

Math 1300-005 - Spring 2017

Chain Rule Activity, Part I - 2/22/17



Guidelines: Please work in groups of two or three. This will not be handed in, but is a study resource for the next midterm.

Recall *the chain rule*, which states

$$\frac{d}{dx}q(r(x)) = q'(r(x)) \frac{d}{dx}r(x)$$

1. Use the chain rule to differentiate the following.

(a) $f(x) = \sqrt{1 + \cos(x)}$ outside: $(\quad)^{1/2}$
inside: $1 + \cos(x)$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos(x))^{-1/2} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(1 + \cos(x))$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos(x))^{-1/2} \cdot (-\sin(x))}$$

(b) $g(x) = e^{(x^2 - \cot(x))}$ outside: $e^{(\quad)}$
inside: $x^2 - \cot(x)$

$$g'(x) = e^{(x^2 - \cot(x))} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(x^2 - \cot(x))$$

$$= \boxed{e^{(x^2 - \cot(x))} \cdot (2x + \csc^2(x))}$$

(c) $h(x) = \sec(2x^3 - 9x^2 + 4)$ outside: $\sec(\quad)$
inside: $2x^3 - 9x^2 + 4$

This is all deriv of outside composed w/ inside

$$h'(x) = \sec(2x^3 - 9x^2 + 4) \tan(2x^3 - 9x^2 + 4) \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(2x^3 - 9x^2 + 4)$$

$$= \boxed{\sec(2x^3 - 9x^2 + 4) \tan(2x^3 - 9x^2 + 4) \cdot (6x^2 - 18x)}$$

(d) $\ell(x) = \sin(2^x - \tan(x))$ outside: $\sin(\quad)$
inside: $2^x - \tan(x)$

$$\ell'(x) = \cos(2^x - \tan(x)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(2^x - \tan(x))$$

$$= \boxed{\cos(2^x - \tan(x)) \cdot (2^x \ln(2) - \sec^2(x))}$$

2. It often happens that you have to do the chain rule within the product and quotient rules. Keep this in mind to differentiate the following:

(a) $F(x) = (2x - 5)^4(8x^2 - 3x)^{-3}$ → Product rule first

$$F'(x) = \left[\frac{d}{dx}(2x - 5)^4 \right] \cdot (8x^2 - 3x)^{-3} + (2x - 5)^4 \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(8x^2 - 3x)^{-3}$$

chain ↑
outside: $(\quad)^4$
inside: $2x - 5$

chain ↑
outside: $(\quad)^{-3}$
inside: $8x^2 - 3x$

$$= [4(2x - 5)^3 \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(2x - 5)](8x^2 - 3x)^{-3} + (2x - 5)^4 \cdot [-3(8x^2 - 3x)^{-4} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(8x^2 - 3x)]$$

$$= \boxed{[4(2x - 5)^3 \cdot 2](8x^2 - 3x)^{-3} + (2x - 5)^4 \cdot [-3(8x^2 - 3x)^{-4} (16x - 3)]}$$

(b) $G(x) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$ → quotient rule first

$$G'(x) = \frac{\left(\frac{d}{dx}x \right) \sqrt{x^2 + 1} - x \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{x^2 + 1}}{(\sqrt{x^2 + 1})^2}$$

chain: outside: $(\quad)^{1/2}$
inside: $x^2 + 1$

$$= \frac{(1)\sqrt{x^2 + 1} - x \left[\frac{1}{2}(x^2 + 1)^{-1/2} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(x^2 + 1) \right]}{(\sqrt{x^2 + 1})^2}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 1} - x \left[\frac{1}{2}(x^2 + 1)^{-1/2} \cdot 2x \right]}{x^2 + 1}}$$

3. As well, it often happens that you must do the product or quotient rule within the chain rule. Differentiate the following.

(a) $H(x) = \left(\frac{1+x^2}{2-x^4} \right)^{-1/3}$

outside: $(\quad)^{-1/3}$

inside: $\frac{1+x^2}{2-x^4}$ } quotient rule

$$\begin{aligned} H'(x) &= -\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1+x^2}{2-x^4} \right)^{-4/3} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1+x^2}{2-x^4} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1+x^2}{2-x^4} \right)^{-4/3} \cdot \frac{\left[\frac{d}{dx}(1+x^2) \right] \cdot (2-x^4) - (1+x^2) \frac{d}{dx}(2-x^4)}{(2-x^4)^2} \\ &= \boxed{-\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{1+x^2}{2-x^4} \right)^{-4/3} \cdot \frac{2x(2-x^4) - (1+x^2)(-4x^3)}{(2-x^4)^2}} \end{aligned}$$

(b) $L(x) = e^{(x^2 \csc(x))}$

outside: $e^{(\quad)}$

inside: $x^2 \csc(x)$ } product

$$\begin{aligned} L'(x) &= e^{(x^2 \csc(x))} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (x^2 \csc(x)) \\ &= \boxed{e^{(x^2 \csc(x))} \cdot (2x \csc(x) + x^2 (-\csc(x) \cot(x)))} \end{aligned}$$

4. Finally, it is possible that multiple iterations of the chain rule will be necessary. Differentiate the following.

(a) $m(x) = \sin(\cos(\tan(x)))$

outside: $\sin(\quad)$

inside: $\cos(\tan(x))$

$$m'(x) = \cos(\cos(\tan(x))) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \cos(\tan(x))$$

chain again

outside: $\cos(\quad)$

inside: $\tan(x)$

$$= \cos(\cos(\tan(x))) \cdot (-\sin(\tan(x)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \tan(x))$$

$$= \boxed{-\cos(\cos(\tan(x))) \cdot \sin(\tan(x)) \cdot \sec^2(x)}$$

(b) $b(x) = \sqrt{x + e^{\cos(x)}}$

outside: $(\quad)^{1/2}$

inside: $x + e^{\cos(x)}$

$$b'(x) = \frac{1}{2} (x + e^{\cos(x)})^{-1/2} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} (x + e^{\cos(x)})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (x + e^{\cos(x)})^{-1/2} \cdot \left[1 + \frac{d}{dx} e^{\cos(x)} \right]$$

chain again

outside: $e^{(\quad)}$

inside: $\cos(x)$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (x + e^{\cos(x)})^{-1/2} \cdot \left[1 + e^{\cos(x)} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \cos(x) \right]$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{1}{2} (x + e^{\cos(x)})^{-1/2} \cdot \left[1 - e^{\cos(x)} \cdot \sin(x) \right]}$$

since $\frac{d}{dx} \cos x$

$= -\sin(x)$