

# 9. Logarithms & Logarithmic Differentiation

3/10/2019

- Goals: (1) Logarithm Laws  
(2) Logarithmic Diff
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Last time:

(1) Inverse functions:  $f(x) = x^2 + 3$  is inverse to  $g(y) = (y-3)^{1/2}$   
(1) Inverse function rule (restriction of domain)

(3) Diff:  $\frac{d}{dx} \arcsin x = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$ ,  $\frac{d}{dx} \log x = \frac{1}{x}$

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## Logarithms

$\log_b x$  inverse function to  $b^x$ .

point:  $\log_b(xy) = \log_b x + \log_b y$

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

(to compute  $7.33 \cdot 10^8 \cdot 8.91 \cdot 10^6$ , take logs:

$$\log_{10}(7.33 \cdot 10^8) = 8 + \log_{10} 7.33, \quad \log_{10}(8.91 \cdot 10^6) = 6 + \log_{10} 8.91$$

(mechanical implementation: "slide rule")

Examples: try  $\log(e^{10}) = 10$        $\log(2^{100}) = 100 \log 2$

Example: A variant on Moore's Law says the computing power roughly doubles every 18 months

(1) Suppose today's computer can do  $N_0$  ops/second  
 $t$  years from now, computers will do

$$N(t) = N_0 \cdot 2^{t/1.5} \leftarrow \text{in } t \text{ years have } t/1.5 \text{ doublings}$$

(2) a computation will take 10 years ~~for~~ today.

How long will it take if we wait 3 years?

It will take  $\frac{10}{4} = 2.5$  years (two doublings in 3 years)

So will finish 5.5 years from now

(3) At what time will computers finish the task in 6 months?

After  $t$  years, computation takes  $10/2^{t/1.5}$

So we want  $t$  s.t.  $10 \cdot 2^{-t/1.5} = \frac{1}{2}$

i.e.  $2^{t/1.5} = 20$  so  $\frac{t}{1.5} \log 2 = \log 20$

$$\text{so } t = \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\log 20}{\log 2}$$

Alternative:  $2^{-t/1.5} = \frac{1}{20}$ , so  $-\frac{t}{1.5} \log 2 = \log \frac{1}{20}$

so  $t = -1.5 \frac{\log \frac{1}{20}}{\log 2} = 1.5 \frac{\log 20}{\log 2}$

$(\log_b \frac{1}{x}) = -\log_b x$

Source of errors: often can write  $Ne^{kt}$ ,  $k$  negative  
 $\equiv Ne^{-kt}$ ,  $k$  positive.

### Logarithmic Diff

Last time:  $\frac{d}{dx} (\log x) = \frac{1}{x}$ . ~~for~~ (if  $x > 0$ )

if  $x < 0$ ,  $\frac{d}{dx} (\log(-x)) = \frac{1}{-x} \cdot \frac{d(-x)}{dx} = \frac{-1}{-x} = \frac{1}{x}$

so:  $\frac{d}{dx} \log|x| = \frac{1}{x}$  for  $x \neq 0$

Examples:  $\frac{d}{dx} \log(ax) = \frac{1}{ax} \cdot a = \frac{1}{x}$

$\frac{d}{dt} \log(3t+t^2) = \frac{3+2t}{3t+t^2}$   
 or:  $\log(3t+t^2) = \log t + \log(3+t)$

$\frac{d}{dx} (x^2 \log(1+x^2)) =$

$\frac{d}{dr} \log(2+\sin r)$

$\stackrel{\uparrow}{=} 2x \log(1+x^2) + x^2 \frac{d}{dx} \log(1+x^2)$

$\stackrel{\uparrow}{=} 2x \log(1+x^2) + x^2 \cdot \frac{2x}{1+x^2}$

or  $\frac{d}{dx^2} (x^2 \log(1+x^2)) = 2x \cdot \frac{d(x^2 \log(1+x^2))}{d(x^2)}$

Example 4: diff  $y = (x^2+1) \cdot \sin x \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+3}} \cdot e^{\cos x}$

Can do:  $\log y = \log(x^2+1) + \log \sin x - \log \sqrt{x^2+3} + \cos x$

so diff wrt  $x$ :

$$\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \cdot y' = \frac{2x}{x^2+1} + \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{2x}{x^2+3} - \sin x$$

so  $y' = \underbrace{(x^2+1) \cdot \sin x \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+3}} \cdot e^{\cos x}}_y \cdot \left( \frac{2x}{x^2+1} + \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} - \frac{x}{x^2+3} - \sin x \right)$

General rule:  $(\log f)' = \frac{f'}{f} \Rightarrow f' = f \cdot (\log f)'$

(bottom line: if it looks like  $(\log f)'$  easier to compute, enough to compute it)

Example: diff  $x^x$  wrt  $x$ :  ~~$\frac{d(x^x)}{dx}$~~

Also try  $(\log x)^{\cos x}$

(2014 final)  $y = x^{\log x}$ . Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of  $x$  only.



$$\text{if } y = x^x, \text{ then } \log y = \log(x^x) = x \log x$$

$$\text{so } \frac{d}{dx}(\log y) = \frac{d}{dx}(x \log x)$$

$$\therefore y \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = \log x + \frac{x}{x} = \log x + 1$$

$$\text{so } \frac{dy}{dx} = (\log x + 1) \cdot x^x = x^x + x^x \log x$$

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Alt:  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^x) = x^x \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(\log x^x) = x^x \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(x \log x) = x^x(\log x + 1)$

$\uparrow$   
log diff  
rule

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Also,  $x^x = e^{\log(x^x)} = e^{x \log x}$

(write  $f$  as  $e^g$ , so  $f' = e^g g'$ )

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$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx}(\log x)^{\cos x} &= (\log x)^{\cos x} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(\cos x \log \log x) = \\ &= (\log x)^{\cos x} \cdot \left( -\sin x \log \log x + \cos x \cdot \frac{1}{\log x} \cdot \frac{1}{x} \right) \\ &= -\sin x \log \log x (\log x)^{\cos x} + \frac{\cos x}{x} \cdot (\log x)^{\cos x - 1} \end{aligned}$$

Question If  $y = (\log x)^{\cos x}$ , is it  $e^y = x^{\cos x}$ ?

$$e^y = e^{(\log x)^{\cos x}} \neq (e^{\log x})^{\cos x}$$

$$2^{(5^2)} = 2^{25} \quad (2^5)^2 = 2^{5 \cdot 2} = 2^{10}$$

true.  $(\log x)^{\cos x} = e^{(\log \log x) \cdot \cos x}$   
 $\log x = e^{\log \log x}$

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Example:  $y = x^{\log x}$ . Then  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^{\log x} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (\log(x^{\log x}))$   
 $= x^{\log x} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (\log x \cdot \log x) = x^{\log x} (2 \log x \cdot \frac{1}{x})$   
 $= 2 \log x \cdot x^{\log x - 1}$

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Questions Can't we say  $(x^{\log x})' = \log x \cdot x^{\log x - 1} \cdot (\log x)'$   
 $\uparrow$   
chain rule.

Ex Let  $y = f^g$  where  $f, g$  depend on  $x$ .  
Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  in terms of  $f, g, f', g'$ .

Today: ~~now~~ reviewed log, and log laws

$$\text{diff: } \frac{d}{dx} \log|x| = \frac{1}{x}$$

log diff: to diff  $f \cdot g$ ,  $f^g$  can diff

$$\log(f \cdot g) = \log f + \log g$$

$$\log(f^g) = g \log f$$

instead

Exam: if  $y = f^g$   $\log y = g \log f$

diff use chain rule (for  $\log y$ )

Next time: use chain rule for more complicated expressions.

have  
suppose we ~~consider~~ the curve

$$\log(x+y) = x^2 + 7y$$

Can diff along the curve to get.

$$\frac{1}{x+y} \cdot (1+y') = 2x + 7y'$$