## 12 Chain Rule



The Chain Rule

$$D_x(f(g(x))) = f'(g(x))(g'(x))$$
 or  $D_x y = (D_u y)(D_x u)$ 

Basically, we differentiate from the 'outside-in.' This is very useful if we need to differentiate something like  $f(x) = 3(x^2-2x+1)^{80}$  and you really don't want to multiply it out.

EX 1 If 
$$y = (3x^3 - 4x + 5)^{10}$$
 find y'

EX 2 If 
$$y = \frac{4}{(2x^7 - 6x^2)^5}$$
 find y'

## 12 Chain Rule

Ex 3 Find f'(x):

a) 
$$f(x) = \sin^2 x$$

$$b) f(x) = \sin(x^3)$$

EX 3 (continued) Find f'(x):

$$c) \quad f(x) = \left(\frac{2x+1}{x-5}\right)^4$$

d) 
$$f(x) = \sin^2(4x)(2x^5 - 3)^3$$

## 12 Chain Rule

We can think of the chain rule as

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du}\frac{du}{dx}$$

EX 4 Find 
$$\frac{dy}{dx}$$

a) 
$$y = \left[\left(2x^2 + 3\right)\cos(x)\right]^4$$

b) 
$$y = \left(-3x + \frac{5}{x}\right)^{-4}$$

