

Lecture 25, Nov 15, 2021

Properties of $\ln x$

- Further properties of $\ln x$:
 1. Defined on $(0, \infty)$, and $\frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x}$
 2. $\ln x$ is continuous since it is differentiable
 3. For all $x > 1$, $\ln x > 0$, since the integral area is always positive
 4. For $0 < x < 1$, $\ln x < 0$ as follows from the previous point
 5. $\ln(a + b) = \ln a + \ln b$
 - This can be proven using a different way
 - $\frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x}$, and $\frac{d}{dx} \ln(ax) = \frac{1}{ax} \cdot a = \frac{1}{x}$
 - Since $\ln x$ and $\ln(ax)$ have same derivative, they differ by a constant, so
 - Therefore $\ln(ax) = \ln(x) + C$, and if we let $x = 1 \implies \ln a = 0 + C = C$, therefore $\ln(ax) = \ln(x) + \ln(a)$
 6. $\ln\left(x^{\frac{p}{q}}\right) = \frac{p}{q} \ln x$
 - We can show this in the same way as the one above
 - $\frac{d}{dx} \ln\left(x^{\frac{p}{q}}\right) = \frac{1}{x^{\frac{p}{q}}} \cdot \frac{p}{q} x^{\frac{p}{q}-1} = \frac{p}{q} \frac{1}{x} = \frac{d}{dx} \frac{p}{q} \ln x$
 - Therefore $\ln\left(x^{\frac{p}{q}}\right) = \frac{p}{q} \ln x + C$, and now if we let $x = 1$, then $0 = C$
 7. The range of $\ln x$ is $(-\infty, \infty)$ (i.e. it is unbounded)
 - Proof that \ln is unbounded as $x \rightarrow \infty$: Show that for $M > 0$ imposed, there exists a x_0 such that $x > x_0 \implies \ln x > M$
 - * Begin with $\ln 2 = \int_1^2 \frac{1}{t} dt$, and since the integrand is always positive, $\ln 2 > 0$
 - * Therefore, we can always find some positive n such that $n \ln 2 > M$ no matter how big M is, so choose $x_0 = 2^n$
 - * When $x > x_0 = 2^n$, we have $\ln x > n \ln 2 > M$, therefore x is unbounded above
 - A similar argument follows for when $x \rightarrow 0$, therefore $x = 0$ is a vertical asymptote
 8. $\ln e = 1$
 - Since the $\ln x$ is unbounded and starts at 0 when $x = 1$, it must take on the value of 1 sometime, so we call this value e
 9. Convention $\ln x = \log_e(x)$
 10. $\frac{d}{dx} \ln x = \frac{1}{x} > 0$ so it is increasing, $\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \ln x = -\frac{1}{2x} < 0$ so it is concave down

Graphing Logarithms

- Chain rule with logarithms: $\frac{d}{dx} \ln u = \frac{1}{u} \frac{du}{dx}$
- When graphing a logarithm note the argument can only be positive, and when it approaches zero, the value of the logarithm approaches negative infinity
- x intercepts when the argument is 1

Using Logarithms to Integrate and Differentiate

- $\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln|x| + C$, absolute value because the domain of $\frac{1}{x}$ includes the negative numbers
- More generally, $\int \frac{g'(x)}{g(x)} dx = \ln|g(x)| + C$ for $g(x) \neq 0$ (by substitution)

- Example: $\int \tan x \, dx = \int \frac{\sin x}{\cos x} \, dx$
 $= - \int \frac{1}{u} \, du$
 $= - \ln|u|$
 $= - \ln|\cos x| + C$
 $= \ln|\sec x| + C$
- Example: $\int \cot x \, dx = \int \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} \, dx$
 $= \int \frac{1}{u} \, du$
 $= \ln|u| + C$
 $= \ln|\sin x| + C$
- Example: $\int \sec x \, dx = \int \sec x \cdot \frac{\sec x + \tan x}{\sec x + \tan x} \, dx$
 $= \int \frac{\sec^2 x + \sec x \tan x}{\sec x + \tan x} \, dx$
 $= \int \frac{1}{u} \, du$
 $= \ln|u| + C$
 $= \ln|\sec x + \tan x| + C$