

Chain rule examples

math III
10/4/17

① Evaluate $\frac{d}{dx} [(2x+1)^7]$

$$= 7(2x+1)^6 \cdot 2 \quad \left(\frac{d}{du} u^7 = 7u^6 \quad \frac{d}{dx} (2x+1) = 2 \right)$$
$$= \boxed{14(2x+1)^6}$$

② Evaluate $\frac{d}{dx} \sec\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$

$$= \sec\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \tan\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right)$$
$$= \boxed{-\sec\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) \tan\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) / x^2}$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{du} \sec u = \sec u \cdot \tan u \right)$$
$$\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = -\frac{1}{x^2}$$

③ Evaluate $\frac{d}{dx} \tan\left(\frac{1}{x^2+1}\right)$

$$= \sec^2\left(\frac{1}{x^2+1}\right) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{x^2+1}\right)$$
$$= \boxed{-\sec^2\left(\frac{1}{x^2+1}\right) \cdot \frac{2x}{(x^2+1)^2}}$$

$$\left(\frac{d}{du} \tan(u) = \sec^2 u \right)$$

④ Evaluate $\frac{d}{dx} [(\sin\sqrt{x})^5]$

$$= 5(\sin\sqrt{x})^4 \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \sqrt{x}$$
$$= \boxed{\frac{5(\sin\sqrt{x})^4}{2\sqrt{x}}}$$

⑤ Evaluate $(f \circ g)'(2)$, given the following data about f, g , and their derivatives.

x	0	1	2	3
$f(x)$	10	7	2	-5
$f'(x)$	-2	-4	-6	-8
$g(x)$	1	0	0	2
$g'(x)$	-2	-1	1	3

$$(f \circ g)'(2)$$

$$= f'(g(2)) \cdot g'(2)$$

$$= f'(0) \cdot g'(2)$$

$$= (-2) \cdot (1) = \boxed{-2}$$