Logarithmic Differentiation

A differentiation process that requires taking the logarithm of both sides before differentiating.

This process will be used in TWO circumstances:

I. Simplifying messy products and quotients

What would it involve to differentiate the following?

$$y = \frac{\left(x^2 - 1\right)^5 \sqrt{2x + 9} \left(5x^3 + 2\right)^8}{\left(10x - 1\right)\sqrt{5 - x^7}}$$

• Quotient rule, multiple product rules and chain rules...

This would be possible but it would be easier to differentiate a group of terms added and subtracted rather than multiplied and divided

Laws of logarithms will do exactly that...turn this mess into a addition and subtraction of terms.

$$y = \frac{\left(x^2 - 1\right)^5 \sqrt{2x + 9} \left(5x^3 + 2\right)^8}{\left(10x - 1\right)\sqrt{5 - x^7}}$$

Example:

Differentiate:
$$y = \frac{(3-2x^5)^6(x^5-1)}{(2x+7)^8(x^{-5}+2)^4}$$

$$\begin{cases} x = (3-2x^5)^6(x^5-1) \\ (2x+7)^8(x^{-5}+2)^4 \end{cases}$$

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$$\begin{cases} x = (3-2x^5)^6(x^5-1) \\ (3-2x^5)^4(x^5-1) \\ (3-2x^5)^4(x^5-1) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x = (3-2x^5)^6(x^5-1) \\ (3-2x^5)^6(x^5-1) \\ (3-2x^5)^6(x^5-1) \end{cases}$$

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II. Base and exponent both variables

Have a look at this example:

- Does not fit either the power rule or the rules for an exponential function
 - ...What can be done to help this crazy situation??

Of Course...take the logarithm of both sides!!

$$y = x^{x^{5}}$$

$$\ln y = \ln x^{x^{5}}$$

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

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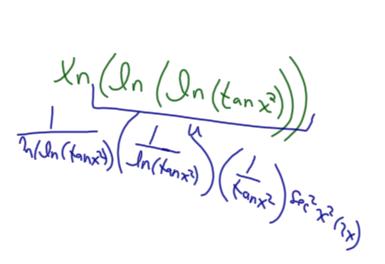
$$\ln x + \sqrt{\ln x}$$

Example:

Differentiate:

$$y = \left(\ln x^5\right)^{\cos x}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2x^2}} \left(\frac{1}{x^2} \right)$$



Practice Questions...

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