

Math 220 - Calculus f. Business and Management - Worksheet 16

Solutions for Worksheet 16 - Exponents, Logs and the Chain Rule

Find the derivative of each function

Hint: Some functions are much easier to differentiate if you use your knowledge of lessons 5 and 6 on exponents of logs to write them differently. Examples are A3 and D3.

Exercise 1:

$$1a : f(x) = 5^x, \quad 1b : f(x) = \log_3 x, \quad 1c : f(x) = \ln(x^2), \quad 1d : f(x) = \log x.$$

Solution to #1:

$$\text{For 1a: } \frac{d}{dx}(5^x) = 5^x \ln(5).$$

$$\text{For 1b: } \frac{d}{dx} \log_3 x = \frac{1}{x \ln 3}$$

$$\text{For 1c: } \frac{d}{dx} \ln(x^2) = \frac{d}{dx}(2 \ln(x)) = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \frac{2}{x}. \text{ Here we used a rule of logarithms in the first step.}$$

$$\text{For 1d: } \frac{d}{dx} \log(x) = \frac{1}{x \ln 10}.$$

Exercise 2:

$$2a : f(x) = 7^x(x^2 + 2x - 5), \quad 2b : f(x) = (4x + 2) \log_3 x, \quad 2c : f(x) = (1/x^4) \ln x.$$

Solution to #2: Each problem here uses the product rule.

$$\text{For 2a: } \frac{d}{dx} 7^x(x^2 + 2x - 5) = (7^x)(\ln(7))(x^2 + 2x - 5) + (7^x)(2x + 2).$$

$$\text{For 2b: } \frac{d}{dx} (4x + 2) \log_3 x = (4)(\log_3 x) + (4x + 2)\left(\frac{1}{x \ln 3}\right).$$

$$\text{For 2c: } \frac{d}{dx} (1/x^4) \ln x = \frac{d}{dx} (x^{-4}) \ln x = (-4x^{-5})(\ln x) + (x^{-4})\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = \frac{-4 \ln x + 1}{x^5}.$$

Exercise 3:

$$3a : f(x) = \frac{\log_3 x}{5x^3 + 2x + 10}, \quad 3b : f(x) = \frac{x^3 + 4x - 7}{6^x}, \quad 3c : f(x) = \frac{x + \ln x}{2^x}.$$

Solution to C:

Each problem here uses the quotient rule.

$$\text{For 3a: } \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\log_3 x}{5x^3 + 2x + 10} = \frac{(5x^3 + 2x + 10)\left(\frac{1}{x \ln 3}\right) - (\log_3 x)(15x^2 + 2)}{(5x^3 + 2x + 10)^2}.$$

$$\text{For 3b: } \frac{d}{dx} \frac{x^3 + 4x - 7}{6^x} = \frac{(6^x)(3x^2 + 4) - (x^3 + 4x - 7)(6^x)(\ln 6)}{6^{2x}}.$$

For 3c: $\frac{d}{dx} \frac{x + \ln x}{2^x} = \frac{(2^x)(1 + (1/x)) - (x + \ln x)(2^x)(\ln 2)}{x^{2x}}$.

Exercise 4:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{4a} : f(x) &= 6^{3x^5 - 5x^3 + 7}, & \mathbf{4b} : f(x) &= \ln(x^2), \\ \mathbf{4c} : f(x) &= (\log_4 x)^3, & \mathbf{4d} : f(x) &= \ln(x^4 - 3x^2 + 2x). \end{aligned}$$

Note that 4b is the same as 1c above. This time use the chain rule.

Solution to #4:

We will use the chain rule in each problem. Notice that D2 is the same as A3, however the method we use here will be different.

For 4a: Let $f(u) = 6^u$ and let $u(x) = 3x^5 - 5x^3 + 7$. Then, using the chain rule,

$$\frac{d}{dx} 6^{3x^5 - 5x^3 + 7} = (6^{3x^5 - 5x^3 + 7})(\ln 6)(15x^4 - 15x^2)$$

For 4b: Let $f(u) = \ln(u)$ and let $u(x) = x^2$. Then

$$\frac{d}{dx} \ln(x^2) = \left(\frac{1}{x^2} \cdot 2x\right) = \frac{2}{x}$$

Notice how this is the same answer as in A3.

For 4c: Let $f(u) = u^3$ and let $u(x) = \log_4 x$. Then,

$$\frac{d}{dx} (\log_4 x)^3 = 3(\log_4(x))^2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{x \ln 4}\right)$$

For 4d: Let $f(u) = \ln(u)$ and let $u(x) = x^4 - 3x^2 + 2x$. Then,

$$\frac{d}{dx} \ln(x^4 - 3x^2 + 2x) = \left(\frac{1}{x^4 - 3x^2 + 2x}\right) \cdot (4x^3 - 6x + 2)$$

Exercise 5:

$$\mathbf{5a} : f(x) = \log_3 \sqrt{x}, \quad \mathbf{5b} : f(x) = 4^{1/x}, \quad \mathbf{5c} : f(x) = \log_5 e^{4x^2}.$$

Solution to #5: Each problem uses the chain rule.

For 5a: Let $f(u) = \log_3 u$ and let $u(x) = \sqrt{x} = x^{1/2}$. Then, using the chain rule,

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log_3 \sqrt{x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}(\ln 3)} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}\right)$$

For 5b: Let $f(u) = 4^u$ and let $u(x) = \frac{1}{x} = x^{-1}$. Then,

$$\frac{d}{dx} 4^{1/x} = \frac{d}{dx} 4^{x^{-1}} = 4^{x^{-1}} \cdot (\ln 4)(-x^{-2})$$

For 5c: Let $f(u) = \log_5 u$ and let $u(x) = e^{4x^2}$. Then, apply the chain rule once more,

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log_5 e^{4x^2} = \left(\frac{1}{e^{4x^2} (\ln 5)} \right) \cdot (e^{4x^2}) \cdot (8x) = \frac{8x}{\ln 5}$$