

University of Toronto
Faculty of Applied Sciences and Engineering

MAT187 - Summer 2025

Lecture

Instructor: Arman Pannu

We will start 10 minutes past the hour. Use this time to make
a new friend.

Separable Differential Equations

A separable ODE is a first-order ODE of the form

$$y' = F(y)g(x)$$
 ← can separate the "y-stuff" and the "x-stuff"

exⁱⁱ $y' = xy$ ← separable $F(y) = y, g(x) = x$

$$y' = x^2y$$
 ← separable $F(y) = y, g(x) = x^2$

$$y' = (x^2 + e^x)(y + \sin(y))$$
 ← separable

$$y' = x+y$$
 ← non-separable

How to solve?

$$y' = F(y)g(x)$$

$$\frac{y'}{F(y)} = g(x)$$

← integrate both sides
w.r.t. to x

formal derivation

$$\int \frac{y'}{F(y)} dx = \int g(x) dx$$

$$y = y(x)$$

$$dy = y' dx$$

$$\int \frac{dy}{F(y)} = \int g(x) dx$$

ex//

informal derivation

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

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

$$\int \frac{dy}{y} = \int x dx \Rightarrow \ln|y| = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + C \Rightarrow$$

$$y = e^{k_2 x^2 + C} = C e^{k_2 x^2}$$

$$y' = \frac{x^2+1}{2y} \text{ and } y(3) = -5$$

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

$$2y dy = (x^2+1) dx$$

$$\int 2y dy = \int (x^2+1) dx$$

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

$$y = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}x^3 + x + C}$$

depends on IVP \Leftrightarrow general solution

$$y(x=3) = -5 \\ \Rightarrow (-5)^2 = \frac{1}{3}(3)^3 + 3 + C$$

$$25 = 12 + C$$

$$C = 13$$

$$y = -\sqrt{\frac{1}{3}x^3 + x + 13}$$

negative root b/c
of IVP

$$y' = \frac{2x}{y^2+1} \text{ and } y(0) = 1$$

→ separable ODE

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

$$\int (y^2+1) dy = \int 2x dx$$

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

↑
implicit
general
solution

IVP
⇒

$$y(x=0) = 1$$

$$\frac{1}{3}(1)^3 + (1) = 0^2 + C$$

$$\boxed{C = \frac{4}{3}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{1}{3}y^3 + y = x^2 + \frac{4}{3}}$$

implicit solution to IVP

$$(1+x)y' = (x+2)(y-1)$$

General Solution ?

Integrating Factors

→ the method of using integrating factors works to solve any linear first-order ODE:

$$y' + g(x)y = h(x)$$

→ Method: multiply ODE by some unknown function $P(x)$ and use product rule

$$y' + g(x)y = h(x) \Leftarrow \text{multiply by } P(x)$$

$$P(x)y' + g(x)p(x)y = h(x)p(x)$$

write this using
Product rule as

$$(P(x)y)' = p(x)y' + p'(x)y$$

$$p'(x)y = g(x)p(x)y$$

$$p'(x) = p(x)g(x)$$

$$\frac{p'(x)}{p(x)} = g(x)$$

$$(\ln(p(x)))' = g(x)$$

$$\ln(p(x)) = \int g(x)dx$$

$$p(x) = \exp(\int g(x)dx)$$

→ with integrating factor

$$(P(x)y)' = h(x)p(x) \Leftarrow \text{for appropriate}$$

choice of $p(x)$

$$\int (P(x)y) dx = \int h(x)p(x) dx$$

$$P(x)y = \int h(x)p(x) dx$$

$$P(x) = \exp \left(\int h(x) dx \right)$$

$$y = \frac{1}{P(x)} \int h(x)p(x) dx$$

$$y' + y = e^x \text{ and } y(0) = 2$$

→ 1st order linear \Rightarrow use integrating factor

$$\star P(x)y' + P(x)y = P(x)e^x$$

express as

$$(P(x)y)' = P(x)y' + P'(x)y \Rightarrow$$

$$\overbrace{P(x)y'}^{\star} + \overbrace{P(x)y}^{\star\star} = \overbrace{P(x)y'}^{\star} + \overbrace{P'(x)y}^{\star\star}$$

$$P'(x) = P(x)$$

$$P(x) = e^x$$

$$e^x y' + e^x y = e^x (e^x)$$

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

$$e^x y = \int e^{2x} dx$$

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

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

General sol'n

IVP
 \Rightarrow

$$y(x=0) = 2$$

$$2 = \frac{1}{2} e^0 + \frac{C}{e^0}$$

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

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

$$y' + \frac{2y}{x} = \sin(x) \text{ and } y(\pi/2) = 0$$

→ First-order linear (use integrating factors)

using formula

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} P(x) = \exp \left(\int g(x) dx \right) = \exp \left(\int \frac{2}{x} dx \right) = e^{2 \ln(x)} = x^2 \\ y(x) = \frac{1}{P(x)} \int P(x) h(x) dx = \frac{1}{x^2} \int x^2 \sin(x) dx \end{array} \right.$$

→ full derivation method

$$P(x)y' + \frac{2}{x}P(x)y = P(x)\sin(x)$$

$$(yP(x))' \Rightarrow P'(x) = \frac{2}{x}P(x)$$

$$\frac{P'}{P} = \frac{2}{x} \Rightarrow \ln(P) = 2 \ln(x)$$

$$P = x^2$$

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

$$(x^2y)' = x^2\sin(x) \quad \text{by parts}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{x^2} \int x^2 \sin(x) dx = \frac{2}{x^2} \cos(x) + \frac{2}{x} \sin(x) + C$$

use IV.



