



Handout 4

MATH 172 Lab: Sections 7 and 8

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Note: This handout gives you an introduction about Separable Method in Differential Equations.

All Examples in this handout are taken from my recent published textbook:

[A Friendly Introduction to Differential Equations](#), Kaabar, M, Vol 1,164, Jan. 05, 2015.

If you want to learn more about differential equations because you may have a question in exam 2 or final exam about differential equations, I encourage you to download and read sections 1.1 and 4.2 in my textbook.

Instructions to download my textbook for free:

- 1- Please go to (<http://www.mohammed-kaabar.net/#!/differential-equations-book/cuvt>)
- 2- Then, go to “**Links to view and download this book**”
- 3- Choose either “**ResearchGate PDF Format**” or “**Google Books (100% viewable for free)**”.

Separable Method

We will solve some differential equations using a method known as Separable Method. This method is called separable because we separate two different terms from each other.

Definition 1 The standard form of Separable Method is written as follows:

$$(All\ in\ terms\ of\ x)dx - (All\ in\ terms\ of\ y)dy = 0$$

Note: it does not matter whether it is the above form or in the following form:

$$(All\ in\ terms\ of\ y)dy - (All\ in\ terms\ of\ x)dx = 0$$

Example 1: Solve the following differential equation: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^3}{(x+3)}$

Solution: By using definition 1, we need to rewrite the above equation in a way that each term is separated from the other term as follows:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^3}{(x+3)} = \frac{1}{\frac{(x+3)}{y^3}} \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Now, we need to do a cross multiplication for (1) as follows:

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

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

Then, we integrate both sides of (2) as follows:

$$\int \left(\frac{1}{y^3} dy - \frac{1}{(x+3)} dx \right) = \int 0$$

$$\int \left(\frac{1}{y^3} \right) dy - \int \left(\frac{1}{(x+3)} \right) dx = c$$

$$\int (y^{-3}) dy - \int \left(\frac{1}{(x+3)} \right) dx = c$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} y^{-2} - \ln(|(x+3)|) = c$$

Thus, the general solution is :

$$-\frac{1}{2} y^{-2} - \ln(|(x+3)|) = c$$

Example 2: Solve the following differential equation: $\frac{dy}{dx} = e^{3y+2x}$

Solution: By using definition 1, we need to rewrite the above equation in a way that each term is separated from the other term as follows:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = e^{3y+2x} = e^{3y} \cdot e^{2x} = \frac{e^{2x}}{e^{-3y}} \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Now, we need to do a cross multiplication for (1) as follows:

$$e^{-3y} dy = e^{2x} dx$$

$$e^{-3y} dy - e^{2x} dx = 0 \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

Then, we integrate both sides of (2) as follows:

$$\int (e^{-3y} dy - e^{2x} dx) = \int 0$$

$$\int (e^{-3y}) dy - \int (e^{2x}) dx = c$$

$$-\frac{1}{3} e^{-3y} - \frac{1}{2} e^{2x} = c$$

Thus, the general solution is :

$$-\frac{1}{3} e^{-3y} - \frac{1}{2} e^{2x} = c$$

Separable Method is Awesome

Good Luck in the Differential Equations Lab

on Thursday

Best Regards,

Mohammed Kaabar