

### 3.5 Implicit Differentiation

So far, all the functions seen have been explicitly given in terms of  $x$ .

For example,  $y = 3x^2 - \sin x$  or  $y = 14x\sqrt{x^2 + 3}$ .

Now consider functions (or combinations of fcn's) that express  $y$  implicitly in terms of  $x$ .

For example,  $x^2 + y^2 = 1$  or  $\sin(xy) = \frac{1}{2}$ .

Note: the unit circle can be broken up into two functions that satisfy the vertical line test.

One can still calculate  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  for a function where  $y$  is implicitly expressed in terms of  $x$ , but

**it is important to always think of  $y$  as a function of  $x$ .**

#### **Implicit Differentiation**

1. Differentiate both sides of the equation with respect to  $x$ . Whenever taking the derivative of something with a  $y$ , multiply by  $y'$  (chain rule).
2. Put all terms with a  $y'$  on one side of the equation and all terms without a  $y'$  on the other side.
3. Factor out  $y'$  and divide by everything else to solve the equation for  $y'$ .

Ex3.4) 1. Find  $y'$  when  $x^3 + y^3 = 18xy$ .

2. Find  $y'$  when  $x^3 - xy + y^3 = 1$ .

3. Find  $y'$  at the point  $(1, 0)$  when  $x^2 = \frac{x-y}{x+y}$ .

4. Find  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  when  $e^y \sin x = x + xy$ .

5. Given the circle  $(x-1)^2 + (y-2)^2 = 4$ , find the equation of the tangent line through the point  $(2, \sqrt{3} + 2)$ .