

University of Toronto  
Faculty of Applied Sciences and Engineering

## **MAT187 - Summer 2025**

Lecture

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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

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

$\Leftarrow$  can separate the  
"y-stuff" and the "x-stuff"

ex||

$$y' = xy \quad \Leftarrow \text{separable} \quad f(y) = y, \quad g(x) = x$$

$$y' = x^2 y \quad \Leftarrow \text{separable} \quad f(y) = y, \quad g(x) = x^2$$

$$y' = (x^2 + e^x)(y + \sin(y)) \quad \Leftarrow \text{separable}$$

$$y' = x + y \quad \Leftarrow \text{non-separable}$$

## How to solve?

Formal derivation

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} y' = F(y)g(x) \\ \frac{y'}{F(y)} = g(x) \\ \int \frac{y'}{F(y)} dx = \int g(x) dx \\ \int \frac{dy}{F(y)} = \int g(x) dx \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} \Leftarrow \text{integrate both sides} \\ \text{w.r.t. to } x \\ \\ y = y(x) \\ dy = y' dx \end{array}$$

ex 11

Informal derivation

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{dy}{dx} = xy \\ \frac{dy}{y} = x dx \end{array} \right.$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

depends on IVP  $\Leftarrow$  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:

$$\boxed{y' + g(x)y = h(x)}$$

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

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

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

write this using Product rule as

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

→ with integrating factor

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

choice of  $p(x)$

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

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

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

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



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

→ 1st order linear ⇒ use integrating factor

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

express as

$$(P(x)y)' = P(x)y' + \underbrace{P'(x)y}_{(**)} \Rightarrow$$

$$\underbrace{P(x)y' + P(x)y}_{(*)} = \underbrace{P(x)y' + P'(x)y}_{(**)}$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

General sol'n

IVP  
⇒

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

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

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

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

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

→ 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

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

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

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

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

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

by parts

use I.V.

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

