

# Chapter 03: first-order ordinary differential equations

I - Generalities: <sup>1/Definitions</sup> 1/Definition (1) Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n$  be an open and let  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  continuous function, we call ordinary differential equation (or simply ODE) of order  $n$ , where  $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ , any equation written as

$$f(x, y, y', y^{(2)}, \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0 \quad (E_n)$$

connecting the variable  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , the unknown function  $y$  of  $x$  and its derivatives  $y', y^{(2)}, \dots, y^{(n)}$ .

Here "n" represents the degree of the largest derivative of the function  $y$  in equation  $(E_n)$ .

## Remark:

1) If the function  $y$  has one variable  $x$ , then we are talking about ordinary differential equations (ODE).

2) If the function  $y$  has several variables  $x_i (x_i \in \mathbb{R})$ , then we are talking about partial differential equations (P.D.E).

In this chapter we will be interested in studying ordinary differential equations, that is, equations that have the form:

$$f(x, y, y', y^{(2)}, \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0,$$

where  $y(x)$  is the unknown function to be found.

Definition (2): The equation  $y' = f(x, y(x)) \quad (E_1)$  is called an ordinary differential equation of the first-order (or simply 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE). its solution  $y: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , with  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  is an open interval, satisfies the following two conditions:

a)  $y$  is differentiable over  $I$  for all  $x \in I$  and  $(x, y(x)) \in U \subset \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$

b)  $\forall x \in I: y'(x) = f(x, y(x))$ .

## Cauchy problem's (Definition (3)):

Let  $(x_0, y_0)$  be a point of  $U$ , the Cauchy problem consists of finding the solution  $y: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of the equation  $(E_1)$  that satisfies:

$$(E_1) \begin{cases} y' = f(x, y(x)) \\ y(x_0) = y_0, \forall x \in I. \end{cases}$$

Theorem: We say that the function  $y: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a solution of the Cauchy problem with the initial condition  $(x_0, y_0)$  if it's satisfied:

- 1)  $y$  is continuous on  $I$ ,  $\forall x \in I: (x, y(x)) \in U$ ;  $y$  is continuous on  $I$ .
- 2)  $\forall x \in I: y(x) = y_0 + \int_{x_0}^x f(s, y(s)) ds$ .

Proof:  $\Rightarrow$  Suppose that  $y$  is a solution of the Cauchy problem associated with the equation  $(E_1)$  and the initial condition  $(x_0, y_0)$  and we prove that  $y$  satisfies conditions ① and ② of the theorem.

from ① of definition ②, condition ① is a direct consequence (since  $y$  is diff  $\Rightarrow y$  is contin).  
from ② of definition ②, we have.

$\forall x \in I: y' = f(x, y(x))$ , which is equivalent to:

$$dy(x) = f(x, y(x)) dx \quad / \quad y' = \frac{dy(x)}{dx}$$

this implies

$$\int_{x_0}^x dy(x) = \int_{x_0}^x f(s, y(s)) ds$$

or equivalently:

$$y(x) - y(x_0) = \int_{x_0}^x f(s, y(s)) ds,$$

$y(x) = y(x_0) + \int_{x_0}^x f(s, y(s)) ds$ , which gives the desired result.

$\Leftarrow$  assume that  $y$  satisfies conditions ① and ② and we prove that  $y$  is a solution of the Cauchy problem associated with the equation  $(E_1)$  and the initial condition  $(x_0, y(x_0)) = (x_0, y_0)$ .

from ②, we have:  $y(x_0) = y_0 + \int_{x_0}^{x_0} f(s, y(s)) ds = y_0 \Rightarrow y(x_0) = y_0$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{also from ②, we have: } y'(x) &= y'_0 + \left( \int_{x_0}^x f(s, y(s)) ds \right)' \\ &= 0 + x' \cdot f(x, y(x)) - (x'_0) f(x_0, y(x_0)) \\ &= f(x, y(x)) \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $y'(x) = f(x, y(x))$ , Therefore  $y$  is a solution of the Cauchy problem with  $y' = f(x, y(x))$  and  $y(x_0) = y_0, \forall x \in I$ .

General solution and particular solution of 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE:

a) we call general solution of the 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE:  $y' = f(x, y(x))$ , any solution  $y$  of the form:  $y = \varphi(x, c)$ .

b) we call general solution of the 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE:  $f(x, y(x), y'(x)) = 0$ , any solution of the form:  $\varphi(x, y(x), c) = 0$ .

c) we call particular solution of the 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE:  $y' = f(x, y(x))$  or  $f(x, y(x), y'(x)) = 0$ , any solution that results from the general solution of the given diff equation when we set certain conditions for the 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE.

## II - Classification of 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE:

There are mainly three major classes of 1<sup>st</sup> order ODE are:

- 1) - Differential equations with separate variables.
- 2) - Homogeneous differential equations where its terms are the same degree.

3) - Differential linear equations where  $y$  and  $y'$  are the 1<sup>st</sup> degree.

These classes are the most useful, where they are constantly encountered in physics, mechanics, electricity, thermodynamics, biology, etc.

• We will also study some special classes <sup>(or types)</sup> such as differential equations which are transform to homogeneous differential equation or to that of linear differential equation (such as the Bernoulli and Riccati equations).

## III - Methods for solving 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE:

Remark There is no general method for solving 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE.

The solution to each equation depends on its type.

### III - 1. Differential equations with separate variables:

Let  $I$  and  $J$  be two intervals of  $\mathbb{R}$  ( $I, J \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ) and let  $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $g: J \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be two continuous functions. We call differential equation with separate variables any equation of the form:

$$y' = f(x) g(y) \dots (E_1)$$

## Method of solution:

- a) If  $g(y) = 0$ , then  $y = c$  is a singular (or obvious) solution of the eq (E<sub>1</sub>)  
b) If  $g(y) \neq 0$ , then:

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

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

by integrating, we get:

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

which implies:

$$G(y) = F(x) + C, \quad C \in \mathbb{R},$$

where  $G$  and  $F$  are the primitives (or anti-derivatives) of  $\frac{1}{g}$  and  $f$ , respectively.

Illustrative example: solve the following differential equation:

$$y' = 4x\sqrt{y-1} \dots (E_1).$$

(E<sub>1</sub>) is a 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE with separate variables.

method of solution: from (E<sub>1</sub>) we have:  $f(x) = 4x$  and  $g(y) = \sqrt{y-1}$

- a) If  $g(y) = 0$ , then  $\sqrt{y-1} = 0$  or equivalently  $y = 1$  is an obvious solution of (E<sub>1</sub>).

- b) If  $g(y) \neq 0$ , that is  $y \neq 1$ , then

$$y' = 4x\sqrt{y-1} \Leftrightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = 4x\sqrt{y-1}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dy}{\sqrt{y-1}} = 4x dx.$$

by integrating, we get:

$$\int \frac{dy}{\sqrt{y-1}} = \int 4x dx \Leftrightarrow 2 \int \frac{dy}{\sqrt{y-1}} = 2 \int 2x dx$$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2\sqrt{y-1} = 2x^2 + C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{y-1} = x^2 + C_1, \quad C_1 = \frac{C}{2}.$$

which implies:

$$y - 1 = (x^2 + C_1)^2, \text{ or equivalently } \boxed{y = 1 + (x^2 + C_1)^2, C_1 \in \mathbb{R}}$$

which is the general solution of equation  $(E_1)$ .

### III.1° Homogeneous differential equations

Definition: (Homogeneous function) we say that the function  $f$  is homogeneous of degree "n" with respect to the variables  $x$  and  $y$  if it satisfies the following relationship:

$$\forall u \in \mathbb{N}, \forall d \in \mathbb{R}: f(dx, dy) = d^n f(x, y)$$

Example:  $f(x, y) = x^2y^2 + y^4 + x^4$  is a homogeneous function of degree "4" since  $f(dx, dy) = d^2x^2d^2y^2 + d^4y^4 + d^4x^4 = d^4(x^2y^2 + y^4 + x^4) = d^4f(x, y)$

Definition: (Homogeneous equation) Let  $y' = f(x, y)$   $(E_H)$  be a differential equation of the 1<sup>st</sup>-order. we call that  $[y' = f(x, y) \dots] (E_H)$  is a homogeneous differential equation with respect to  $x$  and  $y$  if the function  $f(x, y)$  is homogeneous of the degree "0" with respect to  $x$  and  $y$ , that is,

$$\forall d \in \mathbb{R}: f(dx, dy) = d^0 f(x, y) = f(x, y).$$

Example:  $y' = \frac{y}{x} - 1$  is a homogeneous differential equation.

### Method of solution:

1- Solving using change of variable:  $y' = f(x, y) \dots (E_H)$ .

put:  $t = \frac{y}{x} \Rightarrow y = tx \Rightarrow y' = t'x + t \quad / \quad t' = \frac{dt}{dx}$ .

replacing the values of  $y$  and  $y'$  in  $(E_H)$ , we get:

$$t'x + t = f(1, t) \Leftrightarrow t'x = f(1, t) - t$$

$$\Leftrightarrow t' = \frac{f(1+t) - t}{x} = [f(1+t) - t] \times \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dt}{f(1+t) - t} = \frac{dx}{x}$$

which is a differential equation with separate variables.

Hence, by integrating, we obtain  $F(t) = \ln|x| + C, C \in \mathbb{R}$ , [when  $f(1, t) \neq t$ ]

where  $F$  is the anti-derivative (primitive) of the function  $\frac{1}{f(1, t) - t}$

$$F(t) = \ln|x| + C \Leftrightarrow |x| = e^{F(t)} \cdot e^{-C} \Leftrightarrow x = k e^{F(t)}, k = \pm e^{-C}$$

which equivalent to  $y = k e^{f(\frac{y}{x})}$ , which is the general solution of  $(E_H)$ .

Illustrative example:  $y' = \frac{y}{x} - 1$  ( $E_H$ ) is a homogeneous differential equation

[since  $f(x,y) = \frac{y}{x} - 1 \Rightarrow f(\lambda x, \lambda y) = \frac{\lambda y}{\lambda x} - 1 = \frac{y}{x} - 1 = f(x,y)$ ]

method of solution:

Put  $t = \frac{y}{x} \Rightarrow y = tx \Rightarrow y' = t'x + t$ ,  $t' = \frac{dt}{dx}$

replacing by the values of  $y$  and  $y'$  in  $(E_H)$ , we get:

$$t'x + t = \frac{tx}{x} - 1 \Leftrightarrow t'x + t = t - 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow t'x = -1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow t' = -\frac{1}{x}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dt}{dx} = -\frac{1}{x}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow dt = -\frac{dx}{x}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int dt = -\int \frac{dx}{x}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow t = -\ln|x| + C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{y}{x} = -\ln|x| + C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{y = x(-\ln|x| + C)} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{y = x\left(\ln\left|\frac{1}{x}\right| + C\right)}$$

which is the general solution of equation  $(E_H)$ .

2- solving using polar coordinates:

the homogeneous equation  $y' = f(\frac{y}{x})$  can be written as  $y' = f(\frac{y}{x})$  ( $E_H$ )

$$\text{put: } \begin{cases} x = r \cos \theta, & r > 0, \theta \in \mathbb{R} \\ y = r \sin \theta \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Hence } \begin{cases} dx = \cos \theta dr - r \sin \theta d\theta \\ dy = \sin \theta dr + r \cos \theta d\theta \end{cases}$$

Then  $y'$  can be written as:

$$y' = \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\sin \theta dr + r \cos \theta d\theta}{\cos \theta dr - r \sin \theta d\theta} = \frac{\cos \theta \left( \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} dr + r d\theta \right)}{\cos \theta \left( dr - r \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} d\theta \right)} = \frac{tg \theta dr + r d\theta}{dr - r tg \theta d\theta}$$

Replacing by the value of  $y'$  in  $(E_H)$ , we get:

$$\frac{tg\theta dr + r d\theta}{dr - r tg\theta d\theta} = f\left(\frac{r \sin\theta}{r \cos\theta}\right) = f(tg\theta)$$

which equivalent to:

$$tg\theta dr + r d\theta = f(tg\theta) [dr - r tg\theta d\theta]$$

which implies:

$$tg\theta dr + r d\theta = f(tg\theta) dr - r f(tg\theta) tg\theta d\theta$$

hence,

$$[tg\theta - f(tg\theta)] dr = -r [1 + f(tg\theta) tg\theta] d\theta$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dr}{r} = \frac{1 + f(tg\theta) tg\theta}{f(tg\theta) - tg\theta} d\theta \quad / \text{ where } f(tg\theta) \neq tg\theta \text{ (singular solution)}$$

which is a differential equation with separate variables with respect to  $r$  and  $\theta$ .

Example: solve the following 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE.

$$(x^2 + y^2)(x dx + y dy) - \frac{y}{x}(x dx - y dy) = 0 \dots (E'_H)$$

put  $\begin{cases} x = r \cos\theta \\ y = r \sin\theta \end{cases}$ ,  $r > 0$  and  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^?$

by derivating  $\begin{cases} dx = \cos\theta dr - r \sin\theta d\theta \\ dy = \sin\theta dr + r \cos\theta d\theta \end{cases}$

hence  $\begin{cases} x^2 + y^2 = r^2 \cos^2\theta + r^2 \sin^2\theta = r^2 \\ \frac{y}{x} = \frac{r \sin\theta}{r \cos\theta} = tg\theta \\ x dx + y dy = r \cos^2\theta dr + r \sin^2\theta dr = r dr \\ x dx - y dy = r^2 \cos^2\theta d\theta + r^2 \sin^2\theta d\theta = r^2 d\theta \end{cases}$

replacing by these values in  $(E'_H)$ , we get:

$$r^2(r dr) - r^2 tg\theta d\theta = 0 \Leftrightarrow r dr - tg\theta d\theta = 0 \quad | \quad r > 0$$

which a differential equation with separate variables with respect to  $r$  and  $\theta$

hence:  $\int r dr = \int tg\theta d\theta \Leftrightarrow \frac{r^2}{2} = -\ln|\cos\theta| + C \quad (1)$

we have:  $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$  and  $\cos^2\theta = \frac{x^2}{x^2 + y^2}$ , replacing in (1), we get:

$$\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2} = -\ln\left(\frac{x^2}{x^2 + y^2}\right) + C \Leftrightarrow \boxed{x^2 + y^2 = -2 \ln\left(\frac{x^2}{x^2 + y^2}\right) + 2C}$$

which is the general solution of equation  $(E'_H)$ .

### III-2) Differential equations that are reduced (transformed) to homogeneous:

any differential equation written as the form:  $y' = \frac{ax+by+c}{dx+ey+f} \quad (E_T)$

where  $a, b, c, d, e$  and  $f$  are real constants.

can be reduced (transformed) to homogeneous differential equation.

method of solution:

$$\text{we put } \begin{cases} x = u + s \\ y = v + t \end{cases} \Rightarrow y' = v'$$

$s$  and  $t$  are real constants that satisfy:

$$\begin{cases} as + bt + c = 0 \\ ds + et + f = 0 \end{cases}$$

replacing by the values of  $x, y$  and  $y'$  in  $(E_T)$ , we get the following homogeneous differential equation with respect to  $u$  and  $v$ .

$$v' = \frac{au + bv}{du + ev}$$

Example: solve the 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE:  $y' = \frac{x+2y+5}{2x+3y+1} \quad (E_T)$

$(E_T)$  is a 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE which can be reduced (transformed) to homogeneous differential equation.

method of solution:

$$\text{put } \begin{cases} x = u + s \\ y = v + t \end{cases} \Rightarrow y' = v'$$

where  $s$  and  $t$  are solutions of the following linear system:

$$\begin{cases} s + 2t + 5 = 0 \\ 2s + 3t + 1 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} s = 13 \\ t = -9 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = u + 13 \\ y = v - 9 \end{cases} \Rightarrow y' = v'$$

replacing by the values of  $x, y$  and  $y'$  in  $(E_T)$ , we obtain.

$$v' = \frac{u+2v}{2u+3v} \quad (E_H) \text{ which is a homogeneous differential equation}$$

$$\text{Let: } z = \frac{v}{u} \Rightarrow v = zu \Rightarrow v' = z'u + z$$

Replacing by the values of  $u$  and  $u'$  in  $(E_{1'})$ , we get:

$$z'u + z = \frac{u + 2zu}{2u + 3zu} \Leftrightarrow z'u + z = \frac{1 + 2z}{2 + 3z}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z'u = \frac{1 - 3z^2}{2 + 3z} \quad (1)$$

where (1) is a 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE with separate variables.

by integrating (1), we get:

$$\int \frac{2 + 3z}{1 - 3z^2} dz = \int \frac{du}{u} \quad | \quad z' = \frac{dz}{du}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int \frac{2}{1 - 3z^2} dz + \int \frac{3z}{1 - 3z^2} dz = \int \frac{du}{u}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \int \frac{-6z}{1 - 3z^2} dz + \int \frac{dz}{1 - \sqrt{3}z} + \int \frac{dz}{1 + \sqrt{3}z} = \int \frac{du}{u}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -\frac{1}{2} \ln|1 - 3z^2| + \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \ln|1 + \sqrt{3}z| - \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \ln|1 - \sqrt{3}z| = \ln|u| + C, \quad C \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ln \sqrt{|1 - 3z^2|} + \ln \left( \left| \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}z}{1 - \sqrt{3}z} \right| \right)^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}} = \ln|u| + C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ln \left( \sqrt{|1 - 3z^2|} \cdot \left( \left| \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}z}{1 - \sqrt{3}z} \right| \right)^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}} \right) = \ln|u| + C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{|1 - 3z^2|} \cdot \left( \left| \frac{1 + \sqrt{3}z}{1 - \sqrt{3}z} \right| \right)^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}} = |u| K \quad | \quad K = e^C \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \sqrt{\left| 1 - 3 \left( \frac{y+9}{x-13} \right)^2 \right|} \cdot \left( \left| \frac{1 + \sqrt{3} \left( \frac{y+9}{x-13} \right)}{1 - \sqrt{3} \left( \frac{y+9}{x-13} \right)} \right| \right)^{\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}} = K |x - 13|$$

which is the general solution of equation  $(E_T)$

### III-3 - linear differential equations:

A differential equation is called linear if it's linear with respect to  $y$  and its derivative  $y'$ , that is, it is written in the form:

$$y' + p(x)y = q(x) \quad \text{---} (E_L)$$

where:  $p, q: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are two continuous functions on  $I$ . ( $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ )

methode of solution: to solve linear differential equations, we follow the following steps:

Step 1: (solution without second member): in this case we solve ( $E_L$ )

with  $q(x) = 0$ , that is,

$$y' + p(x)y = 0 \Leftrightarrow y' = -p(x)y$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dy}{y} = -p(x) dx.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int \frac{dy}{y} = - \int p(x) dx.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ln|y| = - \int p(x) dx + C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |y| = e^C e^{-\int p(x) dx}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y = \pm e^C e^{-\int p(x) dx}.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{y = k e^{-\int p(x) dx} \quad / \quad k = \pm e^C} \quad (*)$$

which is the solution of ( $E_L$ ) without second member (i.e. with  $q(x) = 0$ )

Step 2: (solution with second member) called Method of Lagrange:

in this case we put:  $y(x) = k(x) e^{-\int p(x) dx}$ , hence

$$y' = k'(x) e^{-\int p(x) dx} - p(x) k(x) e^{-\int p(x) dx}.$$

Replacing  $y$  and  $y'$  in ( $E_L$ ), we get:

$$k'(x) e^{-\int p(x) dx} - p(x) k(x) e^{-\int p(x) dx} + k(x) p(x) e^{-\int p(x) dx} = q(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow k'(x) e^{-\int p(x) dx} = q(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow k'(x) = q(x) e^{\int p(x) dx}.$$

which is a differential equation with separate variables. Integrating:

$$k(x) = \int q(x) e^{\int p(x) dx} + C_1$$

Now, replacing the value of  $k(x)$  in (\*), we get the general solution of the equation ( $E_L$ ), which is

$$y(x) = \left( \int q(x) e^{\int p(x) dx} + C_1 \right) e^{-\int p(x) dx}.$$

Example: solve the linear differential equation:  $y' = y + x$   $(E_L)$

Solution:  $(E_L)$  is a linear 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE which can be written as:

$$y' - y = x \quad (E'_L)$$

step 1: (solution without second member).

$$y' - y = 0 \Leftrightarrow y' = y$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = y$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dy}{y} = dx$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int \frac{dy}{y} = \int dx$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ln|y| = x + C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |y| = e^C e^x$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y = \pm e^C e^x$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |y = K e^x \quad / \quad K = \pm e^C \quad \text{--- (*)}$$

step 2: (Method of Lagrange)

$$\text{we put: } y = K(x) e^x \Rightarrow y' = K'(x) e^x + K(x) e^x$$

replacing by the values of  $y$  and  $y'$  in  $(E'_L)$ , we get:

$$K'(x) e^x + \underbrace{K(x) e^x} - \underbrace{K(x) e^x} = x.$$

$$\Rightarrow K'(x) e^x = x$$

$$\Rightarrow K'(x) = x e^{-x}. \quad (\text{which is a differential equation with separate variables})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{K(x) = \int x e^{-x} dx = -(x+1) e^{-x} + C_1}$$

replacing  $K(x)$  in  $(*)$ , we get:

$$y(x) = (-(x+1) e^{-x} + C_1) e^x = \boxed{-(x+1) + C_1 e^x}$$

which is the general solution of equation  $(E'_L)$ .

III-4: Bernoulli's equations: (Differential equation reduced to linear):

Any differential equation of the form:

$$y' + p(x) y = y^n q(x), \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{R}_+ \quad (E_B)$$

is called differential equation of Bernoulli, with  $p, q: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous

## Method of solution:

- If  $n=0$ , then  $(E_B)$  is linear differential equation.
- If  $n=1$ , then  $(E_B)$  is differential equation with separate variables.
- If  $n \notin \{0,1\}$ , then  $(E_B)$  is solved as follows:

step 1: we divide both sides of the equation  $(E_B)$  by  $y^n$ , we get

$$y^{-n} y' + y^{1-n} p(x) = q(x) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

step 2: we put  $z = y^{1-n} \Rightarrow z' = (1-n)y^{-n} y'$

Replacing by the values of  $y^{1-n}$  and  $y^{-n} y'$  in (1), we obtain

$$\frac{z'}{1-n} + p(x) z = q(x) \Leftrightarrow z' + (1-n)p(x) z = (1-n) q(x) \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

where (2) is a linear differential equation. (we can solve it easily).

Example: solve the equation:  $y' + ny = x^3 y^3 \quad \text{--- (E}_B)$

$(E_B)$  is a Bernoulli's equation.

## Method of solution:

we divide both sides of  $(E_B)$  by  $y^3$ , we get

$$y' y^{-3} + n y^{-2} = x^3 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Now, we put  $z = y^{-2} \Rightarrow z' = -2 y^{-3} y' \Rightarrow y^{-3} y' = \frac{z'}{-2}$

hence, replacing by the values of  $y^{-2}$  and  $y^{-3} y'$  in (1), we obtain

$$\frac{z'}{-2} + x z = x^3 \Leftrightarrow z' - 2x z = -2x^3 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

which is a linear equation.

firstly, we solve (2) without second member, that is,

$$z' - 2x z = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{z'}{z} = 2x$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dz}{z} = 2x dx$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int \frac{dz}{z} = \int 2x dx$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ln|z| = x^2 + C$$

$$\Leftrightarrow |z| = e^C e^{x^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z = k e^{x^2} \quad | \quad k = \pm e^C$$

Secondly, we solve (2) with second member (here we use the Lagrange method)

we assume that  $z(x) = K(x) e^{x^2}$ , then  $z'(x) = K'(x) e^{x^2} + 2xK(x) e^{x^2}$

replacing by the values of  $z$  and  $z'$  in (2), we get

$$K'(x) e^{x^2} + 2xK(x) e^{x^2} - 2xK(x) e^{x^2} = -2x^3$$

$$\Rightarrow K'(x) e^{x^2} = -2x^3$$

$$\Rightarrow K'(x) = -2x^3 e^{-x^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow K(x) = \int -2x^3 e^{-x^2} dx$$

we integrate by part:

$$\begin{cases} u = x^2 \\ v' = -2x e^{-x^2} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} u' = 2x \\ v = e^{-x^2} \end{cases}$$

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

$$\Rightarrow K(x) = x^2 e^{-x^2} + e^{-x^2} + C_1 \quad (**)$$

Replacing (\*\*) in (\*), we get

$$z(x) = (x^2 e^{-x^2} + e^{-x^2} + C_1) e^{x^2}$$

which is the general solution of linear equation (2).

$$\text{but, we have } z = y^{-2} = \frac{1}{y^2} \Rightarrow y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{z}}$$

Therefore, the general solution of Bernoulli's equation ( $E_B$ ) is given as:

$$y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{z}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1 + C_1 e^{x^2}}}$$

### III-5. Riccati's equation:

Any differential equation of the form

$$y' + p(x)y + q(x)y^2 = f(x) \quad -- (E_R)$$

where,  $p, q, f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are continuous on  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

is called differential equation of Riccati.

## Method of solution

- If  $q(x) = 0$ , then  $(E_R)$  is a linear differential equation.
- If  $f(x) = 0$ , then  $(E_R)$  is a Bernoulli equation for  $n=2$ .
- If  $f(x) \neq 0 \wedge q(x) \neq 0$  and let  $y_p$  is a particular solution of  $(E_R)$  (given) then  $(E_R)$  can be transformed (reduced) to

- a) Bernoulli's equation when we put  $y = y_p + z \Rightarrow y' = y_p' + z'$
- b) linear equation when we put  $y = y_p + \frac{1}{z}, z \neq 0 \Rightarrow y' = y_p' - \frac{z'}{z^2}$

### a) Bernoulli's equation:

Let  $y = y_p + z$ , where  $y_p$  is a given particular solution, then

$y' = y_p' + z'$ , hence  $(E_R)$  becomes:

$$y_p' + z' + p(x)(y_p + z) + q(x)(y_p + z)^2 = f(x)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \underline{y_p' + p(x)y_p + q(x)y_p^2} + z' + p(x)z + 2q(x)y_p z + q(x)z^2 = f(x)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z' + p(x)z + 2q(x)y_p z + q(x)z^2 = 0 \quad (\text{since } y_p \text{ satisfies } (E_R), \text{ i.e.,}$$

$$y_p' + p(x)y_p + q(x)y_p^2 = f(x))$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z' + (p(x) + 2q(x)y_p)z + q(x)z^2 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{z' + (p(x) + 2q(x)y_p)z = -q(x)z^2}$$

which is a Bernoulli's equation (we can solve it easily).

Example: solve the following ODE:  $(1-x^3)y' + x^2y + y^2 = 2x$  ---  $(E_R)$   
with  $y_p = x^2$

$(E_R)$  is a Riccati's equation

$y_p$  is a particular solution, then it satisfies:  $(1-x^3)y_p' + x^2y_p + y_p^2 = 2x$  ---  $(E)$

to reduce  $(E_R)$  to an equation of Bernoulli, we put  $y = y_p + z \Rightarrow y' = y_p' + z'$

replacing by  $y$  and  $y'$  in  $(E_R)$ , we obtain:

$$(1-x^3)(y_p' + z') + x^2(y_p + z) + (y_p + z)^2 = 2x$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \underline{(1-x^3)y_p' + x^2y_p + y_p^2} + (1-x^3)z' + x^2z + 2y_p z + z^2 = \underline{2x}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1-x^3)z' + (x^2 + 2y_p)z + z^2 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1-x^3)z' + (x^2 + 2x^2)z = -z^2$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (1-x^3)z' + 3x^2z = -z^2 \quad \text{--- } (E_B)$$

which is a Bernoulli's equation for  $n=2$ .

step 1: we divide both sides of  $(E_B)$  by  $z^2$ , we get

$$(1-x^3) z' z^{-2} + 3x^2 z^{-1} = -1 \quad (2)$$

step 2: we put  $t = z^{-1} \Rightarrow t' = -z' z^{-2} \Rightarrow z' z^{-2} = -t'$

replacing by  $z^{-1}$  and  $z' z^{-2}$  in (2), we get

$$(x^3-1)t' + 3x^2 t = -1$$

which is equivalent to

$$t' + \frac{3x^2}{x^3-1} t = -1 \quad (E_L)$$

where  $(E_L)$  is a linear differential equation.

step 3: we solve  $(E_L)$  without second member, we get

$$t' + \frac{3x^2}{x^3-1} t = 0 \Rightarrow t' = -\frac{3x^2}{1-x^3} t$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{t'}{t} = -\frac{3x^2}{1-x^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dt}{t} = -\frac{3x^2}{1-x^3} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \frac{dt}{t} = -\int \frac{3x^2}{1-x^3} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln|t| = -\ln|1-x^3| + C$$

$$\Rightarrow |t| = \frac{e^C}{1-x^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow t = \frac{k}{1-x^3}, \quad k = \pm e^C \quad (*)$$

step 4: we solve  $(E_L)$  with its second member (Method of Lagrange)

$$\text{Let } t = \frac{K(x)}{1-x^3} \Rightarrow t' = \frac{K'(x)(1-x^3) + 3x^2 K(x)}{(1-x^3)^2}$$

hence  $(E_L)$  becomes

$$\frac{K'(x)}{1-x^3} + \frac{3x^2 K(x)}{(1-x^3)^2} + \frac{3x^2}{x^3-1} \frac{K(x)}{1-x^3} = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow K'(x) = x^3 - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow K(x) = \int (x^3 - 1) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow K(x) = \frac{x^4}{4} - x + C_1, \quad C_1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

Thus, (\*) becomes:

$$t(u) = \left[ \frac{x^4}{4} - u + C_1 \right] \left[ \frac{1}{1-x^3} \right], \quad C_1 \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{general solution of } (E_L))$$

$$\text{but } t = \frac{1}{z} \quad (\text{step 2}) \Rightarrow z = \frac{1}{t}$$

$$\Rightarrow z = \frac{1-x^3}{\frac{x^4}{4} - u + C_1}$$

Hence, the general solution of  $(E_R)$  is

$$y = y_p + z = x^2 + \frac{1-x^3}{\frac{x^4}{4} - u + C_1}, \quad C_1 \in \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{step 1})$$

### (b) Linear equation:

Let  $y = y_p + \frac{1}{z}$ , where  $y_p$  is a given particular solution of  $(E_R)$ .

then  $y' = y_p' - \frac{z'}{z^2}$ , hence  $(E_R)$  becomes

$$y_p' - \frac{z'}{z^2} + p(u) \left( y_p + \frac{1}{z} \right) + q(u) \left( y_p + \frac{1}{z} \right)^2 = f(u)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y_p' + p(u) y_p + q(u) y_p^2 + \left( -\frac{z'}{z^2} + p(u) \frac{1}{z} + 2 \frac{y_p}{z} q(u) + \frac{q(u)}{z^2} \right) = f(u)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -\frac{z'}{z^2} + \frac{1}{z} (p(u) + 2y_p q(u)) + \frac{q(u)}{z^2} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z' - (p(u) + 2y_p q(u)) z - q(u) = 0 \quad (\text{multiplying by } -z^2)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z' - (p(u) + 2y_p q(u)) z = q(u) \quad (E_L)$$

which is a linear equation.

Example: solve:  $\begin{cases} 2x^2 y' = (x-1)(y^2 - x^2) + 2xy & (E_R) \\ y_p = x \end{cases}$

$(E_R)$  is a Riccati equation.

It is worth noting that  $y_p = x$  is a particular solution of  $(E_R)$ , hence

$$\text{it satisfies: } 2x^2 y_p' = (x-1)(y_p^2 - x^2) + 2xy_p \quad (*)$$

### Method of solution:

step 1) Let  $y = y_p + \frac{1}{z} = x + \frac{1}{z} \Rightarrow y' = 1 - \frac{z'}{z^2} = y_p' - \frac{z'}{z^2}$

replacing  $y$  and  $y'$  in  $(E_R)$ , we get:

$$2x^2 \left( y_p' - \frac{z'}{z^2} \right) = (x-1) \left( \left( y_p + \frac{1}{z} \right)^2 - x^2 \right) + 2x \left( y_p + \frac{1}{z} \right)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \underline{2x^2 y_p'} - 2x^2 \frac{z'}{z^2} = \underline{(x-1)(y_p^2 - x^2)} + (x-1) \left( \frac{2y_p}{z} + \frac{1}{z^2} \right) + \underline{2xy_p} + \frac{2x}{z}$$

from (\*)

$$\Leftrightarrow -2x^2 \frac{z'}{z^2} = (x-1) \left( \frac{2y_p}{z} + \frac{1}{z^2} \right) + \frac{2x}{z}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -2x^2 z' = (x-1)(2y_p z + 1) + 2xz \quad \left[ \text{multiplying by } z^2 \right]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -2x^2 z' = (x-1)(2xz + 1) + 2xz$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -2x^2 z' = 2xz(x-1+1) + x-1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow -2x^2 z' = 2x^2 z + x-1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z' = -z + \frac{1-x}{2x^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z' + z = \frac{1-x}{2x^2} \quad \text{--- } (E_2)$$

which is a linear equation with respect to  $z$  and  $x$ .

step 2: (solution without second member)

$$z' + z = 0 \Leftrightarrow z' = -z$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{z'}{z} = -1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dz}{z} = -dx$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int \frac{dz}{z} = -\int dx$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ln|z| = -x + C, \quad C \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{z = k e^{-x}, \quad k = \pm e^C} \quad \text{--- } (1)$$

step 3: (Method of Lagrange) (solution with second member)

$$z = k(u) e^{-x} \Rightarrow z' = k'(u) e^{-x} - k(u) e^{-x}$$

hence  $(E_2)$  becomes

$$k'(u) e^{-x} - k(u) e^{-x} + k(u) e^{-x} = \frac{1-x}{2x^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow k'(u) e^{-x} = \frac{1-x}{2x^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow k'(u) = \frac{1}{2x^2} e^x - \frac{1}{2x} e^x$$

$$\Leftrightarrow k(u) = \left[ \int \frac{e^x}{x^2} dx - \int \frac{e^x}{x} dx \right]$$

we integrate  $\frac{e^x}{n}$  by part

$$u = \frac{1}{n} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} u' = -\frac{du}{n^2} \\ v' = e^x du \Rightarrow v = e^x \end{cases}$$

hence

$$\int \frac{e^x}{n} du = \frac{e^x}{n} + \int \frac{e^x}{n^2} du + C_1$$

Thus  $K(u)$  becomes

$$K(u) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \int \frac{e^x}{n^2} du - \frac{e^x}{n} - \int \frac{e^x}{n^2} du \right] + C_1, \quad C_1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Rightarrow K(u) = \frac{-e^x}{2n} + C_1, \quad C_1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{Then from (1), } z = e^x \left( \frac{-e^x}{2n} + C_1 \right) \Rightarrow z = e^x C_1 - \frac{1}{2n}, \quad C_1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

which is the general solution of  $(E_L)$ .

$$\text{Therefore: } y = y_p + \frac{1}{z} = x + \frac{1}{z} = x + \frac{1}{e^x C_1 - \frac{1}{2n}}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = x + \frac{2n}{2ne^x C_1 - 1}, \quad C_1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

is the general solution of  $(E_R)$ .