

Last time

- Derivatives of some common functions

$$(x^n)' = nx^{n-1}, \quad (\ln x)' = \frac{1}{x}, \quad (e^x)' = e^x,$$

$$(\sin x)' = \cos x, \quad (\cos x)' = -\sin x, \quad (c)' = 0$$

- Some useful rules:

- $(f \pm g)' = f' \pm g'$

- $(cf)' = cf'$

- $(fg)' = f'g + fg'$  (Product rule)

- $\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)' = \frac{f'g - fg'}{g^2}$  if  $g(x) \neq 0$  (Quotient rule)

- $(g \circ f)' = g'(f(x))f'(x)$  (Chain rule)

(another form:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$ )

Proof of Chain rule:  $(g \circ f)'(a) = g'(f(a))f'(a)$

Idea:

$$\frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(a))}{x - a} = \underbrace{\frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(a))}{f(x) - f(a)}}_{\text{should give us } g'(f(a)) \text{ after taking } \lim_{x \rightarrow a}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}}_{\text{should give us } f'(a) \text{ after taking } \lim_{x \rightarrow a}}$$

Difficulty: If  $f(x) - f(a) = 0$ ,

cannot directly divide by  $f(x) - f(a)$ !

Proof Define a function  $F: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as follows:

$$F(u) = \begin{cases} \frac{g(u) - g(f(a))}{u - f(a)} & \text{if } u \neq f(a) \\ g'(f(a)) & \text{if } u = f(a) \end{cases}$$

Note that:

- By construction,  $F$  is continuous at  $u = f(a)$ .  
( $\because g$  is differentiable at  $f(a)$ )
- $f$  is continuous at  $x = a$   
( $\because f$  is differentiable at  $x = a$ )

$\therefore (F \circ f)$  is continuous at  $x = a$   
( $\because$  composition of continuous functions is continuous)

Now, for all  $x \neq a$ , we have

$$\frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(a))}{x - a} = F(f(x)) \cdot \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \because \text{ if } f(x) \neq f(a), \text{ RHS} = \frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(a))}{f(x) - f(a)} \cdot \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} = \text{LHS} \\ \text{if } f(x) = f(a), \text{ RHS} = g'(f(a)) \cdot 0 = 0 = \text{LHS} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\therefore (g \circ f)'(a) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{g(f(x)) - g(f(a))}{x - a}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left( F(f(x)) \cdot \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} F(f(x)) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}$$

$$= \underset{\uparrow}{F(f(a))} \cdot f'(a) = g'(f(a)) f'(a) //$$

$\because (F \circ f)$  is continuous

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Def Let  $a > 0$ . For  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  
we define  $a^x = e^{x \ln a}$

Prop Let  $a > 0$ . We have:

①  $a^{x+y} = a^x a^y$  for any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

②  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x - 1}{x} = \ln a$

③  $\frac{d}{dx} a^x = a^x \ln a$

Proof ①  $a^{x+y} = e^{(x+y) \ln a}$  (by def)  
 $= e^{x \ln a + y \ln a}$   
 $= e^{x \ln a} \cdot e^{y \ln a}$  (by property of  $e^x$ )  
 $= a^x \cdot a^y =$

②  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{a^x - 1}{x} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{x \ln a} - 1}{x}$   
 $= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{x \ln a} - 1}{x \ln a} \cdot \ln a$

$= (1) \cdot \ln a$   
 $= \ln a$

( $\because \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - 1}{x} = 1$ )  
proved previously

③  $\frac{d}{dx} a^x = \frac{d}{dx} e^{x \ln a}$

$= \frac{de^u}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$  (where  $u = x \ln a$ ) (chain rule)

$= e^u \cdot \ln a = e^{x \ln a} \ln a = a^x \ln a //$  3

## Def (implicit functions)

An implicit function is an equation of the form

$$\underline{F(x, y) = 0}.$$

Example •  $x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0$

•  $x \sin y + y^2 = 0$

Implicit Differentiation: Finding  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  without explicitly finding  $y(x)$ .

Example Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  if  $x^2 - xy - xy^2 = 0$ .

Solution

$$x^2 - xy - xy^2 = 0$$

$$(x^2 - xy - xy^2)' = 0$$

$$(x^2)' - (xy)' - (xy^2)' = 0$$

(Product rule)  $2x - (xy' + x'y) - (x'y^2 + x(y^2)') = 0$

(Chain rule)  $2x - (xy' + y) - (y^2 + x \cdot 2y \cdot y') = 0$

$$xy' + 2xyy' = 2x - y - y^2$$

$$y' = \frac{2x - y - y^2}{x + 2xy} //$$

In this case, okay to have  $y$  on RHS

Example Show that  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^a) = ax^{a-1}$  for any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .  
and  $x > 0$

Solution

Let  $y = x^a$

Then  $\ln y = a \ln x$

$$(\ln y)' = (a \ln x)'$$

$$\frac{1}{y} \cdot y' = a \cdot \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\therefore y' = a \cdot \frac{y}{x} = a \cdot \frac{x^a}{x} = ax^{a-1} //$$