

## Topic ①. Table of derivatives.

1.  $f(x) = x^m$ ,  $m$  any real number.

$$f'(x) = m \cdot x^{m-1}$$

OR.  $(x^m)' = m x^{m-1}$

When  $m$  is ~~an~~ a positive integer.

$$(x^m)' = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(x+h)^m - x^m}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cancel{(x+h)} \cdot \cancel{x} \left( (x+h)^{m-1} + (x+h)^{m-2} \cdot x + \dots + (x+h) x^{m-2} + x^{m-1} \right)}{h}$$

Recall:  $a^m - b^m = (a-b)(a^{m-1} + a^{m-2}b + \dots + ab^{m-2} + b^{m-1})$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( (x+h)^{m-1} + (x+h)^{m-2} x + \dots + (x+h) x^{m-2} + x^{m-1} \right)$$

$$= x^{m-1} + x^{m-2} \cdot x + \dots + x \cdot x^{m-2} + x^{m-1}$$

$$= m x^{m-1}$$

Exercise: Compute  $(x^m)'$  when  $m$  is a negative integer.

$$2. (\sin x)' = \cos x.$$

$$(\cos x)' = -\sin x.$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\sin x)' &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin(x+h) - \sin x}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin x \cos h + \sin h \cos x - \sin x}{h} \end{aligned}$$

Recall:  $\sin(\alpha + \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \sin \beta \cos \alpha$ .

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin x \frac{\cos h - 1}{h} + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos x \cdot \frac{\sin h}{h}$$

Recall:  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos h - 1}{h} = 0$ ,  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sin h}{h} = 1$ .

$$= 0 + \cos x \cdot 1 = \cos x.$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\cos x)' &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(x+h) - \cos x}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x \cos h - \sin x \sin h - \cos x}{h} \end{aligned}$$

Recall:  $\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta$ .

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \cos x \cdot \frac{\cos h - 1}{h} - \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \sin x \cdot \frac{\sin h}{h}$$

$$= 0 - \sin x \cdot 1 = -\sin x.$$

$$3. (e^x)' = e^x.$$

$$(\ln x)' = \frac{1}{x}.$$

Remark:  $e^x$  is the only function satisfying  $f'(x) = f(x)$ .

$$(e^x)' = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{x+h} - e^x}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} e^x \frac{e^h - 1}{h}.$$

$$\text{Recall } e = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (1+h)^{\frac{1}{h}}.$$

$$\Rightarrow e \approx (1+h)^{\frac{1}{h}}.$$

$$\Rightarrow e^h \approx (1+h)^{\frac{h}{h}} = 1+h.$$

$$(e^x)' = e^x \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^h - 1}{h} = e^x \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1+h-1}{h} = e^x \cdot 1 = e^x.$$

Remark: The above argument is not rigorous enough. Without using  $\epsilon$ - $\delta$ , that's the best we can do.

$$(\ln x)' = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{\ln(x+h) - \ln x}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \left( \ln \frac{x+h}{x} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h} \ln \left(1 + \frac{h}{x}\right). \quad \left( \text{Recall: } (1+h)^{\frac{1}{h}} \rightarrow e \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0 \right)$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \ln \left(1 + \frac{h}{x}\right)^{\frac{1}{h} \cdot \frac{x}{x}} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x} \ln \left(1 + \frac{h}{x}\right)^{\frac{x}{h}}.$$

$$= \frac{1}{x} \cdot \ln e = \frac{1}{x}. \quad \text{b/c } \left(1 + \frac{h}{x}\right)^{\frac{x}{h}} \rightarrow e \text{ as } \frac{h}{x} \rightarrow 0.$$

Remark: All the nice properties of  $e \approx 2.718 \dots$  comes from its definition  $e = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 + \frac{1}{n})^n = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (1 + h)^{\frac{1}{h}}$ .

Summary: Basic table of derivatives:

$$(x^m)' = m x^{m-1}. \quad m \text{ any real number.}$$

$$(\sin x)' = \cos x.$$

$$(\cos x)' = -\sin x.$$

$$(e^x)' = e^x.$$

$$(\ln x)' = \frac{1}{x}.$$

They cannot be computed in any other way except the definition of derivatives.

Topic ③. Rules of derivatives.

1. Constant rule:  $(k)' = 0$ . for any constant number  $k$ .

2. Linearity rule: for any number  $k_1, k_2$  and for any functions  $f_1, f_2$ ,

$$(k_1 f_1 + k_2 f_2)' = k_1 f_1' + k_2 f_2'$$

In particular:  $(f_1 + f_2)' = f_1' + f_2'$  Sum rule.

$(k f)' = k f'$  scalar multiple rule.

$(f_1 - f_2)' = f_1' - f_2'$  difference rule.

Exercise: Compute ①  $(x^3 + \cos x)'$  =  $3x^2 - \sin x$ .  
 ②  $(\ln x + 3e^x + \sin x)'$  =  $\frac{1}{x} + 3e^x + \cos x$ .

Proof: 1.  $k' = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{k - k}{h} = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 2. & \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(k_1 f_1 + k_2 f_2)'(x)}{h} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{k_1 f_1(x+h) + k_2 f_2(x+h) - (k_1 f_1(x) + k_2 f_2(x))}{h} \\ & = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{k_1 (f_1(x+h) - f_1(x)) + k_2 (f_2(x+h) - f_2(x))}{h} \\ & = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} k_1 \frac{f_1(x+h) - f_1(x)}{h} + \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} k_2 \frac{f_2(x+h) - f_2(x)}{h} \\ & = k_1 f_1'(x) + k_2 f_2'(x) \end{aligned}$$

3. Product rule: for any function  ~~$f_1, f_2$~~   $f, g$ .  
 $(f(x)g(x))' = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x)$ .

OR.  $(fg)' = f'g + fg'$ .

OR.  $\frac{d}{dx}(f(x)g(x)) = \frac{df}{dx} \cdot g(x) + f(x) \cdot \frac{dg}{dx}$ .

Exercise: ①  $(te^t)'$  =  $(t)'e^t + t(e^t)'$  =  $1 \cdot e^t + te^t = e^t + te^t$ .  
 ②  $(t \sin t)'$  =  $(t)' \sin t + t \cdot (\sin t)'$  =  $\sin t + t \cos t$ .  
 ③  $(e^t \sin t)'$  =  $(e^t)' \sin t + e^t (\sin t)'$  =  $e^t \sin t + te^t \cos t$ .

Exercise: Find  $(t^3 e^t)'$ ,  $(t^3 e^t)''$ ,  $(t^3 e^t)'''$

$$\begin{aligned}(t^3 e^t)' &= (t^3)' e^t + t^3 \cdot (e^t)' \\ &= 3t^2 e^t + t^3 e^t\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(t^3 e^t)'' &= (3t^2 e^t + t^3 e^t)' \\ &= 3(t^2 e^t)' + (t^3 e^t)' \\ &= 3((t^2)' e^t + t^2 (e^t)') + 3t^2 e^t + t^3 e^t \\ &= 3(2t e^t + t^2 e^t) + 3t^2 e^t + t^3 e^t \\ &= 6t e^t + 6t^2 e^t + t^3 e^t.\end{aligned}$$

Another way:

$$\begin{aligned}(3t^2 e^t + t^3 e^t)' &= ((3t^2 + t^3) e^t)' \\ &= (3t^2 + t^3)' e^t + (3t^2 + t^3) (e^t)' \\ &= (6t + 3t^2) e^t + (3t^2 + t^3) e^t \\ &= (6t + 3t^2 + t^3) e^t.\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(t^3 e^t)''' &= (6t e^t + 6t^2 e^t + t^3 e^t)' \\ &= 6(t e^t)' + 6(t^2 e^t)' + (t^3 e^t)' \\ &= 6(t' e^t + t e^t)' + 6((t^2)' e^t + t^2 (e^t)') + (t^3)' e^t + t^3 (e^t)'\end{aligned}$$

$$= 6(e^t + te^t) + 6(2te^t + t^2e^t) + 3t^2e^t + t^3e^t.$$

$$= 6e^t + 18te^t + 9t^2e^t + t^3e^t.$$

Another way:  $\left[ (6t + 6t^2 + t^3)e^t \right]'$

$$= (6t + 6t^2 + t^3)'e^t + (6t + 6t^2 + t^3)(e^t)'$$

$$= (6 + 12t + 3t^2)e^t + (6t + 6t^2 + t^3)e^t.$$

$$= (6 + 18t + 9t^2 + t^3)e^t.$$

Exercises: ①.  $(x^8)'$ . ②.  $(x^{3/2})'$ . ③.  $\left(\frac{\sqrt[3]{x}}{x^2}\right)'$ .

④.  $(2x^2 - 5\sqrt{x})'$  ⑤.  $\left[(3x^2 - 1)(7 + 2x^3)\right]'$

$$\textcircled{1}. (x^8)' = 8x^{8-1} = 8x^7. \quad \textcircled{2}. (x^{3/2})' = \frac{3}{2} \cdot x^{\frac{3}{2}-1} = \frac{3}{2} \cdot x^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

③. ~~Wrong way~~ WARNING: DON'T DO  $\frac{(\sqrt[3]{x})'}{(x^2)'} !!$

$$\left(\frac{x^{\frac{1}{3}}}{x^2}\right)' = (x^{\frac{1}{3}-2})' = (x^{-\frac{5}{3}})' = -\frac{5}{3} x^{-\frac{5}{3}-1} = -\frac{5}{3} x^{-\frac{8}{3}}.$$

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

$$\textcircled{5}. (3x^2 - 1)'(7 + 2x^3) + (3x^2 - 1)(7 + 2x^3)'$$

$$= 6x(7 + 2x^3) + (3x^2 - 1)6x^2 = 42x - 6x^2 + 30x^4.$$

Exercise: Find all orders of derivatives of  ~~$p(x)$~~

$$p(x) = -2x^4 + 9x^3 - 5x^2 + 7.$$

$$p'(x) = -8x^3 + 27x^2 - 10x$$

$$p''(x) = -24x^2 + 54x - 10.$$

$$p'''(x) = -48x + 54$$

$$p^{(4)}(x) = -48.$$

$$p^{(5)}(x) = 0.$$

From  $n=5$  on,  $p^{(n)}(x) = 0.$

BTW: Notations of higher derivative.

$$y = p(x)$$

$$p'(x)$$

$$y'$$

$$\frac{dp}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} p$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$p''(x)$$

$$y''$$

$$\frac{d^2 p}{dx^2} = \frac{d^2}{dx^2} p.$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2}$$

$$p'''(x)$$

$$y'''$$

$$\frac{d^3 p}{dx^3} = \frac{d^3}{dx^3} p.$$

$$\frac{d^3 y}{dx^3}$$

$$p^{(4)}(x)$$

$$y^{(4)}$$

$$\frac{d^4 p}{dx^4}$$

$$\frac{d^4 y}{dx^4}$$

$$p^{(5)}(x)$$

$$y^{(5)}$$

$$\frac{d^5 p}{dx^5}$$

$$\frac{d^5 y}{dx^5}$$



## 4. Quotient Rule.

$$\left(\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right)' = \frac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{g(x)^2}$$

WARNING:  $\left(\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right)' \neq \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$      $(f(x)g(x))' \neq f'(x)g'(x)$ .

Exercises: ①  $\left(\frac{4x-7}{3-x^2}\right)'$     ②  $\left(\frac{\sqrt{x}}{\cos x}\right)'$ .

$$\left(\frac{4x-7}{3-x^2}\right)' = \frac{(3-x^2)(4x-7)' - (4x-7)(3-x^2)'}{(3-x^2)^2}$$

$$= \frac{(3-x^2) \cdot 4 - (4x-7) \cdot (-2x)}{(3-x^2)^2}$$

$$= \frac{12 - 4x^2 + 4x \cdot 7 - 14x}{(3-x^2)^2}$$

$$= \frac{4x^2 - 14x + 12}{(3-x^2)^2} \quad \checkmark$$

$$= \frac{2(2x-3)(x-2)}{(3-x^2)^2}$$

$$\left(\frac{\sqrt{x}}{\cos x}\right)' = \frac{\cos x \cdot (\sqrt{x})' - \sqrt{x} (\cos x)'}{\cos^2 x} = \frac{\cos x \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} + \sqrt{x} \cdot (-\sin x)}{\cos^2 x}$$

$$= \frac{\cos x + 2x \sin x}{2\sqrt{x} \cdot \cos^2 x}$$

Extended ~~list~~ table of derivatives:

$$(\tan x)' = \sec^2 x$$

$$(\cot x)' = -\csc^2 x$$

$$(\sec x)' = \tan x \sec x$$

$$(\csc x)' = -\cot x \csc x$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\sec x)' &= \left( \frac{1}{\cos x} \right)' \\ &= \frac{\cos x \cdot 1' - 1 \cdot (\cos x)'}{\cos^2 x} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{0 + \sin x}{\cos^2 x} = \frac{\sin x}{\cos^2 x}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \right)' &= \frac{\cos x \cdot (\sin x)' - \sin x \cdot (\cos x)'}{\cos^2 x} \\ &= \frac{\cos x \cdot \cos x + \sin x \cdot \sin x}{\cos^2 x} \\ &= \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} = \sec^2 x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} \right)' &= \frac{\sin x \cdot (\cos x)' - \cos x \cdot (\sin x)'}{\sin^2 x} \\ &= \frac{-\sin^2 x - \cos^2 x}{\sin^2 x} = -\frac{1}{\sin^2 x} \\ &= -\csc^2 x \end{aligned}$$

~~(csc x)'~~ = Exercise

Exercise: Find  $\left( \frac{x^2 e^x}{\cos x} \right)' = \frac{\cos x \cdot (x^2 e^x)' - x^2 e^x \cdot (\cos x)'}{\cos^2 x}$

$$= \frac{\cos x ((x^2)'e^x + x^2(e^x)') + x^2 e^x \sin x}{\cos^2 x}$$

$$= \frac{\cos x \cdot (2x e^x + x^2 e^x) + x^2 e^x \sin x}{\cos^2 x} \quad \checkmark$$

$$= x e^x \frac{2 \cos x + x \cos x + x \sin x}{\cos^2 x}$$

5. Chain rule:  $y = f(u)$ ,  $u = g(x)$ .

$$\underbrace{[f(g(x))]' = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)}_{f'(u) \cdot g'(x) \quad "}$$

Example:  $(e^{2x})'$

$$f(u) = e^u, \quad \cancel{u=x} \quad u = 2x$$

$$(e^{2x})' = (e^u)' \cdot (2x)' = e^u \cdot 2 = e^{2x} \cdot 2 = 2e^{2x}$$

Example:  $y = 3u^3 - 2u^2 + 1$ ,  $u = x^2 + 2$ . Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .  
→ bad notation.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} = (3u^3 - 2u^2 + 1)' \cdot (x^2 + 2)' = (9u^2 - 4u) \cdot (2x) \\ &= (9(x^2 + 2)^2 - 4(x^2 + 2)) \cdot 2x = 6x^3(x^2 + 2) \end{aligned}$$

Remark: In fact we just computed the derivative of  
 $3(x^2+2)^3 - 2(x^2+2)^2 + 1$ .

Example:  $f(x) = (3x^4 - 7x + 5)^4$ . Find  $f'(x)$ .

Set ~~u(x)~~  $u = 3x^4 - 7x + 5$ . Then  $f(u) = u^4$ .

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= f'(u) \cdot \frac{du}{dx} = (u^4)' = (3x^4 - 7x + 5)' \\ &= 4u^3 \cdot (12x^3 - 7) \\ &= 4(3x^4 - 7x + 5)^3 (12x^3 - 7). \end{aligned}$$

or if fluent enough, you don't have to mention explicitly what  $u$  is.

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= 4 \cdot (3x^4 - 7x + 5)^3 \cdot \cancel{3x^4} \cdot (3x^4 - 7x + 5)' \\ &= 4(3x^4 - 7x + 5)^3 (12x^3 - 7) \end{aligned}$$

Example:  $g(x) = \sqrt[4]{\frac{x}{1-3x}}$ . Find  $g'(x)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} g'(x) &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{x}{1-3x} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}-1} \cdot \left( \frac{x}{1-3x} \right)' \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{x}{1-3x} \right)^{-\frac{3}{4}} \cdot \frac{(1-3x) \cdot x' - x \cdot (1-3x)'}{(1-3x)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{x}{1-3x} \right)^{-\frac{3}{4}} \frac{1-3x - x(-3)}{(1-3x)^2}.$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \left( \frac{1-3x}{x} \right)^{\frac{3}{4}} \frac{1}{(1-3x)^2}.$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{x^{\frac{3}{4}} (1-3x)^{2-\frac{3}{4}}} = \frac{1}{4x^{\frac{3}{4}} (1-3x)^{\frac{5}{4}}}.$$