

Differentiating $a^{f(x)}$ and $\log_a f(x)$

Notes 4.1

Derivative of Exponential Functions with base a

$$\frac{d}{dx} a^u = a^u \cdot \ln a \cdot u'$$

- Assume u is a differentiable function.

Find the derivative of each function.

#1) $y = 3^{6x^2}$

$$y' = a^u \cdot \ln a \cdot u'$$

$$y' = 3^{6x^2} \cdot \ln 3 \cdot (12x)$$

$$\boxed{a=3 \quad u=6x^2 \quad u'=12x}$$

#2) $y = 8^{\tan x}$

$$y' = a^u \cdot \ln a \cdot u'$$

$$y' = 8^{\tan x} \cdot \ln 8 \cdot (\sec^2 x)$$

$$\boxed{a=8 \quad u=\tan x \quad u'=\sec^2 x}$$

#3) If $y = e^{3x}$, what is the equation of the tangent line at $x = 0$?

Point (0,1)

$y = e^{3(0)} = 1$

$y = e^0 = 1$

$y = 1$

Slope $m=3$

$y = e^{3x}$

$y' = a^u \cdot \ln a \cdot u'$

$\boxed{a=e \quad u=3x \quad u'=3}$

$y' = e^{3x} \cdot \ln e \cdot 3$

$y' = 3e^{3x}$

Slope @ $x=0$

$y' = 3e^{3(0)} = 3e^0 = 3$

$y = 3$

Point Slope

$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$

$y - (0) = 3(x - (0))$

$y = 3x + 3$

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Derivative of Logarithmic Functions with base a

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log_a u = \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot u'$$

- Assume u is a differentiable function.

Find the derivative of each function.

#4) $f(x) = \log_4(2x^5)$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot u'$$

$$= \frac{1}{2x^5} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln 4} \cdot 10x^4$$

$$\boxed{a=4 \quad u=2x^5 \quad u'=10x^4}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{5}{x \ln 4}$$

#5) $f(x) = \log_6(\cos x)$

$$\boxed{a=6 \quad u=\cos x \quad u'=-\sin x}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot u'$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{\cos x} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln 6} (-\sin x)$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{-\tan x}{\ln 6}$$

#6) At what coordinate point(s) is the tangent line of $y = \ln(3x^2)$ parallel to $y = 3x - 4 \Rightarrow m=3$

① find f'

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot u'$$

$$\boxed{a=e \quad u=3x^2 \quad u'=6x}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{3x^2} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln e} (6x)$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{2}{x} \quad \leftarrow \text{Slope of all tangent lines}$$

② Set slope = f'

$$3 = \frac{2}{x}$$

$$3x = 2$$

$$x = \frac{2}{3} \quad \leftarrow x\text{-value of point}$$

③ Plug x into $f(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \ln(3x^2) \\ f\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) &= \ln\left[3\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2\right] \\ f\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) &= \ln\left[3 \cdot \frac{4}{9}\right] \\ f\left(\frac{2}{3}\right) &= \ln\left(\frac{4}{3}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\left(\frac{2}{3}, \ln\left(\frac{4}{3}\right)\right)$$

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Day 2 Combining Rules...

$$\#9) y = \ln(\cos(x^2))$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot u'$$

$$= \frac{1}{\cos(x^2)} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln e} \cdot (-2x \sin x^2)$$

$$y' = -2x \tan x^2$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} a=e & u = \cos(x^2) \\ u' = -\sin(x^2) (x^2)' & \\ u' = -2x \sin x^2 & \end{array}$$

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$$\#13) y = x^7 7^x$$

$$y' = (x^7)' 7^x + x^7 (7^x)'$$

$$y' = 7x^6 \cdot 7^x + x^7 [a^u \cdot \ln a \cdot u']$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} a=7 & u=x \\ u'=1 & \end{array}$$

$$y' = 7x^6 \cdot 7^x + x^7 [7^x \cdot \ln 7 \cdot 1]$$

$$y' = 7x^6 \cdot 7^x + x^7 \cdot 7^x \cdot \ln 7$$

$$\#10) y = \log_6(3x \tan x)$$

\log Properties

$$y = \log_6 3x + \log_6 \tan x$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot u' + \frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot u'$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{3x} \frac{1}{\ln 6} \cdot 3 + \frac{1}{\tan x} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln 6} \sec^2 x$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{x \ln 6} \frac{\tan x}{\tan x} + \frac{\sec^2 x}{\tan x \ln 6} \cdot \frac{x}{x}$$

$$y' = \frac{\tan x + x \sec^2 x}{x \ln 6 \tan x}$$

$$\#14) f(x) = e^{x \sin x}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} a=e & u = x \sin x \\ u' = x' \sin x + x \cdot (\sin x)' & \\ u' = 1 \cdot \sin x + x \cdot \cos x & \\ u' = \sin x + x \cos x & \end{array}$$

$$f'(x) = a^u \cdot \ln a \cdot u'$$

$$= e^{x \sin x} \cdot \ln e \cdot (\sin x + x \cos x)$$

$$f'(x) = (\sin x + x \cos x) e^{x \sin x}$$

$$\#11) f(x) = \frac{\log_3 x}{e^{3x}}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{(\log_3 x)' e^{3x} - \log_3 x (e^{3x})'}{(e^{3x})^2}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{\left[\frac{1}{u} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot u' \right] e^{3x} - \log_3 x [a^u \ln a \cdot u']}{e^{6x}}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} a=3 & u=x \\ u'=1 & \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} a=e & u=3x \\ u'=3 & \end{array}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{\left[\frac{1}{x} \cdot \frac{1}{\ln 3} (1) \right] e^{3x} - \log_3 x [e^{3x} \ln e \cdot 3]}{e^{6x}}$$

$$= \frac{e^{3x} \left[\frac{1}{x \ln 3} - 3 \log_3 x \right]}{e^{6x}}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{\frac{1}{x \ln 3} - 3 \log_3 x}{e^{3x}}$$