

Exercise 17

Find dy/dx by implicit differentiation.

$$\tan^{-1}(x^2y) = x + xy^2$$

Solution

Differentiate both sides with respect to x .

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}[\tan^{-1}(x^2y)] &= \frac{d}{dx}(x + xy^2) \\ \frac{1}{1 + (x^2y)^2} \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(x^2y) &= \frac{d}{dx}(x) + \frac{d}{dx}(xy^2) \\ \frac{1}{1 + (x^2y)^2} \cdot \left\{ \left[\frac{d}{dx}(x^2) \right] y + x^2 \left[\frac{d}{dx}(y) \right] \right\} &= (1) + \left[\frac{d}{dx}(x) \right] y^2 + x \left[\frac{d}{dx}(y^2) \right] \\ \frac{1}{1 + (x^2y)^2} \cdot [(2x)y + x^2(y')] &= (1) + (1)y^2 + x \left[(2y) \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(y) \right] \\ \frac{2xy + x^2y'}{1 + x^4y^2} &= 1 + y^2 + 2xyy'\end{aligned}$$

Solve for y' .

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{2xy}{1 + x^4y^2} + \frac{x^2y'}{1 + x^4y^2} &= 1 + y^2 + 2xyy' \\ \left(\frac{x^2}{1 + x^4y^2} - 2xy \right) y' &= 1 + y^2 - \frac{2xy}{1 + x^4y^2} \\ y' &= \frac{1 + y^2 - \frac{2xy}{1 + x^4y^2}}{\frac{x^2}{1 + x^4y^2} - 2xy} \\ y' &= \frac{\frac{(1+y^2)(1+x^4y^2) - 2xy}{1+x^4y^2}}{\frac{x^2 - 2xy(1+x^4y^2)}{1+x^4y^2}} \\ y' &= \frac{(1 + y^2)(1 + x^4y^2) - 2xy}{x^2 - 2xy(1 + x^4y^2)}\end{aligned}$$