Math 374 Notes

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1 Review of Linear Differential Equations

1.1 Formulas to Know

Standard Form:

$$y' + P(x)y = f(x)$$

Integrating Factor:

$$\mu(x) = e^{\int P(x) \, dx}$$

1.2 Find the solution to $x\frac{dy}{dx} - 4y = x^6 e^x$ Step 1: Convert to standard form by dividing across x

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - \left(\frac{4}{x}\right)y = x^5e^x$$

Step 2: Find integrating factor

$$\mu(x) = e^{\int -\frac{4}{x} dx}$$
$$\mu(x) = e^{-4\ln|x|} = \left(e^{\ln|x|}\right)^{-4} = |x|^{-4}$$
$$\mu(x) = x^{-4}$$

Step 3: Multiply DE by integrating factor $\mu(x) = x^{-4}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx}\left(\frac{1}{x^4}\right) - \left(\frac{4}{x^5}\right)y = xe^x$$

Step 4: "Undo" product rule and integrate both sides of the equation with respect to x

$$\left[\left(\frac{1}{x^4} \right) y \right]' = xe^x$$
$$\int \left[\left(\frac{1}{x^4} \right) y \right]' dx = \int xe^x dx$$

Use integration by parts to integrate $\int xe^x dx$

$$u = x, \ du = dx, \ dv = e^x \ dx, \ v = e^x$$
$$\int xe^x \ dx = xe^x - \int e^x \ dx = xe^x - e^x + C$$

The integrated equation becomes

$$x^{-4}y = xe^{x} - e^{x} + C$$
$$y = x^{5}e^{x} - x^{4}e^{e} + Cx^{4}$$

1.3 Find the solution to $\frac{dy}{dx} - y \tan(x) = \sin(x)$ given the initial condition y(0) = 1

Step 1: Find integrating factor

$$\mu(x) = e^{-\int \tan(x) \, dx}$$
$$\mu(x) = e^{-(-\ln|\cos(x)|)} = |\cos(x)|$$
$$\mu(x) = \cos(x)$$

Step 2: Multiply DE by integrating factor $\mu(x) = \cos(x)$ and simplify

$$\cos(x)\frac{dy}{dx} - y\tan(x)\cos(x) = \sin(x)\cos(x)$$
$$\cos(x)\frac{dy}{dx} - y\sin(x) = \sin(x)\cos(x)$$

Step 3: "Undo" product rule and integrate both sides of the equation with respect to x

$$[\cos(x)y]' = \sin(x)\cos(x)$$
$$\int [\cos(x)y]' \, dx = \int \sin(x)\cos(x) \, dx$$

Use u-substitution to integrate $\int \sin(x) \cos(x) dx$

$$u = \sin(x), \ du = \cos(x) \, dx$$
$$\int \sin(x) \cos(x) \, dx = \int u \, du = \frac{1}{2}u^2 + C = \frac{1}{2}\sin^2(x) + C$$

The integrated equation becomes

$$\cos(x)y = \frac{1}{2}\sin^2(x) + C$$

$$y = \frac{\sin^2(x)}{2\cos(x)} + \frac{C}{\cos(x)}$$
$$y = \frac{1}{2}\sin(x)\tan(x) + C\sec(x)$$

Step 4: Use initial condition y(0) = 1 to solve for C

$$1 = \frac{1}{2}\sin(0)\tan(0) + C\sec(0)$$
$$1 = (0) + (1)C \to C = 1$$
$$y = \frac{1}{2}\sin(x)\tan(x) + \sec(x)$$

2 Introduction of Exact Differential Equations

2.1 Background Information

For a surface z = F(x, y), the level curves of the surface are solutions to C = F(x, y) for some C.

The Total Differential of F(x, y) is

$$dz = \frac{\delta F}{\delta x} \, dx + \frac{\delta F}{\delta y} \, dy$$

A differential M(x, y) dx + N(x, y) dy is *exact* if there exists a function F(x, y) such that

$$M(x,y) = \frac{\delta F}{\delta x}$$
 and $N(x,y) = \frac{\delta F}{\delta y}$

A vector field $\langle M(x,y), N(x,y) \rangle$ is conservative if the differential is exact and if

$$\frac{\delta M}{\delta y} = \frac{\delta N}{\delta x}$$

If a differential is exact, work backward to solve for F(x, y)

2.2 Verify that (2x + y) dx + (2y + x) dy is exact and find F(x, y)

Step 1: Find $\frac{\delta M}{\delta y} and \frac{\delta N}{\delta x}$ to check if the differential is exact

$$M(x, y) = 2x + y, \quad \frac{\delta M}{\delta y} = 1$$
$$N(x, y) = 2y + x, \quad \frac{\delta N}{\delta x} = 1,$$
$$\frac{\delta M}{\delta y} = \frac{\delta N}{\delta x} = 1,$$

so the differential is exact.

Step 2: Integrate N(x,y) to get an expression for F(x,y) that has the constant in terms of x

$$\int N(x,y) \, dy = \int (2y+x) \, dy$$
$$F(x,y) = y^2 + xy + C(x)$$

Step 3: Differentiate F(x, y) with respect to x. Set the resulting expression equal to M(x, y) to solve for C'(x)

$$M(x, y) = \frac{\delta F}{\delta x} = 0 + y + C'(x)$$
$$2x + y = y + C'(x)$$
$$C'(x) = 2x$$

Step 4: Integrate C'(x) with respect to x to find C(x)

$$\int C'(x) \, dx = \int 2x \, dx$$
$$C(x) = x^2 + C$$

Step 5: Substitute C(x) into the expression for F(x, y) that has the constant in terms of x

$$F(x, y) = y^{2} + xy + C(x)$$

 $F(x, y) = y^{2} + xy + x^{2} + C$