

Agenda: 1/6/16

Lesson 84

Logarithmic Differentiation

★ Logarithms can simplify the process of finding derivatives of Complicated Expressions.

Ex. 84.1 If $y = \frac{x^2}{(3x+2)^4}$ What is $\frac{dy}{dx}$?

$$\ln y = \ln \left(\frac{x^2}{(3x+2)^4} \right) = 2 \ln x - 4 \ln(3x+2)$$

$$\frac{1}{y} dy = \frac{2}{x} dx - \frac{4}{3x+2} \cdot 3 dx$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{2}{x} - \frac{12}{3x+2} \right) \cdot y$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{6x+4-12x}{x(3x+2)} \cdot \frac{x^2}{(3x+2)^4} = \boxed{\frac{(4-6x)x}{(3x+2)^5}}$$

Ex. 84.4 Let $y = x^x$ find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ given the domain is all positive reals.

$$\ln y = \ln(x^x) = x \cdot \ln(x)$$

$$\frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = \ln(x) + 1$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y(1 + \ln(x)) = \boxed{x^x (1 + \ln(x))}$$

Ex. Let $y = x^{x^5-2}$ find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ given the domain is all positive reals.

$$\ln y = (x^5-2) \ln(x)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x^{(x^5-2)} \left(5x^4 \cdot \ln(x) + \frac{(x^5-2)}{x} \right)$$