

# 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  $L$ .

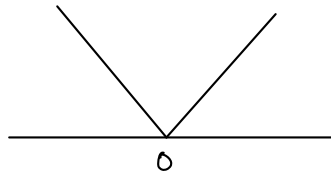
Remark: • If limit exists,  $f'(c) = \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c}$

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



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  $x=0$ )

PF: 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:

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

#

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  $c \in I$  (i.e. 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 (i.e. continuous at  $c \not\Rightarrow$  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  $\alpha f$  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

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$= n f^{n-1} f'$$

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

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

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  $x \rightarrow c$

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

~~✗~~

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

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

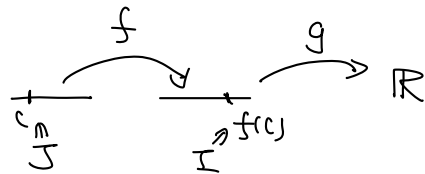
where  $\varphi(x) = x^2 + cx + c^2$  is continuous at  $c$  and

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



### 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  $\psi$  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  $\varphi$  is continuous at  $c$ )

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

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

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

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

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

Therefore, by chain rule,

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

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

(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  $x=0$

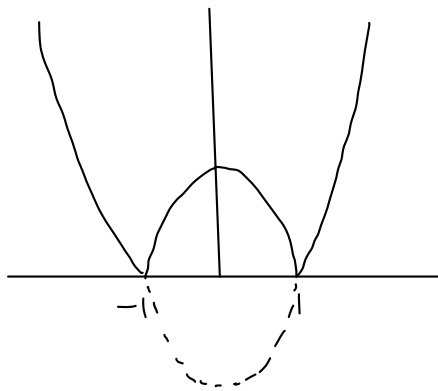
(ii) if  $f(x)=x$ , then  $|f|(x)=|x|$  is not differentiable at  $x=0$

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

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

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



(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 :

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

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

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

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. )

