

Calculus and Inverse Functions
AP Calculus

Name:

Answers

We derived the theorem that gives us the derivative of the inverse of a function:

Given that $f(x)$ is differentiable and one-to-one with inverse $g(x)$ and given that b belongs to the domain of $g(x)$ and $f'(g(b)) \neq 0$, then $g'(b)$ exists and:

$$g'(b) = \frac{1}{f'(g(b))}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [f(g(x)) = x] \rightarrow g'(x) = \frac{1}{f'(g(x))}$$

$$f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) = 1$$

This can be a handy theorem but you may use any method you choose to do the problems below:

1) Given $f(x) = x + e^x$ and given $g(x)$ is the inverse of $f(x)$, find $g'(1)$.

Method 1
 $x = y + e^y \rightarrow$ take inverse
+ derive

$$1 = \frac{dy}{dx} + e^y \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\frac{1}{1+e^y} = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\text{since } g(1) = 0 \quad \left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(1,0)} = \frac{1}{1+e^0} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$$

2) Given $f(x) = 4x^3 - 2x$ and given $g(x)$ is the inverse of $f(x)$, find $g'(-2)$

$$\begin{aligned} x + e^x &= 1 \\ x &= 0 \quad (0,1) \\ f(0) &= 1 \\ \text{so } g(1) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Method 2 - Use theorem

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

$$g'(1) = \frac{1}{1+e^0} = \boxed{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Method 1

$$x = 4y^3 - 2y$$

$$1 = 12y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} - 2 \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\frac{1}{12y^2 - 2} = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(-2,-1)} = \frac{1}{12(-1)^2 - 2} = \boxed{\frac{1}{10}}$$

Method 2

$$g'(x) = \frac{1}{12(g(x))^2 - 2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{12(-1)^2 - 2}$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{1}{10}}$$

$$4x^3 - 2x = -2$$

solve graphically

$$f(-1) = -2$$

$$\text{so } g(-2) = -1$$

Here are the derivatives of some inverse trig functions....(Remember: $\sin^{-1}(x)$ and $\arcsin(x)$ are two different ways to indicate the inverse of sine.)

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\arcsin x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\arccos x) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(\arctan x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$$

Find the derivative:

3) $f(x) = \sin^{-1}(3x)$

↙ chain rule

$$f'(x) = \frac{3}{\sqrt{1-(3x)^2}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{1-9x^2}}$$

5) $y = e^{\arccos(x)}$

$$y' = e^{\arccos x} \cdot -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

$$= -e^{\arccos x} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

Evaluate (no calculators!):

7) $\int_0^{0.5} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = \arcsin x \Big|_0^{0.5}$

4) $g(x) = x \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)$

$$g'(x) = 1 \cdot \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + x \cdot \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{1+\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2}\right)$$

$$= \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{2}\right) + \frac{x}{2} \left(\frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{4}x^2}\right)$$

6) $f(x) = (\arcsin x)^4$

$$f'(x) = 4(\arcsin x)^3 \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}\right)$$

$$= \frac{4}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} (\arcsin x)^3$$

8) $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{dx}{1+x^2} = \arctan x \Big|_{-1}^1$

$$= \arcsin(0.5) - \arcsin(0) = \arctan(1) - \arctan(-1)$$

$$= \frac{\pi}{6} - 0 = \boxed{\frac{\pi}{6}}$$

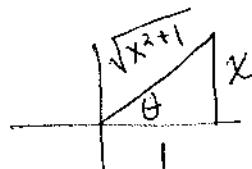
$$= \frac{\pi}{4} - \left(-\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = \boxed{\frac{\pi}{2}}$$

9) $\int_{-0.5}^{0.5} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-(2x)^2}} = \frac{1}{2} \arcsin(2x)$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[\arcsin(2x) \right]_{-0.5}^{0.5} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\arcsin(1) - \arcsin(-1) \right) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\pi}{2} - -\frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{\pi}{2}}$$

Challenge: Prove that $\frac{d}{dx}(\arctan x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$



$$\tan \theta = x$$

$$\sec^2 \theta \frac{d\theta}{dx} = 1$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sec^2 \theta}$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dx} = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$$

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