

1. CONSTANT RULE: If  $f(x) = c$ , then  $f'(x) = 0$ . [Show  $f'(a) = 0$  for arbitrary  $a$ .]

$$\frac{d}{dx} [c] = 0$$

PROOF:

2. If  $f(x) = x$ , then  $f'(x) = 1$ . [Show  $f'(a) = 1$  for arbitrary  $a$ .]

$$\frac{d}{dx} [x] = 1$$

PROOF:

3. POWER RULE: If  $f(x) = x^n$  for any **positive integer**  $n$ , then  $f'(x) = nx^{n-1}$ .

[Show  $f'(a) = na^{n-1}$  for arbitrary  $a$ .]

$$\frac{d}{dx} [nx^{n-1}]$$

PROOF:

$$f'(a) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \quad \text{Factor the numerator:}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{(x - a)(x^{n-1} + ax^{n-2} + a^2x^{n-3} + \dots + a^{n-2}x + a^{n-1})}{x - a}$$

You may want to multiply numerator to see that it really is  $x^n - a^n$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \underline{\hspace{4cm}}$$

$$= a^{n-1} + a \cdot a^{n-2} + a^2 \cdot a^{n-3} + \dots + a^{n-2} \cdot a + a^{n-1}$$

$$= a^{n-1} + a^{n-1} + a^{n-1} + \dots + a^{n-1} + a^{n-1}$$

$$= \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$$

Let  $a \rightarrow x$  and therefore,  $f'(x) = nx^{n-1}$  ■

**4. CONSTANT MULTIPLE RULE:** If  $f$  is differentiable at a point  $a$ , then  $cf$  is differentiable at  $a$  and

$$(cf)'(a) = cf'(a)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [cf] = c \cdot \frac{d}{dx} [f]$$

PROOF: Let  $f$  be differentiable at  $a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (cf)'(a) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{(cf)(x) - (cf)(a)}{x - a} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{c f(x) - c f(a)}{x - a} \\ &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} c \cdot \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \\ &= c \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \\ &= c \cdot f'(a) \text{ by definition of derivative. } \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

**5. SUM RULE:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are differentiable at a point  $a$ , then  $f + g$  is differentiable at  $a$  and

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

$$\frac{d}{dx} [f + g] = \frac{d}{dx} [f] + \frac{d}{dx} [g]$$

PROOF: Let  $f$  and  $g$  be differentiable at  $a$ .

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

6. QUOTIENT RULE: If  $f$  and  $g$  are differentiable at a point  $a$ , then  $\frac{f}{g}$  is differentiable at  $a$  (for  $g(a) \neq 0$ ) and

$$\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)'(a) = \frac{g(a)f'(a) - f(a)g'(a)}{(g(a))^2} \qquad \frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{f}{g} \right] = \frac{gf' - fg'}{g^2}$$

PROOF: Let  $f$  and  $g$  be differentiable at  $a$  and  $g(a) \neq 0$ .

Then  $g$  is continuous at  $a$  and  $\exists$  an open interval containing  $a$  such that  $g(x) \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(f/g)(x) - (f/g)(a)}{x - a} &= \frac{\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} - \frac{f(a)}{g(a)}}{x - a} = \frac{\left[ \frac{g(a)f(x) - f(a)g(x)}{g(x)g(a)} \right]}{(x - a)} \\ &= \left[ \frac{g(a)f(x) - f(a)g(x)}{g(x)g(a)(x - a)} \right] = \left[ \frac{g(a)f(x) - f(a)g(x)}{(x - a)} \right] \cdot \frac{1}{g(x)g(a)} \\ &= \left[ \frac{g(a)f(x) - g(a)f(a) + \frac{g(a)f(x) - g(a)f(a)}{(x - a)} - f(a)g(x)}{(x - a)} \right] \cdot \frac{1}{g(x)g(a)} \\ &= \left[ \frac{g(a) \left( \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \right) - f(a) \cdot (g(x) - g(a))}{(x - a)} \right] \cdot \frac{1}{g(x)g(a)} \\ &= \left[ g(a) \cdot \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} - f(a) \cdot \frac{g(x) - g(a)}{x - a} \right] \cdot \frac{1}{g(x)g(a)} \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{(f/g)(x) - (f/g)(a)}{x - a} &= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left[ g(a) \cdot \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} - f(a) \cdot \frac{g(x) - g(a)}{x - a} \right] \cdot \frac{1}{g(x)g(a)} \\ &= \left[ \lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(a) \cdot \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} - \lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(a) \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{g(x) - g(a)}{x - a} \right] \cdot \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{1}{g(x)g(a)} \\ &= \left[ g(a) \cdot f'(a) - f(a) \cdot g'(a) \right] \cdot \frac{1}{g(a)g(a)} \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $\frac{g(a) \cdot f'(a) - f(a) \cdot g'(a)}{(g(a))^2}$  by definition of derivative. ■

**7. PRODUCT RULE:** If  $f$  and  $g$  are differentiable at a point  $a$ , then  $fg$  is differentiable at  $a$  and

$$(fg)'(a) = f(a)g'(a) + g(a)f'(a) \qquad \frac{d}{dx} [fg] = fg' + gf'$$

PROOF: Let  $f$  and  $g$  be differentiable at  $a$

$$(fg)'(a) =$$

**8. Prove:** If  $f(x) = x^n$  for negative integer  $n$ , then  $f'(x) = nx^{n-1}$ .

[Hint: Let  $m = -n > 0$  and write as a fraction and use the previous theorems/rules.]

PROOF:

Note: Although we've only proven the power rule for positive and negative *integers*, it holds for any real number. (We may prove later, if given time)

**Homework:** Finish Worksheet(s) and Section 28: #1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 14(a)