

General and particular solution of a first-order differential equation

Given the following differential equation:

$$x \frac{dy}{dx} - y = xe^{x/y}$$

1. Determine the general solution of the differential equation.
2. Determine the particular solution of the differential equation if $y(1) = 3$.

Solution

1. Rewrite:

$$x \, dy = (x e^{x/y} + y) \, dx$$

These are homogeneous of degree 1. We divide by x^1 :

$$dy = \left(e^{x/y} + \frac{y}{x} \right) dx$$

We set $v = y/x$. Then $y = vx$, $dy = v \, dx + x \, dv$. Substituting:

$$v \, dx + x \, dv = (e^v + v) \, dx$$

$$\frac{1}{e^v} \, dv = \frac{1}{x} \, dx$$

Solving:

$$-e^{-v} = \ln(x) + C$$

$$-e^{-y/x} = \ln(x) + C$$

2. Using the initial conditions:

$$-e^{-3/1} = 0 + C$$

$$C = -e^{-3}$$

Therefore:

$$-e^{-y/x} = \ln(x) - e^{-3}$$