

1

Section 1.1-1.3 Classification of Differential Equations.

What is a differential equation?

A differential equation is any equation that contains derivatives.

E.g. $y' = f(t)$

E.g. 1: $y' = \sin t$.

(general sol) $\Rightarrow y(t) = -\cos t + C$

where C is an arbitrary constant.

E.g 2. $y' = f(t)$

General sol. $y(t) = F(t) + C$

where $F(t)$ is the antiderivative of $f(t)$, and C is arbitrary constant.

If given an initial value $\begin{cases} y' = f(t) \\ y(t_0) = y_0 \end{cases}$

it is called an initial value problem, and the constant C needs to satisfy the equation

$$y(t_0) = y_0 = F(t_0) + C$$

E.g 3. $\begin{cases} y' = \sin t \\ y(0) = 1 \end{cases}$

Sol. $y(t) = -\cos t + C$.

Since $y(0) = 1$, $-1 + C = 1 \Rightarrow C = 2$.

(2)

Classification:

involve derivatives of functions which depend on a single independent variable

1) Ordinary differential equations (ODE)

Partial differential equation (PDE)

2) Order of differential equations.

is the order of the highest derivative it contains.

E.g. $y' + y^3 = \sin(y)$ (first-order)

$y''' + y = 0$ (third-order)

3) Linear vs. nonlinear differential equations.

An n -th order differential equation is linear if it can be written in the following form:

$$a_n(t)y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(t)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1(t)y' + a_0(t)y = g(t).$$

Otherwise, the equation is nonlinear.

E.g. $y'' - 5y = \sin(y)$ (nonlinear)

$y' + e^t y = 0$ (linear)

$x^2 y' + (\sin x)y = \text{F(x)}$, $y \sin x = x$ (linear) $y' + y^2 = 0$ (nonlinear).

E.g. Consider $y'' + y = 0$.

It is easy to show that $y = \sin x + \cos x$ is a solution.

Why?

$$y' = \cos x - \sin x$$

$$y'' = -\sin x - \cos x = -y.$$

$$\Rightarrow y'' + y = 0.$$

Two questions arise:

1. Given an ODE, does a solution exist?

2. If a solution exists, is it unique?

Note that $y = \sin x + \cos x$ is not the only solution to $y'' + y = 0$.

(3)

And the practical question,
 assuming a solution exists, how do we find it?
 (sometimes finding a solution is the easiest way to
 prove existence of a solution)

E.g. $\frac{dy}{dt} = 2y$.

We want to rewrite this so all y terms appear
 on one side of an equation and all t terms appear
 on the other side.

$$\frac{1}{2y} \frac{dy}{dt} = 1$$

$$\frac{dy}{2y} = dt$$

Now integrate $\int \frac{dy}{2y} = \int dt$.

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln|y| = t + C$$

Now solve for y .

$$\ln|y| = 2t + 2C$$

$$|y| = e^{2t+2C}$$

$$y = Ce^{2t}$$

Where C is an arbitrary constant.

Check!

Ex. $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3y - 2$.

(4)

Section 2.2 Separable Equations

A first order ODE is separable if it can be written in the following form:

$$(*) \quad M(x) + N(y) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

E.g. 1: Are these ODE separable?

a) $x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} + \sin y = 0$ (Yes!)

b) $x^2 y \frac{dy}{dx} - (y-x)^2 = 0$ (No!).

(*) can be written (in differential form) as

$$\cancel{M(x)} dx =$$

$$N(y) dy = -M(x) dx.$$

If each side can be integrated and then if y can be isolated, we have a solution.

E.g. 2. Solve $\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^2$ such that $y(0) = -1$.

1) Separate: $\frac{1}{y^2} \frac{dy}{dx} = x$.

$$\frac{dy}{y^2} = x dx$$

2) Integrate $\int \frac{dy}{y^2} = \int x dx$.

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

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

Since $y(0) = -1$, $-\frac{1}{C} = -1 \Rightarrow C = 1$.

(5)

$$y(x) = - \cdot \frac{1}{\frac{x^2}{2} + 1}$$

E.g. Note that it may be difficult to solve for y explicitly after integrating.

E.g. Solve $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y-1}{x+3}$. such that $y(-1) = 0$.

1) Separate $\frac{dy}{y-1} = \frac{dx}{x+3}$.

2) Integrate $\int \frac{dy}{y-1} = \int \frac{dx}{x+3}$.

$$\ln|y-1| = \ln|x+3| + C.$$

since $y(-1) = 0$

~~$\ln|-1+3|$~~

$$\ln|0-1| = \ln|-1+3| + C.$$

$$\ln 1 = \ln 2 + C.$$

$$C = -\ln 2.$$

Hence,

$$\ln|y-1| = \ln|x+3| - \ln 2.$$

$$|y-1| = \frac{|x+3|}{2}$$

So $y-1 = \frac{x+3}{2}$ or $y-1 = -\frac{x+3}{2}$.

$$y = \frac{x+5}{2}$$

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

$\Rightarrow y = -\frac{x+1}{2}$ because it satisfies the initial

value condition $y(-1) = 0$.

(6)

E.g. Solve $y' = 2x \cos^2 y$, $y(0) = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

Sol. $\frac{dy}{\cancel{2} \cos^2 y} = 2x dx$.

$$\int \sec^2 y dy = \int 2x dx$$

$$\tan y = x^2 + C.$$

$$\tan\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) = 0 + C. \rightarrow C = 1.$$

$$\rightarrow \tan y = x^2 + 1.$$

$$y = \tan^{-1}(x^2 + 1)$$

Ex. Solve $y' = \frac{3x^2}{3y^2 - 4}$ and $y(1) = 0$.

7

Section 2.1: Linear Equations: Method of Integrating Factors

E.g. Solve for

$$\ln(t) \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{1}{t} \cdot y = 4t, \quad t > 0.$$

Notice that

$$\ln(t) \cdot \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{1}{t} \cdot y = \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(t) \cdot y)$$

$$\text{so } \frac{d}{dt}(\ln(t) \cdot y) = 4t$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln(t) y = \underbrace{2t^2 + C}_{\int 4t dt}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{2t^2 + C}{\ln t}$$

is the solution.

(8)

The above example is a special case because most first order ODEs cannot be solved directly using the same method.

However, one might be able to find a function $u(t)$ such that by multiplying $u(t)$ on both sides of the ODE one can solve it using the same method.

This $u(t)$ is called the integrating factor.

Example 2: Solve for $\frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{1}{t}y = t^2$.

We take $u(t) = \frac{1}{t}$ and multiply $u(t)$ on both sides.

$$\frac{1}{t} \frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{1}{t^2} y = t.$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{d}{dt}\left(\frac{1}{t} \cdot y\right)}_{\text{this function is}} = t.$$

an antiderivation of $\frac{1}{t}y = \frac{t^2}{2} + C$
function $f(t) = t$

$$y = \frac{t^3}{3} + Ct$$

where C is an arbitrary constant.

Q: How can we find $u(t)$?

Let's consider the ^{same} example $\frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{1}{t}y = t^2$.

(9)

$u(t)$ is an integrating factor if after we multiply the equation both sides by $u(t)$

both sides of the equation by $u(t)$,

$$u(t) \frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{1}{t} u(t) y = t^2 u(t).$$

LHS becomes $\frac{d}{dt}(u(t)y)$.

\Rightarrow the following needs to be true

$$\frac{du}{dt} = -\frac{1}{t} u(t).$$

To solve for $u(t)$, there are two ways:

1) Take a guess, try many functions for $u(t)$, and find out which one works.

2) Use the method that solves separable equations:

$$\frac{du}{dt} = -\frac{1}{t} u(t).$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{du}{u(t)} = -\frac{1}{t} dt.$$

$$\int \frac{du}{u} = -\int \frac{1}{t} dt$$

$$\ln|u| = -\ln t + C.$$

We can choose $C = 0$.

$$\Rightarrow \ln|u| = -\ln t.$$

$$|u| = \frac{1}{t}.$$

$$u = \frac{1}{t} \text{ or } -\frac{1}{t}.$$

10

In general, given a first order linear ODE in standard form

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + p(t)y = g(t),$$

we multiplying both sides by ^{the} integrating factor $u(t)$

$$u(t) \frac{dy}{dt} + p(t)u(t)y = g(t)u(t).$$

If we have $u(t) = p(t)u(t)$, then we can write the above as

$$u(t) \frac{dy}{dt} + u'(t)y = g(t)u(t).$$

$$(u(t) \cdot y)' = g(t)u(t)$$

$$\text{so } u(t) \cdot y = \int g(t)u(t) dt + C$$

$$\text{hence } y = \frac{1}{u(t)} \left(\int g(t)u(t) dt + C \right)$$

How to find $u(t)$?

$$u'(t) = u(t)p(t)$$

$$\frac{u'(t)}{u(t)} = p(t).$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln|u(t)| = \int p(t) dt + C$$

$$u(t) = e^{\int p(t) dt + C}$$

\Rightarrow Choose $C=0$,

$$u(t) = e^{\int p(t) dt}$$

So, the general solution to $\frac{dy}{dt} + p(t)y = g(t)$ is

$$y(t) = \frac{\int g(t)u(t) dt + C}{u(t)}$$

$$\text{where } u(t) = e^{\int p(t) dt}$$

(11)

Example: Solve $y' + 2xy = e^{-x^2}$. and $y(0) = 2$.

$$1) \text{ Find } u(x) = e^{\int 2x dx} = e^{x^2}.$$

$$2) e^{x^2} y' + 2x e^{x^2} y = 1.$$

$$(e^{x^2} y)' = 1.$$

$$e^{x^2} y = x + C$$

$$y = x e^{-x^2} + C e^{-x^2}$$

$$[\text{check: } y' = e^{-x^2} - 2x^2 e^{-x^2} + C(-2x) e^{-x^2}]$$

$$y' + 2xy = e^{-x^2} - 2x^2 e^{-x^2} - 2x C e^{-x^2}$$

$$+ 2x^2 e^{-x^2} + 2x C e^{-x^2} = e^{-x^2} \checkmark.]$$

Since $y(0) = 2$,

$$0 + C e^0 = 2.$$

$$C = 2.$$

$$\Rightarrow y(x) = x e^{-x^2} + 2 e^{-x^2}$$

(12)

Section 2.4. Differences between linear and nonlinear equations

Questions of Existence and uniqueness

- 1) Does a solution exist?
- 2) If so, is it unique?
- 3) For what values of the independent variable does the solution exist?

Theorem: (linear) $\begin{cases} y' + p(x)y = g(x), & \alpha < x < \beta \\ y(x_0) = y_0 & \alpha < x_0 < \beta \end{cases}$

has a unique solution $y = y(x)$, $\alpha < x < \beta$, provided that $p(x)$ and $g(x)$ are continuous on (α, β) .

Recall. General sol. $y(x) = \frac{1}{u(x)} \left[\int u(x)g(x)dx + C \right]$

where $u(x) = e^{\int p(x)dx}$

13

E.g. Find the solution of $\begin{cases} x^2y' - xy = \frac{1}{x} \\ y(1) = -1 \end{cases}$.

and determine for what values of x the solution is valid. unique.

Sol. 1) Put the equation into stand form:

$$y' - \frac{1}{x}y = \frac{1}{x^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow p(x) = -\frac{1}{x} \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = \frac{1}{x^3}.$$

$$2) \text{ Find } u(x) = \exp\left(\int (-\frac{1}{x}) dx\right) = \exp[-\ln|x|] = \frac{1}{|x|}.$$

$$3) y = \frac{1}{u(x)} \int u(x)g(x)dx = |x| \int \frac{1}{|x|} \frac{1}{x^3} dx$$

$$\text{For } x > 0, \quad y = x \int \frac{1}{x^4} dx = x \left[\left(-\frac{1}{3x^3} \right) + C \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow y = -\frac{1}{3x^2} + Cx.$$

$$\text{When } x = 1, \quad y(1) = -1.$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{3} + C = -1$$

$$C = -\frac{2}{3}.$$

$$y(x) = -\frac{1}{3x^2} - \frac{2}{3}x$$

and the solution is ^{unique} valid for $x > 0$.

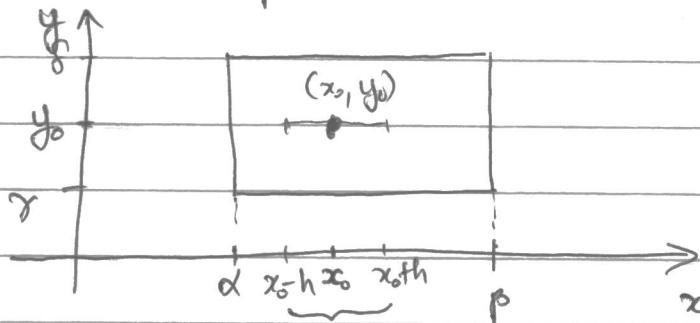
since $p(x)$ and $g(x)$ are continuous on $(0, \infty)$.

(14)

Theorem. (Nonlinear equation).

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y) \\ y(x=x_0) = y_0 \end{array} \right. (*)$$

Let the function f and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ be continuous in some rectangle $\alpha < x < \beta$, $\gamma < y < \delta$ containing the point (x_0, y_0) . Then, in some interval $x_0 - h < x < x_0 + h$ contained in $\alpha < x < \beta$, there is a unique solution $y = \phi(x)$ of the initial value problem (*).



↳ interval in which the solution $y = \phi(x)$ is guaranteed to exist uniquely.

E.g. Given $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1+x^2}{3y-y^2}$, does it satisfy the condition of the theorem?

Sol. $f(x, y) = \frac{1+x^2}{3y-y^2}$ is continuous if $3y - y^2 \neq 0$.
 $y(3-y) \neq 0$

$y \neq 0$ or $y \neq 3$.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = -\frac{1+x^2}{(3y-y^2)^2} (3-2y) \Rightarrow \text{continuous if } y \neq 0, y \neq 3.$$

(15)

E.g. solve $y' = y^{1/3}$, $y(0) = 0$, for $x \geq 0$.

Sol. Separable

$$\Rightarrow \bar{y}^{1/3} dy = dx.$$

$$\int \bar{y}^{1/3} dy = \int dx$$

$$\frac{3}{2} y^{2/3} = x + C$$

$$y^{2/3} = \pm \frac{2}{3}(x+C)$$

$$y = \pm \left[\frac{2}{3}(x+C) \right]^{3/2}$$

Using $y(0) = 0$,

$$0 = \pm \left[\frac{2}{3}C \right]^{3/2} \Rightarrow C = 0.$$

$$\text{So } y = \begin{cases} \phi_1(x) = \left(\frac{2}{3}x\right)^{3/2} & x \geq 0 \\ \phi_2(x) = -\left(\frac{2}{3}x\right)^{3/2} & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

In fact, $y = \phi_3(x) = 0$ for $x \geq 0$ is also a solution.

For an arbitrary positive t the functions

$$y = t\phi_1(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ \pm \left(\frac{2}{3}x\right)^{3/2}, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

What is going on here?

$f(x, y) = y^{1/3}$ is continuous for all y .

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} f(x, y) = \frac{d}{dy} y^{1/3} = \frac{1}{3} y^{-2/3}$$

which is not defined when $y=0$.

Thus, the theorem fails when γ and δ have opposite sign or if one is zero.

However, if $y_0 \neq 0$, then $y' = y^{4/3}$, $y(x_0) = y_0$ does have a unique solution which passes through (x_0, y_0) .

$$\text{E.g. } y' = 2xy^2, \quad y(0) = y_0.$$

$$\text{Sol. } y^{-2} dy = 2x dx.$$

$$\int y^{-2} dy = \int 2x dx$$

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

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

Initial condition implies:

$$y_0 = y(0) = -\frac{1}{0+C}$$

$$\Rightarrow C = -\frac{1}{y_0} \quad \text{if } y_0 \neq 0.$$

$$\text{So } y = -\frac{1}{x^2 - \frac{1}{y_0}} = \frac{y_0}{1 - x^2 y_0}$$

$$\text{and we need } 1 - x^2 y_0 \neq 0 \Rightarrow x^2 \neq \frac{1}{y_0}.$$

$$\Rightarrow x \neq \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{y_0}}, \quad \text{if } y_0 > 0$$

If $y_0 = 0$, then $y = 0$ (why?).

$$\text{Thus, if } y_0 \neq 0 \Rightarrow y = \frac{y_0}{1 - x^2 y_0}.$$

$$\text{with } -\sqrt{\frac{1}{y_0}} \leq x < \sqrt{\frac{1}{y_0}} \quad \text{if } y_0 > 0$$

$$\text{and } -\infty < x < \infty \quad \text{if } y_0 < 0.$$