

Solution of 1st-order separable ODE (More formally)

We consider the separable ODE

$$\boxed{\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)g(y)} \quad (2)$$

and an interval $y \in (A, B)$ in the domain of $g(y)$ such that
 $g(y) \neq 0$

In this domain the ODE (2) has implicit solutions

$$\boxed{H(y) = F(x) + C}$$

where $H(y) = \int \frac{1}{g(y)} dy$ & $F(x) = \int f(x) dx$

Proof $H(y) = \int \frac{1}{g(y)} dy \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dy} H(y) = \frac{1}{g(y)}$

We want to show that $H(y(x))$ is the antiderivative of f .

$$F'(x) = C' + F'(x) = \int f(x) dx \quad \frac{d}{dx} F(x) = f(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} F'(x) = f(x)$$

$$\text{If } \boxed{H(y(x)) = F(x) + C} = F'(x)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{dH(y(x))}{dx} = f(x) \quad (*)$$

Let us consider $\frac{d}{dx} H(y(x)) = \frac{d}{dy} H(y) \cdot \frac{dy}{dx}$

But $\frac{d}{dy} H(y) = \frac{1}{g(y)}$ $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)g(y)$

$$\frac{d}{dx} H(y(x)) = \frac{1}{\cancel{g(y)}} f(x) \cancel{g(y)} = f(x)$$

$$\boxed{H(y(x)) = F(x) + C}$$

Implicit solution
□

If $H(y)=u$ admits several explicit expressions for its inverse functions then we need to consider all

inverse functions

$$y = H^{-1}(u)$$

$$\boxed{y = H^{-1}(F(x) + C)}$$

Explicit solution

Example

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

$$f(x) = x$$

$$g(y) = \frac{1}{y}$$

$$H(y) = F(x) + C \quad \text{where}$$

$$H(y) = \int \frac{dy}{g(y)} = \int \frac{1}{\frac{1}{y}} dy = \int y dy = \frac{1}{2} y^2$$

$$F(x) = \int x dx = \int f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2} x^2$$

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

Implicit solution

~~$y \in H(x)$~~ $u = H(y)$

$$u = \frac{1}{2} y^2$$

$$2u = y^2$$

$$y = \pm \sqrt{2u}$$

$$y = \begin{cases} \sqrt{2u} \\ -\sqrt{2u} \end{cases}$$

$$y = \begin{cases} \sqrt{2 \left(\frac{1}{2} x^2 + C \right)} \\ -\sqrt{2 \left(\frac{1}{2} x^2 + C \right)} \end{cases}$$

$$y = \begin{cases} \sqrt{x^2 + 2C} \\ -\sqrt{x^2 + 2C} \end{cases}$$

Explicit solution

□

Reducible to separable 1st-order ODE

We consider the ODE of the type

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(ax + by + c)$$

where $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ are constant parameters.

These equations are NOT separable

but they are REDUCIBLE TO SEPARABLE

Solution of reducible to separable ODEs.

Step 1 Introduce the variable z

$$z = ax + by + c$$

$$f(z) = f(ax + by + c) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = f(z)$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{z - ax - c}{b}$$

Step 2 Observe that the ODE for $z(x)$ is separable

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}(ax + by + c) = a + b \frac{dy}{dx} = a + bf(z)$$

$$\boxed{\frac{dz}{dx} = a + bf(z)}$$

is separable.

**

Step 3 Solve (**1) by separation of variables. $z(x)$

Step 4 Set $y(x) = \frac{z(x) - ax - c}{b}$ \square

Example $y' = e^{-(3x+y)} - 3$

Is reducible to separable $y' = f(ax + by + c)$

$$\begin{array}{l} a=3 \\ b=1 \\ c=0 \end{array}$$

Step 1 $z = ax + by + c$ $z = 3x + y$

$$\Rightarrow y = z - 3x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y' = e^{-z} - 3 = f(z)$$

Step 2 $\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}(3x + y) = 3 + \frac{dy}{dx} = \cancel{3} + (e^{-z} - \cancel{3})$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = e^{-z}$$

separable ODE.

Step 3 Solve for $z = z(x)$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = e^{-z} \Rightarrow \int \frac{dz}{e^{-z}} = \int dx + C$$

$$\text{LHS: } H(z) = \int e^z dz = e^z$$

$$\text{RHS: } F(x) = \int dx = x$$

Implicit solution for $z(x)$

$$H(z) = F(x) + C'$$

$$e^z = x + C'$$

with C' arbitrary constant.

$$u = H(z) = e^z$$

$$z = \ln u$$

$$z = \ln(x + C')$$

Explicit solution

for $x + C' > 0$

Step 4

$$y = z - 3x$$

$$y = \ln(x + C') - 3x \quad \text{for } x + C' > 0$$