

Friday 9/7 - Linear Equations.

We want to solve $y' + y = x$ (not separable!).

Multiply by integrating factor e^x :

$$e^x y' + e^x y = x e^x$$

$$e^x y' + (e^x)' y = x e^x$$

$$(e^x y)' = x e^x.$$

By product rule.

Now integrate to get $e^x y = x e^x + e^x + C$.

For a linear equation $y' + P(x)y = Q(x)$ we

can multiply by μ to get

$$\mu y' + \mu P(x)y = Q \mu$$

Hope:

$$\mu y' + (\mu P(x))y = Q \mu$$

$$(\mu y)' = Q \mu.$$

So look for any μ with $\mu' = \mu P(x)$, or

$$\mu = e^{\int P(x) dx}$$

Ex. $x y' + 2y = 0 \rightarrow y' + \frac{2}{x} y = 0$

Use integrating factor $e^{\int \frac{2}{x} dx} = e^{2 \ln x} = x^2$.

Don't memorize the formulas! Use product rule every time, at least until you're sure how it works.