x^4 - 10x^3 + x^2$

Example 4: Suppose $f(x) = 3 \tan^3(3x)$. Find $f'(x)$.

$$y = 3(\tan(3x))^3 \quad y'$$

Need chain rule twice

$$\begin{aligned} u &= g(x) = \tan(3x) & y' &= \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} \\ y &= f(u) = 3u^3 & &= 9u^2 \cdot 3\sec^2(3x) \\ f'(u) &= 9u^2 & &= 27\tan^2(3x)\sec^2(3x) \\ g'(x) &= 3\sec^2(3x) & &\quad \uparrow \text{chain rule} \end{aligned}$$

Example 5: Suppose $f(x) = \underbrace{e^{ex}}_{h(x)} \underbrace{\sin(9x)}_{g(x)}$. Find $f'(x)$.

Need product rule and chain rule

$$h'(x) = e \cdot e^{ex} = e^{ex+1} \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \text{chain rule} \end{matrix} \quad g'(x) = 9\cos(9x) \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \text{chain rule} \end{matrix}$$

$$f'(x) = e^{ex+1} \sin(9x) + 9\cos(9x)e^{ex} \quad \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ \text{product rule} \end{matrix}$$

Example 6: Suppose

$$f(x) = \ln \left(\sqrt{\frac{2x+4}{x^2-4}} \right).$$

Find $f'(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left(\frac{2(x+2)}{(x+2)(x-2)} \right)^{1/2} \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{x-2} \right)^{1/2} \\ \Rightarrow f(x) &= \ln \left(\left(\frac{2}{x-2} \right)^{1/2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{2}{x-2} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\ln(2) - \ln(x-2) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left[0 - \frac{1}{x-2} \cdot 1 \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2-x} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4-2x} \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively, use chain and quotient rule.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{2x+4}{x^2-4} \right) \\ f'(x) &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x^2-4}{2x+4} \cdot \frac{(x+2)(x-2) - 2x(2x+4)}{(x^2-4)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \cdot (x-2) \cdot \frac{2(x+2)(-x-2)}{(x+2)^2(x-2)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \cdot -2 \cdot \frac{(x+2)}{(x+2)(x-2)} \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \cdot -2 \end{aligned}$$