

# Differential Equation

*It is not certain that everything is uncertain .....Pascal, Blaise*

## Introduction :

An equation involving independent and dependent variables and the derivatives of the dependent variables is called a **differential equation**. There are two kinds of differential equation:

**1.1 Ordinary Differential Equation :** If the dependent variables depend on one independent variable  $x$ , then the differential equation is said to be ordinary.

for example  $\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{dz}{dx} = y + z$ ,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + xy = \sin x, \quad \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} + 2\frac{dy}{dx} + y = e^x,$$

$$k \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \left\{ 1 + \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 \right\}^{3/2}, \quad y = x \frac{dy}{dx} + k \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2}$$

**1.2 Partial differential equation :** If the dependent variables depend on two or more independent variables, then it is known as partial differential equation

for example  $y^2 \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + y \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = ax, \quad \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial y^2} = 0$

## Order and Degree of a Differential Equation:

**2.1 Order :** Order is the highest differential appearing in a differential equation.

**2.2 Degree :**

It is determined by the highest degree of the highest order derivative present in it after the differential equation is cleared of radicals and fractions so far as the derivatives are concerned.

**Note :** In the differential equation, all the derivatives should be expressed in the polynomial form

$$f_1(x, y) \left[ \frac{d^m y}{dx^m} \right]^{n_1} + f_2(x, y) \left[ \frac{d^{m-1} y}{dx^{m-1}} \right]^{n_2} + \dots + f_k(x, y) \left[ \frac{dy}{dx} \right]^{n_k} = 0$$

The above differential equation has the order  $m$  and degree  $n_1$ .

**Example # 1:** Find the order & degree of following differential equations.

(i)  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \left[ y + \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^6 \right]^{1/4}$

(ii)  $y = \log_e \left( \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} + \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 \right)$

(iii)  $\tan^{-1} \left( x \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right) = y$

(iv)  $e^{y'''} - xy'' + y = 0$

**Solution :**

(i)  $\left( \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right)^4 = y + \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^6$

$\therefore$  order = 2, degree = 4

(ii)  $\frac{d^3y}{dx^3} + \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 = e^y$

$\therefore$  order = 3, degree = 1

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

$\therefore$  order = 2, degree = 1

(iv)  $e^{\frac{d^3y}{dx^3}} - x \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + y = 0$

$\therefore$  equation can not be expressed as a polynomial in differential coefficients, so degree is not applicable but order is 3.

**Self Practice Problems :**

(1) Find order and degree of the following differential equations.

(i)  $\frac{dy}{dx} + y = \frac{1}{\frac{dy}{dx}}$

(ii)  $\sqrt{\frac{dy}{dx}} - 4\frac{dy}{dx} - 7x = 0$

(iii)  $\left[ \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^{1/2} + y \right]^2 = \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$

**Ans.** (1) (i) order = 1, degree = 2 (ii) order = 1, degree = 2  
(iii) order = 2, degree = 2

**Formation of Differential Equation:**

Differential equation corresponding to a family of curve will have :

- (a) Order exactly same as number of essential arbitrary constants in the equation of curve.  
(b) No arbitrary constant present in it.

The differential equation corresponding to a family of curve can be obtained by using the following steps:

- (i) Identify the number of essential arbitrary constants in equation of curve.

**NOTE :** If arbitrary constants appear in addition, subtraction, multiplication or division, then we can club them to reduce into one new arbitrary constant.

- (ii) Differentiate the equation of curve till the required order.  
(iii) Eliminate the arbitrary constant from the equation of curve and additional equations obtained in step (ii) above.

**Example # 2 :** Form a differential equation of family of straight lines passing through (0,2)

**Solution :** Family of straight lines passing through (0,2) is  $y = mx + 2$  where 'm' is a parameter.

Differentiating w.r.t. x

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = m$$

Eliminating 'm' from both equations, we obtain

$$y = x \frac{dy}{dx} + 2 \quad \text{which is the required differential equation.}$$

**Example # 3 :** Form a differential equation of family of parabolas having x axis as line of symmetry and tangent at vertex is y-axes

**Solution :** Let equation of parabola

$$y^2 = 4ax \quad \dots\dots\dots(i)$$

$$2y \frac{dy}{dx} = 4a \quad \dots\dots\dots(ii)$$

by (i) and (ii)

$$\Rightarrow y^2 = 2yx \frac{dy}{dx} \quad \Rightarrow \quad y = 2x \frac{dy}{dx}$$

**Self Practice Problems :**

(2) Obtain a differential equation of the family of curves  $y = a \sin (bx + c)$  where a and c being arbitrary constant.

(3) Show that the differential equation of the system of parabolas  $y^2 = 4a(x - b)$  is given by

$$y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 = 0$$

(4) Form a differential equation of family of parabolas with focus as origin and axis of symmetry along the x-axis.

**Ans.** (2)  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + b^2y = 0$  (4)  $y^2 = y^2 \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)^2 + 2xy \frac{dy}{dx}$

**Solution of a Differential Equation:**

Finding the dependent variable from the differential equation is called solving or integrating it. The solution or the integral of a differential equation is, therefore, a relation between dependent and independent variables (free from derivatives) such that it satisfies the given differential equation

**NOTE :** The solution of the differential equation is also called its primitive, because the differential equation can be regarded as a relation derived from it.

There can be three types of solution of a differential equation:

- (i) **General solution (or complete integral or complete primitive) :** A relation in  $x$  and  $y$  satisfying a given differential equation and involving exactly same number of arbitrary constants as order of differential equation.
- (ii) **Particular Solution :** A solution obtained by assigning values to one or more than one arbitrary constant of general solution.
- (iii) **Singular Solution :** It is not obtainable from general solution. Geometrically, **Singular solution** acts as an envelope to **General solution**.

**4.1. Differential Equation of First Order and First Degree :**

A differential equation of first order and first degree is of the type  $\frac{dy}{dx} + f(x, y) = 0$ , which can also be written as :  $Mdx + Ndy = 0$ , where  $M$  and  $N$  are functions of  $x$  and  $y$ .

**Solution methods of First Order and First Degree Differential Equations :**

**5.1 Variables separable :** If the differential equation can be put in the form,  $f(x) dx = \phi(y) dy$  we say that variables are separable and solution can be obtained by integrating each side separately. A general solution of this will be  $\int f(x) dx = \int \phi(y) dy + c$ , where  $c$  is an arbitrary constant.

**Example # 4 :** Solve the differential equation  $(1 + x) y dx = (y - 1) x dy$

**Solution :** The equation can be written as -

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

$$\ln x + x = y - \ln y + c \quad \Rightarrow \quad \ln y + \ln x = y - x + c \quad \Rightarrow \quad xy = ce^{y-x}$$

**Example # 5 :** Solve :  $(e^x + 1) y dy = (y + 1) e^x dx$

**Solution :** The given differential equation is  $(e^x + 1) y dy = (y + 1) e^x dx$

$$\frac{y dy}{(y + 1)} = \frac{e^x}{(e^x + 1)}$$

Integrating both sides

$$\Rightarrow y - \log |y + 1| = \log (e^x + 1) + \log k \Rightarrow y = \log |(y + 1)(e^x + 1)| + \log k \Rightarrow (y + 1)(e^x + 1) = e^y c$$

**Example # 6 :**  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x(2\ln x + 1)}{\sin y + y \cos y}$  Solve :

**Solution :**  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x(2\ln x + 1)}{\sin y + y \cos y}$

$$(\sin y + y \cos y) dy = x(2\ln x + 1) dx$$

Integrating both sides

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

**5.1.1 Polar coordinates transformations :**

Sometimes transformation to the polar co-ordinates facilitates separation of variables. In this connection it is convenient to remember the following differentials:

(a) If  $x = r \cos \theta$  ;  $y = r \sin \theta$  then,

$$(i) \quad x dx + y dy = r dr \quad (ii) \quad dx^2 + dy^2 = dr^2 \quad (iii) \quad x dy - y dx = r^2 d\theta$$

(b) If  $x = r \sec \theta$  &  $y = r \tan \theta$  then

$$(i) \quad x dx - y dy = r dr \quad (ii) \quad x dy - y dx = r^2 \sec \theta d\theta.$$

**Example # 7 :** Solve the differential equation  $x dx + y dy = x (x dy - y dx)$

**Solution :** Taking  $x = r \cos \theta$ ,  $y = r \sin \theta$

$$x^2 + y^2 = r^2$$

$$2x dx + 2y dy = 2r dr$$

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

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

$$x dy - y dx = x^2 \sec^2 \theta \cdot d\theta$$

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

Using (i) & (ii) in the given differential equation then it becomes

$$r dr = r \cos \theta \cdot r^2 d\theta$$

$$\frac{dr}{r^2} = \cos \theta d\theta \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\frac{1}{r} = \sin \theta + \lambda \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} = \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} + \lambda \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{y+1}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} = c$$

$$\text{where } -\lambda' = c \Rightarrow (y+1)^2 = c(x^2 + y^2)$$

**5.1.2 Equations Reducible to the Variables Separable form :** If a differential equation can be reduced into a variables separable form by a proper substitution, then it is said to be

“Reducible to the variables separable type”. Its general form is  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(ax + by + c)$   $a, b \neq 0$ . To solve this, put  $ax + by + c = t$ .

**Example # 8 :** Solve  $\frac{dy}{dx} = (4x + y + 1)^2$

**Solution :** Putting  $4x + y + 1 = t \quad \Rightarrow \quad 4 + \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dt}{dx} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dt}{dx} - 4$

Given equation becomes

$$\frac{dt}{dx} - 4 = t^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{dt}{t^2 + 4} = dx \quad (\text{Variables are separated})$$

Integrating both sides,

$$\int \frac{dt}{4 + t^2} = \int dx \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \frac{t}{2} = x + c \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{1}{2} \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{4x + y + 1}{2} \right) = x + c$$

**Example # 9 :** Solve  $\sin^{-1} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right) = x + y$

**Solution :**  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sin (x + y)$

putting  $x + y = t$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dt}{dx} - 1 \quad \therefore \quad \frac{dt}{dx} - 1 = \sin t \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{dt}{dx} = 1 + \sin t \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{dt}{1 + \sin t} = dx$$

Integrating both sides,

$$\int \frac{dt}{1 + \sin t} = \int dx \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int \frac{1 - \sin t}{\cos^2 t} dt = x + c \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int (\sec^2 t - \sec t \tan t) dt = x + c$$

$$\tan t - \sec t = x + c \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\frac{1 - \sin t}{\cos t} = x + c \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sin t - 1 = x \cos t + c \cos t$$

substituting the value of  $t$

$$\sin (x + y) = x \cos (x + y) + c \cos (x + y) + 1$$

**Self Practice Problems :**

- (5) Solve the differential equation  $x^2 y \frac{dy}{dx} = (x+1)(y+1)$
- (6) Solve the differential equation  $\frac{xdx + ydy}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}} = \frac{ydx - xdy}{x^2}$
- (7) Solve :  $\frac{dy}{dx} = e^{x+y} + x^2 e^y$
- (8) Solve :  $xy \frac{dy}{dx} = 1 + x + y + xy$
- (9) Solve  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 + e^{x-y}$
- (10)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sin(x+y) + \cos(x+y)$
- (11) Find the solution of the differential equation  $(x+y)^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$ , satisfying the condition  $y(1) = 0$

- Ans.** (5)  $y - \ln(y+1) = \ln x - \frac{1}{x} + c$  (6)  $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{y}{x} = c$
- (7)  $-\frac{1}{e^y} = e^x + \frac{x^3}{3} + c$  (8)  $y = x + \ln|x(1+y)| + c$
- (9)  $e^{y-x} = x + c$  (10)  $\log \left| \tan \frac{x+y}{2} + 1 \right| = x + c$
- (11)  $y + \frac{\pi}{4} = \tan^{-1}(x+y)$

**5.2 Homogeneous Differential Equations :**

A differential equation of the form  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{f(x,y)}{g(x,y)}$  where  $f$  and  $g$  are homogeneous function of  $x$  and  $y$ , and of the same degree, is called homogeneous differential equation and can be solved easily by putting  $y = vx$ .

**Example # 10 :** Solve  $x \frac{dy}{dx} = y + x \tan\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$

**Solution :**  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x} + \tan \frac{y}{x}$  (Homogeneous differential equation)

$$\text{put } y = vx \Rightarrow v + x \frac{dv}{dx} = v + \tan v \Rightarrow \cot v \cdot dv = \frac{dx}{x}$$

Integrating both sides we have

$$\ln \sin v = \ln x + \ln c \Rightarrow \sin v = cx \Rightarrow \sin\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) = cx$$

**Example # 11 :** Solve :  $x^2 dy + y(x+y)dx = 0$  given that  $y = 1$  when  $x = 1$

**Solution :**  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{y}{x} - \frac{y^2}{x^2}$  put  $y = vx$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx} \Rightarrow v + x \frac{dv}{dx} = -v - v^2 \Rightarrow \frac{dv}{(2+v)v} = -\frac{dx}{x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \int \left( \frac{1}{v} - \frac{1}{v+2} \right) dv = \int -\frac{dx}{x} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{v}{v+2} \right) + \ln x = \ln c$$

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

$$\text{When } x = 1 \text{ then } y = 1 \Rightarrow C = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \Rightarrow 3x^2 y = (y+2x)$$

### 5.2.1 Equations Reducible to the Homogeneous form

Equations of the form  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{ax+by+c}{Ax+By+C}$  .....(1)

can be made homogeneous (in new variables X and Y) by substituting  $x = X + h$  and  $y = Y + k$ , where h and k are constants to obtain,  $\frac{dY}{dX} = \frac{aX+bY+(ah+bk+c)}{AX+BY+(Ah+Bk+C)}$  .....(2)

These constants are chosen such that  $ah + bk + c = 0$ , and  $Ah + Bk + C = 0$ . Thus we obtain the following differential equation  $\frac{dY}{dX} = \frac{aX+bY}{AX+BY}$

The differential equation can now be solved by substituting  $Y = vX$ .

**Example # 12 :** Solve the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x+2y-5}{2x+y-4}$

**Solution :** Let  $x = X + h$ ,  $y = Y + k$

$$\frac{dy}{dX} = \frac{d}{dX} (Y + k)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dX} = \frac{dY}{dX} \quad \text{.....(i)} \qquad \frac{dx}{dX} = 1 + 0 \quad \text{.....(ii)}$$

on dividing (i) by (ii)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dY}{dX}$

$$\frac{dY}{dX} = \frac{X+h+2(Y+k)-5}{2X+2h+Y+k-4} = \frac{X+2Y+(h+2k-5)}{2X+Y+(2h+k-4)}$$

h & k are such that  $h + 2k - 5 = 0$  &  $2h + k - 4 = 0$   
 $h = 1, k = 2$

$$\frac{dY}{dX} = \frac{X+2Y}{2X+Y} \text{ which is homogeneous differential equation.}$$

Now, substituting  $Y = vX$

$$\frac{dY}{dX} = v + X \frac{dv}{dX} \therefore X \frac{dv}{dX} = \frac{1+2v}{2+v} - v \Rightarrow \int \frac{2+v}{1-v^2} dv = \int \frac{dX}{X}$$

$$\int \left( \frac{1}{2(v+1)} + \frac{3}{2(1-v)} \right) dv = \ln X + c \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} \ln(v+1) - \frac{3}{2} \ln(1-v) = \ln X + c$$

$$\ln \left| \frac{v+1}{(1-v)^3} \right| = \ln X^2 + 2c \Rightarrow \frac{(Y+X)}{(X-Y)^3} \frac{X^2}{X^2} = e^{2c}$$

$$X + Y = c'(X - Y)^3 \quad \text{where } e^{2c} = c'$$

$$x - 1 + y - 2 = c' (x - 1 - y + 2)^3$$

$$x + y - 3 = c' (x - y + 1)^3$$

**Special case :**

**Case - 1** In equation (1) if  $\frac{a}{A} = \frac{b}{B}$ , then the substitution  $ax + by = v$  will reduce it to the form in which variables are separable.

**Example # 13 :** Solve  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2x+3y-1}{4x+6y-5}$

**Solution :** Putting  $u = 2x + 3y$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 2 + 3 \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{du}{dx} - 2 \right) = \frac{u-1}{2u-5} \Rightarrow \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{3u-3+4u-10}{2u-5}$$

$$\int \frac{2u-5}{7u-13} dx = \int dx \Rightarrow \frac{2}{7} \int 1 \cdot du - \frac{9}{7} \int \frac{1}{7u-13} \cdot du = x + c$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{7} u - \frac{9}{7} \cdot \frac{1}{7} \ln(7u-13) = x + c \Rightarrow 4x + 6y - \frac{9}{7} \ln(14x + 21y - 13) = 7x + 7c$$

$$\Rightarrow -3x + 6y - \frac{9}{7} \ln(14x + 21y - 13) = c'$$

**Case - 2** In equation (1), if  $b + A = 0$ , then by a simple cross multiplication equation (1) becomes an **exact differential equation**.

**Example # 14 :** Solve  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x-2y+5}{2x+y-1}$

**Solution :** Cross multiplying,  
 $2xdy + y dy - dy = xdx - 2ydx + 5dx$   
 $2(xdy + y dx) + ydy - dy = xdx + 5 dx$   
 $2 d(xy) + y dy - dy = xdx + 5dx$   
 On integrating,

$$2xy + \frac{y^2}{2} - y = \frac{x^2}{2} + 5x + c \Rightarrow x^2 - 4xy - y^2 + 10x + 2y = c' \quad \text{where } c' = -2c$$

**Case - 3** If the homogeneous equation is of the form :  
 $yf(xy) dx + xg(xy)dy = 0$ , the variables can be separated by the substitution  $xy = v$ .

### Self Practice Problems :

**Solve the following differential equations**

(12)  $\left(x \frac{dy}{dx} - y\right) \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x} = x$  given that  $y = 0$  at  $x = 1$  (13)  $x \frac{dy}{dx} = y - x \tan \frac{y}{x}$

(14)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2x-y+3}{x+2y+4}$

(15)  $(3x - 2y + 1) dy + (4y - 6x + 3)dx = 0$

(16)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3x+2y-5}{3y-2x+5}$

**Ans.** (12)  $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = e^{\frac{y}{x} \tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}}$

(13)  $x \sin \frac{y}{x} = C$

(14)  $y^2 - x^2 + xy + 4y - 3x + C = 0$

(15)  $10 \ln |3x - 2y - 9| = 2y - 4x + C$

(16)  $3x^2 + 4xy - 3y^2 - 10x - 10y = C$

### 5.3 Exact Differential Equation :

The differential equation  $M + N \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$  .....(1)

Where M and N are functions of x and y is said to be exact if it can be derived by direct differentiation (without any subsequent multiplication, elimination etc.) of an equation of the form  $f(x, y) = c$

e.g.  $y^2 dy + x dx + \frac{dx}{x} = 0$  is an exact differential equation.

**NOTE :** (i) The necessary condition for (1) to be exact is  $\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$ .

(ii) For finding the solution of exact differential equation, following results on exact differentials should be remembered:

(a)  $xdy + y dx = d(xy)$

(b)  $\frac{xdy - ydx}{x^2} = d\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$

(c)  $2(x dx + y dy) = d(x^2 + y^2)$

(d)  $\frac{xdy - ydx}{xy} = d\left(\ln \frac{y}{x}\right)$

(e)  $\frac{xdy - ydx}{x^2 + y^2} = d\left(\tan^{-1} \frac{y}{x}\right)$

(f)  $\frac{xdy + ydx}{xy} = d(\ln xy)$

(g)  $\frac{xdy + ydx}{x^2 y^2} = d\left(-\frac{1}{xy}\right)$

**Example # 15 :** Solve :  $y^2x dx + ydx - xdy = 0$

**Solution :**  $\frac{y^2x dx + ydx - xdy}{y^2} = 0 \Rightarrow xdx + d\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) = 0$

on integrating  $\frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x}{y} + c = 0$

**Example # 16 :** Solve :  $(x - y)dy + (x + y)dx = dx + dy$

**Solution :** The given equation can be written as

$$(x dy + y dx) - y dy + x dx = dx + dy \Rightarrow d(x \cdot y) - y dy + x dx = dx + dy$$

$$\text{Also integrating each term we get } xy - \frac{y^2}{2} + \frac{x^2}{2} = x + y + C$$

**Self Practice Problems :**

(17) Solve :  $x dy + y dx + xy e^y dy = 0$

(18) Solve :  $ye^{-x/y} dx - (xe^{-x/y} + y^3) dy = 0$

**Ans.** (17)  $\ln(xy) + e^y = c$  (18)  $2e^{-x/y} + y^2 = c$

**Linear Differential Equation :**

A linear differential equation has the following characteristics :

(i) Dependent variable and its derivative in first degree only and are not multiplied together

(ii) All the derivatives should be in a polynomial form

(iii) The order may be more than one

The  $m^{\text{th}}$  order linear differential equation is of the form.

$$P_0(x) \frac{d^m y}{dx^m} + P_1(x) \frac{d^{m-1} y}{dx^{m-1}} + \dots + P_{m-1}(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + P_m(x) y = \phi(x),$$

where  $P_0(x), P_1(x), \dots, P_m(x)$  are called the coefficients of the differential equation.

**NOTE :**  $\frac{dy}{dx} + y^2 \sin x = \ln x$  is not a Linear differential equation.

### 6.1 Linear differential equations of first order :

The differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} + Py = Q$ , is linear in  $y$ .

(Where  $P$  and  $Q$  are functions of  $x$  only).

**Integrating Factor (I.F.) :** It is an expression which when multiplied to a differential equation converts it into an exact form.

I.F. for linear differential equation =  $e^{\int P dx}$  (constant of integration will not be considered)

$\therefore$  after multiplying above equation by I.F. it becomes;

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} e^{\int P dx} + Py \cdot e^{\int P dx} &= Q \cdot e^{\int P dx} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} (y \cdot e^{\int P dx}) &= Q \cdot e^{\int P dx} \quad \Rightarrow \quad y \cdot e^{\int P dx} = \int Q \cdot e^{\int P dx} + C. \end{aligned}$$

**NOTE :** Some times differential equation becomes linear, if  $x$  is taken as the dependent variable, and  $y$  as independent variable. The differential equation has then the following form :  $\frac{dx}{dy} + P_1 x = Q_1$ .

where  $P_1$  and  $Q_1$  are functions of  $y$ . The I.F. now is  $e^{\int P_1 dy}$

**Example # 17 :** Solve the differential equation  $f(x) \frac{dy}{dx} = f^2(x) + f(x) y + f'(x) y$

**Solution :**  $f(x) \frac{dy}{dx} = f^2(x) + f(x) y + f'(x) y$

$$\text{Given DE can be written as } \frac{dy}{dx} - \left(1 + \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)}\right) y = f(x)$$

Which is L.D.E.

$$\text{I.F.} = e^{-x - \int \frac{f'(x)}{f(x)} dx} = \frac{e^{-x}}{f(x)}$$

$$\text{General solution } y \frac{e^{-x}}{f(x)} = \int f(x) \frac{e^{-x}}{f(x)} dx + c = -e^{-x} + c \Rightarrow y = -f(x) + ce^x f(x)$$



**Example # 18 :** Solve :  $x \ln x \frac{dy}{dx} + y = 2 \ln x$

**Solution :**  $\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{1}{x \ln x} y = \frac{2}{x} \Rightarrow P = \frac{1}{x \ln x}, Q = \frac{2}{x}$

$$IF = e^{\int P \cdot dx} = e^{\int \frac{1}{x \ln x} dx} = e^{\ln(\ln x)} = \ln x$$

$\therefore$  General solution is  $y \cdot (\ln x) = \int \frac{2}{x} \cdot \ln x \cdot dx + c \Rightarrow y (\ln x) = (\ln x)^2 + c$

**Example # 19 :** Solve the differential equation

$$t(1+t^2) dx = (x + xt^2 - t^2) dt \text{ and it given that } x = -\pi/4 \text{ at } t = 1$$

**Solution :**  $t(1+t^2) dx = [x(1+t^2) - t^2] dt$

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

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

which is linear in  $\frac{dx}{dt}$

$$\text{Here, } P = -\frac{1}{t}, Q = -\frac{t}{1+t^2} \quad IF = e^{-\int \frac{1}{t} dt} = e^{-\ln t} = \frac{1}{t}$$

$\therefore$  General solution is -

$$x : \frac{1}{t} = \int \frac{1}{t} \cdot \left( -\frac{t}{1+t^2} \right) dt + c \Rightarrow \frac{x}{t} = -\tan^{-1} t + c$$

putting  $x = -\pi/4, t = 1$

$$-\pi/4 = -\pi/4 + c \Rightarrow c = 0$$

$$\therefore x = -t \tan^{-1} t$$

## 6.2 Equations reducible to linear form

### 6.2.1 By change of variable.

Often differential equation can be reduced to linear form by appropriate substitution of the non-linear term

**Example # 20 :** Solve :  $y \sin x \frac{dy}{dx} = \cos x (\sin x - y^2)$

**Solution :** The given differential equation can be reduced to linear form by change of variable by a suitable substitution.

Substituting  $y^2 = z$

$$2y \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dz}{dx}$$

differential equation becomes

$$\frac{\sin x}{2} \frac{dz}{dx} + \cos x \cdot z = \sin x \cos x$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} + 2 \cot x \cdot z = 2 \cos x \text{ which is linear in } \frac{dz}{dx}$$

$$IF = e^{\int 2 \cot x dx} = e^{2 \ln \sin x} = \sin^2 x$$

$\therefore$  General solution is -

$$z \cdot \sin^2 x = \int 2 \cos x \cdot \sin^2 x \cdot dx + c \Rightarrow y^2 \sin^2 x = \frac{2}{3} \sin^3 x + c$$

### 6.2.2 Bernoulli's equation :

Equations of the form  $\frac{dy}{dx} + Py = Q \cdot y^n, n \neq 0 \text{ and } n \neq 1$

where P and Q are functions of x, is called Bernoulli's equation and can be made linear in v by dividing by  $y^n$  and putting  $y^{-n+1} = v$ . Now its solution can be obtained as in (v).

e.g. :  $2 \sin x \frac{dy}{dx} - y \cos x = xy^3 e^x.$

**Example # 21 :** Solve :  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x^3y^3 - xy$  (Bernoulli's equation)

**Solution :** Dividing both sides by  $y^3$

$$\frac{1}{y^3} \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{x}{y^2} = x^3$$

$$\text{Putting } t = 1/y^2 \Rightarrow -\frac{2}{y^3} \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dt}{dx} \Rightarrow \frac{dt}{dx} - 2xt = -2x^3$$

$$\text{I.F.} = e^{-\int 2x dx} = e^{-x^2}$$

General solution is

$$te^{-x^2} = \int -2x^3 e^{-x^2} dx + C \Rightarrow \frac{e^{-x^2}}{y^2} = -e^{-x^2} (-x^2 - 1) + C \Rightarrow \frac{1}{y^2} = (x^2 + 1) + C e^{x^2}$$

**Self Practice Problems :**

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

(20) Solve :  $(x + 2y^3) \frac{dy}{dx} = y$

(21) Solve :  $x \frac{dy}{dx} + y = y^2 \log x$

(22) Solve the differential equation  $xy^2 \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right) - 2y^3 = 2x^3$  given  $y = 1$  at  $x = 1$

**Ans.** (19)  $\left( \frac{x^2 + 1}{x} \right) y = x \ln x - x + c$  (20)  $x = y(c + y^2)$

(21)  $y(1 + cx + \log x) = 1$  (22)  $y^3 + 2x^3 = 3x^6$

**Higher Degree Equation :**

The differential equation  $y = mx + f(m)$  (where  $m = \frac{dy}{dx}$ ) .....(1),

is known as Clairaut's Equation.

To solve (1), differentiate it w.r.t.  $x$ , which gives  $\frac{dy}{dx} = m + x \frac{dm}{dx} + \frac{df(m)}{dm} \frac{dm}{dx}$

$$x \frac{dm}{dx} + \frac{df(m)}{dm} \frac{dm}{dx} = 0$$

either  $\frac{dm}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow m = c$  .....(2) or  $x + f'(m) = 0$  .....(3)

**NOTE :** (i) If  $m$  is eliminated between (1) and (2), the solution obtained is a general solution of (1)

(ii) If  $m$  is eliminated between (1) and (3), then solution obtained does not contain any arbitrary constant and is not particular solution of (1). This solution is called singular solution of (1).

**Example # 22 :** Solve :  $y = mx + m - m^3$  where,  $m = \frac{dy}{dx}$

**Solution :**  $y = mx + m - m^3$  ..... (i)

The given equation is in Clairaut's form.

Now, differentiating wrt.  $x$  -

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = m + x \frac{dm}{dx} + \frac{dm}{dx} - 3m^2 \frac{dm}{dx} \Rightarrow m = m + x \frac{dm}{dx} + \frac{dm}{dx} - 3m^2 \frac{dm}{dx}$$

$$\frac{dm}{dx} (x + 1 - 3m^2) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{dm}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow m = c \quad \dots (ii)$$

$$\text{or } x + 1 - 3m^2 = 0 \Rightarrow m^2 = \frac{x+1}{3} \quad \dots (iii)$$

Eliminating ' $m$ ' between (i) & (ii) is called the general solution of the given equation.

$y = cx + c - c^3$  where, ' $c$ ' is an arbitrary constant.

Again, eliminating ' $m$ ' between (i) & (iii) is called singular solution of the given equation.

$$y = m(x + 1 - m^2)$$

$$y = \pm \left( \frac{x+1}{3} \right)^{1/2} \left( x+1 - \frac{x+1}{3} \right) \Rightarrow y = \pm \left( \frac{x+1}{3} \right)^{1/2} \frac{2}{3} (x+1)$$

$$y = \pm 2 \left( \frac{x+1}{3} \right)^{3/2} \Rightarrow y^2 = \frac{4}{27} (x+1)^3 \Rightarrow 27y^2 = 4 (x+1)^3$$

**Self Practice Problems :**

(23) Solve the differential equation  $y = mx + 2/m$  where,  $m = \frac{dy}{dx}$

(24) Solve :  $\sin px \cos y = \cos px \sin y + p$  where  $p = \frac{dy}{dx}$

**Ans.** (23) General solution :  $y = cx + 2/c$  where  $c$  is an arbitrary constant

Singular solution :  $y^2 = 8x$

(24) General solution :  $y = cx - \sin^{-1}(c)$  where  $c$  is an arbitrary constant.

Singular solution :  $y = \sqrt{x^2 - 1} - \sin^{-1} \sqrt{\frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2}}$

**Example # 23 :** The normal to a given curve at each point  $(x,y)$  on the curve passes through the point  $(3,0)$ . If the curve contains, the point  $(3,4)$  find its equation.

**Solution :** Equation of normal at any point  $(x,y)$  is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} (Y - y) + (X - x) = 0$$

Passes through  $(3,0)$

$$\Rightarrow (3 - x) \frac{dy}{dx} - y = 0 \Rightarrow y dy = (3 - x) dx \Rightarrow \frac{y^2}{2} = 3x - \frac{x^2}{2} + C \quad \dots\dots\dots (i)$$

The curve contains the point  $(3,4)$

$$\Rightarrow 8 = 9 - \frac{9}{2} + C \Rightarrow C = 7/2$$

By equation (i)

$$\frac{y^2}{2} = 3x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{7}{2} \Rightarrow x^2 + y^2 - 6x - 7 = 0$$

**Example # 24 :** The slope of the tangent to a curve at any point  $(x,y)$  on it given by  $\frac{y}{x} - \cot \frac{y}{x} \cdot \cos \frac{y}{x}$ ,

$(x > 0, y > 0)$  and curve passes through the point  $(1, \pi/4)$ . Find the equation of the curve.

**Solution :** Let  $y = f(x)$  be the curve

given that  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x} - \cot \frac{y}{x} \cdot \cos \frac{y}{x}$  (homogeneous differential equation)

put  $y = vx$

$$\Rightarrow v + x \frac{dv}{dx} = v - \cot v \cdot \cos v \Rightarrow \tan v \cdot \sec v dv = \frac{-dx}{x}$$

Integrating both sides, we have

$$\Rightarrow \sec v = -\ln|x| + C \Rightarrow \sec \frac{y}{x} + \ln|x| = C$$

Passes through  $\left(1, \frac{\pi}{4}\right) \Rightarrow C = \sqrt{2}$

The curve is  $\Rightarrow \sec \frac{y}{x} + \ln|x| = \sqrt{2}$

**Example # 25 :** Assume that a spherical rain drop evaporates at a rate proportional to its surface area. if its radius originally is 3mm and 1 hr later has been reduced to 2mm, find an expression for radius of the rain drop at any time.

**Solution :** Let  $r$  be radius ,  $V$  be volume and  $S$  be surface area of rain drop at any time  $t$ .

$$\text{Then } V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3 \quad \text{and} \quad S = 4\pi r^2$$

$$\text{given } \frac{dV}{dt} \propto S \Rightarrow \frac{dV}{dt} = kS, \text{ k is constant of proportionality}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{4}{3} \cdot 3\pi r^2 \frac{dr}{dt} = k4\pi r^2 \Rightarrow \frac{dr}{dt} = k \Rightarrow dr = kdt$$

Integrating both sides we have  $r = kt + C$

$$\text{when } t = 0, r = 3 \Rightarrow C = 3$$

$$\text{when } t = 1 \text{ hr, } r = 2 \Rightarrow k = -1$$

Hence  $r = 3 - t$  **Ans.**

**Self Practice Problems :**

- (25) The decay rate of radium at any time  $t$  is proportional to its mass at that time. Find the time when the mass will be halved of its initial mass.

**Ans.** (25)  $k \log 2$  , where  $k$  is constant of proportionality