Consider the inverse sine,

$$f(x) = \sin^{-1} x = \arcsin x.$$

if

$$y = \sin^{-1} x,$$

then



Assume we would like to find y', then we need to differentiate both sides such that



where we have used the chain rule to differentiate the right hand side.

Solving for y' gives,

$$y' =$$
_____,

To finish this we need to find $\cos y$ in terms of x:

We know that $\sin y = x$, so that the corresponding right triangle is



From the triangle we find



so that



Exercise:

Find the derivative of $\tan^{-1} x$