

# Ordinary Differential Equations

## 1. Separable Equation

- Form:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)g(y)$
- Solution obtained from  $\int \frac{dy}{g(y)} = \int f(x) dx + C$

## 2. Exact Equation

- Form:  $M(x, y) dx + N(x, y) dy = 0$  where  $\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$
- Solution is defined implicitly by  $F(x, y) = C$  where

$$F(x, y) = \int M(x, y) dx + g(y)$$

and

$$F(x, y) = \int N(x, y) dy + h(x)$$

## 3. 1st Order, Linear Equation

- Form:  $\frac{dy}{dx} + p(x)y = q(x)$
- Let  $\mu(x) = e^{\int p(x) dx}$
- The solution follows from  $\mu(x)y(x) = \int \mu(x)q(x) dx$ .

## 4. Bernoulli's Equation

- Form:  $\frac{dy}{dx} + p(x)y = q(x)y^n$
- Let  $v = y^{1-n}$  to obtain the linear equation

$$\frac{dv}{dx} + (1-n)p(x)v = (1-n)q(x)$$

## 5. Exact after Integrating Factor

- Form:  $M(x, y) dx + N(x, y) dy = 0$ 
  - (a) If  $(\partial M/\partial y - \partial N/\partial x) = 0$ , the equation is exact.
  - (b) If  $(\partial M/\partial y - \partial N/\partial x) \div (-M) = g(y)$  is a function of only  $y$ , then  $\mu(y) = e^{\int g(y) dy}$  is the integrating factor. Multiplication will make the equation exact.
  - (c) If  $(\partial M/\partial y - \partial N/\partial x) \div N = g(x)$  is a function of only  $x$ , then  $\mu(x) = e^{\int g(x) dx}$  is the integrating factor. Multiplication will make the equation exact.

## 6. Homogeneous Equation

- Form:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = F\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$
- Substitute  $v = y/x$  and  $dy/dx = v + x dv/dx$ .
- The new equation is separable.

### 7. Reducible to 1st-order (Type 1)

- Form:  $F(x, y', y'') = 0$
- Substitute  $y' = u$  and  $y'' = u'$ .
- The new equation involves only  $x$ ,  $u$ , and  $u'$ . Solve for  $u(x)$  and then for  $y(x)$ .

### 8. Reducible to 1st-order (Type 2)

- Form:  $F(y, y', y'') = 0$
- Substitute  $y' = u$  and  $y'' = u \frac{du}{dy}$ .
- The new equation involves only  $y$ ,  $u$ , and  $du/dy$ . Solve for  $u(y)$  and then for  $y(x)$ .

### 9. Euler's Method

- Given  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ ,  $y(x_0) = y_0$
- $y(x_n) \approx y_n$  where
$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h f(x_n, y_n)$$
$$x_{n+1} = x_n + h$$
 ( $h$  is the constant step size.)

### 10. Improved Euler's Method

- Given  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ ,  $y(x_0) = y_0$
- $y(x_n) \approx y_n$  where
$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{2} (f(x_n, y_n) + f(x_{n+1}, y_{n+1}^*))$$
$$y_{n+1}^* = y_n + h f(x_n, y_n)$$
$$x_{n+1} = x_n + h$$
 ( $h$  is the constant step size.)

### 11. Orthogonal Trajectories

- Given a one-parameter family of curves:  $g(x, y) = c$
- Find  $dy/dx$ . (Must not contain the constant  $c$ .)
- Find a DE for the orthogonal trajectories by taking a negative reciprocal.
- Solve the new DE.

### 12. Homogenous, 2nd Order, Linear, Constant-Coefficient Equation

- Form:  $a \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + cy = 0$
- The characteristic equation is  $at^2 + bt + c = 0$ .
- Let  $r = -b/2a$  and  $\omega = \sqrt{|b^2 - 4ac|}/2a$ .
  - (a) If  $b^2 - 4ac > 0$ , the solution is  $y(x) = c_1 e^{(r+\omega)x} + c_2 e^{(r-\omega)x}$ .
  - (b) If  $b^2 - 4ac = 0$ , the solution is  $y(x) = c_1 e^{rx} + c_2 x e^{rx}$ .
  - (c) If  $b^2 - 4ac < 0$ , the solution is  $y(x) = c_1 e^{rx} \cos \omega x + c_2 e^{rx} \sin \omega x$ .

### 13. 2nd Order Cauchy-Euler Equation

- Form:  $x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + bx \frac{dy}{dx} + cy = 0$
- The substitution  $x = e^t$  transforms the original equation to

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + (b-1) \frac{dy}{dt} + cy = 0.$$

- Solve the new constant coefficient equation and resubstitute.

#### 14. Free Mechanical Vibrations

- Model:  $mx'' + bx' + kx = 0$ 
  - (a) No damping if  $b = 0$  (Simple harmonic motion)
  - (b) Underdamped if  $b^2 - 4mk < 0$  (Damped oscillations)
  - (c) Overdamped if  $b^2 - 4mk > 0$  (No oscillations)
  - (d) Critically damped if  $b^2 - 4mk = 0$  (No oscillations)

#### 15. Simple Harmonic Motion

- $c_1 \cos \omega t + c_2 \sin \omega t = A \sin(\omega t + \phi)$ ,  $A > 0$

where

$$c_1 = A \sin \phi, \quad c_2 = A \cos \phi$$

$$A = \sqrt{c_1^2 + c_2^2}$$

$$\tan \phi = c_1/c_2$$

- Amplitude =  $A$ , Angular frequency =  $\omega$ , Frequency =  $f = \omega/(2\pi)$ , Period =  $T = 1/f$