

9.3) The chain rule

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = (4x^3 - x)^7$$

$$f(x) = (7x^2 - 3x)^4$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

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

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 5(3x^4 + x)^4(12x^3 + 1)$$

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = (\ln x)^3$$

$$f(x) = (\ln x)^4$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = (\ln x)^5$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{5(\ln x)^4}{x}$$

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = e^{x^2+x}$$

$$f(x) = e^{x^3-2x+1}$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = e^{x^4-3x^2-1}$$

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

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = (3^x + 1)^2$$

$$f(x) = (2^x - 3x)^4$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = (4^x - 2x)^3$$

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

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \ln(\sin x)$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \ln(\cos x)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \tan x$$

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \ln(x^2 - 3x + 4)$$

$$f(x) = \ln(x^3 - 2x - 5)$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \ln(x^4 - 5x^2 - 3)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{4x^3 - 10x}{x^4 - 5x^2 - 3}$$

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \sin 5x$$

$$f(x) = \cos(-4x)$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \cos 3x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -3 \sin 3x$$

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \sin^4 x$$

$$f(x) = \cos^3 x$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \sin^2 x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2 \sin x \cos x = \sin 2x$$

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \sin^4 3x$$

$$f(x) = \cos^3 2x$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

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

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 6 \sin 3x \cos 3x = 3 \sin 6x$$

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \sqrt{2x - 1}$$

$$f(x) = \sqrt[3]{4x^2 + 5}$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = \sqrt[4]{2x^3 + 1}$$

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

Worked example

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = e^{e^{-x}}$$

Your turn

Differentiate with respect to x :

$$y = e^{e^x}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = e^x(e^{e^x})$$

Worked example

Given that $y = \sqrt{2x^5 - 2}$, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at (3,22)

Your turn

Given that $y = \sqrt{5x^2 + 1}$, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at (4,9)

$$\frac{20}{9}$$

Worked example

A curve C has equation

$$y = \frac{3}{(2 - 5x)^4}, x \neq \frac{2}{5}$$

Find an equation for the normal to C at the point with x -coordinate 1 in the form $ax + by + c = 0$, where a , b and c are integers

Your turn

A curve C has equation

$$y = \frac{4}{(3 - 2x)^5}, x \neq \frac{3}{2}$$

Find an equation for the normal to C at the point with x -coordinate 2 in the form $ax + by + c = 0$, where a , b and c are integers

$$x + 40y + 158 = 0$$