

Differential Equations
Exact and Non- Exact Differential Equations
Solutions of Exercises
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Note:

Definition. The expression $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy \dots (*)$ is called an exact differential in a domain D if there exists a function F of two variables such that this expression equals the total differential $dF(x, y)$ for all $(x, y) \in D$. That is, expression $(*)$ is an exact differential in D if there exists a function F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial x} = M(x, y) \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) \forall (x, y) \in D.$$

If $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy$ is an exact differential, then the differential equation $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$ is called an exact differential equation. Moreover, given the standard form of ordinary differential equation $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$. The differential equation is said to be exact if

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x}.$$

Part 1. (In exercises 1-10 determine whether or not each of the given equation is exact; solve those that are exact).

1. $(3x + 2y)dx + (2x + y)dy = 0$.

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$M(x, y) = 3x + 2y, N(x, y) = 2x + y,$$
$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 2, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 2.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 2$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $(3x + 2y)dx + (2x + y)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation. Furthermore, we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial x} = M(x, y) = 3x + 2y \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = 2x + y.$$

From the first of these,

$$F(x, y) = \int M(x, y)dx + h(y) = \int (3x + 2y)dx + h(y) = \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 2xy + h(y).$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = 2x + \frac{dh(y)}{dy}$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = 2x + y.$$

Thus

$$2x + y = 2x + \frac{dh(y)}{dy} \Leftrightarrow y = \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

Thus $h(y) = \frac{1}{2}y^2 + C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(x, y) = \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 2xy + \frac{1}{2}y^2 + C_0.$$

Hence a one-parameter family of solution is $F(x, y) = C_1$, or

$$\frac{3}{2}x^2 + 2xy + \frac{1}{2}y^2 + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constants C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

$$\frac{3}{2}x^2 + 2xy + \frac{1}{2}y^2 = C$$

where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation

$$(3x + 2y)dx + (2x + y)dy = 0 \text{ is } \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 2xy + \frac{1}{2}y^2 = C.$$

2. $(y^2 + 3)dx + (2xy - 4)dy = 0.$

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$M(x, y) = y^2 + 3, N(x, y) = 2xy - 4,$$

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 2y, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 2y.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 2y$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $(y^2 + 3)dx + (2xy - 4)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation. Afterwards, we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial x} = M(x, y) = y^2 + 3 \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = 2xy - 4.$$

From the first of these,

$$F(x, y) = \int M(x, y)dx + h(y) = \int (y^2 + 3)dx + h(y) = xy^2 + 3x + h(y).$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = 2xy + \frac{dh(y)}{dy}$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = 2xy - 4.$$

Thus

$$2xy - 4 = 2xy + \frac{dh(y)}{dy} \Leftrightarrow -4 = \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

Thus $h(y) = -4y + C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(x, y) = xy^2 + 3x - 4y + C_0.$$

Hence a one-parameter family of solution is $F(x, y) = C_1$, or

$$xy^2 + 3x - 4y + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constants C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

$$xy^2 + 3x - 4y = C$$

where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation $(y^2 + 3)dx + (2xy - 4)dy = 0$ is $xy^2 + 3x - 4y = C$.

3. $(2xy + 1)dx + (x^2 + 4y)dy = 0$.

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$M(x, y) = 2xy + 1, N(x, y) = x^2 + 4y,$$

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 2x, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 2x.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 2x$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $(2xy + 1)dx + (x^2 + 4y)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation. Afterwards, we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial x} = M(x, y) = 2xy + 1 \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = x^2 + 4y.$$

From the first of these,

$$F(x, y) = \int M(x, y)dx + h(y) = \int (2xy + 1)dx + h(y) = x^2y + x + h(y).$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = x^2 + \frac{dh(y)}{dy}$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = x^2 + 4y.$$

Thus

$$x^2 + 4y = x^2 + \frac{dh(y)}{dy} \Leftrightarrow 4y = \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

Thus $h(y) = 2y^2 + C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(x, y) = x^2y + x + 2y^2 + C_0.$$

Hence a one-parameter family of solution is $F(x, y) = C_1$, or

$$x^2y + x + 2y^2 + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constants C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

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

where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation

$$(2xy + 1)dx + (x^2 + 4y)dy = 0 \text{ is } x^2y + x + 2y^2 = C.$$

4. $(3x^2y + 2)dx - (x^3 + y)dy = 0$.

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$M(x, y) = 3x^2y, N(x, y) = -x^3 - y,$$

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 3x^2, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -3x^2.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 3x^2 \neq \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -3x^2$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $(3x^2y + 2)dx - (x^3 + y)dy = 0$ is not exact (non- exact) differential equation.

5. $(6xy + 2y^2 - 5)dx + (3x^2 + 4xy - 6)dy = 0.$

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$M(x, y) = 6xy + 2y^2 - 5, N(x, y) = 3x^2 + 4xy - 6,$$

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 6x + 4y, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 6x + 4y.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 6x + 4y$$

we can conclude that the differential equation

$$(6xy + 2y^2 - 5)dx + (3x^2 + 4xy - 6)dy = 0 \text{ is exact differential equation.}$$

Moreover, we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial x} = M(x, y) = 6xy + 2y^2 - 5 \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = 3x^2 + 4xy - 6.$$

From the first of these,

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, y) &= \int M(x, y)dx + h(y) \\ &= \int (6xy + 2y^2 - 5)dx + h(y) \\ &= 3x^2y + 2xy^2 - 5x + h(y) \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = 3x^2 + 4xy + \frac{dh(y)}{dy}$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = 3x^2 + 4xy - 6.$$

Thus

$$3x^2 + 4xy - 6 = 3x^2 + 4xy + \frac{dh(y)}{dy} \Leftrightarrow -6 = \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

Thus $h(y) = -6y + C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(x, y) = 3x^2y + 2xy^2 - 5x - 6y + C_0.$$

Hence a one- parameter family of solution is $F(x, y) = C_1$, or

$$3x^2y + 2xy^2 - 5x - 6y + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constants C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

$$3x^2y + 2xy^2 - 5x - 6y = C$$

where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation

$$(6xy + 2y^2 - 5)dx + (3x^2 + 4xy - 6)dy = 0 \text{ is } 3x^2y + 2xy^2 - 5x - 6y = C.$$

6. $(\theta^2 + 1) \cos r dr + 2\theta \sin r d\theta = 0.$

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$M(r, \theta) = (\theta^2 + 1) \cos r, N(r, \theta) = 2\theta \sin r,$$

$$\frac{\partial M(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta} = 2\theta \cos r, \frac{\partial N(r, \theta)}{\partial r} = 2\theta \cos r.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial N(r, \theta)}{\partial r} = 2\theta \cos r$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $(\theta^2 + 1) \cos r dr + 2\theta \sin r d\theta = 0$ is exact differential equation. Moreover, we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(r, \theta)}{\partial r} = M(r, \theta) = (\theta^2 + 1) \cos r \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta} = N(r, \theta) = 2\theta \sin r$$

From the first of these,

$$F(r, \theta) = \int M(r, \theta) dr + h(\theta)$$

$$= \int (\theta^2 + 1) \cos r dr + h(\theta)$$

$$= (\theta^2 + 1) \sin r + h(\theta)$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta} = 2\theta \sin r + \frac{dh(\theta)}{d\theta}$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(r, \theta)}{\partial \theta} = N(r, \theta) = 2\theta \sin r.$$

Thus

$$2\theta \sin r = 2\theta \sin r + \frac{dh(\theta)}{d\theta} \Leftrightarrow 0 = \frac{dh(\theta)}{d\theta}.$$

Thus $h(\theta) = C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(r, \theta) = (\theta^2 + 1) \sin r + C_0.$$

Hence a one-parameter family of solution is $F(r, \theta) = C_1$, or

$$(\theta^2 + 1) \sin r + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constants C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

$$(\theta^2 + 1) \sin r = C$$

where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation

$$(\theta^2 + 1) \cos r dr + 2\theta \sin r d\theta = 0 \text{ is } (\theta^2 + 1) \sin r = C.$$

7. $(y \sec^2 x + \sec x \tan x) dx + (\tan x + 2y) dy = 0.$

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$M(x, y) = y \sec^2 x + \sec x \tan x, N(x, y) = \tan x + 2y,$$

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \sec^2 x, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = \sec^2 x.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = \sec^2 x$$

we can conclude that the equation $(y \sec^2 x + \sec x \tan x) dx + (\tan x + 2y) dy = 0$ is exact differential equation. Furthermore, we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial x} = M(x, y) = y \sec^2 x + \sec x \tan x \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = \tan x + 2y.$$

From the first of these,

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, y) &= \int M(x, y) \partial x + h(y) \\ &= \int (y \sec^2 x + \sec x \tan x) \partial x + h(y) \\ &= y \tan x + \sec x + h(y). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = \tan x + \frac{dh(y)}{dy}$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = \tan x + 2y.$$

Thus

$$\tan x + 2y = \tan x + \frac{dh(y)}{dy} \Leftrightarrow 2y = \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

Thus $h(y) = y^2 + C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(x, y) = y \tan x + \sec x + y^2 + C_0.$$

Hence a one-parameter family of solution is $F(x, y) = C_1$, or

$$y \tan x + \sec x + y^2 + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constants C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

$$y \tan x + \sec x + y^2 = C$$

where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation $(y \sec^2 x + \sec x \tan x) dx + (\tan x + 2y) dy = 0$ is $y \tan x + \sec x + y^2 = C$.

8. $\left(\frac{x}{y^2} + x\right) dx + \left(\frac{x^2}{y^3} + y\right) dy = 0.$

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$\begin{aligned} M(x, y) &= \frac{x}{y^2} + x, \quad N(x, y) = \frac{x^2}{y^3} + y, \\ \frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} &= -\frac{2x}{y^3}, \quad \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = \frac{2x}{y^3}. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = -\frac{2x}{y^3} \neq \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = \frac{2x}{y^3}$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $\left(\frac{x}{y^2} + x\right) dx + \left(\frac{x^2}{y^3} + y\right) dy = 0$ is not exact (non-exact) differential equation.

9. $\left(\frac{2s-1}{t}\right) ds + \left(\frac{s-s^2}{t^2}\right) dt = 0.$

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$M(s, t) = \frac{2s-1}{t}, N(s, t) = \frac{s-s^2}{t^2},$$

$$\frac{\partial M(s, t)}{\partial t} = \frac{1-2s}{t^2}, \frac{\partial N(s, t)}{\partial s} = \frac{1-2s}{t^2}.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(s, t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial N(s, t)}{\partial s} = \frac{1-2s}{t^2}$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $\left(\frac{2s-1}{t}\right) ds + \left(\frac{s-s^2}{t^2}\right) dt = 0$ is exact differential equation. Furthermore, we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(s, t)}{\partial s} = M(s, t) = \frac{2s-1}{t} \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(s, t)}{\partial t} = N(s, t) = \frac{s-s^2}{t^2}.$$

From the first of these,

$$F(s, t) = \int M(s, t) \partial s + h(t)$$

$$= \int \left(\frac{2s-1}{t}\right) \partial s + h(t)$$

$$= \frac{s^2-s}{t} + h(t).$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(s, t)}{\partial t} = -\frac{s^2}{t^2} + \frac{s}{t^2} + \frac{dh(t)}{dt} = \frac{s-s^2}{t^2} + \frac{dh(t)}{dt}$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(s, t)}{\partial t} = N(s, t) = \frac{s-s^2}{t^2}.$$

Thus

$$\frac{s-s^2}{t^2} = \frac{s-s^2}{t^2} + \frac{dh(t)}{dt} \Leftrightarrow 0 = \frac{dh(t)}{dt}.$$

Thus $h(t) = C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(s, t) = \frac{s^2-s}{t} + C_0.$$

Hence a one-parameter family of solution is $F(x, y) = C_1$, or

$$\frac{s^2-s}{t} + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constants C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

$$\frac{s^2-s}{t} = C$$

or we can write this as $s^2 - s = Ct$, where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation

$$\left(\frac{2s-1}{t}\right) ds + \left(\frac{s-s^2}{t^2}\right) dt = 0 \text{ is } s^2 - s = Ct.$$

10. $\left(\frac{2y^{\frac{3}{2}}+1}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right) dx + \left(3x^{\frac{1}{2}}y^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1\right) dy = 0.$

Solution:

Our first duty is to determine whether or not the equation is exact or not. Here

$$M(x, y) = \frac{2y^{\frac{3}{2}} + 1}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}, N(x, y) = 3x^{\frac{1}{2}}y^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1,$$

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 3 \frac{y^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = \frac{3}{2} x^{-\frac{1}{2}} y^{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{y^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 3 \frac{y^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}} \neq \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = \frac{3}{2} \frac{y^{\frac{1}{2}}}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $\left(\frac{2y^{\frac{3}{2}}+1}{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right)dx + \left(3x^{\frac{1}{2}}y^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1\right)dy = 0$

is not exact (non- exact) differential equation.

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Part 2. (In each of the following equations determine the constant A such that the equation is exact, and solve the resulting exact equation).

a. $(x^2 + 3xy)dx + (Ax^2 + 4y)dy = 0.$

Solution:

Suppose

$$M(x, y) = x^2 + 3xy \text{ and } N(x, y) = Ax^2 + 4y.$$

Then, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 3x \text{ and } \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 2Ax.$$

In order to make the differential equation become exact differential equation, it must be

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 3x.$$

Thus

$$2Ax = 3x \Leftrightarrow A = \frac{3}{2}.$$

Therefore, we obtain that the differential equation

$(x^2 + 3xy)dx + \left(\frac{3}{2}x^2 + 4y\right)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation. Furthermore, we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial x} = M(x, y) = x^2 + 3xy \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 4y.$$

From the first of these,

$$F(x, y) = \int M(x, y)\partial x + h(y) = \int (x^2 + 3xy)\partial x + h(y) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2y + h(y).$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{3}{2}x^2 + \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 4y.$$

Thus

$$\frac{3}{2}x^2 + 4y = \frac{3}{2}x^2 + \frac{dh(y)}{dy} \Leftrightarrow 4y = \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

Thus $h(y) = 2y^2 + C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(x, y) = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2y + C_0.$$

Hence a one-parameter family of solution is $F(x, y) = C_1$, or

$$\frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2y + 2y^2 + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constants C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

$$\frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2y + 2y^2 = C$$

where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation

$$(x^2 + 3xy)dx + \left(\frac{3}{2}x^2 + 4y\right)dy = 0 \text{ is } \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{3}{2}x^2y + 2y^2 = C.$$

b. $\left(\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2}\right)dx + \left(\frac{Ax+1}{y^3}\right)dy = 0.$

Solution:

Suppose

$$M(x, y) = \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2} \text{ and } N(x, y) = \frac{Ax + 1}{y^3}.$$

Then, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = -\frac{2}{y^3} \text{ and } \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = \frac{A}{y^3}.$$

In order to make the differential equation become exact differential equation, it must be

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -\frac{2}{y^3}.$$

Thus

$$\frac{A}{y^3} = -\frac{2}{y^3} \Leftrightarrow A = -2.$$

Therefore, we obtain that the differential equation

$\left(\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2}\right)dx + \left(\frac{-2x+1}{y^3}\right)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation. Furthermore, we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial x} = M(x, y) = \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2} \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = \frac{-2x + 1}{y^3}.$$

From the first of these,

$$F(x, y) = \int M(x, y)\partial x + h(y) = \int \left(\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2}\right)\partial x + h(y) = -\frac{1}{x} + \frac{x}{y^2} + h(y).$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = -\frac{2x}{y^3} + \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = \frac{-2x + 1}{y^3}.$$

Thus

$$\frac{-2x + 1}{y^3} = -\frac{2x}{y^3} + \frac{dh(y)}{dy} \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{y^3} = \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

Thus $h(y) = -\frac{1}{2y^2} + C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(x, y) = -\frac{1}{x} + \frac{x}{y^2} - \frac{1}{2y^2} + C_0.$$

Hence a one-parameter family of solution is $F(x, y) = C_1$, or

$$-\frac{1}{x} + \frac{x}{y^2} - \frac{1}{2y^2} + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constants C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

$$-\frac{1}{x} + \frac{x}{y^2} - \frac{1}{2y^2} = C$$

where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation

$$\left(\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{y^2}\right) dx + \left(\frac{-2x+1}{y^3}\right) dy = 0 \text{ is } -\frac{1}{x} + \frac{x}{y^2} - \frac{1}{2y^2} = C.$$

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Part 3. (Solve using grouping method)

1. $\frac{1}{x} dy - \frac{y}{x^2} dx = 0.$

Solution:

From $\frac{1}{x} dy - \frac{y}{x^2} dx = 0$ we obtain

$$d\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) = d(C).$$

So

$$\frac{y}{x} = C$$

is the general solution of the differential equation $\frac{1}{x} dy - \frac{y}{x^2} dx = 0.$

2. $2xy \frac{dy}{dx} + y^2 - 2x = 0.$

Solution:

$$2xy \frac{dy}{dx} + y^2 - 2x = 0$$

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

$$\Leftrightarrow (2x - y^2) dx - 2xy dy = 0$$

From $(2x - y^2) dx - 2xy dy = 0$, we group the term as follows

$$2x dx - (y^2 dx + 2xy dy) = 0.$$

Thus

$$d(x^2) - d(xy^2) = d(C).$$

So,

$$x^2 - xy^2 = C$$

is the general solution of the differential equation $2xy \frac{dy}{dx} + y^2 - 2x = 0.$

3. $2(y + 1)e^x dx + 2(e^x - 2y)dy = 0.$

Solution:

From $2(y + 1)e^x dx + 2(e^x - 2y)dy = 0$, we group the term as follows

$$(2ye^x dx + 2e^x dy) + 2e^x dx - 4ydy = 0.$$

Thus

$$d(2ye^x) + d(2e^x) - d(2y^2) = d(C).$$

Therefore,

$$2ye^x + 2e^x - 2y^2 = C$$

is the general solution of the differential equation

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

4. $(2xy + 6x)dx + (x^2 + 4y^3)dy = 0.$

Solution:

From $(2xy + 6x)dx + (x^2 + 4y^3)dy = 0$, we group the term as follows

$$(2xydx + x^2 dy) + 6xdx + 4y^3 dy = 0.$$

Thus

$$d(x^2 y) + d(3x^2) + d(y^4) = d(C).$$

So,

$$x^2 y + 3x^2 + y^4 = C$$

is the general solution of the differential equation

$$(2xy + 6x)dx + (x^2 + 4y^3)dy = 0.$$

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Part 4. (Quiz)

1. Which of the following differential equations can be made exact by multiplying by x^2 ?

(a) $\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{2}{x}y = 4.$

Solution:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{2}{x}y = 4 \Leftrightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = 4 - \frac{2}{x}y \Leftrightarrow \left(4 - \frac{2}{x}y\right) dx - dy = 0$$

By multiplying both sides by x^2 , we obtain

$$(4x^2 - 2xy)dx + (-x^2)dy = 0.$$

Here

$$M(x, y) = 4x^2 - 2xy, N(x, y) = -x^2, \\ \frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = -2x, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -2x$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -2x$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $(3x + 2y)dx + (2x + y)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation. In the other word, the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{2}{x}y = 4 \text{ can be made exact by multiplying by } x^2.$$

(b) $x \frac{dy}{dx} + 3y = x^2.$

Solution:

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

By multiplying both sides by x^2 , we obtain

$$(x^4 - 3x^2y)dx + (-x^3)dy = 0.$$

Here

$$M(x, y) = x^4 - 3x^2y, N(x, y) = -x^3, \\ \frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = -3x^2, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -3x^2.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -3x^2$$

we can conclude that the differential equation

$(x^4 - 3x^2y)dx + (-x^3)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation. In the other word, the differential equation $x \frac{dy}{dx} + 3y = x^2$ can be made exact by multiplying by x^2 .

(c) $\frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{1}{x^2} y = x.$

Solution:

$$\frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{1}{x^2} y = x \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} = x + \frac{1}{x^2} y \Leftrightarrow \left(x + \frac{1}{x^2} y\right) dx + \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right) dy = 0.$$

By multiplying both sides by x^2 , we obtain

$$(x^3 + y)dx + (-x)dy = 0.$$

Here

$$M(x, y) = x^3 + y, N(x, y) = -x, \\ \frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 1, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -1.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 1 \neq \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -1$$

we can conclude that the differential equation

$(x^3 + y)dx + (-x)dy = 0$ is not exact differential equation. In the other word, the differential equation $\frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{1}{x^2} y = x$ can not be made exact by multiplying by x^2 .

(d) $\frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{1}{x^2} y = 3.$

Solution:

$$\frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{1}{x^2} y = 3 \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} = 3 - \frac{1}{x^2} y \Leftrightarrow \left(3 - \frac{1}{x^2} y\right) dx + \left(-\frac{1}{x}\right) dy = 0.$$

By multiplying both sides by x^2 , we obtain

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

Here

$$M(x, y) = 3x^2 - y, N(x, y) = -x, \\ \frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = -1, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -1.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = -1$$

we can conclude that the differential equation

$(3x^2 - y)dx + (-x)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation. In the other word, the differential equation $\frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{1}{x^2} y = 3$ can be made exact by multiplying by x^2 .

2. Consider the differential equation

$$(4x + 3y^2)dx + 2xydy = 0.$$

(a) Show that this equation is not exact.

Proof. Here

$$M(x, y) = 4x + 3y^2, N(x, y) = 2xy, \\ \frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 6y, \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 2y.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 6y \neq \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = 2y$$

we can conclude that the differential equation $(4x + 3y^2)dx + 2xydy = 0$ is not exact differential equation. ■

(b) Find an integrating factor of the form x^n , where n is a positive integer.

Solution:

From (a) we know that the differential equation $(4x + 3y^2)dx + 2xydy = 0$ is not exact. But then, we can find an integrating factor $u(x, y) = x^n$, where n is a positive integer such that the differential equation $x^n(4x + 3y^2)dx + x^n(2xy)dy = 0$ is exact.

Assume that $(4x + 3y^2)dx + x^n(2xy)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation.

Here

$$x^n(4x + 3y^2)dx + x^n(2xy)dy = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow (4x^{n+1} + 3x^n y^2)dx + (2x^{n+1}y)dy = 0.$$

Let

$$M(x, y) = 4x^{n+1} + 3x^n y^2 \text{ and } N(x, y) = 2x^{n+1}y.$$

Then, we obtain

$$\frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = 6x^n y \text{ and } \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = (2n + 2)x^n y$$

Since $(4x + 3y^2)dx + x^n(2xy)dy = 0$ is exact differential equation, we must obtain

$$6x^n y = \frac{\partial M(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N(x, y)}{\partial x} = (2n + 2)x^n y,$$

that is

$$6x^n y = (2n + 2)x^n y.$$

Hence $n = 2$.

Thus, the integrating factor of the form x^n , where n is a positive integer such that the differential equation $x^n(4x + 3y^2)dx + x^n(2xy)dy = 0$ is exact is x^2 .

(c) Multiplying the given equation through by the integrating factor found in (b) and solve the resulting exact equation.

Solution:

From (b) we know that the differential equation $(4x^3 + 3x^2y^2)dx + (2x^3y)dy = 0$ is exact. Now, we will find the solution of this exact differential equation or in the other word we must find F such that

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial x} = M(x, y) = 4x^3 + 3x^2y^2 \text{ and } \frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = 2x^3y.$$

From the first of these,

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, y) &= \int M(x, y)\partial x + h(y) \\ &= \int (4x^3 + 3x^2y^2) \partial x + h(y) \\ &= x^4 + x^3y^2 + h(y). \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = 2x^3y + \frac{dh(y)}{dy}$$

But we must have

$$\frac{\partial F(x, y)}{\partial y} = N(x, y) = 2x^3y.$$

Thus

$$2x^3y = 2x^3y + \frac{dh(y)}{dy} \Leftrightarrow 0 = \frac{dh(y)}{dy}.$$

Thus $h(y) = C_0$, where C_0 is an arbitrary constant, and so

$$F(x, y) = x^4 + x^3y^2 + C_0.$$

Hence a one- parameter family of solution is $F(x, y) = C_1$, or

$$x^4 + x^3y^2 + C_0 = C_1$$

Combining the constnts C_0 and C_1 we may write this solution as

$$x^4 + x^3y^2 = C$$

where $C = C_1 - C_0$ is an arbitrary constant.

So, we conclude that the general solution of the exact differential equation

$$(4x^3 + 3x^2y^2)dx + (2x^3y)dy = 0 \text{ is } x^4 + x^3y^2 = C.$$

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