

# 3.4 Chain Rule

NOTES

## CALCULUS

Write your  
questions here!

Find the derivative.

$$f(x) = (3x^4 - 2x + 5)^3$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= 3(3x^4 - 2x + 5)^2 (3x^4 - 2x + 5)' \\ &= 3(3x^4 - 2x + 5)^2 (12x^3 - 2) \end{aligned}$$

**CHAIN RULE**

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

Find the derivative of the following.

$$f(x) = \sqrt{4x - 3}$$

$$f(x) = (4x - 3)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f'(x) &= \frac{1}{2} (4x - 3)^{-\frac{1}{2}} (4x - 3)' \\ &= \frac{1}{2} (4x - 3)^{-\frac{1}{2}} (4) \end{aligned}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{4x - 3}}$$

$$y = 2x^3 \sqrt{2x^4 - 9}$$

$$y = 2x^3 (2x^4 - 9)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Product Rule!

$$y' = (2x^3)' (2x^4 - 9)^{\frac{1}{2}} + (2x^3) [(2x^4 - 9)^{\frac{1}{2}}]'$$

$$y' = 6x^2 (2x^4 - 9)^{\frac{1}{2}} + 2x^3 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) (2x^4 - 9)^{-\frac{1}{2}} (2x^4 - 9)'$$

$$y' = 6x^2 (2x^4 - 9)^{\frac{1}{2}} + 2x^3 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) (2x^4 - 9)^{-\frac{1}{2}} (8x^3)$$

FACTOR GCF

$$y' = 2x^2 (2x^4 - 9)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left[ 3(2x^4 - 9) + x \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \right]$$

$$y' = 2x^2 (2x^4 - 9)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \left[ 6x^4 - 27 + \frac{1}{2}x \right]$$

$$y' = \frac{2x^2 (6x^4 - \frac{1}{2}x - 27)}{(\sqrt{2x^4 - 9})^2}$$

Evaluate

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3x - 5}} = (3x - 5)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Find  $f'(7)$

$$f'(x) = -\frac{1}{2} (3x - 5)^{-\frac{3}{2}} (3x - 5)'$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} (3x - 5)^{-\frac{3}{2}} (3)$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{-3}{2(\sqrt{3x - 5})^3}$$

$$f'(7) = \frac{-3}{2(\sqrt{3(7) - 5})^3}$$

$$= \frac{-3}{2(\sqrt{21 - 5})^3}$$

$$= \frac{-3}{2(\sqrt{16})^3}$$

$$= \frac{-3}{2(4)^3}$$

$$= \frac{-3}{2 \cdot 64}$$

$$f'(7) = \frac{-3}{128}$$

Find the derivative.

$$f(x) = \frac{\sqrt{3x+1}}{2x+1} = \frac{(3x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}}{2x+1}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{[(3x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}]'(2x+1) - (3x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}(2x+1)'}{(2x+1)^2}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{1}{2}(3x+1)^{-\frac{1}{2}}(3)(2x+1) - (3x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}(2)}{(2x+1)^2}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(3x+1)^{-\frac{1}{2}}(3)(2x+1) - (3x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}}(2)}{(2x+1)^2}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{(3x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[ \frac{1}{2}(3)(2x+1) - (3x+1)(2) \right]}{(2x+1)^2}$$

$$= \frac{(3x+1)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left[ 3x + \frac{3}{2} - 6x + \frac{2}{2} \right]}{(2x+1)^2}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{-3x + \frac{3}{2}}{\sqrt{3x+1} (2x+1)^2}$$

Find the derivative.

$$f(x) = \left( \frac{t^2 + 1}{(3t - 1)^2} \right)^3$$

$$f'(t) = 3 \left( \frac{t^2 + 1}{(3t - 1)^2} \right)^2 \cdot \left( \frac{t^2 + 1}{(3t - 1)^2} \right)'$$

$$= 3 \frac{(t^2 + 1)^2}{(3t - 1)^4} \cdot \frac{(t^2 + 1)'(3t - 1)^2 - (t^2 + 1)[(3t - 1)']^2}{[(3t - 1)^2]^2}$$

$$= 3 \frac{(t^2 + 1)^2}{(3t - 1)^4} \cdot \frac{2t \cdot (3t - 1)^2 - (t^2 + 1)2(3t - 1)(3)}{(3t - 1)^4}$$

$$= 3 \frac{(t^2 + 1)^2}{(3t - 1)^4} \cdot \frac{2t(3t - 1)^2 - (t^2 + 1)2(3t - 1)(3)}{(3t - 1)^4}$$

$$= 3 \frac{(t^2 + 1)^2}{(3t - 1)^4} \cdot \frac{2(3t - 1)[t(3t - 1) - (t^2 + 1)(3)]}{(3t - 1)^4}$$

$$= 3 \frac{(t^2 + 1)^2}{(3t - 1)^4} \cdot \frac{2(3t - 1)[3t^2 - t - 3t^2 - 3]}{(3t - 1)^4}$$

$$= 3 \frac{(t^2 + 1)^2}{(3t - 1)^4} \cdot \frac{2(3t - 1)(-t - 3)}{(3t - 1)^4}$$

$$= \frac{-6(t^2 + 1)^2(3t - 1)(t + 3)}{(3t - 1)^8}$$

$$f'(t) = \frac{-6(t^2 + 1)^2(t + 3)}{(3t - 1)^7}$$

Find  $f'(4)$  given the following:

$g(4) = 3$  and  $g'(4) = -2$

$h(4) = 9$  and  $h'(4) = 5$

$$f(x) = (g(x))^2$$

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

$$f'(4) = 2(g(4)) \cdot g'(4)$$

$$= 2(3) \cdot (-2)$$

$$f'(4) = -12$$

$$f(x) = \sqrt{h(x)}$$

$$f(x) = [h(x)]^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2} [h(x)]^{-\frac{1}{2}} h'(x)$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{h'(x)}{2\sqrt{h(x)}}$$

$$f'(4) = \frac{h'(4)}{2\sqrt{h(4)}}$$

$$= \frac{5}{2\sqrt{9}}$$

$$= \frac{5}{2 \cdot 3}$$

$$f'(4) = \frac{5}{6}$$

$$f(x) = h(g(x))$$

$$f'(x) = h'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$$

$$f'(4) = h'(g(4)) \cdot g'(4)$$

$$= h'(3) \cdot (-2)$$

$$f'(4) = -2h'(3)$$

**SUMMARY:**

