

§3-2 The Product and Quotient Rules

*一些微分法則：

公式：

i. Product Rule

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

ii. Quotient Rule

$$\left(\frac{f}{g}\right)' = \frac{f'g - fg'}{g^2}$$

Proof of (i) :

已知： f and g are differentiable.

求證： $(fg)' = f'g + fg'$.

$$\begin{aligned}(fg)'(x) &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h)g(x+h) - f(x)g(x)}{h} \\ &= \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(x+h)[f(x+h) - f(x)] + f(x)[g(x+h) - g(x)]}{h}\end{aligned}$$

(分子同時“+”同時“-” $f(x)g(x+h)$)

Since f and g are differentiable, and, hence continuous, the limit above exists and equals to $f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x)$.

Remark :

iii. $(fgh)' = f'gh + fg'h + fg'h$

Question : Why formulas such as (i) & (iii) are “reasonable” ?
(考慮當 f, g, h 是多項式時的特例，為何(i)和(iii)是合理的)

Example 1 :

Let $f(x) = \frac{x - 3x\sqrt{x}}{\sqrt{x}}$, find $f'(x)$.

Solution :

$$f(x) = x^{\frac{1}{2}} - 3x \Rightarrow f'(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^{-\frac{1}{2}} - 3$$

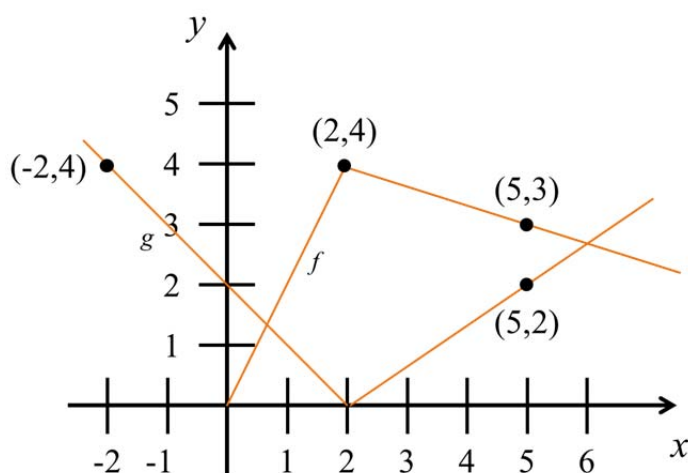
Example 2 :

Let $h(2) = 4, h'(2) = -3$, find $\left. \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{h(x)}{x} \right) \right|_{x=2}$

Solution :

$$\left. \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{h(x)}{x} \right) \right|_{x=2} = \left. \frac{h'(x)x - h(x)}{x^2} \right|_{x=2} = \frac{-3 \times 2 - 4}{4} = -\frac{5}{2}$$

Example 3 :



Let $u(x) = f(x)g(x)$, $v(x) = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$.

(a) Find $u'(1)$.

(b) Find $v'(5)$.

Solution :

$$(a) \quad u'(1) = [f(1)g(1)]' = f'(1)g(1) + f(1)g'(1) = 2 \times 1 + 2 \times (-1) = 0.$$

$$(b) \quad v'(5) = \frac{f'(5)g(5) - f(5)g'(5)}{[g(5)]^2} = \frac{\left(-\frac{1}{3}\right) \times 2 - 3 \times \frac{2}{3}}{2^2} = -\frac{2}{3}.$$