

Lecture 8 (1st order ODEs), Outline

- ▶ **Classification of ODEs, directional field**
- ▶ **Separation of variables, homogenous functions**
- ▶ **Exact differentials and their physical significance**
- ▶ **Integrating factors, variation of parameters, 'shrewd substitutions'**

SUGGESTED READING:

M. Tenenbaum and H. Pollard, Ordinary Differential Equations, Chapters 1 and 2

Differential Equation A relationship between changing entities (variables) and rates of change (derivatives).

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2y - 3 \quad \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} = 0$$

Solution Any function (explicit or implicit) which does not involve derivatives, and which satisfies identically the differential equation, e.g.

$$y = C_1 \cos(ax) + C_2 \sin(ax) \text{ is a solution of } y'' + a^2y = 0$$

Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE) A differential equation which involves derivatives with respect to only one independent variable.

Partial Differential Equation A differential equation which involves derivatives with respect to two or more independent variables.

Order The order of a differential equation is the order of the highest order derivative which is present.

$$y'' + 2yy' + y = \sin(x) \text{ is a second-order ODE}$$

Degree The power to which the highest derivative term is raised.

$$(y'')^2 = (1 + y')^3 \text{ is of degree two}$$

Linear Differential Equation Does not involve product terms among dependent variables and their derivatives. i.e. all coefficients are functions of independent variables or constant. Otherwise the equation is termed **non-linear**.

$$y'' + 3y' + y = e^x \text{ is linear}$$

$$(y'')^2 = (1 + y')^3 \text{ is nonlinear}$$

Homogeneous Differential equation Every single term contains the dependent variables or their derivatives.
Else **non-homogeneous**.

$$y'' + 3y' + y = 0 \text{ is homogeneous}$$

$$y'' + 3y' + y = e^x \text{ is non-homogeneous}$$

General vs particular solution

Under certain conditions (to be detailed in subsequent sections), an n -th order differential equation has a solution with n arbitrary constants (**parameters**), and this **general solution**, or more precisely, an **n -parameter family of solutions** is unique. A **particular solution** satisfies the equation and does not contain arbitrary constants. A general solution contains *every* particular solution. The n arbitrary constants are determined from initial or boundary conditions.

$$y = A\sin 2x + B\cos 2x$$

is the general solution of the second-order equation

$$y'' = -4y$$

the particular solution satisfying $y(0)=0$, $y'(0)=2$ is

$$y = \sin 2x$$

Example

EXAMPLE

Find a differential equation whose 2-parameter family of solutions is

$$y = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x}.$$

[Hint: 2 constants suggest 2nd order equation, thus differentiate twice. The differential equation must not contain any constants, so you need to eliminate them.]

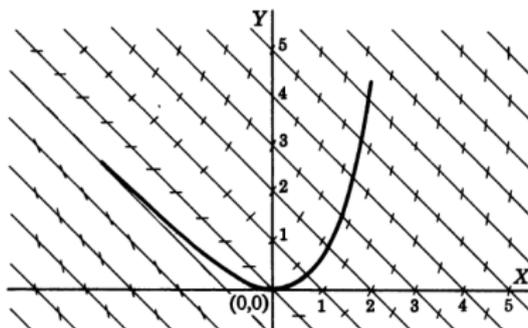
Directional field

Geometric interpretation of the solutions: **integral curves**

EXAMPLE

$$y' = x + y \Rightarrow y = e^x - x - 1$$

| $y \backslash x$ | -5 | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|------------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| -5 | -10 | -9 | -8 | -7 | -6 | -5 | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 |
| -4 | -9 | -8 | -7 | -6 | -5 | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 |
| -3 | -8 | -7 | -6 | -5 | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| -2 | -7 | -6 | -5 | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| -1 | -6 | -5 | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 0 | -5 | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | -4 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 2 | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 4 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 5 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |



First-Order Differential Equations

A first-order differential equation of the form:

$$\boxed{y' = f(x, y)} \iff N(x, y) \frac{dy}{dx} + M(x, y) = 0$$

can always be expressed in the form:

$$M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$$

Existence and Uniqueness Theorem

The sufficient condition for this equation to have a unique solution which passes through any given point of a region R of the xy plane is that $f(x, y)$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ are **continuous**, real, finite and single-valued in R .

Separable Differential Equations

A first-order differential equation is termed **separable** if it can be expressed in the form:

$$g(y)dy = f(x)dx \iff \underline{y' = F(x) \cdot G(y)}$$
$$\Rightarrow \int g(y) dy = \int f(x) dx + c$$

Reduction of eqn with homogeneous coeffs to separable form

- ▶ $f(x,y)$ is **homogeneous of order n** if $f(tx, ty) = t^n f(x, y)$, where $t > 0$ and n is a constant.

Reduction to separable form

The differential equation $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$ with coefficients $M(x, y)$ and $N(x, y)$ being homogeneous functions of order n can be reduced to a separable form by substitution $y = ux$, $dy = u \cdot dx + x \cdot du$ (or $x = uy$).

Example

An ODE of the form:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = g\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

can be made separable by the transformation $u=y/x$:

$$\begin{aligned}y = ux &\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = u + x \frac{du}{dx} = g(u) \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{dx}{x} = \frac{du}{g(u) - u}\end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{y^2}{xy - x^2} = \frac{(y/x)^2}{(y/x) - 1} = \frac{u^2}{u - 1} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dx}{x} &= \frac{du}{u/(u-1)} \Rightarrow u - \ln u = \ln x + c\end{aligned}$$

Exact Differential Equations

- ▶ A differential expression (form) $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy$ is called an **exact differential** if it is the **total differential du of some function $u(x, y)$** , i.e. if $M(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}u(x, y)$ and $N(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}u(x, y)$.
- ▶ A 1-parameter **family of solutions** of the differential equation $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$ is then $u(x, y) = c$, where c is a constant.
- ▶ A **necessary and sufficient condition** for the equation to be exact is

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$$

Example

$$\begin{array}{ll} xdx + ydy = 0 & \text{is exact} \\ -ydx + xdy = 0 & \text{is not exact} \end{array}$$

Physical Significance of Exact Differentials

- ▶ If the total derivative of a function u is exact, its integral has the same magnitude regardless of the path taken.
- ▶ In physical chemistry and in thermodynamics, **state functions** (functions whose values depend only on the state and not on the path taken to get to that state), e.g. internal energy, **are exact differentials**.
- ▶ **Path functions** (functions whose values depend on the path), e.g. work, **are inexact differentials**.

Exact Differential Equations — Solution

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= M \Rightarrow u = \int M(x, y) dx + k(y) \\ N &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \int \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} dx + \frac{dk}{dy} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{dk}{dy} &= N - \int \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} dx \\ \Rightarrow k(y) &= \int \left[N - \int \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} dx \right] dy + c\end{aligned}$$

Similarly we can show:

$$\begin{aligned}u &= \int N(x, y) dy + l(x) \\ l(x) &= \int \left[M - \int \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} dy \right] dx + c\end{aligned}$$

Example

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= -\frac{(2xy + 3x^2)}{x^2} \\ \Rightarrow (2xy + 3x^2)dx + x^2dy &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow M = 2xy + 3x^2 \quad N &= x^2 \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = 2x = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} &\Rightarrow \text{Exact} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = M = 2xy + 3x^2 \Rightarrow u &= \int (2xy + 3x^2)dx + k(y) \\ \Rightarrow u = x^2y + x^3 + k(y) \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = N = x^2 = x^2 + \frac{dk}{dy} \Rightarrow \frac{dk}{dy} &= 0 \Rightarrow k(y) = c\end{aligned}$$

Note that the solution $u(x, y) = C$ defines y as an implicit function of x .

Some recognizable exact DEs

Exact Differential Equation

$$y \, dx + x \, dy = 0$$

$$2xy \, dx + x^2 \, dy = 0$$

$$y^2 \, dx + 2xy \, dy = 0$$

$$2xy^2 \, dx + 2x^2y \, dy = 0$$

$$3x^2y^3 \, dx + 3x^3y^2 \, dy = 0$$

$$3x^2y \, dx + x^3 \, dy = 0$$

$$y \cos x \, dx + \sin x \, dy = 0$$

$$\sin y \, dx + x \cos y \, dy = 0$$

$$ye^{xy} \, dx + xe^{xy} \, dy = 0$$

$$\frac{dx}{x} + \frac{dy}{y} = 0$$

$$\frac{y \, dx - x \, dy}{y^2} = 0$$

$$-\frac{y \, dx - x \, dy}{x^2} = 0$$

$$\frac{2xy \, dy - y^2 \, dx}{x^2} = 0$$

Solution

$$xy = c$$

$$x^2y = c$$

$$xy^2 = c$$

$$x^2y^2 = c$$

$$x^3y^3 = c$$

$$x^3y = c$$

$$y \sin x = c$$

$$x \sin y = c$$

$$e^{xy} = c$$

$$\log(xy) = c$$

$$\frac{x}{y} = c$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = c$$

$$\frac{y^2}{x} = c$$

$$\frac{y^2}{x} = c$$

Exact Differential Equation

$$\frac{2xy \, dx - x^2 \, dy}{y^2} = 0$$

$$\frac{x \, dy - y \, dx}{x^2 + y^2} = 0$$

$$2 \frac{x \, dy - y \, dx}{x^2 - y^2} = 0$$

$$-\frac{3x^2y \, dx - x^3 \, dy}{x^6} = 0$$

$$\frac{y^2 \, dx - 2xy \, dy}{y^4} = 0$$

$$-\frac{y \, dx + x \, dy}{x^2y^2} = 0$$

$$-\frac{y^3 \, dx - xy^2 \, dy}{x^4} = 0$$

$$\frac{x \, dx + y \, dy}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} = 0$$

$$e^{3x} \, dy + 3e^{3x}y \, dx = 0$$

Solution

$$\frac{x^2}{y} = c$$

$$\text{Arc tan } \frac{y}{x} = c$$

$$\log \frac{x+y}{x-y} = c$$

$$\frac{y}{x^3} = c$$

$$\frac{x}{y^2} = c$$

$$\frac{1}{xy} = c$$

$$\frac{y^3}{3x^3} = c$$

$$\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = c$$

$$e^{3xy} = c$$

Integrating Factors

- ▶ a multiplying factor which will **convert an inexact DE into an exact one**
- ▶ no general rule is known to discover it, except for some special types of DEs

If the first-order ODE:

$$Pdx + Qdy = 0 \text{ is not exact, i.e. } \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \neq \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}$$

We may be able to find an integrating factor F , such that

$$\frac{\partial(FP)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial(FQ)}{\partial x}$$
$$\underbrace{(FP)}_M dx + \underbrace{(FQ)}_N dy = du \text{ is exact}$$

Solving special types of ODEs using integrating factor

$$P(x, y)dx + Q(x, y)dy = 0$$

$$A \equiv \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \quad B \equiv \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}$$

(a) ODE can be put in separable form: $g(y)dy=f(x)dx$?

(b) $A = B \Rightarrow$ ODE is exact

(c) $A \neq B$:

(i) if $l = \frac{1}{Q}(A - B)$ is only a function of x

\Rightarrow Integrating Factor $F(x) = e^{\int l(x)dx}$

(ii) if $k = \frac{1}{P}(B - A)$ is only a function of y

\Rightarrow Integrating Factor $F(y) = e^{\int k(y)dy}$

(iii) if $P=yf(xy)$ and $Q=xg(xy)$, then $\frac{1}{(x^P - y^Q)}$ is an I.F.

Example

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{2xy}{y^2 - x^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2xydx + (y^2 - x^2)dy = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{\partial(2xy)}{\partial y} = 2x \neq \frac{\partial(y^2 - x^2)}{\partial x} = -2x = B$$

$$I = \frac{2x - (-2x)}{y^2 - x^2} \neq I(x)$$

$$k = \frac{-2x - 2x}{2xy} = -\frac{2}{y} = k(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow F = e^{\int(-2/y)dy} = e^{-2\ln y} = y^{-2}$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = cy$$

Linear First-Order ODE, Integrating Factor

- both the *dependent variable* and its derivative are of the first degree

$$y' + p(x)y = r(x)$$

Methods of solution

- 1 (faster) Integrating factor ($F(x) = e^{\int p(x)dx}$)
- 2 (more general) Separation of variables + Variation of parameters
($y_N = y_H + y_P$, $y_H = C\phi(x) \rightarrow y_P = C(x)\phi(x)$)

Using the integrating factor $F(x) = e^{\int p(x)dx}$,

$$\frac{d(yF)}{dx} = Fy' + y \underbrace{pF}_{F'} = F(y' + py) = Fr$$

$$yF = \int F(x)r(x)dx + c$$

$$y(x) = \frac{1}{F} \left[\int F(x)r(x)dx + c \right]$$

Examples

EXAMPLE

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + 5y = 50$$

$$\text{Integrating factor } F = e^{\int 5 dx} = e^{5x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(ye^{5x}) = 50e^{5x} \Rightarrow ye^{5x} = 10e^{5x} + c \Rightarrow y = 10 + ce^{-5x}$$

EXAMPLE

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{4}{2t+5}y = 10 \quad y(t=0) = 0$$

$$\text{Integrating factor } F = e^{\int 4/(2t+5) dt}$$

$$= e^{2\ln(2t+5)} = e^{\ln(2t+5)^2} = (2t+5)^2$$

$$y(2t+5)^2 = \int 10(2t+5)^2 dt + c = \frac{5}{3}(2t+5)^3 + c$$

$$y = \frac{5}{3}(2t+5) + c(2t+5)^{-2}$$

'Shrewd substitutions'

- Some non-linear equations can be **transformed to the previous cases (linear, exact etc.) by an appropriate substitution**, thus arriving at an exact solution.

EXAMPLE (BERNOULLI EQUATION)

$$y' + p(x)y = g(x)y^\alpha, \quad \text{where } \alpha \text{ is a real number.}$$

Substitution: $u(x) = [y(x)]^{1-\alpha}$ yields

$$\begin{aligned}u' &= (1 - \alpha)y^{-\alpha}y' = (1 - \alpha)y^{-\alpha}(gy^\alpha - py) \\ &= (1 - \alpha)(g - py^{1-\alpha})\end{aligned}$$

$$u' + (1 - \alpha)pu = (1 - \alpha)g,$$

a linear first-order ODE in u .

Example

$$y' - Ay = By^2$$

$$u = y^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow u' = -y^{-2}y' = -y^{-2}(By^2 + Ay)$$

$$\Rightarrow u' = -B - Ay^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow u' + Au = -B \quad \text{linear 1st-order ODE in } u$$

$$u = -e^{-Ax} \left[\int Be^{Ax} dx + c \right] = -\frac{B}{A} + ce^{-Ax}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{u} = \frac{1}{-(B/A) + ce^{-Ax}}$$