

Math 250 3.8 Implicit Differentiation

Objectives

- 1) Distinguish between implicit and explicit forms of equations
- 2) Use implicit differentiation to find the derivative of an implicit expression

Procedure for Implicit Differentiation

Given an equation containing x and y .

Step 1: Assume that y is a differentiable function of x , namely that $\frac{dy}{dx}$ exists and represents the rate of change of y with respect to x , the derivative we seek.

Step 2: Differentiate everything on both sides of the equation.

Use the chain rule when taking derivatives of y , namely, multiply by $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

Use the product, quotient and chain rules when any combination of x and y indicate.

Step 3: Isolate $\frac{dy}{dx}$

If $\frac{dy}{dx}$ appears only once, isolate it.

If $\frac{dy}{dx}$ appears twice or more, collect $\frac{dy}{dx}$ terms on the same side and non- $\frac{dy}{dx}$ terms on the other side; factor out

$\frac{dy}{dx}$, then isolate by dividing.

Examples and Practice

- 1) Find the slope of the tangent line to the unit circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ using implicit differentiation at
 - a. $\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)$
 - b. $\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$
 - c. $(1,0)$
 - d. $(0,1)$
 - e. $(-1,0)$
 - f. $(0,-1)$
- 2) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ by implicit differentiation for $x^2y + y^2x = -2$
- 3) Find the equation of the tangent line to $x^{2/3} + y^{2/3} = 5$ at $(8,1)$
- 4) Find y'' if $x^2 - y^2 = 36$
- 5) Find y'' when $\sin x + x^2y = 10$
- 6) Find y'' in terms of x and y when $x^2y^2 - 2x = 3$
- 7) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ when $(x+y)^3 = x^3 + y^3$

Consider the unit circle, radius 1, center $(0,0)$

$$\text{equation } (x-0)^2 + (y-0)^2 = 1^2$$

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

The equation $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ is an implicit form because

- x and y both appear on one side of equation
- is not written in $f(x) = \text{stuff w/ } x$ form

This equation can be written in explicit form if we solve for y .

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

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

$$y = \pm \sqrt{1 - x^2}$$

but it requires two equations.

$$\text{and } \begin{cases} y = \sqrt{1 - x^2} \\ y = -\sqrt{1 - x^2} \end{cases}$$

Sometimes an implicit relationship can be solved for y , and other times it cannot.

Implicit differentiation is the process used to find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ from an implicit equation.

① Find the slope of the tangent line to the unit circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ at a) $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})$ using implicit differentiation.

b) $(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$

c) $(1, 0)$

d) $(0, 1)$

e) $(-1, 0)$

f) $(0, -1)$

Differentiate all terms with respect to x .

Assume $y(x)$ so $\frac{dy}{dx}$ results by chain rule from all derivatives of y and any $x \cdot y$ or $\frac{x}{y}$ must be product or quotient.

$$\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) + \frac{d}{dx}(y^2) = \frac{d}{dx}(1)$$

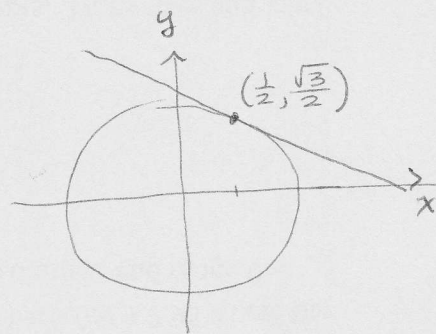
$$2x + 2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

Isolate $\frac{dy}{dx}$

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

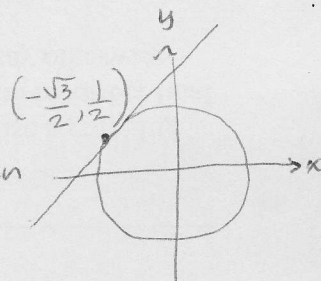
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-2x}{+2y}$$

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

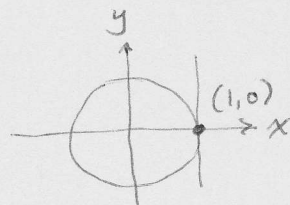


a) Evaluate $\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2})} = \frac{-\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)}{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}} = -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} = \boxed{-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}} = m_{\text{tan}}$

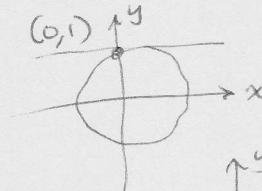
b) Evaluate $\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}, \frac{1}{2})} = \frac{-\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\right)}{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \cdot \frac{2}{1} = \boxed{\sqrt{3}} = m_{\text{tan}}$



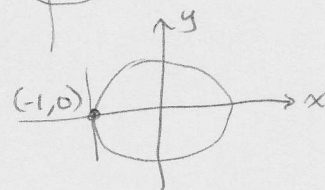
c) Evaluate $\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(1,0)} = \frac{-1}{0} = \boxed{\text{undefined}}$



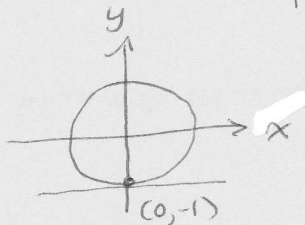
d) Evaluate $\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(0,1)} = \frac{-0}{1} = \boxed{0}$



e) Evaluate $\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(-1,0)} = \frac{-(-1)}{0} = \boxed{\text{undefined}}$



f) Evaluate $\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(0,-1)} = \frac{-0}{-1} = \boxed{0}$



(2) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ by implicit differentiation

$$\underbrace{x^2 y}_{\text{product rule}} + \underbrace{y^2 x}_{\text{product rule}} = -2$$

$$\underbrace{x^2 \cdot \frac{d}{dx}[y] + y \cdot \frac{d}{dx}[x^2]} + \underbrace{y^2 \cdot \frac{d}{dx}[x] + x \cdot \frac{d}{dx}[y^2]} = \frac{d}{dx}[-2]$$

$$x^2 \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} + y \cdot 2x + y^2 \cdot 1 + x \cdot 2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

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

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

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

$$\boxed{\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-y(2x + y)}{x(x + 2y)}}$$

Examples.

$$8^{2/3} + 1^{2/3} = 5 \checkmark$$

$$2^2 + 1^2 = 5 \checkmark$$

- ③ Find equation of tangent line to $x^{2/3} + y^{2/3} = 5$ at $(8,1)$.

To write eqn of line: need slope + point.
Get slope from derivative.
Equation is implicit — use implicit diff.

$$\frac{2}{3}x^{-1/3} + \frac{2}{3}y^{-1/3} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 0.$$

$$\frac{2}{3\sqrt[3]{y}} \frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{2}{3\sqrt[3]{x}}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-\sqrt[3]{y}}{\sqrt[3]{x}} = -\frac{y^{1/3}}{x^{1/3}}$$

Evaluate derivative at $(8,1)$:

$$\left. \frac{dy}{dx} \right|_{(8,1)} = -\frac{\sqrt[3]{1}}{\sqrt[3]{8}} = -\frac{1}{2} = \text{slope of tangent line}$$

Write equation — pt-slope form:

$$y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$$

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

Simplify

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

$$\boxed{y = -\frac{1}{2}x + 5}$$

Yes

(4) Find y'' if $x^2 - y^2 = 36$.first derivative:

$$\text{yes } 2x - 2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

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

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

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

second derivative:

explicitly:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{y \cdot 1 - x \cdot y'}{y^2}$$

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

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{y - x \left(\frac{x}{y} \right)}{y^2}$$

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

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

Subst $x^2 - y^2 = 36$

$$\boxed{\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-36}{y^3}}$$

use
original
equation
to
simplify.

→ subst $x^2 - y^2 = 36$

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

$$\boxed{\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-36}{y^3}}$$

implicitly:

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

$$y \cdot \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$$

$$y \cdot \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \left(\frac{x}{y} \right)^2 = 1$$

$$y \cdot \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \frac{x^2}{y^2} = 1$$

$$y \cdot \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 1 - \frac{x^2}{y^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{1 - \frac{x^2}{y^2}}{y}$$

(5) Find y'' when $\sin(x) + x^2 y = 10$

First derivative $\cos(x) + \underbrace{\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) \cdot y + x^2 \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(y)}_{\text{product rule}} = 0$

option 2 for $y'' \rightarrow \cos(x) + 2xy + x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$

$$x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = -\cos(x) - 2xy$$

option 1 for $y'' \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-\cos(x) - 2xy}{x^2}$

Second derivative

option 1: Quotient rule from $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-\cos x - 2xy}{x^2}$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{x^2 \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(-\cos x - 2xy) - (-\cos x - 2xy) \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(x^2)}{(x^2)^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{x^2 \cdot \left(+\cos x - 2 \left(x \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} + y \cdot 1 \right) \right) - 2x(-\cos x - 2xy)}{x^4}$$

product rule!

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

dist.

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

dist

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

combine

$$= \frac{x \left(x \cos x - 2x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2 \cos x + 2xy \right)}{x^4}$$

factor x
GCF

$$= \frac{x \cos x - 2x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2 \cos x + 2xy}{x^3}$$

cancel
but...
we still
have $\frac{dy}{dx}$!

M250 3.8

replace $\frac{dy}{dx}$ by earlier result

$$= \frac{x \cos x - 2x^2 \left[\frac{-\cos x - 2xy}{x^2} \right] + 2 \cos x + 2xy}{x^3}$$

$$= \frac{x \cos x - 2(-\cos x - 2xy) + 2 \cos x + 2xy}{x^3} \quad \text{cancel } x^2$$

$$= \frac{x \cos x + 2 \cos x + 4xy + 2 \cos x + 2xy}{x^3} \quad \text{dist}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{x \cos x + 4 \cos x + 6xy}{x^3}}$$

combine

option 2: Implicit diff with product rule from
 $\cos x + 2xy + x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$

$$\text{Differentiate } -\sin x + 2 \left[\underbrace{\left(\frac{d}{dx} x \right) \cdot y + x \cdot \frac{dy}{dx}}_{\text{product rule}} \right] + \left[\left(\frac{d}{dx} x^2 \right) \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} + x^2 \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right) \right] = 0$$

$$-\cos x + 2 \left[y + x \frac{dy}{dx} \right] + \left[2x \frac{dy}{dx} + x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right] = 0$$

$$-\cos x + 2y + 2x \frac{dy}{dx} + 2x \frac{dy}{dx} + x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$-\cos x + 2y + 4x \frac{dy}{dx} + x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$\text{replace } \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-\cos x - 2xy}{x^2}$$

$$-\cos x + 2y + 4x \left(\frac{-\cos x - 2xy}{x^2} \right) + x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$-\cos x + 2y - \frac{4 \cos x}{x} - 8y + x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$$

clear fraction $\nearrow$ mult all by x .

"Take the derivative of the first derivative $\frac{dy}{dx}$ "
 $\uparrow$
 $= \text{second derivative } \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$

M250 3.8

$$-x \cos x + \underbrace{2xy - 4 \cos x - 8xy}_{=0} + x^3 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = 0$$

Combine like terms

$$-x \cos x - 4 \cos x - 6xy + x^3 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = 0$$

$$x^3 \frac{dy}{dx} = x \cos x + 4 \cos x + 6xy$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{x \cos x + 4 \cos x + 6xy}{x^3}$$

⑥ Method 1

Find $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ in terms of x and y .

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

Find first derivative

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

product rule on x^2y^2

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

tidy up

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

collect $\frac{dy}{dx}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2(1 - xy^2)}{2x^2y}$$

isolate $\frac{dy}{dx}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - xy^2}{x^2y}$$

factor and cancel 2

Find second derivative

1) quotient rule

2) product rule for $\frac{d}{dx}$ top and again for $\frac{d}{dx}$ bottom.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{(x^2y) \cdot (-1) \left[x \cdot 2y \frac{dy}{dx} + y^2 \cdot 1 \right] - (1 - xy^2) \left[x^2 \cdot 1 \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} + y \cdot 2x \right]}{(x^2y)^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-2x^3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} - x^2y^3 - (1 - xy^2)(x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2xy)}{x^4y^2}$$

dist
tidy

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-2x^3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} - x^2y^3 - \left\{ x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2xy - x^3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} - 2x^2y^3 \right\}}{x^4y^2}$$

FoIL

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

dist neg

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

combine

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{x \left[-x^2y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + xy^3 - x \frac{dy}{dx} - 2y \right]}{x^4y^2}$$

factor out x .

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-x^2y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + xy^3 - x \frac{dy}{dx} - 2y}{x^3y^2}$$

cancel x .

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-x^2y^2 \left(\frac{1 - xy^2}{x^2y} \right) + xy^3 - x \left(\frac{1 - xy^2}{x^2y} \right) - 2y}{x^3y^2}$$

subst

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - xy^2}{x^2y}$$

⑥ can't

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-y(1-xy^2) + xy^3 - \left(\frac{1-xy^2}{xy}\right) - 2y}{x^3y^2}$$

simplify

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-y + xy^3 + xy^3 - \frac{1}{xy} + y - 2y}{x^3y^2}$$

dist

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-2y + 2xy^3 - \frac{1}{xy}}{x^3y^2}$$

combine

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-2xy^2 + 2x^2y^4 - 1}{x^4y^3}$$

mult by $\frac{xy}{xy}$ to clear frac.

$$\boxed{\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{-2xy^2 + 2x^2y^4 - 1}{x^4y^3}}$$

Method 2

using implicit differentiation for both derivatives.

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

first derivative

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

product rule on $x^2 y^2$

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

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

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2(1 - xy^2)}{2x^2 y}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - xy^2}{x^2 y}$$

Find second derivative

replace $\frac{dy}{dx}$ by y'

mult by $x^2 y$ to remove quotient

$$x^2 y y' = 1 - xy^2$$

3-way product rule on LHS

$$2x \cdot y \cdot y' + x^2 \cdot y' \cdot y' + x^2 y \cdot y'' = -[x \cdot 2yy' + y^2 \cdot 1]$$

product rule RHS

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

dist neg

$$4xyy' + x^2 (y')^2 + x^2 y y'' - y^2 = 0$$

collect all on LHS

$$4xy \left(\frac{1 - xy^2}{x^2 y} \right) + x^2 \left(\frac{1 - xy^2}{x^2 y} \right)^2 + x^2 y y'' + y^2 = 0$$

$$4 \left(\frac{1 - xy^2}{x} \right) + \frac{(1 - xy^2)^2}{x^2 y^2} + x^2 y y'' + y^2 = 0$$

simplify

$$4xy^2(1 - xy^2) + (1 - xy^2)^2 + x^4 y^3 y'' + x^2 y^4 = 0$$

clear frac

$$4xy^2 - 4x^2 y^4 + 1 - 2xy^2 + x^2 y^4 + x^4 y^3 y'' + x^2 y^4 = 0$$

FoIL, dist

$$2xy^2 - 2x^2 y^4 + 1 + x^4 y^3 y'' = 0$$

combine

$$x^4 y^3 y'' = 2x^2 y^4 - 2xy^2 - 1$$

collect y''

$$y'' = \frac{2x^2 y^4 - 2xy^2 - 1}{x^4 y^3}$$

isolate y''

Math 250

Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$

$$(x+y)^3 = x^3 + y^3$$

↑
chain rule
↑
chain rule for y

$$3(x+y)^2 \cdot \left(1 + \frac{dy}{dx}\right) = 3x^2 + 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$3(x+y)^2 \cdot \left(1 + \frac{dy}{dx}\right) = 3(x^2 + y^2 \frac{dy}{dx})$$

$$(x+y)^2 \cdot \left(1 + \frac{dy}{dx}\right) = (x^2 + y^2 \frac{dy}{dx})$$

$$(x^2 + 2xy + y^2) \left(1 + \frac{dy}{dx}\right) = (x^2 + y^2 \frac{dy}{dx})$$

FOIL

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

more multiply

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

collected $\frac{dy}{dx}$

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

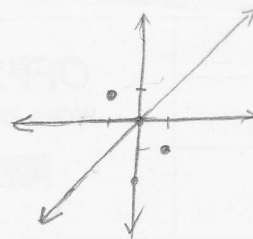
factor out $\frac{dy}{dx}$

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

divide by coef of $\frac{dy}{dx}$

$$\boxed{\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-y(2x + y)}{x(x + 2y)}}$$

factor.



Graph is
x-axis is
y-axis is
line $y=x$
and two points
 $(1, -1)$ and $(-1, 1)$

Note:
divide out 3 now or later