

Differential Equations

✓ **Differentiation** : An equation involving the independent variable x (say), dependent variable y (say) and the differential coefficients of dependent variable with respect to independent variable i.e. $\frac{dy}{dx}$, $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$, $\frac{d^3y}{dx^3}$,, etc.

Example : $\frac{dy}{dx} + 4y = x$, $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3\frac{dy}{dx} + 5y = x^2$ are differential equations.

Order and Degree of a differential equation :

The Order of a differential equation is the highest order derivative occurring in the differential equation

The degree of a differential equation is the degree of the highest order derivative occurring in the equation, when the differential coefficients are made free from radicals, fractions and it is written as a polynomial in differential co-efficient.

Example : $\frac{d^3y}{dx^3} + 2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} + y = 0$

highest order derivative = 3 \Rightarrow order = 3

the degree of the highest order derivative occurring in the equation
degree = 1

$$\left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\right)^3 + \sin \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$$

order = 2
degree = not defined (because this differential eqⁿ cannot be written in the form of polynomial in diffⁿ co-efficient)

📍 **Note :** Order and degree of a differential eqⁿ are always positive integers.

✓ **General Solution** : The solution which contains arbitrary constants is called the general solution (primitive) of the differential equation.

✓ **Particular solution :** The solution obtained from the general solution by giving particular values to the arbitrary constants is called a particular solution of the differential equation.

✓ Equations in variable separable form :

Consider the equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = X \cdot Y$ where X is a function of x only and Y is a function of y only.

(i) Put the equation in the form $\frac{1}{y} dy = x \cdot dx$

(ii) Integrating both the sides, we get $\int \frac{dy}{y} = \int x dx + c$ where c is an arbitrary constant.
Thus the required solⁿ is obtained.

✓ Equations Reducible to variables Sepenable form :

(i) Write the given equation in form $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(ax + by + c)$

(ii) Put $ax + by + c = z$, so that $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{b} \left(\frac{dz}{dx} - a \right)$

(iii) Putting this $\frac{dy}{dx}$ in the given equation, we get $\frac{1}{b} \left(\frac{dz}{dx} - a \right) = f(z)$. This eqⁿ is reduced in the form: $\frac{dz}{a + bf(z)} = dx$. After integrating, we get the required result.

✓ **Homogenous differential Equation** A differential equation of the form $\frac{dy}{dx} = F(x, y)$ is said to be homogenous differential equation if $F(x, y)$ is a homogenous function of degree zero.

(i) Suppose $y = vx$ and so $\frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx}$.

(ii) The value $y = vx$ and $\frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx}$ is substituted in given eqⁿ. The variable separable form, which can be solved by integrating both sides.

(iv) Finally v is replaced by $\frac{y}{x}$ to get the required solution.

📍 **Note:** If the homogenous differential equation is in the form $\frac{dx}{dy} = F(x, y)$, substitute $x = vy$ and so $\frac{dx}{dy} = v + y \frac{dv}{dy}$ and proceed as above.

✓ **First order linear differential equation**

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + Py = Q \text{ ————— (i)}$$

where P and Q are constants or function of x only.

$$\text{I. f.} = e^{\int P dx} \quad (\text{I. f.} = \text{Integrating factor})$$

Solution of (i) is ;

$$y \cdot (\text{I. f.}) = \int Q x (\text{I. f.}) dx + c$$

$$\frac{dx}{dy} + Px = Q \text{ ————— (i)}$$

where P and Q are constants or function of y only.

$$\text{I. f.} = e^{\int P dy} \quad (\text{I. f.} = \text{Integrating factor})$$

Solution of (i) is ;

$$x \cdot (\text{I. f.}) = \int Q x (\text{I. f.}) dy + c$$