

## Section 31.4: Linear DEs of the First order

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1:47 PM

Suppose you are able to rewrite a DE into the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)$$

↑                      ↗  
functions of x only

this DE is called a linear DE of first order

how to solve it?

- ① multiply both sides by the "integrating factor"

$$e^{\int P(x) dx}$$

note: include negative signs!

- ② notice that the LHS will be

$$d(y e^{\int P(x) dx})$$

- ③ integrate both sides

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example: which of the following are linear and of first order?

a)  $y' + \frac{y}{x} = x^3$  ✓

$$a) \quad y' + \frac{y}{x} = x^3 \quad \checkmark$$

$$b) \quad \frac{dy}{dx} + y^2 = e^x \quad \times$$

$$c) \quad x dy + 2y dx = 3x dx \quad \checkmark$$

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

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

$$d) \quad yy' + 4 = \sin x \quad \times$$

skill-builder:

$$\frac{d}{dx} (y e^x) = y e^x + \frac{dy}{dx} e^x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} (y x^3) &= \frac{dy}{dx} x^3 + y \cdot 3x^2 \\ &= \frac{dy}{dx} x^3 + 3x^2 y \end{aligned}$$

full example:

solve the following DE:

$$dy - 3y dx = e^{3x} dx$$

write in derivative form:

write in derivative form:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = e^{3x}$$

this is linear with

$$P(x) = -3$$

$$Q(x) = e^{3x}$$

note: pattern for linear DE:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)$$

now, figure out the integrating factor:

$$e^{\int P(x)dx} = e^{\int -3dx}$$

$$= e^{-3x}$$

note: omit +C

then, multiply both sides of DE by the integrating factor:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = e^{3x}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} e^{-3x} - 3y e^{-3x} = e^{3x} e^{-3x}$$



$$\frac{d}{dx} (y e^{-3x}) = 1$$

↑  
derivative of  $y \cdot$  integrating factor

so, write in differential form

$$d(y e^{-3x}) = dx$$

and integrate both sides

$$y e^{-3x} = x + c$$

note: this perfectly acceptable answer is called an implicit solution (not solved for any particular variable)

an explicit solution means that you have solved for the dependent variable

explicit solution here:  $y = e^{3x}(x+c)$

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Solve the following DE:

$$di + i dt = e^{-t} \cos t dt$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} + i = e^{-t} \cos t$$

linear with  $P(t) = 1$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{form} \\ \frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x) \end{array} \right.$$

integrating factor

$$IF = e^{\int P(t) dt} = e^{\int 1 dt} = e^t$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} e^t + i e^t = e^t e^{-t} \cos t$$

$$\frac{d(i e^t)}{dt} = \cos t$$

$$\int d(i e^t) = \int \cos t dt$$

$$\int d(i e^t) = \int \cos t \, dt$$

$$i e^t = \sin t + C$$

Solve the following DE, giving an explicit solution.

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right) + 2t x = t$$

where  $x(0) = 1$ .

linear with  $P(t) = 2t$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{IF} &= e^{\int P(t) dt} \\ &= e^{\int 2t dt} \\ &= e^{t^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} e^{t^2} + 2t e^{t^2} \cdot x = t e^{t^2}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} (x e^{t^2}) = t e^{t^2}$$

$$\int d(x e^{t^2}) = \int t e^{t^2} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{let } u &= t^2 \\ du &= 2t dt \end{aligned}$$

$$x e^{t^2} = \int \frac{e^u du}{2}$$

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

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

when  $x(0) = 1$  (when  $t=0, x=1$ )

$$1 = \frac{1}{2} + C$$
$$C = \frac{1}{2}$$

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

$$x = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-t^2}$$

note: check!

$$x = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-t^2}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} (-2t) e^{-t^2} = -t e^{-t^2}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + 2tx = t$$

$$-t e^{-t^2} + 2t \left( \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-t^2} \right) = t$$

$$\cancel{-t e^{-t^2}} + t + \cancel{t e^{-t^2}} = t \quad \checkmark$$

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(Gilles' question!)

$$y dx = 4(x + y^6) dy$$

is this linear in  $y$ ? no!  $y^6$  term!

but is it linear in  $x$ ? divide both sides by  $dy$

$$y \frac{dx}{dy} = 4x + 4y^6$$

$$dx = 4x \frac{dy}{y} + 4y^5 dy$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{4x}{y} + 4y^5$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} - \frac{4}{y}x = 4y^5$$

linear with  $P(y) = -\frac{4}{y}$

$$IF = e^{\int P(y) dy}$$

$$= e^{\int -\frac{4}{y} dy}$$

$$= e^{-4 \ln y}$$

$$= e^{\ln y^{-4}}$$

$$= y^{-4}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} y^{-4} - 4x y^{-5} = 4y^5 \cdot y^{-4}$$

$$\frac{d}{dy} (x y^{-4}) = 4y$$

$$\int d(x y^{-4}) = \int 4y dy$$

$$x y^{-4} = 2y^2 + C$$

implicit

$$x = 2y^6 + C y^4$$

explicit