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**Problem:** If  $(a^2 - b^2) \sin x + 2ab \cos x = (a^2 + b^2)$ , find  $\tan x$ .

**Solution:** Divide both sides by  $(a^2 + b^2)$ , we get  $\frac{(a^2 - b^2)}{(a^2 + b^2)} \sin x + \frac{2ab}{(a^2 + b^2)} \cos x = 1$ .

$$\Rightarrow \cos y \sin x + \sin y \cos x = 1 \text{ where } \cos y = \frac{(a^2 - b^2)}{(a^2 + b^2)} \text{ and } \sin y = \frac{2ab}{(a^2 + b^2)} \quad \dots \dots (1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin(x+y) = 1 ; \quad (x+y) = \frac{\pi}{2} \text{ and hence } x = \frac{\pi}{2} - y .$$

$$\text{Thus } \tan x = \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - y\right) = \cot y = \frac{a^2 - b^2}{2ab} \text{ using (1).}$$