Separable Differential Equations

Bernd Schröder

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- 2. That is, a differential equation is separable if the terms that are not equal to y' can be factored into a factor that only depends on x and another factor that only depends on y.
- 3. The solution method for separable differential equations looks like regular algebra with the added caveat that we use integrals to undo the differentials dx and dy from $y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$.

Solve the differential equation
$$y' = xe^y$$
.
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = xe^y$

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$$\frac{dy}{e^y} = x dx$$

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$$e^{-y} = -c - \frac{1}{2}x^{2}$$

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$$-e^{-y} = \frac{1}{2}x^{2} + c$$

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$$-y = \ln\left(C - \frac{1}{2}x^{2}\right)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = xe^{y}$$

$$\int \frac{dy}{e^{y}} = \int x \, dx$$

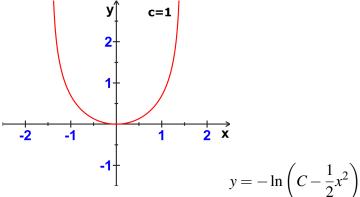
$$\int e^{-y} \, dy = \int x \, dx$$

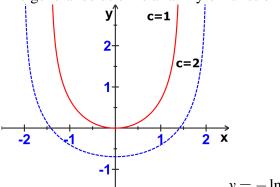
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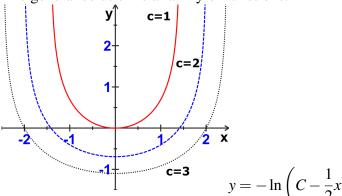
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- So we should always check the result.

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$$x\frac{1}{C - \frac{1}{2}x^{2}} = x\frac{1}{C - \frac{1}{2}x^{2}} \quad \checkmark$$