

Section 3.9 Inverse Trigonometric Functions

TABLE 3.1 Derivatives of the inverse trigonometric functions

1. $\frac{d(\sin^{-1} u)}{dx} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - u^2}} \frac{du}{dx}, \quad |u| < 1$
2. $\frac{d(\cos^{-1} u)}{dx} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - u^2}} \frac{du}{dx}, \quad |u| < 1$
3. $\frac{d(\tan^{-1} u)}{dx} = \frac{1}{1 + u^2} \frac{du}{dx}$
4. $\frac{d(\cot^{-1} u)}{dx} = -\frac{1}{1 + u^2} \frac{du}{dx}$
5. $\frac{d(\sec^{-1} u)}{dx} = \frac{1}{|u| \sqrt{u^2 - 1}} \frac{du}{dx}, \quad |u| > 1$
6. $\frac{d(\csc^{-1} u)}{dx} = -\frac{1}{|u| \sqrt{u^2 - 1}} \frac{du}{dx}, \quad |u| > 1$

Example 1: Using the Chain Rule calculate the derivative:

$$\frac{d}{dx} (\sin^{-1} x^2)$$

Example 2: Using the Chain Rule and derivative of the arcsecant function find:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sec^{-1}(5x^4)$$

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6. $\frac{d(\csc^{-1} u)}{dx} = -\frac{1}{|u| \sqrt{u^2 - 1}} \frac{du}{dx}, \quad |u| > 1$

Example 1: Using the Chain Rule calculate the derivative:

$$\frac{d}{dx} (\sin^{-1} x^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(x^2)^2}} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} x^2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^4}} \cdot 2x = \boxed{\frac{2x}{\sqrt{1-x^4}}}$$

$\frac{d(\sin^{-1} u)}{du} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}}$

$u = x^2$

Example 2: Using the Chain Rule and derivative of the arcsecant function find:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} \sec^{-1}(5x^4) &= \frac{1}{|5x^4| \sqrt{(5x^4)^2 - 1}} \frac{d}{dx} 5x^4 = \frac{1}{|5x^4| \sqrt{25x^8 - 1}} (20x^3) \\ &= \frac{1}{5x^4 \sqrt{25x^8 - 1}} (20x^3) = \boxed{\frac{4}{x \sqrt{25x^8 - 1}}} \end{aligned}$$

$u = 5x^4$