Faculty of Science

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Equality of Lower and Higher Degree Polynomials

Sometimes, we may want to change the degree of a polynomial for convenience. In this paper, I show that a polynomial f(x) of lower degree $d \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ is equal to a polynomial f'(x) of higher degree $d' \in \mathbb{R}$.

The general formula of the dth degree polynomial is

$$f(x) = w_1 x^d + w_2 x^{d-1} + w_3 x^{d-2} + \dots + w_n x^{d-d}$$

$$\text{where } x \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } w_i \in \mathbb{R}; 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$$\text{Suppose } f'(x) = w_1 x^{d'} + w_2 x + w_3 x + \dots + w_n x, \text{ and } f'(x) = f(x), \text{ then }$$

$$w_1 x^{d'} + w_2 x + w_3 x + \dots + w_n x = w_1 x^d + w_2 x^{d-1} + w_3 x^{d-2} + \dots + w_n x^{d-d}$$

$$w_1 x^{d'} = w_1 x^d + w_2 x^{d-1} + w_3 x^{d-2} + \dots + w_n x^{d-d} - w_2 x - w_3 x - \dots - w_n x$$

$$w_1 x^{d'} = f(x) - w_2 x - w_3 x - \dots - w_n x$$

$$\ln(w_1 x^{d'}) = \ln(f(x) - w_2 x - w_3 x - \dots - w_n x)$$

$$\ln(w_1) + \ln(x^{d'}) = \ln(f(x) - w_2 x - w_3 x - \dots - w_n x) - \ln(w_1)$$

$$d' \ln(x) = \ln(f(x) - w_2 x - w_3 x - \dots - w_n x) - \ln(w_1)$$

$$d' \ln(x) = \ln(f(x) - w_2 x - w_3 x - \dots - w_n x) - \ln(w_1)$$

$$d' = \frac{\ln(f(x) - w_2 x - w_3 x - \dots - w_n x) - \ln(w_1)}{\ln(x)}$$

$$\therefore w_1 x^{\frac{\ln(f(x) - w_2 x - w_3 x - \dots - w_n x) - \ln(w_1)}{\ln(x)}$$

$$+ w_2 x + w_3 x + \dots + w_n x = w_1 x^d + w_2 x^{d-1} + w_3 x^{d-2} + \dots + w_n x^{d-d}$$

Rule 1: For any $d \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, $d' \in \mathbb{R}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$, and $w_i \in \mathbb{R}$; where $1 \le i \le n$, the equality f(x) = f'(x) is true if $d' = \frac{\ln(f(x) - w_2 x - w_3 x - \dots - w_n x) - \ln(w_1)}{\ln(x)}$.

I now consider whether d'>d. If d'< d and rule 1 are true, then $w_2x+w_3x+\cdots+w_nx$ is greater than $w_2x^{d-1}+w_3x^{d-2}+\cdots+w_nx^{d-d}$. It cannot be the case that $w_2x+w_3x+\cdots+w_nx$ is greater than $w_2x^{d-1}+w_3x^{d-2}+\cdots+w_nx^{d-d}$, because d is a positive integer; thus, $d'\geq d$. Further, if d'=d, then $w_2x^{d-1}+w_3x^{d-2}+\cdots+w_nx^{d-d}$ is equal to $w_2x+w_3x+\cdots+w_nx$, which is false. Therefore, since d'< d and d'=d are false, d'>d is true.

Rule 2: If rule 1 is true, then the degree d' of f'(x) is higher than degree d of f(x).