

1. Consider the differential equation

$$1 + y^2 + 2(x + 1)yy' = 0.$$

- (a) Show that the ODE represents an exact ODE.

**Solution:**

$$(1 + y^2)dx + 2(x + 1)ydy = 0$$

Note  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(1 + y^2) = 2y$  and  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}[2(x + 1)y] = 2y$ . Exact.

- (b) Find the general solution to the ODE.

**Solution:**  $g(x, y) = \int (1 + y^2)dx = x + xy^2 + C(y)$ . Then  $g_y(x, y) = 2xy + C'(y) = 2xy + 2y$ . Hence  $C(y) = y^2$  and the general solution is

$$x + xy^2 + y^2 = C.$$

- (c) Does a specific solution curve of the ODE pass through the point  $(5, 0)$ ? If so, find it.

**Solution:** Yes.  $x + xy^2 + y^2 = 5$ .

2. *The same but different...* Consider the differential equation

$$1 + y^2 + 2(x + 1)yy' = 0.$$

- (a) Show that the ODE is a separable equation and find the general solution. Justify that this is the same solution found before.

**Solution:**

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1+y^2}{2(x+1)y} = -\frac{1+y^2}{2y} \cdot \frac{1}{x+1} \quad (\text{separable})$$

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

$$\ln(1+y^2) = -\ln(x+1) + C$$

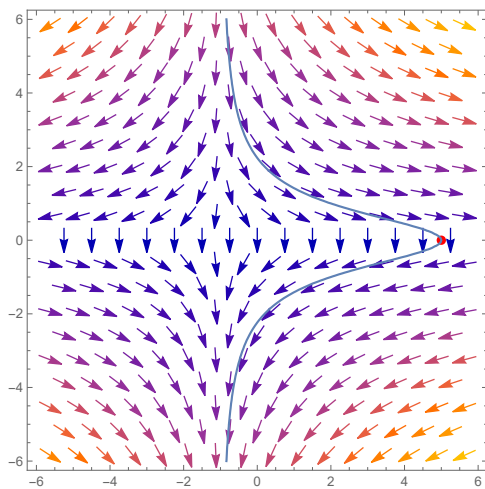
$$1+y^2 = \frac{C}{x+1}$$

$$(x+1)(1+y^2) = C$$

$$x + xy^2 + y^2 = C$$

- (b) Use technology and graph the associated slope field. On the picture, sketch the solution curve that passes through the point  $(5, 0)$ .

**Solution:** To plot the vector field, we need to use the field as defined by  $dy/dx$  in (a). Here  $V(x, y) := \langle -(1+y^2), 2y(x+1) \rangle$ . Via VectorPlot in Mathematica and plotting the curve in Problem 1(c),



3. For what values of the constants  $m$ ,  $n$ , and  $\alpha$  (if any) is the following differential equation exact?

$$x^m y^2 y' + \alpha x^3 y^n = 0$$

**Solution:** Here  $\alpha x^3 y^n dx + x^m y^2 dy = 0$ . We need

$$(\alpha x^3 y^n)_y = (x^m y^2)_x$$

$$\alpha n x^3 y^{n-1} = m x^{m-1} y^2$$

Need  $\alpha n = m$ ,  $3 = m - 1$ , and  $n - 1 = 2$ . Hence  $m = 4$ ,  $n = 3$ , and  $\alpha = 4/3$ .

4. Consider the ODE  $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$ .

- (a) Let  $\mu(x, y)$  be a non-vanishing function. What is the relationship between the slope field of the original ODE and the ODE  $\mu M dx + \mu N dy = 0$ ? Justify your answer.

**Solution:** They are the same. As we did in Problem 2, the vector field is  $V(x, y) = \langle -N(x, y), M(x, y) \rangle$ . But multiplying the equation by the non-vanishing  $\mu$ , we would get the same DE

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-\mu M}{\mu N} = \frac{-M}{N}.$$

- (b) Why are the solution curves to the original ODE and the ODE  $\mu M dx + \mu N dy = 0$  identical? Briefly explain.

**Solution:** If the pointwise slopes defined by both equations are identical, then the flow-lines defined by the field must also be identical.

5. Consider the equation  $-2xydx + (3x^2 - y^2)dy = 0$ .

(a) Show that the ODE is **not** exact.

**Solution:**

$$M_y = (-2xy)_y = -2x \neq N_x = (3x^2 - y^2)_x = 6x.$$

(b) Find an integrating factor that converts the ODE into an exact one.

**Solution:** Recall the  $\mu$  equation requires  $\mu = \mu_x \left( \frac{N}{M_y - N_x} \right) - \mu_y \left( \frac{M}{M_y - N_x} \right)$ . Here  $M_y - N_x = -8x$  and  $\frac{M}{M_y - N_x} = \frac{-2xy}{-8x} = \frac{y}{4}$ . So if we assume  $\mu$  is independent of  $x$ , the  $\mu$  equation becomes the ODE  $\mu = -\frac{y}{4} \frac{d\mu}{dy}$ . This is separable  $(1/\mu)d\mu = (-4/y)dy$  and  $\ln \mu = -4 \ln y$ . Hence  $\mu(y) = 1/y^4$ .

(c) Using the integrating factor, show that the  $\mu$ -multiplied ODE is exact.

**Solution:** Multiplying by  $\mu$ , the ODE becomes  $-2x/y^3 dx + (3x^2/y^4 - 1/y^2)dy = 0$ . Note that

$$(-2x/y^3)_y = 6x/y^4 \text{ and } (3x^2/y^4 - 1/y^2)_x = 6x/y^4.$$

(d) Find the general solution to the original ODE.

**Solution:**  $g(x, y) = \int -2x/y^3 dx = -x^2/y^3 + C(y)$ . Then  $g_y(x, y) = 6x/y^4 + C'(y)$ . We need  $C'(y) = -1/y^2$  and  $C(y) = 1/y$ . So solutions to the original DE are curves of the form

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

## “Homogeneous” non-linear first-order equations

### 1. homogeneous functions

**def:** A function  $f(x, y)$  is a **homogeneous function of degree  $n$**  if given any scalar  $\alpha$ ,  $f(\alpha x, \alpha y) = \alpha^n f(x, y)$ .

Determine the degree of homogeneity for the following functions.

(a)  $g(x, y) := x^3 + y^3$

**Solution:**  $g(rx, ry) := (rx)^3 + (ry)^3 = r^3(x^3 + y^3) = r^3 g(x, y)$ , degree 3

(b)  $h(x, y) := \frac{-x}{x^2 + y^2}$

**Solution:**  $h(rx, ry) := \frac{-rx}{(rx)^2 + (ry)^2} = \frac{1}{r} h(x, y)$ , degree -1

(c)  $k(x, y) := \frac{y^2 + 2xy}{x^2}$

**Solution:**  $k(rx, ry) := \frac{(ry)^2 + 2(rx)(ry)}{(rx)^2} = k(x, y)$ , degree 0

### 2. Prove the following proposition.

**Prop:** If  $f(x, y)$  is a homogeneous function of degree 0, it can always be expressed as  $G(y/x)$  where  $G(t)$  is a scalar function of one-variable.

(Hint: When  $x \neq 0$ ,  $f(x, y) = (1/x)^0 f(x, y)$ .)

**Solution:** Since  $f$  homogeneous of degree 0, we have  $f(rx, ry) = r^0 f(x, y) = f(x, y)$ . Let  $r = 1/x$ . Then  $f$  can be written  $f(1, y/x)$ . Hence, we can write  $f$  as  $G(t) = f(1, t)$  where  $t = y/x$ .

### 3. Prove the following proposition.

**Prop:** Let  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$  be such that  $f(x, y)$  is a homogeneous function of degree 0.

The, through the substitution  $u = y/x$ , the ODE converts to a separable ODE of the form

$$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} [f(1, u) - u].$$

(Hint: Differentiate the substitution  $u = y/x$  or  $y = ux$ .)

**Solution:** Let  $u = y/x$ . Differentiating with respect to  $x$ , we have

$$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{y'x - y}{x^2} = \frac{1}{x} \left[ \frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{y}{x} \right] = \frac{1}{x} \left[ f(x, y) - \frac{y}{x} \right] = \frac{1}{x} [f(1, u) - u].$$

4. Solve the ODE  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^2 + 2xy}{x^2}$ .

**Solution:** This is  $k$  from earlier and we showed it is homogeneous of degree 0. Moreover,  $k(x, y) = \frac{y^2}{x^2} + \frac{y}{x} \rightarrow u^2 + 2u$ . Using the previous proposition, we have

$$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} [u^2 + 2u - u] \text{ or } \frac{du}{u^2 + u} = \frac{dx}{x}.$$

Via partial fractions,

$$\ln u - \ln(u + 1) = \ln x + C.$$

Or  $\frac{u}{u + 1} = Cx$ . Substituting back out the  $u$ ,

$$\frac{y}{y + x} = \frac{C}{x} \text{ or } y = \frac{x^2}{C - x}.$$