

11 Lesson 11

11.1 Derivative of the Natural Logarithmic Function (and More Chain Rule)

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

Example 1: Suppose $f(x) = 7 \ln(x)$. Find $f'(x)$.

$$f'(x) = 7 \cdot (1/x) = 7/x$$

Example 2: Suppose $f(x) = \ln(x^2 + 4x + 1)$. Find $f'(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned} u &= g(x) = x^2 + 4x + 1 & y' &= \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} \\ y &= f(u) = \ln(u) & &= \frac{1}{u} \cdot (2x + 4) \\ f'(u) &= 1/u & &= \frac{2x + 4}{x^2 + 4x + 1} \\ g'(x) &= 2x + 4 \end{aligned}$$

Example 3: Suppose $f(x) = (5x^2 - x)^2 \sqrt[3]{3x}$. Find $f'(x)$.

Need product rule and chain rule

$$h'(x) = 2(5x^2 - x)(10x - 1) = 100x^3 - 30x^2 + 2x$$

↑ chain rule

$$k'(x) = \frac{1}{3}(3x)^{-2/3} \cdot 3 = (3x)^{-2/3}$$

↑ chain rule

$$f'(x) = (100x^3 - 30x^2 + 2x) \sqrt[3]{3x} + (3x)^{-2/3} (5x^2 - x)^2$$

↑ product rule

Example 4: Suppose $f(x) = 3 \tan^3(3x)$. Find $f'(x)$.

$$y = 3(\tan(3x))^3$$

Need chain rule twice

$$u = g(x) = \tan(3x)$$

$$y' = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$y = f(u) = 3u^3$$

$$= 9u^2 \cdot 3 \sec^2(3x)$$

$$f'(u) = 9u^2$$

$$= 27 \tan^2(3x) \sec^2(3x)$$

$$g'(x) = 3 \sec^2(3x)$$

↑ chain rule

Example 5: Suppose $f(x) = e^{9x} \sin(9x)$. Find $f'(x)$.

Need product rule and chain rule

$$h'(x) = e \cdot e^{9x} = e^{9x+1}$$

↑
chain rule

$$g'(x) = 9 \cos(9x)$$

↑
chain rule

$$f'(x) = e^{9x+1} \sin(9x) + 9 \cos(9x) e^{9x}$$

↑
product rule

Example 6: Suppose

$$f(x) = \ln \left(\sqrt{\frac{2x+4}{x^2-4}} \right)$$

Find $f'(x)$.

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

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

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

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

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[\ln(2) - \ln(x-2) \right]$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left[0 - \frac{1}{x-2} \cdot 1 \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2-x} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4-2x}$$

Alternatively, use chain and quotient rule.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left(\frac{2x+4}{x^2-4} \right)$$

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

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

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

$$= \frac{1}{4-2x}$$