

Separable Differential Equations

A diff. eqⁿ is separable if

it is of the form

$$f(y) \frac{dy}{dt} = g(t)$$

for functions $f(y)$, $g(t)$.

Example

$$y^2 \frac{dy}{dt} = t^2$$

is separable.

Example

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ky - ty^2$$

is separable, because it can be expressed as

$$\frac{1}{ky - ty^2} \frac{dy}{dt} = 1$$

A separable eqn

$$f(y) \frac{dy}{dt} = g(t)$$

can be rewritten as

$$\frac{d}{dt} F(y) = g(t)$$

where $F(y)$ is any anti-derivative of $f(y)$.

Consequently

$$F(y) = \int g(t) dt + C$$

↑
Solution to the
diff. eqn.

↑
 $= \int f(y) dy$

Example Solve

$$y^2 \frac{dy}{dt} = t^2$$

Soln

$$\int y^2 dy = \int t^2 dt + c$$

$$\frac{1}{3} y^3 = \frac{t^3}{3} + c$$

$$y^3 = t^3 + c$$

$$y = (t^3 + c)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

solution.

Example Solve

$$e^y \frac{dy}{dt} - t - t^3 = 0$$

Soln

$$e^y \frac{dy}{dt} = t + t^3$$

$$\int e^y dy = \int t + t^3 dt$$

$$e^y = \frac{1}{2}t^2 + \frac{1}{4}t^4 + c$$

$$\ln(e^y) = \ln\left(\frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^4}{4} + c\right)$$

$$y = \ln\left(\frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^4}{4} + c\right)$$

Soln

Exercise Solve

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 1 + y^2, \quad y(0) = 0.$$

40% is the pass score.

you'll pass with $2\frac{1}{2}$ questions
done correctly.

Do not use a red pen
in exams.

Q1 2017

a) i)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\sqrt{4+x} - 2}{x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{\sqrt{4+x} - 2}{x} \right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{4+x} + 2}{\sqrt{4+x} + 2} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{4 + \cancel{x} - 4}{\cancel{x} (\sqrt{4+x} + 2)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4+x} + 2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}$$

Q1 a) ii)

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+2x} - x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{(\sqrt{x^2+2x} + x)}{(\sqrt{x^2+2x} - x)(\sqrt{x^2+2x} + x)}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+2x} + x}{x^2+2x - x^2}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{x^2+2x} + x}{2x}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\sqrt{1 + \frac{2}{x}} + 1}{2}$$

$$= 1.$$