

# Substitution methods: Bernoulli and homogeneous equations

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## Practice problems

1. Solve the Bernoulli equation  $y' + \frac{1}{t}y = ty^3$  for  $t > 0$ .
2. Solve the homogeneous equation  $y' = \frac{y^2+t^2}{ty}$ .
3. Solve  $y' = \frac{y}{t} + t^2y^2$  with  $y(1) = 1$ .

## Solutions

1. Solve the Bernoulli equation  $y' + \frac{1}{t}y = ty^3$  for  $t > 0$ .

- Identify  $n = 3$ , so use substitution  $v = y^{1-3} = y^{-2}$ .
- Compute  $v' = -2y^{-3}y'$ .
- Multiply the ODE by  $-2y^{-3}$  to get  $-2y^{-3}y' - \frac{2}{t}y^{-2} = -2t$ .
- Substitute  $v$  and  $v'$  to get  $v' - \frac{2}{t}v = -2t$ .
- Use integrating factor  $\mu(t) = e^{\int -2/t dt} = t^{-2}$ .
- Solve  $t^{-2}v = \int -2t(t^{-2})dt = -2\ln|t| + C$ .
- Find  $v = t^2(-2\ln|t| + C)$  and substitute back  $y = \pm 1/\sqrt{v}$ .

**Answer:**  $y = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2(C - 2\ln|t|)}}$

2. Solve the homogeneous equation  $y' = \frac{y^2+t^2}{ty}$ .

- Rewrite as  $y' = \frac{y}{t} + \frac{t}{y}$ , which is  $f(v) = v + 1/v$  where  $v = y/t$ .
- Substitute  $y' = v + tv'$ , so  $v + tv' = v + 1/v$ .
- Simplify to  $tv' = 1/v$ .
- Separate variables:  $v dv = \frac{1}{t} dt$ .
- Integrate:  $\frac{1}{2}v^2 = \ln|t| + C$ .
- Substitute  $v = y/t$ :  $\frac{y^2}{2t^2} = \ln|t| + C$ .

**Answer:**  $y^2 = 2t^2(\ln|t| + C)$

3. Solve  $y' = \frac{y}{t} + t^2y^2$  with  $y(1) = 1$ .

- This is a Bernoulli equation with  $n = 2$ . Use  $v = y^{1-2} = y^{-1}$ .
- Then  $v' = -y^{-2}y'$ .
- Multiply ODE by  $-y^{-2}$ :  $-y^{-2}y' = -y^{-2}(y/t) - t^2$ .
- Substitute:  $v' = -v/t - t^2$ , or  $v' + \frac{1}{t}v = -t^2$ .
- Integrating factor  $\mu(t) = e^{\int 1/t dt} = t$ .
- Solve  $tv = \int -t^3 dt = -\frac{1}{4}t^4 + C$ .
- Find  $v = -\frac{1}{4}t^3 + C/t$ .
- Substitute  $y = 1/v$ :  $y = \frac{1}{C/t - t^3/4}$ .
- Use  $y(1) = 1$ :  $1 = \frac{1}{C - 1/4} \implies C = 5/4$ .

**Answer:**  $y = \frac{4t}{5 - t^4}$