

Lecture 9: The Quotient Rule; Derivative of Trig Functions

Goal: Differentiate functions of the form $\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$. Use this to derive the derivative of the 6 trigonometric functions.

Summary:

$\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)' = \frac{f'g - fg'}{g^2}$		
$(\sin x)' = \cos x$	$(\cos x)' = -\sin x$	$(\tan x)' = \sec^2 x$
$(\sec x)' = \sec x \tan x$	$(\csc x)' = -\csc x \cot x$	$(\cot x)' = -\csc^2 x$

NOTE: $\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right) \neq \frac{\frac{d}{dx}(f)}{\frac{d}{dx}(g)}$; $\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{x}{1}\right) \neq \frac{\frac{d}{dx}(x)}{\frac{d}{dx}(1)}$

$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = f(x) \left[\frac{1}{g(x)}\right]$. Need to know $\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{1}{g(x)}\right) = -\frac{g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$

Now by the product rule,

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

Theorem (Quotient Rule) Let f and g be differentiable and $g(x) \neq 0$

"high" \rightarrow $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)' = \frac{f'g - fg'}{g^2}$ \leftarrow "low d-high
high d-low
square the low"

Ex/Fund $\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)' = \frac{[1]' \cdot x - [1] \cdot [x]'}{x^2} = \frac{-1}{x^2}$

Ex/Fund $\left(\frac{\sin x}{x^2+x}\right)'$. $f(x) = \sin x \rightarrow f'(x) = \cos x$
 $g(x) = x^2+x \rightarrow g'(x) = 2x+1$

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

Ex/ $\left(\frac{2e^t}{e^t-5}\right)'$ = $\frac{[2e^t]'(e^t-5) - (2e^t)[e^t-5]'}{(e^t-5)^2}$

$\nwarrow f$
 $\nearrow g$

$$= \frac{2e^t(e^t-5) - 2e^t(e^t)}{(e^t-5)^2}$$

$$= \frac{2e^{2t} - 10e^t - 2e^{2t}}{(e^t-5)^2} = -\frac{10e^t}{(e^t-5)^2}$$

Ex/ Let a be a constant

$f \rightarrow [x^2-a^2]$
 $g \rightarrow [x-a]$

$$\left(\frac{x^2-a^2}{x-a}\right)' = \frac{[x^2-a^2]'(x-a) - (x^2-a^2)[x-a]'}{(x-a)^2}$$

$$= \frac{2x(x-a) - (x^2-a^2)}{(x-a)^2} = \frac{2x^2-2ax-x^2+a^2}{(x-a)^2}$$

NOTE: $\left(\frac{x^2-a^2}{x-a}\right)' = \left(\frac{(x+a)(x-a)}{x-a}\right)' = (x+a)' = 1$

$$= \frac{x^2-2ax+a^2}{(x-a)^2} = \frac{(x-a)^2}{(x-a)^2} = 1$$

Derivatives of Trig Functions

As a reminder, $(\sin x)' = \cos x$ and $(\cos x)' = -\sin x$

Tangent

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\tan x) = \frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{\sin x}{\cos x}\right) = \frac{[\sin x]' \cos x - \sin x [\cos x]'}{[\cos x]^2}$$
$$= \frac{\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x}{[\cos x]^2} = \frac{1}{[\cos x]^2} = \boxed{\sec^2 x}$$

Ex/ If $y = \overbrace{\cos x}^{\sin x} \tan x$, what is y' ?

$$\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= [\cos x]' \tan x + \cos x [\tan x]' \\ &= -\sin x \tan x + \cos x \boxed{\sec^2 x} \leftarrow \text{You can stop here} \\ &= \frac{-\sin^2 x}{\cos x} + \frac{\cos x}{\cos^2 x} = \frac{-\sin^2 x}{\cos x} + \frac{1}{\cos x} = \frac{1 - \sin^2 x}{\cos x} \\ &= \frac{\cos^2 x}{\cos x} = \cos x \end{aligned}$$

Cotangent

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx}(\cot x) &= \frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{\cos x}{\sin x}\right) = \frac{[\cos x]' \sin x - \cos x [\sin x]'}{\sin^2 x} \\ &= \frac{-\sin^2 x - \cos^2 x}{\sin^2 x} = -\frac{\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x}{\sin^2 x} \\ &= -\frac{1}{\sin^2 x} = \boxed{-\csc^2 x} \end{aligned}$$

Ex/ If $y = e^x \cot x$, then

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= [e^x]' \cot x + e^x [\cot x]' \\ &= e^x \cot x + e^x (-\csc^2 x) = e^x (\cot x - \csc^2 x) \end{aligned}$$

Secant

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{1}{\cos x}\right) = \frac{[1]' \cos x - 1 \cdot [\cos x]'}{[\cos x]^2} = \frac{\sin x}{[\cos x]^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\cos x} \cdot \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = \boxed{\sec x \tan x}$$

Ex/Find y' if $y = \sec^2 x = (\sec x)(\sec x)$

$$y' = [\sec x]' \sec x + \sec x [\sec x]' = (\sec x \tan x) \sec x + \sec x (\sec x \tan x)$$

$$= \underbrace{2 \sec^2 x \tan x}_{\text{Simplified Form}} = (2 \sec x)(\sec x \tan x)$$

Cosecant

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\csc x) = \frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{1}{\sin x}\right) = \frac{[1]' \sin x - 1 \cdot [\sin x]'}{[\sin x]^2} = \frac{-\cos x}{[\sin x]^2}$$

$$= -\left(\frac{1}{\sin x}\right)\left(\frac{\cos x}{\sin x}\right) = \boxed{-\csc x \cot x}$$

Ex/If $y = x^5 \csc x$, then

$$y' = [x^5]' \csc x + x^5 [\csc x]'$$

$$= 5x^4 \csc x + x^5 (-\csc x \cot x)$$

$$= x^4 \csc x (5 - x \cot x)$$

Avoiding Tedious Work

Ex/Find $g'(0)$ if $g(x) = \frac{5x^8 + 6x^5 + 5x^4 + 3x^2 + \underbrace{(20x)}_f + 100}{\underbrace{10x^{10} + 8x^9 + 6x^5 + 6x^2 + 4x + 2}_g}$

$$q'(0) = \frac{f'(0)g(0) - f(0)g'(0)}{[g(0)]^2}$$

When differentiating a polynomial, the
 ↓ linear term becomes the constant term

$$f(0) = 100 \quad f'(0) = 20$$

$$g(0) = 2 \quad g'(0) = 4$$

$$\begin{aligned} q'(0) &= \frac{f'(0)g(0) - f(0)g'(0)}{[g(0)]^2} = \frac{20(2) - 100(4)}{4} \\ &= \frac{40 - 400}{4} = -\frac{360}{4} = -90 \end{aligned}$$