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We may use the following derivative rules now:

$$\frac{d}{dx} b^x = b^x \ln(b) \quad \frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x} \quad \frac{d}{dx} \ln |u(x)| = \frac{u'(x)}{u(x)} \quad \frac{d}{dx} \log_b x = \frac{1}{x \ln b}$$

And the technique of logarithmic differentiation: take a log of both sides of the equation, then take the derivative using implicit differentiation to solve for  $f'(x)$ .

1. Find the following derivatives

(a)  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^2 \ln x)$

**SOLUTION:**

$$= 2x \ln x + x^2 \frac{1}{x}$$

(b)  $\frac{d}{dx} x^3 3^x$

**SOLUTION:**

$$= 3x^2 3^x + x^3 (3^x \ln 3)$$

(c)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\ln |\sin x|)$

**SOLUTION:**

$$= \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} = \cot x$$

(d)  $\frac{d}{dx} \ln(10^x)$

**SOLUTION:**

$$= \frac{10^x \ln 10}{10^x} = \ln 10$$

Or you may use the fact that

$$\ln(10^x) = x \ln 10$$

and simply take that derivative ( $\ln 10$  is just a constant).

(e)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\ln(\ln x))$

**SOLUTION:**

$$= \frac{1/x}{\ln x} = \frac{1}{x \ln x}$$

2. Find the derivatives

(a)  $s(t) = \cos(2^t)$

**SOLUTION:**

$$s'(t) = -\sin(2^t)(2^t \ln 2)$$

(b)  $f(x) = \ln[(x^3 + 1)^\pi]$

**SOLUTION:**

$$f'(x) = \frac{\pi(x^3 + 1)^{\pi-1}(3x^2)}{(x^3 + 1)^\pi}$$

3. Evaluate the derivative of  $h(x) = x^{\sqrt{x}}$  at  $x = 4$ .

**SOLUTION:** Using logarithmic differentiation, we take the natural log of both sides first

$$\begin{aligned} \ln h(x) &= \ln \left( x^{\sqrt{x}} \right) \\ \ln h(x) &= \sqrt{x} \ln x && \text{by log property} \\ \frac{h'(x)}{h(x)} &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} \ln x + \sqrt{x} \frac{1}{x} && \text{take derivative of both sides} \\ h'(x) &= h(x) \left( \frac{\ln x}{2\sqrt{x}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \right) && \text{solve for } h'(x) \\ h'(x) &= x^{\sqrt{x}} \left( \frac{\ln x}{2\sqrt{x}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \right) && \text{substitute in } h(x) \\ h'(4) &= 4^{\sqrt{4}} \left( \frac{\ln 4}{2\sqrt{4}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{4}} \right) && \text{plug in 4} \\ &= 16 \left( \frac{\ln 4}{4} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \\ &= 4 \ln 4 + 8 \end{aligned}$$

4. Find the horizontal tangent line equation for  $y = x^{\ln x}$

**SOLUTION:** Using logarithmic differentiation,

$$\begin{aligned} \ln y &= \ln \left( x^{\ln x} \right) \\ \ln y &= (\ln x)(\ln x) = (\ln x)^2 && \text{by log property} \\ \frac{y'}{y} &= 2(\ln x) \frac{1}{x} && \text{take derivative of both sides} \\ y' &= y \frac{2 \ln x}{x} && \text{solve for } y' \\ y' &= x^{\ln x} \frac{2 \ln x}{x} && \text{substitute in } y \end{aligned}$$

Because  $x = 0$  is not in the domain, the only way this derivative can be zero is for  $\ln x = 0$ . This happens when  $x = 1$  (this is true for all logs, no matter what base). Plugging in 1 for  $x$  we get

$$y = (1)^{\ln 1} = 1^0 = 1$$

So the equation of the horizontal tangent line is

$$y = 1$$

5. Use logarithmic differentiation to find the derivative of

$$f(x) = \frac{x^8 \cos^3 x}{\sqrt{x-1}}$$

**SOLUTION:**

$$\ln f(x) = \ln \left( \frac{x^8 \cos^3 x}{\sqrt{x-1}} \right) \quad \text{take log of both sides}$$

$$\ln f(x) = \ln(x^8) + \ln(\cos^3 x) - \ln(\sqrt{x-1}) \quad \text{by log properties}$$

$$\ln f(x) = 8 \ln x + 3 \ln(\cos x) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(x-1) \quad \text{by log properties}$$

$$\frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} = \frac{8}{x} - 3 \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{x-1} \quad \text{take derivative of both sides}$$

$$= \frac{8}{x} - 3 \tan x + \frac{1}{2-2x}$$

$$f'(x) = f(x) \left( \frac{8}{x} - 3 \tan x + \frac{1}{2-2x} \right) \quad \text{solve for } f'(x)$$

$$= \left( \frac{x^8 \cos^3 x}{\sqrt{x-1}} \right) \left( \frac{8}{x} - 3 \tan x + \frac{1}{2-2x} \right) \quad \text{substitute back } f(x)$$

6. Find the derivative  $y'$  of

$$y = (x^2 + 1)^x$$

using two methods:

(1) Use the fact that

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

(2) Use logarithmic differentiation.

**SOLUTION:**

Method (1):

$$y = e^{x \ln(x^2+1)}$$

So

$$y' = e^{x \ln(x^2+1)} \left( \ln(x^2+1) + x \frac{2x}{x^2+1} \right) = (x^2+1)^x \left( \ln(x^2+1) + \frac{2x^2}{x^2+1} \right)$$

Method (2):

$$\ln y = \ln [(x^2+1)^x]$$

$$= x \ln(x^2+1)$$

$$\frac{y'}{y} = \ln(x^2+1) + \frac{x}{x^2+1} (2x)$$

$$y' = y \left( \ln(x^2+1) + \frac{2x^2}{x^2+1} \right)$$

$$= (x^2+1)^x \left( \ln(x^2+1) + \frac{2x^2}{x^2+1} \right)$$