



$$\frac{d}{dx}(x^n) = nx^{n-1}$$

Mathematics 6.4 - The Product Rule

WORKSHEET

*Practice
Apply
Improve
Succeed*

1 Using the product rule (polynomials)

Differentiate the following.

- a) $y = x(x+2)$ d) $y = x^2(x+1)$
b) $y = (2x+1)(x-3)$ e) $y = (x-4)(x^2+3x)$
c) $y = (3x-2)(4x+5)$ f) $y = (2x+3)(5x^2-1)$

2 Using the product rule (trigonometric functions)

Differentiate the following.

- a) $y = x \sin x$ d) $y = (3x-2) \cos x$
b) $y = x \cos x$ e) $y = x \sin(2x)$
c) $y = (2x+1) \sin x$ f) $y = (x+1) \cos(3x)$

3 Trigonometric products

Differentiate the following.

- a) $y = \sin x \cos x$ d) $y = (3x-1) \cos x$
b) $y = x \sin(2x)$ e) $y = \sin x(x+1)$
c) $y = (\sin x)(x^2)$ f) $y = (2x+3) \sin(3x)$

4 Products involving composite functions

Differentiate the following.

- a) $y = x(x+1)^2$ d) $y = (x^2+1) \cos(x)$
b) $y = (2x-1)^3 x$ e) $y = (3x+2) \sin(x^2)$
c) $y = x \sin(x^2)$ f) $y = (x-1)^2 \cos(2x)$

5 Functions requiring more than one rule

Differentiate the following, simplifying where possible.

- a) $y = x^2 \sin x$ d) $y = (2x+1) \sin(x^2)$
b) $y = (x^2+1) \cos x$ e) $y = (x^3+1) \cos x$
c) $y = x \cos(x^2)$ f) $y = (x^2-3x) \sin(2x)$

6 Problem solving

- a) Given $y = x \sin x$, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and hence find the gradient of the curve at the point where $x = \frac{\pi}{2}$.
b) The function $y = (2x+1) \cos x$. Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and determine the gradient of the curve at the point $x = 0$.
c) Given $y = x^2 \cos x$, find the equation of the tangent to the curve at the point $x = \pi$.

7 Higher level questions

Differentiate the following, giving your answer in its simplest form.

- a) $y = (x^2+1)(x-3)^2$ d) $y = (x+1)^2 \sin x$
b) $y = x^2 \sin(x^2)$ e) $y = (2x^2-x) \cos(x^2)$
c) $y = (3x-2) \cos(2x)$ f) $y = (x^3+3x+1) \sin x$

8 Challenge

- a) The function $y = (x^2+1) \cos x$ has a stationary point at $x = 0$. Determine whether this point is a maximum or a minimum.
b) A curve is defined by $y = x(3x-2) \sin x$. Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and determine the gradient of the curve at $x = \pi$.
c) A rectangular box has length x cm and width $(2x+1)$ cm. The area is $A = x(2x+1)$.
(i) Find $\frac{dA}{dx}$.
(ii) Hence find $\frac{dA}{dx}$ when $x = 3$.

Key skills practised:

- ☐ use the product rule to differentiate functions
- ☐ differentiate polynomials and trigonometric functions
- ☐ apply the chain rule where needed (from 6.3)
- ☐ simplify your answers and check for sensible form and sign
- ☐ solve problems involving gradients, tangents and stationary points

*"Small steps
today, greater
success tomorrow."*

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