

What is a linear differential equation?

it may have high derivatives $y^{(n)}$ but with exponent at most 1

example - it may have y'' , but it has no $(y'')^2$, no $(y'')^3$

• $a(x)y'' + b(x)y' + c(x)y + d(x) = 0$: linear DE

• $a(x)(y'')^2 + a_1(x)y'' + b(x) = 0$: nonlinear DE

• $b(x)y' + c(x)y^2 + d(x) = 0$: nonlinear DE

Linearity/nonlinearity and first-order are different conditions

We will study linear first-order differential equation

Such an equation has the form

$$y' + a(x)y = b(x)$$

Linear First-order Differential Equations - a, b are constants

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$$y' + a(x)y = b(x)$$

Case 1 $a(x) = a, \quad b(x) = b$

$$y' + ay = b$$

Smart idea: multiply both sides by e^{ax}

$$\underbrace{e^{ax} y' + ae^{ax} y}_{(e^{ax} y)'} = e^{ax} b$$

$$d(e^{ax} y) = e^{ax} b dx$$

$$e^{ax} y = \int e^{ax} b dx = \frac{b}{a} e^{ax} + k$$

The solution is $y = \frac{b}{a} + k e^{-ax}$

Linear First-order Differential Equations - a is constant

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$$y' + ay = b(x)$$

Smart idea: multiply by e^{ax} (call it an integrating factor)
(thừa số tích phân)

$$e^{ax} y' + a e^{ax} y = b(x) e^{ax}$$

$$\underbrace{(y e^{ax})'}_{y e^{ax}} = \underbrace{\int b(x) e^{ax} dx}_{\text{compute this!}}$$

Example: solve $y' + 2y = x$

$$\underbrace{e^{2x} y' + 2e^{2x} y}_{(e^{2x} y)'} = x e^{2x} \quad (\text{integrating factor: } e^{2x})$$

$$e^{2x} y = \underbrace{\int x e^{2x} dx}_{\text{integrate by parts (IBP)}} = \frac{1}{2} x e^{2x} - \frac{1}{4} e^{2x} + k$$

$$y = \frac{x}{2} - \frac{1}{4} + k e^{-2x} \quad (k: \text{constant})$$

$$y' + a(x)y = b(x) \quad (*)$$

Theorem (Existence and Uniqueness of Solution)

Assume that $a(x)$, $b(x)$ are continuous on an open interval (r, s)

initial value problem
$$(IVP) \begin{cases} y' + a(x)y = b(x) \\ y(x_0) = y_0 \end{cases}$$

Then this IVP has a unique solution on (r, s)

$$y' + a(x)y = b(x) \quad (I) \quad \text{'inhomogeneous equation'}$$

Look at another equation

$$y' + a(x)y = 0 \quad (H) \quad \text{'homogeneous equation'}$$

phương trình thuần nhất

We will solve (H) first, then solve (I)

$$y' + a(x)y = 0 \quad (H)$$

$$\int \frac{1}{y} dy = \int -a(x) dx$$

$$\exp(T) = e^T$$

exponential

$$\ln|y| = - \int a(x) dx$$

$$y = K \cdot \exp\left(- \int a(x) dx\right) = e^{- \int a(x) dx}$$

(K constant)

This is a solution for (H) $y' + a(x)y = 0$

• For (I) $y' + a(x)y = b(x)$

Smart idea : Put $y = K(x) \cdot \exp\left(-\int a(x) dx\right)$

let $K(x)$ be a function

and solve for $K(x)$

'Method of variation of constants.'

Example of variations of constants

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Example = solve $y' - 2xy = 2xe^{x^2}$
This is a linear first-order DE

Consider (H) $y' - 2xy = 0$ now it is separable

$$\int \frac{1}{y} dy = \int 2x dx$$

$$\ln|y| = x^2 + k$$

$$y = K e^{x^2} \quad (K \text{ constant})$$

This is a solution for (H)

Consider (I) $y' - 2xy = 2xe^{x^2}$

look at $y = K(x) e^{x^2}$, plug in (I):

$$K'(x) e^{x^2} + \cancel{K(x) \cdot 2x e^{x^2}} - \cancel{2x \cdot K(x) e^{x^2}} = 2x e^{x^2}$$

$$\cancel{K'(x) e^{x^2}} = 2x \cancel{e^{x^2}}$$

$$K(x) = x^2 + l \quad (l \text{ constant})$$

$$\text{so } y = K(x) e^{x^2} = (x^2 + l) e^{x^2}$$

Check that this is a solution for (I) $y' - 2xy = 2xe^{x^2}$.

$$\text{Bernoulli's equations: } y' + p(x)y = q(x)y^\alpha$$

• If $\alpha = 0, 1$: linear first-order DE

• If $\alpha \neq 0, 1$: nonlinear first-order DE

$$y' + p(x)y = q(x)y^\alpha$$

Idea: multiply by $y^{-\alpha}$ ($\alpha \neq 0, 1$) not an integrating factor!

$$\underbrace{y^{-\alpha} y' + p(x) y^{1-\alpha}} = q(x)$$

$$\frac{1}{1-\alpha} \cdot \frac{dz}{dx} + p(x)z = q(x) \quad \text{linear first-order DE in terms of } z$$

Put $z = y^{1-\alpha}$, take $\frac{dz}{dx} = (1-\alpha)y^{-\alpha} \cdot y'$

$$\frac{1}{1-\alpha} \cdot \frac{dz}{dx} = y^{-\alpha} y'$$

Example of Bernoulli's equation

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Example. solve $y' + xy = x^3 y^3$

$$y' + p(x)y = q(x)y^\alpha \quad (\alpha = 3)$$

This is Bernoulli's equation

Multiply by $y^{-\alpha} = y^{-3}$

$$y^{-3} y' + x y^{-2} = x^3$$

Put $z = y^{-2}$

so $\frac{dz}{dx} = -2 y^{-3} y'$. Therefore

$$-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{dz}{dx} + xz = x^3$$

$$z' - 2xz = -2x^3 : \text{linear first-order DE}$$

Use variation of constants/parameters.

$$z = x^2 + 1 + K \cdot e^{x^2} = y^{-2}$$

so the solution for $y' + xy = x^3 y^3$ is

$$y^2 (x^2 + 1 + K e^{x^2}) = 1 \quad (K \text{ constant})$$

Differential equation in the form of a total differential

What is a total differential?

$$u(x, y)$$

$$du = u_x dx + u_y dy \quad \text{total differential of } u$$

Suppose we have a DE

$$P(x, y) dx + Q(x, y) dy = 0 \quad (*)$$

where $P dx + Q dy = du$ is a total differential

we call $(*)$ an exact differential equation

How to solve $(*)$?

We find u so that $du = P dx + Q dy$

Formulas for u satisfying $du = P dx + Q dy$: choose (x_0, y_0)

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{1} \quad u(x, y) &= \int_{x_0}^x P(\cdot, y_0) \quad + \quad \int_{y_0}^y Q(x, \cdot) \\ &= \int_{x_0}^x P(u, y_0) du \quad + \quad \int_{y_0}^y Q(x, v) dv \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad u(x, y) = \int_{x_0}^x P(\cdot, y) \quad + \quad \int_{y_0}^y Q(x_0, \cdot)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \textcircled{2} \quad u(x, y) &= \int_{x_0}^x P(u, y) du + \int_{y_0}^y Q(x_0, v) dv \\
 &= \int_{x_0}^x P(u, y) du + \int_{y_0}^y Q(x_0, v) dv
 \end{aligned}$$

Example of exact differential equation

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Example solve $(e^x + y + \sin y) + y'(e^y + x + x \cos y) = 0$

This is

$$\underbrace{(e^x + y + \sin y)}_P dx + \underbrace{(e^y + x + x \cos y)}_Q dy = 0$$

$$P_y = 1 + \cos y \Rightarrow P_y = Q_x$$

$$Q_x = 1 + \cos y$$

$\Rightarrow P dx + Q dy = du$ is a total differential

We have an exact differential equation

Choose $(x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$

$$u(x, y) = \int_0^x P(u, 0) du + \int_0^y Q(x, v) dv + k$$

$$P = e^x + y + \sin y$$

$$Q = e^y + x + x \cos y$$

$$u(x, y) = \underbrace{\int_0^x e^u du}_{e^x - 1} + \int_0^y (e^v + x + x \cos v) dv$$

$$= e^x - 1 + \left[e^v + xv + x \sin v \right]_0^y$$

$$= e^x - 1 + (e^y + xy + x \sin y) - (1)$$

$$= (e^x + e^y + xy + x \sin y) - 2$$

$$du(x,y) = 0$$

the solution is $u(x,y) = k$

$$e^x + e^y + xy + x \sin y = k' \quad (k' \text{ constant})$$

Non-exact differential equation

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Suppose we have

$$P(x,y) dx + Q(x,y) dy = 0 \quad (*)$$

but $P dx + Q dy \neq du$ is not a total differential

$$(P_y \neq Q_x)$$

We call $(*)$ a non-exact DE

Suppose we can find $I(x,y)$ so that

$$I P dx + I Q dy = du \text{ is a total differential,}$$

then we have an exact DE and we can solve it

Thus $I(x,y)$ is called an integrating factor
(thừa số tích phân)

Two cases

Case 1: If $\frac{P_y - Q_x}{Q} = g(x)$ is a function of x ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } I(x,y) = I(x) &= \exp \left(\int g(x) dx \right) \\ &= e^{\int \frac{P_y - Q_x}{Q} dx} \end{aligned}$$

Case 2: If $\frac{P_y - Q_x}{-P} = h(y)$ is a function of y ,

$$\text{then } I(x,y) = I(y) = \exp \left(\int h(y) dy \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } I(x, y) &= I(y) = \exp \left(\int h(y) dy \right) \\ &= e^{\int \frac{P_y - Q_x}{-P} dy} \end{aligned}$$

Other cases: we don't learn in this course !

Example of non-exact equation

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Example. solve $(3xy - y^2) + (x^2 - xy)y' = 0$

$$\underbrace{(3xy - y^2)}_P dx + \underbrace{(x^2 - xy)}_Q dy = 0$$

$$P_y = 3x - 2y$$

$$Q_x = 2x - y$$

$$P_y \neq Q_x, \quad P_y - Q_x = x - y \neq 0$$

$Pdx + Qdy$ is not a total differential

We have a non-exact DE

$$\frac{P_y - Q_x}{Q} = \frac{x - y}{x^2 - xy} = \frac{1}{x} \text{ is a function of } x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{integrating factor } I(x) &= \exp\left(\int \frac{1}{x} dx\right) \\ &= \exp(\ln|x|) = |x| \end{aligned}$$

we can choose $I(x) = x$ to multiply in

$$\underbrace{(3x^2y - y^2x)}_{P_1} dx + \underbrace{(x^3 - x^2y)}_{Q_1} dy = 0$$

$$P_{1,y} = 3x^2 - 2xy$$

$$Q_{1,x} = 3x^2 - 2xy$$

$$\text{so } P_{1,y} = Q_{1,x} \quad \text{exact DE}$$

so we find $u(x,y)$ with $du = P_1 dx + Q_1 dy$ as before

$$\text{we find } u(x,y) = x^3 y - \frac{x^2 y^2}{2}$$

$$\left(\text{check } u_x = 3x^2 y - xy = P_1 \right.$$

$$\left. u_y = x^3 - x^2 = Q_1 \right)$$

so the solution is $u(x,y) = k$

$$x^3 y - \frac{x^2 y^2}{2} = k \quad (k \text{ constant})$$

Summary

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- linear first-order differential equation

$$y' + a(x)y = b(x)$$

- a, b constants

- a is constant

- a, b functions : variation of constants / parameters

- Bernoulli's equation

$$y' + p(x)y = q(x)y^\alpha \quad (\alpha \neq 0, 1)$$

multiply by $y^{-\alpha}$ to make it linear

- $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{exact} \\ \text{non-exact} \end{array} \right\} \text{differential equation}$