

1. For the differential equation $x \frac{dy}{dx} + 3y = 2x^5$

(a) Verify that $y = \frac{1}{4}x^5 + Cx^{-3}$ is a general solution.

$$y' = \frac{5}{4}x^4 - 3Cx^{-4}. \quad xy' = \frac{5}{4}x^5 - 3Cx^{-3}.$$

$$\text{LHS} = xy' + 3y = \frac{5}{4}x^5 - 3Cx^{-3} + \frac{3}{4}x^5 + 3Cx^{-3} = 2x^5 = \text{RHS}.$$

(b) Find a particular solution satisfying $y(2) = 1$.

At $x = 2$, $y = 1$. Therefore, $1 = \frac{1}{4} \times 32 + \frac{C}{8} = 8 + \frac{C}{8}$. This gives $C = -56$. The particular solution is $y = \frac{1}{4}x^5 - 56x^{-3}$

2. Solve the initial value problem $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{10}{x^2+1}$, $y(1) = 2$.

$y = \int \frac{10}{x^2+1} dx = 10 \tan^{-1} x + C$. At $x = 1$, $y = 2$. Thus $2 = 10 \tan^{-1} 1 + C = \frac{5\pi}{2} + C$. This gives $C = 2 - \frac{5\pi}{2}$. The particular solution is $y = 10 \tan^{-1} x + 2 - \frac{5\pi}{2}$.

3. **(2points)** Extra Credit In the Swimmers Problem, if the velocity v_R of flow of the water is represented by a cosine function, find an explicit representation of v_R as a function of x and then solve the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{v_R}{v_S}$, where v_S is the swimmer's velocity (assumed to be constant).

$v_R = \frac{v_0}{2} \left(1 + \cos \frac{\pi x}{a} \right)$. The differential equation is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{v_0}{2v_S} \left(1 + \cos \frac{\pi x}{a} \right).$$

Solving, we obtain

$$y = \frac{v_0}{2v_S} \left(x + \frac{a}{\pi} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \right) + C$$

Using the initial condition $y(-a) = 0$ gives $C = \frac{v_0}{2v_S} a$. Hence, we have the solution

$$y = \frac{v_0}{2v_S} \left(x + a + \frac{a}{\pi} \sin \frac{\pi x}{a} \right).$$

The swimmer lands at $y(a) = \frac{v_0}{v_S} a$.