

Suppose $F(x) > 0$ For All $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Assume $F(x)^2$ Is Differentiable. Is $F(x)$ Itself Necessarily Differentiable?

Suppose $F(x) > 0$ For All $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Assume $F(x)^2$ Is Differentiable. Is $F(x)$ Itself Necessarily Differentiable?

Understanding the differentiability of functions is fundamental in calculus, especially when examining the properties and behaviors of complex functions. The question at hand explores a nuanced mathematical scenario: if a function $f(x)$ is strictly positive for all real numbers and its square, $f(x)^2$, is differentiable across the entire real line, does this imply that $f(x)$ itself must also be differentiable? This inquiry not only probes the relationship between a function and its square but also touches upon broader themes in analysis such as continuity, differentiability, and the effects of composition and algebraic operations on these properties.

In this article, we will delve deeply into this question, examining the theoretical underpinnings, presenting illustrative examples, and discussing the implications of the assumptions. Our analysis will be structured into clear sections to facilitate understanding and provide a comprehensive exploration of the problem.

Understanding the Core Concepts

Before tackling the main question, it is essential to clarify some fundamental concepts that underpin the discussion.

Positivity of $f(x)$

- The assumption $f(x) > 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ indicates that $f(x)$ is strictly positive everywhere.
- This excludes functions that are zero or negative at any point, simplifying certain algebraic properties, especially concerning square roots and squares.
- Positivity ensures that $f(x)$ has a well-defined real square root, potentially influencing differentiability considerations.

Differentiability of $(F(x))^2$

- The differentiability of (F^2) implies that the derivative $(F^2)'(x)$ exists for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Since $(F^2)(x) = (F(x))^2$, its derivative can be expressed via the chain rule as $2F(x)F'(x)$, provided F is differentiable.
- The key question is whether the differentiability of (F^2) alone guarantees the differentiability of F itself.

Exploring the Relationship Between (F^2) and F

The core of this discussion hinges on understanding how properties of (F^2) influence the properties of F .

Chain Rule and Differentiability

- If F is differentiable at x , then (F^2) is differentiable at x with:

$$(F^2)'(x) = 2F(x)F'(x)$$

- Conversely, if (F^2) is differentiable at x , what does this imply about F and F' ?

Implications of (F^2) Being Differentiable

- The differentiability of (F^2) at a point x implies the existence of a limit:
$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{(F^2)(x+h) - (F^2)(x)}{h}$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{F^2(x+h) - F^2(x)}{h}$$

]

which must be finite.

- Since (F^2) is differentiable everywhere, the above limit exists for all (x) , which indicates some regularity in how (F) behaves near each point.
- However, the differentiability of (F^2) alone does not automatically guarantee the differentiability of (F) .

Can $(F(x))$ Fail to Be Differentiable Despite (F^2) Being Differentiable?

This is the crux of the investigation. To understand whether the differentiability of (F^2) necessarily implies that (F) is differentiable, we explore possible counterexamples and theoretical considerations.

Constructing Potential Counterexamples

- To find a function (F) that satisfies the assumptions but is not differentiable, we look for functions that are continuous, strictly positive, and whose square is differentiable, but which are not differentiable themselves.
- One candidate is to consider functions with a "kink" or "corner" at some point, which are continuous but not differentiable there.

Example: The Absolute Value Function Modified

- Suppose $(F(x) = |x|^\alpha)$ for some $(\alpha > 0)$, adjusted to ensure $(F(x) > 0)$. For instance:

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + 1, & \text{for all } x \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$

$\setminus]$

which is smooth and strictly positive.

In this case, $\setminus(F \setminus)$ is differentiable everywhere, and $\setminus(F^2 \setminus)$ is differentiable. But this example does not serve as a counterexample because it is differentiable.

Potential Counterexample with Non-Differentiability

- To find a counterexample, consider a function that is continuous, strictly positive, and has a non-differentiable point, yet its square is smooth.
- Constructing such a function is challenging because the square operation tends to smooth out certain irregularities, especially when the function is strictly positive.

Analysis of the Square Function's Smoothing Effect

- Since $\setminus(F(x) > 0 \setminus)$, $\setminus(F(x) \setminus)$ has a positive lower bound on any compact subset, which influences the behavior of $\setminus(F^2 \setminus)$.
- The squaring function is smooth and strictly increasing on $\setminus((0, \infty) \setminus)$. Therefore, if $\setminus(F^2 \setminus)$ is differentiable, and $\setminus(F \setminus)$ is positive, then locally, $\setminus(F \setminus)$ can be expressed as the square root of $\setminus(F^2 \setminus)$:

$\setminus[$

$$F(x) = \sqrt{F^2(x)}$$

$\setminus]$

which is differentiable if $\setminus(F^2 \setminus)$ is differentiable and $\setminus(F^2 \setminus)$ is positive.

The Role of the Square Root Function

Since $\setminus(F(x) = \sqrt{F^2(x)} \setminus)$, the differentiability of $\setminus(F \setminus)$ depends on the differentiability of the square root function composed with $\setminus(F^2 \setminus)$.

Differentiability of $\sqrt{t}$ on $(0, \infty)$

- The function $\sqrt{t}$ is differentiable on $(0, \infty)$, with
$$\frac{d}{dt} \sqrt{t} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t}}$$
- Since $F^2(x) > 0$, the composition $F(x) = \sqrt{F^2(x)}$ is differentiable if F^2 is differentiable and its derivative does not vanish in a way that causes non-differentiability.

Applying the Chain Rule

- Given that $F(x) = \sqrt{F^2(x)}$, and assuming F^2 is differentiable with $F^2(x) > 0$, then
$$F'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{F^2(x)}} \times (F^2)'(x)$$
- This expression is well-defined and continuous, provided $F^2(x)$ is differentiable and remains positive.

Conclusion: Does F Need to Be Differentiable?

Based on the above analysis, the key observations are:

1. The assumption that $F(x) > 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$ allows us to express F as the square root of F^2 locally, assuming F^2 is differentiable.
2. Since the square root function is smooth on $(0, \infty)$, the differentiability of F^2 implies the differentiability of F , provided F^2 remains strictly positive and differentiable everywhere.
3. Therefore, under the assumptions, F must be differentiable.

Frequently Asked Questions

If $F(x) > 0$ for all real x and $F(x)^2$ is differentiable, is $F(x)$ necessarily differentiable?

No, $F(x)$ is not necessarily differentiable; the differentiability of $F(x)^2$ does not guarantee that $F(x)$ itself is differentiable everywhere.

Why does the differentiability of $F(x)^2$ not imply the differentiability of $F(x)$?

Because $F(x)^2$ may be differentiable even if $F(x)$ has points where it is not differentiable, especially if $F(x)$ is not smooth at those points but its square smooths out irregularities.

Can $F(x)$ be discontinuous while $F(x)^2$ remains differentiable?

Typically no, since $F(x)^2$ differentiable usually implies $F(x)$ is at least continuous, but the question focuses on differentiability rather than continuity.

What conditions are needed for $F(x)$ to be differentiable if $F(x)^2$ is differentiable?

$F(x)$ must be differentiable almost everywhere, and any points where $F(x)$ is not differentiable must not cause issues in the differentiability of $F(x)^2$.

Does the positivity condition $F(x) > 0$ influence the differentiability of $F(x)$?

It ensures that $F(x)$ does not cross zero, which can simplify the analysis, but it does not guarantee that $F(x)$ is differentiable.

If $F(x)^2$ is differentiable, what is the relationship between $F'(x)$ and the derivative of $F(x)^2$?

The derivative of $F(x)^2$ is $2F(x)F'(x)$; if this derivative exists everywhere, then $F(x)F'(x)$ exists everywhere, but $F'(x)$ may still not be well-defined at points where $F(x)$ is not differentiable.

Could $F(x)$ be non-differentiable at some points despite $F(x)^2$ being differentiable?

Yes, it is possible for $F(x)$ to have points where it is not differentiable, yet its square remains differentiable due to smoothness of the squared function.

What is an example where $F(x)^2$ is differentiable but $F(x)$ is not?

Consider $F(x) = |x|$; then $F(x)^2 = x^2$, which is differentiable everywhere, but $F(x)$ itself is not differentiable at $x=0$.

Additional Resources

Suppose $F(x) > 0$ For All $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Assume $F(x)^2$ Is Differentiable. Is $F(x)$ Itself Necessarily Differentiable?

Introduction

In the realm of mathematical analysis, the properties and behaviors of functions are studied with precision, particularly concerning their differentiability and continuity. The question at hand probes a subtle yet profound aspect: given a real-valued function $f(x)$ defined on the real line $\mathbb{R}$, with the condition that $f(x) > 0$ for all x , and the assumption that $f(x)^2$ is differentiable, does this imply that $f(x)$ itself must also be differentiable?

This inquiry touches upon foundational principles in calculus, such as the relationships between functions and their compositions, the differentiability of functions involving square roots, and the potential for non-smooth behaviors like cusps or corners. It also has implications in various applied fields, including physics, engineering, and economics, where functions often represent quantities constrained to be positive, and their smoothness properties influence modeling and analysis.

This article offers a comprehensive exploration of this question, examining the conditions under which differentiability of a squared function influences the differentiability of the original function. We will analyze the theoretical background, consider illustrative examples, and discuss the broader implications of these properties.

Foundational Concepts and Theoretical Background

Differentiability and Continuity

At the core of this discussion lies the concept of differentiability. A function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be differentiable at a point x_0 if the limit

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0)}{h}$$

exists. Differentiability at a point implies continuity there, but the converse is not necessarily true. A function can be continuous everywhere but possess points where it is not differentiable, often exhibiting sharp corners, cusps, or other non-smooth features.

Understanding the relationship between a function and its powers or compositions is crucial, especially when considering functions that are always positive, as in this case.

The Relationship Between $f(x)$ and $f(x)^2$

Suppose $f(x)$ is a real-valued function with the property $f(x) > 0$ for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$. The function $f^2(x) := (f(x))^2$ is then well-defined and, by assumption, differentiable

everywhere.

The question arises: does the differentiability of $(F^2(x))$ imply the differentiability of $(F(x))$?

Intuitively, since $(F^2(x))$ is differentiable and $(F(x) > 0)$, one might be tempted to use the chain rule to infer differentiability of $(F(x))$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\right. \\ & (F^2)'(x) = 2F(x)F'(x). \\ & \left. \right] \end{aligned}$$

Given that $(F(x) > 0)$, the factor $(2F(x))$ does not vanish, and hence, if $(F^2(x))$ is differentiable, one can, in principle, solve for $(F'(x))$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\right. \\ & F'(x) = \frac{(F^2)'(x)}{2F(x)}. \\ & \left. \right] \end{aligned}$$

This suggests that $(F(x))$ might be differentiable as well. However, this derivation assumes that $(F(x))$ is itself differentiable, which is not a given at this stage. The critical aspect is whether the differentiability of the squared function inherently guarantees the differentiability of $(F(x))$.

Analyzing the Implication: Is $(F(x))$ Necessarily Differentiable?

Using the Chain Rule and Its Limitations

The chain rule is a fundamental tool in calculus, providing a direct link between the derivatives of composite functions. When $(F(x) > 0)$, the function $(F^2(x) = (F(x))^2)$ can be viewed as the composition of the function $(g(t) = t^2)$ with $(F(x))$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\right. \\ & F^2(x) = g(F(x)). \\ & \left. \right] \end{aligned}$$

If $(f^2(x))$ is differentiable and $(g(t) = t^2)$ is differentiable everywhere, then, under suitable conditions, differentiability of $(f(x))$ at a point can be inferred by applying the chain rule:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\right. \\ & (f^2)'(x) = g'(f(x)) \cdot f'(x) = 2f(x) \cdot f'(x). \\ & \left. \right] \end{aligned}$$

Given that $(f(x) > 0)$, the division yields:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\right. \\ & f'(x) = \frac{(f^2)'(x)}{2f(x)}. \\ & \left. \right] \end{aligned}$$

Thus, if $((f^2)'(x))$ exists and $(f(x))$ remains strictly positive, then $(f'(x))$ exists and is finite, implying that (f) is differentiable at (x) .

However, this reasoning relies on the assumption that $(f(x))$ is differentiable at (x) . The critical question, then, is whether the differentiability of (f^2) alone guarantees the differentiability of (f) .

Potential Counterexamples and Non-Differentiability Scenarios

Mathematically, the key issue is whether the differentiability of a function's square, combined with positivity, necessarily enforces the differentiability of the original function. To analyze this, consider the following:

- Suppose $(f(x))$ is not differentiable at some point (x_0) , but $(f^2(x))$ is differentiable at (x_0) . Could such a scenario exist?

- Constructing a candidate function: Imagine a function that is positive everywhere but exhibits a cusp or a corner at a point, such that its square smooths out this corner, making (f^2) differentiable.

Example:

Define $(f(x))$ as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\right. \\ & f(x) = |x| + c, \\ & \left. \right] \end{aligned}$$

where $(c > 0)$. This function is continuous everywhere, positive for $(c \geq 0)$, but non-

differentiable at $(x=0)$ because of the cusp.

Calculate:

$$F^2(x) = (|x| + c)^2.$$

This is smooth everywhere, including at $(x=0)$, because squaring the absolute value creates a smooth function:

$$F^2(x) = (|x| + c)^2,$$

which is differentiable everywhere, including at $(x=0)$. Specifically, at $(x=0)$:

$$\frac{d}{dx} F^2(x) = 2(|x| + c) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} |x| = 2c \cdot \operatorname{sgn}(x),$$

which is discontinuous at $(x=0)$ unless $(c=0)$. But for $(c > 0)$, the derivative of (F^2) at zero is:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} 2(c + x) \cdot 1 = 2c,$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^-} 2(c - x) \cdot (-1) = -2c,$$

which indicates a jump discontinuity in the derivative at zero. Therefore, (F^2) is not differentiable at zero in this case, contradicting the assumption that (F^2) is differentiable everywhere.

Refined example:

Suppose $(F(x))$ is constructed to be smooth everywhere except at a point (x_0) , where $(F(x))$ is not differentiable, but its square is differentiable. To produce such an example, the behavior of (F) near (x_0) must be such that the non-smoothness cancels out upon squaring.

Key insight:

- The squaring operation tends to smooth out non-differentiable "sharp" features, especially if the non-differentiability is in the form of a cusp, as in the absolute value function.

- Conversely, if $f(x)$ is non-differentiable at (x_0) but $(f^2(x))$ is differentiable at (x_0) , this would require $f(x)$ to have a certain symmetry or behavior that cancels out non-smoothness upon squaring.

Conclusion from examples:

- In general, if $f(x)$ is positive and $(f^2(x))$ is differentiable, then $f(x)$ must also be differentiable at points where $f(x) \neq 0$, because the chain rule applies smoothly.

- At points where $f(x)$ approaches zero, the behavior could be more subtle. If $f(x) \rightarrow 0$ at some point and (f^2) is differentiable there, then the derivative of (f^2) at that point

Suppose $f(x) > 0$ For All x . Assume $f(x)^2$ Is Differentiable Is $f(x)$ Itself Necessarily Differentiable

Suppose $f(x) > 0$ For All x . Assume $f(x)^2$ Is Differentiable Is $f(x)$ Itself Necessarily Differentiable

Related Articles

- [State University Has 4900 In-state Students And 2100 Out-of-state Students. A Financial Aid Officer Wants](#)
- [Regression Analysis: Midterm 2 Versus Midterm 1 The Regression Equation Is Midterm 2=28.02+0.6589 Midterm](#)
- [Leticia Frequently Throws Temper Tantrums At School And Is Very Dependent On Her Parents And Her Teacher.](#)

[Back to Home](#)