

CHAPTER 1: FIRST ORDER D.E's (Boyce Ch. 2)

§1.0: Intro

Define 1.0.1:

- A first order differential equation is an equation in two variables of the form

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

(First order because only the first derivative appears)

- A solution to a d.e. is a function $y = g(x)$ which obeys that particular d.e. (for some values of x, y)
(or satisfies)

- ~~Often~~ Sometimes we will find an implicit solution:
A relation $h(x, y) = 0$ that we can show obeys the d.e. (e.g. by implicitly differentiating), but we cannot solve for y explicitly.

Examples: • The function $y = e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$ satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -xy$$

- The (first-order) d.e. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1-e^x}{1+e^x}$ has the implicit solution $y - x - e^x - e^y = 0$;
here you cannot solve for y .

Note 1.0.2: A given d.e. can have infinitely many solutions

Observe $y = 2e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$, $y = -7e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$ and $y = Ce^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$ for any C satisfy $\frac{dy}{dx} = -xy$.

Extra information can be supplied to ensure that there is a unique solution to a d.e. This is most often a specified point on the solution curve ("initial conditions").

Example: The unique solution to $\frac{dy}{dx} = -xy$ subject to $y(0) = 3$ is the curve $y = 3e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$.

~~The Goal for the~~

Unfortunately there is no uniform technique for solving first-order d.e.'s

The goal for this section is to provide you with the techniques to solve a ~~larger subclass~~ of first-order d.e.'s. The most common types

Things To Remember

- In general first-order d.e.'s have ∞ -ly many solutions spanned by 1 parameter, usually denoted C (the "integration constant")
- When IC's are specified, we sometimes only get a solution in a limited interval about that point i.e. not for all x we'll see an example soon.
- Often we have $\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, t)$ with $x(0) = x_0$, where t is time - hence initial conditions name
- Sometimes Bad stuff happens w.r.t. uniqueness.

§1.1: Separable Differential Equations (Boyce 2.2)

Definition 1.1.1: A separable differential equation is a first-order d.e. of the form

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

How to solve: $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x) g(y)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{g(y)} dy = f(x) dx$$

Essentially the same ^{technique} for all separable d.e's. $\int \frac{1}{g(y)} dy = \int f(x) dx + C$, solve for y if poss.

Examples: 1) $\frac{dy}{dx} = -xy$, $y(0) = 3$.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} dy = -x dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{1}{y} dy = \int -x dx + C$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(y) = -\frac{1}{2}x^2 + C$$

$$\Rightarrow y = e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2 + C} = Ae^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}, A = e^C$$

Now plug in I.C's: $y(0) = 3$, $3 = Ae^{-\frac{1}{2} \cdot 0^2} = A$
so $A = 3$.

Hence $y = 3e^{-\frac{1}{2}x^2}$

2) $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2xy^2$, $y(2) = \frac{1}{5}$.

$$\text{So } \int \frac{1}{y^2} dy = \int 2x dx + C$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{y} = x^2 + C$$

$$\text{ICs: } x=2, y=\frac{1}{5} \Rightarrow -5 = 4 + C$$

$$\Rightarrow C = -9$$

So $y = \frac{1}{9-x^2}$, valid for $-3 < x < 3$

explicit

3) Find the general solution to $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^2-1}{2x}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{y^2-1} \cdot dy = \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{y-1} - \frac{1}{y+1} dy = \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \left| \frac{y-1}{y+1} \right| = \ln |x| + C$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| \frac{y-1}{y+1} \right| = A \cdot |x|, \quad A = e^C$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y-1}{y+1} = B \cdot x, \quad B = \pm A \text{ as necessary.}$$

$$\Rightarrow y-1 = Bx(y+1)$$

$$y - Bxy = Bx + 1 + Bx$$

$$y(1-Bx) = 1+Bx$$

So $y = \frac{1+Bx}{1-Bx}$

4) Solve $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{5x^4+1}{7y^6-2y}, \quad y(-2) = 1$

$$\Rightarrow (7y^6-2y) dy = (5x^4+1) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow y^7 - y^2 = x^5 + x + C$$

ICs: $x = -2, \quad y = 1$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - 1 = -32 - 2 + C$$

$$\Rightarrow C = 34$$

So $y^7 - y^2 - x^5 - x - 34$ is the implicit solution to this DE.

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MATH 307 Lecture 2, cont...

1.1.2 : Substitution / Change of variables

Not all first-order DEs are separable. However, Sometimes a first-order d.e. can be made separable by a change of variables.

Example: i) $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x - 5y$

This is not separable a priori.

However, let $v = 2x - 5y$

Then
$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dv}{dx} &= 2 - 5\frac{dy}{dx} \\ &= 2 - 5(2x - 5y) \\ &= 2 - 5v\end{aligned}$$

which is separable!

So

$$\frac{1}{2-5v} = dx$$

$$-\frac{1}{5} \ln |2-5v| = x + C$$

$$\ln |2-5v| = -5x + A, \quad A = -5C$$

$$2-5v = Be^{-5x}, \quad B = \pm e^A$$

$$2-5(2x-5y) = Be^{-5x}$$

$$2-10x+25y = Be^{-5x}$$

$$25y = Be^{-5x} + 10x - 2$$

So

$$y = De^{-5x} - \frac{2}{25} + \frac{2}{5}x, \quad D = \frac{B}{25}$$

1.1.3 Homogeneous Equations ^{Functions} *

If the first-order DE $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ can be written as $f(x, y) = F\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$ for some F , then we can always make the substitution $v = \frac{y}{x}$ to make the DE separable. The ^{function} equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ is then called homogeneous *

* Not to be confused with Homogeneous linear DE's studied later.

Example: Solve $x \frac{dy}{dx} - y + x e^{\frac{y}{x}} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x} - e^{\frac{y}{x}} \\ = F\left(\frac{y}{x}\right), \text{ where } F(v) = v - e^v \quad \checkmark$$

So let $v = \frac{y}{x}$ or $y = xv$

Implicit differentiation: $\frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx}$

So $v + x \frac{dv}{dx} = v - e^v$

$$\Rightarrow x \frac{dv}{dx} = -e^v$$

$$\Rightarrow -e^{-v} dv = \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$e^v = \ln|x| + C$$

$$-v = \ln(\ln|x| + C)$$

or $v = -\ln(\ln|x| + C)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y}{x} = -\ln(\ln|x| + C)$$

So $y = -x \ln(\ln|x| + C)$