Worked Solutions

Pure Maths, Differential Calculus,

sheet PM_DIF_TF_01

Trigonometrical Functions Q.2

differentiate the function y = cos(4x)

The **Chain Rule** is used when differentiating a 'composite function', which is described as a function of another function.

The derivatives of the functions are linked by the equation:

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

for y = cos(4x), let u be the inner function, u = 4xthen the outer function is y = cos(u)

taking derivatives with respect to u and v respectively,

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 4$$
 and $\frac{dy}{du} = -\sin(u)$

substituting these derivatives into the Chain Rule equation,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\sin(u) \cdot 4$$

substituting for u = 4x,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\sin(4x) \cdot 4$$

simplifying,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -4\sin(4x)$$