

Section 3.6 Derivatives of logarithmic functions

$$\frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \log_a x = \frac{1}{x \ln a}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \ln g(x) = \frac{g'(x)}{g(x)}$$

Example 1. Differentiate each function

1. $f(x) = \ln(\sin^2 x)$

2. $\frac{d}{dx} \log_3(\tan x^2)$

3. $f(x) = \ln|x|$

4. $f(x) = \sqrt{\frac{9-x^2}{9+x^2}}$

Example 2. Find y' and y'' if

$$y = \sqrt{x} \ln x.$$

$$a^x = e^{x \ln a}$$

$$(a^x)' = a^x \ln a, \quad a > 0, a \neq 1.$$

Example 3. Find $\frac{d}{dx} (\sqrt{2-3^x} + \pi^{-x} + x^e)$

Logarithmic differentiation

Steps in logarithmic differentiation

1. Take the logarithm of both sides of an equation.
2. Differentiate implicitly with respect to x .
3. Solve the resulting equation for y' .

Example 4. Differentiate each function

1. $y = x^x$

2. $y = x^{\sin x}$

3. $y = \cos(x^{\sqrt{x}})$

4. $y = \frac{(x+1)^4 \sqrt[5]{x^2+1}}{(x^3-1)^{151} (1+3x^2)^{2018}}$

Example 5. Find y' if $x^y = y^x$.