

Question 3

Question:

Find the equation of the line which is tangent to the curve $x\sin(xy - y^2) = x^2 - 1$ at the point (1,1)

Answer:

$x\sin(xy - y^2) = x^2 - 1$, Differentiating with respect to x yields

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

$(1)\sin(xy - y^2) + x\cos(xy - y^2)[(1)y + x(\frac{dy}{dx}) - 2y(\frac{dy}{dx})] = 2x$, by Chain Rule

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

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

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

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

To find the slope of the tangent line we need to evaluate $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at (1,1)

$$\begin{aligned}\left.\frac{dy}{dx}\right|_{(1,1)} &= \frac{2(1) - (1)(1)\cos((1)(1) - (1)^2) - \sin((1)(1) - (1)^2)}{(1)^2\cos((1)(1) - (1)^2) - 2(1)(1)\cos((1)(1) - (1)^2)} \\&= \frac{2 - \cos(1-1) - \sin(1-1)}{(1)\cos(1-1) - 2\cos(1-1)} \\&= \frac{2 - \cos(0) - \sin(0)}{\cos(0) - 2\cos(0)} \\&= \frac{2 - 1 - 0}{1 - 2(1)} \\&= \frac{1}{1-2} \\&= \frac{1}{-1} \\&= -1\end{aligned}$$