

Intro to differential equations

Introduction

- Equation that involves a function and its derivat.
- Solution \rightarrow explicit form $g(x)$

Ordinary Differential Equations

$$F(y^{(n)}, y^{(n-1)}, \dots, y', y, x) = 0$$

Solution $\rightarrow y(x)$

Examples

$F = m \cdot a \rightarrow F(x, t) = m \frac{d^2}{dx^2} x$
 \hookrightarrow solution is $x(t)$

$y'' + 2y' + 3y = \cos(x)$

Initial Value Problems (IVP)

$$\begin{cases} y' = \sin(x) \rightarrow y(x) = -\cos(x) + C \\ y(0) = 1 \rightarrow y(0) = -\cos(0) + C = 1 \Rightarrow C = 2 \\ \Rightarrow y(x) = 2 - \cos(x) \end{cases}$$

\hookrightarrow Initial Value Problem

- Diff. Equations don't have a unique solution, we need to set some conditions

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = 1 \rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = x + C_1$$

$$\rightarrow y(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + C_1x + C_2$$

We need 2 initial values to find a unique solution

$$y'(0) = C_1, y(0) = C_2$$

\downarrow You need as many initial conditions as the order of the ODE

First order separable ODEs

$$\bullet \frac{dy}{dx} = y \cdot x$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{dy}{y} = \int x \cdot dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln|y| = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + c$$

$$\Rightarrow y(x) = \pm e^{x^2/2} \cdot e^c = k e^{\frac{x^2}{2}} \quad (k \in \mathbb{R})$$

↑
with an initial value,
we could find k

$$\text{check: } y' = k \cdot \frac{2}{2} x e^{\frac{x^2}{2}} = x \cdot k e^{\frac{x^2}{2}} = x \cdot y$$

↳ Definition of Separable ODE

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x) \cdot g(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{dy}{g(y)} = \int f(x) dx$$

More examples

$$(1) \quad y' = \frac{x}{y}, \quad y(1) = 2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x}{y} \Rightarrow \int y dy = \int x dx$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{y^2}{2} = \frac{x^2}{2} + c$$

↑ Solved, now write y as function of x

$$y(x) = \pm \sqrt{x^2 + K} \quad (K = 2c)$$

↑ Now put in initial condition

$$y(1) = \pm \sqrt{1 + K} = 2 \Rightarrow K = 3$$

$$y(x) = + \sqrt{3 + x^2}$$

Linear ODEs

- ↳ linear in $y(x)$ and all derivatives $y'(x)$, $y''(x)$...
- ↳ only ones solvable \rightarrow they are separable
- ↳ functions such as $\sin(y)$ are not allowed

$$a_n(x) \cdot y^{(n)} + \dots + a_1(x) \cdot y' + a_0(x) y = f(x)$$

General form for linear ODE

Linear homogeneous ODEs

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = -y(x)$$

$$y_1(x) = -\cos(x)$$

$$y_2(x) = \sin(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} -y_1 + y_2 &= \sin(x) + \cos(x) \\ -y_1' + y_2' &= \cos(x) - \sin(x) \\ -y_1'' + y_2'' &= -\sin(x) - \cos(x) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{d}{dx} \\ \frac{d}{dx} \end{array} \right\}$$
$$= y_1 - y_2$$

↳ the sum of 2 solutions is also a solution
If $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ are solutions to
linear homogeneous ODE, then $ay_1(x) + by_2(x)$
is also a solution ($a, b \in \mathbb{R}$)

↳ With 2 solutions, we can find all possible
solutions by making linear combinations
of independent solutions

↳ Number of independent solutions = order
of ODE

Non-homogeneous linear ODEs

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + p(x)y = q(x)$$

(1) Assume a solution $y_H(x)$ to the homogeneous eq. $\frac{dy_H}{dx} + p(x) \cdot y_H(x) = 0$

(2) Assume a solution $y_p(x)$ to the full eq.

$$\frac{dy_p}{dx} + p(x) \cdot y_p(x) = q(x)$$

(3) \Rightarrow then $\frac{d}{dx}(\underbrace{y_H + y_p}) + p(x)(y_H + y_p) = q(x)$

particular solution

General Solution: $y_p(x) + C \cdot y_H(x)$

Examples

(1) $y' + 2y = (3)$ \leftarrow remove RHS to make it homogeneous

(1) homogeneous eq: $y' + 2y = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = -2y \Leftrightarrow \int \frac{dy}{y} = \int -2 dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln|y| = -2x + C$$

$$\Rightarrow y_H(x) = K \cdot e^{-2x}$$

\uparrow rewritten in terms of x

(2) $y' + 2y = 3 \rightarrow y_p = \frac{3}{2}$ \leftarrow find quickest way to find p. solution

\hookrightarrow we consider it a constant function

constant is usually easy

(3) General solution: $y(x) = y_H(x) + y_p(x)$
 $= K e^{-2x} + \frac{3}{2}$

BUT not always possible

Parameter variation: solving linear first order ODE

$$y' + p(x)y = q(x)$$

(1) Solve homogeneous eq.

$$y' + p(x)y = 0$$

separable

remove everything that does not multiply y

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{dy}{y} = - \int p(x) dx$$

$$\ln|y| = -\mu(x)$$

$$y_h(x) = K \cdot e^{-\mu(x)}$$

We make the parameter a function of x

(2) Find particular solution

Assume: $y(x) = K(x) \cdot e^{-\mu(x)}$

product rule

$$y'(x) = \underbrace{K'(x) e^{-\mu(x)}}_{q(x)} - \underbrace{K(x) p(x) e^{-\mu(x)}}_{p(x) \cdot y(x) \text{ by definition}}$$

$$K'(x) e^{-\mu(x)} = q(x)$$

$$\rightarrow K'(x) = e^{\mu(x)} q(x)$$

Formula

$$K(x) = \int e^{\mu(x)} q(x) dx$$

$$\left[y(x) = K(x) e^{-\mu(x)} = e^{-\mu(x)} \int e^{\mu(x)} q(x) dx \right]$$

Example

$$\begin{cases} y' + \frac{y}{x} = 1 & (x > 0) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} y(1) = 1 \end{cases} \leftarrow \text{initial condition}$$

(1) Homogeneous eq.

$$y' = -\frac{y}{x} \Leftrightarrow \int \frac{dy}{y} = -\int \frac{dx}{x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln|y| = -\ln|x| + C$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{\ln|y|} = e^{-\ln|x|} + C$$

$$\Rightarrow |y| = \frac{e^C}{e^{\ln|x|}}$$

$$\Rightarrow |y| = \frac{e^C}{|x|} \quad K = e^C$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{K}{x}$$

$$\boxed{y_H = \frac{K}{x}}$$

(2) Parameter for particular solution

$$y' = \frac{K'(x)}{x} - \frac{K(x)}{x^2}$$

(product rule, derivative of)

$$\frac{K'(x)}{x} - \frac{K(x)}{x^2} = 1 - \frac{K(x)}{x^2}$$

$$K'(x) = x \Rightarrow K(x) = \frac{x^2}{2} + C$$

homogeneous solution ✓

$$y(x) = \frac{K(x)}{x} = \frac{1}{x} \left(\frac{x^2}{2} + C \right) = \frac{x}{2} + \frac{C}{x}$$

(3) Consider initial condition

$$y(1) = 1 \rightarrow y'(1) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{C}{1} \Rightarrow C = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{Final solution: } y(x) = \frac{x}{2} + \frac{1}{2x}$$