

## 2.2 Separable Equations

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\* Recall the general 1<sup>st</sup> order DE:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$

$\Rightarrow$  This equation can be written as  $M(x, y) + N(x, y) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$

$\Rightarrow$  If  $M$  is a function of  $x$  and  $N$  is a function of  $y$   
i.e.  $M(x) dx + N(y) dy = 0$ , then the equation  
is called separable.

Example: Solve the following D.E

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

$$(1-y^2) dy = x^2 dx$$

$$y - \frac{y^3}{3} = \frac{x^3}{3} + C \Rightarrow y^3 - 3y = -x^3 + C$$

"implicit solution"

Example: Solve the IVP:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3x^2 + 4x + 2}{2(y-1)}, \quad y(0) = -1$$

separating variables

$$2(y-1) dy = (3x^2 + 4x + 2) dx$$

$$y^2 - 2y = x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + C$$

$$y(0) = -1 \Rightarrow$$

$$(-1)^2 - 2(-1) = C \Rightarrow \boxed{C = 3}$$

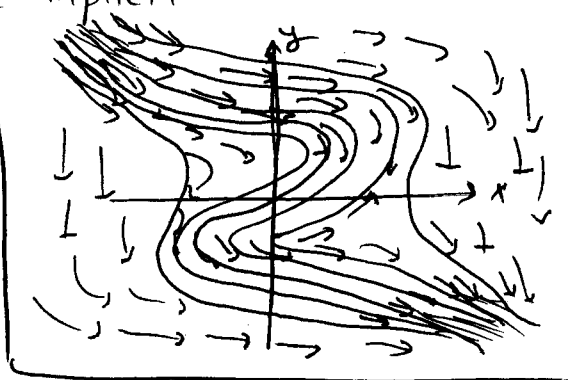
$$\boxed{y^2 - 2y = x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 3}^*$$
 is

the implicit solution.

To find the explicit solution

we write \* as

$$y^2 - 2y - (x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 3) = 0$$



$$\Rightarrow y = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4 + 4(x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 3)}}{2}$$

$$y = 1 \pm \frac{\sqrt{4 + 4(x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 3)}}{2}$$

$$y = 1 \pm \sqrt{x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 4}$$

$$\boxed{y = 1 - \sqrt{x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 4}} \text{ because } y(0) = -1$$

⇒ If the initial condition  $y(0) = 3$  then we choose

$$y = 1 + \sqrt{x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 4}$$

Hence, our solution is

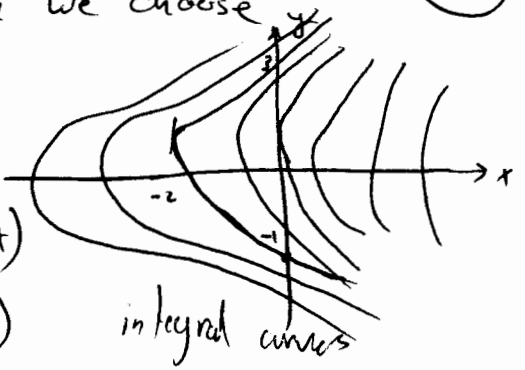
$$y^2 - 2y = x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 3 \quad (\text{implicit})$$

$$y = 1 + \sqrt{x^3 + 2x^2 + 2x + 4} \quad (\text{explicit})$$

$$= 1 + \sqrt{x^2(x+2) + 2(x+2)}$$

$$= 1 + \sqrt{(x+2)(x^2+2)}$$

The domain of  $y$  is  $(-2, \infty)$



Note when  $x = -2 \Rightarrow y = 1 \Rightarrow$  the denominator of  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  is zero

Example Solve the IVP  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y \cos x}{1 + 3y^3}$ ,  $y(0) = 1$

separating variables

$$(1 + 3y^3) dy = y \cos x dx$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{y} + 3y^2\right) dy = \cos x dx$$

$$\ln|y| + y^3 = \sin x + C$$

since  $y(0) = 1$   $x=0$   
 $y=1$

$$\ln 1 + (1)^3 = \sin 0 + C \Rightarrow C = 1$$

$$\boxed{\ln|y| + y^3 = \sin x + 1}$$

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Example: solve  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{4y - 3x}{2x - y}$

$$= \frac{4v - 3}{2 - v} \quad v = \frac{y}{x} \Rightarrow y = xv$$

↓ solution

$$\Rightarrow y = xv + k$$

$$C = -5 \ln|y - 3x| + \ln|y - x|$$

$$\ln|x| = \int \frac{(2-v) dv}{(v+3)(v-1)}$$

$$= -\frac{5}{4} \int \frac{dv}{v+3} + \frac{1}{4} \int \frac{dv}{v-1}$$