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Signature _____

- Time allotted: 110 minutes
- **DO NOT OPEN** until instructed to do so.
- **NO CALCULATORS ALLOWED**, and no cellphones or other electronic devices.
- **DO NOT DETACH ANY PAGES**. This test contains 9 pages (including this title page). Once the test starts, make sure you have all of them.
- You can use pages ??–9 to complete questions. In such a case, **MARK CLEARLY** that your answer “continues on page X” **AND** indicate on the additional page which questions you are answering.

SECTION I No justification necessary.

Remember: A statement is only true if you can guarantee it is ALWAYS true given the information.

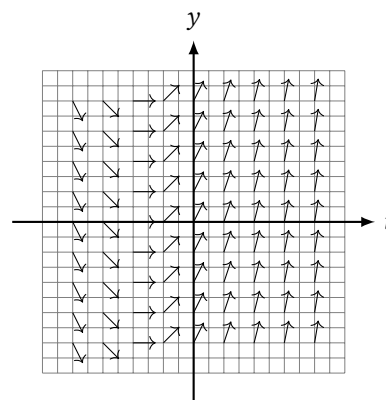
In other words: If something is “only true under certain circumstances”, it is still false.

1. Each of the following plots shows the direction field of an ODE of the form $\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y)$. Classify the ODEs based on its corresponding plot.

(a) (8 marks)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> autonomous | <input type="checkbox"/> nonautonomous | <input type="checkbox"/> can't deduce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> linear | <input type="checkbox"/> nonlinear | <input type="checkbox"/> can't deduce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> homogeneous | <input type="checkbox"/> nonhomogeneous | <input type="checkbox"/> can't deduce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> separable | <input type="checkbox"/> non separable | <input type="checkbox"/> can't deduce |

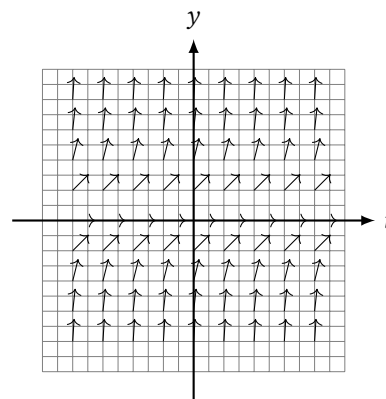
Solution: nonautonomous, linear, nonhomogeneous, separable.



(b) (8 marks)

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> autonomous | <input type="checkbox"/> nonautonomous | <input type="checkbox"/> can't deduce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> linear | <input type="checkbox"/> nonlinear | <input type="checkbox"/> can't deduce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> homogeneous | <input type="checkbox"/> nonhomogeneous | <input type="checkbox"/> can't deduce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> separable | <input type="checkbox"/> non separable | <input type="checkbox"/> can't deduce |

Solution: autonomous, nonlinear, homogeneous, separable.



2. (2 marks) Let $A(t)$ be a 2×2 matrix with continuous entries and $F(t)$ a 2×1 matrix with discontinuous entries on a common interval I containing t_0 . The initial value problem

$$X' = AX + F, \quad X(t_0) = \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

may have a unique solution on I .

Solution: True, because the continuity condition is only sufficient not necessary.

3. (2 marks) All solutions of the system $X' = AX$ converge to the origin $(0, 0)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. The matrix A must have a repeated negative eigenvalue.

Solution: False. If both eigenvalues are negative, then the solution decays to zero at infinity.

4. (2 marks) Euler's method is also known as first-order Runge-Kutta method. If h is the size step, then the associated local truncation error is proportional to h^5 .

Solution: False. The local truncation error for Euler's method is proportional to h^2 .

5. (2 marks) The following three vectors form a fundamental set on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -1 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t}, \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t}, \quad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{3t}.$$

Solution: True. The Wronskian of the three vectors is nonzero for all values of t .

SECTION II Justify all your answers.

6. In a remote desert region, a dedicated team of scientists has undertaken a perplexing investigation involving an enigmatic extraterrestrial craft. This peculiar aircraft, commonly referred to as a “tic tac” due to its distinctive shape, possesses a remarkable capability: it can deploy advanced alien technology enabling it to split into two separate entities.

- (a) **(2 marks) First Contact:** During their initial encounter with the tic tac, scientists meticulously scrutinized its movements and found it was governed by the following ODE:

$$x'(t) + \exp\{t^2\}x(t) = \sin(t^3).$$

Here, the function $x(t)$ represents the altitude of the aircraft over time. Given precise altitude data at a specific moment, can the scientists confidently predict whether the tic tac will undergo a split a minute later?

Solution: By linear existence and uniqueness theorem (need to check conditions), there exists a unique trajectory and therefore the scientists can predict the tic tac does not split.

- (b) **(2 marks) Second Contact:** In a subsequent observation of the tic tac, researchers closely monitored its flight path, which followed this time the ODE:

$$x'(t) = x^2 \sin(t) + \exp\{t x(t)\}.$$

Given precise altitude data at a specific moment, for how long can the scientists confidently guarantee that the tic tac will not undergo a split?

Solution: By nonlinear existence and uniqueness theorem (need to check conditions), we can guarantee that the tic tac does not split from that specific time t_s up to $t_s + h$ for some $h > 0$.

- (c) **(2 marks) Third Contact:** A third sighting occurred right after the tic tac split into two entities. The behavior of these two resulting entities appeared to be described by a system of coupled differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx_1}{dt} &= -x_1 + 2x_2 + t \\ \frac{dx_2}{dt} &= 3x_1 - x_2 + t^2.\end{aligned}$$

Here, $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ represent the altitudes of the two entities. Given precise altitude measurements for both entities at a specific moment, can the scientific team confidently predict whether the tic tacs will undergo a split a minute later?

Solution: By existence and uniqueness theorem for linear system of ODEs (need to check conditions), there exists a unique trajectory and therefore the scientists can predict the tic tac will not split.

7. An agricultural research station recruits a team of engineers to support farmers in improving their food crops production. Farmers report plants injuries in some part of the field due to a colony of insects (weevils, maggots, etc.). The following mathematical model describing the evolution of the area A (in ha) occupied by the insects over time t (in months) is proposed,

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = A(2 - A).$$

Assume the initial area is $A_0 = 0.5 \text{ ha}$. The team would like to approximate the area at certain times.

- (a) (2 marks) Using Euler's method with step size $h = 1$, find an approximation of the occupied area after a period of 2 months (the answer can be given as a fraction).

Solution: After two steps approximations, we find $A_2 = \frac{35}{16} \text{ ha}$.

- (b) (2 marks) How can one choose the step size h to make sure the local truncation error is not exceeding $\varepsilon = 10^{-6}$ if $M = 1$ is an upper-bound for A'' ?

Solution: Since the local truncation error satisfies $|e_n| \leq \frac{Mh^2}{2}$, it does not exceed 10^{-6} if $h < \sqrt{2 \times 10^{-6}} = \sqrt{2} \times 10^{-3}$.

- (c) (2 marks) Approximate the occupied area after a period of one month using the *improved* Euler's method with step size $h = 1$.

Solution: One step approximation gives $A_1 = \frac{43}{32} \text{ ha}$.

- (d) (2 marks) From the model, can the engineering team predict accurately whether or not the occupied area will expand or shrink over time? Justify your answer.

Solution: The system has two equilibrium points $A = 0$ and $A = 2$. Since the initial area is $0.5 \in (0, 2)$, the area will expand but will not exceed 2 ha over time. This can be seen from the phase portrait of the ODE.

SECTION III Justify all your answers.

8. Scientists have developed a new deep sea exploration submarine called “Abyss Explorer.” The exploration starts at the surface of the ocean, $x = 0$, with velocity v_0 . As the submarine dives deeper, x increases. As the submarine descends, its acceleration is influenced by the temperature difference between its internal systems and the surrounding ocean water. The acceleration $x''(t)$ is equal to the rate of change of the external temperature with respect to the depth $x(t)$ so that:

$$x''(t) = \frac{dT_{\text{ext}}}{dx},$$

where

$$T_{\text{ext}}(x) = T_0 + 0.5 \exp(-x(t)),$$

and T_0 is a constant.

- (a) (1 mark) Derive an expression for $x''(t)$ in terms of $x(t)$.

Solution: Differentiating T_{ext} with respect to x , we get:

$$\frac{dT_{\text{ext}}}{dx} = -0.5 \exp(-x)$$

So,

$$x''(t) = -0.5 \exp(-x(t))$$

- (b) (2 marks) Reduce the second order ODE in the previous item to a first order ODE in terms of the velocity of the submarine v and its depth x .

Solution: Using the chain rule, differentiate $x'(t)$ with respect to t :

$$x''(t) = \frac{dx'(t)}{dt} = x'(t) \frac{dx'(t)}{dx}$$

Equating the two expressions for $x''(t)$ and rearranging, we get:

$$x'(t) \frac{dx'(t)}{dx} = -0.5 \exp(-x(t)).$$

- (c) (2 marks) Derive the solution to the ODE in the previous item. Hint: it is equal to

$$v(x) = \pm \sqrt{C + \exp\{-x\}}$$

for some constant C

Solution:

(d) (2 marks) Explain what does the plus minus correspond to physically in terms of the submarine.

Solution: The submarine first descends and then ascends.

(e) (2 marks) Find the constant C and substitute it into the solution of the ODE.

Solution: Using the initial conditions,

$$v(0) = v_0 = \sqrt{C + \exp\{-0\}} = \sqrt{C + 1}$$

we get

$$C = v_0^2 - 1.$$

Therefore,

$$v(x) = \pm \sqrt{v_0^2 - 1 + \exp\{-x\}}$$

(f) (2 marks) What is the maximal depth that the submarine will reach?

Solution: At the maximal depth, the velocity is zero:

$$0 = \pm \sqrt{v_0^2 - 1 + \exp\{-x_{\max}\}}$$

and therefore

$$0 = v_0^2 - 1 + \exp\{-x_{\max}\}.$$

Rearranging the equation, we get

$$-\ln(1 - v_0^2) = x_{\max}.$$

(g) (2 marks) Under what conditions will the submarine reach the bottom of the ocean?

Solution: The maximal depth x_{\max} tends to infinity as v_0 tends to one.

9. An automotive manufacturer is producing a series of cars designed for motorsports (off-road racing). The engineering team would like to build sophisticated suspensions to prevent under- or overreaction when cars encounter obstacles. They decide to model the problem as a spring-mass system. Newton's second law gives the equation for the directed distance $x(t)$ of the mass (car) beyond the equilibrium position when the system is set in motion,

$$x'' + 2\omega dx' + \omega^2 x = 0 \quad (\text{E})$$

where the physical parameters $\omega > 0$ and $d \geq 0$ represent the frequency and the damping ratio, respectively.

- (a) (2 marks) Convert System (E) into a first-order homogeneous linear system (Write your answer in matrix form).

Solution: The system is of the form

$$X' = AX \text{ where } A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\omega^2 & -2d\omega \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (b) (2 marks) For which values of ω, d does the system found in (a) have real and distinct eigenvalues? complex eigenvalues? repeated eigenvalues?

Solution: The characteristic equation of the matrix is $\lambda^2 + 2d\omega\lambda + \omega^2 = 0$. Thus, the matrix A has

- distinct eigenvalues if $4\omega^2(d^2 - 1) > 0$ or $\omega > 0$ and $d > 1$,
- complex eigenvalues if $\omega > 0$ and $d < 1$,
- repeated eigenvalues if $\omega > 0$ and $d = 1$.

- (c) (2 marks) Assume $\omega = d = 1$. Write down the general solution of the system obtained in (a).

Solution: When $d = \omega = 1$, we have a repeated eigenvalue $\lambda = -1$ and its associated eigenvector is $V = (1, -1)^T$. Find the generalized eigenvector V' by solving

$$(A + I)V' = V \implies \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v'_1 \\ v'_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \implies V' = (0, 1)^T$$

The general solution is given by

$$X(t) = \alpha_1 e^{-t}(1, -1)^T + \alpha_2 t e^{-t}(1, -1)^T + \alpha_2 e^{-t}(1, 0)^T.$$

(d) (2 marks) In the previous item, does the system have an equilibrium point? If yes what is its type and stability?

Solution: The origin $(0, 0)^T$ is the only equilibrium point. It is an improper asymptotically stable node.

(e) (2 marks) Compute the exponential matrix e^{At} where A is the matrix defining the system in (a) with the parameters in item (c).

Solution: The eigenspace has dimension 1 and whence, the matrix A not diagonalizable. However, A can be decomposed as follows:

- $A = D + N$, D is diagonal 2×2 matrix and N is such that $N^2 = \mathbf{0}$.

- $ND = DN$

This follows from a standard result in linear algebra. In our case, we observe that

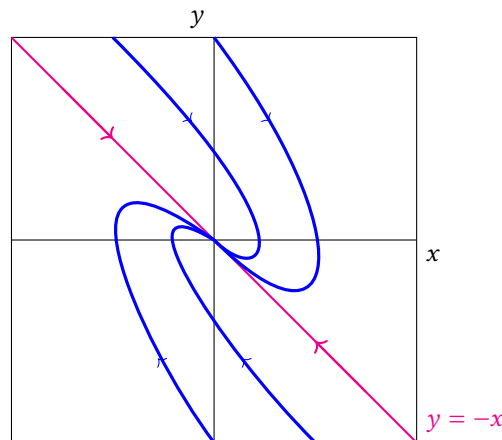
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} = D + N; \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad N = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We have $e^{Dt} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$ since D is diagonal and $e^{Nt} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k N^k}{k!} = I + tN = \begin{pmatrix} t+1 & t \\ -t & -t+1 \end{pmatrix}$. Moreover, N and D commutes so that

$$e^{At} = e^{Dt} e^{Nt} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t+1 & t \\ -t & -t+1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (t+1)e^{-t} & te^{-t} \\ -e^{-t} & e^{-t}(1-t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

(f) (2 marks) Draw the phase portrait of the system with the parameters in item (c). Explain why the choice of these parameters is reasonable for the engineering team.

Solution: From item (c), we see that when $\alpha_1 \neq 0$ and $\alpha_2 = 0$, the solution is $\alpha_1 e^{-t} V$ which is the line $y = -x$ in the phase plane. All solutions approach the origin $(0, 0)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$ while being tangent to this line because $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{dy}{dx} = -1$. The limit as $t \rightarrow -\infty$ is also the same meaning that the slope of the curve far away from the origin tends to -1 . Moreover, if $\alpha_2 > 0$ and $t > 0$ (resp. $\alpha_2 < 0$), the curve is always above (resp. below) the line $y = -x$.



The choice of the parameters is reasonable because the equilibrium point of the dynamical system associated to (E) is an attractor.