

Lecture 4.

§ Exact equations of the first order and of first degree.

An ODE of the first order and of the first degree may be expressed in form of a total differential equation:

$$Pdx + Qdy = 0$$

where P, Q are fns of x, y and do not involve $p \equiv \frac{dy}{dx}$

If the eqn is exact and its primitive is $u = C$, the two expressions for du must be identical:

$$Pdx + Qdy \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy$$

$$\text{i.e. } P = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \quad Q = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \quad \text{Then} \quad \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \quad (A)$$

provided that the equivalent expression $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y}$ is continuous.

(A) is "the condition of integrability" and is necessary.

• Now we show that it is sufficient too:

$$\text{Let } u(x, y) = \int_{x_0}^x P(x, y) dx + \phi(y)$$

where x_0 is an arbitrary constant, and $\phi(y)$ is a fn. of y alone which for the moment, is also arbitrary.

Then $u = C$ will be primitive of $Pdx + Qdy = 0$

$$\text{if } \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = P, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = Q$$

The first condition is satisfied. The second determines $\phi(y)$:

$$Q(x, y) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \int \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} dx + \phi'(y)$$

$$= \int_{x_0}^x \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} dx + \phi'(y)$$

$$= Q(x, y) - Q(x_0, y) + \phi'(y)$$

So, $\varphi(y) = \int_{y_0}^y Q(x_0, y) dy$ where y_0 is arbitrary.

The condition is therefore sufficient and the eqn. is exact with primitive $\int_{x_0}^x P(x, y) dx + \int_{y_0}^y Q(x_0, y) dy = C$.

x_0, y_0 can be chosen as convenient. There is only one arbitrary const.

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

Cond. of Integrability is satisfied. The primitive is

$$\int_{x_0}^x \frac{2x-y}{x^2+y^2} dx + \int_{y_0}^y \frac{2y+x_0}{x_0^2+y_0^2} dy = C$$

Clearly an advantage to take $x_0 = 0, y_0 = 1$ is also there with

$$\int_0^x \frac{2x-y}{x^2+y^2} dx + 2 \int_1^y \frac{dy}{y} = C$$

i.e. $\left[\log(x^2+y^2) - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \right]_{x=0}^{x=y} + 2 \log y = C$

Which reduces to $\log(x^2+y^2) - \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = C$.

§ Separation of variables.

A particular instance is when P is a fn. of x alone & Q that of y alone.

The equation $P(x)dx + Q(y)dy = 0$ is then said to have separated variables. Its primitive is $\int P(x)dx + \int Q(y)dy = C$

When eqn. is such that P can be factored into a fn. X of x alone & Y_1 a fn. of y alone and Q can similarly be factored into X_1 & Y , the variables are said to be separable:

$$X Y_1 dx + X_1 Y dy = 0$$

may be written in separated form:

$$\frac{X}{X_1} dx + \frac{Y}{Y_1} dy = 0$$

It must be noticed however that a number of solutions are lost in the division of the eqn by $X_1 Y_1$.

If for example $x = a$ is root of $X_1 = 0$, it would give no solution of $X Y_1 dx + X_1 Y dy = 0$ but not of separated form.

Example $(x^2+1)(y^2-1) dx + xy dy = 0.$

The variables are separable

$$\frac{x^2+1}{x} dx + \frac{y}{y^2-1} dy = 0$$

Integrating $x^2 + \log x^2 + \log(y^2-1) = C$

if $C = \log C$,
 $y^2 = 1 + C \frac{e^{-x^2}}{x^2}$

In addition $x=0$, $y=1$, $y=-1$ are real solutions of the given equation. $x=0$ is not included in the general solution. The latter two are included.