

### Section 3.6 Implicit differentiation.

Some functions are defined implicitly by a relation between  $x$  and  $y$ , where  $x$  is the independent variable and  $y$  depends on  $x$ . In order to find the derivative of  $y$  with respect to  $x$ , we can use the method of **implicit differentiation**. This consists of differentiating both sides of the relation with respect to  $x$  and then solving the resulting equation for  $y'$ .

**Example 1.** Find  $dy/dx$  by implicit differentiation.

$$1. (x^2 - xy + y^3)' = (8)'$$

$$y = y(x)$$

$$(x^2)' - (xy)' + (y^3)' = 0$$

$$2x - (x'y + y'x) + 3y^2y' = 0$$

keep  $y'$  as is.

$$2x - (y + xy') + 3y^2y' = 0$$

solve for  $y'$ .

$$2x - y - xy' + 3y^2y' = 0$$

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

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

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

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

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

$$y'(x-y) - (1-y')y = 2x(x-y)^2$$

$$xy' - yy'(-y) + yy' = 2x(x-y)^2 \rightarrow$$

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

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

3.  $\sqrt{x+y} + \sqrt{xy} = 6$

$$((x+y)^{1/2} + (xy)^{1/2})' = (6)'$$

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

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

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

$$\frac{1}{2}(x+y)^{-1/2}y' + \frac{1}{2}(xy)^{-1/2}xy' = -\frac{1}{2}(x+y)^{-1/2} - \frac{1}{2}(xy)^{-1/2}y$$

$$y' \left( \frac{1}{2}(x+y)^{-1/2} + \frac{y}{2}(xy)^{-1/2} \right) = -\frac{1}{2}(x+y)^{-1/2} - \frac{y}{2}(xy)^{-1/2}$$

$$y' = \frac{-(x+y)^{-1/2} - y(xy)^{-1/2}}{(x+y)^{-1/2} + x(xy)^{-1/2}}$$

4.  $(x \sin y + \cos 2y)' = (\cos y)'$

$$x' \sin y + x(\sin y)' + (-\sin(2y))(2y)' = -\sin y (y)'$$

$$\sin y + x(\cos y)(y') - \sin(2y)(2y') = -\sin y (y')$$

$$\sin y = 2y' \sin 2y - xy' \cos y - y' \sin y$$

$$\sin y = y'(2 \sin 2y - x \cos y - \sin y)$$

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

$$x = x(y)$$

**Example 2.** Let  $y$  be the independent variable and  $x$  be the dependent variable. Use implicit differentiation to find  $dx/dy$  if

$$\frac{d}{dy}[(x^2 + y^2)^2] = \frac{d}{dy}[4x^2y]$$

differentiate for  $y$ .

$$2(x^2 + y^2) \frac{d}{dy}(x^2 + y^2) = 4 \left( \frac{d}{dy} x^2(y) + x^2 \frac{d}{dy} y \right)$$

$\frac{d}{dy}$  - take the derivative with respect to  $y$

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

$$(x^2 + y^2)xx' - 2xyx' = x^2 - (x^2 + y^2)y$$

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

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

**Definition.** Two curves are called **orthogonal** if at each point of intersection their tangent lines are perpendicular.

lines  $y = k_1x + b_1 \perp$  if and only if  $k_1 k_2 = -1$

**Example 3.** Show that the curves  $x^2 - y^2 = 5$  and  $4x^2 + 9y^2 = 72$  are orthogonal.

$(x^2 - y^2)' = (5)'$ $2x - 2yy' = 0$ $y' = \frac{x}{y}$ $k_1 = \frac{x}{y}$		$(4x^2 + 9y^2)' = (72)'$ $8x + 18yy' = 0$ $y' = -\frac{8x}{18y} = -\frac{4x}{9y}$ $k_2 = -\frac{4x}{9y} \Rightarrow k_1 k_2 = -\frac{4x^2}{9y^2}$
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Points of intersection:

$$\begin{cases} x^2 - y^2 = 5 \rightarrow x^2 = 5 + y^2 \\ 4x^2 + 9y^2 = 72 \end{cases}$$

$$4(5 + y^2) + 9y^2 = 72$$

$$20 + 4y^2 + 9y^2 = 72$$

$$13y^2 = 52 \rightarrow y^2 = 4$$

$$y = \pm 2$$

$$x^2 = 5 + 4 = 9$$

$$x = \pm 3$$

$$(-3, -2), (-3, 2), (3, -2), (3, 2)$$

$k = -\frac{4(-3)}{9(-2)^2} = -1$	$k = -\frac{4(-3)}{9(2)^2} = -1$	$k = -\frac{4(3)}{9(-2)^2} = -1$	$k = -\frac{4(3)}{9(2)^2} = -1$
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orthogonal!