

# Integrating Factor Examples

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Recall: For  $\omega$  non-zero 1-form on an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , if there exists some  $g$  such that  $B\omega = dg$  where  $B$  is a continuous non-vanishing “integrating factor”, then the level sets  $g^{-1}(c)$  of  $g$  are integral  $(n - 1)$ -manifolds for  $g$ .

Special case:  $\omega = u(x, y)dx + v(x, y)dy$  (i.e.  $n = 2$ ).

Then the integral curves for  $\omega$  are graphs of solutions of  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-u(x, y)}{v(x, y)}$ , i.e.,  $f'(x) = \frac{-u(x, f(x))}{v(x, f(x))}$ .

## Two Classes of Examples

1)  $f'(x) = \beta(f(x))$  ( $\star\star$ ). Solutions satisfy  $\int \frac{dy}{\beta(y)} = x + C$ .

We call points where  $\beta(y) = 0$  “equilibrium points”.

Consider a path from  $y_0$  to  $y_1$  taken from time  $x_0$  to  $x_1$ . Then  $x_1 - x_0 = \int_M dx$ .

$\omega = -\beta(y)dx + dy$  or  $\omega = -dx + \frac{dy}{\beta(y)}$ .

$$\text{So } x_1 - x_0 = \int_M dx = \int_M dx + \underbrace{\int_M \left(-dx + \frac{dy}{\beta(y)}\right)}_0 = \int_M \frac{dy}{\beta(y)} = \int_{y_0}^{y_1} \frac{dy}{\beta(y)}$$

Followup: This last integral diverges (in the extended sense) if  $\beta$  is Lipschitz and  $\beta$  vanishes somewhere in the interval  $[y_0, y_1]$ . So the integral is finite if and only if it's the “non-deterministic” case. Compare this with 395 HW 8 #3 —  $\beta(y) = \sqrt[3]{y}$ .

2)  $f''(x) = \beta(f(x))$  ( $\star\star\star$ ). This is a particle subject to a force field.

Let  $h(x) = f'(x)$ . Get

$$\begin{cases} f'(x) = h(x) \\ h'(x) = \beta(f(x)) \end{cases} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \begin{pmatrix} f \\ h \end{pmatrix}'(x) = \begin{pmatrix} h(x) \\ \beta(f(x)) \end{pmatrix} = \Psi \begin{pmatrix} f(x) \\ h(x) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad \Psi \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q \\ \beta(p) \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $\alpha : x \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x \\ f(x) \\ h(x) \end{pmatrix}$  graph parameterization. For  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ v \end{pmatrix}$  coords in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,  
 $y = f(x)$  and  $v = h(x) = f'(x)$ .

Thus,  $Y_\alpha$  integral  $\omega_1 = dy - v dx$  and  $\omega_2 = dv - \beta(y) dx$ .

From HW 2:  $\omega_1 = x_1 dx_2 + dx_3$  has no integral 2-manifolds.

**Exer:**  $M$  integral for  $\omega_1$  and for  $\omega_2 \Rightarrow M$  integral for  $f_1\omega_1 + f_2\omega_2$ .

Apply to the specific situation  $\omega_3 \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -\beta(y)\omega_1 + v\omega_2 = \dots = v dv - \beta(y) dy = d\left(\frac{v^2}{2} - \int \beta(y) dy\right)$ .

So we can write  $\underbrace{\frac{v^2}{2}}_{\text{kinetic}} - \underbrace{\int \beta(y) dy}_{\text{potential}} = \underbrace{E}_{\text{energy}}$ , i.e.,  $\beta = \frac{F}{m}$ .

$$f'(x) = V = \sqrt{2(E + \int \beta(y) dy)} \quad \text{"type 1 autonomous"}$$

Use the method for type 1 autonomous equations, get  $x + C = \pm \int \frac{dy}{\sqrt{2(E + \int \beta(y) dy)}}$ .

We still have  $y = f(x)$  – try to solve for  $f$ .

**Ex:**  $\beta(y) = -y, E = \frac{v^2 + y^2}{2}$

$$x + C = \pm \int \frac{dy}{\sqrt{2E - y^2}} = \pm \arcsin \frac{y}{\sqrt{2E}}.$$

So  $y = \sqrt{2E} \sin(x + C)$  “Simple Harmonic Motion”

**Ex:**  $\beta(y) = -\sin y, E = \frac{v^2}{2} - \cos y$  “frictionless pendulum”

$$v^2 = 2(E + \cos y) \rightarrow v = \pm \sqrt{2(E + \cos(y))}$$