



# Differentiating Implicitly ~ Defined Functions

***WHAT ARE IMPLICITLY DEFINED FUNCTIONS AGAIN?***

**Definition.** A relation  $F(x,y) = 0$  is said to define the function  $y = f(x)$  implicitly if, for  $x$  in the domain of  $f$ ,  $F(x, f(x)) = 0$ .

Even though we may not be able to determine an explicit function for  $f$ , we can determine the derivative of  $f$ . How?

When will we use implicit differentiation?

$2x - 3y = 9$  Find  $D_x y$

implicitly defined function

explicitly defined function

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

$D_x y = \frac{2}{3}$

understand that one variable is a function of the other one

(we'll treat  $y$  as a function of  $x$  since we're asked to find  $D_x y$ )

So whenever you see a  $y$  in the expression, treat it like a "blob in  $x$ ", and use the chain rule.

$2x - 3y = 9$  Find  $D_x y$        $2x - 3(\text{some blob in } x) = 9$

$2 - 3 \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$

$D_x y = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2}{3}$

$x^2 y + y^3 - x^3 = 5$  Find  $D_x y$

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

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

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

We can use this to determine the slope at any point  $(x, y)$  that is on the function.

we need both  $x$  +  $y$

$(-\sqrt[3]{5}, 0)$   
 $(0, \sqrt[3]{5})$

$$x^2 y + y^3 - x^3 = 5 \quad \text{Find } D_x \text{!}$$

$y$  is independent variable

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

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

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

Compare!

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

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\frac{dx}{dy}}$$

Reciprocals


**HOMEWORK :**

**SHEET...BOTH SIDES,  
and 3.7 # 1,2,7,9,11**

**QUIZ CHANGED TO MONDAY**

## Attachments

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 [Visual Calculus Implicit Differentiation](#)

 [Implicit Function Graphing](#)