

Lecture 18: Chain rule & substitution

Suppose that $y = F(u)$ & $u = g(x)$ determine a composite function $(F \circ g)(x) := F(g(x))$ ($= y$) on an open interval I .

Theorem 1 (Chain rule): i.e. for those $x \in I$ at which... Whenever $F'(g(x))$ and $g'(x)$ both exist, $(F \circ g)'(x)$ exists and equals $F'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$.

Ways to think about this:

- as functions: $(F \circ g)' = (F' \circ g) \cdot g'$
- in Leibniz notation: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$
- in words: when you compose functions, their rates of change multiply.



Proof: Fix an $x \in I$ s.t. the hypothesis of the Thm. holds.

Define (for $t \in \mathcal{N}(0)$)

$$q(t) := \begin{cases} \frac{F(g(x)+t) - F(g(x))}{t}, & t \neq 0 \\ F'(g(x)) & t = 0 \end{cases}$$

which is continuous at 0 since F is differentiable at $g(x)$. Clearly

$$(*) \quad t q(t) = F(g(x)+t) - F(g(x))$$

holds in $\mathcal{N}(0)$.

Note that $k(h) := g(x+h) - g(x)$ is continuous at

$h=0$ (with value 0) since g is diff. \Rightarrow cts. at x . So for h in a smaller nbhd. $\mathcal{N}_1(0)$ we have $k(h) \in \mathcal{N}(0)$, and substituting $t = k(h)$ in (*) & dividing by h gives

$$\frac{k(h)}{h} q(k(h)) = \frac{F(g(x)+k(h)) - F(g(x))}{h}$$

for $h \in \mathcal{N}_1^*(0)$ (punctured nbhd.), i.e.

$$\frac{g(x+h) - g(x)}{h} \cdot q(k(h)) = \frac{F(g(x+h)) - F(g(x))}{h}$$

Taking $h \rightarrow 0$ limits on both sides gives the result, since

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} q(k(h)) = q(\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} k(h)) = q(0) = F'(g(x)).$$

□

Ex 1/ $f(x) = \sqrt{1+x^2} \Rightarrow f'(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1+x^2}} \cdot 2x$ //

Ex 2/ $\frac{d}{dx} \int_0^{\sin(x)} f(t) dt = f(\sin(x)) \cdot \cos(x)$ //

Ex 3/ $f(x) = \sin(\sin(\sin(x))) \Rightarrow f'(x) = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dv} \cdot \frac{dv}{dx} = \cos(\sin(\sin(x))) \cdot \cos(\sin(x)) \cdot \cos(x)$ //

Ex 4/ $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$ gives y implicitly rather than explicitly ($= f(x)$) in terms of x . Since it is secretly a function of x , you must use the chain rule and write $\frac{dy^2}{dx} = \frac{dy^2}{dy} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 2y \cdot y'$, hence $2x + 2y y' = 0 \Rightarrow y' = -\frac{x}{y} \Rightarrow$ tangent to a circle is perpendicular to the radius (why?). //

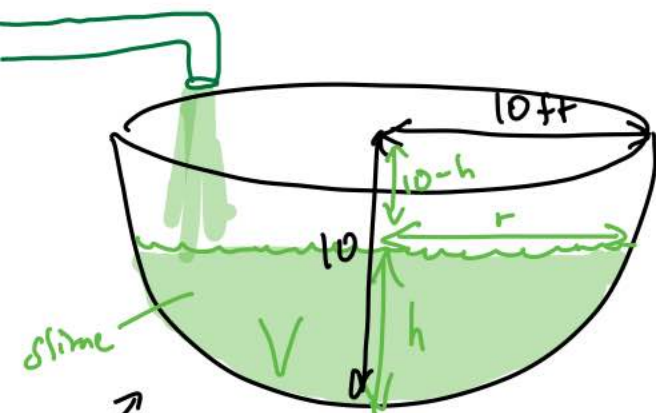
Ex 5 / (More implicit diff.)

$$x^3 + y^3 = 1 \xrightarrow{\frac{d}{dx}} 3x^2 + 3y^2 y' = 0 \xrightarrow{\frac{d}{dx}} 2x + 2y(y')^2 + y^2 y'' = 0$$

$$\xrightarrow{\cdot y^3} 2xy^3 + 2(y^2 y')^2 + y^5 y'' = 0 \rightarrow 2x(y^3 + x^3) + y^5 y'' = 0$$

$$\rightarrow y'' = -2xy^{-5} \quad //$$

Ex 6 / (A related rates problem)



slime
backyard pool = hemisphere

(V = volume)

$$r(h) = \sqrt{10^2 - (10-h)^2} \\ = \sqrt{20h - h^2}$$

• Calculate $\frac{dV}{dh}$ when $h=5$:

$$V = \int_0^h A(h) dh \quad \leftarrow \text{cross-sectional area function}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dh} = A(h) = \pi(r(h))^2 = \pi(20h - h^2)$$

$$\left. \frac{dV}{dh} \right|_{h=5} = \pi(100 - 25) = 75\pi \text{ ft}^3/\text{ft}$$

• If $\frac{dV}{dt} = 5\sqrt{3}$ (constant), find $\frac{dr}{dt}$ when $h=5$.

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dr}{dh} \cdot \frac{dh}{dV} \cdot \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{r'(h) \cdot 5\sqrt{3}}{dV/dh}, \quad \text{where } r'(h) = \frac{10-h}{\sqrt{20h-h^2}} \quad \text{So}$$

$$r'(5) = \frac{5}{\sqrt{75}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \quad \text{and} \quad \left. \frac{dr}{dt} \right|_{h=5} = \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \cdot 5\sqrt{3}}{75\pi} = \frac{1}{15\pi} \text{ ft/s} \quad //$$

Now, the entire reason I waited until now to do the chain rule was so that we could also do the "inverse of the chain rule" for integrals, otherwise known as substitution.

Theorem 2: If g' is continuous on I , f is continuous on $g(I)$, and $x, c \in I$, then

$$\mathcal{F}_f(x) := \int_c^x f(g(t)) g'(t) dt = \int_{g(c)}^{g(x)} f(u) du.$$

Proof: Set $F(w) := \int_{g(c)}^w f(u) du$, so that $F'(w) = f(w)$.

By the Chain rule, $\mathcal{F}_f'(x) = f(g(x)) g'(x) = F'(g(x)) g'(x) = (F \circ g)'(x)$.

Hence $\mathcal{F}_f - F \circ g = k$ (constant), and evaluating at c gives

$$k = \mathcal{F}_f(c) - F(g(c)) = 0 - 0 = 0. \text{ So } \mathcal{F}_f(x) = F(g(x)). \quad \square$$

$$\text{Ex / } \int_0^{\pi/3} \frac{\sin(x)}{\sqrt{\cos^3(x)}} dx = \int_{\cos(\pi/3)}^{\cos(0)} \frac{-du}{\sqrt{u^3}} = - \int_1^{1/2} u^{-3/2} du$$

$$u = \cos(x)$$

$$du = -\sin(x) dx$$

$$= \left. \frac{-u^{-3/2+1}}{-3/2+1} \right|_1^{1/2} = 2u^{-1/2} \Big|_1^{1/2} = 2\sqrt{2} - 2. //$$