

GENERAL FORM OF FIRST ORDER & FIRST DEGREE ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = F(x, y) \text{ or } M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$$

METHODS OF SOLVING A DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION OF FIRST ORDER & FIRST DEGREE

Given an ordinary differential equation of Ist order and Ist degree $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$

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

A differential equation of such type is not always solvable. However they can be solved when they belong to any of the type discussed in present articles.

Case I. When $f(x, y)$ is function of only x or only y

If the equation is of the form $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)$...(i)

and $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(y)$...(ii)

The equation of type (i) will reduce to $y = \int f(x)dx + C$. Whereas the equation of type (ii) will reduce to

$\frac{dy}{f(y)} = dx$ that can be solved as $\int \frac{dy}{f(y)} = x + C$; where C is parameter.

Case II. Variable Separable Form

The differential equation of the form $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x) \cdot g(y)$ or $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{f(x)}{g(y)}$ is called variable separable form because when expressed in form $M dx + N dy = 0$, the coefficients of dx is a function of x and dy is a function of y that means variables are separated by little rearrangement in the differential equation thus called as variable separable form.

So, the general form of such equation is $N(y)dy = M(x)dx$ which can be solved by integrating both sides

i.e., $\int M(x)dx = \int N(y)dy$ as described as below for $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{f(x)}{g(y)}$.

Step I. Rearrange the expression to express it in the form $f(x)dx = g(y)dy$.

Step II. Integrating both sides we get $\int f(x)dx = \int g(y)dy$. Say $F(x), G(y)$ be some anti-derivatives of $f(x)$ and $g(y)$ respectively we get, $G(y) = F(x) + C$.

Step III. Solving the equation, $G(y) = F(x) + C$ for y we express the general solution as $y = H(x, C)$.

Example-1

Solve the differential equation: $\frac{dy}{dx} = x$.

Soln. The given differential equation is : $dy = xdx$.

$$\Rightarrow \int dy = \int xdx$$

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

...(i)

where C is an arbitrary constant.

Note: (i) is the general solution of the given differential equation.

Example-2

Solve the differential equation: $\frac{dy}{dx} = x - 1$ if $y = 0$ for $x = 1$.

Soln. The given differential equation is : $dy = (x - 1) dx$

$$\Rightarrow \int dy = \int (x - 1) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{x^2}{2} - x + C \quad \text{(General solution)}$$

This is the general solution.

We can find value of C using $y = 0$ for $x = 1$.

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \frac{1}{2} - 1 + C \Rightarrow C = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{x^2}{2} - x + \frac{1}{2} \text{ is the particular solution.}$$

Example-3

Solve the differential equation: $(1 + x)y dx + (1 - y)x dy = 0$.

Soln. Separate the term of x and y get: $(1 + x)ydx = -(1 - y)xdy$

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

$$\Rightarrow \int \left(\frac{1+x}{x} \right) dx = \int \frac{y-1}{y} dy$$

$$\Rightarrow \log|x| + x = y - \log|y| + C$$

$$\Rightarrow \log|xy| + x - y = C \text{ is the general solution.}$$

Example-4

Solve the differential equation: $xy^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - x^2 + y^2 - x^2y^2$.

Soln. The given differential equation: $xy^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - x^2 + y^2 - x^2y^2$.

$$\Rightarrow xy^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = (1 - x^2)(1 + y^2) \Rightarrow \frac{y^2 dy}{1 + y^2} = \frac{(1 - x^2) dx}{x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{y^2}{1 + y^2} dy = \int \left(\frac{1}{x} - x \right) dx$$

$\Rightarrow y - \tan^{-1} y = \log |x| - \frac{x^2}{2} + C$ is the general solution of the given differential equation.

Example -5

Solve $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = x + \sin x$ if $y = 0$ and $\frac{dy}{dx} = -1$ for $x = 0$.

Soln. The given differential equation is:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = x + \sin x \quad \dots(i)$$

It is an order 2 differential equation. But it can be easily reduced to order 1 differential equation by integrating both sides.

On Integrating both sides of equation (i), we get:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \int (x + \sin x) dx \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2}{2} - \cos x + C_1,$$

where C_1 is an arbitrary constant

$$\Rightarrow dy = \left(\frac{x^2}{2} - \cos x + C_1 \right) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int dy = \int \left(\frac{x^2}{2} - \cos x + C_1 \right) dx \Rightarrow y = \frac{x^3}{6} - \sin x + C_1x + C_2 \quad \dots(ii)$$

This is the general solution. For particular solution, we have to find C_1 and C_2 .

Concept Application Exercise

1. Solve $\frac{dy}{dx} \sqrt{1 + x + y} = x + y - 1$.
2. Solve $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2$
3. Solve $ye^{x/y} dx = (xe^{x/y} + y^2) dy$ ($y \neq 0$).
4. $y - x \frac{dy}{dx} = a \left(y^2 + \frac{dy}{dx} \right)$
5. $(x - y)(dx + dy) = dx - dy$, given that $y = -1$, where $x = 0$.
6. $\frac{dy}{dx} + y f'(x) = f(x) f'(x)$, where $f(x)$ is a given integrable function of x .

2. EQUATIONS REDUCIBLE TO VARIABLE SEPARABLE FORM

Type A: $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(ax + by + c)$; where $b \neq 0$

Algorithm: The differential equations are of the form $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(ax + by + c)$ are reducible to variable separable form by substituting $ax + by + c = t$. The substitution reduces the differential equation to, $a + b \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dt}{dx}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{b} \left(\frac{dt}{dx} - a \right) = f(t) \quad \Rightarrow \frac{dt}{dx} = bf(t) + a \quad \Rightarrow \int \frac{dt}{bf(t) + a} = \int dx$$

which can be solved as it is clearly in variable separable form.

Example-6

Solve the differential equation: $\frac{dy}{dx} - x \tan(y - x) = 1$.

Soln. The given differential equation is: $\frac{dy}{dx} - x \tan(y - x) = 1$

Put $z = y - x$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dx} - 1 \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dz}{dx} + 1$$

\Rightarrow The given equation becomes :

$$\left(\frac{dz}{dx} + 1 \right) - x \tan z = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dx} = x \tan z \Rightarrow \int \cot z dz = \int x dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \log |\sin z| = \frac{x^2}{2} + C$$

$$\Rightarrow |\sin(y - x)| = e^{x^2/2} \cdot e^C$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin(y - x) = ke^{x^2/2},$$

where k is an arbitrary constant.

Type B: Equation of type: Any equation of the form: $R(x^2 + y^2, x dx + y dy, x dy - y dx) = 0$.

Some times transformation to the polar co-ordinates facilitates separation of variables.

Substitute: $x = r \cos \theta$ and $y = r \sin \theta$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 = r^2 \quad \dots(1)$$

$$\text{and } \frac{y}{x} = \tan \theta \quad \dots(2)$$

Differentiating (1) w.r.t. any variable we get

$$x dx + y dy = r dr \quad \dots(3)$$

Differentiating (ii) w.r.t. x .

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\frac{y}{x} - y}{x^2} = \sec^2 \theta \frac{d\theta}{dx}$$

$$\Rightarrow x dy - y dx = x^2 \sec^2 \theta d\theta = r^2 d\theta \quad \dots(4)$$

Now the equation reduces to $R(r^2, r dr, r^2 d\theta) = 0$.

Type D: Equation of type: Any equation of the form: $R(x^2 - y^2, x dx - y dy, x dy - y dx) = 0$.

Substitute: $x = r \sec \theta$ and $y = r \tan \theta$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 - y^2 = r^2 \quad \dots(1)$$

$$\text{and } \frac{y}{x} = \tan \theta \quad \dots(2)$$

Differentiate (1) w.r.t. any variable we get

$$x dx - y dy = r dr \quad \dots(3)$$

$$\text{Differentiate (2) w.r.t. } x, \text{ we get } \frac{x dy - y dx}{x^2} = \sec^2 \theta d\theta$$

$$\Rightarrow x dy - y dx = r^2 \sec^2 \theta d\theta \quad \dots(4)$$

Now the equation gets reduced to $R(r^2, r dr, r^2 \sec^2 \theta d\theta) = 0$.

Type E: Equation of type: In an equation of the form: $y f_1(xy) dx + x f_2(xy) dy = 0$, the variable can be separated by the substitution $xy = v$.

Proof: $xy = v$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{v}{x} \Rightarrow dy = \frac{x dv - v dx}{x^2},$$

$$\Rightarrow x dy = dv - \frac{v}{x} dx \quad \dots(1)$$

Using (i), $xy = v$ and $y = \frac{v}{x}$ in given differential equation $y f_1(xy) dx + x f_2(xy) dy = 0$, we get

$$\frac{v}{x} f_1(v) dx + f_2(v) \left\{ dv - \frac{v}{x} dx \right\} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{f_2(v) dv}{v \{ f_1(v) - f_2(v) \}} + \frac{dx}{x} = 0$$

Thus the variable are separated.

3. HOMOGENEOUS DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION

Homogeneous Function

$f(x, y)$ is said to be homogeneous expression of its variable of degree n , iff it can expressed as

$$f(x, y) = x^n \phi\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) \text{ or } y^n \psi\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \text{ it satisfies the identity } f(tx, ty) = t^n f(x, y).$$

For instance $f(x, y) = x^3 - 3xy^2 + y^3$ is homogeneous expression of degree 3 as

$$f(tx, ty) = t^3 x^3 - 3(tx)(ty)^2 + 2(ty)^3 = t^3 (x^3 - 3xy^2 + 2y^3) = t^3 f(x, y)$$

eg.

$$(i) f(x, y) = x^3 + x^2 y + y^3 + xy^2 = x^3 \left(1 + \frac{y}{x} + \frac{y^2}{x^2} + \frac{y^3}{x^3} \right) \text{ is homogeneous expression of degree 3.}$$

$$(ii) f(x, y) = \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{xy}{x^2 + y^2}\right) = x^0 \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{y/x}{1 + y^2/x^2}\right) \text{ is homogeneous expression of degree 0.}$$

Homogeneous Differential Equation

