

**Example** Let  $g(t) = \left(\frac{t-2}{2t+1}\right)^9$ . Find  $g'(t)$ .

$y = g(t)$  decomposes into  $y = u^9$  and  $u(t) = \frac{t-2}{2t+1}$

$$\frac{dg}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{du} \cdot \frac{du}{dx} = 9 \left(\frac{t-2}{2t+1}\right)^8 \cdot \underbrace{\frac{d}{dt}\left(\frac{t-2}{2t+1}\right)}_{\text{needs Quotient Rule}}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\left(\frac{t-2}{2t+1}\right) = \frac{d}{dt}\left(\frac{f}{g}\right) = \frac{f'g - fg'}{g^2}; \text{ since } f'(t) = 1 \text{ and } g'(t) = 2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\left(\frac{t-2}{2t+1}\right) = \frac{1 \cdot (2t+1) - (t-2) \cdot 2}{(2t+1)^2}$$

$$\frac{dg}{dt} = 9 \left(\frac{t-2}{2t+1}\right)^8 \cdot \left[ \frac{1 \cdot (2t+1) - (t-2) \cdot 2}{(2t+1)^2} \right] = \frac{45(t-2)^8}{(2t+1)^{10}}$$

**Example** Let  $y = (2x+1)^5(x^3 - x + 1)$  and find  $y'$ .

$$y' = \underbrace{\frac{d}{dx}[(2x+1)^5]}_{\text{Chain Rule}} \cdot (x^3 - x + 1) + (2x+1)^5 \cdot \frac{d}{dx}[(x^3 - x + 1)] \text{ by Product Rule}$$

$$= 5(2x+1)^4 \cdot (2x) \cdot (x^3 - x + 1) + (2x+1)^5(3x^2 - 1)$$

**Theorem(Derivative of inverse functions)** If  $f(x)$  is differentiable at all  $x$ , and has an inverse  $g(x) = f^{-1}(x)$ , then

$$g'(x) = \frac{1}{f'(g(x))} \text{ provided } f'(g(x)) \neq 0$$

**Proof** Recall that if  $f$  and  $g$  are inverses, then  $f(g(x)) = x$  for all  $x$  in the domain of  $g$ . Differentiate both sides of this equality with respect to  $x$ :

$$\underbrace{\frac{d}{dx}[f(g(x))]}_{\text{by Chain Rule}} = \frac{d}{dx}[x]$$

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

$$\text{Hence } g'(x) = \frac{1}{f'(g(x))}$$