

Homogeneous Diff EQ

These are not the same as the separable differential equations from AP Calculus BC .
Bummer! No worries. They are not that difficult.

$\frac{dy}{dx} = f\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$ which can be easily solved by using the substitution $y = vx$ where v is a function of x . This is called the change of variables method.

This substitution will rewrite the differential equation to a separable form. Here is an example.

Use the substitution $y = vx$, where v is a function of x to solve:

Find a solution to the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x} - 2$
that passes through the point (1,1)

Ack! We can't separate the way we did in AP
Calculus! We need to learn this method.

$$y = vx \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx}$$

[Implicit differentiation with the product rule]

$$\text{And, } \frac{y}{x} = v$$

Now let's go back to the original equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y}{x} - 2 \quad \text{Start substituting}$$

$$\cancel{v} + x \frac{dv}{dx} = \cancel{v} - 2$$

$$x \frac{dv}{dx} = -2$$

$$\frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{-2}{x}$$

Now we can do what you learned in AP
Calculus

Separate

$$\int dv = \int \frac{-2}{x} dx$$

Integrate

$$v = -2\ln x + C$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = -2\ln x + C$$

Solve for C given that the point (1, 1) is on the
curve

$$\frac{1}{1} = -2\ln 1 + C \quad \text{Hence } C=1$$

Solve for y

$$y = x(1 - 2\ln x)$$

Example 2

Find a solution to the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3 - \frac{y}{x}$
that passes through the point (3,12)

$$y = vx \quad \text{Hence } \frac{y}{x} = v$$

AND $\frac{d}{dx} y = \frac{d}{dx} vx$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx}$$

my substitution stuff

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$$\begin{aligned} 12 &= v(3) \\ 4 &= v \end{aligned}$$

$$v + x \frac{dv}{dx} = 3 - v$$

$$x \frac{dv}{dx} = 3 - 2v$$

$$\int \frac{1}{3-2v} dv = \int \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} \ln|3-2v| = \ln|x| + C_1$$

use(x,v) $\ln|3-2v| = -2 \ln|x| + C_2$

(3,4) $\ln|-5| = -2 \ln 3 + C_2$

$$\ln 5 + 2 \ln 3 = C_2$$

$$\ln 45 = C_2$$

$$\ln|3-2v| = -2 \ln|x| + \ln 45$$

$$e^{\ln|3-2v|} = e^{-2 \ln|x| + \ln 45}$$

$$2v - 3 = \frac{45}{x^2}$$

$$2v = \frac{45}{x^2} + 3$$

$$2\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) = \frac{45}{x^2} + 3$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{45}{x} + 3x \right)$$

Example 3

Find the particular solution for $xy^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = x^3 + y^3$ given $y = 3$ when $x = 1$.

let $y = v x$ [SAME AS BEFORE]

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^3 + y^3}{xy^2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{y}{x}$$

NOW SUBSTITUTE
"v" STUFF

$$v + x \frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{1}{v^2} + v$$

$$x \frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{1}{v^2}$$

$$\int v^2 dv = \int \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$\frac{v^3}{3} = \ln|x| + C$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{y^3}{x^3} \right) = \ln|x| + C$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{3^3}{1^3} \right) = 0 + C$$

$$C = 9$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{y^3}{x^3} \right) = \ln|x| + 9$$

$$\frac{y^3}{x^3} = 3 \ln|x| + 27$$

$$y^3 = 3x^3 \ln|x| + 27x^3$$

$$y = \sqrt[3]{3x^3 \ln|x| + 27x^3}$$
$$y = x \left(\sqrt[3]{3 \ln|x| + 27} \right)$$

From a previous Paper 3 examination

Solve the differential equation

$$x^2 \frac{dy}{dx} = y^2 + xy + 4x^2,$$

given that $y = 2$ when $x = 1$. Give your answer in the form $y = f(x)$.

Now find the general solution for:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x-y}{x} \text{ using the substitution } y = vx$$

