

The Chain Rule

w-up: AP Multiple Choice #4(non-calculator) and #89(calculator)

The Chain Rule is used to differentiate **Composite Functions!**

The Chain Rule

$$\frac{dy}{dx} [f(g(x))] = f'(g(x)) \bullet g'(x)$$

To find derivatives of composite functions:

- 1) Identify the composite functions as **inner function** (usually inside parentheses or grouping symbols) and an **outer function**.
- 2) Differentiate the *outer function* letting the *inner function* “tag along” as one quantity or expression.
- 3) Differentiate the *inner function* and multiply by the expression from #2.

EX) Differentiate $\frac{dy}{dx}(2x-1)^4$

1) Inner function is $2x-1$ and outer function is x^4

2) $4(2x-1)^3$

3) $4(2x-1)^3 \bullet 2 =$

$$8(2x-1)^3$$

Reminder: $\sin^2 x$ means $(\sin x)^2$

EX) Find the derivative of each function

A) $f(x) = \sin(2x)$ B) $f(x) = \sin^2 x$ C) $f(x) = \sin^2 2x$

D) $f(x) = \sqrt[3]{x^2 + 2}$ E) $f(x) = \sqrt{\csc x}$ F) $f(x) = x^2 \cdot \sqrt[3]{1 - x^2}$

EX) Use calculus and algebra to find the **coordinates** of all points which have horizontal tangent lines to $f(x)$.

$$f(x) = x^2(4x - 12)^2$$

Note: Rational Expressions can be differentiated using the quotient rule OR the product rule (denominator written in numerator using negative exponents).

EX) Differentiate $f(x) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 4x}}$