

# Week 4

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## Differential Equation

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For example:  $m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + b \frac{dx}{dt} + kx = 0$

**Definition.** An equation containing the derivatives of one or more dependent variables, with respect to one or more independent variables, is said to be a **differential equation**.

**Definition.** An **ordinary differential equation** is a differential equation containing one or more functions of *one* independent variable and its derivative.

**Definition.** A **partial differential equation** is a differential equation containing one or more functions of two or more independent variables and partial derivatives.

### Examples of Ordinary Differential Equations

$$\frac{d^5y}{dx^5} - 2x \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} + \sin y \frac{dy}{dx} = x^2$$

$$x^3 \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} - x^3 \frac{dy}{dx} + x \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{1+y^2}$$

**Definition.** The **order** of a differential equation is the order of the highest order derivative in the equation.

**Definition.** The **degree** of a differential equation is the power of the *highest order derivative* in the equation.

**Definition.** A **linear differential equation** is a differential equation that satisfy the following equations

1. Every dependent variables and derivatives of dependent variables has the power 1.
2. No term of product of dependent variables and/or derivatives of dependent variables.
3. No term of transcendental functions (eg.  $\sin$ ,  $\cos$ ,  $\tan$ ) of dependent variables or derivative of dependent variables

A differential equation is said to be a **nonlinear equation** if it is not a linear differential equation.

### Examples of Linear Equations

$$x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + x \frac{dy}{dx} = x^3y + \sin x$$

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

### Examples of Nonlinear Equations

$$x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + y \frac{dy}{dx} = x^3y + \cos x$$

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

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = e^u$$

Every ODE linear equation of order  $n$  can be written in the form

$$F(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0$$

If the equation is linear, we can write it in the form of

$$a_n(x) \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_{n-1}(x) \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \dots + a_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = G(x)$$

where  $a_0(x) \neq 0$ .

A **solution** of a DE is any function  $y$  which satisfies the equation.

### Examples

Show that  $y = ax + be^x$  is a solution of

$$(1-x)y'' + xy' - y = 0$$

**Definition.** A **general solution** of a DE of order  $n$  is a solution that involves exactly  $n$  arbitrary constants. A **particular solution** of a DE of order  $n$  is a solution that has arbitrary values assigned.

**Definition.** An **initial-value problem** (IVP) is a DE of order  $n$  with  $n$  initial conditions at  $x = x_0$ :

$$y(x_0) = d_0, y'(x_0) = d_1, \dots, y^{(n-1)}(x_0) = d_{n-1},$$

where  $d_0, d_1, \dots, d_{n-1}$  are constants and  $y(x)$  is a solution of the DE when  $x \geq x_0$

**Example**  $y'' + y' - x^3 y = \cos x; y(2) = 3, y'(2) = -1$

**Definition.** A **boundary-value problem** is a system of DE of order  $n$  with  $n$  boundary conditions specified at more than one point. A **2-point boundary-value problem** is a system of DE of order  $n$  with  $n$  boundary conditions specified at  $x = a$  and  $x = b$  and  $y(x)$  is a solution of DE when  $a \leq x \leq b$ .

**Example**  $y'' + xy' - x^3 y = \cos x; y(2) = 3, y'(5) = 0$

Now we will find a solution of DE of order 1 with degree 1

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$$

or

$$M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$$

## Separable Equation

A DE of order 1 and degree 1

$$M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$$

is **separable** if

$$M(x, y) = M_1(x)M_2(y), N(x, y) = N_1(x)N_2(y).$$

. To solve, we rearrange to find

$$\frac{M_1(x)}{N_1(x)}dx + \frac{N_2(y)}{M_2(y)}dy = 0$$

and integrate both sides, so

$$\int \frac{M_1(x)}{N_1(x)}dx + \int \frac{N_2(y)}{M_2(y)}dy = C$$

### Examples

Find a general solution of  $y' - 8xy = 3y$

$$3x + 4x^2 - \ln|y| = C$$

Find a general solution of  $dx + xydy = y^2dx + ydy$

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

Find a general solution of  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \cos^2 x \cos^2 2y$

Find a particular solution of IVP  $x dx + ye^{-x} dy = 0; y(0) = 1$

$$y^2 = -2xe^x + 2e^x - 1$$

**Definition.** Let  $D$  be a domain on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . A function  $F(x, y)$  is a **homogeneous function** of degree  $n$  if

$$F(\lambda x, \lambda y) = \lambda^n F(x, y)$$

for all  $\lambda > 0$  and  $(x, y) \in D$

### Examples

Determine whether or not each of the following functions is homogeneous, and if so of what degree.

$$F(x, y) = \sqrt{xy} - y$$

Yes and of order 1.

$$F(x, y) = \frac{y^3 - xy^2}{x^3 - x^2y}$$

Yes and of order 0.

$$F(x, y) = x(\ln \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} - \ln y) + ye^{x/y}$$

**Definition.** A DE is a **homogeneous differential equation** if  $M(x, y)$  and  $N(x, y)$  are homogeneous equations of the same degree.

### Strategy to solve homogeneous DE

Assume the degree is  $k$  then

$$M(x, y) = x^k M\left(1, \frac{y}{x}\right), N(x, y) = x^k N\left(1, \frac{y}{x}\right)$$

That is,

$$M\left(1, \frac{y}{x}\right)dx + N\left(1, \frac{y}{x}\right)dy = 0$$

Let  $u = \frac{y}{x}$  then  $dy = udx + xdu$ . So

$$M(1, u)dx + N(1, u)(udx + xdu) = 0$$

and we get

$$(M(1, u) + uN(1, u))dx + xN(1, u)du = 0,$$

which is a separable equation.

### Examples

Find a general solution of  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x-y}{x+y}$

Find a general solution of  $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}dx = xdy - ydx$

Find a general solution of  $(x^2y + 2xy^2 - y^3)dx - (2y^3 - xy^2 + x^3)dy = 0$

Find a general solution of  $\left(x^2 \sin\left(\frac{y^2}{x^2}\right) - 2y^2 \cos\left(\frac{y^2}{x^2}\right)\right)dx + 2xy \cos\left(\frac{y^2}{x^2}\right)dy = 0$