

Math 181, Fall 2018 Handout: "There is no chain rule."

Here is a selection of problems from section 3.4. You can use the 100 line CAS I wrote:

<https://repl.it/@jholland/Derivative-rules>

32 $F(t) = \frac{t^2}{\sqrt{t^3+1}}$. Find $F'(t)$.

$$\begin{aligned} dF &= \frac{d(t^2)\sqrt{t^3+1} - t^2 d(\sqrt{t^3+1})}{(\sqrt{t^3+1})^2} && \text{quotient rule} \\ &= \frac{2t dt \sqrt{t^3+1} - t^2 \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t^3+1}} d(t^3+1)}{(\sqrt{t^3+1})^2} && \text{power rule } (\times 2) \\ &= \frac{2t dt \sqrt{t^3+1} - t^2 \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t^3+1}} 3t^2 dt}{(\sqrt{t^3+1})^2} && \text{sum rule+power rule} \\ &= \frac{2t \sqrt{t^3+1} - t^2 \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t^3+1}} 3t^2}{(\sqrt{t^3+1})^2} dt && \text{pulling out a common factor} \end{aligned}$$

so

$$F'(t) = \frac{dF}{dt} = \frac{2t \sqrt{t^3+1} - t^2 \frac{1}{2\sqrt{t^3+1}} 3t^2}{(\sqrt{t^3+1})^2}.$$

36 Find the derivative of $y = x^2 e^{-1/x}$.

$$\begin{aligned} dy &= d\left(x^2 e^{-1/x}\right) \\ &= d(x^2) e^{-1/x} + x^2 d(e^{-1/x}) && \text{product rule} \\ &= 2x dx e^{-1/x} + x^2 e^{-1/x} d(-1/x) && \text{power rule} + e^u \text{ rule} \\ &= 2x dx e^{-1/x} + x^2 e^{-1/x} (1/x^2) dx && \text{power rule} \\ &= \left(2x e^{-1/x} + x^2 e^{-1/x} (1/x^2)\right) dx && \text{pulling out a common factor} \end{aligned}$$

so $dy/dx = 2x e^{-1/x} + e^{-1/x}$

42 Find the derivative of $y = \sqrt{x + \sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}}$.

$$\begin{aligned} dy &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}}} d\left(x + \sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}\right) && \text{power rule} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}}} \left(dx + d\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}\right) && \text{sum rule} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}}} \left(dx + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}} d(x + \sqrt{x})\right) && \text{power rule} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}}} \left(dx + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}} \left(dx + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} dx\right)\right) && \text{sum rule + power rule} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}\right)\right) dx && \text{collecting } dx \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x + \sqrt{x}}} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}\right)\right).$$