

### 9.3: Separable Differential Equations

Entry Task: (Motivation)

Implicitly differentiate  $x^2 + y^3 = 8$

and solve for  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

$$\frac{d}{dx} [x^2 + y^3 = 8]$$
$$\Rightarrow 2x + 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$
$$\Rightarrow 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = -2x$$
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{2x}{3y^2}}$$

Idea: separate and integrate both sides.

Entry Task continued:

Find the *explicit* solution for  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-2x}{3y^2}$

with  $y(0) = 2$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-2x}{3y^2}$$
$$\Rightarrow 3y^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = -2x$$
$$\int 3y^2 dy = \int -2x dx$$
$$y^3 + C_1 = -x^2 + C_2$$
$$\Rightarrow x^2 + y^3 = C_2 - C_1 \leftarrow \text{A constant}$$
$$x^2 + y^3 = C$$
$$y(0) = 2 \Rightarrow 0^2 + 2^3 = C \Rightarrow C = 8$$
$$x^2 + y^3 = 8$$
$$\Rightarrow y^3 = 8 - x^2$$
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{y = (8 - x^2)^{1/3}} \leftarrow \text{EXPLICIT}$$

### 9.3: Separable Differential Equations

A **separable** differential equation is one that can be written as:

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

(or  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{f(x)}{g(y)}$  or  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{g(y)}{f(x)}$ .)

**Example:** Find the explicit solution to

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x}{y^4} \text{ with } y(0) = 1.$$

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

$$\int y^4 dy = \int x dx$$

$$\frac{1}{5} y^5 = \frac{1}{2} x^2 + C_1$$

$$y^5 = \frac{5}{2} x^2 + 5C_1$$

$$y^5 = \frac{5}{2} x^2 + C_2$$

$$y = \left( \frac{5}{2} x^2 + C_2 \right)^{1/5}$$

Let  $C_2 = 5C_1$

GENERAL SOLN

$$y = \left( \frac{5}{2} x^2 + C \right)^{1/5}$$

$$y(0) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = \left( \frac{5}{2} (0)^2 + C \right)^{1/5}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1^5 = C \Rightarrow \boxed{C = 1}$$

$$y = \left( \frac{5}{2} x^2 + 1 \right)^{1/5}$$

Q) what is  $C_1$ ?  
what is  $C_2$ ?

$$\frac{1}{5} (0)^5 = \frac{1}{2} (0)^2 + C_1 \Rightarrow \boxed{C_1 = 1/5}$$

$$\boxed{C_2 = 5C_1 = 1}$$

Example: Find the explicit solution to

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x \sin(2x)}{3y} \quad \text{with } y(0) = -1.$$

$$\int 3y \, dy = \int x \sin(2x) \, dx \quad \begin{array}{l} u = x \quad dv = \sin(2x) \, dx \\ du = dx \quad v = -\frac{1}{2} \cos(2x) \end{array}$$

$$\frac{3}{2} y^2 = -\frac{1}{2} x \cos(2x) - \int -\frac{1}{2} \cos(2x) \, dx$$

$$\frac{3}{2} y^2 = -\frac{1}{2} x \cos(2x) + \frac{1}{4} \sin(2x) + C_1$$

$$C_2 = \frac{2}{3} C_1$$

$$y^2 = -\frac{1}{3} x \cos(2x) + \frac{1}{6} \sin(2x) + C_2$$

$$y = \pm \sqrt{-\frac{1}{3} x \cos(2x) + \frac{1}{6} \sin(2x) + C}$$

GENERAL  
EXPLICIT SOLN.

$$y(0) = -1 \Rightarrow \textcircled{1} \text{ THIS IS " - "}$$

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

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{C=1}$$

Q) What is  $C_1$ ?

$$C_1 = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$y = -\sqrt{-\frac{1}{3} x \cos(2x) + \frac{1}{6} \sin(2x) + 1}$$

Example: Find the explicit solution to

$$(x+1) \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2}{e^y} \text{ with } y(0) = 0.$$

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

$$\begin{array}{r} x+1 \overline{) \frac{x^2}{x^2+x}} \\ \underline{-(x^2+x)} \\ -x-0 \\ \underline{-x-0} \\ 0 \end{array}$$

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

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

$$e^y = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + \ln|x+1| + C_1$$

$$y = \ln\left(\frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + \ln|x+1| + C\right) \quad \text{general sol'n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y(0) = 0 &\Rightarrow 0 = \ln(0 - 0 + 0 + C) \\ &\Rightarrow \underline{C = 1} \end{aligned}$$

$$y = \ln\left(\frac{1}{2}x^2 - x + \ln|x+1| + 1\right)$$

# Law of Natural Growth

Assumption: "The rate of growth of a population is proportional to the size of the population."

$P(t)$  = population at year  $t$ ,  
 $\frac{dP}{dt}$  = rate of change of the population

The law of natural growth assumes

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP,$$

for some constant  $k$   
 (we call  $k$  the relative growth rate).

Find the explicit solution to

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP \text{ with } P(0) = P_0$$



$$P(t) = P_0 e^{kt}$$

$$\int \frac{1}{P} dP = \int k dt$$

$$\ln |P| = kt + C_1$$

$$\Rightarrow |P| = e^{(kt + C_1)}$$

$$\Rightarrow |P| = e^{C_1} e^{kt}$$

$$|P| = C_2 e^{kt}$$

$$\Rightarrow P = \pm C_2 e^{kt}$$

$$P(t) = C_3 e^{kt}$$

Let  $C_2 = e^{C_1}$

Let  $C_3 = \pm C_2$

$$\text{GENERAL SOLUTION } P(t) = C e^{kt}$$

CLEANER THAN WRITING

$$P(t) = \pm e^{C_1} e^{kt}$$

also correct

$$P(0) = P_0 \Rightarrow P_0 = C e^0 \Rightarrow \boxed{C = P_0}$$

WHAT IS  $C_1$ ?

$$\pm e^{C_1} = P_0$$

$$\Rightarrow C_1 = \ln |P_0|$$

- 500 bacteria are in a dish at  $t=0$ hr.  
8000 bacteria are in the dish at  $t=3$ hr.

Assume the population grows at a rate proportional to its size.

Find the function,  $B(t)$ , for the bacteria population with respect to time.

$$\frac{dB}{dt} = kB \quad B(0) = 500$$

USING THE GENERAL SOLN WE  
ALREADY FOUND

$$B(t) = B_0 e^{kt}$$

$$\bullet B(0) = 500 \Rightarrow B_0 = 500$$

$$B(t) = 500 e^{kt}$$

$$\bullet B(3) = 8000 \Rightarrow$$

$$500 e^{3k} = 8000$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{3k} = 16$$

$$3k = \ln(16) \Rightarrow k = \frac{\ln(16)}{3} \approx 0.924196$$

ROUGHLY 92% growth  
per hour

THUS,

$$B(t) = 500 e^{\frac{\ln(16)}{3} t}$$

$$B(t) = 500 (16)^{t/3}$$

NOTE:

$$\frac{t}{3} \ln(16) = \ln(16^{t/3})$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{\frac{t}{3} \ln(16)} = e^{\ln(16^{t/3})} = 16^{t/3}$$

2. The *half-life* of cesium-137 is 30 years. Suppose we start with a 100-mg sample. The mass decays at a rate proportional to its size.

Find the function,  $m(t)$ , for the mass with respect to time.

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = Km, \quad m(0) = 100$$

$$m(t) = m_0 e^{kt}$$

•  $m(0) = 100 \Rightarrow m_0 = 100$

$$m(t) = 100 e^{kt}$$

•  $m(30) = 50$  ← HALF!

$$50 = 100 e^{30k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = e^{30k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 30k$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{1}{30} \ln\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$\approx -0.023104$$

NEGATIVE!  
 ← DECAY!  
 lose about  
 2% per  
 year

$$m(t) = 100 e^{\frac{\ln(1/2)}{30} t}$$

$$= 100 e^{\ln\left(\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{t/30}\right)}$$

$$= 100 \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{t/30}$$

3. You invest \$10,000 into a savings account and never make any deposits or withdrawals. The balance grows at a rate proportional to its size (i.e. *interest* is a percentage of the balance at any time). In 3 years, you notice your balance is \$10,400.

Find the function,  $A(t)$ , for the amount of money in the account with respect to time.

$$A(t) = 10000 e^{\frac{1}{3} \ln(1.04)t}$$

$$\approx 10000 e^{0.01307t}$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = kA$$

↙ ANNUAL INTEREST RATE COMPOUNDED CONTINUOUSLY  
 ← ≈ AMOUNT OF INTEREST ADDED TO THE ACCOUNT PER YEAR

$$A(t) = C e^{kt}$$

$$A(0) = 10000 \Rightarrow 10000 = C e^0 = C$$

$$A(3) = 10400 \Rightarrow 10400 = 10000 e^{k(3)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1.04 = e^{k(3)}$$

$$\ln(1.04) = 3k$$

$$k = \frac{1}{3} \ln(1.04) \approx 0.0130736$$

1.31% annual interest compounded continuously