

Sample Problem Sheet

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1. Find the gradient of the unit circle ($x^2 + y^2 = 1$).

Solution: Differentiating with respect to x gives:

$$\begin{aligned}2x + 2y \frac{dy}{dx} &= 0 \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{-2x}{2y} \\ &= \frac{-x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}.\end{aligned}$$

2. Differentiate w.r.t. x :

$$e^{xy} = 2x + y$$

Solution: Differentiating both sides w.r.t. x :

$$\begin{aligned}e^{xy} \left(1y + x \frac{dy}{dx}\right) &= 2 + \frac{dy}{dx} \\ xe^{xy} \frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{dy}{dx} &= 2 - ye^{xy} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} (xe^{xy} - 1) &= 2 - ye^{xy} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{2 - ye^{xy}}{xe^{xy} - 1}\end{aligned}$$

3. Differentiate the following functions:

(a) $f(x) = 4x^2 + x - 1$

Solution: $f'(x) = 8x + 1$

(b) $f'(x) = -2 \cos(-2x)$