

For every first-order ODE, try one of the following ways of solving: separation of variables, exact integration, substituting $y = vx$ in homogeneous equations, using integrating factors to make linear equations exact.

1. Solve the differential equation: $x \, dy/dx = 2(y - 4)$. What does the family of solution curves look like?
2. Is the following ODE exact? Why/why not? Solve this ODE.

$$(\ln x)dy + \frac{y}{x}dx = 0. \quad (1)$$

3. Solve the damped harmonic oscillator equation

$$m\ddot{x} = -kx - \gamma\dot{x} \quad (2)$$

using the techniques for solving a second order ODE. What is the nature of the solution at high and low values of the damping coefficients γ ?

4. (a) Convert the same second order damped harmonic oscillator equation to a first order ODE in the phase space (x, \dot{x}) . What is the general form of the solution? Your answer should involve a matrix exponential.
- (b) You will learn how to efficiently exponentiate such matrices in your quantum mechanics course. For now, investigate the behavior of the oscillator in the phase space in the no-damping limit $\gamma = 0$ and in the weak spring limit, $k = 0$. For solving this examine the first five terms in the Taylor expansion of the exponential after taking each limit. You will also need the Taylor expansions

$$\cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \dots \quad (3)$$

and

$$\sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \dots \quad (4)$$

From your solved expressions for $x(t)$ and $v(t)$, visualize the motion in phase space (x, v) by evaluating and plotting it at several different values of t , in the Desmos calculator.

5. Solve the differential equations

- (a) $x^2 dy + y(y - x)dx = 0$, given that $y(x = 1) = 1$.
- (b) $dy/dx = y - x$, the ODE which you numerically approximated using Euler method.
- (c) $x \, dy/dx - 2y = x^4 \sin x$.