

# CHAPTER 4 DERIVATIVES BY THE CHAIN RULE

## 4.1 The Chain Rule (page 158)

The function  $\sin(3x + 2)$  is “composed” out of two functions. The *inner* function is  $u(x) = 3x + 2$ . The *outer* function is  $\sin u$ . I don’t write  $\sin x$  because that would throw me off. The derivative of  $\sin(3x + 2)$  is not  $\cos x$  or even  $\cos(3x + 2)$ . The chain rule produces the extra factor  $\frac{du}{dx}$ , which in this case is the number 3. *The derivative of  $\sin(3x + 2)$  is  $\cos(3x + 2)$  times 3.*

Notice again: Because the sine was evaluated at  $u$  (not at  $x$ ), its derivative is also evaluated at  $u$ . We have  $\cos(3x + 2)$  not  $\cos x$ . The extra factor 3 comes because  $u$  changes as  $x$  changes:

$$\text{(algebra)} \quad \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta u} \frac{\Delta u}{\Delta x} \quad \text{approaches} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \frac{du}{dx} \quad \text{(calculus)}.$$

These letters can and will change. Many many functions are chains of simpler functions.

1. Rewrite each function below as a composite function  $y = f(u(x))$ . Then find  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f'(u) \frac{du}{dx}$  or  $\frac{dy}{du} \frac{du}{dx}$ .

(a)  $y = \tan(\sin x)$     (b)  $y = \cos(3x^4)$     (c)  $y = \frac{1}{(2x-5)^3}$

- $y = \tan(\sin x)$  is the chain  $y = \tan u$  with  $u = \sin x$ . The chain rule gives  $\frac{dy}{du} \frac{du}{dx} = (\sec^2 u)(\cos x)$ . Substituting back for  $u$  gives  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sec^2(\sin x) \cos x$ .
- $\cos(3x^4)$  separates into  $\cos u$  with  $u = 3x^4$ . Then  $\frac{dy}{du} \frac{du}{dx} = (-\sin u)(12x^3) = -12x^3 \sin(3x^4)$ .
- $y = \frac{1}{(2x-5)^3}$  is  $y = \frac{1}{u^3}$  with  $u = 2x-5$ . The chain rule gives  $\frac{dy}{dx} = (-2u^{-3})(2) = -4(2x-5)^{-3}$ . Another perfectly good “decomposition” is  $y = \frac{1}{u}$ , with  $u = (2x-5)^2$ . Then  $\frac{dy}{du} = -\frac{1}{u^2}$  and  $\frac{du}{dx} = 2(2x-5)(2)$  (really another chain rule). The answer is the same:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-1}{[(2x-5)^2]^2} \cdot 4(2x-5) = \frac{-4}{(2x-5)^3}$ .

2. Write  $y = \sin \sqrt{3x^2 - 5}$  and  $y = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{x}}$  as triple chains  $y = f(g(u(x)))$ . Then find  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f'(g(u)) \cdot g'(u) \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$ . You could write the chain as  $y = f(w)$ ,  $w = g(u)$ ,  $u = u(x)$ . Then you see the slope as a product of *three* factors,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{dy}{dw}\right)\left(\frac{dw}{du}\right)\left(\frac{du}{dx}\right)$ .

- For  $y(x) = \sin \sqrt{3x^2 - 5}$  the triple chain is  $y = \sin w$ , where  $w = \sqrt{u}$  and  $u = 3x^2 - 5$ . The chain rule is  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{dy}{dw}\right)\left(\frac{dw}{du}\right)\left(\frac{du}{dx}\right) = (\cos w)\left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{u}}\right)(6x)$ . Substitute to get back to  $x$ :

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \cos \sqrt{3x^2 - 5} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{(3x^2 - 5)}} \cdot 6x = \frac{6x \cos \sqrt{3x^2 - 5}}{2\sqrt{3x^2 - 5}}$$

- For  $y(x) = \frac{1}{1-\frac{1}{x}}$  let  $u = \frac{1}{x}$ . Let  $w = 1 - u$ . Then  $y = \frac{1}{w}$ . The derivative is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \left(\frac{dy}{dw}\right)\left(\frac{dw}{du}\right)\left(\frac{du}{dx}\right) = \left(-\frac{1}{w^2}\right)(-1)\left(\frac{-1}{x^2}\right) = \frac{-1}{(1-u)^2 x^2} = \frac{-1}{\left(1-\frac{1}{x}\right)^2 x^2} = \frac{-1}{(x-1)^2}$$

With practice, you should get to the point where it is not necessary to write down  $u$  and  $w$  in full detail. Try this with exercises 1 – 22, doing as many as you need to get good at it. Problems 45 – 54 are excellent practice, too.

Questions 3 – 6 are based on the following table, which gives the values of functions  $f$  and  $f'$  and  $g$  and  $g'$  at a few points. You do not know what these functions are!

$x$	$f(x)$	$f'(x)$	$g(x)$	$g'(x)$
0	1	-1	0	undefined
$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$-\frac{9}{4}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$
$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{2}{3}$	$-\frac{4}{9}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$
1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$-\frac{1}{4}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$

$x$	$f(x)$	$f'(x)$	$g(x)$	$g'(x)$
2	$\frac{1}{3}$	$-\frac{1}{9}$	$\sqrt{2}$	$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4}$
3	$\frac{1}{4}$	$-\frac{1}{16}$	$\sqrt{3}$	$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{6}$
4	$\frac{1}{5}$	$-\frac{1}{25}$	2	$\frac{1}{4}$
9	$\frac{1}{10}$	$-\frac{1}{100}$	3	$\frac{1}{6}$

3. Find:  $f(g(4))$  and  $f(g(1))$  and  $f(g(0))$ .

•  $g(4) = 2$  and  $f(2) = \frac{1}{3}$  so  $f(g(4)) = \frac{1}{3}$ . Also  $g(1) = 1$  so  $f(g(1)) = f(1) = \frac{1}{2}$ . Then  $f(g(0)) = f(0) = 0$ .

4. Find:  $g(f(1))$  and  $g(f(2))$  and  $g(f(0))$ .

• Since  $f(1) = \frac{1}{2}$ , the chain  $g(f(1))$  is  $g(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$ . Also  $g(f(2)) = g(\frac{1}{3}) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$ . Then  $g(f(0)) = g(1) = 1$ .

Note that  $g(f(1))$  does not equal  $f(g(1))$ . Also  $g(f(0)) \neq f(g(0))$ . This is normal. Chains in a different order are different chains.

5. If  $y = f(g(x))$  find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at  $x = 9$ .

• The chain rule says that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$ . At  $x = 9$  we have  $g(9) = 3$  and  $g'(9) = \frac{1}{6}$ . At  $g = 3$  we have  $f'(3) = -\frac{1}{16}$ . Therefore at  $x = 9$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f'(g(9)) \cdot g'(9) = -\frac{1}{16} \cdot \frac{1}{6} = -\frac{1}{96}$ .

6. If  $y = g(f(x))$  find  $\frac{dy}{dx}(1)$ . Note that  $f(1) = \frac{1}{2}$ .

•  $g'(f(1)) \cdot f'(1) = g'(\frac{1}{2}) \cdot f'(1) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}(-\frac{1}{4}) = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{8}$ .

7. If  $y = f(f(x))$  find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  at  $x = 2$ . This chain repeats the same function ( $f = g$ ). It is "iteration."

• If you let  $u = f(x)$ , then  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$  becomes  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f'(u) \cdot f'(x)$ . At  $x = 2$  the table gives  $u = \frac{1}{3}$ . Then  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f'(\frac{1}{3}) \cdot f'(2) = (-\frac{9}{4})(-\frac{1}{9}) = \frac{1}{4}$ . Note that  $(f'(2))^2 = (-\frac{1}{9})^2$ . The derivative of  $f(f(x))$  is not  $(f'(x))^2$ . And it is not the derivative of  $(f(x))^2$ .

### Read-throughs and selected even-numbered solutions :

$z = f(g(x))$  comes from  $z = f(y)$  and  $y = g(x)$ . At  $x = 2$  the chain  $(x^2 - 1)^3$  equals  $3^3 = 27$ . Its inside function is  $y = x^2 - 1$ , its outside function is  $z = y^3$ . Then  $dz/dx$  equals  $3y^2 dy/dx$ . The first factor is evaluated at  $y = x^2 - 1$  (not at  $y = x$ ). For  $z = \sin(x^4 - 1)$  the derivative is  $4x^3 \cos(x^4 - 1)$ . The triple chain  $z = \cos(x + 1)^2$  has a shift and a square and a cosine. Then  $dz/dx = 2 \cos(x + 1)(-\sin(x + 1))$ .

The proof of the chain rule begins with  $\Delta z / \Delta x = (\Delta z / \Delta y) (\Delta y / \Delta x)$  and ends with  $dz/dx = (dz/dy) (dy/dx)$ . Changing letters,  $y = \cos u(x)$  has  $dy/dx = -\sin u(x) \frac{du}{dx}$ . The power rule for  $y = [u(x)]^n$  is the chain rule  $dy/dx = nu^{n-1} \frac{du}{dx}$ . The slope of  $5g(x)$  is  $5g'(x)$  and the slope of  $g(5x)$  is  $5g'(5x)$ . When  $f = \cos$  and  $g = \sin$  and  $x = 0$ , the numbers  $f(g(x))$  and  $g(f(x))$  and  $f(x)g(x)$  are 1 and sin 1 and 0.

$$18 \frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{\cos(x+1)}{2\sqrt{\sin(x+1)}} \quad 20 \frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{\cos(\sqrt{x+1})}{2\sqrt{x}} \quad 22 \frac{dz}{dx} = 4x(\sin x^2)(\cos x^2)$$

$$28 f(y) = y + 1; h(y) = \sqrt[3]{y}; k(y) \equiv 1$$

38 For  $g(g(x)) = x$  the graph of  $g$  should be symmetric across the  $45^\circ$  line: If the point  $(x, y)$

is on the graph so is  $(y, x)$ . Examples:  $g(x) = -\frac{1}{x}$  or  $-x$  or  $\sqrt[3]{1-x^3}$ .

40 False (The chain rule produces  $-1$ : so derivatives of even functions are odd functions)

False (The derivative of  $f(x) = x$  is  $f'(x) = 1$ ) False (The derivative of  $f(1/x)$  is  $f'(1/x)$  times  $-1/x^2$ )

**True** (The factor from the chain rule is 1) **False** (see equation (8)).

**42** From  $x = \frac{\pi}{4}$  go up to  $y = \sin \frac{\pi}{4}$ . Then go **across** to the parabola  $z = y^2$ . Read off  $z = (\sin \frac{\pi}{4})^2$  on the horizontal  $z$  axis.

## 4.2 Implicit Differentiation and Related Rates (page 163)

Questions 1 – 5 are examples using *implicit differentiation (ID)*.

1. Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  from the equation  $x^2 + xy = 2$ . Take the  $x$  derivative of all terms.

- The derivative of  $x^2$  is  $2x$ . The derivative of  $xy$  (a product) is  $x \frac{dy}{dx} + y$ . The derivative of 2 is 0. Thus  $2x + x \frac{dy}{dx} + y = 0$ , and  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{y+2x}{x}$ .

In this example the original equation can be solved for  $y = \frac{1}{x}(2 - x^2)$ . Ordinary *explicit* differentiation yields  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-2}{x^2} - 1$ . This must agree with our answer from **ID**.

2. Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  from  $(x + y)^3 = x^4 + y^4$ . This time we cannot solve for  $y$ .

- The chain rule tells us that the  $x$ -derivative of  $(x + y)^3$  is  $3(x + y)^2(1 + \frac{dy}{dx})$ . Therefore **ID** gives  $3(x + y)^2(1 + \frac{dy}{dx}) = 4x^3 + 4y^3 \frac{dy}{dx}$ . Now algebra separates out  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3(x+y)^2 - 4y^3}{4x^3 - 3(x+y)^2}$ .

3. Use **ID** to find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for  $y = x\sqrt{1-x}$ .

- Implicit differentiation (**ID** for short) is not necessary, but you might appreciate how it makes the problem easier. Square both sides to eliminate the square root:  $y^2 = x^2(1-x) = x^2 - x^3$ , so that

$$2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 2x - 3x^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2x - 3x^2}{2y} = \frac{2x - 3x^2}{2x\sqrt{1-x}} = \frac{2-3x}{2\sqrt{1-x}}.$$

4. Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  when  $xy + y^2 = 1$ . Apply **ID** twice to this equation.

- First derivative:  $x \frac{dy}{dx} + y + 2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ . Rewrite this as  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-y}{x+2y}$ . Now take the derivative again. The second form needs the quotient rule, so I prefer to use **ID** on the first derivative equation:

$$x \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -2 \frac{\frac{dy}{dx} + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2}{x + 2y}.$$

Now substitute  $\frac{-y}{x+2y}$  for  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  and simplify the answer to  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{2}{(x+2y)^3}$ .

5. Find the equation of the tangent line to the ellipse  $x^2 + xy + y^2 = 1$  through the point (1,0).

- The line has equation  $y = m(x - 1)$  where  $m$  is the slope at (1,0). To find that slope, apply **ID** to the equation of the ellipse:  $2x + x \frac{dy}{dx} + y + 2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ . Do not bother to solve this for  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ . Just plug in  $x = 1$  and  $y = 0$  to obtain  $2 + \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ . Then  $m = \frac{dy}{dx} = -2$  and the tangent equation is  $y = -2(x - 1)$ .

Questions 6–8 are problems about *related rates*. The slope of one function is known, we want the slope of a *related* function. Of course slope = rate = derivative. You must find the relation between functions.

6. Two cars leave point  $A$  at the same time  $t = 0$ . One travels north at 65 miles/hour, the other travels east at 55 miles/hour. How fast is the distance  $D$  between the cars changing at  $t = 2$ ?

- The distance satisfies  $D^2 = x^2 + y^2$ . This is the relation between our functions! Find the rate of change (take the derivative):  $2D \frac{dD}{dt} = 2x \frac{dx}{dt} + 2y \frac{dy}{dt}$ . We need to know  $\frac{dD}{dt}$  at  $t = 2$ . We already know  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 55$  and  $\frac{dy}{dt} = 65$ . At  $t = 2$  the cars have traveled for two hours:  $x = 2(55) = 110$ ,  $y = 2(65) = 130$  and  $D = \sqrt{110^2 + 130^2} \approx 170.3$ .

Substituting these values gives  $2(170.3) \frac{dD}{dt} = 2(110)(55) + 2(130)(65)$ , so  $\frac{dD}{dt} \approx 85$  miles/hour.

7. Sand pours out from a conical funnel at the rate of 5 cubic inches per second. The funnel is 6" wide at the top and 6" high. At what rate is the sand height falling when the remaining sand is 1" high?

- Ask yourself what rate(s) you know and what rate you want to know. In this case you know  $\frac{dV}{dt} = -5$  ( $V$  is the volume of the sand). You want to know  $\frac{dh}{dt}$  when  $h = 1$  ( $h$  is the height of the sand). Can you get an equation relating  $V$  and  $h$ ? This is usually the crux of the problem.

The volume of a cone is  $V = \frac{1}{3}\pi r^2 h$ . If we could eliminate  $r$ , then  $V$  would be related to  $h$ . Look at the figure. By similar triangles  $\frac{r}{h} = \frac{3}{6}$ , so  $r = \frac{1}{2}h$ . This means that  $V = \frac{1}{3}\pi(\frac{h}{2})^2 h = \frac{1}{12}\pi h^3$ .

Now take the  $t$  derivative:  $\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{1}{12}\pi(3h^2) \frac{dh}{dt}$ . After the derivative has been taken, substitute what is known at  $h = 1$ :  $-5 = \frac{1}{12}\pi(3) \frac{dh}{dt}$ , so  $\frac{dh}{dt} = \frac{-20}{\pi}$  in/sec  $\approx -6.4$  in/sec.

8. (This is Problem 4.2.21) The bottom of a 10-foot ladder moves away from the wall at 2 ft/sec. How fast is the top going down the wall when the top is (a) 6 feet high? (b) 5 feet high? (c) zero feet high?

- We are given  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 2$ . We want to know  $dy/dt$ . The equation relating  $x$  and  $y$  is  $x^2 + y^2 = 100$ . This gives  $2x \frac{dx}{dt} + 2y \frac{dy}{dt} = 0$ . Substitute  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 2$  to find  $\frac{dy}{dt} = -\frac{2x}{y}$ .

(a) If  $y = 6$ , then  $x = 8$  (use  $x^2 + y^2 = 100$ ) and  $\frac{dy}{dt} = -\frac{8}{3}$  ft/sec.

(b) If  $y = 5$ , then  $x = 5\sqrt{3}$  (use  $x^2 + y^2 = 100$ ) and  $\frac{dy}{dt} = -2\sqrt{3}$  ft/sec.

(c) If  $y = 0$ , then we are dividing by zero:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{2x}{0}$ . Is the speed infinite? How is this possible?

#### Read-throughs and selected even-numbered solutions :

For  $x^3 + y^3 = 2$  the derivative  $dy/dx$  comes from implicit differentiation. We don't have to solve for  $y$ . Term by term the derivative is  $3x^2 + 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ . Solving for  $dy/dx$  gives  $-x^2/y^2$ . At  $x = y = 1$  this slope is  $-1$ . The equation of the tangent line is  $y - 1 = -1(x - 1)$ .

A second example is  $y^2 = x$ . The  $x$  derivative of this equation is  $2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$ . Therefore  $dy/dx = 1/2y$ . Replacing  $y$  by  $\sqrt{x}$  this is  $dy/dx = 1/2\sqrt{x}$ .

In related rates, we are given  $dg/dt$  and we want  $df/dt$ . We need a relation between  $f$  and  $g$ . If  $f = g^2$ , then  $(df/dt) = 2g(dg/dt)$ . If  $f^2 + g^2 = 1$ , then  $df/dt = -\frac{g}{f} \frac{dg}{dt}$ . If the sides of a cube grow by  $ds/dt = 2$ , then its volume grows by  $dV/dt = 3s^2(2) = 6s^2$ . To find a number (8 is wrong), you also need to know  $s$ .

$$6 \quad f'(x) + F'(y) \frac{dy}{dx} = y + x \frac{dy}{dx} \text{ so } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y - f'(x)}{F'(y) - x}$$

$$12 \quad 2(x-2) + 2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \text{ gives } \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 \text{ at } (1,1); 2x + 2(y-2) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \text{ also gives } \frac{dy}{dx} = 1.$$

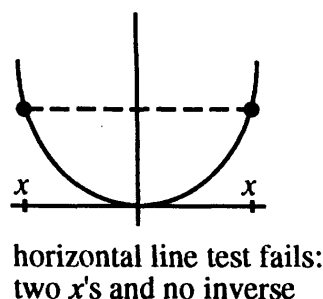
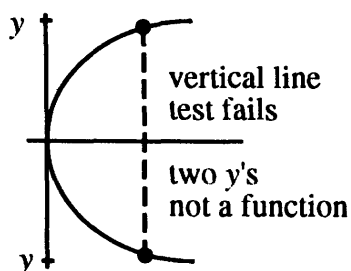
20  $x$  is a constant (fixed at 7) and therefore a change  $\Delta x$  is not allowed

24 Distance to you is  $\sqrt{x^2 + 8^2}$ , rate of change is  $\frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + 8^2}} \frac{dx}{dt}$  with  $\frac{dx}{dt} = 560$ . (a) Distance = 16 and  $x = 8\sqrt{3}$  and rate is  $\frac{8\sqrt{3}}{16}(560) = 280\sqrt{3}$ ; (b)  $x = 8$  and rate is  $\frac{8}{\sqrt{8^2 + 8^2}}(560) = 280\sqrt{2}$ ; (c)  $x = 0$  and rate = 0.

28 Volume =  $\frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$  has  $\frac{dV}{dt} = 4\pi r^2 \frac{dr}{dt}$ . If this equals twice the surface area  $4\pi r^2$  (with minus for evaporation) than  $\frac{dr}{dt} = -2$ .

### 4.3 Inverse Functions and Their Derivatives (page 170)

The vertical line test and the horizontal line test are good for visualizing the meaning of “function” and “invertible.” If a vertical line hits the graph twice, we have two  $y$ 's for the same  $x$ . *Not a function.* If a horizontal line hits the graph twice, we have two  $x$ 's for the same  $y$ . *Not invertible.* This means that the inverse is not a function.



These tests tell you that the sideways parabola  $x = y^2$  does not give  $y$  as a function of  $x$ . (Vertical lines intersect the graph twice. There are two square roots  $y = \sqrt{x}$  and  $y = -\sqrt{x}$ .) Similarly the function  $y = x^2$  has no inverse. This is an ordinary parabola – horizontal lines cross it twice. If  $y = 4$  then  $x = f^{-1}(4)$  has two answers  $x = 2$  and  $x = -2$ . In questions 1 – 2 find the inverse function  $x = f^{-1}(y)$ .

1.  $y = x^2 + 2$ . This function fails the horizontal line test. It has no inverse. Its graph is a parabola opening upward, which is crossed twice by some horizontal lines (and not crossed at all by other lines).

Here's another way to see why there is no inverse:  $x^2 = y - 2$  leads to  $x = \pm\sqrt{y-2}$ . Then  $x_+ = \sqrt{y-2}$  represents the right half of the parabola, and  $x_- = -\sqrt{y-2}$  is the left half. We can get an inverse by reducing the domain of  $y = x^2 + 2$  to  $x \geq 0$ . With this restriction,  $x = f^{-1}(y) = \sqrt{y-2}$ . The positive square root is the inverse. The domain of  $f(x)$  matches the range of  $f^{-1}(y)$ .

2.  $y = f(x) = \frac{x}{x-1}$ . (This is Problem 4.3.4) Find  $x$  as a function of  $y$ .

- Write  $y = \frac{x}{x-1}$  as  $y(x-1) = x$  or  $yx - y = x$ . *We always have to solve for  $x$ .* We have  $yx - x = y$  or  $x(y-1) = y$  or  $x = \frac{y}{y-1}$ . Therefore  $f^{-1}(y) = \frac{y}{y-1}$ .

Note that  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  are the same! If you graph  $y = f(x)$  and the line  $y = x$  you will see that  $f(x)$  is symmetric about the  $45^\circ$  line. In this unusual case,  $x = f(y)$  when  $y = f(x)$ .

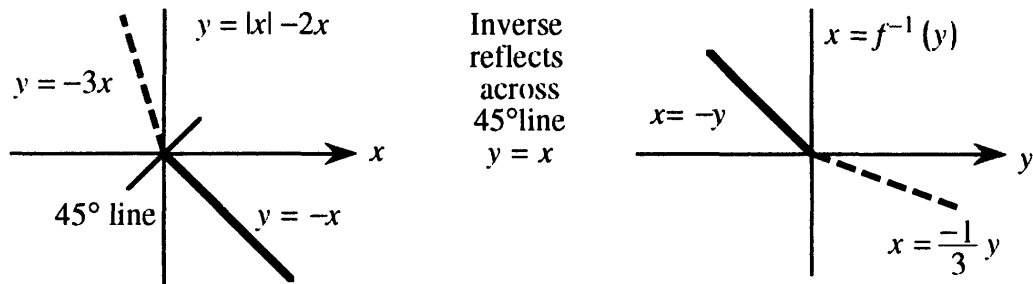
You might wonder at the statement that  $f(x) = \frac{x}{x-1}$  is the same as  $g(y) = \frac{y}{y-1}$ . The definition of a function does not depend on the particular choice of letters. The functions  $h(r) = \frac{r}{r-1}$  and  $F(t) = \frac{t}{t-1}$  and  $G(z) = \frac{z}{z-1}$  are also the same. To graph them, you would put  $r$ ,  $t$ , or  $z$  on the horizontal axis—they are the input (domain) variables. Then  $h(r)$ ,  $F(t)$ ,  $G(z)$  would be on the vertical axis as output variables.

The function  $y = f(x) = 3x$  and its inverse  $x = f^{-1}(y) = \frac{1}{3}y$  (**absolutely not**  $\frac{1}{3y}$ ) are graphed on page 167. For  $f(x) = 3x$ , the domain variable  $x$  is on the horizontal axis. For  $f^{-1}(y) = \frac{1}{3}y$ , the domain variable for  $f^{-1}$  is  $y$ .

This can be confusing since we are so accustomed to seeing  $x$  along the horizontal axis. The advantage of  $f^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{3}x$  is that it allows you to keep  $x$  on the horizontal and to stick with  $x$  for domain (input). The advantage of  $f^{-1}(y) = \frac{1}{3}y$  is that it emphasizes:  $f$  takes  $x$  to  $y$  and  $f^{-1}$  takes  $y$  back to  $x$ .

3. (This is 4.3.34) Graph  $y = |x| - 2x$  and its inverse on separate graphs.

- $y = |x| - 2x$  should be analyzed in two parts: positive  $x$  and negative  $x$ . When  $x \geq 0$  we have  $|x| = x$ . The function is  $y = x - 2x = -x$ . When  $x$  is negative we have  $|x| = -x$ . Then  $y = -x - 2x = -3x$ . Then  $y = -x$  on the right of the  $y$  axis and  $y = -3x$  on the left. Inverses  $x = -y$  and  $x = -\frac{1}{3}y$ . The second graph shows the inverse function.



4. Find  $\frac{dx}{dy}$  when  $y = x^2 + x$ . Compare implicit differentiation with  $\frac{1}{\frac{dy}{dx}}$ .

- The  $x$  derivative of  $y = x^2 + x$  is  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x + 1$ . Therefore  $\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{2x+1}$ .
- The  $y$  derivative of  $y = x^2 + x$  is  $1 = 2x \frac{dx}{dy} + \frac{dx}{dy} = (2x + 1) \frac{dx}{dy}$ . This also gives  $\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{2x+1}$ .
- It might be desirable to know  $\frac{dx}{dy}$  as a function of  $y$ , not  $x$ . In that case solve the quadratic equation  $x^2 + x - y = 0$  to get  $x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1+4y}}{2}$ . Substitute this into  $\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{2x+1} = \frac{\pm 1}{\sqrt{1+4y}}$ .
- Now we know  $x = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1+4y}}{2}$  (this is the inverse function). So we can directly compute  $\frac{dx}{dy} = \pm \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} (1+4y)^{-1/2} \cdot 4 = \frac{\pm 1}{\sqrt{1+4y}}$ . Same answer four ways!

5. Find  $\frac{dx}{dy}$  at  $x = \pi$  for  $y = \cos x + x^2$ .

$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\sin x + 2x$ . Substitute  $x = \pi$  to find  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\sin \pi + 2\pi = 2\pi$ . Therefore  $\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{2\pi}$ .

**Read-throughs and selected even-numbered solutions :**

The functions  $g(x) = x - 4$  and  $f(y) = y + 4$  are inverse functions, because  $f(g(x)) = x$ . Also  $g(f(y)) = y$ . The notation is  $f = g^{-1}$  and  $g = f^{-1}$ . The composition of  $f$  and  $f^{-1}$  is the identity function. By definition

$x = g^{-1}(y)$  if and only if  $y = \mathbf{g}(x)$ . When  $y$  is in the range of  $g$ , it is in the **domain** of  $g^{-1}$ . Similarly  $x$  is in the **domain** of  $g$  when it is in the **range** of  $g^{-1}$ . If  $g$  has an inverse then  $g(x_1) \neq g(x_2)$  at any two points. The function  $g$  must be steadily **increasing** or steadily **decreasing**.

The chain rule applied to  $f(g(x)) = x$  gives  $(df/dy)(dg/dx) = 1$ . The slope of  $g^{-1}$  times the slope of  $g$  equals 1. More directly  $dx/dy = 1/(dy/dx)$ . For  $y = 2x + 1$  and  $x = \frac{1}{2}(y - 1)$ , the slopes are  $dy/dx = 2$  and  $dx/dy = \frac{1}{2}$ . For  $y = x^2$  and  $x = \sqrt{y}$ , the slopes are  $dy/dx = 2x$  and  $dx/dy = 1/2\sqrt{y}$ . Substituting  $x^2$  for  $y$  gives  $dx/dy = 1/2x$ . Then  $(dx/dy)(dy/dx) = 1$ .

The graph of  $y = g(x)$  is also the graph of  $x = \mathbf{g}^{-1}(y)$ , but with  $x$  across and  $y$  up. For an ordinary graph of  $g^{-1}$ , take the reflection in the line  $y = x$ . If  $(3, 8)$  is on the graph of  $g$ , then its mirror image  $(8, 3)$  is on the graph of  $g^{-1}$ . Those particular points satisfy  $8 = 2^3$  and  $3 = \log_2 8$ .

The inverse of the chain  $z = h(g(x))$  is the chain  $x = \mathbf{g}^{-1}(\mathbf{h}^{-1}(z))$ . If  $g(x) = 3x$  and  $h(y) = y^3$  then  $z = (3x)^3 = 27x^3$ . Its inverse is  $x = \frac{1}{3}z^{1/3}$ , which is the composition of  $\mathbf{g}^{-1}(y) = \frac{1}{3}y$  and  $\mathbf{h}^{-1}(z) = z^{1/3}$ .

4  $x = \frac{y}{y-1}$  ( $f^{-1}$  matches  $f$ )

14  $f^{-1}$  does not exist because  $f(3)$  is the same as  $f(5)$ .

16 No two  $x$ 's give the same  $y$ . 22  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{(x-1)^2}$ ;  $\frac{dx}{dy} = -\frac{1}{y^2} = -(x-1)^2$ .

44 **First proof** Suppose  $y = f(x)$ . We are given that  $y > x$ . This is the same as  $y > f^{-1}(y)$ .

**Second proof** The graph of  $f(x)$  is above the  $45^\circ$  line, because  $f(x) > x$ . The mirror image is below the  $45^\circ$  line so  $f^{-1}(y) < y$ .

48  $g(x) = x + 6$ ,  $f(y) = y^3$ ,  $g^{-1}(y) = y - 6$ ,  $f^{-1}(z) = \sqrt[3]{z}$ ;  $\mathbf{x} = \sqrt[3]{z} - 6$

## 4.4 Inverses of Trigonometric Functions (page 175)

The table on page 175 summarizes what you need to know – the six inverse trig functions, their domains, and their derivatives. The table gives you  $\frac{dx}{dy}$  since the inverse functions have input  $y$  and output  $x$ . The input  $y$  is a *number* and the output  $x$  is an *angle*. Watch the restrictions on  $y$  and  $x$  (to permit an inverse).

1. Compute (a)  $\sin^{-1}(\sin \frac{\pi}{4})$  (b)  $\cos^{-1}(\sin \frac{\pi}{3})$  (c)  $\sin^{-1}(\sin \pi)$  (d)  $\tan^{-1}(\cos 0)$  (e)  $\cos^{-1}(\cos(-\frac{\pi}{2}))$

- (a)  $\sin \frac{\pi}{4}$  is  $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$  and  $\sin^{-1} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}$  brings us back to  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ .
- (b)  $\sin \frac{\pi}{3} = \frac{1}{2}$  and then  $\cos^{-1}(\frac{1}{2}) = +\frac{2\pi}{3}$ . Note that  $\frac{\pi}{3} + \frac{2\pi}{3} = \frac{\pi}{2}$ . The angles  $\frac{\pi}{3}$  and  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$  are complementary (they add to  $90^\circ$  or  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ ). Always  $\sin^{-1} y + \cos^{-1} y = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .
- (c)  $\sin^{-1}(\sin \pi)$  is *not*  $\pi$ ! Certainly  $\sin \pi = 0$ . But  $\sin^{-1}(0) = 0$ . The  $\sin^{-1}$  function or arcsin function only yields angles between  $-\frac{\pi}{2}$  and  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ .
- (d)  $\tan^{-1}(\cos 0) = \tan^{-1} 1 = \frac{\pi}{4}$
- (e)  $\cos^{-1}(\cos(-\frac{\pi}{2}))$  looks like  $-\frac{\pi}{2}$ . But  $\cos(-\frac{\pi}{2}) = 0$  and then  $\cos^{-1}(0) = \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

2. Find  $\frac{dx}{dy}$  if  $x = \sin^{-1} 3y$ . What are the restrictions on  $y$ ?

We know that  $x = \sin^{-1} u$  yields  $\frac{dx}{du} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}}$ . Set  $u = 3y$  and use the chain rule:  $\frac{dx}{du} \frac{du}{dy} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{1-9y^2}}$ . The restriction  $|u| \leq 1$  on sines means that  $|3y| \leq 1$  and  $|y| \leq \frac{1}{3}$ .

3. Find  $\frac{dz}{dx}$  when  $z = \cos^{-1}(\frac{1}{x})$ . What are the restrictions on  $x$ ?

$\cos^{-1}$  accepts inputs between  $-1$  and  $1$ , inclusive. For this reason  $|\frac{1}{x}| \leq 1$  and  $|x| \geq 1$ . To find the derivative, use the chain rule with  $z = \cos^{-1} u$  and  $u = \frac{1}{x}$ :

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{dz}{du} \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} \cdot \frac{-1}{x^2} = \frac{1}{x\sqrt{x^2-x^2u^2}} = \frac{1}{x\sqrt{x^2-1}}$$

4. Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  when  $y = \sec^{-1} \sqrt{x^2+1}$ . (This is Problem 4.4.23)

- The derivative of  $y = \sec^{-1} u$  is  $\frac{1}{|u|\sqrt{u^2-1}}$ . In this problem  $u = \sqrt{x^2+1}$ . Then

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{|u|\sqrt{u^2-1}} \frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2+1}} = (\text{substitute for } u) = \frac{x}{(x^2+1)|x|} = \pm \frac{1}{x^2+1}.$$

Here is another way to do this problem. Since  $y = \sec^{-1} \sqrt{x^2+1}$ , we have  $\sec y = \sqrt{x^2+1}$  and  $\sec^2 y = x^2+1$ . *This is a trig identity provided  $x = \pm \tan y$ .* Then  $y = \pm \tan^{-1} x$  and  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \pm \frac{1}{x^2+1}$ .

5. Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  if  $y = \tan^{-1} \frac{2}{x} - \cot^{-1} \frac{x}{2}$ . Explain zero.

- The derivative of  $\tan^{-1} \frac{2}{x}$  is  $\frac{1}{1+(\frac{2}{x})^2} \cdot \frac{-2}{x^2} = \frac{-2}{x^2+4}$ . The derivative of  $\cot^{-1} \frac{x}{2}$  is  $-\frac{1}{1+(\frac{x}{2})^2} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = -\frac{2}{x^2+4}$ . By subtraction  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$ . *Why do  $\tan^{-1} \frac{2}{x}$  and  $\cot^{-1} \frac{x}{2}$  have the same derivative? Are they equal? Think about domain and range before you answer that one.*

The relation  $x = \sin^{-1} y$  means that  $y$  is the sine of  $x$ . Thus  $x$  is the angle whose sine is  $y$ . The number  $y$  lies between  $-1$  and  $1$ . The angle  $x$  lies between  $-\pi/2$  and  $\pi/2$ . (If we want the inverse to exist, there cannot be two angles with the same sine.) The cosine of the angle  $\sin^{-1} y$  is  $\sqrt{1-y^2}$ . The derivative of  $x = \sin^{-1} y$  is  $dx/dy = 1/\sqrt{1-y^2}$ .

The relation  $x = \cos^{-1} y$  means that  $y$  equals  $\cos x$ . Again the number  $y$  lies between  $-1$  and  $1$ . This time the angle  $x$  lies between  $0$  and  $\pi$  (so that each  $y$  comes from only one angle  $x$ ). The sum  $\sin^{-1} y + \cos^{-1} y = \pi/2$ . (The angles are called **complementary**, and they add to a **right angle**.) Therefore the derivative of  $x = \cos^{-1} y$  is  $dx/dy = -1/\sqrt{1-y^2}$ , the same as for  $\sin^{-1} y$  except for a **minus sign**.

The relation  $x = \tan^{-1} y$  means that  $y = \tan x$ . The number  $y$  lies between  $-\infty$  and  $\infty$ . The angle  $x$  lies between  $-\pi/2$  and  $\pi/2$ . The derivative is  $dx/dy = 1/(1+y^2)$ . Since  $\tan^{-1} y + \cot^{-1} y = \pi/2$ , the derivative of  $\cot^{-1} y$  is the same except for a **minus sign**.

The relation  $x = \sec^{-1} y$  means that  $y = \sec x$ . The number  $y$  *never* lies between  $-1$  and  $1$ . The angle  $x$  lies between  $0$  and  $\pi$ , but never at  $x = \pi/2$ . The derivative of  $x = \sec^{-1} y$  is  $dx/dy = 1/|y|\sqrt{y^2-1}$ .



- 10 The sides of the triangle are  $y$ ,  $\sqrt{1-y^2}$ , and 1. The tangent is  $\frac{y}{\sqrt{1-y^2}}$ .
- 14  $\frac{d(\sin^{-1} y)}{dy} \Big|_{x=0} = 1$ ;  $\frac{d(\cos^{-1} y)}{dy} \Big|_{x=0} = -\infty$ ;  $\frac{d(\tan^{-1} y)}{dy} \Big|_{x=0} = 1$ ;  $\frac{d(\sin^{-1} y)}{dy} \Big|_{x=1} = \frac{1}{\cos 1}$ ;  $\frac{d(\cos^{-1} y)}{dy} \Big|_{x=1} = -\frac{1}{\sin 1}$ ;  $\frac{d(\tan^{-1} y)}{dy} \Big|_{x=1} = \frac{1}{\sec^2 1}$ .
- 16  $\cos^{-1}(\sin x)$  is the complementary angle  $\frac{\pi}{2} - x$ . The tangent of that angle is  $\frac{\cos x}{\sin x} = \cot x$ .
- 34 The requirement is  $u' = \frac{1}{1+t^2}$ . To satisfy this requirement take  $u = \tan^{-1} t$ .
- 36  $u = \tan^{-1} y$  has  $\frac{du}{dy} = \frac{1}{1+y^2}$  and  $\frac{d^2u}{dy^2} = \frac{-2y}{(1+y^2)^2}$ .
- 42 By the product rule  $\frac{dz}{dx} = (\cos x)(\sin^{-1} x) + (\sin x)\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$ . Note that  $z \neq x$  and  $\frac{dz}{dx} \neq 1$ .
- 48  $u(x) = \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} 2x$  (need  $\frac{1}{2}$  to cancel 2 from the chain rule).
- 50  $u(x) = \frac{x-1}{x+1}$  has  $\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{(x+1)-(x-1)}{(x+1)^2} = \frac{2}{(x+1)^2}$ . Then  $\frac{d}{dx} \tan^{-1} u(x) = \frac{1}{1+u^2} \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{1+(\frac{x-1}{x+1})^2} \frac{2}{(x+1)^2} = \frac{2}{(x+1)^2 + (x-1)^2} = \frac{1}{x^2+1}$ . This is also the derivative of  $\tan^{-1} x$ ! So  $\tan^{-1} u(x) - \tan^{-1} x$  is a constant.

## 4 Chapter Review Problems

### Review Problems

- R1 Give the domain and range of the six inverse trigonometric functions.
- R2 Is the derivative of  $u(v(x))$  ever equal to the derivative of  $u(x)v(x)$ ?
- R3 Find  $y'$  and the second derivative  $y''$  by implicit differentiation when  $y^2 = x^2 + xy$ .
- R4 Show that  $y = x + 1$  is the tangent line to the graph of  $y = x + \cos xy$  through the point  $(0,1)$ .
- R5 If the graph of  $y = f(x)$  passes through the point  $(a, b)$  with slope  $m$ , then the graph of  $y = f^{-1}(x)$  passes through the point \_\_\_\_\_ with slope \_\_\_\_\_.
- R6 Where does the graph of  $y = \cos x$  intersect the graph of  $y = \cos^{-1} x$ ? Give an equation for  $x$  and show that  $x = .7391$  in Section 3.6 is a solution.
- R7 Show that the curves  $xy = 4$  and  $x^2 - y^2 = 15$  intersect at right angles.
- R8 "The curve  $y^2 + x^2 + 1 = 0$  has  $2y \frac{dy}{dx} + 2x = 0$  so its slope is  $-x/y$ ." What is the problem with that statement?
- R9 Gas is escaping from a spherical balloon at 2 cubic feet/minute. How fast is the surface area shrinking when the area is  $576\pi$  square feet?

- R10** A 50 foot rope goes up over a pulley 18 feet high and diagonally down to a truck. The truck drives away at 9 ft/sec. How fast is the other end of the rope rising from the ground?
- R11** Two concentric circles are expanding, the outer radius at 2 cm/sec and the inner radius at 5 cm/sec. When the radii are 10 cm and 3 cm, how fast is the area between them increasing (or decreasing)?
- R12** A swimming pool is 25 feet wide and 100 feet long. The bottom slopes steadily down from a depth of 3 feet to 10 feet. The pool is being filled at 100 cubic feet/minute. How fast is the water level rising when it is 6 feet deep at the deep end?
- R13** A five-foot woman walks at night toward a 12-foot street lamp. Her speed is 4 ft/sec. Show that her shadow is shortening by  $\frac{20}{7}$  ft/sec when she is 3 feet from the lamp.
- R14** A 40 inch string goes around an 8 by 12 rectangle – but we are changing its shape (same string). If the 8 inch sides are being lengthened by 1 inch/second, how fast are the 12 inch sides being shortened? Show that the area is increasing at 4 square inches per second. (For some reason it will take *two* seconds before the area increases from 96 to 100.)
- R15** The volume of a sphere (when we know the radius) is  $V(r) = 4\pi r^3/3$ . The radius of a sphere (when we know the volume) is  $r(V) = (3V/4\pi)^{1/3}$ . This is the inverse! The surface area of a sphere is  $A(r) = 4\pi r^2$ . The radius (when we know the area) is  $r(A) = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ . The chain  $r(A(r))$  equals  $\underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ .
- R16** The surface area of a sphere (when we know the volume) is  $A(V) = 4\pi(3V/4\pi)^{2/3}$ . The volume (when we know the area) is  $V(A) = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ .

**Drill Problems** (Find  $dy/dx$  in Problems D1 to D6).

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>D1</b> $y = t^3 - t^2 + 2$ with $t = \sqrt{x}$  | <b>D2</b> $y = \sin^3(2x - \pi)$                     |
| <b>D3</b> $y = \tan^{-1}(4x^2 + 7x)$               | <b>D4</b> $y = \csc \sqrt{x}$                        |
| <b>D5</b> $y = \sin(\sin^{-1} x)$ for $ x  \leq 1$ | <b>D6</b> $y = \sin u \cos u$ with $u = \cos^{-1} x$ |

In **D7** to **D10** find  $y'$  by implicit differentiation.

- |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>D7</b> $x^2 - 2xy + y^2 = 4$ | <b>D8</b> $y = \sin(xy) + x$   |
| <b>D9</b> $9x^2 + 16y^2 = 144$  | <b>D10</b> $9y - 6x + y^4 = 0$ |
- D11** The area of a circle is  $A(r) = \pi r^2$ . Find the radius  $r$  when you know the area  $A$ . (This is the inverse function  $r(A)$ !). The derivative of  $A = \pi r^2$  is  $dA/dr = 2\pi r$ . Find  $dr/dA$ .

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