Implicit equation



An *implicit equation* is an equation which relates the variables involved. For example, the equation $x^2 + y^2 = 4$ gives a relationship between x and y, even though it does not specify y explicitly in the form y = f(x).

As this example shows, it may not be possible to convert an implicit equation into an equation of the form y = f(x) for some function f(x), as the x values in the range -2 < x < 2 each correspond to two values for y.