

Practice Midterm 1 – Math 2255

**\*\*\*Bring a two sided  $8.5 \times 11$  sheet of notes (definitions, theorems and formulas are ok but no worked examples) to use during Midterm 1.**

1. Decide if the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. **You do NOT need to justify your answers.**

(a) (1 point) If the functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are solutions to the differential equation

$$y'' + ay = 0$$

then  $\varphi - 2\psi$  is a solution to the differential equation as well.

**Solution: T** (The set of solutions to linear homogeneous differential equations form a vector space.)

(b) (1 point) If either of the functions  $p$  or  $g$  is not differentiable at  $t = t_0$  then the initial value problem

$$y' + p(t)y = g(t), \quad y(t_0) = y_0$$

cannot have a unique solution on any open interval  $I$  containing  $t_0$ .

**Solution: F** (The initial value problem will have a unique solution as long as  $p$  and  $g$  are continuous. For example, set  $t_0, p(t) = |t|, g(t) = |t|$ )

(c) (1 point) It is possible for  $\varphi(t) = e^t$  and  $\psi(t) = 1$  to be solutions to the same first order differential equation

$$y' = f(y, t)$$

where  $f$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  are continuous on the entire  $(y, t)$ -plane.

**Solution: F** (This would violate the uniqueness of the solution with initial value  $y(0) = 1$ )

(d) (1 point) Let  $p$  and  $q$  be continuous on  $\mathbf{R}$ . Let  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  be solutions to the differential equation

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0.$$

If the Wronskian determinant  $W(y_1, y_2)(t_0)$  is 0 at  $t_0$  then

$$W(y_1, y_2)(t) = 0$$

for all  $t \in \mathbf{R}$ .

**Solution: T** (On an interval of continuity of  $p$  and  $q$  the Wronskian of two solutions is either always 0 or never 0.)

2. Give examples of the following. Be as explicit as possible. **You do NOT need to justify your answers.**

(a) (2 points) Give an example of a first order differential equation which is separable but not linear.

**Solution:**  $\frac{dy}{dx}y^2 = 1 + x$

(b) (2 points) Give an example of a nonhomogeneous 3rd order linear differential equation with **constant** coefficients.

**Solution:**  $y''' + y' - y = 3$

- (c) (2 points) Give an example of a first order autonomous differential equation with exactly two equilibrium solutions.

**Solution:**  $\frac{dy}{dt} = (y - 2)(y + 3)$

3. (5 points) Compute the Wronskian for  $y_1(t) = t^2$ ,  $y_2(t) = \frac{1}{t}$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} W(y_1, y_2)(t) &= \begin{vmatrix} y_1(t) & y_2(t) \\ y_1'(t) & y_2'(t) \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} t^2 & \frac{1}{t} \\ 2t & -\frac{1}{t^2} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= t^2 \cdot \left(\frac{-1}{t^2}\right) - 2t \cdot \left(\frac{1}{t}\right) \\ &= -1 - 2 \\ &= \boxed{-3} \end{aligned}$$

4. (5 points) Find the smallest vector space of functions closed under differentiation which contains the function

$$f(t) = t^2 \sin 2t.$$

**Solution:**  $V = \{(At^2 + Bt + C) \sin 2t + (Et^2 + Ft + G) \cos 2t \mid A, B, C, E, F, G \in \mathbf{R}\}$

5. (5 points) Find the integrating factor for the first order linear equation

$$ty' - 6y - t^2 + 1 = 0.$$

**Solution:** In standard format this equation is

$$y' - \frac{6}{t} \cdot y = \frac{t^2 - 1}{t}$$

Thus for  $t > 0$  an integrating factor is

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(t) &= e^{\int_1^t -\frac{6}{s} ds} \\ &= e^{-6 \ln t} \\ &= \boxed{t^{-6}} \end{aligned}$$

For  $t < 0$  an integrating factor is

$$\begin{aligned}\mu(t) &= e^{\int_{-1}^t -\frac{6}{s} ds} \\ &= e^{-6 \ln(-t)} \\ &= (-t)^{-6} \\ &= \boxed{t^{-6}}\end{aligned}$$

6. Find general solutions for the following differential equations

(a) (5 points)  $y' = (1 + y^2)e^x$ .

**Solution:** This is a first order nonlinear separable equation.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= (1 + y^2)e^x \\ \frac{1}{1 + y^2} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} &= e^x \\ \int \frac{1}{1 + y^2} \cdot \frac{dy}{dx} dx &= \int e^x dx \\ \int \frac{1}{1 + y^2} \cdot dy &= \int e^x dx \\ \arctan y &= e^x + C \\ y &= \boxed{\tan(e^x + C)}\end{aligned}$$

(b) (5 points)  $y'' - 4y' + 4y = 0$ .

**Solution:** This is a second order linear homogeneous equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation is

$$\begin{aligned}r^2 - 4r + 4 &= 0 \\ (r - 2)^2 &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $r = 2$  is a double root.

The general solution is therefore

$$y = \boxed{C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 t e^{2t}}.$$

(c) (5 points)  $y'' - 5y' - 6y = 0$ .

**Solution:** This is a second order linear homogeneous equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation is

$$r^2 - 5r - 6 = 0.$$

which has roots

$$r = \frac{-(-5) \pm \sqrt{(-5)^2 - 4(1)(-6)}}{2(1)} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{49}}{2} = -1 \text{ or } 6$$

The general solution is therefore

$$y = C_1 e^{-t} + C_2 e^{6t}.$$

(d) (5 points)  $y'' - 4y' + 13y = 0$ .

**Solution:** This is a second order linear homogeneous equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation is

$$r^2 - 4r + 13 = 0.$$

which has roots

$$r = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(13)}}{2(1)} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-36}}{2} = 2 \pm 3i$$

The general solution is therefore

$$y = C_1 e^{2t} \cos 3t + C_2 e^{2t} \sin 3t.$$

(e) (5 points)  $y' - t^3 y + t^3 = 0$ .

**Solution:** This is a first order linear equation. In standard form it is

$$y' - t^3 y = -t^3.$$

An integrating factor is therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(t) &= e^{\int -s^3 ds} \\ &= e^{-\frac{t^4}{4}}. \end{aligned}$$

The general solution is then

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \frac{C + \int_0^t -t^3 e^{-\frac{s^4}{4}} ds}{e^{-\frac{t^4}{4}}}. \\ y(t) &= \boxed{C e^{\frac{t^4}{4}} + 1} \end{aligned}$$

(f) (5 points)  $y'' - 4y' + 5y = t^2$ .

**Solution:** This is a nonhomogeneous equation. We will solve it using the method of undetermined coefficients. The homogeneous equation

$$y'' - 4y' + 5y = 0$$

has characteristic equation

$$r^2 - 4r + 5 = 0$$

with roots

$$r = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(5)}}{2(1)} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} = 2 \pm i$$

Thus the solution to the homogeneous equation is

$$C_1 e^{2t} \cos t + C_2 e^{2t} \sin t$$

First we will find a specific solution of the form  $Y(t) = At^2 + Bt + C$ .

$$Y(t) = At^2 + Bt + C$$

$$Y'(t) = 2At + B$$

$$Y''(t) = 2A$$

Thus the differential equation becomes

$$2A - 4(2At + B) + 5(At^2 + Bt + C) = t^2$$

which yields the equations

$$5A = 1$$

$$-8A + 5B = 0$$

$$2A - 4B + 5C = 0$$

Hence  $A = \frac{1}{5}$ ,  $B = \frac{8}{25}$  and  $C = \frac{22}{125}$ .

Thus the general solution is

$$y = \frac{1}{5}t^2 + \frac{8}{25}t + \frac{22}{125} + C_1 e^{2t} \cos t + C_2 e^{2t} \sin t.$$

(g) (5 points)  $y'' - 4y' + 4y = te^{2t}$ .

**Solution:** This is a nonhomogeneous equation. We will solve it using the method of undetermined coefficients. The homogeneous equation

$$y'' - 4y' + 4y = 0$$

has characteristic equation

$$r^2 - 4r + 4 = (r - 2)^2 = 0$$

with the double root

$$r = 2.$$

Thus the solution to the homogeneous equation is

$$C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 t e^{2t}$$

First we will find a specific solution of the form  $Y(t) = At^3 e^{2t} + Bt^2 e^{2t}$ .

$$Y(t) = At^3 e^{2t} + Bt^2 e^{2t}$$

$$Y'(t) = 2At^3 e^{2t} + 3At^2 e^{2t} + 2Bt^2 e^{2t} + 2Bt e^{2t}$$

$$= 2At^3 e^{2t} + (3A + 2B)t^2 e^{2t} + 2Bt e^{2t}$$

$$Y''(t) = 4At^3 e^{2t} + 6At^2 e^{2t} + 2(3A + 2B)t^2 e^{2t} + 2(3A + 2B)t e^{2t} + 4Bt e^{2t} + 2B e^{2t}$$

$$= 4At^3 e^{2t} + (12A + 4B)t^2 e^{2t} + (6A + 8B)t e^{2t} + 2B e^{2t}$$

Thus the differential equation becomes

$$4At^3e^{2t} + (12A + 4B)t^2e^{2t} + (6A + 8B)te^{2t} + 2Be^{2t} - 4\left(2At^3e^{2t} + (3A + 2B)t^2e^{2t} + 2Bte^{2t}\right) + 4\left(At^3e^{2t} + Bt^2e^{2t}\right) = te^{2t}$$

which yields the equations

$$\begin{aligned} 4A - 8A + 4A &= 0 \\ (12A + 4B) + (12A - 8B) + 4B &= 0 \\ (6A + 8B) - 8B &= 1 \\ 2B &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $A = \frac{1}{6}$ ,  $B = 0$ .

Thus the general solution is

$$y = \frac{1}{6}t^3e^{2t} + C_1e^{2t} + C_2te^{2t}.$$

(h) (5 points)  $y'' - 5y' - 6y = 3t - e^{-t}$ .

**Solution:** This is a nonhomogeneous equation. We will solve it using the method of undetermined coefficients. The homogeneous equation

$$y'' - 5y' - 6y = 0$$

has characteristic equation

$$r^2 - 5r - 6 = 0$$

with roots

$$r = \frac{-(-5) \pm \sqrt{(-5)^2 - 4(1)(-6)}}{2(1)} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{49}}{2} = -1 \text{ or } 6$$

Thus the solution to the homogeneous equation is

$$C_1e^{-t} + C_2e^{6t}$$

First we will find a specific solution  $Y_1$  to the equation  $y'' - 5y' - 6y = 3t$  of the form  $Y_1(t) = At + B$ .

$$Y_1(t) = At + B$$

$$Y_1'(t) = A$$

$$Y_1''(t) = 0$$

Thus the differential equation becomes

$$0 - 5A - 6(At + B) = 3t$$

which yields the equations

$$\begin{aligned} -6A &= 3 \\ -5A + B &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

with solution  $A = -\frac{1}{2}$  and  $B = -\frac{5}{2}$  giving  $Y_1(t) = -\frac{1}{2}t - \frac{5}{2}$ .

Next we will find a specific solution  $Y_2$  to the equation  $y'' - 5y' - 6y = -e^{-t}$  of the form  $Y_2(t) = Ate^{-t}$ .

$$Y_2(t) = Ate^{-t}$$

$$Y_2'(t) = -Ate^{-t} + Ae^{-t}$$

$$Y_2''(t) = Ate^{-t} - Ae^{-t} - Ae^{-t} = Ate^{-t} - 2Ae^{-t}$$

Thus the differential equation becomes

$$Ate^{-t} - 2Ae^{-t} - 5(-Ate^{-t} + Ae^{-t}) - 6(Ate^{-t}) = -e^{-t}$$

which yields the equations

$$A + 5A - 6A = 0$$

$$-2A - 5A = -1$$

with solution  $A = \frac{1}{7}$  giving  $Y_2(t) = \frac{1}{7}te^{-t}$ .

A particular solution to the original equation is then  $Y(t) = Y_1(t) + Y_2(t) = -\frac{1}{2}t - \frac{5}{2} + \frac{1}{7}te^{-t}$ . The general solution is

$$y(t) = -\frac{1}{2}t - \frac{5}{2} + \frac{1}{7}te^{-t} + C_1e^{-t} + C_2e^{6t}.$$

(i) (5 points)  $y'' - 4y' + 13y = e^t \cos t$ .

**Solution:** This is a nonhomogeneous equation. We will solve it using the method of undetermined coefficients. The homogeneous equation

$$y'' - 4y' + 13y = 0$$

has characteristic equation

$$r^2 - 4r + 13 = 0$$

with roots

$$r = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(13)}}{2(1)} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-36}}{2} = 2 \pm 3i$$

Thus the solution to the homogeneous equation is

$$C_1e^{2t} \cos 3t + C_2e^{2t} \sin 3t$$

First we will find a specific solution of the form  $Y(t) = Ae^t \cos t + Be^t \sin t$ .

$$Y(t) = Ae^t \cos t + Be^t \sin t$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y'(t) &= Ae^t \cos t - Ae^t \sin t + Be^t \sin t + Be^t \cos t \\ &= (A + B)e^t \cos t + (-A + B)e^t \sin t \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y''(t) &= (A + B)e^t \cos t - (A + B)e^t \sin t + (-A + B)e^t \sin t + (-A + B)e^t \cos t \\ &= 2Be^t \cos t - 2Ae^t \sin t \end{aligned}$$

Thus the differential equation becomes

$$2Be^t \cos t - 2Ae^t \sin t - 4\left((A+B)e^t \cos t + (-A+B)e^t \sin t\right) + 13\left(Ae^t \cos t + Be^t \sin t\right) = e^t \cos t$$

which yields the equations

$$\begin{aligned}2B - 4(A + B) + 13A &= 1 \\ -2A - 4(-A + B) + 13B &= 0\end{aligned}$$

which simplify to the equations

$$\begin{aligned}-2B + 9A &= 1 \\ 2A + 9B &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $A = \frac{9}{85}$  and  $B = -\frac{2}{85}$ .

Thus the general solution is

$$y = \frac{9}{85}e^t \cos t - \frac{2}{85}e^t \sin t + C_1 e^{2t} \cos 3t + C_2 e^{2t} \sin 3t.$$

7. Find solutions for the following initial value problems

(a) (5 points)  $y'' + 3y' = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 3$ ,  $y'(0) = 1$ .

**Solution:** This is a second order linear homogeneous equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation is

$$\begin{aligned}r^2 + 3r &= 0 \\ (r + 3)r &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $r_1 = -3$  and  $r_2 = 0$  are roots.

The general solution is therefore

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{-3t} + C_2 e^{0t} = C_1 e^{-3t} + C_2$$

and

$$y'(t) = -3C_1 e^{-3t}.$$

The initial conditions give the equations

$$\begin{aligned}3 &= y(0) = C_1 e^{-3 \cdot 0} + C_2 = C_1 + C_2 \\ 1 &= y'(0) = -3C_1 e^{-3 \cdot 0} + C_2 = -3C_1.\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}C_1 &= -\frac{1}{3} \\ C_2 &= 3 - C_1 = \frac{10}{3}\end{aligned}$$



The solution to the IVP is therefore

$$y(t) = -\frac{1}{3}e^{-3t} + \frac{10}{3}.$$

(b) (5 points)  $y'' + 6y' + 10y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 0$ .

**Solution:** This is a second order linear homogeneous equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation is

$$r^2 + 6r + 10 = 0$$

which has roots

$$r = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{6^2 - 4(1)(10)}}{2(1)} = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} = -3 \pm i.$$

The general solution is therefore

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= C_1 e^{-3t} \cos t + C_2 e^{-3t} \sin t \\ &= e^{-3t} (C_1 \cos t + C_2 \sin t) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} y'(t) &= -3e^{-3t}(C_1 \cos t + C_2 \sin t) + e^{-3t}(-C_1 \sin t + C_2 \cos t) \\ &= e^{-3t}((-3C_1 + C_2) \cos t + (-C_1 - 3C_2) \sin t). \end{aligned}$$

The initial conditions give the equations

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= y(0) = C_1 e^{-3 \cdot 0} \cos 0 + C_2 e^{-3 \cdot 0} \sin 0 = C_1 \\ 0 &= y'(0) = e^{-3 \cdot 0}((-3C_1 + C_2) \cos 0 + (-C_1 - 3C_2) \sin 0) = -3C_1 + C_2 \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= 1 \\ C_2 &= 3C_1 = 3 \end{aligned}$$

The solution to the IVP is therefore

$$y(t) = e^{-3t} \cos t + 3e^{-3t} \sin t.$$

(c) (5 points)  $ty' + y = 6$ ,  $y(1) = 3$ .

**Solution:** This is a first order linear equation. In standard form it is

$$y' + \frac{1}{t}y = \frac{6}{t}.$$

For  $t > 0$  An integrating factor is therefore

$$\begin{aligned}\mu(t) &= e^{\int_1^t \frac{1}{s} ds} \\ &= e^{\ln t} \\ &= t\end{aligned}$$

The solution of the IVP is therefore

$$\begin{aligned}y(t) &= \frac{3 + \int_1^t s \cdot \frac{6}{s} ds}{t} \\ &= \frac{3 + \int_1^t 6 ds}{t} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{6t - 3}{t}}.\end{aligned}$$

(d) (5 points)  $y'' + 8y' + 20y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 6$ ,  $y'(0) = -1$ .

**Solution:** This is a second order linear homogeneous equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation is

$$r^2 + 8r + 20 = 0$$

which has roots

$$r = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{8^2 - 4(1)(20)}}{2(1)} = \frac{-8 \pm \sqrt{-16}}{2} = -4 \pm 2i.$$

The general solution is therefore

$$\begin{aligned}y(t) &= C_1 e^{-4t} \cos 2t + C_2 e^{-4t} \sin 2t \\ &= e^{-4t} (C_1 \cos 2t + C_2 \sin 2t)\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}y'(t) &= -4e^{-4t} (C_1 \cos 2t + C_2 \sin 2t) + e^{-4t} (-2C_1 \sin 2t + 2C_2 \cos 2t) \\ &= e^{-4t} ((-4C_1 + 2C_2) \cos 2t + (-2C_1 - 4C_2) \sin 2t).\end{aligned}$$

The initial conditions give the equations

$$\begin{aligned}6 &= y(0) = C_1 e^{-4 \cdot 0} \cos 2 \cdot 0 + C_2 e^{-4 \cdot 0} \sin 2 \cdot 0 = C_1 \\ -1 &= y'(0) = e^{-4 \cdot 0} ((-4C_1 + 2C_2) \cos 2 \cdot 0 + (-2C_1 - 4C_2) \sin 2 \cdot 0) = -4C_1 + 2C_2\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}C_1 &= 6 \\ C_2 &= \frac{-1 + 4C_1}{2} = \frac{-1 + 4 \cdot 6}{2} = \frac{23}{2}\end{aligned}$$

The solution to the IVP is therefore

$$y(t) = 6e^{-4t} \cos 2t + \frac{23}{2}e^{-4t} \sin 2t.$$

(e) (5 points)  $y'' + 3y' = e^{-3t}$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = 1$ .

**Solution:** This is a second order linear nonhomogeneous equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation for the homogeneous part is

$$\begin{aligned}r^2 + 3r &= 0 \\(r + 3)r &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $r_1 = -3$  and  $r_2 = 0$  are roots.

The homogeneous solution is therefore

$$C_1e^{-3t} + C_2e^{0t} = C_1e^{-3t} + C_2$$

First we will find a specific solution of the form  $Y(t) = Ate^{-3t}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}Y(t) &= Ate^{-3t} \\Y'(t) &= -3Ate^{-3t} + Ae^{-3t} \\Y''(t) &= 9Ate^{-3t} - 3Ae^{-3t} - 3Ae^{-3t} \\&= 9Ate^{-3t} - 6Ae^{-3t}\end{aligned}$$

Thus the differential equation becomes

$$9Ate^{-3t} - 6Ae^{-3t} + 3\left(-3Ate^{-3t} + Ae^{-3t}\right) = e^{-3t}$$

which yields the equations

$$\begin{aligned}9A - 9A &= 0 \\-6A + 3A &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $A = -\frac{1}{3}$ .

Thus the general solution is

$$y = -\frac{1}{3}te^{-3t} + C_1e^{-3t} + C_2$$

with derivative

$$y' = te^{-3t} - \frac{1}{3}e^{-3t} - 3C_1e^{-3t}$$

The initial conditions give the equations

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= y(0) = -\frac{1}{3} \cdot 0 \cdot e^{-3 \cdot 0} + C_1e^{-3 \cdot 0} + C_2 = C_1 + C_2 \\1 &= y'(0) = 0 \cdot e^{-3 \cdot 0} - \frac{1}{3}e^{-3 \cdot 0} - 3C_1e^{-3 \cdot 0} = -\frac{1}{3} - 3C_1\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$C_1 = -\frac{4}{9}$$

$$C_2 = \frac{4}{9}$$

The solution to the IVP is therefore

$$y(t) = -\frac{1}{3}te^{-3t} - \frac{4}{9}e^{-3t} + \frac{4}{9}.$$

(f) (5 points)  $y'' - y' - 5y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = e$ ,  $y'(0) = 0$ .

**Solution:** This is a second order linear homogeneous equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation is

$$r^2 - r - 5 = 0$$

which has roots

$$r = \frac{-(-1) \pm \sqrt{(-1)^2 - 4(1)(-5)}}{2(1)} = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{21}}{2}.$$

The general solution is therefore

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{\frac{1+\sqrt{21}}{2}t} + C_2 e^{\frac{1-\sqrt{21}}{2}t}$$

and

$$y'(t) = \frac{1 + \sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot C_1 e^{\frac{1+\sqrt{21}}{2}t} + \frac{1 - \sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot C_2 e^{\frac{1-\sqrt{21}}{2}t}$$

The initial conditions give the equations

$$e = y(0) = C_1 e^{\frac{1+\sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot 0} + C_2 e^{\frac{1-\sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot 0} = C_1 + C_2$$

$$0 = y'(0) = \frac{1 + \sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot C_1 e^{\frac{1+\sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot 0} + \frac{1 - \sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot C_2 e^{\frac{1-\sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot 0} = \frac{1 + \sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot C_1 + \frac{1 - \sqrt{21}}{2} \cdot C_2$$

Thus

$$C_1 = \frac{e(\sqrt{21} - 1)}{2\sqrt{21}}$$

$$C_2 = e - \frac{e(\sqrt{21} - 1)}{2\sqrt{21}}$$

The solution to the IVP is therefore

$$y(t) = \frac{e(\sqrt{21} - 1)}{2\sqrt{21}} \cdot e^{\frac{1+\sqrt{21}}{2}t} + \left( e - \frac{e(\sqrt{21} - 1)}{2\sqrt{21}} \right) e^{\frac{1-\sqrt{21}}{2}t}.$$

You can expect nicer constants on the midterm!

(g) (5 points)  $y'' + 7y = 6$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = 3$ .

**Solution:** This is a second order linear nonhomogeneous equation with constant coefficients. The characteristic equation for the homogeneous part is

$$\begin{aligned}r^2 + 7 &= 0 \\(r + 3)r &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $r = \pm\sqrt{7}i$  are roots.

The homogeneous solution is therefore

$$C_1 \cos \sqrt{7}t + C_2 \sin \sqrt{7}t$$

First we will find a specific solution of the form  $Y(t) = A$ .

$$\begin{aligned}Y(t) &= A \\Y'(t) &= 0 \\Y''(t) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Thus the differential equation becomes

$$0 + 7A = 6$$

Hence  $A = \frac{6}{7}$ .

Thus the general solution is

$$y = \frac{6}{7} + C_1 \cos \sqrt{7}t + C_2 \sin \sqrt{7}t$$

with derivative

$$y' = -\sqrt{7}C_1 \sin \sqrt{7}t + \sqrt{7}C_2 \cos \sqrt{7}t$$

The initial conditions give the equations

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= y(0) = \frac{6}{7} + C_1 \cos \sqrt{7} \cdot 0 + C_2 \sin \sqrt{7} \cdot 0 = \frac{6}{7} + C_1 \\3 &= y'(0) = -\sqrt{7}C_1 \sin \sqrt{7} \cdot 0 + \sqrt{7}C_2 \cos \sqrt{7} \cdot 0 = \sqrt{7}C_2\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned}C_1 &= -\frac{6}{7} \\C_2 &= \frac{3}{\sqrt{7}}\end{aligned}$$

The solution to the IVP is therefore

$$y(t) = \frac{6}{7} - \frac{6}{7} \cos \sqrt{7}t + \frac{3}{\sqrt{7}} \sin \sqrt{7}t.$$

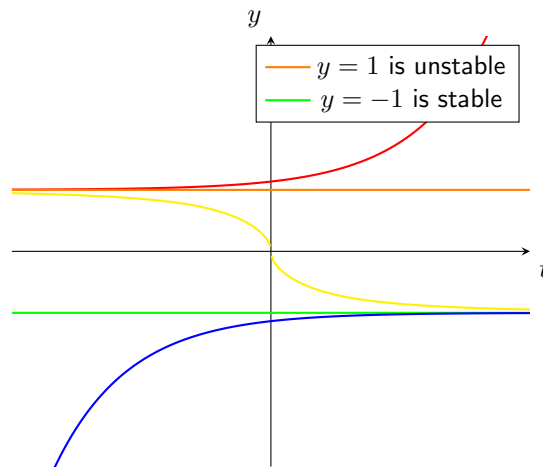
8. (10 points) Sketch solutions to the equation

$$y' = \ln |y|.$$

on the  $(y, t)$ -plane. Be sure to include all equilibrium solutions and note whether they are stable, unstable or semistable. Also include a nonequilibrium solution above and below each equilibrium solution.

**Solution:** This is an autonomous equation. The equilibrium solutions will occur at roots of the equation

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \ln |y| \\ e^0 &= e^{\ln |y|} \\ 1 &= |y| \\ y &= \pm 1 \end{aligned}$$



9. (10 points)  $t^2$  is a solution to the differential equation

$$3t^2y'' - 2ty' - 2y = 0.$$

Find the general solution.

**Solution:** Since we're given a solution  $t^2$  to the differential equation we can look for a solution of the form  $t^2u(t)$ . Suppose  $t^2u(t)$  satisfies the differential equation above.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}(t^2u(t)) &= 2tu(t) + t^2u'(t) \\ \frac{d^2}{dt^2}(t^2u(t)) &= 2u(t) + 4tu'(t) + t^2u''(t) \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} 3t^2(2u(t) + 4tu'(t) + t^2u''(t)) - 2t(2tu(t) + t^2u'(t)) - 2t^2u(t) &= 0 \\ 6t^2u(t) + 12t^3u'(t) + 3t^4u''(t) - 4t^2u(t) - 2t^3u'(t) - 2t^2u(t) &= 0 \\ 3t^4u''(t) + (12t^3 - 2t^3)u'(t) + (6t^2 - 4t^2 - 2t^2)u(t) &= 0 \\ 3t^4u''(t) + 10t^3u'(t) &= 0 \\ u''(t) + \frac{10}{3t}u'(t) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

This is a first order linear equation for the function  $u'$  with integrating factor

$$\mu(t) = e^{\int_1^t \frac{10}{3s} ds} = e^{\frac{10}{3} \ln t} = t^{10/3}$$

Thus

$$u'(t) = \frac{C + \int_1^t s^{10/3} \cdot 0 ds}{t^{10/3}} = Ct^{-10/3}$$

$$u(t) = \int u'(t) dt = \int Ct^{-10/3} dt = C_1 t^{-7/3} + C_2$$

Therefore the general solution is

$$y(t) = (C_1 t^{-7/3} + C_2) t^2 = \boxed{C_1 t^{-1/3} + C_2 t^2}$$

10. (10 points) Suppose that the force of drag on a ball of mass  $m$  falling through the air were proportional to the velocity  $v$  of the ball. Set up a model for the velocity of the ball falling through the air if the acceleration of gravity is  $g$ . Find the velocity as a function of time if the initial velocity is 0.

**Solution:** At any given time we have two forces acting on the ball. The downward force of gravity with magnitude  $F_g$  and the upward force of drag with magnitude  $F_d$ . The force of gravity will be considered to be constant

$$F_g = mg.$$

The force of drag depends on the downward velocity  $v$  of the ball

$$F_d = kv.$$

The total downward force on the ball is therefore  $F = F_g - F_d$ . Newton's Second Law asserts that  $F = ma$ . Thus the acceleration  $a = \frac{dv}{dt}$  of the ball is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dv}{dt} &= \frac{F}{m} \\ &= \frac{F_g - F_d}{m} \\ &= \frac{mg - kv}{m} \\ &= g - \frac{kv}{m} \end{aligned}$$

Our model for the velocity of the ball is therefore

$$\boxed{\frac{dv}{dt} = g - \frac{k}{m} \cdot v(t), \quad v(0) = 0}$$

where  $v(t)$  is the velocity of the ball at time  $t$ ,  $g$  is the acceleration of gravity,  $m$  is the mass of the ball, and  $k$  is a constant that depends on the viscosity of the atmosphere and size of the ball.

This is a first order linear equation with integrating factor

$$\mu(t) = e^{\int_0^t \frac{k}{m} ds}$$

$$= e^{kt/m}$$

and solution

$$\begin{aligned} v(t) &= \frac{C + \int_0^t e^{ks/m} g \, ds}{e^{kt/m}} \\ &= Ce^{-kt/m} + \frac{mg}{k} \end{aligned}$$

In order to satisfy the initial condition  $v(0) = 0$  we solve for  $C$  with  $t = 0$  to get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= Ce^0 + \frac{mg}{k} \\ C &= -\frac{mg}{k} \end{aligned}$$

Thus the velocity at time  $t$  is

$$v(t) = -\frac{mg}{k} e^{-kt/m} + \frac{mg}{k}$$

11. (10 points) Show that the functions  $y_1(t) = t$  and  $y_2(t) = \sin(t)$  cannot both be solutions to a single differential equation of the form

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$$

where  $p$  and  $q$  are continuous on  $\mathbf{R}$ .

**Solution:** The Wronskian of  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  is

$$\begin{aligned} W(y_1, y_2)(t) &= \begin{vmatrix} y_1(t) & y_2(t) \\ y_1'(t) & y_2'(t) \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} t & \sin t \\ 1 & \cos t \end{vmatrix} \\ &= t \cos t - \sin t \end{aligned}$$

The Wronskian is either always 0 or always nonzero for two solutions of the same homogeneous second order linear equation. Notice that  $W(y_1, y_2)(0) = 0 \cos 0 - \sin 0 = 0$  but  $W(y_1, y_2)(\pi) = \pi \cos \pi - \sin \pi = -\pi$ . Thus  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  cannot be solutions to the same equation of the the form above.

12. (10 points) Use the method of successive approximations to compute the approximation  $\phi_3(t)$  to the initial value problem

$$y' = 3ty - t^2, \quad y(0) = 0$$

starting with the initial approximation  $\phi_0(t) = 0$ .



**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_1(t) &= \int_0^t 3s \cdot 0 - s^2 ds \\ &= \int_0^t -s^2 ds \\ &= \left. \frac{-s^3}{3} \right|_{s=0}^t \\ &= \frac{-t^3}{3}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_2(t) &= \int_0^t 3s \cdot \left( \frac{-s^3}{3} \right) - s^2 ds \\ &= \int_0^t -s^4 - s^2 ds \\ &= \left. \frac{-s^5}{5} - \frac{s^3}{3} \right|_{s=0}^t \\ &= \frac{-t^5}{5} - \frac{t^3}{3}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_3(t) &= \int_0^t 3s \cdot \left( \frac{-s^5}{5} - \frac{s^3}{3} \right) - s^2 ds \\ &= \int_0^t -\frac{3}{5}s^6 - s^4 - s^2 ds \\ &= \left. \frac{-3s^7}{7 \cdot 5} - \frac{s^5}{5} - \frac{s^3}{3} \right|_{s=0}^t \\ &= \boxed{\frac{-3t^7}{35} - \frac{t^5}{5} - \frac{t^3}{3}}\end{aligned}$$

13. (10 points) Give a closed form expression for the solution to the first order difference equation

$$y_{n+1} = 2y_n + n, \quad y_0 = 1$$

**Solution:**

$$y_0 = 1$$

$$y_1 = 2y_0 + 0 = 2 \cdot 1$$

$$y_2 = 2y_1 + 1 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 + 1$$

$$y_3 = 2y_2 + 2 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 1 + 2$$

$$y_4 = 2y_3 + 3 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 + 3$$

$$y_5 = 2y_4 + 4 = 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 + 4$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \vdots \\
y_n &= 2^n + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} k2^{n-k-1} \\
&= 2^n + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} k2^{n-1-k} \\
&= 2^n + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (n-1-k)2^k \\
&= \boxed{2^n + \frac{n-1}{1-2} - \frac{2-2^n}{(1-2)^2}}
\end{aligned}$$

14. (10 points) Find the general solution to

$$t^2 y'' - 2y = 3t^2$$

for  $t > 0$  given that the general solution to the homogeneous equation  $t^2 y'' - 2y = 0$  for  $t > 0$  is

$$C_1 t^2 + C_2 t^{-1}.$$

**Solution:** In standard format the ODE is

$$y'' + 0y' - \frac{2}{t^2}y = 3$$

Let  $y_1(t) = t^2$  and  $y_2(t) = t^{-1}$ . The Wronskian is then

$$\begin{aligned}
W(y_1, y_2)(t) &= \begin{vmatrix} y_1(t) & y_2(t) \\ y_1'(t) & y_2'(t) \end{vmatrix} \\
&= \begin{vmatrix} t^2 & t^{-1} \\ 2t & -t^{-2} \end{vmatrix} \\
&= -1 - 2 \\
&= -3
\end{aligned}$$

Using variation of parameters we get a solution

$$\begin{aligned}
Y(t) &= -y_1(t) \int_{t_0}^t \frac{y_2(s)g(s)}{W(y_1, y_2)(s)} ds + y_2(t) \int_{t_0}^t \frac{y_1(s)g(s)}{W(y_1, y_2)(s)} ds \\
&= -t^2 \int_1^t \frac{s^{-1} \cdot 3}{-3} ds + t^{-1} \int_1^t \frac{s^2 \cdot 3}{-3} ds \\
&= -t^2 \int_1^t -s^{-1} ds + t^{-1} \int_1^t -s^2 ds
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= -t^2(-\ln|s|)|_{s=1}^t + t^{-1}\left(-\frac{s^3}{3}\right)|_{s=1}^t \\ &= -t^2(-\ln t + \ln 1) + t^{-1}\left(-\frac{t^3}{3} + \frac{1}{3}\right) \\ &= t^2 \ln t - \frac{t^2}{3} + \frac{t^{-1}}{3} \end{aligned}$$

and general solution is

$$\begin{aligned} Y(t) + C_1 y_1(t) + C_2 y_2(t) &= t^2 \ln t - \frac{t^2}{3} + \frac{t^{-1}}{3} + C_1 t^2 + C_2 t^{-1} \\ &= \boxed{t^2 \ln t + K_1 t^2 + K_2 t^{-1}} \end{aligned}$$