

Example: Solve $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x-y}{x+y}$

Can we get it in $F\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$ style?

Start with: $\frac{x-y}{x+y}$

Divide through by x : $\frac{x/x - y/x}{x/x + y/x}$

Simplify: $\frac{1 - y/x}{1 + y/x}$

Yes! So let's go:

Start with: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 - y/x}{1 + y/x}$

$y = vx$ and $\frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx}$ $v + x \frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{1-v}{1+v}$

Subtract v from both sides: $x \frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{1-v}{1+v} - v$

$$\text{Then: } x \frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{1-v}{1+v} - \frac{v+v^2}{1+v}$$

$$\text{Simplify: } x \frac{dv}{dx} = \frac{1-2v-v^2}{1+v}$$

Now use Separation of Variables :

$$\text{Separate the variables: } \frac{1+v}{1-2v-v^2} dv = \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$\text{Put the integral sign in front: } \int \frac{1+v}{1-2v-v^2} dv = \int \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$\text{Integrate: } -\frac{1}{2} \ln(1-2v-v^2) = \ln(x) + C$$

$$\text{Then we make } \mathbf{C = \ln(k)}: -\frac{1}{2} \ln(1-2v-v^2) = \ln(x) + \ln(k)$$

$$\text{Combine ln: } (1-2v-v^2)^{-1/2} = kx$$

$$\text{Square and Reciprocal: } 1-2v-v^2 = \frac{1}{k^2 x^2}$$

Now substitute back $v = \frac{y}{x}$

$$\text{Substitute } v = \frac{y}{x}: 1 - 2\left(\frac{y}{x}\right) - \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{k^2 x^2}$$

$$\text{Multiply through by } x^2: x^2 - 2xy - y^2 = \frac{1}{k^2}$$

We are nearly there ... it is nice to separate out y though!

We can try to factor $x^2 - 2xy - y^2$ but we must do some rearranging first:

$$\text{Change signs: } y^2 + 2xy - x^2 = -\frac{1}{k^2}$$

$$\text{Replace } -\frac{1}{k^2} \text{ by } c: y^2 + 2xy - x^2 = c$$

$$\text{Add } 2x^2 \text{ to both sides: } y^2 + 2xy + x^2 = 2x^2 + c$$

$$\text{Factor: } (y+x)^2 = 2x^2 + c$$

$$\text{Square root: } y+x = \pm\sqrt{(2x^2+c)}$$

$$\text{Subtract } x \text{ from both sides: } y = \pm\sqrt{(2x^2+c)} - x$$

And we have the solution.

The positive portion looks like this:

