

MATH 2D Prep: Differentiation Techniques

Facts to Know:

1. Chain Rule: Two notations:

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

$$(b) \text{ If } y = f(u) \quad , u = g(x) \quad , \text{ then } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

$$2. \text{ Product Rule: } \frac{d}{dx}[f(x)g(x)] = f'(x) \cdot g(x) + f(x) \cdot g'(x)$$

Examples:

notation : $\sin x^2 = \sin(x^2)$

$\sin^2 x = [\sin x]^2$

1. Use the chain rule to find the derivative of $F(x) = \sin(x^2)$

- Method 1: use notation same as in (a):

$$f(u) = \sin(u) \quad g(x) = x^2 \quad , \quad f'(u) = \cos(u) \quad g'(x) = 2x \quad ,$$

$$F'(x) = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) = f'(x^2) \cdot 2x = \cos(x^2) \cdot 2x$$

- Method 2: use notation same as in (b):

$$y = \sin(u) \quad u = x^2 \quad , \quad \frac{dy}{du} = \cos(u) \quad \frac{du}{dx} = 2x \quad ,$$

$$F'(x) = \frac{dy}{dx} = \cos(u) \cdot 2x = \cos(x^2) \cdot 2x$$

2. Find the derivative of $G(x) = x^3 \sin(x^2)$

$$f(x) = x^3 \quad g(x) = \sin(x^2) \quad , \quad f'(x) = 3x^2 \quad g'(x) = 2x \cos(x^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} G'(x) &= f'g + fg' = 3x^2 \sin(x^2) + x^3 \cdot 2x \cos(x^2) \\ &= 3x^2 \sin(x^2) + 2x^4 \cos(x^2) \end{aligned}$$