

1. (1 point) Find the solution to the differential equation:

$$y' = \frac{y}{x^2}, \quad y(1) = 5$$

This is separable, so let's separate the variables.

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= \frac{y}{x^2} \\ \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} &= \frac{1}{x^2} \\ \int \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} dx &= \int \frac{1}{x^2} dx \\ \ln |y| &= \frac{-1}{x} + C \\ |y| &= e^{\frac{-1}{x} + C} \\ y &= Ae^{\frac{-1}{x}} \end{aligned}$$

where A is a constant. Using the initial value $y(1) = 5$, we can solve for A :

$$5 = Ae^{\frac{-1}{1}}$$

So $A = 5e$ and $y = 5e^{1-\frac{1}{x}}$ is the solution to the initial value problem.

(turn over)

2. (2 points) Find a solution y to the differential equation

$$y' = \frac{x + y}{x - y}$$

when x is positive. You do not need to express y explicitly.

(Hint: try substituting $v = y/x$).

Notice that if we multiply x and y by the same nonzero constant a , then the right hand side of the differential equation is unaffected (because $(ax + ay)/(ax - ay) = (x + y)(x - y)$). So that means the differential equation only depends on the ratio y/x , which is why the substitution $v = y/x$ might be fruitful.

If $v = y/x$, then $y = vx$. So then

$$\frac{x + y}{x - y} = \frac{x + vx}{x - vx} = \frac{1 + v}{1 - v}$$

On the other hand, we have:

$$y' = (vx)' = vx' + v'x = v + v'x$$

So combined we get

$$\begin{aligned}v + v'x &= \frac{1 + v}{1 - v} \\v'x &= \frac{1 + v - v + v^2}{1 - v} = \frac{1 + v^2}{1 - v} \\ \frac{1 - v}{1 + v^2} v' &= \frac{1}{x} \\ \int \frac{1}{1 + v^2} \frac{dv}{dx} dx - \int \frac{v}{1 + v^2} \frac{dv}{dx} dx &= \int \frac{dx}{x} \\ \arctan(v) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(1 + v^2) &= \ln(x) + C\end{aligned}$$

and now we substitute $v = y/x$ to get an equation in terms of only x and y :

$$\begin{aligned}\arctan(y/x) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(1 + y^2/x^2) &= \ln(x) + C \\ \arctan(y/x) - \frac{1}{2} \ln\left(\frac{x^2 + y^2}{x^2}\right) &= \ln(x) + C \\ \arctan(y/x) - \frac{1}{2} (\ln(x^2 + y^2) - 2\ln(x)) &= \ln(x) + C \\ \arctan(y/x) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(x^2 + y^2) &= C\end{aligned}$$