

IB Math HL 1 The Chain Rule

$$\frac{dy}{dx}$$

* Warm up: Suppose $f(x) = x^2 + (b+1)x + 2c$, $f(2) = 4$ and $f(-1) = 2$. Find the constants b and c .

$$f(2) = 2^2 + (b+1)2 + 2c = 4$$

$$f'(x) = 2x + b + 1$$

$$4 + 2b + 2 + 2c = 4$$

$$f'(-1) = 2(-1) + b + 1 = 2$$

$$2b + 2c = -2$$

$$b + c = -1$$

$$b = 3$$

$$c = -4$$

1. Find $g(x)$ and $f(x)$ such that $f(g(x)) = \frac{10}{(3x-x^2)^3}$

$$f(x) = \frac{10}{x^3} \quad g(x) = 3x - x^2$$

2. a. Differentiate with respect to x : $y = (5x^2 + 3)^2$

Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$

$$y = 25x^4 + 30x^2 + 9$$

$$y' = \frac{dy}{dx} = 100x^3 + 60x$$

b. Is $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2(5x^2 + 3)$?

$$= 10x^2 + 6$$

NO.

c. Find a way to write $\frac{dy}{dx}$ using $2(5x^2 + 3)$.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2(5x^2 + 3)' [10x]$$

$$y = (5x^2 + 3)^2$$

3. a. If $y = (x^2 + 3x)^2$ and $u = x^2 + 3x$, write y in terms of u .

$$y = (u)^2$$

$$u(x) = x^2 + 3x$$

b. Find $\frac{dy}{du}$ and $\frac{du}{dx}$.

$$\frac{dy}{du} = 2u$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 2x + 3$$

c. Write $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of $\frac{dy}{du}$ and $\frac{du}{dx}$.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{dy}{du}\right) \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$= 2u \cdot (2x + 3)$$

$$= 2(x^2 + 3x)(2x + 3)$$

The Chain Rule

$$\text{If } y = f(u), \text{ then } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\text{If } y = f(g(x)), \text{ then } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{df}{dg} \cdot \frac{dg}{dx}$$

$$\text{If } y = (f(x))^n, \text{ then } \frac{dy}{dx} = n (f(x))^{n-1} \cdot \frac{df}{dx}$$

Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$:

4. $y = (x^2 - 2x)^4$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 4(x^2 - 2x)^3 (2x - 2)$$

6. $y = \sqrt[3]{x^4 - x} = (x^4 - x)^{\frac{1}{3}}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{3} (x^4 - x)^{-\frac{2}{3}} (4x^3 - 1)$$

Find the gradient at $x=1$. $y = (x^2 - 2x)^4$

$$\frac{4x^3 - 1}{3(x^4 - x)^{2/3}}$$
$$= \frac{4x^3 - 1}{3 \sqrt[3]{(x^4 - x)^2}}$$

5. $y = \frac{4}{\sqrt{1-2x^3}} = 4(1-2x^3)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 4 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) (1-2x^3)^{-\frac{3}{2}} (+6x^2)$$

$$= \frac{12x^2}{(1-2x^3)^{3/2}}$$

$$= \frac{12x^2}{(1-2x^3)\sqrt{1-2x^3}}$$