

- The derivative
- Mean value theorem
- Taylor's theorem

09.03

OH 13:30, MS 6147.

Practice/past exams and midterm grades to be released today.

## The Derivative

**Def:** Let  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be open. The **derivative** of  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  at  $x \in U$  is

$$f'(x) := \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \quad (\text{if the limit exists}).$$

If  $f'(x)$  exists, we say that  $f$  is **differentiable** at  $x$ ; if  $f$  is differentiable at every  $x \in U$ , we say that  $f$  is differentiable on  $U$ .

**Rmk:** We will also consider functions defined on closed intervals  $[a, b]$  ( $a < b$ ), in which case the limits defining  $f'(a)$  and  $f'(b)$  only involve points on one side of  $a$  or  $b$ .

**Prop:** If  $f$  is differentiable at  $x$ , then it is continuous at  $x$ .

**Pf:**

$$f(x+h) - f(x) = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \cdot h \xrightarrow{h \rightarrow 0} f'(x) \cdot 0 = 0.$$

**Notation:**

$C(U) = C^0(U)$  is the set of all continuous functions on  $U$ .

$C^k(U)$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) is the set of all differentiable functions on  $U$  with derivative in  $C^{k-1}(U)$ .

Ex:  $C^1(U) \subseteq C^0(U)$ ,  $C^2(U) \subseteq C^1(U)$ , etc.  $C^k(U) \subseteq C^{k-1}(U)$ .

For example:

$$f(x) = x^2, \quad f'(x) = 2x \quad \text{so} \quad f \in C^1(U).$$

$$f''(x) = 2 \quad \text{so} \quad f \in C^2(U).$$

In fact,  $f \in C^k(U)$  for all  $k \geq 0$ .

**Prop:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are differentiable at  $x$ , then:

(a) if  $f(x) \equiv c$  for some  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $f'(x) \equiv 0$ .

(b)  $(f+g)'(x) = f'(x) + g'(x)$ .

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

(d)  $\left(\frac{1}{g}\right)'(x) = -\frac{g'(x)}{g(x)^2}$  if  $g(x) \neq 0$ .

**Proof:**

(a) Trivial.

(b)

$$\frac{(f+g)(x+h) - (f+g)(x)}{h} = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} + \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \rightarrow f'(x) + g'(x).$$

(c) The derivative of a function  $h(x)$  at a point  $x$  is defined as:

$$h'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{h(x+h) - h(x)}{h}$$

We will use this definition to compute the derivative of the product  $f(x)g(x)$ .

Let  $h(x) = f(x)g(x)$ . The derivative of  $h(x)$  at  $x$  is:

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

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

Now the expression in the numerator is split into two parts:

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

First part:

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\Delta x)[g(x+\Delta x) - g(x)]}{\Delta x} = f(x) \cdot g'(x)$$

As  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ ,  $f(x+\Delta x) \rightarrow f(x)$  and the expression  $\frac{g(x+\Delta x) - g(x)}{\Delta x} \rightarrow g'(x)$ .

Second part:

$$\lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{[f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)]g(x)}{\Delta x} = f'(x) \cdot g(x)$$

because  $\frac{f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x} \rightarrow f'(x)$ , and  $g(x)$  is constant with respect to  $\Delta x$ .

Now, we combine both parts:

$$h'(x) = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x)$$

So, we can have:

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

(d)

$$\frac{\frac{1}{g(x+h)} - \frac{1}{g(x)}}{h} = \frac{g(x) - g(x+h)}{h} \cdot \frac{1}{g(x+h)g(x)} \longrightarrow -g'(x) \cdot \frac{1}{g(x)^2}$$

where  $g(x+h) \rightarrow g(x)$  because  $g$  is continuous at  $x$ . and for sufficiently small  $h$ , because  $g(x) \neq 0$ , and  $g$  is continuous at  $x$ , so we can have  $g(x+h)g(x) \neq 0$ .

**Prop:** (Chain rule) If  $g$  is differentiable at  $x$  and  $f$  is differentiable at  $g(x)$ , then:

$$(f \circ g)'(x) = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

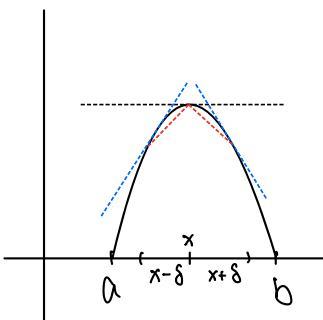
**Pf:**

$$\frac{(f \circ g)(x+h) - (f \circ g)(x)}{h} = \begin{cases} \frac{(f \circ g)(x+h) - (f \circ g)(x)}{g(x+h) - g(x)} \cdot \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h}, & g(x+h) \neq g(x) \\ 0 = f'(g(x)) \cdot \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h}, & g(x+h) = g(x) \end{cases}$$

Let  $h' := g(x+h) - g(x)$ :

$$= \begin{cases} \frac{f(g(x)+h') - f(g(x))}{h'}, & h' \neq 0 \\ f'(g(x)), & h' = 0 \end{cases} \cdot \frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \xrightarrow{h \rightarrow 0} f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$$

because  $h' \rightarrow 0$  as  $h \rightarrow 0$  since  $g$  is continuous at  $x$ .



**Def:** Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ . A function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to have a **local maximum** at  $x$  if  $f(x) \geq f(y)$  for all  $y \in B_\delta(x) \cap X$  for some  $\delta > 0$ . Similarly, we define a **local minimum**.

**Thm (Fermat):** Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function. If  $f$  has a local maximum or minimum and is differentiable at  $x \in (a, b)$ , then  $f'(x) = 0$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $f$  has a local maximum at  $x$ , and let  $\delta > 0$  be as in the definition above. Then for  $x - \delta < x' < x$ , we have:

$$\frac{f(x) - f(x')}{x - x'} \geq 0 \quad \text{so, taking } x' \rightarrow x, \text{ we get } f'(x) \geq 0.$$

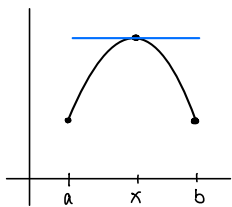
Similarly, for  $x < x' < x + \delta$ , we have:

$$\frac{f(x) - f(x')}{x - x'} \leq 0 \quad \text{so, taking } x' \rightarrow x, \text{ we get } f'(x) \leq 0.$$

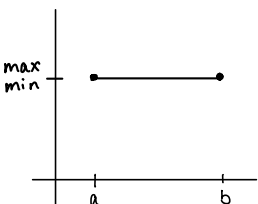
Thus  $f'(x) = 0$ . The proof for a local minimum is analogous.

**Rmk:** The converse is not true, e.g.,  $f(x) = x^3$  at  $x = 0$ .

**Thm (Rolle's Theorem):** Let  $f \in C([a, b])$ . If  $f$  is differentiable on  $(a, b)$  and  $f(a) = f(b)$ , then there exists  $x \in (a, b)$  such that  $f'(x) = 0$ .

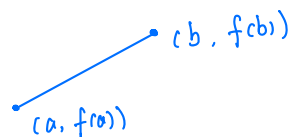
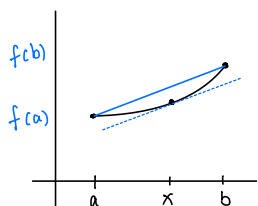


**Pf:** By the extreme value theorem,  $f$  has a (global) maximum and minimum on  $[a, b]$ . If  $f$  has a global extremum at  $x \in (a, b)$ , then  $f'(x) = 0$  by Fermat's Theorem. Otherwise, its global extrema are at the endpoints, which means that  $f$  is constant because  $f(a) = f(b)$ , in which case  $f'(x) = 0$  for any  $x \in (a, b)$ .



**Thm (Mean Value Theorem):** Let  $f \in C([a, b])$ . If  $f$  is differentiable on  $(a, b)$ , then there exists  $x \in (a, b)$  such that:

$$f'(x) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}$$



**Pf:** Let  $h(t) := f(t) - \left[ f(a) + \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a}(t - a) \right]$ . Then  $h(a) = h(b) = 0$ .

By Rolle's Theorem, there exists  $x \in (a, b)$  such that  $h'(x) = 0$ , which implies:

$$f'(x) - \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = 0$$

which is what we wanted to show.