

Created by T. Madas

# VECTOR DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

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# First Order

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**Question 1 (\*\*+)**

A particle  $P$  is moving on the Cartesian plane so that its position vector  $\mathbf{r}$  m at time  $t$  s satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} = \mathbf{r}.$$

When  $t = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{i} = 0$  and  $\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{i} = 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ .

Express  $\mathbf{r}$  in terms of  $t$ .

$$\mathbf{r} = (\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k})e^t$$

$\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} = \mathbf{r}$      $\int \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{\mathbf{r}} = \int dt$      $\ln|\mathbf{r}| = t + \ln|\mathbf{A}|$   
 $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{A}e^t$      $(\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{i}) = (a_1 e^t)$   
 $t=0$      $\mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{i} = (1, 0, 0) \cdot (a_1, a_2, a_3) = a_1 = 0$   
 $\mathbf{r} \wedge \mathbf{i} = (1, 0, 0) \wedge (a_1, a_2, a_3) = (0, a_3, -a_2) = (0, 2, -1)$   
 $\therefore \begin{cases} a_3 = 2 \\ -a_2 = -1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a_3 = 2 \\ a_2 = 1 \end{cases}$   
 $\therefore \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$   
 $\therefore \mathbf{r} = (\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k})e^t$

Question 2 (\*\*+)

A particle moves in a plane so that its position vector,  $\mathbf{r}$  m at time  $t$  s, satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} + \mathbf{r} = 2t\mathbf{i} - e^{-t}\mathbf{j}.$$

When  $t = 0$  the particle is at the point with position vector  $(\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j})$  m.

Express  $\mathbf{r}$  in terms of  $t$ .

$$\boxed{\phantom{000000}}, \quad \mathbf{r} = (2t - 2 + 3e^{-t})\mathbf{i} - (te^{-t} + 2e^{-t})\mathbf{j}$$

DETERMINE WITH EACH COMPONENT SEPARATELY - LET  $\mathbf{r} = (x, y)$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + x = 2t \qquad \frac{dy}{dt} + y = -e^{-t}$$

THE INTEGRATING FACTOR FOR BOTH SAME IS

$$IF = e^{\int 1 dt} = e^t$$

WHEN WE MULTIPLY EACH EQUATION BY

|                                          |                                               |
|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| $\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt}(xe^t) = 2te^t$ | $\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt}(ye^t) = -e^{-t}e^t$ |
| $\Rightarrow xe^t = \int 2te^t dt$       | $\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt}(ye^t) = -1$         |
| $\Rightarrow xe^t = 2te^t - 2e^t + C$    | $\Rightarrow ye^t = -t + k$                   |
| $\Rightarrow x = 2t - 2 + Ce^{-t}$       | $\Rightarrow y = -te^{-t} + ke^{-t}$          |
| too, $x=1$                               | too, $y=-2$                                   |
| $1 = -2 + C$                             | $-2 = 0 + k$                                  |
| $C = 3$                                  | $k = -2$                                      |

COLLECTING THE RESULTS

$$\mathbf{r} = (x, y) = (2t - 2 + 3e^{-t}, -te^{-t} - 2e^{-t}) //$$

## Question 3 (\*\*\*)

A particle moves in a plane so that its position vector,  $\mathbf{r}$  m at time  $t$  s, satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} + (\tan t)\mathbf{r} = (2 \sin t \cos^2 t)\mathbf{i} + (\cos^2 t)\mathbf{j}, \quad 0 \leq t < \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

When  $t = 0$  the particle is at the point with position vector  $\mathbf{j}$  m.

Express  $\mathbf{r}$  in terms of  $t$ .

$$\mathbf{r} = (\sin^2 t \cos t)\mathbf{i} + (\sin t \cos t + \cos t)\mathbf{j}$$

SEPARATE THE O.D.E INTO COMPONENTS — let  $\mathbf{r} = (x, y)$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} + x \tan t = 2 \cos^2 t \sin t \quad \frac{dy}{dt} + y \tan t = \cos^2 t$$

INTEGRATING FACTOR FOR BOTH O.D.Es IS

$$IF = e^{\int \tan t dt} = e^{\ln |\sec t|} = \sec t = \frac{1}{\cos t}$$

MULTIPLY BOTH O.D.Es BY  $\sec t$

|                                                     |                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| $\frac{d}{dt}(x \sec t) = 2 \cos^2 t \sin t \sec t$ | $\frac{d}{dt}(y \sec t) = \cos^2 t \sec t$     |
| $\frac{d}{dt}(x \sec t) = 2 \sin t \sec t$          | $\frac{d}{dt}(y \sec t) = \sec t$              |
| $x \sec t = \int 2 \sin t \sec t dt$                | $y \sec t = \int \sec t dt$                    |
| $\frac{x}{\cos t} = \sin t + A$                     | $\frac{y}{\cos t} = \ln  \sec t + \tan t  + B$ |
| $x = \sin t \cos t + A \cos t$                      | $y = \cos t \ln  \sec t + \tan t  + B \cos t$  |
| $t=0, x=0$                                          | $t=0, y=1$                                     |
| $0 = 0 + A$                                         | $1 = 0 + B$                                    |
| $A = 0$                                             | $B = 1$                                        |

$\therefore x = \sin t \cos t$        $\therefore y = \cos t \ln |\sec t + \tan t| + \cos t$

$\therefore \mathbf{r} = (x, y) = (\sin t \cos t, \cos t \ln |\sec t + \tan t| + \cos t)$

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# Second Order

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**Question 1 (\*\*)**

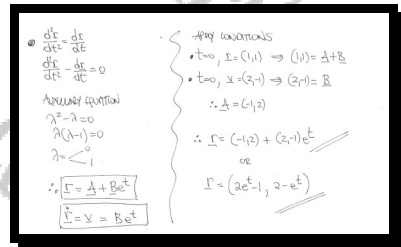
A particle  $P$  is moving on the Cartesian plane so that its position vector  $\mathbf{r}$  m at time  $t$  s satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2\mathbf{r}}{dt^2} = \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt}$$

When  $t=0$ ,  $P$  has position vector  $(\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j})$  m and moving with velocity  $(2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j})\text{ms}^{-1}$ .

Express  $\mathbf{r}$  in terms of  $t$ .

$$\mathbf{r} = (-\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}) + (2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j})e^t \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{r} = (2e^t - 1)\mathbf{i} + (2 - e^t)\mathbf{j}$$



**Question 2** (\*\*\*)

A particle  $P$  is moving on the Cartesian plane so that its position vector  $\mathbf{r}$  m at time  $t$  s satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2\mathbf{r}}{dt^2} - \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} = 6(\mathbf{r} + t\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j}).$$

When  $t = 0$ ,  $P$  has position vector  $(\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j})$  m and moving with velocity  $(3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j})$  ms<sup>-1</sup>.

Express  $\mathbf{r}$  in terms of  $t$ .

$$\mathbf{r} = \frac{1}{15}e^{3t}(17\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}) - \frac{1}{10}e^{-2t}(3\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j})e^t + \frac{1}{6}(\mathbf{i} + 12\mathbf{j}) - t\mathbf{i}$$

or

$$\mathbf{r} = \left(\frac{17}{15}e^{3t} - \frac{3}{10}e^{-2t} - t + \frac{1}{6}\right)\mathbf{i} + \left(-\frac{1}{5}e^{3t} + \frac{1}{5}e^{-2t} + 2\right)\mathbf{j}$$

$\frac{d^2\mathbf{r}}{dt^2} - \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dt} = 6(\mathbf{r} + t\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j})$   $t=0$   $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j}$   
 $\mathbf{v} = 3\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j}$

START BY REWRITING THE O.D.E IN ITS SCALAR FORM

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} - \frac{dx}{dt} - 6x = 6t - 12$$

THIS SPLIT INTO TWO O.D.Es FOR  $x = f(t) + g(t)$

$$\frac{d^2f}{dt^2} - \frac{df}{dt} - 6f = 6t$$

$$\frac{d^2g}{dt^2} - \frac{dg}{dt} - 6g = -12$$

THE AUXILIARY EQUATION FOR EITHER O.D.E IS

$$\lambda^2 - \lambda - 6 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda + 2)(\lambda - 3) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = -2$$

$\therefore x = Ae^{3t} + Be^{-2t}$   $y = Ce^{3t} + De^{-2t}$

PARTICULAR INTEGRAL FOR THE FIRST EQUATION

- $x = Pt + Q$
- $\frac{dx}{dt} = P$
- $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = 0$

SUB INTO THE O.D.E

$$-P - (Pt + Q) = 6t$$

$$\Rightarrow -6Pt - P - Q = 6t$$

$\therefore P = -1$   $Q = \frac{1}{6}$

PARTICULAR INTEGRAL FOR THE SECOND EQUATION

BY INSPECTION  $y = 2$

HENCE WE HAVE THE INDIVIDUAL GENERAL SOLUTIONS BEFORE TO APPLY CONDITIONS

$$x = Ae^{3t} + Be^{-2t} - t + \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 3Ae^{3t} - 2Be^{-2t} - 1$$

- $t=0, x=1$
- $\Rightarrow 1 = A + B + \frac{1}{6}$
- $\Rightarrow A + B = \frac{5}{6}$
- $t=0, \frac{dx}{dt} = 3$
- $\Rightarrow 3 = 3A - 2B - 1$
- $\Rightarrow 3A - 2B = 4$

$$\left[ \begin{matrix} A + B = \frac{5}{6} \\ 3A - 2B = 4 \end{matrix} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow 3\left(\frac{5}{6} - B\right) - 2B = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{5}{2} - 3B - 2B = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow -5B = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow B = -\frac{3}{10}, A = \frac{17}{30}$$

$$y = Ce^{3t} + De^{-2t} + 2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 3Ce^{3t} - 2De^{-2t}$$

- $t=0, y=2$
- $\Rightarrow 2 = C + D + 2$
- $\Rightarrow C + D = 0$
- $t=0, \frac{dy}{dt} = -1$
- $\Rightarrow -1 = 3C - 2D$

$$\left[ \begin{matrix} C + D = 0 \\ -1 = 3C - 2C \end{matrix} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow -1 = 3C - 2(-C)$$

$$\Rightarrow -1 = 5C$$

$$C = -\frac{1}{5}$$

$$D = \frac{1}{5}$$

HENCE WE FINALLY OBTAIN

$$x = \frac{17}{30}e^{3t} - \frac{3}{10}e^{-2t} - t + \frac{1}{6}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{5}e^{3t} - \frac{1}{5}e^{-2t} + 2$$

$$\mathbf{r} = \left[ \frac{17}{30}e^{3t} - \frac{3}{10}e^{-2t} - t + \frac{1}{6} \right]\mathbf{i} + \left[ \frac{1}{5}e^{3t} - \frac{1}{5}e^{-2t} + 2 \right]\mathbf{j}$$

OR

$$\mathbf{r} = \frac{1}{15}e^{3t}(17\mathbf{i} - 3\mathbf{j}) - \frac{1}{10}e^{-2t}(3\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j})e^t + \frac{1}{6}(\mathbf{i} + 12\mathbf{j}) - t\mathbf{i}$$