

More differentiation rules : Derivative of a composition of functions

$h(x) = f(g(x))$ h is the composition of f & g

$$h = f \circ g$$

Notice : Composition is different from multiplication

$$h(x) = f(x) \cdot g(x) \quad h = f \cdot g$$

$$h' = f'g + fg'$$

Simple example

The Ferrari is going at 200 km/h
The McLaren is going twice as fast as the Ferrari

$$x_F(t) = 200t \quad v_F = \frac{dx_F}{dt} = 200$$

$$v_M(2u) = v_M(2v_F)$$

Rule for differentiation of composite functions

$h(x) = f(g(x))$ then if f', g' exist

$$h'(x) = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

Procedure to evaluate

- 1) Determine outer/inner function f outer

f inner

2) Denote $u = g(x)$

3) $h'(x) = f'(u) g'(x)$

Exercises

$$h(x) = (5x+4)^3$$

$$(a+b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$
$$(a+b)^3 = a^3 + 3a^2b + 3ab^2 + b^3$$

Procedure 1: $h(x) = 125x^3 + 3 \cdot 25x^2 \cdot 4 + 3 \cdot 5x \cdot 16 + 64$
 $= 125x^3 + 300x^2 + 240x + 64$

$$h'(x) = 375x^2 + 600x + 240 \quad (\text{Lots of work!})$$

Procedure 2: Identify inner/outer

$$h(x) = (5x+4)^3 = f(g(x))$$

Inner $g(x) = 5x+4 = u$ $h(x) = f(u)$

$$f(u) = u^3$$

$$h'(x) = f'(u) g'(x) = 3u^2 \cdot 5 = 15(5x+4)^2$$
$$= 15(25x^2 + 40x + 16) =$$
$$= 375x^2 + 600x + 240$$

(Much less work)

Exer. 2

$$h(x) = \sqrt{5x^2+1}$$

$$h(x) = f(g(x))$$

$$g(x) = 5x^2+1 = u \quad g'(x) = 10x$$

$$f(u) = \sqrt{u} \quad f'(u) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{u}}$$

$$f(u) = u^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad f'(u) = \frac{1}{2} u^{\frac{1}{2}-1} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{u}}$$

$$h'(x) = f'(u) g'(x) = \frac{10x}{2\sqrt{5x^2+1}} = \frac{5x}{\sqrt{5x^2+1}}$$

Exer 3

$$h(x) = \sin^3 x$$

$$h(x) = f(g(x)) \quad g(x) = \sin x = u; \quad g'(x) = \cos x$$

$$f(u) = u^3 \quad f'(u) = 3u^2 = 3 \sin^2 x$$

$$h'(x) = f'(u) g'(x) = 3 \sin^2 x \cos x$$

Exer 4: $h(x) = \sin x^3$

$$h(x) = f(g(x))$$

$$g(x) = x^3 = u \quad g'(x) = 3x^2$$

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

$$h'(x) = (\cos x^3) 3x^2 = 3x^2 \cos x^3$$

Proof of rule

$$h(x) = f(g(x)) \quad u = g(x)$$

$$h'(a) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \left(\frac{h(x) - h(a)}{x - a} \cdot 1 \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{h(x) - h(a)}{x - a} \cdot \left(\frac{g(x) - g(a)}{g(x) - g(a)} \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & x \rightarrow a \quad \frac{x-a}{g(x)-g(a)} \quad f'(g(x)-g(a)) \\ = & \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{h(x)-h(a)}{g(x)-g(a)} \quad \frac{g(x)-g(a)}{x-a} \\ = & f'(u) g'(x) \quad \star \end{aligned}$$
