

# Summary of Derivative Techniques

2010

## 1. Rewriting Techniques

- a) Negative exponents
- b) Fractional exponents
- c) Foil
- d) Distributive property
- e) Divide & conquer
- f) Factor & cancel
- g) Trig identities

## 2. Power Rule

If  $f(x) = ax^n$ , then  $f'(x) = a \cdot nx^{n-1}$ .

## 3. Product Rule

(Two Factors)

If  $y = u \cdot v$ , then  $u'v + v'u$ .

$$\frac{d}{dx}(f(x) \cdot g(x)) = f'(x)g(x) + g'(x)f(x)$$

(Three Factors)

If  $y = u \cdot v \cdot w$ , then  $y' = u'vw + uv'w + uvw'$ .

## 4. Quotient Rule

If  $y = \frac{u}{v}$ , then  $y' = \frac{u'v - v'u}{v^2}$ .

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{f(x)}{g(x)}\right) = \frac{f'(x)g(x) - g'(x)f(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$$

## 5. Trig Derivatives

a)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin x) = \cos x$

b)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\cos x) = -\sin x$

c)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\tan x) = \sec^2 x$

d)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\cot x) = -\csc^2 x$

e)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sec x) = \sec x \tan x$

f)  $\frac{d}{dx}(\csc x) = -\csc x \cot x$

## 6. Chain Rule

If  $h(x) = f(g(x))$ , then  $h'(x) = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$ .