


• Implicit differentiation:

Q. Given an equation involving x, y
Find y' .

• y is thought of as a function of x &
(say $y = f(x)$).

• But we do not know y explicitly as a function of x .

 Hence the term "implicit"
in implicit differentiation

• Method: Differentiate both sides but treat y as a function of x

eg: Given $\sin(xy) = x^2 + y^2$, find y' .

Ans: Differentiate both sides

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \underbrace{(\sin(xy))'}_{\text{Chain rule}} = \underbrace{(x^2 + y^2)'}_{\text{Chain Rule}} \\
 & \sin'(xy) \cdot (xy)' = (x^2)' + (y^2)' \\
 & \text{Product Rule} = \cos(xy) \cdot (x'y + y'x) = 2x + 2y \cdot y' \\
 & = \cos(xy) \cdot (y + y'x) \\
 & \Rightarrow \cos(xy) \cdot (y + y'x) = 2x + 2y \cdot y'
 \end{aligned}$$

Note:

$$(y^2)' \neq 2y$$

Think

$$y^2 = (f(x))^2$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (y^2)' &= (f(x)^2)' \\
 &= 2f(x) \cdot f'(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

From here, we isolate y' :

(01)

$$\cos(xy) \cdot y + \cos(xy) \cdot y' \cdot x = 2x + 2yy'$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos(xy) \cdot y = -\cos(xy) \cdot y' + 2x + 2yy'$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos(xy) \cdot y - 2x = -\cos(xy) \cdot y' + 2yy'$$

$$= y'(-\cos(xy) + 2y)$$

$$\Rightarrow y' = \frac{\cos(xy) \cdot y - 2x}{-\cos(xy) + 2y}$$