

18.01, September 11, 2003 Lecture Notes

Practice Problems

1F-1, 1F-6, 1F-7, 1F-8

1. Applied quotient rule to get  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^{-n}) = -nx^{-n-1}$
2. Applied product rule + induction (which was reviewed) to get  $\frac{d}{dx}(v^n) = nv^{n-1} \frac{dv}{dx}$ .  
Applied this to get  $\frac{d}{dx}(x^{\frac{\rho}{2}}) = \frac{\rho}{2} x^{\frac{\rho}{2}-1}$  implicitly ()
3. Generalized this to  $\frac{d}{dx}(v^\alpha) = \alpha v^{\alpha-1} \frac{dv}{dx}$  if  $\alpha$  is any fraction. Segue to chain rule.
4. Proved chain rule. Used this to give another proof that  $\frac{d}{dx}(v^\alpha) = \alpha v^{\alpha-1} \frac{dv}{dx}$ . Also  
used to compute the derivative of  $\sqrt{1 + \sqrt{1 + x^5}}$ .
5. Discussed implicit differentiation in two stages:

Stage 1: What if instead of  $y=g(f(x))$ , we have  $y=g(x,f(x))$ ? Just formally differentiate as before using product rule, quotient rule and chain rule.

Stage 2: IF  $F(x,y)=0$ , differentiate both sides as above to get an equation which can be solved for  $y'$  (in terms of both  $x$  and  $y$ ). Discussed advantages + disadvantages.

Illustrated with  $x^2+y^2=r^2$ : get  $y' = -\frac{x}{y}$  which is slope of a perpendicular to the radius!!