

Homework Set 4

The Chain Rule

(sect 2.5)

Write the composite function in the form: $f(g(x))$ [ie: clearly identify the inner and outer functions].
Then find the derivative $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

1. $y = e^{x^2 - 3x}$

$$u = g(x) =$$

$$y = f(u) =$$

2. $y = \sin(\tan x)$

$$u = g(x) =$$

$$y = f(u) =$$

For some composite functions, the derivative can be found without using the chain rule. This is only possible if the function can be rewritten in such a way that another rule can be used.

3. $y = (1 - 2t)^2$

a. If possible, compute $\frac{dy}{dt}$ without using the chain rule.

b. Find $\frac{dy}{dt}$ using the chain rule.

c. Are the answers for part (a) and part (b) the same function?

Compute the derivatives of the following functions. Simplify your answers where applicable (hint: look for compound fractions and trig functions).

$$4. e^{5x}$$

$$11. \ln(x^{29} - 3x^{15} + 7x^6 + 3x^2 - 1)$$

$$5. \sin x^2$$

$$12. \sqrt{\arctan x}$$

$$6. \cos^2 \theta$$

$$13. \arctan\left(\frac{t+1}{3}\right)$$

$$7. \ln x^7 + \ln 7x$$

$$14. (r^2 - (4 - r)^5)^3$$

$$8. (\ln t)^7$$

$$15. (4 - e^{x^2} + 5 \ln x)^6$$

$$9. (w^2 - 3w + 1)^{12}$$

$$16. \ln(\sec x^4)$$

$$10. \ln(\sec y + \tan y)$$

$$17. 2^{5x^2} - \log_2(\cos x)$$

18. $\arcsin(\cos \theta)$

Use the definition of the Chain rule to answer the following questions.

19. If $h(x) = \sqrt{5 + 2f(x)}$ where $f(0) = 2$ and $f'(0) = -6$, find $h'(0)$.

20. A table for the values for f, g, f', g' at the given values is given below:

t	$f(t)$	$g(t)$	$f'(t)$	$g'(t)$
1	3	2	4	6
2	1	8	5	7
3	7	2	7	9

a. Let $h(t) = f(g(t))$. Compute $h'(1)$.

b. Let $k(t) = f(f(t))$. Compute $k'(2)$.