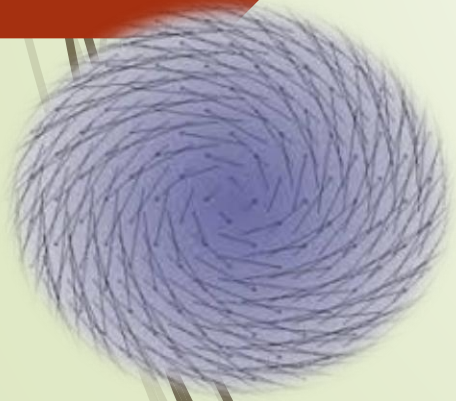


# Ordinary Differential Equations

Clairaut Equation & D'Alembert/Lagrange Equation

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# LAGRANGE/D'Alembert EQUATION

- An implicit differential equation of type  $y = f(x, y')$  of the following form

$$y = x \cdot \varphi(y') + \psi(y')$$

where  $\varphi(y')$  and  $\psi(y')$  are known functions differentiable on a certain interval, is called the **Lagrange equation**.

- By setting  $y' = p$  and differentiating with respect to  $x$ , we get the general solution of the equation in parametric form:

$$\begin{cases} x = f(p, C) \\ y = f(p, C)\varphi(p) + \psi(p) \end{cases}$$

provided that  $\varphi(p) - p \neq 0$ , where  $p$  is a parameter.

- Lagrange equation may also have a singular solution if the condition  $\varphi(p) - p \neq 0$  is failed (or if  $\varphi(p) - p = 0$ ).  
singular solution is given by the expression:  $y = x \cdot \varphi(p^*) + \psi(p^*)$   
where  $p^*$  is the root of the equation  $\varphi(p) - p = 0$

# Example 1

Find the general and singular solutions of the differential equation

$$y = 2xy' - 3(y')^2$$

Solution.

Here we see that we deal with a Lagrange equation. We will solve it using the method of differentiation.

- Denote  $y' = p$ , so the equation is written in the form:  $y = 2xp - 3p^2$
- Differentiate both sides with respect to  $x$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= 2p + (2x - 6p) \frac{dp}{dx} \\ \Leftrightarrow p &= 2p + (2x - 6p) \frac{dp}{dx} \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{dx}{dp} + \frac{2}{p}x - 6 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

As it can be seen, we obtain a linear equation for the function  $x(p)$ .

➤ The integrating factor is  $\mu(p) = \exp \int \frac{2}{p} dp = \exp \ln|p|^2 = p^2$

➤ The general solution of the linear equation is given by

$$p^2 \cdot x(p) = \int p^2 \cdot 6 dp + C$$

$$x(p) = 2p + \frac{C}{p^2}$$

➤ Substituting this expression for  $x$  into the Lagrange equation, we obtain:

$$y = 2 \left( 2p + \frac{C}{p^2} \right) p - 3p^2 = p^2 + \frac{2C}{p}$$

➤ Thus, the general solution in parametric form is defined by the

system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x(p) = 2p + \frac{C}{p^2} \\ y(p) = p^2 + \frac{2C}{p} \end{cases}$$

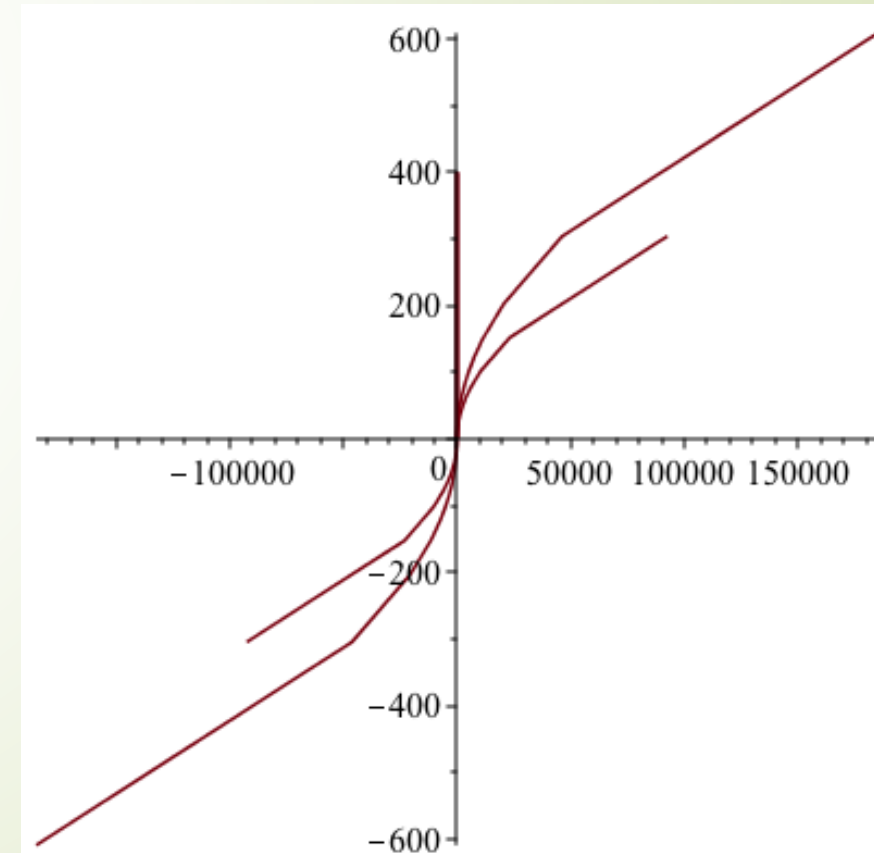
- Besides, the Lagrange equation can have a singular solution. Solving the equation  $\varphi(p) - p = 0$ ,

we find the root:

$$2p - p = 0, \quad \Rightarrow p = 0$$

- Hence, the singular solution is expressed by the linear function:

$$y = \varphi(0)x + \psi(0) = 0$$



## Example 2

Find the general and singular solutions of the equation

$$2y - 4xy' - \ln y' = 0$$

Solution.

Here we have a Lagrange equation. By setting  $y' = p$ , we can write:

$$2y = 4xp + \ln p$$

Differentiate both sides by  $x$ , we have:

$$2 \frac{dy}{dx} = 4p + \left(4x + \frac{1}{p}\right) \frac{dp}{dx}$$

$$2p = 4p + \left(4x + \frac{1}{p}\right) \frac{dp}{dx}$$

$$\frac{dx}{dp} + \frac{2}{p}x = \frac{1}{2p^2}$$

Thus, we get a linear differential equation for the function  $x(p)$ .



using the integrating factor :  $\mu(p) = \exp\left(\int \frac{2}{p} dp\right) = \exp(\ln|p|^2) = p^2$

The function  $x(p)$  is defined by

$$x(p)p^2 = \int p^2 \left(-\frac{1}{2p^2}\right) dp + C$$

$$x(p) = -\frac{1}{2p} + \frac{C}{p^2}$$

Substituting this into the original equation,  $2y = 4xp + \ln p$

$$\Leftrightarrow 2y = 4\left(-\frac{1}{2p} + \frac{C}{p^2}\right)p + \ln p$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y = \frac{2C}{p} - 1 + \frac{\ln p}{2}$$

Hence, the general solution in parametric form is written as follows:

$$\begin{cases} x(p) = \frac{C}{p^2} - \frac{1}{2p} \\ y(p) = \frac{2C}{p} - 1 + \frac{\ln p}{2} \end{cases}$$

To find the singular solution, we solve the equation:

$$\varphi(p) - p = 0, \Rightarrow 2p - p = 0, \Rightarrow p = 0$$

It follows from this that  $y = C$ . We can make direct substitution to make sure that the constant  $C$  is equal to zero.

Thus, the differential equation has the singular solution  $y = 0$ . We have already met with this solution above when we divided the equation by  $p$ .



# Clairaut Equation

If Lagrange Equation  $y = x \cdot \varphi(y') + \psi(y')$  with  $\varphi(y') = y'$ , then we have  
$$y = x \cdot y' + \psi(y')$$

This is called **Clairaut Equation**.

It is solved in the same way by introducing a parameter  $y' = p$  and differentiating both sides of the equation to have:  $\{x + \psi'(p)\} \frac{dp}{dx} = 0$ .

From  $\frac{dp}{dx} = 0$  we obtain  $y = C$ ,  $C$  arbitrary constant. **The general solution** is given by  $y = Cx + \psi(C)$ .

➔ Clairaut equation may have a **singular equation** that is given by:

$$\begin{cases} x = -\psi'(p) \\ y = xp + \psi(p) \end{cases}$$

where  $p$  is a parameter.

## Example 3

Find the general and singular solutions of the differential equation  $y = xy' + (y')^2$ .

Solution.

This is a Clairaut equation.

By setting  $y' = p$ , we write it in the form  $y = xp + p^2$

Differentiating in  $x$ , we have

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = p + (x + 2p) \frac{dp}{dx}$$

$$p = p + (x + 2p) \frac{dp}{dx}$$

$$0 = (x + 2p) \frac{dp}{dx}$$

$$0 = (x + 2p) dp$$

By equating the first factor to zero, we have  $dp = 0, \Rightarrow p = C$

Now we substitute this into the differential equation to have:  $y = Cx + C^2$

Thus, we obtain the **general solution** of the Clairaut equation, which is an one-parameter *family of straight lines*.

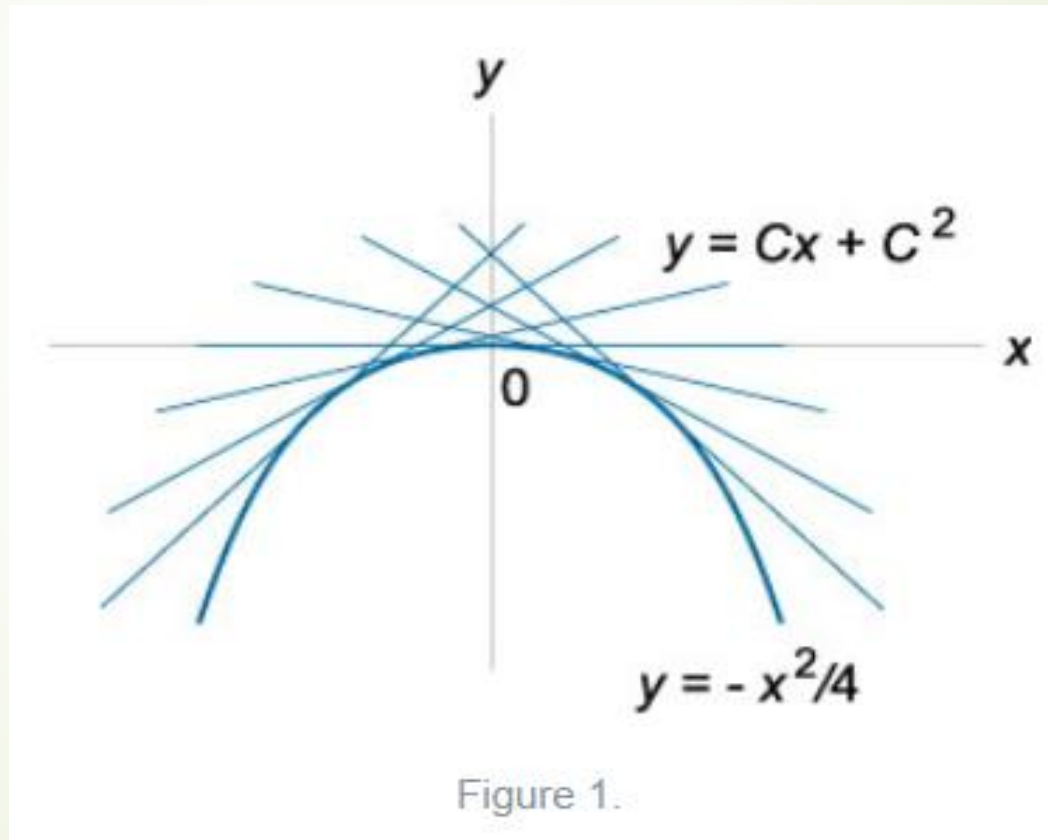
- By equating the second term to zero we find that  $x + 2p = 0, \Rightarrow x = -2p$
- This gives us **the singular solution** of the differential equation in parametric form:

$$\begin{cases} x = -2p \\ y = xp + p^2 \end{cases}$$

- By eliminating  $p$  from this system, we get the equation of the integral curve:

$$p = -\frac{x}{2}, \quad \Rightarrow y = x \left( -\frac{x}{2} \right) + \left( -\frac{x}{2} \right)^2$$
$$y = -\frac{x^2}{4}$$

From geometric point of view, the curve  $y = -\frac{x^2}{4}$  is the envelope of the family of straight lines defined by the general solution (see Figure 1).



## Example 4

Find the general and singular solutions of the ODE  $y = xy' + \sqrt{(y')^2 + 1}$

Solution.

As it can be seen, this is a Clairaut equation. Introduce the parameter  $y' = p$ , we have :  $y = xp + \sqrt{p^2 + 1}$

Differentiating both sides with respect to  $x$ , we get:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = p + \left( x + \frac{p}{\sqrt{p^2 + 1}} \right) \frac{dp}{dx}$$

$$p = p + \left( x + \frac{p}{\sqrt{p^2 + 1}} \right) \frac{dp}{dx}$$

$$\left( x + \frac{p}{\sqrt{p^2 + 1}} \right) dp = 0$$

Consider the case  $dp = 0$ , then  $p = C$ .

Substituting this in the equation, we find the general solution:  $y = Cx + \sqrt{C^2 + 1}$

Graphically, this solution corresponds to the family of one-parameter straight lines.

► The second case is described by the equation  $x = -\frac{p}{\sqrt{p^2+1}}$ .

Find the corresponding parametric expression for  $y$ :

$$y = xp + \sqrt{p^2 + 1}$$
$$y = -\frac{p^2}{\sqrt{p^2 + 1}} + \sqrt{p^2 + 1}$$
$$y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{p^2 + 1}}$$

► The parameter  $p$  can be eliminated from the formulas for  $x$  and  $y$ .

$$x^2 + y^2 = \left(-\frac{p}{\sqrt{p^2+1}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{p^2+1}}\right)^2 = 1$$



The last expression is the equation of the circle with radius 1 and centered at the origin. Thus, the singular solution is represented by the unit circle on the  $xy$ -plane, which is the envelope of the family of the straight lines (Figure 2).

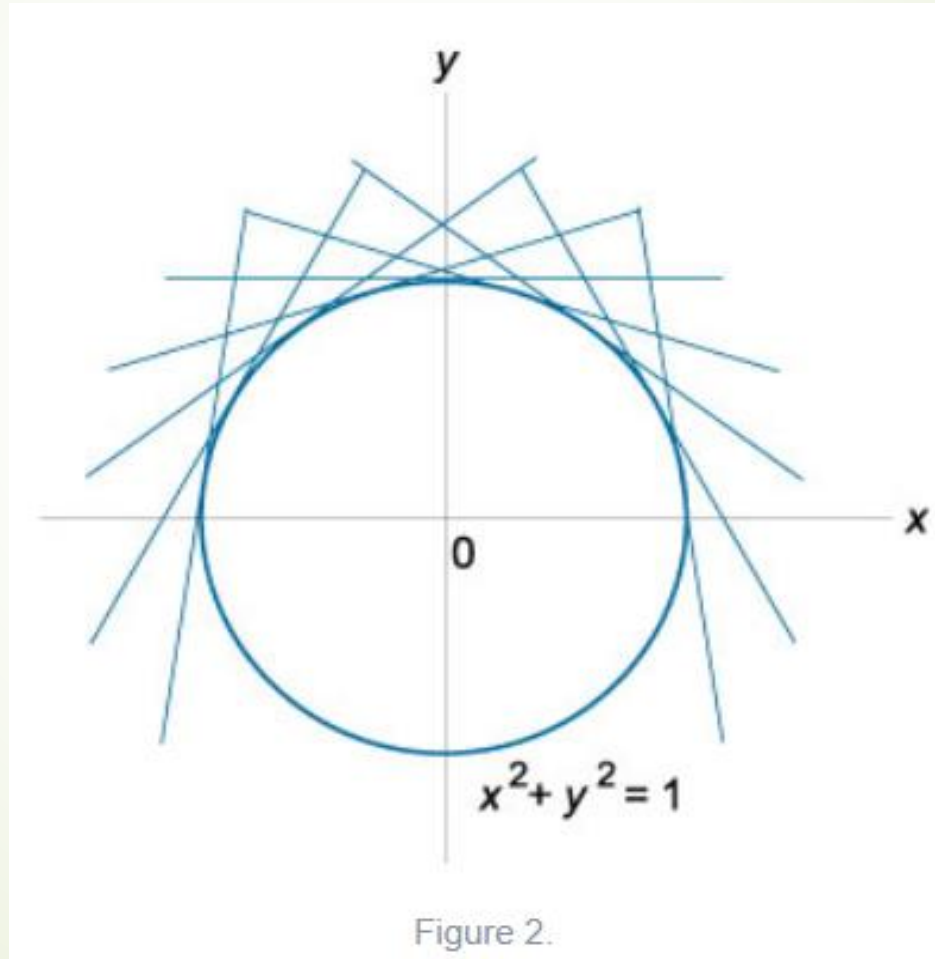


Figure 2.



# Exercises

Find the general solution and singular solution of the following equations and sketch the solutions using Maple

1.  $y = px - 2p^2$

2.  $xp^2 - 2yp + 4x = 0.$

# Clairaut Equation

Clairaut equation is special case of implicit equation **type 2**:  $y = f(x, y')$ .

The Clairaut equation has the form:

$$y = xy' + \psi(y')$$

where  $\psi(y')$  is a nonlinear differentiable function.

By setting  $y' = p$  and differentiating with respect to  $x$ , we get the general solution of the equation in parametric form:

$$y = Cx + \psi(C),$$

where  $C$  is an arbitrary constant.

The Clairaut equation may have a **singular solution** that is expressed parametrically in the form:

$$\begin{cases} x = -\psi(p) \\ y = xp + \psi(p) \end{cases}$$

where  $p$  is a parameter.



# example

- Find the general and singular solutions of the differential equation  $y = xy' + (y')^2$ .

## **Solution:**

By setting  $y' = p$ , we write it in the form  $y = xp + p^2$ .

Differentiating in  $x$ , we have

- $dy = xdp + pdx + 2pdp$ .
- Replace  $dy$  with  $pdx$  to obtain:
- $pdx$
- $= xdp + pdx + 2pdp, \Rightarrow dp(x + 2p) = 0$ .
- By equating the first factor to zero, we have
- $dp = 0, \Rightarrow p = C$ .

# Definition and Methods of Solution

An equation of type  $F(x, y, y') = 0$

where  $F$  is a continuous function, is called the **first order implicit differential equation**.

The main techniques for solving an implicit differential equation is the method of introducing a parameter. Below we show how this method works to find the general solution for some most important particular cases of implicit differential equations.

There are five types in Implicit Differential Equations.

- $(y' - F_1)(y' - F_2) \dots (y' - F_n) = 0$
- $y = f(x, y')$
- $x = f(y, y')$
- $y = f(y')$
- $x = f(y')$

## Type 2: Implicit Differential Equation of Type $y = f(x, y')$

Let the parameter  $p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$  and differentiate the equation

$y = f(x, y') = f(x, p)$  with respect to  $x$  to have:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d[f(x,p)]}{dx} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \cdot \frac{dp}{dx} \quad \text{or} \quad p = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \cdot \frac{dp}{dx}$$

Solving the last diff equation, we get the algebraic equation  $g(x, p, C) = 0$  or  $x = g(p, C)$ .

Together with the original equation, they form the following system of equations:

$$\begin{cases} x = g(p, C) \\ y = f(x, p) \end{cases}$$

which is the general solution of the given differential equation in the parametric form. In some cases, when the parameter  $p$  can be eliminated from the system, the general solution can be written in the explicit form

$$y = f(x, C)$$



## Example 2

Solve the differential equation  $2y = 2x^2 + 4xy' + (y')^2$

*Solution:*

Let  $y' = p$ , so we can rewrite the equation as

$$2y = 2x^2 + 4xp + (p)^2$$

Differentiate both sides and taking into account that  $dy = p dx$ :

$$2dy = 4xdx + 4pdx + 4xdp + 2pdp$$

$$dy = 2xdx + 2pdx + 2xdp + pdp$$

$$\underline{pdx} = 2xdx + \underline{2pdx} + 2xdp + pdp$$

$$0 = 2xdx + pdx + 2xdp + pdp$$

$$0 = (2x + p)dx + (2x + p)dp$$

$$0 = (2x + p)(dx + dp)$$

► We have two solutions that satisfy the last equation, that is:

$$2x + p = 0$$

Hence,  $2x + y' = 0 \Rightarrow y' = -2x, \Rightarrow dy = -2x dx$

► By integrating this simple equation, we obtain:

$$y_1 = -x^2 + C$$

where  $C$  is a constant. To determine the value of  $C$ , we substitute this answer in the original differential equation :

$$2(-x^2 + C) = 2x^2 + 4x(-2x) + (-2x)^2$$

$$-2x^2 + 2C = 2x^2 - 8x^2 + 4x^2$$

$$2C = 0 \Rightarrow C = 0$$

Thus, the first solution is  $y = -x^2$

► Now we consider the second solution:  $dx + dp = 0$

Then  $\int dx = -\int dp \Rightarrow x = -p + C$

► Remember that we have the differential equation :  $2y = 2x^2 + 4xp + p^2$

► We can substitute the known expression for  $x$  (as a function of the parameter  $p$ ) to find the dependence of  $y$  on  $p$ :

$$2y = 2(-p + C)^2 + 4(-p + C)p + p^2$$

$$2y = 2p^2 - 4pC + 2C^2 - 3p^2 + 4pC$$

$$2y = 2C^2 - p^2, \Rightarrow y = C^2 - \frac{p^2}{2}$$

► Thus, the second solution is given parametrically by the following system:

$$\begin{cases} x = -p + C \\ y = C^2 - \frac{p^2}{2} \end{cases}$$

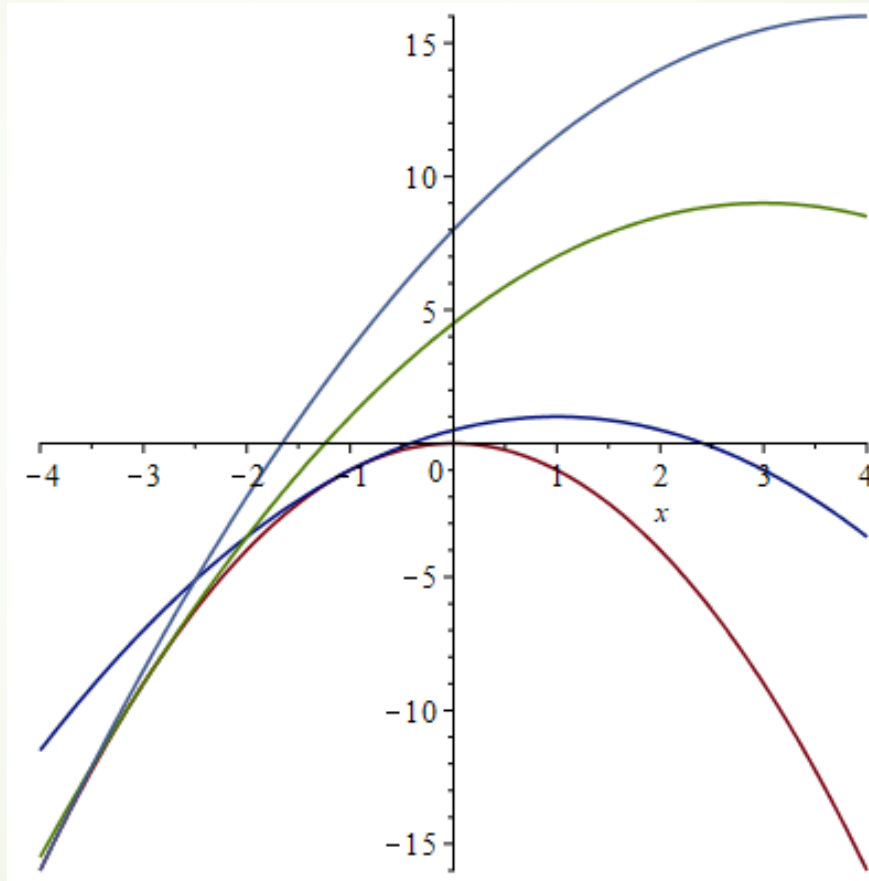
where  $C$  is a constant. Eliminating the parameter  $p$ , we can write the explicit solution:

$$p = C - x \Rightarrow y_2 = C^2 - \frac{(C - x)^2}{2}$$

► The final answer is given by  $y = -x^2$  ,  $y = C^2 - \frac{(C-x)^2}{2}$

Figure of the solution

$y_1$  is the envelope of  $y_2$



## Exercise 1

Solve the differential equation :

1.  $y = xy' + (y')^2$

2.  $y = x^2p^4 + 2xp$

## Type 3: Implicit Diff Equation of Type $x = f(y, y')$

The variable  $x$  is expressed explicitly in terms of  $y$  and the derivative  $y'$ .

- ▶ Let the parameter  $p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$ .
- ▶ Differentiate the equation  $x = f(y, y') = f(y, p)$  with respect to  $y$ .

This produces: 
$$\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{d[f(y,p)]}{dy} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \cdot \frac{dp}{dy}$$

As  $\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{1}{p}$ , the last expression can be written as follows: 
$$\frac{1}{p} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \cdot \frac{dp}{dy}$$

- ▶ We obtain an explicit differential equation such that its general solution is given by the function  $g(y, p, C) = 0$  or  $y = g(p, C)$  where  $C$  is a constant.
- ▶ Thus, the general solution of the original implicit differential equation is defined in the parametric form by the system of two algebraic equations:
$$\begin{cases} y = g(p, C) \\ x = f(y, p) \end{cases}$$
- ▶ If the parameter  $p$  can be eliminated from the system, the general solution is given in the explicit form  $x = f(y, C)$



## Type 4: Implicit Diff Equation of Type $y = f(y')$

- The equation of this kind does not contain the variable  $x$  and can be solved the similar way. Using the parameter  $p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$ , we can write  $dx = \frac{1}{p} dy$ .
- Then it follows from the equation that  $dx = \frac{1}{p} \frac{df}{dp} dp$
- Integrating the last expression gives the general solution of the original implicit equation in parametric form:

$$\begin{cases} x = \int \frac{1}{p} \frac{df}{dp} dp + C \\ y = f(p) \end{cases}$$

### Example 3:

Find the general solution of the differential equation  $y = \ln[25 + (y')^2]$

*Solution.*

Using the parameter  $p$  we rewrite this equation :  $y = \ln[25 + p^2]$

Take the differentials of both sides:  $dy = \frac{2pdp}{25+p^2}$

As  $dy = pdx$ , we get

$$pdx = \frac{2pdp}{25 + p^2}$$

$$dx = \frac{2dp}{25 + p^2}$$

$$x = 2 \int \frac{dp}{25 + p^2}$$

$$x = \frac{2}{5} \arctan \frac{p}{5} + C$$



So we have the following parametric representation of the solution of the differential equation:

$$\begin{cases} x = \frac{2}{5} \arctan \frac{p}{5} + C \\ y = \ln(25 + p^2) \end{cases}$$

where  $C$  is an arbitrary constant.



## Type 5: Implicit Diff Equation of Type $x = f(y')$

➤ Here the differential equation does not contain the variable  $y$ .

➤ Using the parameter  $p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$ ,

it's easy to construct the general solution of the equation.

As  $dx = d[f(p)] = \frac{df}{dp} dp$  and  $dy = p dx$

➤ then the following relationship holds:

$$dy = p \frac{df}{dp} dp$$

➤ Integrating the last equation gives the general solution in the parametric form:

$$\begin{cases} y = \int p \frac{df}{dp} dp + C \\ x = f(p) \end{cases}$$

## Example 4

Find the general solution of the equation  $9(y')^2 - 4x = 0$

*Solution.*

Let the parameter  $p = y'$  and write the equation in the form:  $x = \frac{9}{4}p^2$

By taking differentials of both sides, we obtain:

$$dx = \frac{9}{4} 2p dp = \frac{9}{2} p dp$$

Since  $dy = p dx$ , the last expression can be presented as

$$\frac{dy}{p} = \frac{9}{2} p dp \Rightarrow dy = \frac{9}{2} p^2 dp$$

By integrating we find the dependence of the variable  $y$  on the parameter  $p$  :

$$y = \int \frac{9}{2} p^2 dp = \frac{3}{2} p^3 + C, \text{ where } C \text{ is a constant.}$$

- ▶ Thus, we get the general solution of the equation in parametric form:

$$\begin{cases} y = \frac{3}{2}p^3 + C \\ x = \frac{9}{2}p^2 \end{cases}$$

- ▶ We can eliminate the parameter  $p$  from this system. It follows from the second equation that

$$p^2 = \frac{4}{9}x, \quad \Rightarrow \quad p = \pm \frac{2}{3}x^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

- ▶ Substituting this in the first equation, we obtain the general solution as the explicit function  $y = f(x)$  :

$$y = \frac{3}{2} \left( \pm \frac{2}{3} x^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^3 + C = \pm \frac{4}{9} x^{\frac{3}{2}} + C$$