# 17th and 18th lectures

# Differentiation

### The derivative

**Definition.** Suppose that  $x_0$  is an interior point of  $D_f$ . Then the function f is **differentiable** at  $x_0$  if the following finite limit exists:

 $f'(x_0) = \lim_{x \to x_0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h}$ 



**Remark.**  $f'(x_0)$  gives the slope of the tangent line of the graph of f at the point  $(x_0, f(x_0))$ . The equation of the tangent line is  $y = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0)$ 

Examples. 1)  $f(x) = c \implies f'(x_0) = \lim_{x \to x_0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} = \lim_{x \to x_0} \frac{c - c}{x - x_0} = 0 \quad \forall x_0 \in \mathbb{R}.$ 2)  $f(x) = x \implies f'(x_0) = \lim_{x \to x_0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} = \lim_{x \to x_0} \frac{x - x_0}{x - x_0} = 1 \quad \forall x_0 \in \mathbb{R}.$ 3)  $f(x) = x^2 \implies f'(x_0) = \lim_{x \to x_0} \frac{x^2 - x_0^2}{x - x_0} = \lim_{x \to x_0} (x + x_0) = 2x_0 \quad \forall x_0 \in \mathbb{R}.$ 

Find the tangent line of f at  $x_0 = 1$ . Then f(1) = 1, f'(1) = 2, so the tangent line is y = f(1) + f'(1)(x - 1) = 1 + 2(x - 1) = 2x - 1.



# **One-sided derivatives**

**Definition.** The left-hand and right-hand derivative *f* at *a* are

$$f_{-}'(a) = \lim_{x \to a-0} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \text{ and } f_{+}'(a) = \lim_{x \to a+0} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}$$
respectively, if these finite limits exist.

**Theorem.** Assume that  $a \in \operatorname{int} D_f$ . Then f is differentiable at a if and only if  $f'(a) = f_-'(a) = f_+'(a)$ 

**Definition.** Let a < b. Then f is differentiable on (a, b) if f is differentiable at x for all  $x \in (a, b)$ . f is differentiable on [a, b] if f is differentiable on (a, b) and  $\exists f_+'(a), f_-'(a) \in \mathbb{R}$ . The derivative function of f is the function  $f' : \{x \in D_f : \exists f'(x)\}, x \mapsto f'(x)$ 

## Relation to continuity

**Theorem.** If *f* is differentiable at  $x_0$  then *f* is continuous at  $x_0$ .

**Proof.** 
$$\lim_{x \to x_0} f(x) = \lim_{x \to x_0} \left( \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} (x - x_0) + f(x_0) \right) = f'(x_0) \cdot 0 + f(x_0) = f(x_0).$$

Remark. Continuity is necessary for differentiability but not sufficient.

For example, let 
$$f(x) = |x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \ge 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$
. Then at  $x_0 = 0$ :  $\frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x - 0} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$   
 $\implies f_+'(x_0) = \lim_{x \to x_0 + 0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} = 1 \text{ and } f_-'(x_0) = \lim_{x \to x_0 - 0} \frac{f(x) - f(x_0)}{x - x_0} = -1$   
 $\implies f \text{ is not differentiable at } x_0 = 0.$ 

#### Some interesting examples.

1) The following function is everywhere continuous but nowhere differentiable:

$$f(x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \left( \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x + \frac{1}{4} \sin 4x + \dots + \frac{1}{2^n} \sin(2^n x) \right)$$

2) The following function is differentiable only at  $x_0 = 0$  but discontinuous for all  $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ :

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{Q} \\ -x^2 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q} \end{cases} \quad \text{Then } \left| \frac{f(x) - f(0)}{x - 0} \right| = \left| \frac{x^2}{x} \right| = \|x\| \longrightarrow 0 \text{ if } x \longrightarrow 0$$

 $\implies$  f is differentiable at  $x_0 = 0$  and f'(0) = 0 but f is discontinuous if  $x \neq 0$ .

## **Examples**

**Statement.**  $f(x) = x^n$   $(n \in \mathbb{N}^+)$  is differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f'(x) = nx^{n-1}$ .

**Proof.** 
$$f'(a) = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{x^n - a^n}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} (x^{n-1} + x^{n-2}a + \dots + xa^{n-2} + a^{n-1}) = na^{n-1}$$

**Statement.**  $f(x) = \sin x$  is differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f'(x) = \cos x$ .

**Proof.** 
$$f'(a) = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{\sin x - \sin a}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{2 \sin \frac{x - a}{2} \cdot \cos \frac{x + a}{2}}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{\sin \frac{x - a}{2}}{\frac{x - a}{2}} \cdot \cos \frac{x + a}{2} = 1 \cdot \cos a = \cos a$$

**Statement.**  $f(x) = \cos x$  is differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f'(x) = -\sin x$ .

**Proof.**  $f'(a) = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{\cos x - \cos a}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{-2\sin\frac{x - a}{2} \cdot \sin\frac{x + a}{2}}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{-\sin\frac{x - a}{2}}{\frac{x - a}{2}} \cdot \sin\frac{x + a}{2} = -1 \cdot \sin a = -\sin a$ 

**Statement.**  $f(x) = e^x$  is differentiable on  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f'(x) = e^x$ .

**Proof.** If 
$$x < 1$$
 then  $1 + x \le e^x \le \frac{1}{1 - x} \implies 1 \le \frac{e^x - 1}{x} \le \left(\frac{1}{1 - x} - 1\right) \cdot \frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{1 - x}$   
 $\implies 1 \le \lim_{x \to 0} \frac{e^x - 1}{x} \le \lim_{x \to 0} \frac{1}{1 - x} = 1 \implies \lim_{x \to 0} \frac{e^x - 1}{x} = 1$   
 $\implies f'(a) = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{e^x - e^a}{x - a} = e^a \lim_{x \to a} \frac{e^{x - a} - 1}{x - a} = e^a \cdot 1 = e^a.$ 

Operations with the derivatives

**Theorem.** If f and g are differentiable at a and  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  then  $(c \cdot f), (f \pm g) \text{ and } (f \cdot g) \text{ are differentiable at } a \text{ and}$   $(1) (cf)'(a) = c \cdot f'(a)$   $(2) (f \pm g)'(a) = f'(a) \pm g'(a)$   $(3) (f \cdot g)'(a) = f'(a) \cdot g(a) + f(a) \cdot g'(a)$ If  $g(a) \neq 0$  then  $\frac{1}{g}$  and  $\frac{f}{g}$  are differentiable at a and  $(4) (\frac{1}{g})'(a) = -\frac{g'(a)}{g^2(a)}$  $(5) (\frac{f}{g})'(a) = \frac{f'(a) \cdot g(a) - f(a) \cdot g'(a)}{g^2(a)}$ 

**Proof.** (1) 
$$(cf)'(a) = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{(c \cdot f)(x) - (c \cdot f)(a)}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{c \cdot f(x) - c \cdot f(a)}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} c \cdot \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} = c \cdot f'(a)$$

(2) 
$$(f+g)'(a) = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{(f+g)(x) - (f+g)(a)}{x-a} = \lim_{x \to a} \left( \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x-a} + \frac{g(x) - g(a)}{x-a} \right) = f'(a) + g'(a)$$

(3) 
$$(f \cdot g)'(a) = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{(f \cdot g)(x) - (f \cdot g)(a)}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{f(x) \cdot g(x) - f(a) \cdot g(x) + f(a) \cdot g(x) - f(a) \cdot g(a)}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{f(x) \cdot g(x) - f(a) \cdot g(x) - f(a) \cdot g(x)}{x - a}$$

$$= \lim_{x \to a} \left( \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \cdot g(x) + f(a) \cdot \frac{g(x) - g(a)}{x - a} \right) = f'(a) \cdot g(a) + f(a) \cdot g'(a)$$

$$(4) \quad \left(\frac{1}{g}\right)'(a) = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{\frac{1}{g(x)} - \frac{1}{g(a)}}{x - a} = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{g(a) - g(x)}{g(x)g(a)(x - a)} = \lim_{x \to a} \frac{\frac{g(a) - g(x)}{x - a}}{g(x)g(a)} = -\frac{g'(a)}{g^2(a)}$$

$$(5) \quad \left(\frac{f}{g}\right)'(a) = \left(f \cdot \frac{1}{g}\right)'(a) = f'(a) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{g}\right)(a) + f(a) \cdot \left(-\frac{g'(a)}{g^2(a)}\right) = \frac{f'(a) \cdot g(a) - f(a) \cdot g'(a)}{g^2(a)}$$

Examples

Statement. 
$$(\tan x)' = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x}$$
 and  $(\cot x)' = -\frac{1}{\sin^2 x}$   
Proof.  $(\tan x)' = \left(\frac{\sin x}{\cos x}\right)' = \frac{\cos x \cdot \cos x - \sin x \cdot (-\sin x)}{\cos^2 x} = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x}$   
 $(\cot x)' = \left(\frac{\cos x}{\sin x}\right)' = \frac{-\sin x \cdot \sin x - \cos x \cdot \cos x}{\sin^2 x} = -\frac{1}{\sin^2 x}$ 

# Linear approximation

**Theorem.** The function f is differentiable at a if and only if it can be approximated by a linear function at a, that is, there exists  $A \in \mathbb{R}$  (independent of x) such that

$$f(x) = f(a) + A(x - a) + \varepsilon(x) (x - a), \text{ where } \lim_{x \to a} \varepsilon(x) = 0.$$

Then 
$$A = f'(a)$$
.

**Proof.** 1) Assume that *f* is differentiable at *a* and let  $\varepsilon(x) = \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} - f'(a)$ .  $\Rightarrow f(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a) + \varepsilon(x)(x - a)$  and  $\lim_{x \to a} \varepsilon(x) = 0$ . 2) Assume that  $f(x) = f(a) + A(x - a) + \varepsilon(x)(x - a)$  and  $\lim_{x \to a} \varepsilon(x) = 0$ .  $\Rightarrow \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} = A + \varepsilon(x) \longrightarrow A$  if  $x \longrightarrow a$  $\Rightarrow f$  is differentiable at *a* and *f'(a) = A*.

**Remark.** If f is differentiable at a, then L(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a) is the **linearization** of f at a. The approximation  $f(x) \approx L(x)$  is the **standard linear approximation** of f at a. Then  $\lim_{x \to a} (f(x) - L(x)) = 0$ .

# Chain rule

**Theorem (Chain rule).** If g is differentiable at a and f is differentiable at g(a) then  $f \circ g$  is differentiable at a and  $(f \circ g)' = f'(g(a)) \cdot g'(a)$ .

**Proof.** 1) Since *g* is differentiable at *a* then there exists  $\varepsilon_1 : D_g \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $g(x) - g(a) = g'(a)(x - a) + \varepsilon_1(x)(x - a)$  and  $\lim_{x \to a} \varepsilon_1(x) = 0$ . 2) Since *f* is differentiable at g(a) then there exists  $\varepsilon_2 : D_f \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(t) - f(g(a)) = f'(g(a))(t - g(a)) + \varepsilon_2(t)(t - g(a))$  and  $\lim_{t \to g(a)} \varepsilon_2(t) = 0$ . 3) Substituting t = g(x):  $f(g(x)) - f(g(a)) = f'(g(a))(g(x) - g(a)) + \varepsilon_2(g(x))(g(x) - g(a)) =$   $= f'(g(a))(g'(a)(x - a) + \varepsilon_1(x)(x - a)) + \varepsilon_2(g(x))(g'(a)(x - a) + \varepsilon_1(x)(x - a))) =$   $= f'(g(a))g'(a)(x - a) + \varepsilon(x)(x - a)$ where  $\varepsilon(x) = f'(g(a))\varepsilon_1(x) + \varepsilon_2(g(x))g'(a) + \varepsilon_2(g(x))\varepsilon_1(x)$ If  $x \to a$  then  $\varepsilon(x) \longrightarrow 0$ , so  $f \circ g$  can be linearly approximated at a $\implies f \circ g$  is differentiable at *a* and we obtain the chain rule.

## Derivative of the inverse

**Theorem.** Assume that f is continuous and strictly monotonic on (a, b), f is differentiable at  $c \in (a, b)$  and  $f'(c) \neq 0$ . Then  $f^{-1}$  is differentiable at f(c) and  $(f^{-1})'(f(c)) = \frac{1}{f'(c)}$ 

**Proof.** 1) Let  $\varphi(x) = f^{-1}(x) \implies \varphi(f(c)) = c$  and  $f(\varphi(y)) = y \forall y \in f((a, b))$ .

2) Let 
$$F(x) = \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c}$$
. Then  $\frac{\varphi(y) - \varphi(f(c))}{y - f(c)} = \frac{\varphi(y) - c}{f(\varphi(y)) - f(c)} = \frac{1}{F(\varphi(y))}$ 

3)  $\varphi$  is strictly monotonic  $\implies$  if  $y \neq f(c)$  then  $\varphi(y) \neq c$ 



**Remark.** 
$$\alpha + \beta = \frac{\pi}{2} \implies \tan \alpha \tan \beta = 1 \implies (f^{-1})'(f(c)) = \tan \beta = \frac{1}{\tan \alpha} = \frac{1}{f'(c)}$$
  
**Remark.**  $f(f^{-1}(x)) = x \implies f'(f^{-1}(x)) \cdot (f^{-1})'(x) = 1 \implies (f^{-1})'(x) = \frac{1}{f'(f^{-1}(x))}$ 

Examples



**Statement.** Let  $f(x) = \sqrt[n]{x}$   $(n \in \mathbb{N}^+)$ . Then  $D_f = [0, \infty)$  if *n* is even and  $D_f = \mathbb{R}$  if *n* is odd.  $\implies f'(x) = \frac{1}{n} x^{\frac{1}{n}-1}$  where x > 0 if *n* is even and  $x \neq 0$  if n > 1 is odd.



**Proof.** Using the derivative of the inverse:

$$f(x) = y = \sqrt[n]{x} \implies x = f^{-1}(y) = y^{n}, \quad (f^{-1})'(y) = n y^{n-1}$$
$$\implies f'(x) = \frac{1}{(f^{-1})'(y)|_{y=f(x)}} = \frac{1}{n \cdot y^{n-1}} = \frac{1}{n \binom{n}{\sqrt{x}}^{n-1}} = \frac{1}{n x^{1-\frac{1}{n}}} = \frac{1}{n} x^{\frac{1}{n}-1}$$

If n > 1 is odd then f'(0) doesn't exist and if n is even then  $f_+'(0)$  doesn't exist. (The tangent line at 0 is vertical.) **Statement.**  $f(x) = x^{\frac{p}{q}}$  ( $p \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $q \in \mathbb{N}^+$ , x > 0) is differentiable and  $f'(x) = -\frac{p}{q} x^{\frac{p}{q}-1}$ .

**Proof.** Using the chain rule:  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{q} (x^p)^{\frac{1}{q}-1} \cdot p x^{p-1} = \frac{p}{q} x^{\frac{p}{q}-1}$ 

**Statement.**  $f(x) = x^{\alpha}$  ( $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , x > 0) is differentiable and  $f'(x) = \alpha x^{\alpha-1}$ . 3.0 3.0 2.5 2.5  $x^{1/2}$ 2.0 2.0  $x^{1/3}$ 1.5 1.5 1.0 1.0 **x**<sup>2</sup> 0.5 0.5  $-x^{3/2}$ 0.0 <sup>666</sup> 0.0 0.0 0.5 0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 **Proof.** Using the chain rule:  $f'(x) = (x^{\alpha})' = (e^{\alpha \ln x})' = e^{\alpha \ln x} \cdot \alpha \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = x^{\alpha} \cdot \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{2}} = \alpha x^{\alpha - 1}$ 

**Statement.**  $f(x) = a^x$  is differentiable for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $f'(x) = a^x \cdot \ln a$ .

**Proof.** Using the chain rule:  $f'(x) = (a^x)' = (e^{x \ln a})' = e^{x \ln a} \cdot \ln a = a^x \cdot \ln a$ 

**Statement.**  $f(x) = \ln x$  is differentiable for all x > 0 and  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ .

**Proof.** Using the derivative of the inverse:  $f(x) = \ln x$ ,  $f^{-1}(x) = e^x$ ,  $(f^{-1})'(x) = e^x$ 

$$\implies f'(x) = \frac{1}{(f^{-1})'(f(x))} = \frac{1}{e^{\ln x}} = \frac{1}{x}$$

**Statement.**  $f(x) = \log_a x$  (0 <  $a \neq 1$ , x > 0) is differentiable and  $f'(x) = \frac{1}{x \ln a}$ .

**Proof.**  $f'(x) = (\log_a x)' = \left(\frac{\ln x}{\ln a}\right)' = \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot (\ln x)' = \frac{1}{\ln a} \cdot \frac{1}{x}$ 

### Trigonometric functions and their inverses

**Remark.** The sine, cosine, tangent and cotangent functions are periodic, so they are not invertible on their whole domains. In order to define their inverses, they must be restricted to suitable intervals where they are one-to-one. **Definition.** • The arcsine function is the inverse of the restriction of the sine function to the interval  $\left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$ :  $\arcsin = \left(\sin \left|_{\left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]}\right)^{-1}$ 

• The arccosine function is the inverse of the restriction of the cosine function to the interval  $[0, \pi]$ :  $\arccos = (\cos |_{[0,\pi]})^{-1}$ 

**Remark:** •  $D_{\text{arcsin}} = [-1, 1] \text{ and } R_{\text{arcsin}} = \left[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right]$ 

•  $D_{\text{arccos}} = [-1, 1] \text{ and } R_{\text{arccos}} = [0, \pi]$ 



**Definition.** • The arctangent function is the inverse of the restriction of the tangent function to the interval  $\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ :  $\arctan = \left(\tan \left|_{\left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)}\right)^{-1}$ 

• The arccotangent function is the inverse of the restriction of the cotangent function to the interval  $(0, \pi)$ : arccot =  $(\cot |_{(0,\pi)})^{-1}$ 

**Remark:** •  $D_{\text{arctan}} = \mathbb{R} \text{ and } R_{\text{arctan}} = \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right)$ 

•  $D_{\text{arccot}} = \mathbb{R}$  and  $R_{\text{arccot}} = (0, \pi)$ 



# Derivatives

Theorem.  
1) 
$$(\arcsin x)' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}} \quad \forall x \in (-1, 1)$$
  
2)  $(\arccos x)' = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}} \quad \forall x \in (-1, 1)$   
3)  $(\arctan x)' = \frac{1}{1 + x^2} \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$   
4)  $(\operatorname{arccot} x)' = -\frac{1}{1 + x^2} \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$   
Proofs.  
1)  $\operatorname{arcsin}'(x) = (\arcsin x)' = \frac{1}{\sin'(\arcsin x)} = \frac{1}{\cos(\arcsin x)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \sin^2(\arcsin x)}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}}, \quad x \in (-1, 1).$   
2)  $(\operatorname{arccos} x)' = \frac{1}{\cos'(\operatorname{arccos} x)} = \frac{1}{-\sin(\operatorname{arccos} x)} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \cos^2(\operatorname{arccos} x)}} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - x^2}}, \quad x \in (-1, 1).$   
Using that  $(\tan x)' = \frac{1}{\cos^2 x} = 1 + \tan^2 x$ , and  $(\cot x)' = -\frac{1}{\sin^2 x} = -(1 + \cot^2 x)$ , the derivatives are  
3)  $\operatorname{arctan}'(x) = (\operatorname{arctan} x)' = \frac{1}{\tan'(\operatorname{arctan} x)} = \frac{1}{1 + \tan^2(\operatorname{arctan} x)} = \frac{1}{1 + x^2}$ 

# Hyperbolic functions and their inverses



2.  $\sinh(x \pm y) = \sinh x \cosh y \pm \cosh x \sinh y$ 

3.  $\sinh 2x = 2 \sinh x \cosh x$ 

4.  $\cosh(x \pm y) = \cosh x \cosh y \pm \sinh x \sinh y$ 

5.  $\cosh 2x = \cosh^2 x + \sinh^2$ 6.  $\cosh^2 x = \frac{\cosh 2x + 1}{2}$ 7.  $\sinh^2 x = \frac{\cosh 2x - 1}{2}$ 

### Area hyperbolic functions

The inverse hyperbolic functions are the area hyperbolic functions.



5) 
$$(\tanh x)' = \frac{1}{\cosh^2 x}$$
  $\forall x \in (-1, 1)$    
6)  $(\operatorname{artanh} x)' = \frac{1}{1 - x^2}$   $\forall x \in (-1, 1)$   
7)  $(\coth x)' = -\frac{1}{\sinh^2 x}$   $\forall x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$    
8)  $(\operatorname{arcoth} x)' = \frac{1}{1 - x^2}$   $\forall x \in (-\infty, -1) \cup (1, \infty)$ 

#### Some proofs.

$$\cosh^{2} x - \sinh^{2} x = 1 \implies \cosh x = \sqrt{\sinh^{2} x + 1}$$

$$\sinh x = \sqrt{\cosh^{2} x - 1}$$
2) 
$$(\operatorname{arsinh} x)' = \frac{1}{\sinh'(\operatorname{arsinh} x)} = \frac{1}{\cosh(\operatorname{arsinh} x)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sinh^{2}(\operatorname{arsinh} x) + 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^{2} + 1}}$$
4) 
$$(\operatorname{arcosh} x)' = \frac{1}{\cosh'(\operatorname{arcosh} x)} = \frac{1}{\sinh(\operatorname{arcosh} x)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\cosh^{2}(\operatorname{arcosh} x) - 1}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^{2} - 1}} \quad (x > 1)$$

# Mean value theorems

### Local extremum

**Definition.** The function f has a  $\begin{cases} \text{local minimum} \\ \text{local maximum} \end{cases}$  at the point  $a \in \text{int } D_f$ , if there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that if  $x \in (a - \delta, a + \delta)$ , then  $\begin{cases} f(x) \ge f(a) \\ f(x) \le f(a) \end{cases}$ 

f has a local extremum at a if f has a local minimum or maximum at a.

### **Theorem (Necessary condition for the existence of a local extremum).** If *f* is differentiable at $a \in int D_f$ and has a local extremum at *a* then f'(a) = 0.

**Proof.** Assume that f has a local maximum at  $a \in \operatorname{int} D_f$ . If  $a - \delta < x < a$  then  $f(x) \le f(a) \Longrightarrow \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \ge 0 \Longrightarrow f'(a) = f_-'(a) = \lim_{x \to a_-} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \ge 0$ If  $a < x < a + \delta$  then  $f(x) \le f(a) \Longrightarrow \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \le 0 \Longrightarrow f'(a) = f_+'(a) = \lim_{x \to a_+} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \le 0$  $\Longrightarrow f'(a) = 0$ .



# Rolle's theorem

**Theorem (Rolle).** Assume that  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous on [a, b], differentiable on (a, b)and f(a) = f(b). Then there exists  $c \in (a, b)$  such that f'(c) = 0.



- **Proof.** Since *f* is continuous on the closed and bounded interval [*a*, *b*] then by the Weierstrass extreme value theorem *f* has a minimum and a maximum on [*a*, *b*].
  - 1) If both extreme values are attained at the endpoints, then

f(x) = f(a) = f(b) for all  $x \in [a, b] \implies f$  is constant

$$\implies$$
  $f'(c) = 0$  for all  $c \in (a, b)$ .

2) If the minimum or the maximum is attained at an interior point  $c \in (a, b)$ , then f has a local extremum at c, so f'(c) = 0.

# Lagrange's mean value theorem



**Geometrical meaning:** There exists a point in the interval where the slope of the tangent line is the same as the slope of the secant line connecting the endpoints of the graph.

**Proof.** The equation of the secant line connecting the points (a, f(a)) and (b, f(b)) is

$$y = h_{a,b}(x) = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} (x - a) + f(a).$$
  
Let  $g(x) = f(x) - h_{a,b}(x) = f(x) - \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} (x - a) - f(a)$ 

Then

1) g is continuous on [a, b] 2) g is differentiable on (a, b) 3) g(a) = g(b) = 0  $\implies$  by Rolle's theorem there exists  $c \in (a, b)$  such that g'(c) = 0 $\implies g'(c) = f'(c) - \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{b - a} = 0.$ 

Remark. Rolle's theorem is a special case of this theorem.

### Cauchy's mean value theorem

**Theorem (Cauchy's mean value theorem).** Assume that  $f, g : [a, b] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous on [a, b], differentiable on (a, b)and  $g'(x) \neq 0$  for all  $x \in (a, b)$ . Then 1)  $g(a) \neq g(b)$  and 2) there exists  $c \in (a, b)$  such that  $\frac{f'(c)}{g'(c)} = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{g(b) - g(a)}$ .

**Proof.** 1) If g(a) = g(b) then by Rolle's theorem there exists  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

g'(c) = 0 which is a contradiction.

2) Let h(x) = (g(b) - g(a)) f(x) - (f(b) - f(a)) g(x). Then

- *h* is continuous on [*a*, *b*]
- *h* is differentiable on (*a*, *b*)
- h(a) = h(b) = f(a) g(b) f(b) g(a)

 $\implies$  by Rolle's theorem there exists  $c \in (a, b)$  such that

$$h'(c) = (g(b) - g(a))f'(c) - (f(b) - f(a))g'(c) = 0 \implies \frac{f'(c)}{g'(c)} = \frac{f(b) - f(a)}{g(b) - g(a)}.$$

**Remark.** Lagrange's mean value theorem is a special case of this theorem with g(x) = x.

**Consequence.** Assume that  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous on [a, b], differentiable on (a, b) and f'(x) = 0 for all  $x \in (a, b)$ . Then f(x) = c (constant) for all  $x \in [a, b]$ .

**Proof.** By Lagrange's mean value theorem for all  $[x_1, x_2] \subset [a, b]$  there exists  $c \in (x_1, x_2)$ 

such that 
$$f'(c) = \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_2)}{x_1 - x_2} = 0 \implies f(x_1) = f(x_2)$$
 for all  $x_1 \neq x_2$   
 $\implies f$  is constant.

**Remark.** If  $D_f$  is not an interval then the statement is not true.

**Consequence.** Assume that  $f, g: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous on [a, b], differentiable on (a, b) and f'(x) = g'(x) for all  $x \in (a, b)$ .  $\Rightarrow \exists c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $f(x) = g(x) + c \quad \forall x \in [a, b]$ .

**Proof.** Apply the previous theorem for f - g.

## **Exercises**

**Exercise 1.** Prove that  $f(x) = x^7 + 14x - 3$  has exactly one root.

**Solution.** f(0) < 0 and  $f(1) > 0 \implies$  by the intermediate value theorem f has a root on (0, 1). Assume that f has at least two roots:  $f(x_1) = f(x_2) = 0$ . Then applying Rolle's theorem on  $[x_1, x_2]$ : there exists  $c \in (x_1, x_2)$  such that f'(c) = 0. However,  $f'(x) = 7x^6 + 14 > 0$ , which is a contradiction.

**Exercise 2.** Prove that if x < y then  $\arctan y - \arctan x < y - x$ .

**Solution.** 
$$f(x) = \arctan x \implies \text{by Lagrange's theorem } \exists c \in (x, y): \frac{f(y) - f(x)}{y - x} = f'(c)$$
  
$$\implies \frac{\arctan y - \arctan x}{y - x} = \frac{1}{1 + c^2} \le 1 \implies \arctan y - \arctan x < y - x.$$

**Exercise 3.** Prove that  $|\cos x - \cos y| \le |x - y|$  for all  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Solution.** Let  $f(x) = \cos x$  and  $x > y \implies$  by Lagrange's theorem  $\exists c \in (y, x)$ :

$$\frac{f(x) - f(y)}{x - y} = \frac{\cos x - \cos y}{x - y} = f'(c) = -\sin c$$
$$\implies |\cos x - \cos y| = |(-\sin c) \cdot (x - y)| \le |x - y|$$

**Remark.** From this it follows that  $f(x) = \cos x$  is uniformly continuous on  $\mathbb{R}$ , since for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\delta = \varepsilon$ .