

MA 16010 Lesson 14: Implicit Differentiation

however

Explicit vs. Implicit functions. A function in **explicit form** is what we considered so far. It is given by an equation of the form:

$$y = f(x)$$

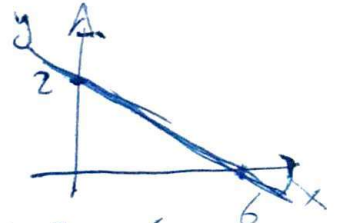
A function in **implicit form** is given by a more general equation involving x and y . We still think of $y = y(x)$ as a function of x .

Example: The function $y(x)$ given by the equation

$$x + 3y = 6$$

is in implicit form. The explicit form of the function is:

$$y = 2 - \frac{1}{3}x$$



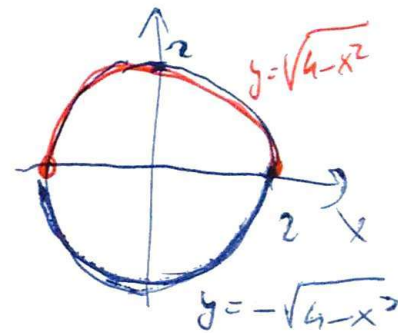
$$\begin{aligned} x + 3y &= 6 \\ 3y &= 6 - x \\ y &= \frac{1}{3}(6 - x) \\ &= 2 - \frac{1}{3}x \end{aligned}$$

Example: The function $y(x)$ given by the equation

$$x^2 + y^2 = 4 \quad (\text{circles } \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = 2)$$

is in implicit form. The explicit form of the function is:

$$\begin{aligned} x^2 + y^2 &= 4 \\ y^2 &= 4 - x^2 \\ y &= \pm \sqrt{4 - x^2} \end{aligned}$$



either $y = \sqrt{4 - x^2}$, or $y = -\sqrt{4 - x^2}$ (two functions!)

Implicit differentiation. Sometimes it is not easy/possible to find explicit form out of implicit one, but we can still take the derivative $\frac{d}{dx}$.

Idea: Differentiate both sides of the equation with respect to x . Treat $y = y(x)$ as a function of x , and use the chain rule wherever appropriate, i.e.

$$\frac{d}{dx} [h(y)] = h'(y) \cdot y'$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} h(y(x))$$

In the end, solve for y' .

Ex 0: $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ / $\frac{d}{dx}[\dots]$ $\Rightarrow 2xyy' = -2x$

$$2x + 2yy' = 0$$

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

Exercise: Using implicit differentiation, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ when

$$4x^3 + 2xy^2 = 3y^3 - 7yx^2 \quad \left/ \frac{d}{dx} [\dots] \right.$$

$$12x^2 + (2y^2 + 2x(2y) \cdot y') = 9y^2 \cdot y' - (7y' \cdot x^2 + 7y \cdot (2x))$$

$$\underline{12x^2} + \underline{2y^2} + \underline{4xy \cdot y'} = \underline{9y^2 \cdot y'} - \underline{7x^2 y'} - \underline{14xy}$$

$$4xy \cdot y' - 9y^2 \cdot y' + 7x^2 y' = -12x^2 - 2y^2 - 14xy$$

$$(4xy - 9y^2 + 7x^2) y' = -12x^2 - 2y^2 - 14xy$$

$$y' = \frac{-12x^2 - 2y^2 - 14xy}{4xy - 9y^2 + 7x^2} = - \frac{12x^2 + 2y^2 + 14xy}{4xy - 9y^2 + 7x^2}$$

Exercise: Using implicit differentiation, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ when

$$\cos(3x + 2y) = 5x^2 y \quad \left/ \frac{d}{dx} [\dots] \right.$$

$$-\sin(3x + 2y) \cdot (3 + 2y') = 10x \cdot y + 5x^2 \cdot y'$$

$$\underline{-3 \sin(3x + 2y)} - \underline{2 \sin(3x + 2y) \cdot y'} = \underline{10xy} + \underline{5x^2 \cdot y'}$$

$$-2 \sin(3x + 2y) \cdot y' - 5x^2 \cdot y' = 3 \sin(3x + 2y) + 10xy$$

$$(-2 \sin(3x + 2y) - 5x^2) y' = 3 \sin(3x + 2y) + 10xy$$

$$y' = \frac{3 \sin(3x + 2y) + 10xy}{-2 \sin(3x + 2y) - 5x^2} = - \frac{3 \sin(3x + 2y) + 10xy}{2 \sin(3x + 2y) + 5x^2}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = \frac{1}{\sin^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)} \end{array} \right\}$$

Exercise: Using implicit differentiation, find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ when

$$3 \cot\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = 5x$$

$\left| \frac{d}{dx} [\dots] \right.$

$$\begin{aligned} 3(-\csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{x}{y}\right] &= 5 \\ -3 \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \cdot \frac{1 \cdot y - y' \cdot x}{y^2} &= 5 \\ -3 \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \left(\frac{1}{y} - \frac{x}{y^2} \cdot y' \right) &= 5 \\ -\frac{3 \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)}{y} + \frac{3x}{y^2} \cdot \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) y' &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{3x}{y^2} \cdot \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) y' &= 5 + \frac{3 \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)}{y} \\ \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) y' &= \frac{5y^2}{3x} + \frac{3 \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)}{3x \cdot y} \\ \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \cdot y' &= \frac{5y^2}{3x} + \frac{1}{x} \cdot \csc^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \\ \underline{\underline{y' = \frac{5y^2}{3x} \cdot \sin^2\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) + \frac{y}{x}}} \end{aligned}$$

Exercise: Find the slope of the tangent line to $3x^2 + 2y^2 = 14$ at $(2, 1)$.

slope of the tangent line = y' at $x=2$ ($y=1$)

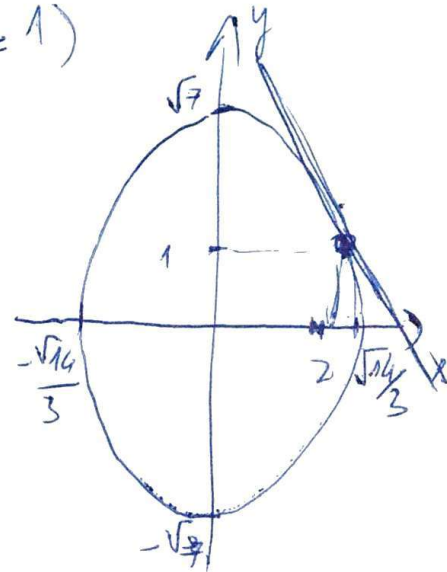
$$3x^2 + 2y^2 = 14 \quad \left| \frac{d}{dx} [\dots] \right.$$

$$6x + 4 \cdot y \cdot y' = 0$$

$$4y y' = -6x$$

$$y' = -\frac{6x}{4y} = -\frac{3x}{2y}$$

$$y' = -\frac{3 \cdot 2}{2 \cdot 1} = -3$$



Exercise: Find the equation of the tangent line to $6\sqrt{x} + 4\sqrt{y} = 5$ at $(x, y) = (1/4, 1/4)$.

1. slope of the line:

$$6\sqrt{x} + 4\sqrt{y} = 5 \quad | \text{ differentiate } |$$

$$6x^{1/2} + 4y^{1/2} = 5 \quad | \frac{d}{dx} [\dots]$$

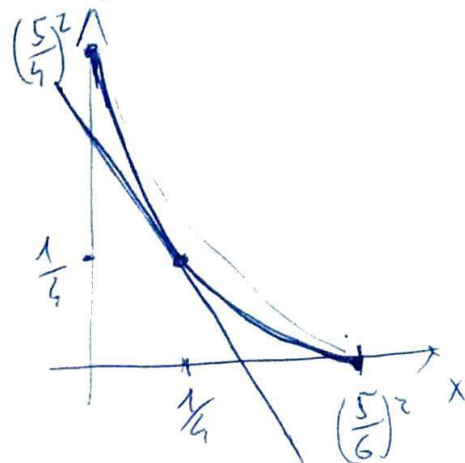
$$6 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot x^{-1/2} + 4 \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot y^{-1/2} \cdot y' = 0$$

$$3 \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} + \frac{2}{\sqrt{y}} \cdot y' = 0$$

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

$$y' = -\frac{3}{\sqrt{x}} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{y}}{2} = -\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{y}}{\sqrt{x}}, \quad x = \frac{1}{4}, y = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$y' = -\frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{1/4}}{\sqrt{1/4}} = -\frac{3}{2}$$



2. line of the form $y = -\frac{3}{2}x + b$,
passes through $(x = \frac{1}{4}, y = \frac{1}{4})$

$$\sim) \frac{1}{4} = -\frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{1}{4} \right) + b$$

$$b = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\sim) \underline{\underline{y = -\frac{3}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}}}$$

OR

2. point-slope formula

$$y - y_0 = (\text{slope}) \cdot (x - x_0)$$

$$\sim) y - \frac{1}{4} = \left(-\frac{3}{2} \right) \left(x - \frac{1}{4} \right)$$

$$y = -\frac{3}{2} \left(x - \frac{1}{4} \right) + \frac{1}{4}$$

$$y = -\frac{3}{2}x + \frac{3}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{4}$$

$$y = -\frac{3}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}$$