# ITCS 111 Chapter 2: Chain Rule and Implicit Differentiation

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**2.6.1 THEOREM** (*The Chain Rule*) If g is differentiable at x and f is differentiable at g(x), then the composition  $f \circ g$  is differentiable at x. Moreover, if

$$y = f(g(x))$$
 and  $u = g(x)$ 

then y = f(u) and

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} \tag{1}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(g(x))] = (f \circ g)'(x) = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

The derivative of f(g(x)) is the derivative of the outside function evaluated at the inside function times the derivative of the inside function.

**Example:** Find dy/dx by the chain rule given that

$$y = \frac{u-1}{u+1} \quad \text{and} \quad u = x^2.$$

$$\frac{dy}{du} = \frac{(u+1)(1) - (u-1)(1)}{(u+1)^2} = \frac{2}{(u+1)^2}$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 2x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du}\frac{dy}{dx} = \left[\frac{2}{(u+1)^2}\right]2x = \frac{4x}{(x^2+1)^2}$$

**Example:** Find 
$$\frac{dy}{dx}$$
 of  $y = (x^2-1)^{100}$   
Should we expand  $(x^2-1)^{100}$ ?

By Chain Rule:

$$\frac{d}{dx}(u^n) = nu^{n-1}\frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d(x^2 - 1)^{100}}{dx} = \frac{du^{100}}{dx} = 100u^{100 - 1} \frac{du}{dx} = 100(x^2 - 1)^{99} (2x) = 200x(x^2 - 1)^{99}$$

**Exercises:** Find the derivatives,  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

1) Let 
$$y = \sin u$$
 and  $u = 2x + \pi$ 

2) Let 
$$y = u^{10}$$
 and  $u = 3x^4 + x$ 

**Exercises:** Differentiate y with respect to x.

$$y = (x^4 + x^3 - 1)^{-3}$$

$$y = \tan(4x - 1)$$

$$y = \cos^5 x$$

$$y = \frac{1}{\sin(x^2 + 1)}$$

Exercises#10: The Chain Rule

**Implicit differentiation** is a method for differentiating functions for which it is **inconvenient** or **impossible** to express them in the form y = f(x).

**Example 2** (p 163): Use implicit differentiation to find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  if  $5y^2 + \sin y = x^2$ 

**Example 3** (p 163): Use implicit differentiation to find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  if  $4x^2 - 2y^2 = 9$ 

**Exercises:** Use implicit differentiation to find the derivatives,  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

1) 
$$x^2 + y^4 = 1$$

$$2) x + x^2y + 3x^3y^4 = 0$$

$$3) \sin x + \cos(x + y) = 0$$

4) 
$$xy = 1$$

Exercise#11: Implicit Differentiation

### **Basic differentiation formulas**

DIFFERENTIATION FORMULA	DIFFERENTIATION FORMULA
$1. \ \frac{d}{dx}[x] = 1$	8. $\frac{d}{dx}[-\csc x] = \csc x \cot x$
	$9. \ \frac{d}{dx}[e^x] = e^x$
$3. \ \frac{d}{dx}[\sin x] = \cos x$	10. $\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \frac{b^x}{\ln b} \right] = b^x  (0 < b, b \neq 1)$
$4. \frac{d}{dx}[-\cos x] = \sin x$	11. $\frac{d}{dx}[\ln x ] = \frac{1}{x}$
$5. \frac{d}{dx}[\tan x] = \sec^2 x$	12. $\frac{d}{dx}[\tan^{-1}x] = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$
$6. \frac{d}{dx}[-\cot x] = \csc^2 x$	13. $\frac{d}{dx}[\sin^{-1}x] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$ 14. $\frac{d}{dx}[\sec^{-1} x ] = \frac{1}{x\sqrt{x^2-1}}$
7. $\frac{d}{dx}[\sec x] = \sec x \tan x$	14. $\frac{d}{dx}[\sec^{-1} x ] = \frac{1}{x\sqrt{x^2 - 1}}$