

# Differential Equations Tutorial 1

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Week 3

# Contents

- Recall
- Solution
- Initial Value Problem
- Separable Equations
- Typical Models

- What is a **Differential Equation**?
- Classification by ?
- What is the normal form of equation of order  $n$ ?

$$y^{(n)} = f\left(t, y, y', \dots, y^{(n-1)}\right)$$

- What is **Interval of Existence**?  
How is it different from “domain”?
- What is Implicit/Explicit solution?
- What is Direction Field?  
“flow of solutions” “drawing of any particular solution”

# Recall

- Integral Techniques
- Partial Fraction

$$\frac{1}{(x-a)(x-b)} = \frac{A}{x-a} + \frac{B}{x-b}$$

- Substitution

$$\text{e.g. } \int x e^{x^2} dx$$

Trigonometric Substitution

$$\text{e.g. } \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx$$

- Integration by Parts

$$\text{e.g. } \int x e^x dx$$

# Verification of a Solution

## Example

Verify that the indicated function is a solution of the given differential equation on the interval  $(-\infty, \infty)$

$$y'' - 2y' + y = 0; \quad y = xe^x$$

## Solution

*From the derivatives  $y' = xe^x + e^x$  and  $y'' = xe^x + 2e^x$ , substituting which into the given equation leads to*

$$y'' - 2y' + y = (xe^x + 2e^x) - 2(xe^x + e^x) + xe^x = 0.$$

*Hence, the given form is indeed a solution of the given equation.*

# Trivial Solution

A solution of a differential equation that is identically zero on an interval  $I$ , namely, the zero solution  $y = 0$  is said to be a **trivial solution**.

## Example

$$y' = ty^2$$

When  $y \neq 0$ , solve by **separate the variables**

When  $y = 0$ , ?

**Remark:** Avoiding division by zero

# Integrals as Solutions

Let us first assume that  $f$  is a function of  $x$ , hence the equation is

$$y' = f(x)$$

Integrate both sides with respect to  $x$ .

$$\int y'(x) dx + C_1 = \int f(x) dx + C_2,$$

$$y(x) = \int f(x) dx + C_2 - C_1.$$

$y(x)$  is the general solution.

# Integrals as Solutions

Denoting  $C = C_2 - C_1$  gives us the solution in the form of

$$y(x) = \int f(x) dx + C. \quad (1)$$

Note that  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are arbitrary constant, for our convenience, normally when we solve an ODE, we only add the constant on the right-hand side of an equation.



# Example

Find the general solution of  $y' = 3x^2$ .

## Solution

*Integrating both sides gives*

$$\int y'(x) dx = \int 3x^2 dx + C,$$

that is,

$$y(x) = x^3 + C.$$

## Question

Find a **particular solution** of the equation.  
(Completely specified, free of arbitrary parameters)

# Initial Value Problem

- IVP
- Initial Condition

- **Example**

Suppose a car drives at a speed  $e^{t/2}$  meters per second, where  $t$  is time in seconds. How far did the car get in 2 seconds (starting at  $t = 0$ )? How far in 10 seconds?

- The DE is given by ?  
Let  $y$  denote the distance the car traveled.

$$y' = e^{t/2}.$$

- Initial Condition  $y(0) = 0$

# Example

- $y(t) = ?$
- $C = ?$
- $y(2) = ?$  ,  $y(10) = ?$
- Recall FTC

$$y(t) = \int_{t_0}^t f(s) ds + y_0 \quad (2)$$

$$y(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^{t_0} f(s) ds + y_0 = y_0,$$

which means  $y_0$  is the value of the given initial condition.

# Example



$$\begin{aligned}y(t) &= \int_0^t e^{s/2} ds + 0 \\&= 2e^{s/2} \Big|_0^t = 2e^{t/2} - 2,\end{aligned}$$

- *Which is exactly identical with the solution obtained using the indefinite integration.*

# Separable Equations

## Example

Consider the separable equation

$$y' = \frac{xy}{y^2 + 1}.$$

## Solution

*When  $y \neq 0$ , we separate variables and find*

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

*Integrating both sides gives*

$$\frac{y^2}{2} + \ln |y| = \frac{x^2}{2} + C_1$$

# Separable Equations

*Multiplying the equation via 2*

$$y^2 + 2 \ln |y| = x^2 + C,$$

*where  $C = 2C_1$  .*

*Note that the form is an implicit solution and we just leave the form.*

*Also, you can show that  $y = 0$  is also a solution of the given DE by substituting.*

# Typical Models

- Exponential Growth
- Exponential Decay
- Newton's Law of Cooling
- Air Resistance in Falling Mass

# Example: Exponential Equations



$$\frac{\Delta N(t)}{\Delta t} \approx \lambda N(t).$$

- When  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ , i.e., we consider the infinitesimal change, we obtain the following first order ordinary differential equation

$$\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta N(t)}{\Delta t} = \frac{dN(t)}{dt} = \lambda N(t).$$

- The equation

$$N'(t) = \lambda N(t) \tag{3}$$

is called the **exponential equation**. When  $\lambda > 0$ , the equation is the exponential growth equation; when  $\lambda < 0$ , the equation represents the exponential decay.



# Example: Exponential Growth

- Population Growth: The Malthusian Model
- Introduced later in Chapter 3. Modeling and Applications
- Without limit,

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{rt}.$$

- With limit(carrying capacity)

$$\dot{P} = rP \left( 1 - \frac{P}{K} \right).$$

## Example: Exponential Decay

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = -\lambda P + r - rP \quad (4)$$

$$\therefore \frac{dP}{dt} = -(\lambda + r)P + r$$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = -(\lambda + r) \left( P - \frac{r}{r + \lambda} \right)$$

$$\text{Let } Q = P - \frac{r}{r + \lambda}$$

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = -(\lambda + r)Q$$

$$\frac{dQ}{Q} = -(\lambda + r)dt$$

$$\int \frac{dQ}{Q} = \int -(\lambda + r)dt$$

## Example: Exponential Decay

$$\ln |Q| = -(\lambda + r)t + C$$

$$Q = Ae^{-(\lambda+r)t}$$

$$P(t) = \frac{r}{r + \lambda} + Ae^{-(\lambda+r)t}$$

Initial condition indicates  $t = 0, P(0) = 1$

$$\therefore A = 1 - \frac{r}{r + \lambda} = \frac{\lambda}{r + \lambda}$$

$$P(t) = \frac{r}{r + \lambda} + \frac{\lambda}{r + \lambda} e^{-(\lambda+r)t}$$

## Example: Air Resistance

$$\frac{d}{dt}v = g - \frac{k}{m}v^2, \quad \text{with } v(0) = 0. \quad (5)$$

Rewriting & Integrating:

$$\int \frac{1}{g - \frac{k}{m}v^2} dv = \int dt.$$

Let:

$$1 - \frac{k}{mg}v^2 = (1 - \alpha v)(1 + \alpha v).$$

$$\alpha^2 = \frac{k}{mg} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \alpha = \sqrt{\frac{k}{mg}}.$$

$$\int \frac{dv}{g(1 - \alpha v)(1 + \alpha v)} = \int dt.$$

# Example: Air Resistance

## By Partial Fraction

$$\frac{1}{(1 - \alpha v)(1 + \alpha v)} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \alpha v} + \frac{1}{1 + \alpha v} \right).$$

$$\int \frac{1}{g} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \alpha v} + \frac{1}{1 + \alpha v} \right) dv = \int dt.$$

$$\frac{1}{2g} \int \left( \frac{1}{1 - \alpha v} + \frac{1}{1 + \alpha v} \right) dv = \int dt.$$

$$\frac{1}{2g\alpha} (-\ln |1 - \alpha v| + \ln |1 + \alpha v|) = t + C.$$

$$\left| \frac{1 + \alpha v}{1 - \alpha v} \right| = e^{2g\alpha t + C'}.$$

Setting  $A = e^{C'}$ , we obtain:

$$\frac{1 + \alpha v}{1 - \alpha v} = Ae^{2g\alpha t}.$$

## Example: Air Resistance

$$v = \frac{Ae^{2g\alpha t} - 1}{\alpha(Ae^{2g\alpha t} + 1)}.$$

Substituting  $\alpha = \sqrt{k/mg}$ :

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{mg}{k}} \frac{Ae^{2t\sqrt{kg/m}} - 1}{Ae^{2t\sqrt{kg/m}} + 1}.$$

Apply initial condition  $v(0) = 0$

$$0 = \sqrt{\frac{mg}{k}} \frac{A - 1}{A + 1}.$$

Since  $A = 1$ ,

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{mg}{k}} \frac{e^{2t\sqrt{kg/m}} - 1}{e^{2t\sqrt{kg/m}} + 1}. \quad (6)$$

# Quiz 1-a

Solve the problem

$$y' + 2y^2 = 0, \quad y(1) = y_0$$

and determine how the interval of existence depends on the initial value  $y_0$ .

# Quiz 1-b

Solve the problem

$$y' + y^3 = 0, \quad y(0) = y_0$$

and determine how the interval of existence depends on the initial value  $y_0$ .