

## Types, order, and degree of differential equations

Indicate the type, order, and degree of each of the following differential equations:

1.  $y' = 2x$
2.  $xdy - ydx = 0$
3.  $y'' + y'^2 + y = 0$
4.  $y'^2 = 4 - y^2$
5.  $y'' + 5x + y = 0$
6.  $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$
7.  $y''' - 4y' = 3e^{2x}$
8.  $y''' - 6y'' + 2y' + 36y = 0$
9.  $x^2y'' - 2xy' - 4y = 0$
10.  $x^2y'' + xy' + y = \ln x$

## Solutions

1.

$$y' = 2x$$

We can indicate the type, order, and degree as follows:

- **Type:** Ordinary differential equation (ODE), as it involves ordinary derivatives with respect to a single independent variable.
- **Order:** First order, because the highest order derivative is of the first order ( $y'$ ).
- **Degree:** First degree, because the highest order derivative appears with an exponent of 1 and is not raised to any power or within a non-algebraic function.

2.

$$x dy - y dx = 0$$

Type, order, and degree of this differential equation:

- **Type:** Ordinary differential equation (ODE), as it involves ordinary derivatives with respect to a single independent variable.
- **Order:** First order, because the highest order derivative is of the first order ( $\frac{dy}{dx}$ ).
- **Degree:** First degree, because the highest order derivative appears with an exponent of 1 and is not raised to any power or within a non-algebraic function.

3.

$$y'' + (y')^2 + y = 0$$

Type, order, and degree of this differential equation:

- **Type:** Ordinary differential equation (ODE), as it involves ordinary derivatives with respect to a single independent variable.
- **Order:** Second order, because the highest order derivative is of the second order ( $y''$ ).
- **Degree:** First degree, because the highest order derivative ( $y''$ ) appears with an exponent of 1 and is not raised to any power or within a non-algebraic function.

4.

$$(y')^2 = 4 - y^2$$

Type, order, and degree of this differential equation:

- **Type:** Ordinary differential equation (ODE), as it involves ordinary derivatives with respect to a single independent variable.
- **Order:** First order, because the highest order derivative is of the first order ( $y'$ ).
- **Degree:** Second degree, because the highest order derivative ( $y'$ ) is squared.

5.

$$y'' + 5x + y = 0$$

Type, order, and degree of this differential equation:

- **Type:** Ordinary differential equation (ODE), as it involves ordinary derivatives with respect to a single independent variable.
- **Order:** Second order, because the highest order derivative is of the second order ( $y''$ ).
- **Degree:** First degree, because the highest order derivative ( $y''$ ) appears with an exponent of 1 and is not raised to any power or within a non-algebraic function.

6.

$$\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}$$

Type, order, and degree of this differential equation:

- **Type:** Partial differential equation (PDE), as it involves partial derivatives with respect to more than one independent variable.
- **Order:** Second order, because the highest order derivative is of the second order  $\left(\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial x^2}\right)$ .
- **Degree:** First degree, because the highest order derivative appears with an exponent of 1 and is not raised to any power or within a non-algebraic function.

7.

$$y''' - 4y' = 3e^{2x}$$

- **Type:** Ordinary differential equation (ODE), because it involves ordinary derivatives of  $y$  with respect to the independent variable  $x$ .
- **Order:** Third order, as the highest order derivative present is  $y'''$ .
- **Linearity:** Linear, because  $y$  and its derivatives appear linearly (not raised to powers or multiplied by each other).
- **Homogeneity:** **Non-homogeneous**, because there is a non-zero term  $3e^{2x}$  on the right side of the equation.
- **Coefficients:** Constant, as the coefficients of  $y'''$  and  $y'$  are constant numbers (1 and  $-4$ , respectively).

8.

$$y''' - 6y'' + 2y' + 36y = 0$$

- **Type:** Ordinary differential equation (ODE), as it involves ordinary derivatives of  $y$  with respect to  $x$ .
- **Order:** Third order, because the highest order derivative is  $y'''$ .
- **Linearity:** Linear, because  $y$  and its derivatives appear to the first degree and are not multiplied by each other.
- **Homogeneity:** **Homogeneous**, because the independent term is zero; all terms contain  $y$  or its derivatives.
- **Coefficients:** Constant, as the coefficients ( $-6$ ,  $2$ , and  $36$ ) are constant numbers.

9.

$$x^2y'' - 2xy' - 4y = 0$$

- **Type:** Ordinary differential equation (ODE), as it involves ordinary derivatives with respect to  $x$ .
- **Order:** Second order, as the highest order derivative is  $y''$ .
- **Linearity:** Linear, because  $y$  and its derivatives appear linearly and are not raised to powers or multiplied by each other.
- **Homogeneity:** **Homogeneous**, because the independent term is zero; all terms depend on  $y$  or its derivatives.
- **Coefficients:** Variable, as the coefficients  $x^2$  and  $-2x$  depend on the independent variable  $x$ .

10.

$$x^2y'' + xy' + y = \ln x$$

- **Type:** Ordinary differential equation (ODE), as it involves ordinary derivatives of  $y$  with respect to  $x$ .
- **Order:** Second order, as the highest order derivative present is  $y''$ .
- **Linearity:** Linear, because  $y$  and its derivatives appear in the first degree and are not multiplied by each other.
- **Homogeneity: Non-homogeneous**, because there is a non-zero term  $\ln x$  on the right side.
- **Coefficients:** Variable, as the coefficients  $x^2$  and  $x$  are functions of the independent variable  $x$ .