

2012.3 Question 1

We have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dz}{dx} &= n \cdot y^{n-1} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 + y^n \cdot 2 \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} \cdot \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \\ &= y^{n-1} \frac{dy}{dx} \left[n \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 + 2y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right],\end{aligned}$$

as desired.

1. Let $n = 1$, we have $z = y \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2$, and

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dx} \left[\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 + 2y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right].$$

Hence, the differential equation

$$\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 + 2y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \sqrt{y}$$

simplifies to

$$\frac{\frac{dz}{dx}}{\frac{dy}{dx}} = \sqrt{y},$$

and hence

$$\frac{dz}{dy} = \sqrt{y}.$$

Hence, by integration,

$$z = \frac{2}{3}y^{\frac{3}{2}} + C.$$

When $x = 0$, $y = 1$ and $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$, and hence $z = 0$. Hence,

$$0 = \frac{2}{3} + C,$$

and therefore $C = -\frac{2}{3}$.

We therefore have

$$y \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 = \frac{2}{3}y^{\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{2}{3},$$

and hence

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3} \left(\sqrt{y} - \frac{1}{y} \right)}.$$

Rearrangement gives

$$\frac{\sqrt{y} dy}{\sqrt{y^{\frac{3}{2}} - 1}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} dx.$$

Notice that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\sqrt{y^{\frac{3}{2}} - 1}}{dy} &= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{y^{\frac{3}{2}} - 1}} \cdot \frac{3}{2} \cdot \sqrt{y} \\ &= \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{y}}{\sqrt{y^{\frac{3}{2}} - 1}},\end{aligned}$$

and hence by integration

$$\frac{4}{3} \cdot \sqrt{y^{\frac{3}{2}} - 1} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}}x + C.$$

When $x = 0, y = 1$, and hence $C = 0$. Therefore,

$$\sqrt{y^{\frac{3}{2}} - 1} = \sqrt{\frac{3}{8}}x,$$

and hence

$$y^{\frac{3}{2}} = \frac{3}{8}x^2 + 1,$$

and hence

$$y = \left(\frac{3}{8}x^2 + 1\right)^{\frac{2}{3}},$$

as desired.

2. Let $n = -2$, we have $z = y^{-2} \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2$, and

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = -2y^{-3} \frac{dy}{dx} \left[\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 - y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} \right].$$

Hence, the differential equation

$$\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 - y \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + y^2 = 0$$

simplifies to

$$\frac{\frac{dz}{dx}}{-2y^{-3} \frac{dy}{dx}} + y^2 = 0,$$

which gives

$$\frac{dz}{dy} = \frac{2}{y}.$$

By integration on both sides, we have

$$z = 2 \ln y + C,$$

and when $x = 0, y = 1, \frac{dy}{dx} = 0$, which gives $z = 0$. Hence, $C = 0$, and

$$y^{-2} \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2 = 2 \ln y,$$

which gives

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y \sqrt{2 \ln y},$$

and therefore,

$$\frac{dy}{y \sqrt{\ln y}} = \sqrt{2} dx.$$

By integration,

$$\int \frac{dy}{y \sqrt{\ln y}} = \int \frac{d \ln y}{\sqrt{\ln y}} = 2 \sqrt{\ln y} + C,$$

and hence

$$2 \sqrt{\ln y} = \sqrt{2}x + C.$$

When $x = 0, y = 1$, so $C = 0$, and hence

$$\sqrt{\ln y} = \frac{x}{\sqrt{2}},$$

and therefore, the solution to the original differential equation is

$$y = e^{\frac{x^2}{2}}.$$