

2.3 - Linear Equations

Definition: A first-order differential equation of the form

$a_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x)$ is a **linear equation** in y (the independent variable).

This is put into **standard form** by dividing both sides by $a_1(y)$ to obtain

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

input function
OR forcing
function

Example: Consider the DE $3 \frac{dy}{dx} + 12y = 4$. In standard form, this is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + 4y = \frac{4}{3}$$

If we multiply both sides by e^{4x} ,
we get $\underline{e^{4x} \frac{dy}{dx} + 4e^{4x} y} = \frac{4}{3} e^{4x}$

wha?

Aside: Differentiate $e^{4x} y$ WRT x :

2nd aside: Implicit differentiation

$$\underline{x^2 y^3} + 4xy^2 = 5$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(x^2 y^3) = 2xy^3 + 3x^2 y^2 \frac{dy}{dx}$$

Chain Rule

$$\frac{d}{dx} [e^{4x} y] = \underline{e^{4x} \frac{dy}{dx} + 4e^{4x} y}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[e^{4x}y] = \frac{4}{3}e^{4x}$$

Integrate wRT x: $e^{4x}y = \frac{1}{3}e^{4x} + C$

$$y = \frac{1}{3} + Ce^{-4x}$$

Where did e^{4x} come from?

For the eqn in standard form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = f(x), \quad (*)$$

Suppose we have some function,

say $\mu(x)$ such that when we multiply

(*) by μ , we get

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

If it happens that $\frac{d\mu}{dx} = \mu P$, then

the LHS becomes

$$\mu \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{d\mu}{dx} y = \mu f(x)$$

$f \quad g' + f' \quad g$

then we have $\frac{d}{dx}(\mu y) = \mu f(x)$

To find μ , solve the separable equation

$$\frac{d\mu}{dx} = \mu P(x) \Rightarrow \frac{d\mu}{\mu} = P(x) dx$$

$$\ln|\mu| = \int P(x) dx + C_1 \Rightarrow \boxed{\mu = C e^{\int P(x) dx}}$$

No constant needed $\rightarrow C$

Example: Find the general solution of the given differential equation. Give the largest interval I over which the general solution is defined. Determine whether there are any transient terms in the general solution.

$y' + 2xy = x^3$ - std form

linear with $P(x) = 2x \Rightarrow \mu = e^{\int P(x) dx}$ becomes

$$\mu = e^{\int 2x dx} \Rightarrow \mu = e^{x^2}$$

$$e^{x^2} y' + 2x e^{x^2} y = e^{x^2} x^3$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(e^{x^2} y) = x^3 e^{x^2}$$

$$e^{x^2} y = \int x^3 e^{x^2} dx$$

$u = x^2 \quad dv = x e^{x^2} dx$

$du = 2x dx \quad v = \frac{1}{2} e^{x^2}$

$$e^{x^2} y = \frac{1}{2} x^2 e^{x^2} - \int x e^{x^2} dx$$

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

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

This is a general solution because it contains C .

Interval: $(-\infty, \infty)$

Since $C e^{-x^2} \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$, it's called a transient term.

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

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

std form: $\frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{x}{1+x} y = x$

$$P(x) = -\frac{x}{1+x} \Rightarrow \int -\frac{x}{1+x} dx$$

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

OR $\frac{x+1-1}{1+x} = \frac{1+x}{1+x} - \frac{1}{1+x}$

$$\mu = e^{\int P(x) dx} = e^{\ln(x+1) - x}$$

assuming $x+1 > 0$
(interval)

$$\mu = (1+x) e^{-x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} [(1+x) e^{-x} y] = (x^2 + x) e^{-x}$$

$$(1+x) e^{-x} y = \int (x^2 + x) e^{-x} dx$$

$u = x^2 + x \quad dv = e^{-x} dx$
 $du = (2x+1) dx \quad v = -e^{-x}$

$$(1+x)e^{-x}y = -(x^2+x)e^{-x} + \int (2x+1)e^{-x} dx$$

After another IBP:

$$(1+x)e^{-x}y = -(x^2+x)e^{-x} - (1+2x)e^{-x} - 2e^{-x} + C$$

$$y = -x - \frac{1+2x}{1+x} - \frac{2}{1+x} + \frac{Ce^x}{1+x}$$

$$y = -x - \frac{2x+3}{1+x} + \frac{Ce^x}{1+x} \quad \text{max} \checkmark$$

No transient terms.

Interval: $(-1, \infty)$

~~$(-\infty, -1) \cup (-1, \infty)$~~

Example: $xy' + (1+x)y = e^{-x} \sin 2x$

$$y' + \frac{1+x}{x}y = \frac{e^{-x}}{x} \sin 2x$$

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{x} + 1 \Rightarrow \mu = e^{\int (\frac{1}{x} + 1) dx}$$

$$\mu = e^{\ln x + x} \quad \text{assuming } x > 0$$

$$\mu = x e^x$$
$$\frac{d}{dx}(x e^x y) = \sin 2x$$

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

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

Interval: $(0, \infty)$

~~x~~ ✓

$$\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln|x| + C$$

It's all transient

Example: $\frac{dP}{dt} + 2tP = P + 4t - 2$

input (indep): t
output (dep): P

$$\frac{dP}{dt} + (2t-1)P = 4t-2$$

$$M = e^{\int (2t-1)dt} = e^{t^2-t}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}(e^{t^2-t}P) = (4t-2)e^{t^2-t}$$

$$u = t^2 - t \Rightarrow du = (2t-1)dt$$

$$e^{t^2-t}P = 2e^{t^2-t} + C$$

$$P = 2 + Ce^{t-t^2}$$

Interval: $(-\infty, \infty)$

transient term: Ce^{t-t^2}

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

Example: Solve the given initial-value problem. Use a graphing utility to graph the continuous function $y(x)$.

$$(1 + x^2) \frac{dy}{dx} + 2xy = f(x), \quad y(0) = 0, \text{ where}$$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ -x & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$x=0$

$0 \leq x < 1$ $x \geq 1$

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

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

$$\mu = e^{\int \frac{2x}{1+x^2} dx} = e^{\ln(1+x^2)}$$



$$\frac{d}{dx} [(1+x^2)y] = x$$

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

$$(1+x^2)y = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + C_1$$

$$y = \frac{x^2}{2(1+x^2)} + \frac{C_1}{1+x^2}$$

$$y = -\frac{x^2}{2(1+x^2)} + \frac{C_2}{1+x^2}$$

$$y(0) = 0$$

$$C_1 = 0$$

$$y = \frac{x^2}{2(1+x^2)}, \quad 0 \leq x < 1$$

For y to be cont at $x=1$,

$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} y(x) = y(1)$ and for the limit to exist at 1, $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} y(x) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} y(x)$

$$\frac{1}{4} = -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{C_2}{2} \Rightarrow C_2 = 1$$

$$y(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2}{2(1+x^2)}, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ \frac{2-x^2}{2(1+x^2)}, & x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

