Pure Sector 4: Implicit Differentiation

Implicit functions are functions in *x* and *y* that aren't written y = f(x) or x = f(y)

$$x^{2} + y^{2} = 4$$

 $\sin(x + y) = y xy = 10$
 $x + y = 10$

Differentiate these functions with respect to x

In general, to differentiate a function of y with respect to x we differentiate it with respect to y and multiply by $\frac{dy}{dx}$



Example 1 Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ when $x^3 + 3y^2 = x$

Example 2 Find the gradient of the curve $3x^2 + xy - y^3 = 20$ at the point (4,2).

Example 3

Find the equation of the normal to the curve $x^3 + 2x^2y = y^3 + 15$ at the point (2,1). Give your answer in the form ax + by + c = 0 where *a*, *b* and *c* are integers.

Example 5 A curve is defined by the equation

$$2x^2y + 2x + 4y - \cos{(\pi y)} = 17$$

a) Find an expression for $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of x and y.

The point *P* with coordinates $\left(3, \frac{1}{2}\right)$ lies on *C*.

The normal to C at P meets the x-axis at the point A.

(b) Find the *x* coordinate of *A*, giving your answer in the form $\frac{a\pi + b}{c\pi + d}$, where *a*, *b*, *c* and *d* are integers to be determined.

Exam Questions

- 6 A curve has equation $x^3y + \cos(\pi y) = 7$.
 - (a) Find the exact value of the x-coordinate at the point on the curve where y = 1. (2 marks)
 - (b) Find the gradient of the curve at the point where y = 1. (5 marks)

5 A curve is defined by the equation

$$y^2 - xy + 3x^2 - 5 = 0$$

(a) Find the y-coordinates of the two points on the curve where x = 1. (3 marks)

(b) (i) Show that
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y - 6x}{2y - x}$$
. (6 marks)

(ii) Find the gradient of the curve at each of the points where x = 1. (2 marks)

(iii) Show that, at the two stationary points on the curve, $33x^2 - 5 = 0$. (3 marks)

The curve C has equation

$$4x^2 - y^3 - 4xy + 2^y = 0$$

The point P with coordinates (-2, 4) lies on C.

(a) Find the exact value of
$$\frac{dy}{dx}$$
 at the point *P*. (6)

The normal to C at P meets the y-axis at the point A.

(b) Find the y coordinate of A, giving your answer in the form $p + q \ln 2$, where p and q are constants to be determined.

(3)

[5]

6 A curve is defined by the equation $2y + e^{2x}y^2 = x^2 + C$, where C is a constant. The point $P\left(1, \frac{1}{e}\right)$ lies on the curve.

(b) Find an expression for
$$\frac{dy}{dx}$$
 in terms of x and y. (7 marks)

(c) Verify that
$$P\left(1, \frac{1}{e}\right)$$
 is a stationary point on the curve. (2 marks)

- 6 A curve is defined by the equation $\sin 2x + \cos y = \sqrt{3}$.
 - (i) Verify that the point $P\left(\frac{1}{6}\pi, \frac{1}{6}\pi\right)$ lies on the curve. [1]
 - (ii) Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in terms of x and y.

Hence find the gradient of the curve at the point P.