

Names and student IDs: \_\_\_\_\_

Chain rule: If  $g$  is differentiable at  $x$  and  $f$  is differentiable at  $g(x)$ , and if

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

for all  $x$  (in a suitable open interval), then

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

Example: If  $h(x) = \sin(x^3)$  then write  $h(x) = f(g(x))$  with

$$f(u) = \sin(u) \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = x^3.$$

Thus

$$h'(x) = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) = \sin'(x^3) \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(x^3) = \cos(x^3) \cdot 3x^2 = 3x^2 \cos(x^3).$$

Caution: “ $\sin'(x^3)$ ” means you take the derivative of the sine function and evaluate it at  $x^3$ . It does *not* mean  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin(x^3))$ . The expression  $\frac{d}{dx}(\sin(x^3))$  means  $h'(x)$ , the derivative with respect to  $x$  of the function whose value at  $x$  is  $\sin(x^3)$ .

Now differentiate the following functions.

1. Let  $w(x) = \cos(\sin(x))$ . First, if we want to usefully write  $w(x) = f(g(x))$ , then

$$f(u) = \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) =$$

so

$$f'(u) = \quad \text{and} \quad g'(x) =$$

Now, if  $w(x) = \cos(\sin(x))$  then  $w'(x) =$

2. Let  $p(x) = (2x^3 + 7x + 8)^{28}$ . First, if we want to usefully write  $p(x) = f(g(x))$ , then

$$f(u) = \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) =$$

so

$$f'(u) = \quad \text{and} \quad g'(x) =$$

Now,  $\frac{d}{dx}((2x^3 + 7x + 8)^{28}) =$

3. Let  $q(x) = \sqrt{2x^3 + 7x + 8}$ . First, if we want to usefully write  $q(x) = f(g(x))$ , then

$$f(u) = \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) =$$

so

$$f'(u) = \quad \text{and} \quad g'(x) =$$

Now, if  $q(x) = \sqrt{2x^3 + 7x + 8}$  then  $q'(x) =$

4. Let  $m(x) = \cos(x \sin(x))$ . First, if we want to usefully write  $m(x) = f(g(x))$ , then

$$f(u) = \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) =$$

so (using which rule to find  $g'(x)?)$

$$f'(u) = \quad \text{and} \quad g'(x) =$$

Now, if  $m(x) = \cos(x \sin(x))$  then  $m'(x) =$