

Section 2.6 - Implicit Differentiation

Suppose a function defines y implicitly as a function of x , you may try to solve for y first, then differentiate. This option is not always practical.

Implicitly defined equation: $y + 4x = 6 + 5y$

Explicit (solved for y): Easy example

$$y + 4x = 6 + 5y$$

$$4x = 6 + 4y$$

$$4x - 6 = 4y$$

$$x - \frac{3}{2} = y$$

$$y = x - \frac{3}{2}$$

$$y' = 1$$

What about the implicit equation:

$$x^2y + y^3 = 2x$$

we have to be able to differentiate implicitly...

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Implicit Differentiation

① Differentiate both sides of a given equation w.r.t. x

(must use chain rule on all terms with a y in them since y is itself a function of x)

② Solve for $\frac{dy}{dx}$ (or $f'(x)$ or y')

③ There may be x 's y 's in $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

Example:

$$5x + 3y = 2$$

$$3y = -5x + 2$$

$$y = -\frac{5}{3}x + \frac{2}{3}$$

$$y' = -5/3$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} 5x + \frac{d}{dx} 3y = \frac{d}{dx} 2$$

$$5 + 3\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{5}{3}$$

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ex. Solve for y 1st

$$2x^2 + y^3 = 5$$

$$y^3 = 5 - 2x^2$$

$$y = \sqrt[3]{5 - 2x^2}$$

$$y = (5 - 2x^2)^{1/3}$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{3} ()^{1/3 - 3/3} ()'$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} (5 - 2x^2)^{-2/3} (-4x)$$

$$y' = \frac{-4x}{3(\sqrt[3]{5 - 2x^2})^2}$$

Implicitly

$$2x^2 + y^3 = 5$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} 2x^2 + \frac{d}{dx} y^3 = \frac{d}{dx} 5$$

$$4x + 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = -4x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-4x}{3y^2}$$

How do we know
if they are the
same?

Plug $y =$ into implicit derivative!

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-4x}{3y^2}$$

$$= \frac{-4x}{3(\sqrt[3]{5 - 2x^2})^2}$$

Same!!

Examples of derivatives of terms with y in them

ex. $(4y)' = 4 \frac{dy}{dx}$ or $4y'$

ex. $(6y^3)' = 18y^2 \frac{dy}{dx}$ or $18y^2 y'$

ex. $(y^{-2})' = -2y^{-3} \frac{dy}{dx}$ or $-2y^{-3} y'$

ex. $(\sqrt{y})' = (y^{1/2})' = \frac{1}{2} y^{-1/2} \frac{dy}{dx}$ or $\frac{1}{2} y^{-1/2} y'$

ex. $(x \cdot y)' = x \frac{dy}{dx} + y(1)$

most use product rule! $= xy' + y$

ex. $(12 + y)^3' = 3(12 + y)^2 \cdot (1 \frac{dy}{dx})$

most use chain rule $= 3(12 + y)^2 y'$

ex. $(2 + y)^3 = 5x^2$ diff. Impl

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ex. Find derivative in terms of x and y and then use it to find the slope of the tangent line to the curve $x^2 + y^2 = 25$ at the point $(3, -4)$

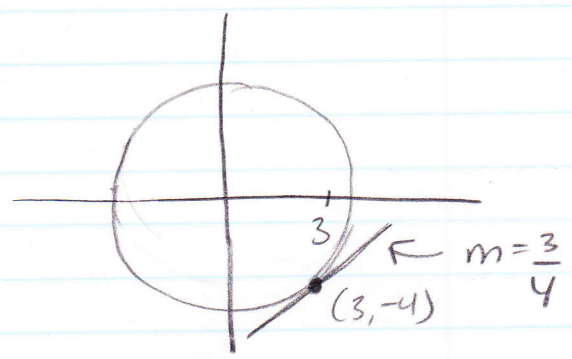
$$\frac{d}{dx} x^2 + \frac{d}{dx} y^2 = \frac{d}{dx} 25$$

$$2x + 2y \cdot y' = 0$$

$$2y y' = -2x$$

$$y' = \frac{-2x}{2y}$$

$$y' = -\frac{x}{y}$$



$$y' \Big|_{x=3} = \frac{-(3)}{-4} = \boxed{\frac{3}{4}}$$

What if they didn't give us y ? Use the original equation to find y .

→ think about x and y What about at $(-5, 0)$? $y' = \frac{5}{0} = \text{UND}$ Vertical tangent

Intro y'

ex. Find y' using implicit differentiation

$$x^3 + y^3 = x \cdot y \leftarrow \text{prod. rule } (x \cdot f(x))$$

$$3x^2 + 3y^2 y' = x y' + y \cdot 1$$

two diff. functions of x

$$3y^2 y' - x y' = y - 3x^2$$

$$y'(3y^2 - x) = y - 3x^2$$

$$y' = \frac{y - 3x^2}{3y^2 - x}$$

ex. Find y'

$$x + \frac{1}{y} = 5$$

$$x + y^{-1} = 5$$

$$1 - y^{-2} \cdot y' = 0$$

$$-y^{-2} \cdot y' = -1$$

$$y' = \frac{-1}{-y^{-2}} = \frac{1}{y^{-2}} = y^2$$

Do this one!

could use chain rule, but it's ugly!
FOIL 1st!

ex. $(x-2y)^2 = y$

$$x^2 - 4xy + 4y^2 = y$$

$$2x - 4[x \cdot y' + y(1)] + 8yy' = 1y'$$

$$2x - 4[xy' + y] + 8yy' = y'$$

$$2x - 4xy' - 4y + 8yy' = y'$$

$$-4xy' + 8yy' - y' = 4y - 2x$$

$$y'(-4x + 8y - 1) = 4y - 2x$$

$$y' = \frac{4y - 2x}{-4x + 8y - 1}$$

ex. Find the equation of the tangent line
at $x = \frac{1}{2}$ if low on time $(\frac{1}{2}, 1)$

$$\frac{1}{x} + \sqrt{y} = 1$$

$$x^{-1} + y^{1/2} = 1$$

$$-1x^{-2} + \frac{1}{2}y^{-1/2} y' = 0$$

$$-\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} y' = 0$$

$$2\sqrt{y} \left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} y' \right) = \left(\frac{1}{x^2} \right) 2\sqrt{y}$$

$$y' = \frac{2\sqrt{y}}{x^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y' \Big|_{\substack{x=\frac{1}{2} \\ y=1}} &= \frac{2\sqrt{1}}{(\frac{1}{2})^2} \\ &= \frac{2}{\frac{1}{4}} \\ &= 2 \cdot 4 \\ &= 8 \end{aligned}$$

$$m = 8 \quad (\frac{1}{2}, 1)$$

$$y - 1 = 8(x - \frac{1}{2})$$

$$y - 1 = 8x - 4$$

$$y = 8x - 4 + 1$$
$$y = 8x - 3$$