

$$(i) \quad f(x) = \frac{x-1}{3(x+2)(x+1)}$$

$$= \frac{x+1-2}{3(x+2)(x+1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3(x+2)} - \frac{2}{3(x+2)(x+1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{3(x+2)} - \frac{2}{3} \left(\frac{1}{x+1} - \frac{1}{x+2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{x+2} - \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{x+1}$$

(ii)

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + f(x)y = \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{x+1}$$

The integrating factor is

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

Note that

$$\int f(x) dx = \int \frac{1}{x+2} - \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{x+1} dx$$

$$= \log(x+2) - \frac{2}{3} \log(x+1).$$

Thus

$$\mu(x) = e^{\int f(x) dx} = \frac{x+2}{(x+1)^{2/3}}.$$

(iii) let $g(x) = \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{x+1}$
The general solution is

$$y = \frac{c}{\mu(x)} + \frac{\int \mu(x) g(x) dx}{\mu(x)}.$$

Note that $\int \mu(x) g(x) = \frac{2}{3} \int \frac{x+2}{(x+1)^{5/3}} dx$

Thus

$$y = c \cdot \frac{(x+1)^{2/3}}{x+2} + \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{(x+1)^{2/3}}{x+2} \int \frac{x+2}{(x+1)^{5/3}} dx.$$

(iv)

let $u = x+1$

$$\int \frac{x+2}{(x+1)^{\frac{5}{3}}} dx = \int \frac{u+1}{u^{\frac{5}{3}}} du$$

$$= \int (u^{-\frac{2}{3}} + u^{-\frac{5}{3}}) du$$

$$= 3u^{\frac{1}{3}} - \frac{3}{2}u^{-\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$= 3(x+1)^{\frac{1}{3}} - \frac{3}{2}(x+1)^{-\frac{2}{3}}$$

Thus

$$y = C \cdot \frac{(x+1)^{\frac{2}{3}}}{x+2} + \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{(x+1)^{\frac{2}{3}}}{x+2} \cdot \left(3(x+1)^{\frac{1}{3}} - \frac{3}{2}(x+1)^{-\frac{2}{3}} \right)$$

$$= C \cdot \frac{(x+1)^{\frac{2}{3}}}{x+2} + 2 \cdot \frac{x+1}{x+2} - \frac{1}{x+2}$$

$$= C \cdot \frac{(x+1)^{\frac{2}{3}}}{x+2} + \frac{2x+1}{x+2}$$

(v)

$$y(0) = 0$$

$$\text{Thus } \frac{c}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 0 \quad c = -\frac{1}{2}$$

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