

## 2.6: Exact Equations

**Form:**  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{P(x, y)}{Q(x, y)}$

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

Differential form formulation:

$$P(x, y)dx + Q(x, y)dy = 0 \quad (2)$$

Level curves of a function  $F$ :

$$F(x, y) = C \quad (3)$$

On curves (3):

$$dF \equiv \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}dx + \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}dy = 0 \quad (4)$$

- Curves (3) are **integral curves** for (1) if (3) defines implicit solutions of (1).
- (2) is **exact** if exists  $F$  s.t.  
 $P = \partial F/\partial x, \quad Q = \partial F/\partial y$
- If (2) is exact, then (3) defines integral curves

**Condition for exactness:**

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial y}, \quad \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial x \partial y}$$
$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \quad (5)$$

**Find F** (if (5) is satisfied):

- $\partial F/\partial x = P$

$$\Rightarrow F(x, y) = H(x, y) + \phi(y)$$

$$H(x, y) = \int P(x, y) dx$$

- $\partial F/\partial y = Q$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial y} H(x, y) + \phi'(y) = Q(x, y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi'(y) = Q(x, y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} H(x, y)$$

Solve this for  $\Phi(y)$

(r.h.s. depends only on  $y$ )

**Ex.:**  $e^y + (xe^y - \sin y) \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$

or  $e^y dx + (xe^y - \sin y) dy = 0$

Here:  $P(x, y) = e^y$

$$Q(x, y) = xe^y - \sin y$$

Check exactness:

$$\partial P/\partial y = e^y, \quad \partial Q/\partial x = e^y$$

Equation is exact  $\rightarrow$  **Find F**

$$H(x, y) = \int e^y dx = xe^y$$

$$\Phi'(y) = Q - \partial H/\partial y$$

$$= (xe^y - \sin y) - xe^y$$

$$= -\sin y$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(y) = \cos y$$

$$\Rightarrow F(x, y) = H(x, y) + \Phi(y)$$

$$= xe^y + \cos y$$

**Implicit Solutions:**

$$xe^y + \cos y = C$$

**Special Case:  
Separable Equations**

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{P(x)}{Q(y)}$$

$$P(x)dx + Q(y)dy = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \int P(x) dx + \int Q(y) dy = C$$

**Ex.:**  $dy/dx = -x/y$   
 $\Rightarrow x + y dy/dx = 0$   
 or  $x dx + y dy = 0$

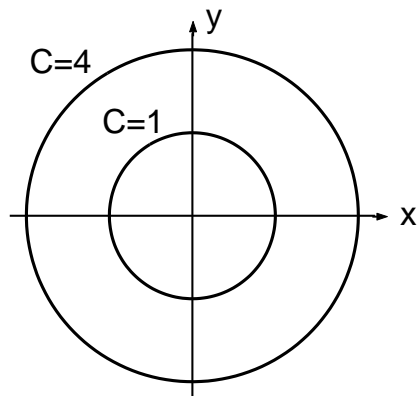
$$\int x dx + \int y dy = C$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2/2 + y^2/2 = C$$

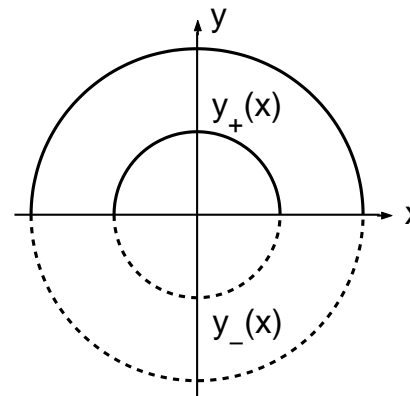
Integral curves are circles.

Explicit solutions:

$$y(x) = \pm\sqrt{2C - x^2}$$



Integral Curves



Explicit Solutions

## Worked Out Examples from Exercises

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**(A) Calculate  $dF = (\partial F/\partial x)dx + (\partial F/\partial y)dy$  for given  $F$**

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**Ex. 1:**  $F(x, y) = 2xy + y^2 \Rightarrow dF = 2y dx + (2x + 2y) dy$

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**Ex. 3:**  $F(x, y) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \Rightarrow dF = (1/\sqrt{x^2 + y^2})(x dx + y dy)$

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**Ex. 5:**  $F(x, y) = xy + \tan^{-1}(y/x)$

Use  $\partial \tan^{-1}(y/x)/\partial x = [1/(1 + y^2/x^2)](-y/x^2) = -y/(x^2 + y^2)$   
 $\partial \tan^{-1}(y/x)/\partial y = [1/(1 + y^2/x^2)](1/x) = x/(x^2 + y^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow dF &= [y - y/(x^2 + y^2)]dx + [x + x/(x^2 + y^2)]dy \\ &= [1/(x^2 + y^2)][(x^2 + y^2 - 1)y dx + (x^2 + y^2 + 1)x dy]\end{aligned}$$

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**Ex. 7:**  $F(x, y) = \ln(x^2 + y^2) + xy$

$$\Rightarrow dF = [y + 2x/(x^2 + y^2)]dx + [x + 2y/(x^2 + y^2)]dy$$

**(B) Determine if equation is exact. If yes find implicit solution**

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**Ex. 9:**  $(2x + y)dx + (x - 6y)dy = 0$

$$P(x, y) = 2x + y, \quad Q(x, y) = x - 6y \Rightarrow \partial P/\partial y = 1, \quad \partial Q/\partial x = 1 \Rightarrow \text{exact}$$

$$H(x, y) = \int P(x, y)dx = x^2 + xy \Rightarrow \Phi'(y) = Q - \partial H/\partial y = (x - 6y) - x = -6y$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(y) = -3y^2 \Rightarrow F(x, y) = H(x, y) + \Phi(y) = x^2 + xy - 3y^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{implicit solution } x^2 + xy - 3y^2 = C$$

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**Ex. 11:**  $(1 + y/x)dx - (1/x)dy = 0$

$$P = 1 + y/x, \quad Q = -1/x \Rightarrow \partial P/\partial y = 1/x, \quad \partial Q/\partial x = 1/x^2 \Rightarrow \text{not exact}$$

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**Ex. 13:**  $dy/dx = (3x^2 + y)/(3y^2 - x)$  or  $(3x^2 + y)dx + (x - 3y^2)dy = 0$

$$P = 3x^2 + y, \quad Q = x - 3y^2 \Rightarrow \partial P/\partial y = 1, \quad \partial Q/\partial x = 1 \Rightarrow \text{exact}$$

$$H = \int P dx = x^3 + xy \Rightarrow \Phi' = Q - \partial H/\partial y = (x - 3y^2) - x = -3y^2 \Rightarrow \Phi = -y^3$$

$$\Rightarrow F = H + \Phi = x^3 + xy - y^3 \Rightarrow \text{implicit solution } x^3 + xy - y^3 = C$$

**Ex. 15:**  $(u + v)du + (u - v)dv = 0$

$$P(u, v) = u + v, Q(u, v) = u - v \Rightarrow \partial P/\partial v = 1, \partial Q/\partial u = 1 \Rightarrow \text{exact}$$

$$H = \int P du = u^2/2 + uv \Rightarrow \Phi'(v) = Q - \partial H/\partial v = (u - v) - u = -v$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(v) = -v^2/2 \Rightarrow F(u, v) = H(u, v) + \Phi(v) = u^2/2 + uv - v^2/2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{implicit solution } u^2/2 + uv - v^2/2 = C$$

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**Ex. 17:**  $dr/ds = (\ln s)/(r/s - 2s)$  or  $(r/s - 2s)dr - (\ln s)ds = 0$

$$P(r, s) = r/s - 2s, Q(r, s) = -\ln s \Rightarrow \partial P/\partial s = -r/s^2 - 2, \partial Q/\partial r = 0 \text{ (not exact)}$$

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**Ex. 19:**  $(\sin 2t)dx + (2x \cos 2t - 2t)dt = 0$

$$P = \sin 2t, Q = 2x \cos 2t - 2t; \Rightarrow \partial P/\partial t = 2 \cos 2t, \partial Q/\partial x = 2 \cos 2t \Rightarrow \text{exact}$$

$$H = \int P dx = x \sin 2t \Rightarrow \Phi'(t) = Q - \partial H/\partial t = (2x \cos 2t - 2t) - 2x \cos 2t = -2t$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi = -t^2 \Rightarrow F = H + \Phi = x \sin 2t - t^2 \Rightarrow \text{implicit solution } x \sin 2t - t^2 = C$$

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**Ex. 21:**  $(2r + \ln y)dr + ry dy = 0$

$$P(r, y) = 2r + \ln y, Q(r, y) = ry \Rightarrow \partial P/\partial y = 1/y, \partial Q/\partial r = y \text{ (not exact)}$$

## Integrating Factors

If  $P(x, y) dx + Q(x, y) dy = 0$   
 is not exact, try to find function  $\mu(x, y)$  s.t.  
 $\mu P dx + \mu Q dy = 0$  is exact.  
 $\mu(x, y) = \text{integrating factor}$

**Ex.:**  $y(x - 1)dx + x(y - 1)dy = 0$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \partial[y(x - 1)]/\partial y &= x - 1 \\ \partial[x(y - 1)]/\partial x &= y - 1 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{not} \\ \text{exact} \end{array}$$

Multiply equation by  $\mu = 1/(xy) \Rightarrow$

$$[(x - 1)/x]dx + [(y - 1)/y]dy = 0$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \partial[(x - 1)/x]/\partial y &= 0 \\ \partial[(y - 1)/y]/\partial x &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{exact} \\ \text{(separable)} \end{array}$$

Direct integration  $\Rightarrow$

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$$F = x + y - \ln(xy)$$


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**Ex.:**  $(x + y) dx - x dy = 0$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \partial(x + y)/\partial y &= 1 \\ \partial(-x)/\partial x &= -1 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{not} \\ \text{exact} \end{array}$$

Use  $\mu = 1/x^2 \Rightarrow$

$$(1/x + y/x^2)dx - (1/x)dy = 0$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \partial(1/x + y/x^2)/\partial y &= 1/x^2 \\ \partial(-1/x)/\partial x &= 1/x^2 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{exact}$$

Find  $F$ :

$$H = \int (1/x + y/x^2)dx = \ln|x| - y/x$$

$$\Phi' = (-1/x) - \partial(\ln|x| - y/x)/\partial y = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi = 0 \Rightarrow F = H = \ln|x| - y/x$$

## Homogeneous Equations

- A function  $G(x, y)$  is **homogeneous of degree  $n$**  if

$$G(\lambda x, \lambda y) = \lambda^n G(x, y)$$

- The DE  $P(x, y) dx + Q(x, y) dy = 0$   
is homogeneous if  $P, Q$  are homogeneous of **same** degree.

- If the DE is homogeneous, then the substitution  $y = xv$  transforms it to the separable DE:

$$\frac{dx}{x} + \frac{Q(1, v)dv}{P(1, v) + vQ(1, v)} = 0$$

**Ex.:**  $G(x, y) = 1/(x^2 + y^2) \Rightarrow G(\lambda x, \lambda y) = 1/[(\lambda x)^2 + (\lambda y)^2] = \lambda^{-2}/(x^2 + y^2)$   
 $\Rightarrow G(\lambda x, \lambda y) = \lambda^{-2}G(x, y) \Rightarrow$  homogeneous of degree  $-2$

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**Ex.:**  $G(x, y) = x^3 + xy^2 \Rightarrow G(\lambda x, \lambda y) = (\lambda x)^3 + (\lambda x)(\lambda y)^2 = \lambda^3(x^3 + xy^2)$   
 $\Rightarrow G(\lambda x, \lambda y) = \lambda^3G(x, y) \Rightarrow$  homogeneous of degree  $3$

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**Ex.:**  $G(x, y) = x/y \Rightarrow G(\lambda x, \lambda y) = (\lambda x)/(\lambda y) = x/y = G(x, y) \Rightarrow$  degree  $0$



## Worked Out Examples from Exercises

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### (C) Solution of Homogeneous Equations

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**Ex. 35:**  $(x^2 + y^2)dx - 2xy dy = 0$

Sub  $y = xv \Rightarrow dy = v dx + x dv \Rightarrow (x^2 + x^2v^2)dx - 2x^2v(v dx + x dv) = 0$

$\Rightarrow (1 - v^2)dx - 2xv dv = 0 \Rightarrow dx/x + [2v/(v^2 - 1)]dv = 0$

$\Rightarrow \ln|x| + \ln|v^2 - 1| = \ln|x(v^2 - 1)| = D \Rightarrow x(v^2 - 1) = C \quad (C = \pm e^D)$

Sub  $v = y/x \Rightarrow y^2 - x^2 = Cx$

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**Ex. 37:**  $(3x + y)dx + x dy = 0$

Sub  $y = xv \Rightarrow dy = v dx + x dv \Rightarrow (3x + xv)dx + x(v dx + x dv) = 0$

$\Rightarrow (3 + 2v)dx + x dv = 0 \Rightarrow (1/x)dx + [1/(3 + 2v)]dv = 0$

$\Rightarrow \ln|x| + (1/2)\ln|3 + 2v| = D \Rightarrow 2\ln|x| + \ln|3 + 2v| = 2D$

$\Rightarrow \ln(x^2|3 + 2v|) = 2D \Rightarrow x^2(3 + 2v) = C \quad (C = \pm e^{2D})$

Sub  $v = y/x \Rightarrow 3x^2 + 2xy = C$