

Ch 6 Differentiation

§ 6.1 The Derivative

Def 6.1.1 • Let • $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be an interval
• $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a function on I
• $c \in I$.

We say that $L \in \mathbb{R}$ is the derivative of f at c

if $\forall \varepsilon > 0$, $\exists \delta(\varepsilon) > 0$ such that

$$\left| \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - L \right| < \varepsilon, \quad \forall x \in I \text{ with } 0 < |x - c| < \delta(\varepsilon).$$

• In this case we say that f is differentiable at c , and we write $f'(c)$ for L .

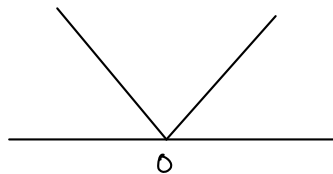
Remark: • If limit exists, $f'(c) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c}$

• c may be the endpoint of I (if I is "closed" at c)

then $\lim_{x \rightarrow c}$ means $\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow c \\ x \in I}}$

• f' defines a function whose domain is a subset of I .

eg $f: (-\infty, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow$
 $x \mapsto f(x) = |x|$



Then $f': (-\infty, 0) \cup (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & , x \in (0, \infty) \\ -1 & , x \in (-\infty, 0) \end{cases} \quad \text{and}$$

$f'(0)$ doesn't exist (i.e. $|x|$ is not differentiable at $x=0$)

PS: For $c > 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{|x| - |c|}{x - c} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{x - c}{x - c} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} 1 = 1 \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{as } x > 0 \\ \text{near } c > 0 \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

For $c < 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{|x| - |c|}{x - c} = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{-x + c}{x - c} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} -1 = -1 \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{as } x < 0 \\ \text{near } c < 0 \end{array} \right) \end{aligned}$$

For $c=0$, then

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{|x|}{x} \text{ doesn't exist}$$

Since the two one-sided limits are not equal:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{|x|}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} \frac{-x}{x} = -1 \neq 1 = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{x}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{|x|}{x} \quad \#$$

Note: The same argument show that for $f(x)=x$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$,
 f is differentiable $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ and

$$f'(x) = 1, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Thm 6.1.2 (Same notations as in Def 6.1.1)

If $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ has a derivative at $c \in I$ (ie. differentiable at c),
then f is continuous at c .

Pf: For $x \in I$ & $x \neq c$, we have

$$f(x) - f(c) = \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} \cdot (x - c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(c) \text{ exists} \Rightarrow \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow c \\ (x \neq c)}} (f(x) - f(c)) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow c} (x - c) \\ &= f'(c) \cdot 0 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hence $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(x) = f(c) \quad \therefore f$ is continuous at c . ~~##~~

Remarks: • Previous eg $f(x)=|x|$ clearly shows that the converse of
Thm 6.1.2 is not true (ie. continuous at c \nRightarrow differentiable at c)

- In fact, there exist continuous but nowhere differentiable functions.
(will be proved in MATH3060.)

Thm 6.1.3 (Same notations as in Def. 6.1.1)

Let $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ & $g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be functions that are differentiable at $c \in I$. Then

(a) If $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, the function αf is also differentiable at c , and

$$(\alpha f)'(c) = \alpha f'(c)$$

(b) The function $f+g$ is differentiable at c , and

$$(f+g)'(c) = f'(c) + g'(c)$$

(c) (Product Rule) The function fg is differentiable at c , and

$$(fg)'(c) = f'(c)g(c) + f(c)g'(c)$$

(d) (Quotient Rule) If $g(c) \neq 0$, then the function $\frac{f}{g}$ is differentiable at c , and

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

(Pfs are easy, just using suitable algebraic expressions and taking limits, we just do the Quotient Rule here as example, you should do others by yourself.)

Pf of (d) :

- Thm 6.1.2 implies that g is continuous at c (as g is diff. at c)
- Then $g(c) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ there exists an interval $J \subseteq I$ with $c \in J$ such that $g(x) \neq 0, \forall x \in J$.

(Thm 4.2.9 of the text book, MATH2050)

- $q = \frac{f}{g}$ is well-defined function on J and

$\forall x \in J, x \neq c$, we have

$$\frac{q(x) - q(c)}{x - c} = \frac{\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} - \frac{f(c)}{g(c)}}{x - c} = \frac{f(x)g(c) - f(c)g(x)}{g(x)g(c)(x - c)}$$

$$= \frac{(f(x) - f(c))g(c) - f(c)(g(x) - g(c))}{g(x)g(c)(x - c)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{g(x)g(c)} \cdot \left[\frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} \cdot g(c) - f(c) \cdot \frac{g(x) - g(c)}{x - c} \right]$$

$$f, g \text{ differentiable at } c \Rightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} = f'(c)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{g(x) - g(c)}{x - c} = g'(c)$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = g(c) (\neq 0)$$

$\therefore \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{q(x) - q(c)}{x - c}$ exists and

$$q'(c) = \frac{1}{g(c)^2} [f'(c)g(c) - f(c)g'(c)]$$

Cor 6.1.4 If f_1, \dots, f_n are functions on an interval I to \mathbb{R} that are differentiable at $c \in I$, then

(a) The function $f_1 + \dots + f_n$ is differentiable at c , and

$$(f_1 + \dots + f_n)'(c) = f_1'(c) + \dots + f_n'(c)$$

(b) The function $f_1 \dots f_n$ is differentiable at c , and

$$(f_1 \dots f_n)'(c) = f_1'(c) f_2(c) \dots f_n(c) + f_1(c) f_2'(c) \dots f_n(c) + \dots + f_1(c) f_2(c) \dots f_n'(c)$$

Pf: Just by induction using Thm 6.1.3. ✖

Remark: Quotient rule (Thm 6.1.3(d)) together with (b) in Cor 6.1.4

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{(x^n)' = n x^{n-1}, \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}} \quad (\forall x \neq 0 \text{ if } n < 0)$$

Pf: Applying (b) in Cor 6.1.4 to the case that

$$f_1 = \dots = f_n = f \text{ (differentiable),}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } (f^n)' &= (\underbrace{f \dots f}_n)' = \underbrace{f' \underbrace{f \dots f}_{n-1} + f \underbrace{f' \dots f}_{n-1} + \dots + \underbrace{f \dots f'}_{n-1} f}_n \\ &= n f^{n-1} f'. \end{aligned}$$

We've proved that $(x)' = 1$, and hence

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

If $n=0$, then $f(x) = x^0 \equiv 1 \Rightarrow f'(c) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} = 0, \forall c$

$$\therefore (x^0)' \equiv 0 \equiv 0 \cdot x^{-1}$$

(Note: strictly speaking, the RHS is not defined at $x=0$, but we may interpret the expression $n x^{n-1}$ for $n=0$ as the continuous extension of to the whole \mathbb{R})

If $n = -m < 0$ ($m > 0$), then for $x \neq 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} (x^n)' &= \left(\frac{1}{x^m}\right)' = -\frac{(x^m)'}{(x^m)^2} \quad \text{by Quotient rule} \\ &= -\frac{m x^{m-1}}{(x^m)^2} = (-m) \cdot x^{(m)-1} = n x^{n-1} \quad (\text{for } x \neq 0) \end{aligned}$$

✖

Chain Rule

Thm 6.1.5 (Carathéodory's Thm) (Same notations as in Def 6.1.1)

f is differentiable at c

$\Leftrightarrow \exists \varphi: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ continuous at c such that

$$f(x) - f(c) = \varphi(x)(x - c), \quad \forall x \in I.$$

In this case, $\varphi(c) = f'(c)$

Pf: (\Rightarrow) If $f'(c)$ exists, define $\varphi: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$\varphi(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c}, & x \neq c, x \in I \\ f'(c), & x = c. \end{cases}$$

Then $f'(c)$ exists \Rightarrow

$$\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow c \\ (x \neq c)}} (\varphi(x) - \varphi(c)) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left(\frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} - f'(c) \right) = 0$$

$\therefore \varphi$ is continuous at c .

And clearly $f(x) - f(c) = \varphi(x)(x - c)$ for $x \neq c$,

which is also true trivially at $x = c$ since both sides equal zero.

(\Leftarrow) If $\exists \varphi: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ continuous at c such that

$$f(x) - f(c) = \varphi(x)(x - c), \quad \forall x \in I.$$

Then for $x \neq c$, $\frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} = \varphi(x) \rightarrow \varphi(c)$ as $x \rightarrow c$

$$\therefore f'(c) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} \text{ exists \& } = \varphi(c).$$

~~✱~~

eg: $f(x) = x^3 : (-\infty, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

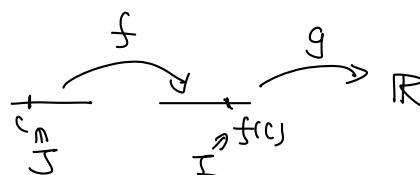
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } f(x) - f(c) &= x^3 - c^3 = (x^2 + cx + c^2)(x - c) \\ &= \varphi(x)(x - c) \end{aligned}$$

where $\varphi(x) = x^2 + cx + c^2$ is continuous at c and

$$\varphi(c) = 3c^2 = f'(c).$$

Thm 6.1.6 (Chain Rule)

Let • I, J be intervals in \mathbb{R} ,



- $g: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- $f: J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $f(J) \subseteq I$ (may just assume $f: J \rightarrow I$)
- $c \in J$.

If f is differentiable at c and g is differentiable at $f(c)$,
then the composite function $g \circ f$ is differentiable at c and
 $(g \circ f)'(c) = g'(f(c)) f'(c)$.

Other notations for f' : Df or $\frac{df}{dx}$ (when x is the indep. variable)

The formula can be written as $(g \circ f)' = (g' \circ f) \cdot f'$ or

$$D(g \circ f) = (Dg \circ f) \cdot Df$$

Pf: Since $f'(c)$ exists, Carathéodory's Thm 6.1.5

$\Rightarrow \exists \varphi: J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ continuous at c such that

$$f(x) - f(c) = \varphi(x)(x - c), \quad \forall x \in J$$

and $\varphi(c) = f'(c)$.

Denote $f(c) = d$, then $g'(d)$ exists (similarly reasoning)

$\Rightarrow \exists \psi: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ continuous at d such that

$$g(y) - g(d) = \psi(y)(y-d) \quad \forall y \in I$$

and $\psi(d) = g'(d)$.

For $x \in J$, substituting $y = f(x)$ & $d = f(c)$, we have

$$g(f(x)) - g(f(c)) = \psi(f(x))(f(x) - f(c))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore g \circ f(x) - g \circ f(c) &= \psi(f(x)) \varphi(x)(x-c) \\ &= [(\psi \circ f)(x) \varphi(x)](x-c), \quad \forall x \in J \end{aligned}$$

Since f diff. at c , f is continuous at c .

Together with ψ is continuous at $f(c) = d$, we have
 $\psi \circ f$ is continuous at c .

Therefore $(\psi \circ f)(x) \varphi(x)$ is continuous at c (as φ is continuous at c)

$\therefore g \circ f$ is differentiable at c by Carathéodory's Thm

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } (g \circ f)'(c) &= (\psi \circ f)(c) \varphi(c) = \psi(d) f'(c) = g'(d) f'(c) \\ &= g'(f(c)) f'(c). \quad \text{X} \end{aligned}$$

Note: By using Carathéodory's Thm 6.1.5, we avoided the discussion of whether $f(x) - f(c) = 0$ as in the usual proof by the algebraic expression

$$\frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(c))}{x-c} = \frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(c))}{f(x) - f(c)} \cdot \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x-c}.$$

eg 6.1.7 let $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable on I (ie at all points of I)

(a) Chain rule (also) $\Rightarrow (f^n)'(x) = n(f(x))^{n-1} f'(x)$

(b) If further assume $f(x) \neq 0, \forall x \in I$, (mistake in textbook, $f' \neq 0$ not needed)

$$\left(\frac{1}{f}\right)'(x) = -\frac{f'(x)}{(f(x))^2}, \quad \forall x \in I$$

by using $g(y) = \frac{1}{y}$ for $y \neq 0$ and $g'(y) = -\frac{1}{y^2}, \forall y \neq 0$.

(c)

$$|f|'(x) = \operatorname{sgn}(f(x)) \cdot f'(x) = \begin{cases} f'(x), & \text{if } f(x) > 0 \\ -f'(x), & \text{if } f(x) < 0 \end{cases}$$

(where $\operatorname{sgn}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & , x > 0 \\ 0 & , x = 0 \\ -1 & , x < 0 \end{cases}$ the signum function)

Pf: Consider $g(x) = |x|$. Then $g: (-\infty, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

and we've proved that g is differentiable at $x \neq 0$.

$$g'(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x > 0 \\ -1, & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

\therefore For $x \neq 0$, $g'(x) = \operatorname{sgn}(x)$

(but $g' \neq \operatorname{sgn}$ at $x=0$, because $g'(0)$ doesn't exist)

Therefore, by chain rule,

$|f|(x)$ is differentiable at x where $f(x) \neq 0$

$$\text{and } |f|(x) = g'(f(x)) f'(x) = \operatorname{sgn}(f(x)) f'(x) \\ = \begin{cases} f'(x), & f(x) > 0 \\ -f'(x), & f(x) < 0 \end{cases} \quad \times$$

(At x where $f(x)=0$, the situation is more complicated:

(i) if $f(x)=x^2$, then $|f|(x)=x^2$ is differentiable also at $x=0$

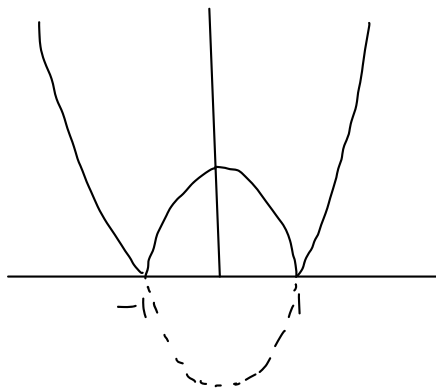
(ii) if $f(x)=x$, then $|f|(x)=|x|$ is not differentiable at $x=0$

See exercise 7 of §6.1 on page 171 of the textbook.)

Concrete example: $f(x)=x^2-1$, then $f(x)=0 \Leftrightarrow x=\pm 1$.

$\therefore |f|(x)=|x^2-1|$ is differentiable for $x \neq \pm 1$ and

$$\frac{d}{dx} |x^2-1| = |f|(x) = \operatorname{sgn}(x^2-1) \cdot 2x = \begin{cases} 2x, & \text{if } x < -1 \text{ or } x > 1 \\ -2x, & \text{if } -1 < x < 1 \end{cases}$$



(d) Derivatives of trigonometric functions.

Let $S(x) = \sin x$, $C(x) = \cos x$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

We'll define these two functions and prove the following

later in section 8.4:

$$S'(x) = \cos x = C(x) \quad , \quad C'(x) = -\sin x = -S(x).$$

Using these facts & quotient rule, we have the formula for derivatives of other trigonometric functions:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} D \tan x &= (\sec x)^2 \\ D \sec x &= (\sec x)(\tan x) \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ for } x \neq \frac{(2k+1)\pi}{2}, k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} D \cot x &= -(\csc x)^2 \\ D \csc x &= -(\csc x)(\cot x) \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ for } x \neq k\pi, k \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$(e) \quad f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) & \text{for } x \neq 0 \\ 0 & \text{for } x = 0. \end{cases}$$

By Chain rule, (product rule & quotient rule,) for $x \neq 0$

$$f'(x) = 2x \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \quad (\text{check!})$$

But at $x=0$, we must use definition of derivative to

$$\text{find } f'(0) = \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow 0 \\ (x \neq 0)}} \frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x - 0} = \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow 0 \\ (x \neq 0)}} \frac{x^2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)}{x} = \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow 0 \\ (x \neq 0)}} x \sin \frac{1}{x} = 0$$

$\therefore f'(x)$ exists for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ and

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) & , x \neq 0 \\ 0 & , x = 0 \end{cases}$$

(Note = However, $f'(x)$ is discontinuous at $x=0$

as $\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow 0 \\ (x \neq 0)}} \left(2x \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \right)$ doesn't exist. (check)

$\therefore f$ differentiable $\forall x \not\Rightarrow f'$ is continuous.)

