

M16600 Lecture Notes

Sections 6.4: Derivatives of Logarithmic Functions

SUMMARY

New Differentiation Formulas

- $\frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) = \frac{1}{x}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(\log_b x) = \frac{1}{x \ln b}$
- $\frac{d}{dx}(b^x) = b^x \ln b$

New Integral Formulas

- $\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln |x| + C$
- $\int b^x dx = \frac{b^x}{\ln b} + C$, where $b \neq 1$.

New Differentiation Technique: Logarithmic Differentiation

• The Derivative and Integral Formula of $\ln x$

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

$$\boxed{\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln |x| + C}$$

Example 1: Differentiate

(a) $f(x) = \sqrt{\ln x}$

let $z = \ln x \Rightarrow f(x) = \sqrt{z}$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \frac{d}{dx}(\sqrt{z}) = \frac{d}{dz}(\sqrt{z}) \frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{z}} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\ln x}} \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{2x\sqrt{\ln x}} \end{aligned}$$

(b) $g(x) = \ln(\sin x)$

let $z = \sin x \Rightarrow g(x) = \ln z$

$$\begin{aligned} g'(x) &= \frac{d}{dx}(\ln z) = \frac{d}{dz}(\ln z) \frac{dz}{dx} \\ &= \frac{1}{z} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(\sin x) = \frac{1}{\sin x} \cos x = \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} \\ &= \cot x \end{aligned}$$

Example 2: Evaluate

(a) $\int \frac{x}{x^2+1} dx$

~~$dx \cdot \frac{du}{dx} = 2x \cdot dx$~~

Let $u = x^2 + 1 \Rightarrow \frac{du}{dx} = 2x \Rightarrow du = 2x dx$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} du = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 2x dx$

$I = \int \frac{x}{x^2+1} dx = \int \frac{1}{x^2+1} \cdot x dx$

$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} du = x dx$

$= \int \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{2} du = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{1}{u} du = \frac{1}{2} \ln|u| + C$

$= \frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2+1| + C$

(b) $\int_1^e \frac{\ln x}{x} dx = \int_1^e \underbrace{\ln x}_u \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{x} dx}_{=du}$

Let $u = \ln x \Rightarrow \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} \Rightarrow du = \frac{1}{x} dx$

$\Rightarrow I = \int_{u=0}^{u=1} u \cdot du$

$x=1 \Rightarrow u = \ln 1 = 0$

$x=e \Rightarrow u = \ln e = 1$

$= \int_0^1 u du = \left. \frac{u^2}{2} \right|_0^1 = \frac{1}{2}$

• Logarithmic Differentiation

The calculation of derivatives of complicated functions involving products, quotients, or powers can often be simplified by taking logarithms. This method is called **Logarithmic Differentiation**

Example 3: Use **Logarithmic Differentiation** to find the derivative of

$$y = \frac{x^{3/4} \sqrt{x^2 + 1}}{(3x + 2)^5}$$

Step 1 Take \ln on both sides and simplify using log Properties

$$y = \frac{x^{3/4} \sqrt{x^2 + 1}}{(3x + 2)^5} \Rightarrow \ln y = \ln \left[\frac{x^{3/4} \sqrt{x^2 + 1}}{(3x + 2)^5} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \ln y &= \ln [x^{3/4} \sqrt{x^2 + 1}] - \ln [(3x + 2)^5] \\ &= \ln x^{3/4} + \ln (x^2 + 1)^{1/2} - \ln (3x + 2)^5 \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \ln x + \frac{1}{2} \ln (x^2 + 1) - 5 \ln (3x + 2) \end{aligned}$$

Step 2 Diff. both sides w.r.t. x

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{3}{4} \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2x}{x^2 + 1} \right) - 5 \left(\frac{3}{3x + 2} \right) \\ &= \frac{3}{4x} + \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} - \frac{15}{3x + 2} \end{aligned}$$

Step 3 Multiply both sides by y to get $\frac{dy}{dx}$

$$y \cdot \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = y \left[\frac{3}{4x} + \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} - \frac{15}{3x + 2} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^{3/4} \sqrt{x^2 + 1}}{(3x + 2)^5} \left[\frac{3}{4x} + \frac{x}{x^2 + 1} - \frac{15}{3x + 2} \right]$$

Example 4: Differentiate

(a) $y = x^2$ Step 1 $\Rightarrow \ln y = \ln x^2 \Rightarrow \ln y = 2 \ln x$

Step 2 $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2}{x}$

(b) $y = e^x$ Step 3 $\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = y \cdot \frac{2}{x} = x^2 \cdot \frac{2}{x} = 2x$

Step 1 $\Rightarrow \ln y = \ln e^x \Rightarrow \ln y = x \ln e \Rightarrow \ln y = x$

Step 2 $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$ Step 3 $\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = y \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = e^x$

(c) $y = x^{\sqrt{x}}$

Step 1 $\Rightarrow \ln y = \ln x^{\sqrt{x}} \Rightarrow \ln y = \sqrt{x} \ln x$

Step 2 $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = [\sqrt{x} \ln x]'$

$$= [\sqrt{x}]' \ln x + \sqrt{x} [\ln x]'$$

$$= \frac{\ln x}{2\sqrt{x}} + \frac{\sqrt{x}}{x} = \frac{\sqrt{x} \ln x + 2\sqrt{x}}{2x}$$

$$\overset{||}{\frac{\sqrt{x} \ln x}{2\sqrt{x} \cdot \sqrt{x}}} + \overset{||}{\frac{2\sqrt{x}}{2x}} = \overset{||}{\frac{\sqrt{x} \ln x}{2x}} + \overset{||}{\frac{2\sqrt{x}}{2x}}$$

Step 3 $\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = y \left(\frac{\sqrt{x} \ln x + 2\sqrt{x}}{2x} \right)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = x^{\sqrt{x}} \left(\frac{\sqrt{x} \ln x + 2\sqrt{x}}{2x} \right)$$

$$= x^{\sqrt{x}} \frac{\cancel{\sqrt{x}} (\ln x + 2)}{2\cancel{x} \sqrt{x}} = \frac{x^{\sqrt{x}} (\ln x + 2)}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

Example 5: Evaluate

(a) $\frac{d}{dx}(\log_2 x)$

$$= \frac{1}{x \ln 2}$$

(b) $\frac{d}{dx}(2^{2x})$

$$= \frac{d}{dx}(4^x)$$

$$= 4^x \ln 4 = 2^{2x} \ln 4$$

$$= 2^{2x} (2 \ln 2)$$

$$= 2^{2x+1} \ln 2$$

$$\textcircled{*} 2^{2x} = (2^2)^x = 4^x$$

$$\textcircled{*} \ln 4 = \ln 2^2 = 2 \ln 2$$

(c) $\int 2^x dx$

$$= \frac{2^x}{\ln 2} + C$$