

Differentiation

1 Chain Rule

You met this at Higher!

If $k(x) = f(g(x))$

then $k'(x) = f'(g(x)) \bullet g'(x)$

Example

Differentiate $y = \sin^2(5x - 1)$ with respect to x .

$$y = (\sin(5x - 1))^2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2(\sin(5x - 1)) \bullet \cos(5x - 1) \bullet 5$$

$$= 10\sin(5x - 1) \bullet \cos(5x - 1)$$

$$= \underline{\underline{5\sin 2(5x - 1)}}$$

* Since $\sin 2a = 2\sin a \cos a$

2 Product Rule

$y = x^3 \sin x$ is the product of two functions u and v .

$$y = x^3 \sin x$$

where $u = x^3$ and $v = \sin x$

In general, if $y = uv$, where u and v are functions of x :

$$f'(x) = u'v + v'u$$

Example 1

$$y = x^3 \sin x \quad \text{where} \quad u = x^3 \quad u' = 3x^2 \\ v = \sin x \quad v' = \cos x$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= u'v + v'u \\ &= 3x^2 \bullet \sin x + \cos x \bullet x^3 \\ &= \underline{\underline{3x^2 \sin x + x^3 \cos x}}\end{aligned}$$

Example 2

$$y = x \cos 2x \quad \text{where} \quad u = x \quad u' = 1 \\ v = \cos 2x \quad v' = -2 \sin 2x$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= u'v + v'u \\ &= \cos 2x - 2 \sin 2x \bullet x \\ &= \underline{\underline{\cos 2x - 2x \sin 2x}}\end{aligned}$$

Example 3

$$y = x^2(x-1)^{10} \quad \text{where} \quad u = x^2 \quad u' = 2x \\ v = (x-1)^{10} \quad v' = 10(x-1)^9$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= u'v + v'u \\ &= 2x \bullet (x-1)^{10} + 10(x-1)^9 \bullet x^2 \\ &= 2x(x-1)^{10} + 10x^2(x-1)^9 \\ &= \underline{\underline{2x(x-1)^9(6x-1)}}\end{aligned}$$

Example 4

$$y = \sin^3 x \cos^2 x$$

$$y = (\sin x)^3 (\cos x)^2 \quad \text{where} \quad u = (\sin x)^3 \quad u' = 3\cos x \sin^2 x \\ v = (\cos x)^2 \quad v' = -2\cos x \sin x$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= u'v + v'u \\&= 3\cos x \sin^2 x \bullet \cos^2 x - 2\cos x \sin x \bullet \sin^3 x \\&= \underline{\underline{3\cos^3 x \sin^2 x - 2\cos x \sin^4 x}}\end{aligned}$$

Example 5

$$y = x(2x + 5)^5 \quad \text{where} \quad u = x \quad u' = 1 \\ v = (2x + 5)^5 \quad v' = 10(2x + 5)^4$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= uv' + v'u \\&= (2x + 5)^5 + 10(2x + 5)^4 \bullet x \\&= (2x + 5)^5 + 10x(2x + 5)^4 \\&= \underline{\underline{(2x + 5)^4(12x + 5)}}\end{aligned}$$

Example 6

Find the equation of the tangent to the curve $y = x\sqrt{x+1}$ at the point where $x = 3$.

$$\begin{aligned}y &= x\sqrt{x+1} \quad \text{where} \quad u = x \quad u' = 1 \\&\quad v = (x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad v' = \frac{1}{2}(x+1)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\&\quad = \frac{1}{2(x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= u'v + v'u \\&= (x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{2(x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \bullet x \\&= \frac{2(x+1)}{2(x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{x}{2(x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\&= \frac{3x+2}{2\sqrt{x+1}} \\&\underline{\underline{=}}\end{aligned}$$

Gradient at $x = 3$: $m = \frac{3(3)+2}{2\sqrt{3+1}}$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \frac{11}{4}\end{aligned}$$

Point on line when $x = 3$: $y = 3\sqrt{3+1} = 6$

Equation of line: $y - b = m(x - a)$

$$y - 6 = \frac{11}{4}(x - 3)$$

So, $\underline{\underline{11x - 4y - 9 = 0}}$

3

Quotient Rule

If $y = \frac{u}{v}$, where u and v are functions of x then:

$$f'(x) = \frac{u'v - v'u}{v^2}$$

Example

$$y = \frac{2+3x}{1-2x} \quad \text{where} \quad u = 2 + 3x \quad u' = 3 \\ v = 1 - 2x \quad v' = -2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{u'v - v'u}{v^2} \\ &= \frac{3(1-2x) - (-2)(2+3x)}{(1-2x)^2} \\ &= \underline{\underline{\frac{7}{(1-2x)^2}}}\end{aligned}$$