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MATHEMATICS ASSISTANCE CENTER

1 First-Order Differential Equations

1.1 Separation of Variables

Find the general solution to the given differential equations

a. $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{1}{2y+1}$

b. $\frac{dy}{dt} = (y^2 + 1)t$

c. $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{1}{ty + t + y + 1}$

1.2 Slope Fields

Choose points (t, y) with $-2 \leq t \leq 2$ and $-2 \leq y \leq 2$ and plot part of the slope field determined by the differential equation without the use of technology.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 4y^2$$

1.3 Equilibrium Solutions and Phase Lines

Given the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = y^2 - 4y - 12,$$

sketch the graphs of the solutions satisfying the following initial conditions.

a. $y(0) = 1$

b. $y(0) = 6$

c. $y(2) = 5$

d. $y(1) = 7$

1.4 Bifurcations

Locate bifurcation values for the one-parameter family of differential equations and draw phase lines to illustrate your results.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = (y^2 - \alpha)(y^2 - 4)$$

1.5 Linear Differential Equations

Find the general solution to the given differential equations.

a. $\frac{dy}{dt} = -4y + 9e^{-t}$

b. $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{1}{2}y + 4e^{t/2}$

1.6 Integrating Factors

Solve the given initial-value problem.

$$t \frac{dy}{dt} - 2y = 2t^3, \quad y(-2) = 4$$

2 Systems of Differential Equations

2.1 Damped Harmonic Oscillators

Use the method of undetermined coefficients to find two non-zero solutions that are not multiples of one another.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 7\frac{dy}{dt} + 10y = 0$$

2.2 Decoupled Systems

Consider the following system of differential equations.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= 2x - 8y^2 \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= -3y\end{aligned}$$

Derive the general solution and find the solution that corresponds to the initial condition $(x_0, y_0) = (0, 1)$.

2.3 Systems of Linear Equations

For the given system of linear equations

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= -2x - y \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= 2x - 5y,\end{aligned}$$

form the matrix equation that represents it and check that the functions $\vec{Y}_1(t)$ and $\vec{Y}_2(t)$ are solutions. If the two solutions are linearly independent, form the general solution.

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{Y}_1(t) &= \langle e^{-3t} - 2e^{-4t}, e^{-3t} - 4e^{-4t} \rangle \\ \vec{Y}_2(t) &= \langle 2e^{-3t} + e^{-4t}, 2e^{-3t} + 2e^{-4t} \rangle\end{aligned}$$

2.4 Straight-Line Solutions

Solve the initial-value problem.

$$\frac{d\vec{Y}}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 1 \\ 2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \vec{Y}, \quad \vec{Y}(0) = \langle 2, 1 \rangle$$

2.5 Phase Portraits

Sketch the solution curves in the phase plane and the $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ graphs corresponding to the initial-value problem.

$$\frac{d\vec{Y}}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \vec{Y}, \quad \vec{Y}(0) = \langle 3, -1 \rangle$$

2.6 Complex Eigenvalues

Consider the system below.

$$\frac{d\vec{Y}}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \vec{Y}, \quad \vec{Y}(0) = \langle 2, 1 \rangle$$

- Compute the eigenvalues.
- Determine if the origin is a spiral sink, spiral source, or center.
- Determine the natural period and the natural frequency.
- Determine the direction of the oscillations in the phase plane.
- Write the general solution and a solution to the initial-value problem.
- Draw the solution in the phase plane.

2.7 Special Cases

Consider the system below.

$$\frac{d\vec{Y}}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 \\ 1 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \vec{Y}, \quad \vec{Y}(0) = \langle 1, 0 \rangle$$

- Compute the eigenvalues and associated eigenvectors.
- Write the general solution and the solution to the initial-value problem.
- Draw solutions in the phase plane.

Consider the system below.

$$\frac{d\vec{Y}}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \vec{Y}, \quad \vec{Y}(0) = \langle 1, 0 \rangle$$

- Compute the eigenvalues and associated eigenvectors.
- Write the general solution and the solution to the initial-value problem.
- Draw solutions in the phase plane.

2.8 Second-Order Linear Equations

Find the general solution of the second-order equation and then find the solution to the initial-value problem.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 4\frac{dy}{dt} - 5y = 0, \quad y(0) = 11, \quad y'(0) = -7$$

2.9 Trace-Determinant Plane

Consider the one-parameter family of systems of linear differential equations.

$$\frac{d\vec{Y}}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 1 \\ \alpha & \alpha \end{pmatrix} \vec{Y}$$

- Sketch the corresponding curve in the trace-determinant plane.
- Identify bifurcation values.
- Describe the different types of behaviors exhibited by the system as α increases along the real line.

2.10 Forced Harmonic Oscillators

Find the general solution for each of the given equations.

- $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 6\frac{dy}{dt} + 8y = 2e^{-3t}$
- $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 7\frac{dy}{dt} + 10y = e^{-2t}$

2.11 Sinusoidal Forcing

Using the method of complexification, find the general solution for each of the given equations.

a. $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 3\frac{dy}{dt} + 2y = \cos t$

b. $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 3\frac{dy}{dt} + 2y = \sin t$

2.12 Undamped Forcing and Resonance

Consider the equation below.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 6y = \cos 2t$$

- Compute the general solution of the differential equation.
- Determine if the observed phenomena corresponds to beating or resonance.
- Find the frequency and period of the rapid oscillations and beating (if applicable).
- Draw a rough sketch of a general solution curve.

Consider the equation below.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 9y = \cos 3t$$

- Compute the general solution of the differential equation.
- Determine if the observed phenomena corresponds to beating or resonance.
- Find the frequency and period of the rapid oscillations and beating (if applicable).
- Draw a rough sketch of a general solution curve.

2.13 Amplitude and Phase of Solutions

Compute the general solution to the equation below in amplitude-phase form.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 3\frac{dy}{dt} + 2y = 2 \cos 3t$$

What is the steady-state solution to this problem?

3 Laplace Transformations

3.1 Inverse Laplace Transformations

Compute the following inverse Laplace transformations.

a. $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{3}{2s-1}\right)$

b. $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{s+4}{s^2+4}\right)$

c. $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left(\frac{s}{(s+1)(s^2+1)}\right)$

3.2 Solutions to Linear Equations

Use the method of Laplace transformations to compute the solution to the given initial-value problem.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 2 + 4t, \quad y(0) = 1$$

Use the method of Laplace transformations to compute the solution to the given initial-value problem.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 4y = \cos 5t, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = -2$$

3.3 Discontinuous Functions

Solve the initial-value problem.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + y = u_2(t)e^{-2(t-2)}, \quad y(0) = 0$$

Solve the initial-value problem.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dt} + y = \delta_3(t), \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 1$$

3.4 Convolutions

Compute the convolution $f * g$ and show that $\mathcal{L}(f * g) = \mathcal{L}(f) \cdot \mathcal{L}(g)$.

$$f(t) = \cos t, \quad g(t) = u_2(t)$$