

# 1 Coding first order ordinary differential equation

## 1.1 Problem

Code a program in C++ to solve the simple ordinary differential equation:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -y \quad (1)$$

for time 0 to 2 seconds.

## 1.2 Analytical solution

The analytical solution for this equation is

$$y = Ce^{-t} \quad , \quad (2)$$

where, for simplicity, it may be assumed that  $C = 1$  based on the initial condition  $y(t = 0) = 1$ .

## 1.3 Numerical approach

Using the discrete finite difference approximation, the derivative may be represented as

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{y^{n+1} - y^n}{\Delta t} \quad . \quad (3)$$