

3.9. Derivatives of Exponential and Log Functions

Monday, February 26, 2018

8:15 AM

$$\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}.$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sin x) = \cos x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\cos x) = -\sin x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\tan x) = \sec^2 x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\arcsin x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\arctan x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(u^n) = nu^{n-1} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\sin u) = \cos u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\cos u) = -\sin u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\tan u) = \sec^2 u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\arcsin u) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\arctan u) = \frac{1}{1+u^2} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

① Derivatives of Exponential Functions

If $f(x) = e^x$, then $f'(x) = e^x$

In Leibnitz notation: $\frac{d}{dx}(e^x) = e^x$

If u is a function of x , then

$$\frac{d}{dx}(e^u) = e^u \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

In Newton's notation:

$$\left(e^{f(x)} \right)' = e^{f(x)} \cdot f'(x)$$

Ex. Find the derivatives:

① $\frac{d}{dx}(e^\pi)$
0

② $\frac{d}{dx}(e^{-x})$
 $-e^{-x}$

③ $\frac{d}{dx}(e^{\sec x})$
 $e^{\sec x} \cdot \sec x \cdot \tan x$

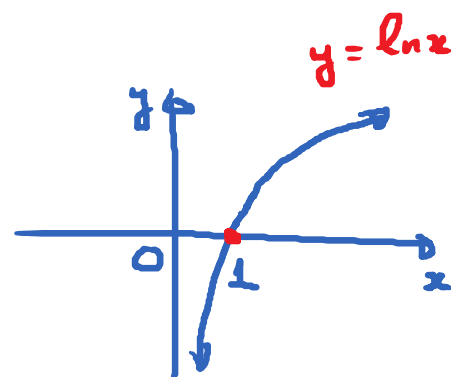
④ $\frac{d}{dx}(x \cdot e^{2x}) = e^{2x} + 2x e^{2x}$
 $= e^{2x}(1 + 2x)$

② Derivatives of Log Functions:

Natural log function: $y = \ln x$

$$(\ln 1 = 0; \ln e = 1; \ln e^2 = 2)$$

$$\ln e^x = x$$



Claim:

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

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\ln u) = \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} \\ \left(= \frac{u'}{u} \right)$$

Goal: See why $\frac{d}{dx}(\ln x) = \frac{1}{x}$?

$$y = \ln x \iff e^y = x$$

Use implicit differentiation to take $\frac{dy}{dx}$ of this

$$\frac{d}{dx}(e^y) = \frac{d}{dx}(x) \rightarrow e^y \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$$

So, $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{e^y} = \frac{1}{x}$.

We just proved that: $\frac{d}{dx} (\ln x) = \frac{1}{x}$.

Find the derivative of $y = a^x$ when a may not be e .

For e.g. Find $\frac{d}{dx} (2^x)$? $\frac{d}{dx} (\pi^x)$?

Hint #1: Rewrite this in terms of base e .
 Hint #2: take \ln of both sides & do implicit differentiation.

$y = 2^x$

$y = e^{x \ln 2}$

$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} (e^{x \ln 2})$

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

$2 = e^{\ln 2}$
 $2^x = (e^{\ln 2})^x$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(2^x) = 2^x \cdot \ln 2$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(\pi^x) = \pi^x \cdot \ln \pi.$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\frac{d}{dx}(a^x) = a^x \cdot \ln a.} \quad (a \text{ is a positive constant})$$

Using Hint #2 to find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ where $y = 2^x$.

$$\boxed{y = 2^x} \rightarrow \text{take } \ln \text{ of both sides}$$

$$\ln y = \ln(2^x) \rightarrow \ln y = x \cdot \ln 2$$

\rightarrow Implicitly differentiate both sides w.r.t. x .

$$\rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(\ln y) = \frac{d}{dx}(x \cdot \ln 2)$$

$$\frac{1}{y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = \ln 2 \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = y \ln 2 = \boxed{2^x \ln 2}$$

Now: Find derivative of $y = \log_a x$ where

a may not be e .

E.g. Find $\boxed{\frac{d}{dx}(\log_2 x)}$ or $\boxed{\frac{d}{dx}(\log_{10} x)}$

written as $\log x$

$$\left(\log_2 8 = 3 ; \log_{10}(1,000,000) = 6 \right)$$

$$\log_5\left(\frac{1}{25}\right) = -2$$

Find $\frac{d}{dx}(\log_2 x)$. (Hint: let $y = \log_2 x$.
Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$)

$$y = \log_2 x \longrightarrow 2^y = x$$

Take $\frac{d}{dx}$ of both sides: $\frac{d}{dx}(2^y) = \frac{d}{dx}(x)$

$$2^y \ln 2 \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2^y \ln 2} = \boxed{\frac{1}{x \ln 2}}$$