

Derivatives

Definition

1. Let $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an open interval, $a \in I$, and $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Consider

$$\frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} : I \setminus \{a\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}.$$

f is **differentiable at** a if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}$$

exists. If the limit exists, it is called $f'(a)$.

2. f is **differentiable** if it is differentiable at all $a \in I$. In that case $f' : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a function.

Theorem Let $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an open interval, $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. If f is differentiable at $a \in I$ then f is continuous at $a \in I$.

Derivative Theorems Let $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an open interval, and let $f, g : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be differentiable at $a \in I$. Let $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

1. $(cf)'(a) = c(f'(a))$
2. $(f + g)'(a) = f'(a) + g'(a)$
3. $(fg)'(a) = f'(a)g(a) + f(a)g'(a)$
4. $(\frac{1}{x})'(a) = -\frac{1}{a^2}$

Theorem (Chain Rule) Let $I_1 \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an open interval, $a \in I_1$, $f : I_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ differentiable at a . Let $I_2 \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an open interval such that $f(I_1) \subseteq I_2$ and let $g : I_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be differentiable at $f(a)$. Then $g \circ f : I_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable at a and $(g \circ f)'(a) = g'(f(a))f'(a)$.