

**The Product Rule for Differentiation:** Suppose  $f'(c)$  and  $g'(c)$  exist and  $h(x) = f(x)g(x)$  for all  $x$  in the domain of  $f$  and  $g$ , then show that  $h'(c)$  exists and  $h'(c) = f'(c)g(c) + f(c)g'(c)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 h'(c) &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{h(x) - h(c)}{x - c} \quad \text{by definition of derivative} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)g(x) - f(c)g(c)}{x - c} \quad \text{by evaluation of the given function } h(x) = f(x)g(x) \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)g(x) + 0 - f(c)g(c)}{x - c} \quad \text{by algebra} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x)g(x) - f(c)g(x) + f(c)g(x) - f(c)g(c)}{x - c} \quad \text{by algebra} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left( g(x) \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} + f(c) \frac{g(x) - g(c)}{x - c} \right) \quad \text{by algebra} \\
 &= \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left( g(x) \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} \right) + \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \left( f(c) \frac{g(x) - g(c)}{x - c} \right) \quad \text{by Sum Law for Limits} \\
 &= \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) \right) \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{f(x) - f(c)}{x - c} \right) + \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(c) \right) \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow c} \frac{g(x) - g(c)}{x - c} \right) \quad \text{by Product Law for Limits} \\
 &= \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) \right) f'(c) + \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow c} f(c) \right) g'(c) \quad \text{by the definition of derivative and since, by our} \\
 &\quad \text{givens, } f'(c) \text{ and } g'(c) \text{ exist, and thus equal these limits.} \\
 &= \left( \lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) \right) f'(c) + f(c)g'(c) \quad \text{since the limit of the constant } f(c) \text{ is just the} \\
 &\quad \text{constant } f(c)
 \end{aligned}$$

$= g(c)f'(c) + f(c)g'(c)$  since  $g'(c)$  exists (that is,  $g$  is differentiable at  $c$ )  $\Rightarrow$  that we then know that  $g$  is continuous at  $c$ , and by definition of continuity,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow c} g(x) = g(c)$ .

Since  $g(c), f'(c), f(c), g'(c)$  all exist (meaning they are all real numbers), then  $h'(c)$  also exists, and so  $h$  is differentiable at  $c$ , and  $h'(c)$  is computed from

$$h'(c) = g(c)f'(c) + f(c)g'(c) \quad \text{OR} \quad h'(c) = f(c)g'(c) + g(c)f'(c)$$

Since  $c$  was any arbitrary real number at which  $f$  and  $g$  are differentiable, this is equivalent to:

$h(x) = f(x)g(x) \Rightarrow h'(x) = f(x)g'(x) + g(x)f'(x)$
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(for any  $x$  s.t.  $f'(x)$  and  $g'(x)$  exist.)