

More Differentiation Practice

For each of the functions below find their respective derivatives.

1. $\sin(x^3 - 5)$

Chain Rule

$$g(x) = x^3 - 5$$

$$f(u) = \sin u$$

$$g'(x) = 3x^2$$

$$f'(u) = \cos u$$

$(x^3 - 1)^{100}$

Chain Rule

$$g(x) = x^3 - 1$$

$$f(u) = u^{100}$$

$$g'(x) = 3x^2$$

$$f'(u) = 100u^{99}$$

5^{3x^2-x}

Chain Rule

$$g(x) = 3x^2 - x$$

$$f(u) = 5^u$$

$$g'(x) = 6x - 1$$

$$f'(u) = 5^u \ln 5$$

$$\begin{aligned} (\sin(x^3 - 5))' &= f'(g(x))g'(x) \\ &= f'(x^3 - 5) \cdot 3x^2 \\ &= \cos(x^3 - 5) \cdot 3x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [(x^3 - 1)^{100}]' &= f'(g(x))g'(x) \\ &= f'(x^3 - 1) \cdot 3x^2 \\ &= 100(x^3 - 1)^{99} \cdot 3x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} [5^{3x^2-x}]' &= f'(g(x))g'(x) \\ &= f'(3x^2 - x) \cdot [6x - 1] \\ &= 5^{3x^2-x} \cdot \ln 5 \cdot [6x - 1] \end{aligned}$$

2. Recall that we can use the product, quotient, and chain rule together! The trick is to use the notation to guide you. Find the derivative of $\sin^5(x)\sqrt{x^3 - 5}$.

$$[\sin^5(x)\sqrt{x^3 - 5}]' = \sin^5(x)[\sqrt{x^3 - 5}]' - [\sin^5(x)]'\sqrt{x^3 - 5} \quad (\text{by product rule})$$

$$= (\sin^5 x) \frac{1}{2}(x^3 - 5)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot 3x^2 - 5\sin^4 x \cos x \sqrt{x^3 - 5}'$$

$$\begin{aligned} * [\sqrt{x^3 - 5}]' &= [(x^3 - 5)^{\frac{1}{2}}]' = f'(g(x))g'(x) = f'(x^3 - 5) \cdot 3x^2 & [\sin^5 x]' = [(\sin x)^5]' = 5\sin^4 x \cdot \cos x \\ g(x) &= x^3 - 5 & g'(x) &= 3x^2 & g(x) &= \sin x & g'(x) &= \cos x \\ f(u) &= u^{\frac{1}{2}} & f'(u) &= \frac{1}{2}u^{-\frac{1}{2}} & f(u) &= u^5 & f'(u) &= 5u^4 \end{aligned}$$

3. The chain rule can also be used in conjunction with itself. That is, we can use the chain rule to work on a derivative, but when trying to find the "inside function", we may need to use the chain rule again. Find the derivative of $\sin^2(x^3)$.

$$\begin{aligned} [\sin^2(x^3)]' &= [(\sin(x^3))^2]' = f'(g(x))g'(x) = f'(\sin(x^3)) \cdot \cos(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 \\ g(x) &= \sin(x^3) & g'(x) &= \cos(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 & = 2 \sin(x^3) \cdot \cos(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 \\ f(u) &= u^2 & f'(u) &= 2u \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} * a'(x) &= [\sin(x^3)]' = f'(g(x)) \circ g'(x) = f'(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 \\ g(x) &= x^3 & g'(x) &= 3x^2 & = \cos(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 \\ f(u) &= \sin u & f'(u) &= \cos u \end{aligned}$$