

Review:

In 1.1-1.5, we talked about

- $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x) \implies y = \int f(x)dx + C$

- **Separable Equation** $\frac{dy}{dx} = g(x)k(y)$

If $k(y) \neq 0$, $\int \frac{dy}{k(y)} = \int g(x)dx$

Also we need to check if $k(y) = 0$ is a solution.

- **Linear First Order Equation** $\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)$ (*)

1. Compute $\rho(x) = e^{\int P(x)dx}$ (integrating factor).

2. Multiply both sides of (*) by $\rho(x)$

3. $\text{LHS} = D_x(\rho(x)y(x))$

4. Integrate both sides, $\rho(x)y(x) = \int \rho(x)Q(x)dx + C$ and solve for y .

Outline of Section 1.6

1. Substitution Method

- Equation: $\frac{dy}{dx} = F(ax + by + c)$

- Homogeneous Equations: $\frac{dy}{dx} = F\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$

- Bernoulli Equations: $\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)y^n$

- Reducible Second-order Equations:

$$F(x, y, y'y'') = 0$$

with either y or x is missing.

2. Exact Equations

- What is an exact equation?

- How to check an equation is exact?

- How to solve an exact equation?

Part 1 Substitution Method

Often a substitution can be used to transform a given differential equation into one that we already know how to solve. For example,

The differential equation of the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = F(ax + by + c) \quad (1)$$

can be transformed into a separable equation by use of the substitution $v = ax + by + c$.

Example 1 Find a general solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = (9x + y)^2 \quad (2)$$

Ans: Let $v = 9x + y$. Our goal is to transform (2) into an eqn in term of $\frac{dv}{dx}$. Then $\frac{dv}{dx} = 9 + \frac{dy}{dx} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dv}{dx} - 9$.

Substitute them into (2), then

$$\frac{dv}{dx} - 9 = v^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dx} = v^2 + 9 \quad (\text{separable})$$

Separating variable and integrating both sides,

$$\int \frac{dv}{v^2 + 9} = \int dx \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{9} \int \frac{dv}{(\frac{v}{3})^2 + 1} \quad (u\text{-subs})$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \tan^{-1} \frac{v}{3} = x + C,$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan^{-1} \frac{v}{3} = 3x + C$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{v}{3} = \tan(3x + C)$$

$$\Rightarrow v = 3 \tan(3x + C)$$

Back substitute $v = 9x + y$.

$$9x + y = 3 \tan(3x + C)$$

$$\Rightarrow y = 3 \tan(3x + C) - 9x$$

$$\text{Let } u = \frac{v}{3}, \Rightarrow du = \frac{1}{3} dv$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \int \frac{du}{u^2 + 1} = \frac{1}{3} \tan^{-1} u$$

$$\xrightarrow[\substack{\text{back subs.} \\ u = \frac{v}{3}}]{\frac{1}{3} \tan^{-1} \frac{v}{3}}$$

- Homogeneous Equations

A **homogeneous** first-order differential equation is one that can be written in the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = F\left(\frac{y}{x}\right). \quad (3)$$

The substitution $v = \frac{y}{x}$, that is, $y = vx$ leads to

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx} \quad (4)$$

by the product rule.

The given equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = F\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$ then becomes

$$v + x \frac{dv}{dx} = F(v) \implies x \frac{dv}{dx} = F(v) - v \quad (5)$$

which is a separable differential equation for v as a function of x .

Example 2 Find a general solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{x^2 y^0 - x^0 y^2}{(x^2 - y^2)} \frac{dy}{dx} = 2xy \quad \dots \textcircled{1}$$

Ans: If $x^2 - y^2 \neq 0$, $x \neq 0$, we can rewrite $\textcircled{1}$ as

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{(2xy)/x^2}{(x^2 - y^2)/x^2} = \frac{2 \frac{y}{x}}{1 - \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^2} \quad (= F\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)) \quad \textcircled{2}$$

Let $v = \frac{y}{x}$, then $y = vx$. $\frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx}$

Substitute them into $\textcircled{2}$,

$$v + x \cdot \frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{2v}{1 - v^2}$$

$$\implies x \cdot \frac{dv}{dx} = \left(\frac{2v}{1 - v^2} - v = \frac{2v - v + v^3}{1 - v^2} = \frac{v^3 + v}{1 - v^2} \right) \quad (\text{separable})$$

Separating variables and integrate.

$$\int \frac{1 - v^2}{v^3 + v} dv = \int \frac{1}{x} dx \quad \textcircled{3}$$

To solve

$$\int \frac{1 - v^2}{v^3 + v} dv = \int \frac{1 - v^2}{v(v^2 + 1)} dv$$

Recall the partial fraction method.

$$\text{Assume } \frac{1 - v^2}{v(v^2 + 1)} = \frac{A}{v} + \frac{Bv + C}{v^2 + 1}$$

$$= \frac{Av^2 + A + Bv^2 + Cv}{v(v^2+1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{-v^2+1}{v(v^2+1)} = \frac{(A+B)v^2 + Cv + A}{v(v^2+1)}$$

Comparing the coefficients, we have

$$\begin{cases} A+B=-1 \\ C=0 \\ A=1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A=1 \\ B=-2 \\ C=0 \end{cases}$$

Thus $\frac{1-v^2}{v(v^2+1)} = \frac{1}{v} - \frac{2v}{v^2+1}$

u-subst.
Let $u = v^2+1 \rightarrow \int \frac{du}{u} = \ln|u|$

$$\int \frac{d(v^2+1)}{v^2+1} = \ln|v^2+1|$$

$$\text{So } \int \frac{1-v^2}{v(v^2+1)} dv = \int \left(\frac{1}{v} - \frac{2v}{v^2+1} \right) dv = \ln|v| - \int \frac{2v}{v^2+1} dv$$

$$= \ln|v| - \ln|v^2+1| = \ln \left| \frac{v}{v^2+1} \right|$$

So ③ becomes

$$\ln \left| \frac{v}{v^2+1} \right| = \ln|x| + C.$$

Take exp

$$\frac{v}{v^2+1} = Cx$$

Substitute $v = \frac{y}{x}$ back.

$$\frac{\left(\frac{y}{x} \right) x^2}{\left(\left(\frac{y}{x} \right)^2 + 1 \right) x^2} = Cx$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\cancel{x} y}{y^2 + x^2} = C \cancel{x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{y = C(x^2 + y^2)}$$

The following table indicates some simple partial fractions which can be associated with various rational functions:

Form of the rational function	Form of the partial fraction
$\frac{px + q}{(x - a)(x - b)}, a \neq b$	$\frac{A}{x - a} + \frac{B}{x - b}$
$\frac{px + q}{(x - a)^2}$	$\frac{A}{x - a} + \frac{B}{(x - a)^2}$
$\frac{px^2 + qx + r}{(x - a)(x - b)(x - c)}$	$\frac{A}{x - a} + \frac{B}{x - b} + \frac{C}{x - c}$
$\frac{px^2 + qx + r}{(x - a)^2(x - b)}$	$\frac{A}{x - a} + \frac{B}{(x - a)^2} + \frac{C}{x - b}$
$\frac{px^2 + qx + r}{(x - a)(x^2 + bx + c)}$ where $x^2 + bx + c$ cannot be factorised further	$\frac{A}{x - a} + \frac{Bx + C}{x^2 + bx + c}$

Exercise 3 (Check the answer from the filled-in notes)

Find a general solution of the differential equation

$$x \frac{dy}{dx} = y + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \quad (1)$$

Ans: If $x > 0$, we can divide both sides of (1) by x .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x} + \sqrt{\frac{x^2}{x^2} + \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x} + \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^2} \quad (2) \text{ (homogeneous equation)}$$

Let $v = \frac{y}{x}$, then $y = vx$ and $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dv}{dx} \cdot x + v$

Substitute them into (2), we have

$$\frac{dv}{dx} \cdot x + v = v + \sqrt{1 + v^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dx} \cdot x = \sqrt{1 + v^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dv}{\sqrt{1 + v^2}} = \frac{1}{x} dx$$

By checking an integral table, we know

$$\ln(v + \sqrt{v^2 + 1}) = \ln|x| + C$$

$$\Rightarrow v + \sqrt{v^2 + 1} = Cx$$

Back-substituting, $v = \frac{y}{x}$, we have

$$\frac{y}{x} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^2 + 1} = Cx$$

$$\Rightarrow y + \sqrt{y^2 + x^2} = Cx^2$$

Bernoulli Equations

A first-order differential equation of the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)y^n \quad (1)$$

is called a Bernoulli equation.

If either $n = 0$ or $n = 1$, Eq. (1) is linear.

In our homework, we need to show the substitution

$$v = y^{1-n} \quad (8)$$

transforms Eq. (1) into the linear first-order equation

$$\frac{dv}{dx} + (1-n)P(x)v = (1-n)Q(x) \quad (9)$$

Example 4 Find a general solution of the differential equation

$$x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2xy = 5y^4 \quad (10)$$

Ans: If $x \neq 0$, We divide both sides of ① by x^2

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{2}{x}y = \frac{5}{x^2}y^4 \quad \dots \quad (2)$$

$\uparrow$ $P(x)$ $\uparrow$ $Q(x)$ $\downarrow$ $n=4$

This is a Bernoulli equation. We let

$$v = y^{1-n} = y^{1-4} = y^{-3}$$

Then $y = v^{-\frac{1}{3}} \quad \left((v)^{-\frac{1}{3}} = (y^{-3})^{-\frac{1}{3}} = y \right)$

Taking diff. both sides.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{3} v^{-\frac{4}{3}} \frac{dv}{dx}$$

Substitute $y = v^{-\frac{1}{3}}$, $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{3} v^{-\frac{4}{3}} \frac{dv}{dx}$ into ②.

$$-\frac{1}{3} v^{-\frac{4}{3}} \frac{dv}{dx} + \frac{2}{x} \cdot v^{-\frac{1}{3}} = \frac{5}{x^2} v^{-\frac{4}{3}}$$

We multiply both sides by $-3v^{\frac{4}{3}}$, we have

$$-\frac{1}{3} v^{-\frac{4}{3}} (-3v^{\frac{4}{3}}) \frac{dv}{dx} + \frac{2}{x} \cdot v^{-\frac{4}{3}} (-3v^{\frac{4}{3}}) = \frac{5}{x^2} v^{-\frac{4}{3}} \cdot (-3v^{\frac{4}{3}})$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dx} - \frac{6}{x} v = -\frac{15}{x^2} \text{ (Linear 1st order) } \textcircled{3}$$

• An integrating factor

$$p(x) = e^{\int -\frac{6}{x} dx} = e^{\ln|x|^{-6}} = x^{-6} = \frac{1}{x^6}$$

• Multiply both sides of $\textcircled{3}$ by $p(x)$

$$\frac{1}{x^6} \cdot \frac{dv}{dx} - \frac{6}{x} \cdot \frac{1}{x^6} v = -\frac{15}{x^8}$$

• Note

$$\text{LHS} = D_x (p(x) v(x)) = D_x \left(\frac{1}{x^6} \cdot v(x) \right)$$

• Integrate both sides.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{x^6} v(x) &= -\int \frac{15}{x^8} dx = -15 \int x^{-8} dx \\ &= -\frac{15}{-7} x^{-7} + C \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow v(x) = \frac{15}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{x} + C \cdot x^6$$

• Back substitute $v = y^{-3}$, we have

$$\left(y^{-3} \right)^{-\frac{1}{3}} = \left(\frac{15}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{x} + C \cdot x^6 \right)^{-\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \left(\frac{15}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{x} + C \cdot x^6 \right)^{-\frac{1}{3}}$$

Reducible Second-Order Equations

Read Page 67 — 69 in our textbook.

A second-order differential equation has the general form

$$F(x, y, y', y'') = 0 \quad (2)$$

It may be that the dependent variable y or the independent variable x is missing from a second-order equation.

Case 1. Variable y Missing

- If y is missing, then our equation takes the form

$$F(x, y', y'') = 0 \quad (11)$$

- Then the substitution

$$p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}, \quad y'' = \frac{dp}{dx} \quad (12)$$

results in the first-order differential equation

$$F(x, p, p') = 0 \quad (13)$$

Example 5 Find a general solution of the reducible second-order differential equation

$$xy'' = y' \quad (14)$$

Ans: Let $p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$, then $y'' = \frac{dp}{dx} (= p')$

Then subs. them into (14), then

$$x \frac{dp}{dx} = p \quad (\text{sep.})$$

If $p \neq 0$, then $\int \frac{dp}{p} = \int \frac{dx}{x}$

$$\Rightarrow \ln |p| = \ln |x| + C$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{\ln |p|} = e^{\ln |x| + C} = e^C e^{\ln |x|} = C' e^{\ln |x|}$$

$$\Rightarrow p = C_1 x$$

Now $p = \frac{dy}{dx} = C_1 x \Rightarrow y = \int C_1 x dx = \frac{1}{2} C_1 x^2 + C_2$

Case 2. Variable x Missing

- If x is missing, then our equation takes the form

$$F(y, y', y'') = 0$$

- Then the substitution

$$p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}, \quad y'' = \frac{dp}{dx} = \frac{dp}{dy} \frac{dy}{dx} = p \frac{dp}{dy}$$

results in the first-order differential equation

$$F\left(y, p, p \frac{dp}{dy}\right) = 0$$

for p as a function of y .

Exercise 6 (Check the answer from the filled-in notes.) Find a general solution of the reducible second-order differential equation

$$yy'' + (y')^2 = yy' \quad \text{①}$$

Ans: Let $p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$, then $y'' = \frac{dp}{dx} = \frac{dp}{dy} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = p \cdot \frac{dp}{dy}$

Plug them into eqn ①, we get.

$$y \cdot p \cdot \frac{dp}{dy} + p^2 = y \cdot p$$

If $p \neq 0$, then

$$y \cdot \frac{dp}{dy} + p = y \quad \text{---} \otimes$$

If $y \neq 0$, then

$$\frac{dp}{dy} + \frac{1}{y} \cdot p = 1. \quad \text{②}$$

(A linear first order eqn, where p is a function of y)

Note: In fact, we observe that LHS of $\textcircled{2}$ is the derivative of py wr.t.

y , which means $\text{LHS} = y \frac{dp}{dy} + p = \frac{\partial(py)}{\partial y}$. So we can integrate both sides of $\textcircled{2}$ and get $py = \int y dy \Rightarrow py = \frac{1}{2}y^2 + C_1$.

You can use the method from §1.5 to check we get the same answer from $\textcircled{1}$.

$$\text{So we have } py = \frac{1}{2}y^2 + C_1 \Rightarrow p = \frac{y^2 + C_1}{2y}$$

$$\text{Since } p = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^2 + C_1}{2y} \Rightarrow \int \frac{2y dy}{y^2 + C_1} = \int dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{d(y^2 + C_1)}{y^2 + C_1} = \int dx \Rightarrow \ln|y^2 + C_1| = x + C_2 \Rightarrow y^2 = C_2 e^x + C_1$$

Part 2 Exact Equations

Consider $F(x, y(x)) = C$, which implicitly defines y as a function of x .

For example, $F(x, y) = x^3 + 2xy^2 + 2y^3 = C$.

Differentiating both sides with respect to x , then we have

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \quad (19)$$

Let $M(x, y) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}$ and $N(x, y) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}$. We can rewrite it in **differential form**

$$M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0. \quad (3)$$

Then $F(x, y) = C$ is a solution of Eq (3).

For example, differentiating both sides of $F(x, y) = x^3 + 2xy^2 + 2y^3 = C$, we have

$$(3x^2 + 2y^2) + (4xy + 6y^2) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0, \quad (20)$$

which can be rewrite as

$$(3x^2 + 2y^2)dx + (4xy + 6y^2)dy = 0, \quad (21)$$

Note $F(x, y) = x^3 + 2xy^2 + 2y^3 = C$ is a solution to the above equation.

Defintion. Exact Equation

Generally, consider the following equation

$$M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0 \quad (4)$$

If there exists a function $F(x, y)$ such that

$$F_x = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = M \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = N = F_y \quad (22)$$

then the equation

$$F(x, y) = C \quad (23)$$

is an implicit general solution of Eq. (4). We call such Eq. (4) an exact equation.



How can we check whether the eqn (4) is exact ?

If F_{xy} & F_{yx} are continuous on open set in the xy -plane. Then $F_{xy} = F_{yx}$

$$F_{xy} = \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = F_{yx}$$

It turns out $\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$ is necessary & sufficient for exactness

THEOREM 1 Criterion for Exactness

Suppose that the functions

$$M(x, y) \quad \text{and} \quad N(x, y) \quad (24)$$

are continuous and have continuous first-partial order derivatives in the open rectangle

$$R : a < x < b, c < y < d \quad (25)$$

Then the differential equation

$$M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0 \quad (5)$$

is exact if and only if

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} \quad (6)$$

at each point of R .

Example 7 Verify that the given differential equation is exact; then solve it.

$$(2xy^2 + 3x^2)dx + (2x^2y + 4y^3)dy = 0 \quad (26)$$

Ans: Let $M(x, y) = 2xy^2 + 3x^2$

$$N(x, y) = 2x^2y + 4y^3$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial (2xy^2 + 3x^2)}{\partial y} = 4xy$$

$$\frac{\partial N}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial (2x^2y + 4y^3)}{\partial x} = 4xy$$

By Thm 1, the given eqn is exact.

Then by the definition of exact eqn.

There exist $F(x, y)$ such that

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = M(x, y) = 2xy^2 + 3x^2$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x, y) = \int \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} dx = \int (2xy^2 + 3x^2) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x, y) = x^2 y^2 + x^3 + g(y)$$

We diff. both sides in terms of y .

$$N(x, y) \stackrel{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{by def}}}{=} \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = 2x^2 y + 0 + \frac{dg(y)}{dy}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{2x^2 y} + 4y^3 = \cancel{2x^2 y} + \frac{dg(y)}{dy}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dg(y)}{dy} = 4y^3$$

$$\Rightarrow g(y) = \int \frac{dg(y)}{dy} dy = \int 4y^3 dy = y^4$$

So $F(x, y) = x^2 y^2 + x^3 + y^4 = C$ is a general solution