


3.6-Implicit Differentiation

$$x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0$$


The equation $F(x, y) = 0$ *implicitly* defines a relation (not necessarily a function) between y and x . The *graph* of $F(x, y) = 0$ is the set of all points (x, y) such that the equation holds ($\{(x, y) | F(x, y) = 0\}$). Given a graph of an implicitly-defined relation, we can still talk about the slope of the line tangent to the curve at a given point.

Method for Implicit Differentiation:

1. Done when y is not explicitly defined as a function of x .
2. Differentiate both sides of the equation, remembering that y depends on x (can call it $y(x)$)
3. Solve for $y'(x)$ or $\frac{dy}{dx}$

Examples:

Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ implicitly if $x^2y + 2x = 9y + 4$. Then solve for y and show you get the same answer.

$$x^2 y(x) + 2x = 9y(x) + 4$$

product rule

$$x^2 \cdot y'(x) + y(x) \cdot 2x + 2 = 9y'(x)$$

$$x^2 y' + 2xy + 2 = 9y'$$

$$x^2 y' - 9y' = -2xy - 2$$

$$y'(x^2 - 9) = -2xy - 2$$

$$y' = \frac{-2xy - 2}{x^2 - 9}$$

$$y' = \frac{\left[-2x \left(\frac{-2x+4}{x^2-9} \right) - 2 \right] x^2 - 9}{(x^2-9)(x^2-9)}$$

$$= \frac{-2x(-2x+4) - 2(x^2-9)}{(x^2-9)^2}$$

$$x^2y - 9y = -2x + 4$$

$$y(x^2 - 9) = -2x + 4$$

$$y = \frac{-2x + 4}{x^2 - 9}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{(x^2-9)(-2) - (-2x+4)(2x)}{(x^2-9)^2}$$

$$= \frac{-2x^2 + 18 + 4x^2 - 8x}{(x^2-9)^2}$$

$$= \frac{2x^2 - 8x + 18}{(x^2-9)^2}$$

Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ if $x^2y^2 = 2(x^2 + y^2)$

$$x^2(y(x))^2 = 2x^2 + 2(y(x))^2$$

$$x^2 \cdot 2y(x)y'(x) + (y(x))^2 \cdot 2x = 4x + 4y(x)y'(x)$$

$$\underline{2x^2yy'} + \underline{2xy^2} = \underline{4x} + \underline{4yy'}$$

$$2x^2yy' - 4yy' = 4x - 2xy^2$$

$$y'(2x^2y - 4y) = 4x - 2xy^2$$

$$y' = \frac{4x - 2xy^2}{2x^2y - 4y}$$

Find the slope of the line tangent to $\sec(x+y) - \tan(x-y) = 1$ at the point (π, π)

$$\sec(x+y(x)) - \tan(x-y(x)) = 1$$

$$\sec(x+y(x)) + \tan(x+y(x)) \cdot (1+y'(x)) - \sec^2(x-y(x)) (1-y'(x)) = 0$$

$$\underbrace{\sec(x+y) + \tan(x+y)}_{\text{distribute}} (1+y') - \underbrace{\sec^2(x-y)}_{\text{distribute}} (1-y') = 0 \quad \text{Multiply out}$$

$$\underbrace{\sec(x+y) + \tan(x+y)}_{\text{distribute}} (1) + \underbrace{\sec(x+y) + \tan(x+y)}_{\text{distribute}} y' - \underbrace{\sec^2(x-y)}_{\text{distribute}} (1) + \underbrace{\sec^2(x-y)}_{\text{distribute}} y' = 0$$

$$\sec(x+y) + \tan(x+y) y' + \sec^2(x-y) y' = -\sec(x+y) + \tan(x+y) + \sec^2(x-y)$$

$$y' = \frac{-\sec(x+y) + \tan(x+y) + \sec^2(x-y)}{\sec(x+y) + \tan(x+y) + \sec^2(x-y)}$$

$$\textcircled{\pi, \pi} \quad y' = \frac{-\sec(\pi+\pi) + \tan(\pi+\pi) + \sec^2(\pi-\pi)}{\sec(\pi+\pi) + \tan(\pi+\pi) + \sec^2(\pi-\pi)} = \boxed{1}$$

Alternative: Substitute point, THEN SOLVE:

$$\sec(x+y) + \tan(x+y)(1+y') - \sec^2(x-y)(1-y') = 0 \quad \begin{matrix} x & y \\ (\pi, & \pi) \end{matrix}$$

$$\sec 2\pi + \tan 2\pi (1+y') - \sec^2 0 (1-y') = 0$$

$$-1 + y' = 0$$

$$y' = \boxed{1}$$

Show that the curves $x^2 + y^2 = 9$ and $y = \sqrt{2}x$ are orthogonal. [⊥]
 (Show slopes of tangent lines are negative reciprocals.)

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

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \sqrt{2}$$

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

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-x}{y}$$

? neg recip?

Method I: Find intersection point(s) and substitute into derivative.

Method II: intersect (x,y) solves both equations:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-x}{y} \quad y = \sqrt{2}x$$

$$= \frac{-x}{\sqrt{2}x} = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \quad \sqrt{2} \quad \text{negative reciprocals, so curves are } \perp.$$