

# MA 110 - Ordinary Differential Equations

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# Outline of the lecture

- Equations reducible to separable form
- Exact equations

# Equations reducible to separable form - Exercises

- ① Solve  $(4x + 2y + 5)y' + (2x + y - 1) = 0$ .

Hint :

Substitute  $v = 2x + y$ . Reduces to separable form.

- ② Solve  $y' = \frac{x + y - 3}{x - y - 1}$ .

Hint :

- Substitute  $x = x_1 + h$ ,  $y = y_1 + k$  for some  $h$ ,  $k$  which will be determined.

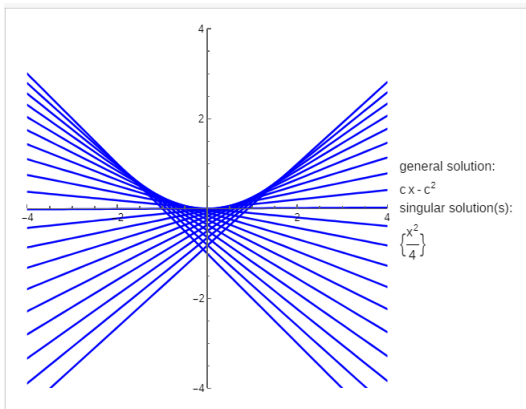
- $\frac{dy_1}{dx_1} = \frac{x_1 + y_1 + h + k - 3}{x_1 - y_1 + h - k - 1}$ .

- Choose  $h$ ,  $k$  such that  $h + k - 3 = 0$ ,  $h - k - 1 = 0$ . This choice makes the equation homogeneous.

- Formal Solution :  $e^{\tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y-1}{x-2}\right)} = C\sqrt{(x-2)^2 + (y-1)^2}$ .

- ① The DE  $e^x y' + 3y = x^2 y$  is linear & separable. TRUE OR FALSE?
- ② The DE  $yy' + 3x = 0$  is linear & separable. TRUE OR FALSE?
- ③ Is the DE  $\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{x + 2xt + \cos t}{1 + t^2}$  linear/non-linear & separable/ not separable?
- ④ For the linear differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{x}{1+x}y = 1+x$ , the integrating factor is ———?  
(Integrating factor =  $e^{\int P(x)dx}$  for  $y' + P(x)y = Q(x)$ .)
- ⑤  $y = cx - c^2$  is a general solution of  $y'^2 - xy' + y = 0$ . But  $y = x^2/4$  is a singular solution of the ODE because it cannot be obtained from the general solution.

# Solutions of $y'^2 - xy' + y = 0$



## Definition

A first order ODE

$$M(x, y) + N(x, y)y' = 0$$

is called **exact**, if there is a function  $u(x, y)$  such that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = M \text{ \& } \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = N.$$

**Example :** Is

$$(2x + y^2) + 2xy \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

exact? Consider the function  $u(x, y) = x^2 + xy^2$ .

# Exact ODE's

Recall from calculus Given a function  $u(x, y)$  with continuous first partial derivatives, its differential is

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy.$$

If the ODE  $M(x, y) + N(x, y)y' = 0$  is exact, then there exist such  $u(x, y)$  with  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = M$  &  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = N$ , and hence

$$0 = M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}dy = du.$$

Integrating  $du = 0$ , we get  $u(x, y) = c$  as an implicit/formal solution to the given ODE.

## Example : by inspection

Solve the DE:

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

Consider the function  $u(x, y) = x^2 + xy^2$ . Note that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 2x + y^2, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 2xy.$$

Hence  $x^2 + xy^2 = c$  is the solution of the given ODE.



# Working Rule

Given an exact ODE  $M(x, y) + N(x, y)y' = 0$ , the function  $u(x, y)$  can be found either by inspection or by the following method:

- 1 Integrate  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = M(x, y)$  with respect to  $x$  to obtain

$$u(x, y) = \int M(x, y) dx + k(y),$$

where  $k(y)$  is a constant of integration. ( $y$  is treated as a constant during integration).

- 2 To determine  $k(y)$ , differentiate the above equation with respect to  $y$ , to obtain

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \int M(x, y) dx \right) + k'(y).$$

- 3 As the given ODE is exact, we get

$$N(x, y) = k'(y) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \int M(x, y) dx \right).$$

We use this to determine  $k(y)$  and hence  $u$ .

## Theorem

Let  $M, N$  and their first order partial derivatives exist and be continuous in a region  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ . We have:

- 1 If  $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$  is an exact differential equation, then  $M_y = N_x$ .
- 2 If  $D$  is convex, then  $M_y = N_x \implies M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$  is exact.

Proof: Let the ODE be exact. So there is a  $u$  such that  $M = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$  and  $N = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$ . Then,

$$M_y = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} \text{ \& } N_x = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y}.$$

By the theorem on mixed partials,  $M_y = N_x$ .

Conversely, let  $D$  be convex, and  $M_y = N_x$ . Consider the vector field

$$H(x, y) = (M(x, y), N(x, y)).$$

By our assumptions,  $H$  is continuously differentiable throughout  $D$ . The curl of  $H$  is given by

$$\nabla \times H = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \\ M & N & 0 \end{vmatrix} = (N_x - M_y)\mathbf{k} = 0.$$

As  $D$  is convex, “curl free is grad”; i.e., there is a function  $\phi(x, y)$  such that

$$H = \nabla \phi = (\phi_x, \phi_y).$$

Hence  $\phi_x = M$ ,  $\phi_y = N$  and thus  $Mdx + Ndy = 0$  is exact.

# Example

Solve the DE:

$$(y \cos x + 2xe^y) + (\sin x + x^2e^y - 1)y' = 0.$$

Let  $M = y \cos x + 2xe^y$  and  $N = \sin x + x^2e^y - 1$ .

Do we have an exact DE?

How to find  $u(x, y)$  such that  $u_x = M$  and  $u_y = N$ ?

1

$$u(x, y) = \int (y \cos x + 2xe^y) dx + k(y) = y \sin x + x^2 e^y + k(y).$$

2

$$u_y = \sin x + x^2 e^y + k'(y) = \sin x + x^2 e^y - 1.$$

3

Thus,  $k'(y) = -1$ .

4

Choosing  $k(y) = -y$ , we obtain :

$$u(x, y) = y \sin x + x^2 e^y - y = c$$

as an implicit solution (**Why implicit?**) to the given DE.

1. Given  $u(x, y) = c$ , this will define a unique differentiable function  $\phi$  in a neighbourhood of and passing through  $(x_0, y_0)$ , if

$$u(x_0, y_0) = c, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) \neq 0.$$

2. **The method fails if attempt to solve non-exact equations.**  
Consider  $(3x + y^2) + (x^2 + xy)y' = 0$ . **Is the equation exact ?**  
**Does the method work?**

Can we use integrating factors!?