Implicit Differentiation

As you work through the problems listed below, you should reference Chapter 3.1 of the recommended textbook (or the equivalent chapter in your alternative textbook/online resource) and your lecture notes.

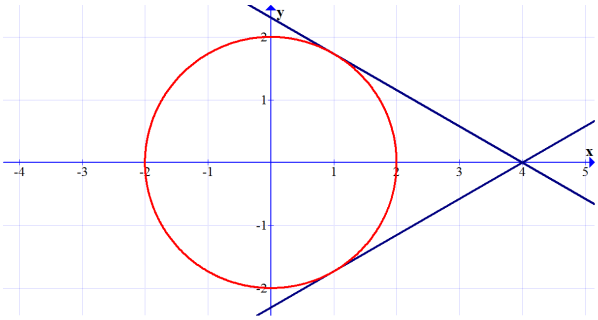
EXPECTED SKILLS:

- Be able to solve for $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ using implicit differentiation, i.e., without first solving for y.

PRACTICE PROBLEMS:

For problems 1 & 2, solve each equation for y to express y as an explicit function of x. Then find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

1. $yx + 2x = 6$
2. $3x + 12xy + 4y = 0$
3. Consider the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 4$, shown below.



   (a) By first expressing the circle as two separate explicit functions of x, compute the slope of the tangent line to the circle at each point where $x = 1$.

   (b) By using implicit differentiation, compute the slope of the tangent line to the circle at each point where $x = 1$.

   (c) Find the point of intersection of the lines which are tangent to the circle when $x = 1$.

For problems 4-8, use implicit differentiation to find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

4. $x^2y = 9$

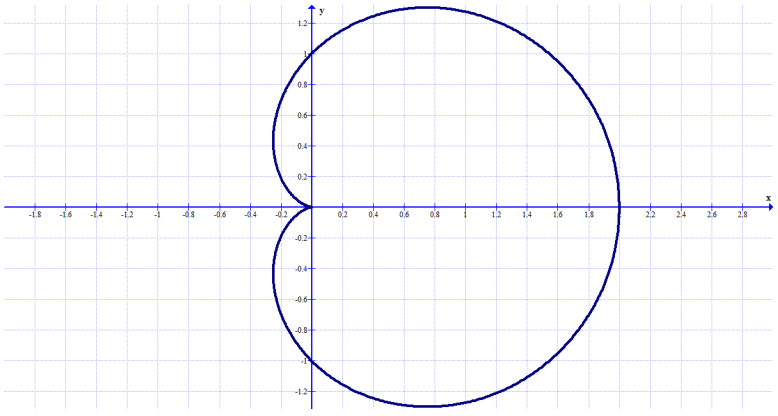
5. $xy^2 + y^3 = 6$
6. $\dfrac{1-y^2}{1-2x} = x$
7. $y\cos x + y^2 x = 3x$
8. $x^2 + y^3 = 10$

For problem 9-10, compute $\dfrac{d^2y}{dx^2}$ in terms of x and y

9. $2x^2 - 3y^2 = 4$
10. $y + \sin y = x$

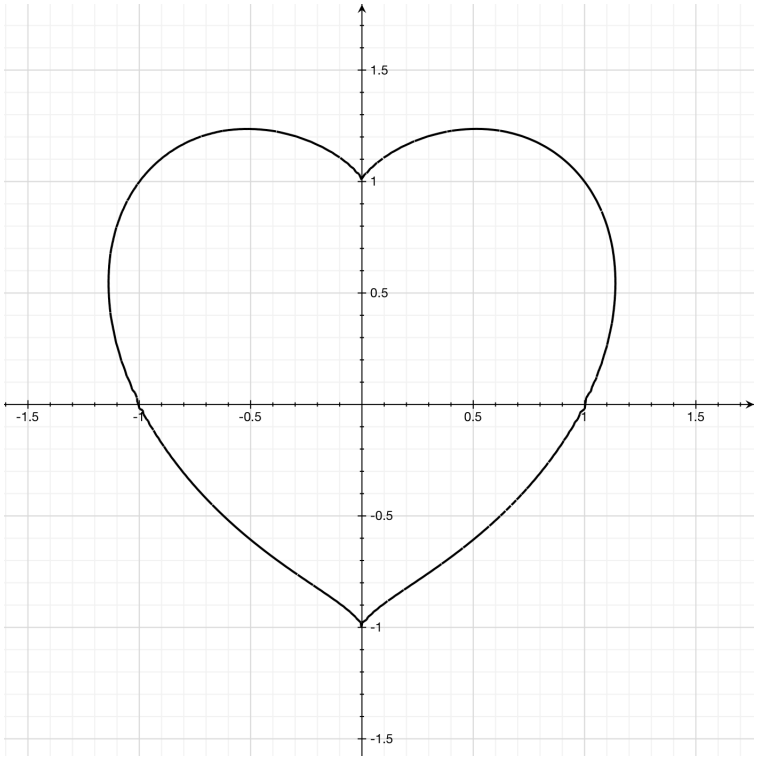
For problems 11-12, find the equation of the line tangent to the curve at the given point.

11. $x^2 + y^2 = 10$ at $(1, 3)$
12. $\dfrac{1-xy}{1-5x} = 2x$ at $(1, 9)$
13. Consider the ellipse given by $\dfrac{x^2}{a^2} + \dfrac{y^2}{b^2} = 1$, where a and b are positive real numbers. Use implicit differentiation to compute the slope of the line which is tangent to the curve at (x_0, y_0).
14. The set of ordered pairs (x, y) which satisfy the equation $(x^2 + y^2 - x)^2 = x^2 + y^2$ form the curve shown below, called a cardioid.



Let L_1 be the line which is tangent to the curve at the point $(0, 1)$ and let L_2 be the line which is tangent to the curve at the point $(0, -1)$. At which point in the xy-plane do L_1 and L_2 intersect?

15. The curve below is the graph of $(x^2 + y^2 - 1)^3 - x^2y^3 = 0$.



(a) Sketch the tangent line to to graph at the point $(-1, 1)$.

(b) Find an equation of line which is tangent to the graph at the point $(-1, 1)$.
Pro-tip: Plug in $(-1, 1)$ after applying $\dfrac{d}{dx}$ to both sides of the equation but before solving for $\dfrac{dy}{dx}$.