

1. Express the solution of the initial value problem

$$2x \frac{dy}{dx} = y + 2x \cos x, \quad y(1) = 0$$

as an integral.

**Solution:** This is first order linear. Written in standard form,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{1}{2x}y = \cos x, \quad y(1) = 0.$$

With  $p(x) = -1/2x$ ,

$$\mu(x) = \exp\left(\int -\frac{dx}{2x}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \text{ when } x > 0.$$

Multiplying the standard form equation by  $\mu$  yield

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}y' - \frac{1}{2x^{3/2}}y &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\cos x \\ \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}y\right)' &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}\cos x. \end{aligned}$$

Using the FTC,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}y(t)\Big|_1^x &= \int_1^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}\cos t \, dt \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}y(x) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1}}y(1) &= \int_1^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}\cos t \, dt \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}}y(x) &= \int_1^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}\cos t \, dt \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$y(x) = \sqrt{x} \left[ \int_1^x \sqrt{t} \cos t \, dt \right] \text{ where } x > 0.$$

2. Find the general solutions of the differential equations.

(a)  $x^3 + 3y - xy' = 0$

**Solution:** first-order linear:

$$\begin{aligned}y' - \frac{3}{x}y &= x^2 \\ \mu(x) &= \exp\left(\int \frac{dx}{x}\right) = \frac{1}{x^3} \\ (\mu y)' &= \frac{1}{x} \\ y(x) &= x^3 [\ln x + C]\end{aligned}$$

(b)  $xy^2 + 3y^2 - x^2y' = 0$

**Solution:** separable:

$$\begin{aligned}y' &= \left(\frac{x+3}{x^2}\right)y^2 \\ \frac{dy}{y^2} &= \left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{3}{x^2}\right)dx \\ -\frac{1}{y} &= \ln|x| - \frac{3}{x} + C \\ y &= \frac{x}{3 + Cx - x \ln|x|}\end{aligned}$$

(c)  $6xy^3 + 2y^4 + (9x^2y^2 + 8xy^3)y' = 0$

**Solution:** Hope for exactness...

$$(6xy^3 + 2y^4)_y = 18xy^2 + 8y^3 = (9x^2y^2 + 8xy^3)_x. \quad (\text{whew!})$$

$$f(x, y) = \int (6xy^3 + 2y^4)dx = 3x^2y^3 + 2xy^4 + C(y).$$

Clearly  $C(y)$  is independent of  $y$  here.

$$3x^2y^3 + 2xy^4 = C.$$

3. Solve the differential equation

$$(x + ye^y) \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$$

by regarding  $y$  as the independent variable rather than  $x$ .

**Solution:**

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = x + ye^y$$

First-order linear:

$$\frac{dx}{dy} - x = ye^y$$

Then  $p(y) = -1$  and  $\mu(y) = e^{-y}$ .

$$(e^{-y}x)' = y$$

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

4. (a) Consider the ODE  $y(1 + x^3)y' = x^2$ . Determine where in the  $xy$ -plane existence and uniqueness issues to an associated initial value problem may occur.

**Solution:** Here  $y' = f(x, y)$  where  $f(x, y) = \frac{x^2}{y(1 + x^3)}$ . Note  $f(x, y)$  is undefined when  $x = -1$  or  $y = 0$ . The partial  $f_y(x, y) = -\frac{x^2}{y^2(1 + x^3)}$  yields no new points of concern.

- (b) Solve the IVP  $y(1 + x^3)y' = x^2$ ,  $y(0) = y_0$  and determine how the interval in which the solution exists depends on the initial value  $y_0$ .

**Solution:** Equation is separable. Yields solution

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

For the initial condition  $y(0) = y_0$ , the  $x = 0$  will require the domain of  $y$  restricted to  $x > -1$ . But the entirety of the curve

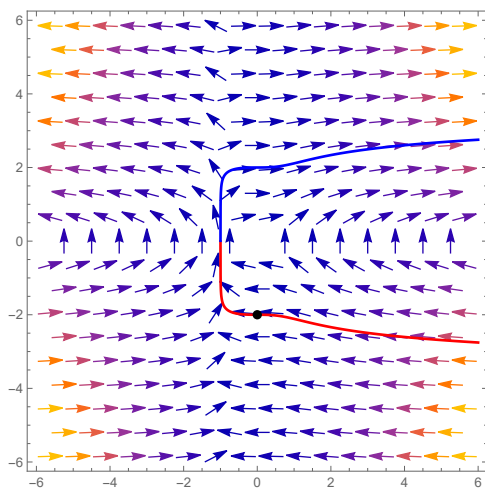
$$y^2 = \frac{2}{3} \ln |1 + x^3| + y_0^2$$

is unlikely to represent  $y$  as a function of  $x$ . We need the portion of the curve that implicitly defines  $y(x)$  that solves the IVP.

**Solution:** For example, use the initial condition  $(0, -2)$ . Plotting the curve in the vector field, we see we would only want the red portion of the graph equation

$$y^2 = \frac{2}{3} \ln |1 + x^3| + 4.$$

What we really need to know is when does the curve “double-back” and stop representing  $y$  as a function of  $x$ . The ODE tells us that the curve has vertical slope when  $y = 0$ . Here, we can actually solve for this  $x$ -intercept. For this example,  $y = 0$  when  $x = \sqrt[3]{-1 + e^{-6}}$  (a number strictly bigger than  $-a$ .) For the initial condition  $(0, -2)$ , we would have  $y(x) = -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3} \ln |1 + x^3| + 4}$  on domain  $x \geq \sqrt[3]{-1 + e^{-6}}$ .



In general, for  $y(0) = y_0 > 0$ ,

$$y(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3} \ln |1 + x^3| + y_0^2}, \text{ where } x \geq \sqrt[3]{-1 + \exp(-3y_0^2/2)}.$$

When  $y_0 < 0$ ,

$$y(x) = -\sqrt{\frac{2}{3} \ln |1 + x^3| + y_0^2}, \text{ where } x \geq \sqrt[3]{-1 + \exp(-3y_0^2/2)}.$$

5. Consider the IVP  $y' = ty^2$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ .

(a) Explain why this IVP has a unique solution.

**Solution:**  $f(t, y) = ty^2$  and  $f_y(t, y) = 2ty$  are continuous throughout  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,

(b) Covert the IVP into an equivalent integral equation.

**Solution:**

$$y(t) = 1 + \int_0^t sy^2(s) ds.$$

(c) Set up the approximate integral equation used in Picard's method and carry out the iteration for three steps.

**Solution:**

$$y_n(t) = 1 + \int_0^t s(y_{n-1}(s))^2 ds.$$

Recall  $y_0 = 1$ , the initial condition value of  $y$ .

$$y_1(t) = 1 + \int_0^t s(1)^2 ds = 1 + \frac{t^2}{2}$$

$$y_2(t) = 1 + \int_0^t s \left(1 + \frac{s^2}{2}\right)^2 ds = 1 + \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^4}{4} + \frac{t^6}{24}$$

$$y_3(t) = 1 + \int_0^t s \left(1 + \frac{s^2}{2} + \frac{s^4}{4} + \frac{s^6}{24}\right)^2 ds = 1 + \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^4}{4} + \frac{t^6}{8} + \frac{t^8}{24} + \frac{t^{10}}{96} + \frac{t^{12}}{576} + \frac{t^{14}}{8064}$$

(d) Solve the IVP by separation of variables.

**Solution:**

$$\frac{dy}{y^2} = t dt \mapsto -\frac{1}{y} = \frac{t^2}{2} + C \mapsto y = \frac{2}{C - t^2}$$

Using the IC,  $y(t) = \frac{2}{2 - t^2}$  and the domain of  $t$  is  $|t| < \sqrt{2}$ .

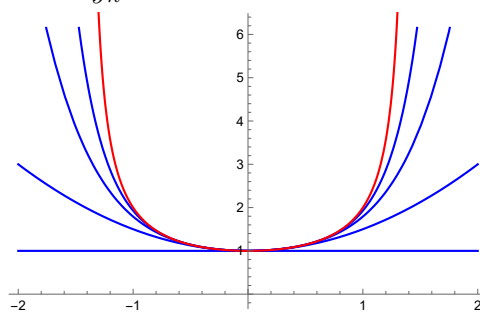
- (e) Determine the series representation of the solution to the IVP and compare it to the successive approximations computed above.

**Solution:** To be able to compare the solutions, we need the series representation of  $y$ .

Recall  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ar^n = \frac{a}{1-r}$  and this series converges when  $|r| < 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \frac{2}{2-t^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{1-\frac{t^2}{2}} \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{t^2}{2}\right)^n \\ &= 1 + \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^4}{4} + \frac{t^6}{8} + \frac{t^8}{16} + \frac{t^{10}}{32} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Note this series has the same domain as  $|t^2/2| < 1$  is the same as  $|t| < \sqrt{2}$ . We can see that the iterates appear to be converging to this series. I wouldn't do it by hand, but I would bet the fifth term of the next iterate  $y_4$  is  $\frac{t^8}{16}$ . In fact, much like we did with Taylor series in Calc II, we can see the iterates converging. In the below, the bending blue curves are the polynomials  $y_n$  and the red curve is the solution to the IVP.



## Reduction of Order

The general form of a second-order differential equation has the form

$$F(x, y, y', y'') = 0.$$

Reduction of order is the idea of using a change of variable to produce an equivalent, lower-order differential equation.

### 1. *dependent variable missing*

When  $y$  is not explicitly present in the ODE, the ODE has the general form  $F(x, y', y'') = 0$ .

- (a) Explain how the introduction of the new dependent variable  $p(x) = y'$  converts the second-order ODE into a first-order system in  $p$ .

**Solution:** Let  $p = y'$ , then  $p' = y''$  and  $F(x, y', y'') = 0$  becomes  $F(x, p, p') = 0$ .

- (b) Solve the equation  $xy'' - y' = 3x^2$ . (Note that in the end your solution for  $y$  will have two arbitrary constants; as it should.)

**Solution:** By above the above, the ODE can be rewritten  $xp' - p = 3x^2$ , a first-order linear ODE in  $p$ . Solving for  $p$  gives  $p(x) = 3x^2 + Cx$ . Then  $y' = 3x^2 + Cx$  yields

$$y = x^3 + Cx^2 + K.$$



## 2. *independent variable missing*

When  $x$  is not explicitly present in the ODE, the ODE has the general form  $F(y, y', y'') = 0$ . (Equations of this form are known as **autonomous**.)

- (a) Explain how the introduction of the new dependent variable  $p(y) = y'$  converts the second-order ODE into a first-order system where  $y$  can be momentarily interpreted as the independent variable. (Hint: Take care with the derivative computed to replace the  $y''$  term.)

**Solution:** Let  $p(y) = y'$ . Then  $\frac{dp}{dx} = \frac{dp}{dy} \frac{dy}{dx}$ . That is  $y'' = p'y'$  or  $y'' = p'p$ . The ODE can be rewritten  $F(y, p, pp') = 0$  and we can treat  $p$  as a function of  $y$  in solving this equation.

- (b) Solve the equation  $y'' + k^2y = 0$  (where  $k$  a positive constant). (This is actually ill-posed. At some point you are going to have to choose a sign convention. This will yield a solution. The other sign convention would yield a separate solution. We will learn a much easier way to do this problem in the near future.)

**Solution:** Using the substitutions, we get  $pp' + k^2y = 0$ , a separable equation. Solving for  $p$  is straight-forward,  $p^2 = -k^2y^2 + C$ . The next step is harder. Substituting back we get the non-linear ODE

$$(y')^2 = -k^2y^2 + C.$$

Solving for  $y'$  results in two different ODE. We consider  $y' = -\sqrt{C - k^2y^2}$  first. The ODE becomes

$$-\frac{dy}{\sqrt{C - k^2y^2}} = dx.$$

The left-hand side is an arccosine:

$$\int -\frac{dy}{\sqrt{C - k^2y^2}} = \int \frac{-1}{\sqrt{C}\sqrt{1 - (ky/\sqrt{C})^2}} dy = \frac{1}{\sqrt{C}} \int \frac{-(\sqrt{C}/k)du}{\sqrt{1 - u^2}} \text{ where } u = ky/\sqrt{C}.$$

So

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \int \frac{-1}{\sqrt{1 - u^2}} du = dx$$

becomes

$$\frac{1}{k} \arccos u = x + K \text{ or } \arccos\left(\frac{ky}{\sqrt{C}}\right) = kx + K.$$

Solving for  $y$  yields

$$y(x) = \frac{\sqrt{C}}{k} \cos(kx + K).$$

When we address the positive signed equation  $y' = \sqrt{C - k^2y^2}$ , the same arithmetic yields a second solution of the form

$$y(x) = \frac{\sqrt{C}}{k} \sin(kx + K).$$

(Note that two different solutions do not violate existence and uniqueness as this was not a first-order system at the start.)