

# 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  $b \neq 1$ .

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

#### New Differentiation Technique: Logarithmic Differentiation

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

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

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) = \frac{1}{x} \quad x > 0$$

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

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\log_b x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\ln x}{\ln b} \right)$$

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

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

#### Example 1: Differentiate

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

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(\sqrt{\ln x}) &= \frac{d}{dx}(\sqrt{z}) = \frac{d}{dz}(\sqrt{z}) \frac{dz}{dx} \\ \text{let } z &= \ln x \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dx} &= \frac{1}{x} \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{2} z^{-1/2} \right) \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (\ln x)^{-1/2} \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) \end{aligned}$$

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



$$\frac{d}{dx}(\ln(\sin x)) = \frac{d}{dx}(\ln z) = \frac{d}{dz}(\ln z) \frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{1}{z} \cos x = \frac{\cos x}{\sin x}$$

let  $z = \sin x$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dx} = \cos x$$

$$= \cot x$$

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

$$b^x = \int b^x \ln b \, dx$$

$$b^x = (\ln b) \int b^x \, dx$$

$$\int b^x \, dx = \frac{b^x}{\ln b} + C$$

let us consider the function  $f(x) = \ln|x|$

$\ln x$  has domain  $x > 0$

At  $x=0$ ,  $|x|=0$

$\Rightarrow \ln|x|$  is not defined.

$\Rightarrow x=0$  is not in the domain of  $\ln|x|$

$\Rightarrow$  Domain of  $\ln|x|$  is all real numbers except 0.

$$(-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty)$$

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$x = -4 \Rightarrow |x| = 4 = -(-4) = -x$$

$$\ln|x| = \begin{cases} \ln x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ \ln(-x) & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) = \frac{1}{x} \quad (x > 0) \\ \frac{d}{dx}(\ln(-x)) = \frac{1}{x} \quad (x < 0) \end{array} \right. \quad , \quad \begin{array}{l} \frac{d}{dx}(\ln(-x)) = \frac{d}{dz}(\ln z) \\ \text{let } z = -x \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dx} = -1 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{d}{dz}(\ln z) \frac{dz}{dx} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{z}\right)(-1) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{-x}\right)(-1) = \frac{1}{x} \end{aligned}$$

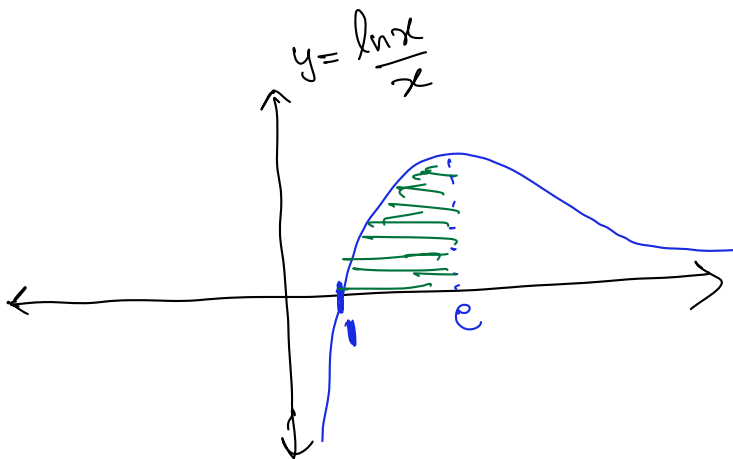
$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(\ln|x|) = \begin{cases} \frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) & \text{if } x > 0 \\ \frac{d}{dx}(\ln(-x)) & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases} = \frac{1}{x} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(\ln|x|) = \frac{1}{x} \text{ for every } x \neq 0$$

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

Example 2: Evaluate

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \int \frac{x}{x^2+1} dx &\Rightarrow I = \int \frac{x}{x^2+1} dx = \int \frac{1}{x^2+1} x dx = \int \frac{1}{u} \frac{du}{2} \\ \text{let } u &= x^2+1 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{du}{dx} &= 2x \\ \Rightarrow du &= 2x dx \\ \Rightarrow \frac{du}{2x} &= dx \quad \downarrow \quad \frac{du}{2} = x dx \\ &= \int \frac{\cancel{x}}{u} \frac{du}{\cancel{2x}} = \int \frac{1}{2u} du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{1}{u} du \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \ln|u| + C \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \ln|x^2+1| + C \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b)} \quad \int_1^e \frac{\ln x}{x} dx &= \int_1^e \ln x \cdot \frac{1}{x} dx = \int_{\ln 1}^{\ln e} u du \\ u &= \ln x \\ \Rightarrow \frac{du}{dx} &= \frac{1}{x} \\ \Rightarrow du &= \frac{1}{x} dx \\ &= \int_0^1 u du = \frac{u^2}{2} \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{1^2}{2} - \frac{0^2}{2} = \frac{1}{2} - 0 = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$



## • 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 logarithm on both sides.

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

Step 2: Simplify the RHS using properties of logarithm.  
(expand)

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

Step 3: Diff. both the sides w.r.t.  $x$ .

$$\frac{d}{dx} (\ln y) = \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{3}{4} \ln x + \frac{1}{2} \ln (x^2 + 1) - 5 \ln (3x + 2) \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dy} (\ln y) \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3}{4} \frac{d}{dx} (\ln x) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} (\ln (x^2 + 1)) - 5 \frac{d}{dx} (\ln (3x + 2))$$

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

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

Step 4: multiply both sides with  $y$

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

Example

Diff.

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

$$\frac{d}{dx} (\ln(f(x))) = \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)}$$

Step 1:  $\ln y = \ln \left( \frac{x^2+1}{\sqrt{x+1} x^{5/4}} \right)$

Step 2:  $\ln y = \ln(x^2+1) - \ln(\sqrt{x+1} x^{5/4})$   
 $= \ln(x^2+1) - \ln(\sqrt{x+1}) - \ln x^{5/4}$

$$\Rightarrow \ln y = \ln(x^2+1) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(x+1) - \frac{5}{4} \ln(x)$$

Step 3:  $\frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} [\ln(x^2+1)] - \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dx} [\ln(x+1)] - \frac{5}{4} \frac{d}{dx} [\ln(x)]$

$$= \frac{(x^2+1)'}{x^2+1} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(x+1)'}{x+1} - \frac{5}{4} \frac{(x)'}{x}$$

$$= \frac{2x}{x^2+1} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{5}{4} \frac{1}{x} = \frac{2x}{x^2+1} - \frac{1}{2(x+1)} - \frac{5}{4x}$$

Step 4:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = y \left[ \frac{2x}{x^2+1} - \frac{1}{2(x+1)} - \frac{5}{4x} \right]$

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

Example 4: Differentiate

(a)  $y = x^2$

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

Step 2:  $\ln(y) = 2 \ln x$

Step 3:  $\frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \left( \frac{1}{x} \right) = \frac{2}{x}$

(b)  $y = e^x$

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

Step 2:  $\ln y = x \ln e = x$

Step 3:  $\frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = y$

$y = e^x$

Step 1:  $\ln y = \ln(x^{\sqrt{x}})$

Step 2:  $\ln y = \sqrt{x} \ln x$

Step 3:  $\frac{d}{dx}(\ln y) = \frac{d}{dx}(\sqrt{x} \ln x)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = \sqrt{x} (\ln x)' + (\sqrt{x})' \ln x$$
$$= \sqrt{x} \frac{1}{x} + \left( \frac{1}{2} x^{\frac{1}{2}-1} \right) \ln x$$

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

$$= \frac{1}{x^{1-\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{1}{2 x^{\frac{1}{2}}} \ln x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{\ln x}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2 + \ln x}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

Step 4:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = y \frac{(2 + \ln x)}{2\sqrt{x}} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = x^{\sqrt{x}} \frac{(2 + \ln x)}{2\sqrt{x}}$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [\ln(f(x))] = \left( \frac{d}{dz} \ln z \right) \frac{dz}{dx}$$

where  $z = f(x) = \frac{1}{2} f'(x)$

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

Example 5: Evaluate

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad \frac{d}{dx}(\log_2 x) &= \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{\ln x}{\ln 2} \right) = \frac{1}{\ln 2} \frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) \\ &= \frac{1}{\ln 2} \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{x \ln 2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{d}{dz}(b^z) = b^z \ln b}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(b)} \quad \frac{d}{dx}(2^{2x}) &= \frac{d}{dx}(2^{2x}) = \frac{d}{dx}(2^z) \\ &\quad \text{let } z = 2x \\ &\quad \quad \downarrow \\ &\quad \frac{dz}{dx} = 2 \\ &= \frac{d}{dz}(2^z) \frac{dz}{dx} = (2^z \ln 2) \cdot 2 \\ &= (2^{2x} \ln 2) \cdot 2 \\ &= 2^{2x+1} \ln 2 \end{aligned}$$

Alternatively

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx}((2^2)^x) &= \frac{d}{dx}(4^x) = 4^x \ln 4 = 4^x \ln 2^2 = 4^x (2 \ln 2) \\ &= 2^{2x} (2 \ln 2) \\ &= 2^{2x+1} \ln 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{(c)} \quad \int 2^x dx$$

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