## More examples of separable differential equations

Consider the differential equation

$$v' = 9.8 - k_0 v^2.$$

Rewriting it in the form

$$v' = -k_0(v^2 - \frac{9.8}{k_0}) = k_0(v^2 - \alpha^2),$$

we see that it is similar in form to the equation

$$x' = x^2 - 1$$

whose solution we have already found to be

$$x' = \frac{1 - Ce^{2t}}{1 + Ce^{2t}}.$$

By mimicking the solution of that equation, we can find the solution to this one:

$$\frac{v'}{v-\alpha} - \frac{v'}{v+\alpha} = -2\alpha k_0$$
$$\frac{v-\alpha}{v+\alpha} = Ce^{-2\alpha k_0 t}$$
$$v = \alpha \frac{1+Ce^{-2\alpha k_0 t}}{1-Ce^{-2\alpha k_0 t}}$$
$$v = \sqrt{\frac{9.8}{k_0}} \left(\frac{1+Ce^{-2\sqrt{9.8k_0} t}}{1-Ce^{-2\sqrt{9.8k_0} t}}\right)$$

Equilibrium solutions at

$$v = \pm \sqrt{\frac{9.8}{k_0}}$$

To solve

$$x' = x^2(x-1),$$

we using the partial fraction decomposition

$$\frac{1}{x^2(x-1)} = \frac{1}{x-1} - \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{x^2}$$

which gives

$$\begin{array}{rcl} x' &=& x^2(x-1)\\ \frac{x'}{x^2(x-1)} &=& 1\\ \ln |\frac{x-1}{x}| + \frac{1}{x} &=& t+C\\ \frac{x-1}{x}e^{1/x} &=& Ce^t. \end{array}$$

This defines x implicitly as a function of t: there is not much more we can do with it to put it into explicit form.