

Differential Equations

I. First order linear equation

$$\text{standard Form: } y' + p(x)y = q(x)$$

to solve follow the steps:

① standard form

② compute the integrating factor
 $u = \int e^{p(x)} dx$

③ Multiply every thing by u so you get:
 $y'u + (p(x)u)y = q(x)u$

$$(uy)' = q(x)u$$

with $p(x)u = u'$

$$\text{or } \frac{du}{dx} = p(x)$$

$$\text{or } \ln u = \int p(x) dx$$

$$\text{or } u = e^{\int p(x) dx}$$

④ integrate to solve for y .

Example 1 $x y' - y = x^3$

① $y' - \frac{1}{x}y = x^2$

② $\int p(x) dx = - \int \frac{1}{x} dx = - \ln(x)$

$$u = e^{-\ln(x)} = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad \frac{1}{x} y' - \frac{1}{x^2} y = x^2$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{x} y \right)' = x$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad \frac{1}{x} y = \frac{x^2}{2} + C$$

$$\boxed{y = \frac{x^3}{2} + Cx}$$

Example 2 $(1 + \cos x) y' - \sin x y = 2x$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad y' - \frac{\sin x y}{1 + \cos x} = \frac{2x}{1 + \cos x}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \int p(x) dx = - \int \frac{\sin x}{1 + \cos x} dx = \ln(1 + \cos x)$$

$$u = 1 + \cos x$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad (y(1 + \cos x))' = 2x \quad (\text{cancel})$$

$$y(1 + \cos x) = \frac{2x^2}{2} + C$$

$$\boxed{y = \frac{x^2 + C}{1 + \cos x}} \quad \text{if } y(0) = 1$$

initial conditions

$$\text{then } 1 = \frac{C}{2} \Rightarrow C = 2$$