

# rules for Differentiation

## Examples

1) The product rule:  $(fg)'(a) = f'(a)g(a) + g'(a)f(a)$

How to prove?

Directly:

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h)g(a+h) - f(a)g(a)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h)g(a+h) - f(a)g(a+h) + f(a)g(a+h) - f(a)g(a)}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} g(a+h) \left[ \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \right] + f(a) \left[ \frac{g(a+h) - g(a)}{h} \right]$$

$$= g(a)f'(a) + f(a)g'(a).$$

2) The Chain Rule.

Suppose  $f$  is differentiable at  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $g$  at  $f(a)$ . Then  $g \circ f$  is differentiable at  $a$  with  $(g \circ f)'(a) = g'(f(a))f'(a)$ .

How to prove?

Directly:

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(f(a+h)) - g(f(a))}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(f(a+h)) - g(f(a))}{f(a+h) - f(a)} \cdot \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$$

$$= g'(f(a)) f'(a) \quad \text{since } \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0$$

Problem: Not valid whenever  $f(a+h) - f(a) = 0$ , which could happen for lots of  $h$ . Can be gotten around but there is a better way.

Idea: Let  $F(x) = \text{~~g \circ f~~ } g \circ f(x) = g(f(x))$

Need to show there is a  $T_F(x) = mx$  satisfying

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|F(a+h) - F(a) - T_F(h)|}{|h|} = 0.$$

Our claim is that  $T_F(x) = g'(f(a)) f'(a)x$ . So

lets plug it in: need to show

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|g(f(a+h)) - g(f(a)) - g'(f(a)) f'(a) h|}{|h|} = 0$$

We know:

$$\lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{|g(f(a)+s) - g(f(a)) - g'(f(a))s|}{|s|} = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow a} \frac{|f(a+r) - f(a) - f'(a)r|}{|r|} = 0.$$

So write LHS =

$$\begin{aligned} & |g(f(a+h)) - g(f(a)) - g'(f(a))(f(a+h) - f(a)) \\ & + g'(f(a))(f(a+h) - f(a)) - g'(f(a))f'(a)h| \end{aligned}$$

$$\leq |g(f(a+h)) - g(f(a)) - g'(f(a))(f(a+h) - f(a))|$$

$$+ |g'(f(a))| |f(a+h) - f(a) - f'(a)h| = \textcircled{\text{I}} + \textcircled{\text{II}}$$

Need to show that  $\frac{\text{(above)}}{|h|} \rightarrow 0$  as  $h \rightarrow 0$ .

Looking  $\textcircled{\text{II}}$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} |g'(f(a))| \frac{|f(a+h) - f(a) - f'(a)h|}{h} = 0$$

since  $|g'(f(a))|$  is constant.

Looking at  $\textcircled{\text{I}}$  ~~we know~~ let  $\epsilon > 0$ , there is a  $\delta_0 > 0$  such that if  $|f(a+h) - f(a)| < \delta_0$

$$\text{then } |g(f(a+h)) - g(f(a)) - g'(f(a))(f(a+h) - f(a))| < \epsilon |f(a+h) - f(a)|.$$

Since  $f$  is continuous at  $a$  there is a  $\delta_1 > 0$  such that if  $|h| < \delta_1$ , then  $|f(a+h) - f(a)| < \delta_0$ .  
Hence for all  $|h| < \delta_1$ ,

$$\frac{|g(f(a+h)) - g(f(a)) - g'(f(a))(f(a+h) - f(a))|}{|h|} < \varepsilon \frac{|f(a+h) - f(a)|}{|h|}$$

Taking  $\limsup$  of both sides as  $h \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \text{LHS} &\leq \varepsilon \limsup_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|f(a+h) - f(a)|}{|h|} \\ &= \varepsilon \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{|f(a+h) - f(a)|}{|h|} = \varepsilon f'(a). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varepsilon > 0$  was arbitrary,  $\limsup \text{LHS} \leq 0$ .

Since clearly  $0 \leq \liminf \text{LHS}$  we have

$$\liminf \text{LHS} = \limsup \text{LHS} = 0.$$

Hence  $\lim \text{LHS} = 0$ , as required.