

Name:
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Differential Equations- Midterm Examination - Fall 2024

Duration: 70 minutes; **Directions:** All answers should be positioned beside or below their corresponding questions. Anything written elsewhere won't be graded. Up to one percent error in the results is tolerated.

Question 1.

Find all C values so that Cx^2 solves the differential equation

$$x^3 \frac{dy}{dx} + x^2 y - y^2 = 2x^4, \quad x > 0$$

Show your work.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{y}{x} - \frac{y^2}{x^3} &= 2x \\ 2cx + \frac{cx^2}{x} - \frac{c^2 x^4}{x^3} &= 2x \\ c^2 - 3c + 2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus $c = 1$ and $c = 2$.

Question 2.

Find an explicit solution to the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^2}{x^2} + \frac{y}{x} + 1, \quad x > 0$$

Show your work.

Homogeneous d.e.! Use $y = vx$ and $\dot{y} = \dot{v}x + v$

$$\dot{v}x + v = v^2 + v + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} x \frac{dv}{dx} = v^2 + 1 &\rightarrow \frac{dv}{v^2 + 1} = \frac{dx}{x} \rightarrow \tan^{-1} v = \ln x + c \rightarrow v = \tan(\ln x + c) \\ \frac{y}{x} &= \tan(\ln x + c) \rightarrow y = x \tan(\ln x + c) \end{aligned}$$

Question 3.

Solve the initial value problem

$$\frac{d^4 y}{dx^4} - y = 0; \quad y(0) = \dot{y}(0) = \ddot{y}(0) = \ddot{\ddot{y}}(0) = 1$$

Show your work.

Auxiliary equation: $m^4 - 1 \Rightarrow (m^2 + 1)(m^2 - 1) = 0 \rightarrow m = 1, -1, i, -i$
General solution $y(x) = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x} + c_3 \sin x + c_4 \cos x$. Use initial conditions:

$$y(0) = 1 \rightarrow c_1 + c_2 + c_4 = 1, \quad (a)$$

$$\dot{y}(0) = 1 \rightarrow c_1 - c_2 + c_3 = 1, \quad (b)$$

$$\ddot{y}(0) = 1 \rightarrow c_1 + c_2 - c_4 = 1, \quad (c)$$

$$\ddot{\ddot{y}}(0) = 1 \rightarrow c_1 - c_2 - c_3 = 1, \quad (d)$$

(a) and (c) imply $c_4 = 0$, (b) and (d) imply $c_3 = 0$. Thus, (a) and (b) becomes

$$c_1 + c_2 = 1, \quad c_1 - c_2 = 1$$

These equations imply $c_1 = 1$ and $c_2 = 0$. Thus the solution is

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

Question 4.

A solution to the differential equation

$$2t^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + t \frac{dy}{dt} - 3y = 0, \quad t > 0$$

is $y_1(t) = t^{-1}$. Find another solution y_2 so that the set $\{y_1, y_2\}$ is linearly independent. Show your work.

Use the order reduction technique.

$$y_2 = t^{-1}v, \quad \dot{y}_2 = -t^{-2}v + t^{-1}\dot{v}, \quad \ddot{y}_2 = 2t^{-3}v - 2t^{-2}\dot{v} + t^{-1}\ddot{v}$$

Substitute in the d.e.

$$2t^2(2t^{-3}v - 2t^{-2}\dot{v} + t^{-1}\ddot{v}) + t(-t^{-2}v + t^{-1}\dot{v}) - 3(t^{-1}v) = 0$$

$$2t\ddot{v} - 3\dot{v} = 0$$

Change of variable: $w = \dot{v}$. We have $2t\dot{w} - 3w = 0$, a 1st order linear d.e.

$$\text{Its solution } w = ce^{\int \frac{3}{2t} dt} = ct^{\frac{3}{2}}$$

$$\text{Since } w = \dot{v} \text{ we have } v = \int w dt = \int ct^{\frac{3}{2}} dt = \frac{3c}{2}t^{\frac{5}{2}}$$

The other solution is $y_2(t) = t^{-1}\frac{3c}{2}t^{\frac{5}{2}}$, $y_2(t) = kt^{\frac{3}{2}}$ where k is an arbitrary constant

Good Luck

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