

Derivative: Rational Function to Power ' $n$ ' in the form  $\left(\frac{ax^n+b}{cx^n+d}\right)^m$

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{ax^n+b}{cx^n+d}\right)^m = mn(ad-bc)x^{n-1} \frac{(ax^n+b)^{m-1}}{(cx^n+d)^{m+1}}$$

**Proof**

$$u = ax^n + b \quad v = cx^n + d$$

$$u' = nax^{n-1} \quad v' = ncx^{n-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{ax^n+b}{cx^n+d}\right)^m &= m \frac{nax^{n-1}(cx^n+d) - ncx^{n-1}(ax^n+b)}{(cx^n+d)^2} \left(\frac{ax^n+b}{cx^n+d}\right)^{m-1} & \left(\frac{u}{v}\right)' = \frac{u'v - v'u}{v^2} \\ &= \frac{m(nacx^{2n-1} + nadx^{n-1} - nacx^{2n-1} - nbcx^{n-1})(ax^n+b)^{m-1}}{(cx^n+d)^2 (cx^n+d)^{m-1}} \\ &= \frac{m(nadx^{n-1} - nbcx^{n-1})(ax^n+b)^{m-1}}{(cx^n+d)^{m+1}} \\ &= \frac{mn(ad-bc)x^{n-1}(ax^n+b)^{m-1}}{(cx^n+d)^{m+1}} \end{aligned}$$

### ***Example***

Find  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{x+2}{3x-2} \right)^4$

#### **Solution**

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{x+2}{3x-2} \right)^4 &= (1)(4)(-2-6) \frac{(x+2)^3}{(3x-2)^5} \\ &= -\frac{32(x+2)^3}{(3x-2)^5} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{x+2}{3x-2} \right)^4 &= 4 \left( \frac{x+2}{3x-2} \right)^3 \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{x+2}{3x-2} \right) \\ &= 4 \frac{(x+2)^3}{(3x-2)^3} \frac{3x-2-3(x+2)}{(3x-2)^2} \\ &= 4 \frac{(x+2)^3}{(3x-2)^3} \frac{3x-2-3x-6}{(3x-2)^2} \\ &= 4(-8) \frac{(x+2)^3}{(3x-2)^5} \\ &= -\frac{32(x+2)^3}{(3x-2)^5} \end{aligned}$$

### ***Example***

Find  $\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{5x^2-3}{2x^2-4} \right)^5$

#### **Solution**

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{5x^2-3}{2x^2-4} \right)^5 = \frac{-140x(5x^2-3)^4}{(2x^2-4)^6}$$