

Question

Solve the following first order linear differential equations:

(a) $xy' + y = \sin x$

(b) $(1 - x^2)y' + xy = x$

(c) $y' = (y - 1) \cot x$

(d) $x^3y' + (2 - 3x^2)y = x^3$

Answer

(a) $xy' + y = \sin x$ (1) $\Rightarrow y' + \frac{y}{x} = \frac{\sin x}{x}$ (2)

Integrating Factor $e^{\int \frac{1}{x} dx} = e^{(\ln x)} = x$

So (2) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} xy' + y &= \sin x \\ \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx}(xy) &= \sin x \\ \Rightarrow xy &= \int \sin x \, dx \\ &= -\cos x + c \\ y &= -\frac{\cos x}{x} + \frac{c}{x} \end{aligned}$$

(b) $(1 - x^2)y' + xy = x$ (1) $\Rightarrow y' + \frac{x}{1 - x^2}y = \frac{x}{1 - x^2}$ (2)

Integrating Factor $e^{\int \frac{x}{1-x^2} dx} = e^{(-\frac{1}{2} \ln(1-x^2))} = (1 - x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

so (2) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{y'}{(1 - x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} + \frac{x}{(1 - x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}}y &= \frac{x}{(1 - x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{y}{(1 - x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \right) &= \frac{x}{(1 - x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{y}{(1 - x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}} &= \int \frac{x}{(1 - x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} dx \\ &= (1 - x^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} + c \\ \Rightarrow y &= 1 + c\sqrt{1 - x^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$(c) \quad y' = (y - 1) \cot x \quad (1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad y' - \cot(x)y = -\cot x \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Integrating factor } e^{\int -\cot x dx} = e^{-\ln(\sin x)} = (\sin x)^{-1}$$

so (2) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{y'}{\sin x} + \frac{\cos x}{\sin^2 x} y &= -\frac{\cos x}{\sin^2 x} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{y}{\sin x} \right) &= -\frac{\cos x}{\sin^2 x} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{y}{\sin x} &= -\int \frac{\cos x}{\sin^2 x} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\sin x} + c \\ \Rightarrow y &= 1 + c \sin x \end{aligned}$$

$$(d) \quad x^3 y' + (2 - 3x^2)y = x^3 \quad (1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad y' + \left(\frac{2}{x^3} - \frac{3}{x} \right) y = 1 \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Integrating factor } e^{\left(\frac{2}{x^3} - \frac{3}{x}\right) dx} = e^{-\frac{1}{x^2} - 3 \ln x} = e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} e^{-3 \ln x} = \frac{1}{x^3} e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}}$$

so (2) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{y'}{x^3} e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} + \left(\frac{2}{x^6} - \frac{3}{x^4} \right) e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} y &= \frac{1}{x^3} e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{y}{x^3} e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} \right) &= \frac{1}{x^3} e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{y}{x^3} e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} &= \int \frac{1}{x^3} e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} e^{-\frac{1}{x^2}} + c \\ \Rightarrow y &= \frac{x^3}{2} + c x^3 e^{\frac{1}{x^2}} \end{aligned}$$