

Exercise 9

Find dy/dx by implicit differentiation.

$$\frac{x^2}{x+y} = y^2 + 1$$

Solution

Differentiate both sides with respect to x .

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{x^2}{x+y} \right) &= \frac{d}{dx} (y^2 + 1) \\ \frac{[\frac{d}{dx}(x^2)](x+y) - [\frac{d}{dx}(x+y)](x^2)}{(x+y)^2} &= \frac{d}{dx}(y^2) + \frac{d}{dx}(1) \\ \frac{(2x)(x+y) - [\frac{d}{dx}(x) + \frac{d}{dx}(y)](x^2)}{(x+y)^2} &= 2y \cdot \frac{d}{dx}(y) + (0) \\ \frac{(2x)(x+y) - [(1) + (y')](x^2)}{(x+y)^2} &= 2yy' \\ \frac{2x^2 + 2xy - x^2 - x^2y'}{(x+y)^2} &= 2yy'\end{aligned}$$

Multiply both sides by $(x+y)^2$.

$$\begin{aligned}2x^2 + 2xy - x^2 - x^2y' &= 2y(x+y)^2y' \\ x^2 + 2xy &= [x^2 + 2y(x+y)^2]y'\end{aligned}$$

Solve for y' .

$$y' = \frac{x^2 + 2xy}{x^2 + 2y(x+y)^2}$$