

Name: _____

Date: _____

Learning Goal 3.1

Using all basic derivative rules.

More Questions

1. Determine the 'inner' and 'outer' functions, then find the derivative.

a. $y = (5x^3 + 12x^2 - 15)^{-1}$

Outside

$$f(x) = x^{-1}$$

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

Inside

$$g(x) = 5x^3 + 12x^2 - 15$$

$$g'(x) = 15x^2 + 24x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{(5x^3 + 12x^2 - 15)^2} \times (15x^2 + 24x)$$

$$= -\frac{3x(5x + 8)}{(5x^3 + 12x^2 - 15)^2}$$

b. $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{625 - x^2}}$

Outside

$$g(x) = x^{-1/2}$$

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

$$= -\frac{\sqrt{x}}{2x^2}$$

Inside

$$h(x) = 625 - x^2$$

$$h'(x) = -2x$$

$$f'(x) = -\frac{\sqrt{625 - x^2}}{2(625 - x^2)^2} \times -2x$$

$$= \frac{x\sqrt{625 - x^2}}{(625 - x^2)^2}$$

c. $g(x) = \frac{x^2 - 1}{x\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$

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

$$\frac{(x^2 - 1)' = 2x}{(x\sqrt{x^2 + 1})' = \sqrt{x^2 + 1} + x\left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x^2 + 1}} \times 2x\right)}$$

$$= \sqrt{x^2 + 1} + x^2\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}\right)$$

$$= \frac{2x^2 + 1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$$

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

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

$$g'(x) = \frac{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}{x^2(x^2 + 1)}$$

d. $y = \left(\frac{2x + 1}{3x + 2}\right)^3$

Outside

$$f(x) = x^3$$

$$f'(x) = 3x^2$$

Inside

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

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

$$= \frac{6x + 4 - 6x - 3}{(3x + 2)^2}$$

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

$$y' = 3\left(\frac{2x + 1}{3x + 2}\right)^2 \times \frac{1}{(3x + 2)^2}$$

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

$$e. \quad y = \sqrt{1 + \sqrt{1 + \sqrt{x}}}$$

Outside

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

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

Inside

$$g(x) = 1 + \sqrt{x}$$

$$g'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} \\ = \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}$$

$$y = (f \circ g \circ g)(x)$$

$$y' = f'((g \circ g)(x)) \times g'(g(x)) \times g'(x)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \sqrt{1 + \sqrt{x}}\right)^{-1/2} \times \frac{1}{2} (1 + \sqrt{x})^{-1/2} \times \frac{1}{2} x^{-1/2} \\ = \frac{1}{8 \sqrt{x \times (1 + \sqrt{x}) \times (1 + \sqrt{1 + \sqrt{x}})}}$$

$$f. \quad h(x) = \sqrt{(x^2 + 1)^2 + \sqrt{1 + (x^2 + 1)^2}}$$

Outside

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

Inside

$$g(x) = (x^2 + 1)^2 + \sqrt{1 + (x^2 + 1)^2}$$

Then there are two more inside and outside functions in $g(x)$:

Outside

$$a(x) = x^2$$

Inside

$$b(x) = x^2 + 1$$

Outside

$$m(x) = \sqrt{x}$$

Inside

$$n(x) = 1 + (x^2 + 1)^2$$

Be methodical ... to get

$$h'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{g(x)}} \times \left(4x(x^2 + 1) + \frac{4x(x^2 + 1)}{2\sqrt{n(x)}} \right)$$

$$g. \quad y = \left(\frac{x-2}{2x+1} \right)^9$$

Outside

$$f(x) = x^9 \\ f'(x) = 9x^8$$

Inside

$$g(x) = \frac{x-2}{2x+1} \\ g'(x) = \frac{(2x+1)(1) - (x-2)(2)}{(2x+1)^2} \\ = \frac{2x+1-2x+4}{(2x+1)^2} \\ = \frac{5}{(2x+1)^2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 9 \left(\frac{x-2}{2x+1} \right)^8 \times \frac{5}{(2x+1)^2} \\ = \frac{45(x-2)^8}{(2x+1)^{10}}$$

$$h. \quad h(x) = (2x+1)(x^3 - x + 1)^4$$

Perhaps try this one without identifying the inside and outside functions – it's a good one to start with!

$$h(x) = (2x+1)'(x^3 - x + 1)^4 \\ + (2x+1)((x^3 - x + 1)^4)' \\ = 2(x^3 - x + 1)^4 \\ + (2x+1)(4(x^3 - x + 1)^3 \times (3x^2 - 1)) \\ = 2(x^3 - x + 1)^3(13x^3 + 6x^2 - 5x - 1)$$

2. Find an equation for a tangent line at $(2, -7)$ to

$$\frac{x^2 + x + 1}{1 - x}$$

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

At $x = 2$, the slope of the tangent is

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

So the equation of the tangent at that point is

$$y + 7 = 2(x - 2)$$

3. Let $g(1) = 2$, $f(2) = 3$, $g'(1) = 4$ and $f'(2) = 5$. Find the derivative of $(f \circ g)(1)$.

$$\begin{aligned} (f \circ g)'(1) &= f'(g(1)) \times g'(1) \\ &= f'(2) \times g'(1) \\ &= 5 \times 4 \\ &= 20 \end{aligned}$$