

FINAL EXAMINATION

Academic year 2011-2012, Semester 1

Duration: 120 minutes

SUBJECT: Differential Equations
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Chair of Department of Mathematics	Lecturer:
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Instructions:

- *Open-book examination. Laptops are NOT allowed.*

Question 1. (15 marks) At any time t , the rate of growth of the population N of deer in a state park is proportional to the product of N and $L - N$, that is

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = kN(L - N)$$

where k is the proportionality constant and $L = 500$ is the maximum number of deer the park can maintain. When $t = 0, N = 100$ and when $t = 4, N = 200$. Write N as a function of t .

Question 2. (a) (10 marks) Find a real number A such that $y(x) := Ax^2$ is a solution of the linear differential equation

$$x^2y'' - 3xy' + 4y = 0.$$

(b) (15 marks) Solve the following differential equation

$$y'' - \frac{3}{x}y' + \frac{4}{x^2}y = 0, \quad x \in (0, \infty).$$

Question 3. (25 marks) Find the general solution of the following differential equation

$$y''' + y'' + y' + y = e^{-x} + 4x.$$

Question 4. (20 marks) Solve the linear system of differential equations

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = x + 2y \\ \frac{dy}{dt} = -2x + y. \end{cases}$$

Question 5. (15 marks) Use the method of variation of parameters to find a particular solution of the following differential equation

$$y'' - y = \frac{e^x}{e^x + 1}.$$

Solve the given differential equation.

End.

SOLUTIONS:

Question 1. Let N be the population N of deer at time t . Then we have

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = kN(L - N) = kN(500 - N), \quad t \geq 0,$$

where k is a constant. Solving the above equation, we have

$$\frac{N}{500 - N} = Ce^{500kt} \quad t \geq 0.$$

By the given assumptions, $N(0) = 100$ and $N(4) = 200$. Then we have $C = \frac{1}{4}$ and $k = \frac{1}{2000} \ln \frac{8}{3}$. Therefore,

$$N(t) = \frac{500(\frac{8}{3})^{\frac{t}{4}}}{4 + (\frac{8}{3})^{\frac{t}{4}}}, \quad t \geq 0.$$

Question 2. a) $A = 1$.

b) By a), $y_1(x) = x^2$ is a solution of $y'' - \frac{3}{x}y' + \frac{4}{x^2}y = 0$.

The second solution of $y'' - \frac{3}{x}y' + \frac{4}{x^2}y = 0$ is given by $y_2(x) = x^2 \ln x$. Thus, the general solution is

$$y(x) = C_1x^2 + C_2x^2 \ln x$$

Question 3.

The general solution of the corresponding homogeneous equation is

$$y(x) = c_1e^{-x} + c_2 \cos x + c_3 \sin x.$$

A particular solution of $y''' + y'' + y' + y = e^{-x} + 4x$ is

$$y_p(x) = \frac{1}{2}xe^{-x} + 4(x - 1).$$

Thus, the general solution of $y''' + y'' + y' + y = e^{-x} + 4x$ is

$$y(x) = \frac{1}{2}xe^{-x} + 4(x - 1) + c_1e^{-x} + c_2 \cos x + c_3 \sin x.$$

Question 4. The general solution of the given system is

$$x(t) = e^t(c_1 \cos 2t + c_2 \sin 2t); \quad y(t) = e^t(-c_1 \sin 2t + c_2 \cos 2t).$$

Question 5. The general solution of $y'' - y = 0$ is

$$y(x) = C_1e^x + C_2e^{-x}.$$

Using the method of variation of parameters, we get a particular solution of $y'' - y = \frac{e^x}{e^x + 1}$:

$$y_p = \frac{1}{2}(e^x[x - \ln(e^x + 1)] + e^{-x}[\ln(e^x + 1) - e^x]).$$

Thus, the general solution of $y'' - y = \frac{e^x}{e^x + 1}$ is given by

$$y(x) = \frac{1}{2}(e^x[x - \ln(e^x + 1)] + e^{-x}[\ln(e^x + 1) - e^x]) + C_1e^x + C_2e^{-x}.$$