

Advanced Derivative Rules

4.2 – Derivatives & Trigonometry

Derivatives of the Six Trigonometric Functions

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sin(x) = \cos(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \cos(x) = -\sin(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sec(x) = \sec(x) \tan(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \csc(x) = -\csc(x) \cot(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \tan(x) = \sec^2(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \cot(x) = -\csc^2(x)$$

Basic Identities

Reciprocal Identities: The following trig identities hold for all values of A except those for which any function is undefined.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \sin(x) = \frac{1}{\csc(x)} & \csc(x) = \frac{1}{\sin(x)} \\ \cos(x) = \frac{1}{\sec(x)} & \sec(x) = \frac{1}{\cos(x)} \\ \tan(x) = \frac{1}{\cot(x)} & \cot(x) = \frac{1}{\tan(x)} \end{array}$$

Quotient Identities: The following trig identities hold for all values of A except those for which any function is undefined.

$$\tan(x) = \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)} \qquad \cot(x) = \frac{\cos(x)}{\sin(x)}$$

Pythagorean Identities: The following trig identities hold for all values of A except those for which any function is undefined.

$$\sin^2(x) + \cos^2(x) = 1$$

$$\tan^2(x) + 1 = \sec^2(x)$$

$$1 + \cot^2(x) = \csc^2(x)$$

Even & Odd Trig Functions

Recall that an even function is said to be even if its symmetric with respect to the y-axis, $f(x) = f(-x)$.

$$\cos(-x) = \cos(x)$$

Recall that an odd function is said to be odd if it is symmetric with respect to the origin, $-f(x) = f(-x)$.

$$\sin(-x) = -\sin(x)$$

$$\tan(-x) = -\tan(x)$$

Ex A: Differentiating using the Chain Rule.

$$\begin{aligned} \#1) \quad \frac{d}{dx} [\sin^4(x)] &= \frac{d}{dx} [\sin(x)]^4 \\ &= 4[\sin(x)]^3 \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \sin(x) \\ &= 4 \sin^3(x) \cdot \cos(x) \cdot x' \\ &= 4 \sin^3(x) \cos(x) \cdot (1) \\ &= 4 \sin^3(x) \cos(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \#2) \quad \frac{d}{dx} [\sin(x^4)] &= \cos(x^4) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} x^4 \\ &= \cos(x^4) \cdot x^3 \\ &= x^3 \cos(x^4) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \#3) \quad \frac{d}{dx} [\cos^4(x)] &= \frac{d}{dx} [\cos(x)]^4 \\ &= 4[\cos(x)]^3 \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \cos(x) \\ &= 4 \cos^3(x) (-\sin(x)) \cdot x' \\ &= -4 \cos^3(x) \sin(x) (1) \\ &= -4 \cos^3(x) \sin(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \#4) \quad \frac{d}{dx} [\cos(x^4)] &= \sin(x^4) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (x^4) \\ &= \sin(x^4) \cdot 4x^3 \\ &= 4x^3 \sin(x^4) \end{aligned}$$

Ex B: Differentiating using the Product Rule.

$$\begin{aligned} \#5) \quad \frac{d}{dx} (x^4 \sin(x)) &= \frac{d}{dx} x^4 \cdot \sin(x) + x^4 \frac{d}{dx} \sin(x) \\ &= 4x^3 \sin(x) + x^4 \cos(x) \end{aligned}$$

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#6) If $f(x) = \sin(x) \sec(x)$, find $f'(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \sin(x) \cdot \frac{1}{\cos(x)} \\
 &= \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)} \\
 f(x) &= \tan(x) \\
 f'(x) &= \sec^2(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

Ex C: Differentiating using the Quotient Rule.

#7) If $y = \frac{x^2}{\sin(x)}$, find y' .

$$\begin{aligned}
 y' &= \frac{[x^2]' \sin(x) - x^2 [\sin(x)]'}{[\sin(x)]^2} \\
 y' &= \frac{2x \cdot \sin(x) - x^2 \cos(x)}{\sin^2(x)}
 \end{aligned}$$

#8) Use the identity $\cot(x) = \frac{\cos(x)}{\sin(x)}$ to prove

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{d}{dx} \cot(x) &= -\csc^2(x) \\
 \frac{d}{dx} \cot(x) &= \frac{d}{dx} \frac{\cos(x)}{\sin(x)} \\
 &= \frac{\frac{d}{dx} \cos(x) \cdot \sin(x) + \cos(x) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (\sin(x))}{[\sin(x)]^2} \\
 &= \frac{-\sin(x) \sin(x) - \cos(x) \cos(x)}{\sin^2(x)} \\
 &= \frac{-\sin^2(x) - \cos^2(x)}{\sin^2(x)} \\
 &= \frac{-1 [\sin^2(x) + \cos^2(x)]}{\sin^2(x)} \\
 &= \frac{-1 \cdot 1}{\sin^2(x)}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \cot(x) = -\csc^2(x)$$

#9) Differentiating using Regret, Sadness and a heavy dose of Eraser.

If $y = \frac{\tan(x)}{\sin(x)}$, find y' .

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= \frac{\frac{\sin(x)}{\cos(x)} \cdot \frac{1}{\sin(x)}}{\frac{1}{\sin(x)}} \\
 y &= \frac{1}{\cos(x)} \\
 y &= \sec(x) \\
 y' &= \sec(x) \tan(x)
 \end{aligned}$$