

## Note on product of functions derivative $(f(x)g(x))'$

Let us consider the product  $f(x)g(x)$  of two functions  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  and try to compute the derivative  $(f(x)g(x))'$  of their product.

Using the definition of the derivative we write

$$(f(x)g(x))' = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x)g(x + \Delta x) - f(x)g(x)}{\Delta x} \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (f(x)g(x))' &= \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x)g(x + \Delta x) - f(x)g(x + \Delta x)}{\Delta x} \quad (2) \\ &\quad + \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)g(x + \Delta x) - f(x)g(x)}{\Delta x} \\ &= \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(f(x + \Delta x) - f(x))g(x + \Delta x)}{\Delta x} + \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x)(g(x + \Delta x) - g(x))}{\Delta x} \end{aligned}$$

and we conclude that

$$(f(x)g(x))' = f'(x)g(x) + f(x)g'(x) \quad (3)$$

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