

Find $\frac{dy}{dx}$: $\tan(xy) = x$. Do Not Simplify The Result.

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Understanding how to differentiate implicit functions is a fundamental skill in calculus, especially when dealing with equations where the dependent and independent variables are intertwined in a non-explicit manner. The problem at hand involves the implicit relation $\tan(xy) = x$, and the goal is to find the derivative $\frac{dy}{dx}$ without simplifying the resulting expression. This type of problem not only tests your proficiency with implicit differentiation but also reinforces concepts like the chain rule, product rule, and the derivatives of inverse functions.

In this article, we will explore the systematic approach to differentiate the equation $\tan(xy) = x$. We will discuss the underlying principles, step-by-step differentiation, and interpret the implications of the derivative. The methodology emphasizes clarity and precision, ensuring that each step is justified and that the final expression retains all its complexity without simplification.

Understanding the Problem

Implicit Functions and Their Differentiation

Implicit functions are those where the dependent variable y cannot be explicitly expressed as a function of x in a straightforward manner. Instead, the relationship is given as an equation involving both x and y . Differentiating such functions requires implicit differentiation, which involves differentiating both sides of the equation with respect to x , treating y as a function of x .

Key points to remember:

- When differentiating terms involving y , multiply by $\frac{dy}{dx}$ (the chain rule).
- The derivative of $\tan(u)$ with respect to u is $\sec^2(u)$.
- The derivative of xy with respect to x involves the product rule.

The Given Equation

The equation is:

$$\tan(xy) = x$$

Our goal is to find $\frac{dy}{dx}$.

This involves:

- Differentiating $\tan(xy)$ with respect to x ,
- Differentiating x with respect to x ,
- Applying the chain rule and the product rule appropriately.

Step-by-Step Differentiation Process

Step 1: Differentiate Both Sides

Start by differentiating the entire equation with respect to x :

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\tan(xy)] = \frac{d}{dx}[x]$$

This yields:

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\tan(xy)] = 1$$

Step 2: Apply Chain Rule to $\tan(xy)$

Recall:

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\tan(u)] = \sec^2(u) \cdot \frac{du}{dx}$$

Here, $u = xy$. Therefore:

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\tan(xy)] = \sec^2(xy) \cdot \frac{d}{dx}[xy]$$

Step 3: Differentiate (xy) Using Product Rule

Since (xy) is a product of x and y :

$$\frac{d}{dx}[xy] = y + x \frac{dy}{dx}$$

- Derivative of (x) is 1,
- Derivative of (y) with respect to (x) is $(\frac{dy}{dx})$.

Putting it all together:

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\tan(xy)] = \sec^2(xy) \cdot (y + x \frac{dy}{dx})$$

Step 4: Differentiate the Right Side

The derivative of (x) with respect to (x) is:

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x] = 1$$

Step 5: Write the Differentiated Equation

Combining the results:

$$\sec^2(xy) \cdot (y + x \frac{dy}{dx}) = 1$$

Solving for $(\frac{dy}{dx})$

Step 6: Isolate $(\frac{dy}{dx})$

Distribute $(\sec^2(xy))$:

$$\sec^2(xy) \cdot y + \sec^2(xy) \cdot x \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$$

Bring all terms involving $(\frac{dy}{dx})$ to one side:

$$\frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\sec^2(xy) \cdot x \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - \sec^2(xy) \cdot y$$

Now, solve for $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)$:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - \sec^2(xy) \cdot y}{\sec^2(xy) \cdot x}$$

Step 7: Final Expression (Without Simplification)

The derivative $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)$ is:

$$\boxed{\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - y \sec^2(xy)}{x \sec^2(xy)}}$$

This expression preserves all the components and respects the instruction not to simplify further.

Discussion and Interpretation

Components of the Derivative

- The numerator, $(1 - y \sec^2(xy))$, combines the constant term with a product involving (y) and the secant squared of the product (xy) .
- The denominator, $(x \sec^2(xy))$, involves the independent variable (x) and the same secant squared term.

This derivative expression encapsulates the intricate relationship between (x) and (y) , considering how the change in (x) affects (y) implicitly through the original equation.

Implications and Usage

- The expression can be used to analyze the slope of the tangent line to the curve defined by $(\tan(xy) = x)$ at any point where the function is differentiable.
- It can be employed in further calculations, such as finding the second

derivative or analyzing the behavior of the function.

Special Cases and Considerations

- When $(x = 0)$, the derivative expression involves division by zero, indicating a potential point of discontinuity or where the derivative does not exist.
- When $(\sec^2(xy) = 0)$, which is impossible because $(\sec^2)$ is always positive, so no concern there.
- The relationship between (x) and (y) governed by the original equation constrains the domain where the derivative is valid.

Summary and Final Remarks

The process of differentiating the implicit equation $(\tan(xy) = x)$ demonstrates the application of several core calculus principles:

- Implicit differentiation,
- Chain rule,
- Product rule,
- Handling composite functions involving trigonometric and algebraic components.

The final derivative, expressed as:

$$\boxed{\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - y \sec^2(xy)}{x \sec^2(xy)}}$$

remains unsimplified, fulfilling the problem's requirement. This form provides a comprehensive view of the derivative's structure and is ready for further analysis or application.

Mastering such differentiation techniques enhances problem-solving skills in calculus, especially in dealing with complex relationships between variables. It emphasizes the importance of meticulous differentiation and understanding the behavior of implicit functions in mathematical analysis.

References:

- Stewart, James. Calculus: Early Transcendentals. 8th Edition.
- Thomas, George B., and Ross L. Finney. Calculus and Analytic Geometry. 9th Edition.
- Online calculus resources and tutorials on implicit differentiation and trigonometric derivatives.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I differentiate the equation $\tan(xy) = x$ with respect to x without simplifying the result?

Use implicit differentiation: differentiate both sides with respect to x , applying the chain rule to $\tan(xy)$ and the derivative of x , then keep the expression in its unsimplified form as required.

What is the first step in differentiating $\tan(xy) = x$ without simplifying?

Differentiate both sides with respect to x directly, applying the chain rule to $\tan(xy)$ on the left and the derivative of x on the right, without attempting to simplify the resulting expression.

How do I handle the derivative of $\tan(xy)$ when differentiating implicitly?

Apply the chain rule: the derivative of $\tan(u)$ is $\sec^2(u)$, and then multiply by the derivative of $u = xy$, which requires the product rule, all done without simplifying.

What is the derivative of $\tan(xy)$ with respect to x ?

It is $\sec^2(xy)$ multiplied by the derivative of xy with respect to x , which is $y + x \, dy/dx$, all expressed without simplifying.

How can I express dy/dx after differentiating $\tan(xy) = x$ without simplifying?

After differentiation, dy/dx appears on both sides; keep the equation as is, with all terms involving dy/dx present, and do not attempt to isolate dy/dx .

Is it necessary to simplify the derivative expression when finding dy/dx for $\tan(xy) = x$?

No, the problem explicitly states not to simplify the result; keep the derivative expression in its unsimplified, implicit form.

Can I use logarithmic differentiation for $\tan(xy) = x$?

While possible, the standard implicit differentiation approach using the chain rule is more straightforward here; the key is to differentiate directly without simplifying.

What challenges might arise when differentiating $\tan(xy) = x$ without simplifying?

The main challenge is managing the product rule within the chain rule and keeping track of all terms involving dy/dx without combining or simplifying expressions.

Why would someone choose not to simplify the derivative result in this problem?

The instruction is likely to focus on understanding the differentiation process and the application of the chain rule and product rule rather than algebraic simplification.

Additional Resources

Find Dy/Dx : $\tan(xy) = x$. Do Not Simplify The Result. – An In-Depth Exploration

Introduction

Calculus, especially differential calculus, often presents us with the challenge of finding derivatives of implicitly defined functions. One such intriguing problem is finding the derivative dy/dx when given an implicit relation between x and y . In this case, the relation is:

$$\boxed{\tan(xy) = x}$$

This problem is particularly interesting because it involves an implicit function entwined with a transcendental function, tangent, and the product xy . The instruction to not simplify the result encourages us to preserve the derivative in an expanded or unsimplified form, emphasizing understanding over algebraic tidiness.

Understanding the Problem

Before delving into the derivative calculation, it's crucial to understand what is being asked and the nature of the functions involved.

- **Implicit Function:** The relation connects x and y in a way that y cannot be explicitly expressed solely as a function of x without solving the equation explicitly, which may or may not be straightforward or even possible.

- Transcendental Function: The tangent function introduces periodicity and nonlinearity, adding complexity to the differentiation process.
- Product xy : The argument of the tangent function is a product, which requires the product rule during differentiation.

The Goal

Our objective is to compute $\frac{dy}{dx}$ for the relation:

$$\tan(xy) = x$$

while not simplifying the derivative at the end. We will employ implicit differentiation, applying the chain rule and the product rule carefully.

Step-by-Step Derivation

1. Differentiating Both Sides

Start by differentiating both sides with respect to x :

$$\frac{d}{dx} [\tan(xy)] = \frac{d}{dx} [x]$$

- The derivative of the right side is straightforward:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [x] = 1$$

- The derivative of the left side involves the chain rule:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [\tan(xy)] = \sec^2(xy) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} [xy]$$

2. Differentiating (xy)

Since (xy) is a product, apply the product rule:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [xy] = x \frac{dy}{dx} + y \cdot 1 = x \frac{dy}{dx} + y$$

Assembling the Derivative

Putting it all together:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\sec^2(xy) \cdot \left(x \frac{dy}{dx} + y \right) = 1 \right] \end{aligned}$$

Our goal is to isolate $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)$. To do that, we expand:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\sec^2(xy) \cdot x \frac{dy}{dx} + \sec^2(xy) \cdot y = 1 \right] \end{aligned}$$

Rearranged to solve for $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\sec^2(xy) \cdot x \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - \sec^2(xy) \cdot y \right] \end{aligned}$$

Finally, dividing both sides by $\left(\sec^2(xy) \cdot x\right)$:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - \sec^2(xy) \cdot y}{\sec^2(xy) \cdot x} \right] \end{aligned}$$

The Final Derivative (Unsimplified)

Notice that the instructions specify not to simplify the result. Therefore, the derivative remains as:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\boxed{\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - \sec^2(x y) \cdot y}{\sec^2(x y) \cdot x}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

This form explicitly demonstrates the application of the chain rule and the product rule without further algebraic reduction.

Deep Dive into Each Component

1. The $\left(\sec^2(x y)\right)$ Term

- $\left(\sec^2\right)$ is the derivative of $\left(\tan\right)$, arising from the chain rule.

- Its argument, $\arcsin(xy)$, indicates that the derivative depends on both x and y simultaneously.
- The presence of $\sec^2(\arcsin(xy))$ highlights the nonlinearity and the transcendental nature of the relation.

2. The numerator $(1 - \sec^2(\arcsin(xy)) \cdot y)$

- The numerator contains a combination of constants and functions, emphasizing the implicit dependence of y on x .
- The term $\sec^2(\arcsin(xy)) \cdot y$ signifies that the derivative of y depends on the current value of y and the tangent function evaluated at $\arcsin(xy)$.

3. The denominator $(\sec^2(\arcsin(xy)) \cdot x)$

- The presence of x in the denominator indicates potential points where the derivative might be undefined, such as at $x=0$, unless $\sec^2(\arcsin(xy))$ also approaches zero or infinity accordingly.
- The structure keeps the derivative in a form that reflects the underlying implicit relationship without simplifying further.

Additional Observations

Implicit Differentiation Nuances

- The process showcases how implicit differentiation allows us to find derivatives without explicitly solving for y .
- The differentiation process requires careful application of the chain rule, product rule, and understanding of the derivatives of transcendental functions.

The Role of $\sec^2(\arcsin(xy))$

- Since $\sec^2(z) = 1 + \tan^2(z)$, the expression can be rewritten in terms of tangent, but the instruction to avoid simplification prevents this.
- The function $\sec^2(\arcsin(xy))$ inherently carries information about the tangent function's behavior at the point $\arcsin(xy)$.

Points of Caution

- The derivative expression involves division by $\sec^2(\arcsin(xy)) \cdot x$, which could be zero when either $x=0$ or $\sec^2(\arcsin(xy))=0$, but $\sec^2(z) \geq 1$ for all real z , so the latter cannot be zero.
- Therefore, potential issues arise only at $x=0$, where the derivative may be undefined or require careful interpretation.

Practical Implications and Applications

Understanding derivatives of implicit relations like $\tan(x y) = x$ is vital in various fields:

- Physics: For example, in systems involving angles and non-linear relationships, implicit differentiation helps in analyzing rates.
- Engineering: When dealing with control systems or wave functions with transcendental relations, such derivatives inform stability and response.
- Mathematics Education: This problem exemplifies the importance of mastering implicit differentiation, chain rule, product rule, and the behavior of transcendental functions.

Potential Extensions and Further Study

- Explicit solutions: Attempting to solve for y explicitly, though often complicated, could provide additional insights.
- Higher derivatives: Computing second derivatives or analyzing concavity.
- Parameter variation: Studying how $\frac{dy}{dx}$ varies as x or y change.
- Graphical analysis: Plotting the implicit function and its slope field to visualize the derivative behavior.

Summary

This detailed exploration of $\tan(x y) = x$ and the subsequent derivative calculation underscores several key points:

- The importance of implicit differentiation techniques.
- The careful application of the chain rule and product rule.
- The significance of maintaining the derivative in an unsimplified form, which preserves the explicit relationship between the derivatives and the functions involved.
- Recognizing the roles of the tangent and secant functions in the derivative expression.

The derivative:

$$\boxed{\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - \sec^2(x y) \cdot y}{\sec^2(x y) \cdot x}}$$

serves as a comprehensive, unsimplified result, illustrating the power and elegance of implicit differentiation within the realm of transcendental functions.

Final Thoughts

Working through such a problem enhances one's understanding of advanced calculus techniques and deepens appreciation for the complexity of implicit relations. It also emphasizes the importance of carefully applying differentiation rules and recognizing when to leave expressions in their expanded form, especially in educational or theoretical contexts where clarity and explicit relationships are paramount.

Note: Always consider the domain of the functions involved, especially with transcendental functions like tangent and secant, as their undefined points impact the validity and application of the derivative in specific regions.

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