



Student Evaluation for Module (SEM):

[CELEN037 Foundation Calculus and Mathematical Techniques \(Chenyang Xue\)](#)

**Topic 1: Solutions of Ordinary Differential Equations**

A function $f(x)$ is called a solution of a differential equation if the differential equation is satisfied when $y = f(x)$ and its derivatives are substituted into the given differential equation.

Illustration 1: Show that $y = C_1 \sin 4x + C_2 \cos 4x$ is a solution of the ODE

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 16y = 0, \text{ where } C_1 \text{ and } C_2 \text{ are arbitrary constants.}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 4C_1 \cos 4x - 4C_2 \sin 4x$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = -16C_1 \sin 4x - 16C_2 \cos 4x$$

$$= -16(C_1 \sin 4x + C_2 \cos 4x) = -16y$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 16y = 0$$

$\therefore y = C_1 \sin 4x + C_2 \cos 4x$ is a solution of the ODE.

Illustration 2: Show that $y = e^{-x} + ax + b$ is a solution of the ODE

$$e^x \cdot \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - 1 = 0, \text{ where } a \text{ and } b \text{ are arbitrary constants.}$$

$$y = e^{-x} + ax + b \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = -e^{-x} + a$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = e^{-x}$$

$$\Rightarrow e^x \cdot \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - 1 = e^x \cdot e^{-x} - 1 = 1 - 1 = 0$$

$\therefore y = e^{-x} + ax + b$ is a solution of the ODE.



1. Show that $y = C_1 e^{2x} + C_2 e^{3x}$ is a solution of the ODE $\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - 5 \frac{dy}{dx} + 6y = 0$, where C_1 and C_2 are arbitrary constants.

Answer:

2. Show that $y = C_1 e^{-2x} + C_2 e^x$ is a solution of the ODE $\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + \frac{dy}{dx} - 2y = 0$, where C_1 and C_2 are arbitrary constants.

Answer:

3. Show that $y = a \cos^{-1} x + b$ is a solution of the ODE $(1 - x^2) \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - x \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$, where a and b are arbitrary constants.

Answer:

4. Show that $y = \frac{a}{x} + b$ is a solution of the ODE $\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + \frac{2}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$, where a and b are arbitrary constants.

Answer:

**Topic 2: Solving ODE of Variable-Separable Form**

The variable-separable ordinary differential equation can be written in the form

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{f(x)}{g(y)} \\ \Rightarrow g(y) dy &= f(x) dx\end{aligned}$$

Integrate both sides:

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow \int g(y) dy &= \int f(x) dx \\ \Rightarrow G(y) &= F(x) + C\end{aligned}$$

where $G(y)$ and $F(x)$ denote the antiderivatives of $g(y)$ and $f(x)$, respectively.

Illustration 1: Solve the variable-separable ODE: $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y}$.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y}$$

$$\Rightarrow y dy = -x dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int y dy = - \int x dx$$

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

general solution of the given ODE

$$\Rightarrow y^2 = -x^2 + C$$



Solve the following Variable-Separable ODEs:

1. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x}$

Answer:

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

Answer:

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

Answer:

4. $y \frac{dy}{dx} = (1+y^2) \tan x$

Answer:

**Topic 2: Solving ODE of Variable-Separable Form**

Illustration 2: Solve the variable-separable ODE: $\ln(\sin x) \frac{dy}{dx} = \cot x$.

$$\ln(\sin x) \frac{dy}{dx} = \cot x$$

$$\Rightarrow dy = \frac{\cot x}{\ln(\sin x)} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow dy = \frac{1}{\ln(\sin x)} \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int dy = \int \frac{1}{\ln(\sin x)} \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} dx$$

$$\text{Let } \ln(\sin x) = t \Rightarrow \frac{\cos x}{\sin x} dx = dt$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \int \frac{1}{t} dt = \ln|t| + C$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \ln|\ln(\sin x)| + C \quad \text{general solution of the given ODE}$$

Illustration 3: Solve the variable-separable ODE: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{xe^x}{y\sqrt{1+y^2}}$.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{xe^x}{y\sqrt{1+y^2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow y\sqrt{1+y^2} dy = xe^x dx$$

using substitution

$$\Rightarrow \int y\sqrt{1+y^2} dy = \int xe^x dx$$

integration by parts

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3}(1+y^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} = xe^x - \int e^x dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{3}(1+y^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} = xe^x - e^x + C$$

$$\Rightarrow (1+y^2)^{\frac{3}{2}} = 3xe^x - 3e^x + C \quad \text{general solution of the given ODE}$$



Solve the following Variable-Separable ODEs:

1. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\tan y}{x \sec^2 y}$

Answer:

2. $(e^x + e^{-x}) \frac{dy}{dx} = e^x - e^{-x}$

Answer:

3. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y \cos x}{1 + \sin x}$

Answer:

4. $y \ln y dx = x dy$

Answer:

**Topic 3: Solving Initial Value Problem (IVP) of Variable-Separable ODE****Illustration 1:** Solve the IVP of the variable-separable ODE:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2}{y^2}; \quad y(0) = 2$$

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

$$\Rightarrow y^2 dy = x^2 dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int y^2 dy = \int x^2 dx$$

general solution of the given ODE

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y^3}{3} = \frac{x^3}{3} + C$$

$$y(0) = 2 \Rightarrow x = 0, y = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2^3}{3} = \frac{0^3}{3} + C \quad \text{initial value}$$

$$\Rightarrow C = \frac{8}{3}$$

particular solution of the given ODE

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y^3}{3} = \frac{x^3}{3} + \frac{8}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow y^3 = x^3 + 8$$

Illustration 2: Solve the IVP of the variable separable ODE:

$$e^{\frac{dy}{dx}} = x + 1 \quad (x > -1); \quad y(0) = 3.$$

$$e^{\frac{dy}{dx}} = x + 1 \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \ln(x + 1) \Rightarrow dy = \ln(x + 1) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int dy = \int \ln(x + 1) dx \quad \text{apply integration by parts}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = x \ln(x + 1) - \int \frac{x}{x + 1} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow y = x \ln(x + 1) - \int \left(1 - \frac{1}{x + 1}\right) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow y = x \ln(x + 1) - x + \ln(x + 1) + C \quad \text{general solution}$$

$$y(0) = 3 \Rightarrow x = 0, y = 3 \Rightarrow 3 = C \quad \text{initial value}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = (x + 1) \ln(x + 1) - x + 3 \quad \text{particular solution of the given ODE}$$



Solve the following IVPs:

1. $\frac{dy}{dx} + 4xy^2 = 0; y(0) = 1$

Answer:

2. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y \sin x}{1 + y^2}; y(0) = 1$

Answer:



Solve the following IVPs:

3. $\frac{dy}{dx} = y \tan x; y(0) = 1$

Answer:

4. $x + 2y\sqrt{x^2 + 1} \frac{dy}{dx} = 0; y(0) = 1$

Answer:

**Topic 4: Applications of Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE)**

- Illustration:** The rate of population increase of insects used in an experiment is proportional to the insect population (P).
- (i) Formulate a differential equation to show that the population of the insect at time t is $P = P_0 \cdot e^{kt}$, where $k > 0$ is constant, and P_0 is the initial population.
 - (ii) If the population increased from 1000 to 1300 after 20 days, find the population after 35 days.
 - (iii) How long will it take for the population to reach 2000?

$$(i) \quad \frac{dP}{dt} \propto P$$

The ODE is variable-separable

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dP}{dt} = kP \quad (k > 0) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{P} dP = k dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{1}{P} dP = k \int dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln P = kt + C$$

general solution of the ODE

$$\text{Now, } t = 0, \Rightarrow P(0) = P_0$$

initial value

$$\Rightarrow \ln P_0 = k \cdot 0 + C$$

$$\Rightarrow C = \ln P_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln P = kt + \ln P_0$$

particular solution of the ODE

$$\Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{P}{P_0} \right) = kt$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{P}{P_0} = e^{kt}$$

$$\therefore P = P_0 e^{kt}$$



Topic 4: Applications of Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE)

(ii) If the population increased from 1000 to 1300 after 20 days, find the population after 35 days.

(ii) $P_0 = 1000 \Rightarrow P = P(t) = 1000 e^{kt}$

When $t = 20$

$P(20) = 1000 e^{k \cdot 20} = 1300$

t	0	20	35
$P(t)$	1000	1300	?

$\Rightarrow \frac{13}{10} = e^{20k}$

$\Rightarrow k = \frac{1}{20} \ln \left(\frac{13}{10} \right)$

$\Rightarrow P(t) = 1000 e^{\left[\frac{1}{20} \ln \left(\frac{13}{10} \right) \right] t}$

When $t = 35$

$\Rightarrow P(35) = 1000 e^{\left[\frac{1}{20} \ln \left(\frac{13}{10} \right) \right] \cdot 35} \approx 1583 \text{ insects}$

(iii) How long will it take for the population to reach 2000?

t	0	20	35	?
P	1000	1300	1583	2000

From (ii), $P(t) = 1000 e^{\left[\frac{1}{20} \ln \left(\frac{13}{10} \right) \right] t}$

When $P(t) = 2000$

$2000 = 1000 e^{\left[\frac{1}{20} \ln \left(\frac{13}{10} \right) \right] t} \Rightarrow 2 = e^{\left[\frac{1}{20} \ln \left(\frac{13}{10} \right) \right] t}$

$\Rightarrow \ln 2 = \left[\frac{1}{20} \ln \left(\frac{13}{10} \right) \right] t$

$\Rightarrow t = \frac{20 \cdot \ln 2}{\ln(13/10)} \approx 52.84 \text{ days}$



1. The population of a city P increases exponentially at the rate of $r = 2\%$ per year. How many years will it take for the population to double.

Answer:

2. The decay rate of caffeine level in your system is proportional to the amount (m) of the caffeine at that time.

- (a) Formulate a differential equation to show that the amount of the caffeine at time t is $m = m_0 \cdot e^{kt}$, where $k < 0$ is a constant and m_0 is the initial amount.
- (b) Assume that it takes 1 hour for the caffeine level to decrease from 20 mg/L to 5 mg/L. How much will remain in 3 hours?

Answer:



3. Scientists can determine the age of objects containing organic material by a method called carbon dating or radiocarbon dating. Cosmic rays hitting the atmosphere convert nitrogen into a radioactive isotope of carbon ^{14}C , with a half-life of about **5730** years.

Vegetation absorbs carbon dioxide from the atmosphere through photosynthesis, and animals acquire ^{14}C by eating plants. When a plant or an animal dies, it stops replacing its carbon and the amount of ^{14}C begins to decrease through radioactive decay.

Let $Q(t)$ denote the amount of ^{14}C in the plant or the animal t years after it dies. The number of radioactive decays per year is proportional to the amount of ^{14}C at time t .

- (i) Formulate a differential equation to show that the amount of ^{14}C at time t is $Q = Q_0 \cdot e^{-kt}$, where $k > 0$ is a constant, and Q_0 is the initial amount.
- (ii) A particular piece of parchment contains about 64% as plants do today. Estimate the age of the parchment.

Answer: