

### Section 3.5 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.  $x^2 - xy + y^3 = 8$

2.  $xe^y = x - y$

3.  $\tan(x - y) = \frac{y}{1 + x^2}$

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

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

### Derivatives of the inverse trigonometric functions.

Let us find  $(\arcsin x)'$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx} \arcsin x &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} & \frac{d}{dx} \arccos x &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \\ \frac{d}{dx} \arctan x &= \frac{1}{1+x^2} & \frac{d}{dx} \cot^{-1} x &= -\frac{1}{1+x^2} \\ \frac{d}{dx} \sec^{-1} x &= \frac{1}{x\sqrt{x^2-1}} & \frac{d}{dx} \csc^{-1} x &= -\frac{1}{x\sqrt{x^2-1}}\end{aligned}$$

**Example 3.** Find the derivative.

1.  $f(x) = \arccos(x^2)$

2.  $f(x) = \arctan \sqrt{\frac{1-x}{1+x}}$