- 1. Find the derivative of the following.
  - (a)  $e^{e^{e^x}}$
  - (b)  $\log(\log(\log x^2)^2)$
  - (c)  $\sin(\tan(\cos x))$
- 2. (a) Let f, g be positive differentiable functions. Find the derivative of

$$h(x) = f(x)^{g(x)}.$$

- (b) Hence find the derivative of  $x^{x^x}$ .
- 3. Use the chain rule to prove the product rule. **Hint:** It is easy to verify that for all *a*, *b* we have

$$ab = \frac{1}{4}[(a+b)^2 - (a-b)^2]$$

4. Find the equation of the tangent line of f(x) at x = 1 given that x satisfies the functional equation

$$f(x^2) = 4f(x) + x^2.$$

5. This is a solution to the bonus problem I gave in class. The goal of this problem is to solve the differential equation

$$y' + 2y = 1$$
  $y(0) = 1.$ 

(a) Let's multiply both sides some f(x) to get

$$f(x)y'(x) + 2f(x)y(x) = f(x).$$

What condition must left hand side satisfy for it to equal (fy)?

- (b) Show that  $f(x) = e^{2x}$  is a suitable function.
- (c) Use (a) and (b) to find y(x).

## Solution.

1. (a) We solve by repeated chain rule.

$$\left(e^{e^{e^x}}\right)' = e^{e^{e^x}} \left(e^{e^x}\right)' = e^{e^{e^x}} e^{e^x} (e^x)' = e^{e^{e^x}} e^{e^x} e^x$$

(b) First let's simplify.

$$f(x) = \log(\log(\log x^2)^2) = \log(\log(2\log x)^2) = 2\log(\log(2\log x))$$

So now by chain rule

$$f'(x) = 2\frac{1}{\log(2\log x)} (\log(2\log x))'$$
  
=  $2\frac{1}{\log(2\log x)} \frac{1}{2\log x} (\log x)'$   
=  $2\frac{1}{\log(2\log x)} \frac{1}{2\log x} \frac{1}{x}$   
=  $\frac{1}{x\log x \log(2\log x)}$ 

(c) Again by chain rule

$$(\sin(\tan(\cos x)))' = \cos(\tan(\cos x))(\tan(\cos x))'$$
$$= \cos(\tan(\cos x))\sec^2(\cos x)(\cos x)'$$
$$= -\cos(\tan(\cos x))\sec^2(\cos x)\sin x.$$

2. (a) Let  $y = f^g$ , so by taking the log of both sides we get

$$\log y = g \log f.$$

Now let's take derivatives.

$$\frac{y'}{y} = g' \log f + g \frac{f'}{f}$$
$$y' = y \left( g' \log f + \frac{gf'}{f} \right)$$
$$y' = f^g \left( g' \log f + \frac{gf'}{f} \right)$$

(b) if  $y(x) = x^{x^x} = f(x)^g(x)$ , where f(x) = x and  $g(x) = x^x$ . We have f' = 1 and by (a) we have

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

Now again by (a),

$$(x^{x^x})' = f^g \left(g' \log f + \frac{gf'}{f}\right)$$
$$= x^{x^x} \left(x^x (\log x + 1) \log x + \frac{x^x \cdot 1}{x}\right)$$
$$= x^{x^x} \left(x^x (\log x + 1) \log x + x^{x-1}\right)$$

3. By the hint we have

$$fg = \frac{1}{4}[(f+g)^2 - (f-g)^2].$$

By taking derivatives we have

$$\begin{split} (fg)' &= \frac{1}{4} [2(f+g)(f+g)' - 2(f-g)(f-g)'] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [(f+g)(f'+g') - (f-g)(f'-g')] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [ff' + fg' + f'g + gg' - ff' + gf' + f'g - gg'] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [2f'g + 2fg'] \\ &= f'g + gf' \end{split}$$

4. Recall the equation of the tangent line of f(x) at x = a is

$$y = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a).$$

So let's figure out f(1), f'(1). To find f(1) we plug 1 into the functional equation for f to get

$$f(1) = 4f(1) + 1$$

Solving for f(1) we get f(1) = -1/3. To get f'(1) let's take the derivative, we get by chain rule

$$f'(x^2)2x = 4f'(x) + 2x.$$

So by plugging in x = 1 we get,

$$2f'(1) = 4f'(1) + 2$$

Which implies f'(1) = -1. Thus the equation of the tangent line is

$$y = -\frac{1}{3} - (x - 1) = \frac{2}{3} - x$$

5. (a) If we multiply both sides of the equation by f we get

$$fy' + 2fy = f.$$

As suggested by the hint lefts equate the left hand side to (fy)' to get

$$(fy)' = fy + 2fy$$
$$fy' + yf' = fy' + 2fy$$

Which is true if f' = 2f.

(b) We know from class that  $f = Ae^{2x}$  is the solution to f' = 2f. So by multiplying the equation by f we get

$$Ae^{2x}y' + A2e^{2x}y = Ae^{2x}$$
$$e^{2x}y' + 2e^{2x}y = e^{2x}$$

So we can just assume that  $f = e^{2x}$ .

(c) By (b) we have

$$e^{2x}y' + 2e^{2x}y = e^{2x}$$

By (a) we chose f so that the above equation would satisfy

$$(e^{2x}y)' = e^{2x}.$$

So  $(e^{2x}y)$  equal a function whose derivative is  $e^{2x}$ . With a bit of thought one can verify that for all C.

$$\left\lfloor \frac{1}{2}e^{2x} + C \right\rfloor' = e^{2x}$$

So we have

$$e^{2x}y = \frac{1}{2}e^{2x} + C$$

And thus

$$y(x) = \frac{1}{2} + Ce^{-2x}$$

Finally since y(0) = 1 we have

$$1 = \frac{1}{2} + C,$$

So  $C = \frac{1}{2}$  and

$$y(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}e^{-2x}.$$