

Lecture 11: The Derivative of $\ln x$

Goal: Differentiate $\ln x$. Present the technique of Logarithmic Differentiation. Derive the power rule.

Summary:

$(\ln x)' = \frac{1}{x}$	$(\log_b x)' = \frac{1}{x \ln b}$
$(\ln f(x))' = \frac{f'}{f}$	$x^p = e^{p \ln x}$

Ex/ $[e^{x^2}]' = e^{x^2} \cdot 2x$

In general, $[e^{f(x)}]' = e^{f(x)} \cdot f'(x)$

Use this to find $\frac{d}{dx}(\ln x)$

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

$f(x) = \ln x$

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

$$e^{f(x)} \cdot f'(x) = 1$$
$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{e^{f(x)}} = \frac{1}{e^{\ln x}} = \frac{1}{x}$$

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

What is $\frac{d}{dx}(\ln(f(x)))$?

$$[\ln(f(x))]' = \frac{1}{f(x)} \cdot f'(x) = \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)}$$

Ex/ $[x \ln x]' = [x]' \ln x + x [\ln x]'$

$$= 1 \cdot \ln x + x \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \ln x + 1$$

Ex3/ $[\ln(\ln x)]' = \underbrace{[\ln(\ln x)]'}_{\text{w.r.t. } \ln x} \cdot \underbrace{[\ln x]'}_{\text{w.r.t. } x}$

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

Ex3 / $[\ln(x^2-1)]'$

METHOD 1: $[\ln(x^2-1)]' = \frac{1}{x^2-1} \cdot (x^2-1)' = \frac{2x}{x^2-1}$

METHOD 2: $y = \ln(x^2-1) = \ln[(x-1)(x+1)] = \ln(x-1) + \ln(x+1)$

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

Ex4 / $y = \ln\left(\sqrt{\frac{x+1}{x^2+4}}\right) = \ln\left[\left(\frac{x+1}{x^2+4}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right] = \frac{1}{2} \ln\left[\frac{x+1}{x^2+4}\right]$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\ln(x+1) - \ln(x^2+4)] = \frac{1}{2} \ln(x+1) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2+4)$$

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

Ex5 / $y = \log x = \log_{10} x$ Change of Base Formula $\frac{\ln x}{\ln 10}$

$$y' = [\log x]' = \left[\frac{\ln x}{\ln 10} \right]' = \frac{1}{\ln 10} \cdot [\ln x]' = \frac{1}{\ln 10} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \\ = \frac{1}{x \ln 10}$$

In general, for a base $b > 0$

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

Logarithmic Differentiation Recall $y = f(x)$

$[\ln y]' = \frac{1}{y} \cdot y' = \frac{y'}{y}$. We can use this to our benefit.

Ex 6 $[x^x]'$

$y = x^x$ $\ln y = \ln(x^x)$ $[\ln y]' = [x \ln x]'$ $\frac{y'}{y} = [x]' \ln x + x [\ln x]'$	$\frac{y'}{y} = \ln x + 1$ $y' = y [\ln x + 1]$
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Hence, $y' = x^x [\ln x + 1]$

Ex 7 $y = (2x+1)^5 (x^4-3)^6$

$$\ln(y) = \ln[(2x+1)^5 (x^4-3)^6] = \ln[(2x+1)^5] + \ln[(x^4-3)^6]$$

$$\ln(y) = 5 \ln(2x+1) + 6 \ln(x^4-3)$$

$$\frac{y'}{y} = 5 \cdot \frac{1}{2x+1} (2) + 6 \cdot \frac{1}{x^4-3} \cdot 4x^3$$

$$y' = y \left[\frac{10}{2x+1} + \frac{24x^3}{x^4-3} \right]$$

$$y' = (2x+1)^5 (x^4-3)^6 \left[\frac{10}{2x+1} + \frac{24x^3}{x^4-3} \right]$$

$$y' = 10(2x+1)^4 (x^4-3)^6 + 24x^3 (2x+1)^5 (x^4-3)^5$$

$$\text{Ex 8/ } y = (\sin x)^x$$

$$\ln(y) = \ln(\sin x)^x$$

$$[\ln(y)]' = [x \ln(\sin x)]'$$

$$\frac{y'}{y} = [x]' \ln(\sin x) + x [\ln(\sin x)]'$$

$$\frac{y'}{y} = \ln(\sin x) + x \frac{1}{\sin x} \cdot \cos x$$

$$y' = y [\ln(\sin x) + x \cot x]$$

$$\text{Hence, } y' = (\sin x)^x [\ln(\sin x) + x \cot x]$$

$$\text{Ex 9/ } y = \ln(\sec x + \tan x)$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{\sec x + \tan x} [\sec x + \tan x]' = \frac{\sec x \tan x + \sec^2 x}{\sec x + \tan x}$$

~~Ex 10~~ $y = \ln(x^4 \sin^2 x)$

$$y' = \frac{1}{x^4 \sin^2 x} \cdot [x^4 (\sin x)^2]'$$

$$= \frac{1}{x^4 \sin^2 x} \left[(x^4)' \sin^2 x + x^4 (\sin^2 x)' \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{x^4 \sin^2 x} [4x^3 \sin^2 x + x^4 2 \sin x \cos x]$$

$$= \frac{4}{x} + \frac{2 \cos x}{\sin x} = \frac{4}{x} + 2 \cot x$$

Derivative of x^p Recall $\frac{d}{dx}(x^p) = p x^{p-1}$

Why?

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

$$= e^{p \ln x} \cdot (p \ln x)' = e^{p \ln x} \cdot \frac{p}{x}$$

$$= [e^{\ln(x^p)}] \cdot \frac{p}{x} = x^p \cdot \frac{p}{x} = p x^{p-1}$$