

## Exact 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE

Exact 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODEs are ODEs of the type

$$P(x,y) + Q(x,y) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \quad (1)$$

which admits an *implicit solution*

$$F(x, y(x)) = C \quad (2)$$

where  $C \in \mathbb{R}$  is an arbitrary constant.

We apply the chain rule to Eq (2) we get

$$\frac{d}{dx} F(x, y(x)) = \underbrace{\frac{\partial F(x,y)}{\partial x}}_{P(x,y)} + \underbrace{\frac{\partial F(x,y)}{\partial y}}_{Q(x,y)} \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

which reduces to Eq. (1) if and only if

$$P(x,y) = \frac{\partial F(x,y)}{\partial x} \quad \& \quad Q(x,y) = \frac{\partial F(x,y)}{\partial y}$$

If  $F$  is twice differentiable.

$$\frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial y \partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Q(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \boxed{\frac{\partial F}{\partial x}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} P(x,y)$$

"P(x,y)"

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial}{\partial x} Q(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} P(x,y)} \quad (3)$$

must hold

It follows that Eq. (3) is the condition ensuring that Eq. (1) is exact

Example Check whether the following ODE is exact

$$(3x^2 + y) = (3y^2 - x) \frac{dy}{dx} \quad (*)$$

① We put Eq\* in the form  $P(x,y) + Q(x,y) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$

$$\underbrace{(3x^2 + y)}_{P(x,y)} + \underbrace{(3y^2 - x)}_{Q(x,y)} \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

$$P(x,y) = 3x^2 + y$$

$$Q(x,y) = -3y^2 + x$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} Q(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} P(x,y)$$

$$1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} P(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Q(x,y)$$

$$\text{LHS: } \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Q(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (-3y^2 + x) = 1$$

$$\text{RHS: } \frac{\partial}{\partial y} P(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (3x^2 + y) = 1$$

The ODE  
is EXACT!!

## Solution of an exact ODE.

An exact 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE is an ODE of the type

$$P(x,y) + Q(x,y) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \quad (1)$$

which has implicit solution  $F(x,y) = C$  where

$$P(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} F(x,y)$$

$$\& \quad Q(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} F(x,y)$$

We need to find the expression of F

In order to find  $F(x,y)$  we integrate

$$P(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} F(x,y)$$

finding

$$F(x,y) = \int P(x,y) dx + g(y) \quad (4)$$

where  $g(y)$  is an arbitrary function of  $y$ .

To determine  $g(y)$  we use.

$$Q(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} F(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left[ \int P(x,y) dx + g(y) \right]$$

$$Q(x,y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \int P(x,y) dx + g'(y)$$

It follows that  $g(y)$  satisfies the ODE

$$g'(y) = Q(x, y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \int P(x, y) dx \quad (5)$$

Equation for  $g(y)$

We can obtain  $g(y)$  by integration of (5)

The solution to Eq (1) is given by

$$F(x, y) = \int P(x, y) dx + g(y) + C'$$

where  $g(y)$  is the solution to Eq. (5)

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Example

Solve

$$\underbrace{(3x^2 + y)}_{P(x, y)} - \underbrace{(3y^2 - x)}_{Q(x, y)} \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

(1) Identify  $P(x, y) = 3x^2 + y$   
 $Q(x, y) = -3y^2 + x$

(2)  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} F(x, y) = P(x, y)$

~~P(x, y)~~  $F(x, y) = \int P(x, y) dx + g(y)$

$$F(x, y) = \int (3x^2 + y) dx + g(y) = x^3 + yx + g(y)$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y} F(x, y) = Q(x, y)$$

$$Q(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} F(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [x^3 + yx + g(y)] = x + g'(y)$$

$$Q(x, y) = -3y^2 + x$$

$$-3y^2 + \cancel{x} = \cancel{x} + g'(y) \quad g'(y) = -3y^2$$

$$g(y) = \int -3y^2 dy + C_1 = -y^3 + C_1$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad F(x, y) = C \quad \text{implicit solution}$$

$$F(x, y) = x^3 + yx - y^3 + C_1 = C$$

$$x^3 + yx - y^3 = \underbrace{C - C_1}_{= D}$$

where  $D \in \mathbb{R}$  is an arbitrary constant

$$\boxed{x^3 + yx - y^3 = D} \quad \text{Implicit solution}$$

## Summary of week 1 & 2

We discussed are 6 types of 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODEs.

①  $y' = f(x)$  calculus

②  $y' = f(x)g(y)$  separable.

Reducible  
to  
separable

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} y' = f(ax + by + c) \quad \text{③} \\ y' = f(y/x) \quad \text{scale-invariant} \quad \text{④} \end{array} \right.$$

⑤ Linear ODEs

$$y' = A(x)y + B(x)$$

a)  $B(x) = 0$  homogeneous

$$y' = A(x)y \quad \text{separable}$$

b)  $B(x) \neq 0$  inhomogeneous

Variation of parameter method.

⑥ Exact ODEs (can be non-linear)

$$P(x, y) + Q(x, y) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

Exact if

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} P(x, y) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Q(x, y)$$