# Section 1.3 – Linear Differential Equations

### **Basic Assumption**

The equation can be solved for y'; that is, the equation can be written in the form y' = f(x, y)

A linear differential equation of order n has the form

$$a_0(x)y^{(n)} + a_1(x)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_{n-1}(x)y' + a_n(x)y = f(x)$$

A *first order* linear equation is given by the form:

$$y' + p(x)y = f(x)$$

If  $f(x) = 0 \rightarrow y' = p(x)y$ . This linear equation is said to be *homogeneous*. (Otherwise it is *nonhomogeneous or inhomogeneous*).

p(x) & f(x) are called the coefficients and continuous function on some interval I.

Linear	Non-linear
$x' = \sin(t)x$	$x' = t \sin x$
$y' = e^{2t} y + \cos t$	$y' = 1 - y^2$
$x' = (3t+2)x + t^2 - 1$	

# Solution of the homogenous equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = a(t)x \implies \frac{dx}{x} = a(t)dt$$

$$\int \frac{dx}{x} = \int a(t)dt$$

$$\ln|x| = \int a(t)dt + C$$
Convert to exponential form
$$|x| = e^{\int a(t)dt + C} = e^{C}e^{\int a(t)dt}$$
Let  $A = e^{C}$ 

$$x(t) = A.e^{\int a(t)dt}$$

### **Example**

Solve: 
$$x' = \sin(t) x$$

**Solution** 

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \sin(t) x$$

$$x(t) = A.e^{\int \sin(t)dt}$$

$$= A.e^{-\cos t}$$

$$\frac{dx}{x} = \sin(t) dt$$

$$\int \frac{dx}{x} = \int \sin(t) dt$$

$$\ln|x| = \int \sin(t) dt + C$$

$$\ln|x| = -\cos(t) + C$$

$$\underline{x} = e^{-\cos(t) + C}$$

# Solving a linear first-order Equation (Properties)

- 1. Put a linear equation into a standard form y' + p(x)y = f(x)
- 2. Identify p(x) then find  $y_h = e^{-\int p dx}$
- 3. Multiply the standard form by  $y_h$
- 4. Integrate both sides

# Solution of the Inhomogeneous Equation

$$x' = p(t)x + f(t)$$

$$x' - px = f$$

$$u(t) = e^{-\int p(t)dt}$$

$$(ux)' = u(x' - px) = uf$$

$$u(t)x(t) = \int u(t)f(t)dt + C$$

#### 1st Method

## Example

Find the general solution to:  $x' = x + e^{-t}$ 

#### Solution

$$x' - x = e^{-t}$$

$$x' - p(t)x = f(t)$$

$$e^{-\int 1 dt} = e^{-t}$$

$$e^{-t} (x' - x) = e^{-t} e^{-t}$$

$$(e^{-t} x)' = e^{-2t}$$

$$e^{-t} x(t) = \int e^{-2t} dt$$

$$e^{-t} x(t) = -\frac{1}{2}e^{-2t} + C$$

$$x' - p(t)x = f(t)$$

$$e^{\int p(t)dt} x' - e^{\int p(t)dt} p(t)x = e^{\int p(t)dt} f(t)$$

$$(e^{\int p(t)dt} x)' = f(t) e^{\int p(t)dt}$$

$$e^{\int p(t)dt} x = \int f(t) e^{\int p(t)dt}$$

# Solution of the Nonhomogeneous Equation

$$y' + p(x)y = f(x)$$

Let assume: 
$$y = y_h + y_p$$

$$y = y_h + y_p$$
 where 
$$\begin{cases} y_h & Homogeneous Solution \\ y_p & Paticular Solution \end{cases}$$

Since  $y'_h + py_h = 0$ 

The homogeneous equation is given by  $y'_h + p(x)y_h = 0$ 

$$y_h' = -p(x)y_h$$

$$y_h = e^{-\int p dx}$$

$$y_p = u(x)y_h = u.e^{-\int pdx}$$

$$y_p' + p(x)y_p = f(x)$$

$$\left(uy_h\right)' + puy_h = f$$

$$u'y_h + uy_h' + puy_h = f$$

$$u'y_h + u(y_h' + py_h) = f$$

$$u'y_h = f$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{f}{y_h}$$

$$du = \frac{f}{-\int pdx} dx$$

$$= f.e \int p dx dx$$

$$u = \int f . e^{\int p dx} dx$$

$$y_p = u.e^{-\int p dx}$$

$$u = \left(\int f \cdot e^{\int p dx} dx\right) e^{-\int p dx}$$

$$y_{p} = e^{-\int pdx} \int f \cdot e^{\int pdx} dx$$

$$y = Ce^{-\int pdx} + e^{-\int pdx} \int f \cdot e^{\int pdx} dx$$

$$y = y_h + y_p$$

$$y = e^{-\int pdx} \left( C + \int f \cdot e^{\int pdx} dx \right)$$

homogeneous

#### **Example**

Find the general solution of  $x' = x \sin t + 2te^{-\cos t}$  and the particular solution that satisfies x(0) = 1.

#### **Solution**

$$x' - x\sin t = 2te^{-\cos t}$$

$$P(t) = \sin t, \quad Q(t) = 2te^{-\cos t}$$

$$x_h = e^{-\int \sin t dt} = e^{\cos t}$$

$$\int Q(t)x_h dt = \int 2te^{-\cos t}e^{\cos t} dt = \int 2t dt = t^2$$

$$x(t) = e^{-\cos t} \left(t^2 + C\right)$$

$$x(0) = \left((0)^2 + C\right)e^{-\cos 0} = 1$$

$$Ce^{-1} = 1$$

$$C = e$$

$$x(t) = \left(t^2 + e\right)e^{-\cos t}$$

### **Example**

Find the general solution of  $x' = x \tan t + \sin t$  and the particular solution that satisfies x(0) = 2.

#### Solution

$$x' - (\tan t)x = \sin t$$

$$P(t) = -\tan t, \quad Q(t) = \sin t$$

$$e^{-\int \tan t dt} = e^{\ln(\cos t)} = \cos t$$

$$\int (\sin t)(\cos t) dt = -\int \cos t d(\cos t) = -\frac{1}{2}\cos^2 t$$

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{\cos t} \left( -\frac{1}{2}\cos^2 t + C \right) = -\frac{1}{2}\cos t + \frac{1}{\cos t}C$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2}\cos t + \frac{1}{\cos t}C$$

$$x(0) = -\frac{1}{2}\cos(0) + \frac{C}{\cos(0)} = 2$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} + C = 2 \implies C = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$x(t) = -\frac{1}{2}\cos t + \frac{5}{2\cos t}$$

# **Linear Differential Operators**

L[y] = y' + p(x)y is a linear operator.

$$\triangleright$$
  $L[f+g]=L[f]+L[g]$ 

**Proof** 

$$L[f] + L[g] = f' + p(x)f + g' + p(x)g$$

$$= (f' + g') + p(x)(f + g)$$

$$= (f + g)' + p(x)(f + g)$$

$$= L[f + g]$$

$$ightharpoonup L[cf] = cL[f]$$

**Proof** 

$$L[cf] = (cf)' + p(x)(cf)$$
$$= cf' + cp(x)f$$
$$= c(f' + p(x)f)$$
$$= cL[f]$$

Any operation L that has the two properties

$$\begin{cases} L \begin{bmatrix} y_1 + y_2 \end{bmatrix} = L \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \end{bmatrix} + L \begin{bmatrix} y_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ L [cy] = cL[y], & c \text{ is constant} \end{cases}$$

is a linear operation.

Differential is a linear operation; integration is a linear operation.

#### Notes

**1.** Integrating an expression that is not the differential of any elementary function is called non-elementary.

$$\int e^{x^2} dx \qquad \int x \tan x dx \qquad \int \frac{e^{-x}}{x} dx$$

$$\int \sin x^2 dx \qquad \int \cos x^2 dx \qquad \int \frac{\sin x}{x} dx \qquad \int \frac{\cos x}{x} dx$$

**2.** In math some important functions are defined in terms of non-elementary integrals. Two such functions are the error function and the complementary error function.

$$erf(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt \qquad erfc(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt$$

# **Exercises** Section 1.3 – Linear Differential Equations

Find the general solution of the first-order, linear equation.

1. 
$$y' - y = 3e^t$$

2. 
$$y' + y = \sin t$$

$$3. y' + y = \frac{1}{1 + e^t}$$

**4.** 
$$y' - y = e^{2t} - 1$$

5. 
$$y' + y = te^{-t} + 1$$

**6.** 
$$y' + y = 1 + e^{-x} \cos 2x$$

7. 
$$y' + y \cot x = \cos x$$

8. 
$$y' + y \sin t = \sin t$$

$$9. y' = \cos x - y \sec x$$

**10.** 
$$y' + (\tan x) y = \cos^2 x$$
,  $-\frac{\pi}{2} < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$ 

11. 
$$y' + (\cot t) y = 2t \csc t$$

12. 
$$y' + (1 + \sin t) y = 0$$

13. 
$$y' + \left(\frac{1}{2}\cos x\right)y = -\frac{3}{2}\cos x$$

**14.** 
$$\frac{dy}{dx} + y = e^{3x}$$

**15.** 
$$y' - ty = t$$

**16.** 
$$y' = 2y + x^2 + 5$$

17. 
$$xy' + 2y = 3$$

**18.** 
$$\frac{dy}{dt} - 2y = 4 - t$$

**19.** 
$$y' + 2y = 1$$

**20.** 
$$y' + 2y = e^{-t}$$

**21.** 
$$y' + 2y = e^{-2t}$$

**22.** 
$$y' - 2y = e^{3t}$$

**23.** 
$$y' + 2y = e^{-x} + x + 1$$

**24.** 
$$y' + 2xy = x$$

**25.** 
$$y' - 2ty = t$$

**26.** 
$$y' + 2ty = 5t$$

**27.** 
$$y' - 2xy = e^{x^2}$$

**28.** 
$$y' + 2xy = x^3$$

**29.** 
$$y' - 2y = t^2 e^{2t}$$

**30.** 
$$x'-2\frac{x}{t+1}=(t+1)^2$$

**31.** 
$$y' + \frac{2}{t}y = \frac{\cos t}{t^2}$$

32. 
$$y' - 2(\cos 2t)y = 0$$

33. 
$$y' + 2y = \cos 3t$$

**34.** 
$$y' - 3y = 5$$

**35.** 
$$y' + 3y = 2xe^{-3x}$$

**36.** 
$$y' + 3t^2y = t^2$$

37. 
$$y' + 3x^2y = x^2$$

**38.** 
$$y' + \frac{3}{t}y = \frac{\sin t}{t^3}, \quad (t \neq 0)$$

**39.** 
$$y' + \frac{3}{x}y = 1 + \frac{1}{x}$$

**40.** 
$$y' + \frac{3}{2}y = \frac{1}{2}e^x$$

**41.** 
$$y' + 5y = t + 1$$

**42.** 
$$xy' - y = x^2 \sin x$$

**43.** 
$$x \frac{dy}{dx} + y = e^x$$
,  $x > 0$ 

**44.** 
$$x \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 1 - \frac{1}{x}, \quad x > 0$$

**45.** 
$$y \frac{dx}{dy} + 2x = 5y^3$$

**46.** 
$$ty' + y = \cos t$$

**47.** 
$$xy' + 2y = x^2$$

**48.** 
$$xy' = 2y + x^3 \cos x$$

**49.** 
$$xy' + 2y = x^{-3}$$

**50.** 
$$ty' + 2y = t^2$$

**51.** 
$$xy' + 2(y + x^2) = \frac{\sin x}{x}$$

**52.** 
$$xy' + 4y = x^3 - x$$

**53.** 
$$xy' + (x+1)y = e^{-x} \sin 2x$$

**54.** 
$$xy' + (3x+1)y = e^{3x}$$

**55.** 
$$xy' + (2x - 3)y = 4x^4$$

**56.** 
$$2xy'' - 3y = 9x^3$$

**57.** 
$$2y' + 3y = e^{-t}$$

**58.** 
$$2y' + 2ty = t$$

**59.** 
$$3xy' + y = 10\sqrt{x}$$

**60.** 
$$3xy' + y = 12x$$

**61.** 
$$x^2y' + xy = 1$$

**62.** 
$$x^2y' + x(x+2)y = e^x$$

**63.** 
$$y^2 + (y')^2 = 1$$

**64.** 
$$(1+x)y' + y = \sqrt{x}$$

**65.** 
$$(1+x)y' + y = \cos x$$

**66.** 
$$(x+1)y' + (x+2)y = 2xe^{-x}$$

**67.** 
$$(x+1)y'-xy=x+x^2$$

**68.** 
$$(1+x^3)y' = 3x^2y + x^2 + x^5$$

**69.** 
$$(t+1)\frac{ds}{dt} + 2s = 3(t+1) + \frac{1}{(t+1)^2}, \quad t > -1$$

**70.** 
$$(x+2)^2$$
  $y' = 5 - 8y - 4xy$ 

**71.** 
$$(x^2-1)y'+2y=(x+1)^2$$

**72.** 
$$(x^2 + 4)y' + 2xy = x^2(x^2 + 4)$$

**73.** 
$$(1+e^t)y'+e^ty=0$$

**74.** 
$$(t^2+9)y'+ty=0$$

**75.** 
$$e^{2x}y' + 2e^{2x}y = 2x$$

**76.** 
$$\tan \theta \frac{dr}{d\theta} + r = \sin^2 \theta, \quad 0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

77. 
$$(\cos t) y' + (\sin t) y = 1$$

78. 
$$\cos x \frac{dy}{dx} + (\sin x) y = 1$$

$$79. \quad \cos^2 x \sin x \frac{dy}{dx} + \left(\cos^3 x\right) y = 1$$

**80.** 
$$\frac{dr}{d\theta} + r \sec \theta = \cos \theta$$

**81.** 
$$\frac{dr}{d\theta} + r \tan \theta = \sec \theta$$

**82.** 
$$\frac{dP}{dt} + 2tP = P + 4t - 2$$

**83.** 
$$ydx - 4(x + y^6)dy = 0$$

$$84. \quad ydx = \left(ye^y - 2x\right)dy$$

**85.** 
$$(x+y+1)dx - dy = 0$$

**86.** 
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x^2 e^{-4x} - 4y$$

**87.** 
$$(x^2 + 1)y' + xy - x = 0$$

**88.** 
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 9.8 - 0.196x$$

**89.** 
$$\frac{di}{dt} + 500i = 10 \sin \omega t$$

**90.** 
$$2\frac{dQ}{dt} + 100Q = 10\sin 60t$$

Find the solution of the initial value problem

**91.** 
$$y' - 3y = 4$$
;  $y(0) = 2$ 

**92.** 
$$y' = y + 2xe^{2x}$$
;  $y(0) = 3$ 

**93.** 
$$(x^2 + 1)y' + 3xy = 6x;$$
  $y(0) = -1$ 

**94.** 
$$t \frac{dy}{dt} + 2y = t^3$$
,  $t > 0$ ,  $y(2) = 1$ 

**95.** 
$$\theta \frac{dy}{d\theta} + y = \sin \theta$$
,  $\theta > 0$ ,  $y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 1$ 

**96.** 
$$\frac{dy}{dx} + xy = x$$
,  $y(0) = -6$ 

**97.** 
$$ty' + 2y = 4t^2$$
,  $y(1) = 2$ 

**98.** 
$$(1+t^2)y' + 4ty = (1+t^2)^{-2}, \quad y(1) = 0$$

**99.** 
$$y' + y = e^t$$
,  $y(0) = 1$ 

**100.** 
$$y' + \frac{1}{2}y = t$$
,  $y(0) = 1$ 

**101.** 
$$y' = x + 5y$$
,  $y(0) = 3$ 

**102.** 
$$y' = 2x - 3y$$
,  $y(0) = \frac{1}{3}$ 

**103.** 
$$xy' + y = e^x$$
,  $y(1) = 2$ 

**104.** 
$$y \frac{dx}{dy} - x = 2y^2$$
,  $y(1) = 5$ 

**105.** 
$$xy' + y = 4x + 1$$
,  $y(1) = 8$ 

**106.** 
$$y' + 4xy = x^3 e^{x^2}$$
,  $y(0) = -1$ 

**107.** 
$$(x+1)y' + y = \ln x$$
,  $y(1) = 10$ 

**108.** 
$$x(x+1)y' + xy = 1$$
,  $y(e) = 1$ 

**109.** 
$$y' - (\sin x) y = 2 \sin x$$
,  $y(\frac{\pi}{2}) = 1$ 

**110.** 
$$y' + (\tan x) y = \cos^2 x$$
,  $y(0) = -1$ 

**111.** 
$$L\frac{di}{dt} + RI = E$$
,  $i(0) = i_0$ 

112. 
$$\frac{dT}{dt} = k \left( T - T_m \right) \quad T(0) = T_0$$

**113.** 
$$y' + y = 2$$
,  $y(0) = 0$ 

**114.** 
$$xy' + 2y = 3x$$
,  $y(1) = 5$ 

115. 
$$y' - 2y = 3e^{2x}$$
,  $y(0) = 0$ 

**116.** 
$$xy' + 5y = 7x^2$$
,  $y(2) = 5$ 

**117.** 
$$xy' - y = x$$
,  $y(1) = 7$ 

**118.** 
$$xy' + y = 3xy$$
,  $y(1) = 0$ 

**119.** 
$$xy' + 3y = 2x^5$$
,  $y(2) = 1$ 

**120.** 
$$y' + y = e^{x}$$
,  $y(0) = 1$ 

**121.** 
$$xy' - 3y = x^3$$
,  $y(1) = 10$ 

**122.** 
$$y' + 2xy = x$$
,  $y(0) = -2$ 

**123.** 
$$y' = (1 - y)\cos x$$
,  $y(\pi) = 2$ 

**124.** 
$$(1+x)y' + y = \cos x$$
,  $y(0) = 1$ 

**125.** 
$$y' = 1 + x + y + xy$$
,  $y(0) = 0$ 

**126.** 
$$xy' = 3y + x^4 \cos x$$
,  $y(2\pi) = 0$ 

**127.** 
$$y' = 2xy + 3x^2e^{x^2}$$
,  $y(0) = 5$ 

**128.** 
$$(x^2 + 4)y' + 3xy = x$$
,  $y(0) = 1$ 

**129.** 
$$y' - 2y = e^{3x}$$
;  $y(0) = 3$ 

**130.** 
$$y' - 3y = 6$$
;  $y(0) = 1$ 

**131.** 
$$2y' + 3y = e^x$$
;  $y(0) = 0$ 

**132.** 
$$(x^2 + 1)y' + 3x^3y = 6xe^{-3x^2/2}, y(0) = 1$$

**133.** 
$$y' + y = 1 + e^{-x} \cos 2x$$
;  $y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$ 

**134.** 
$$2y' + (\cos x)y = -3\cos x$$
;  $y(0) = -4$ 

**135.** 
$$y' + 2y = e^{-x} + x + 1$$
;  $y(-1) = e^{-x}$ 

**136.** 
$$y' + \frac{y}{x} = xe^{-x}$$
;  $y(1) = e - 1$ 

**137.** 
$$y' + 4y = e^{-x}$$
;  $y(1) = \frac{4}{3}$ 

**138.** 
$$x^2y' + 3xy = x^4 \ln x + 1$$
;  $y(1) = 0$ 

**139.** 
$$y' + \frac{3}{x}y = 3x - 2$$
  $y(1) = 1$ 

**140.** 
$$(\cos x) y' + y \sin x = 2x \cos^2 x$$
  $y(\frac{\pi}{4}) = \frac{-15\sqrt{2}\pi^2}{32}$ 

**141.** 
$$(\cos x) y' + (\sin x) y = 2\cos^3 x \sin x - 1$$
  $y(\frac{\pi}{4}) = 3\sqrt{2}$ 

**142.** 
$$t y' + 2y = t^2 - t + 1$$
  $y(1) = \frac{1}{2}$ 

**143.** 
$$t y' - 2y = t^5 \sin 2t - t^3 + 4t^4$$
  $y(\pi) = \frac{3}{2}\pi^4$ 

**144.** 
$$2y' - y = 4\sin 3t$$
  $y(0) = y_0$ 

**145.** 
$$y' + 2y = 2 - e^{-4t}$$
  $y(0) = 1$ 

**146.** 
$$y' - y = -\frac{1}{2}e^{t/2}\sin 5t + 5e^{t/2}\cos 5t$$
  $y(0) = 0$ 

**147.** 
$$y' + 2y = 3$$
;  $y(0) = -1$ 

**148.** 
$$y' + (\cos t) y = \cos t$$
;  $y(\pi) = 2$ 

**149.** 
$$y' + 2ty = 2t$$
;  $y(0) = 1$ 

**150.** 
$$y' + y = \frac{e^{-t}}{t^2}$$
;  $y(1) = 0$ 

**151.** 
$$ty' + 2y = \sin t$$
;  $y(\pi) = \frac{1}{\pi}$ 

**152.** 
$$y' + \frac{2}{t}y = \frac{\cos t}{t^2}$$
;  $y(\pi) = 0$ 

**153.** 
$$(\sin t) y' + (\cos t) y = 0$$
;  $y(\frac{3\pi}{4}) = 2$ 

**154.** 
$$y' + 3t^2y = t^2$$
;  $y(0) = 2$ 

**155.** 
$$ty' + y = t \sin t$$
;  $y(\pi) = -1$ 

**156.** 
$$y' + y = \sin t$$
;  $y(\pi) = 1$ 

**157.** 
$$y' + y = \cos 2t$$
;  $y(0) = 5$ 

**158.** 
$$y' + 3y = \cos 2t$$
;  $y(0) = -1$ 

**159.** 
$$y' - 2y = 7e^{2t}$$
;  $y(0) = 3$ 

**160.** 
$$y' - 2y = 3e^{-2t}$$
;  $y(0) = 10$ 

**161.** 
$$y' + 2y = t^2 + 2t + 1 + e^{4t}$$
;  $y(0) = 0$ 

**162.** 
$$y'-3y=2t-e^{4t}$$
;  $y(0)=0$ 

**163.** 
$$y' + y = t^3 + \sin 3t$$
;  $y(0) = 0$ 

**164.** 
$$y' + 2y = \cos 2t + 3\sin 2t + e^{-t}$$
;  $y(0) = 0$ 

**165.** 
$$y' + y = e^{3t}$$
;  $y(0) = y_0$ 

**166.** 
$$t^2y' - ty = 1$$
;  $y(1) = y_0$ 

**167.** 
$$y' + ay = e^{at}$$
;  $y(0) = y_0, a \neq 0$ 

**168.** 
$$3y' + 12y = 4$$
;  $y(0) = y_0$ 

Find a solution to the initial value problem that is continuous on the given interval [a, b]

**169.** 
$$y' + \frac{1}{x}y = f(x), \quad y(1) = 1$$
  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x, & 1 \le x \le 2 \\ 0, & 2 < x \le 3 \end{cases}$   $[a, b] = [1, 3]$ 

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 3x, & 1 \le x \le 2\\ 0, & 2 < x \le 3 \end{cases}$$

$$[a, b] = [1, 3]$$

**170.** 
$$y' + (\sin x)y = f(x), \quad y(0) = 3$$
  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin x, & 0 \le x \le \pi \\ -\sin x, & \pi < x \le 2\pi \end{cases}$   $[a, b] = [0, 2\pi]$ 

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin x, & 0 \le x \le \pi \\ -\sin x, & \pi < x \le 2\pi \end{cases}$$

$$[a, b] = [0, 2\pi]$$

**171.** 
$$y' + p(t)y = 2$$
,  $y(0) = 1$ 

$$p(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t \le 1 \\ \frac{1}{t}, & 1 < t \le 2 \end{cases}$$
  $[a, b] = [0, 2]$ 

$$[a, b] = [0, 2]$$

**172.** 
$$y' + p(t)y = 0$$
,  $y(0) = 3$ 

**172.** 
$$y' + p(t)y = 0$$
,  $y(0) = 3$  
$$p(t) = \begin{cases} 2t - 1, & 0 \le t \le 1 \\ 0, & 1 < t \le 3 \\ -\frac{1}{t}, & 3 < t \le 4 \end{cases} [a, b] = [0, 4]$$

$$[a, b] = [0, 4]$$

Find the solution of the initial value problem. Discuss the interval of existence and provide a sketch of your solution

173. 
$$xy' + 2y = \sin x$$
;  $y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$ 

**174.** 
$$(2x+3)y' = y + (2x+3)^{1/2}$$
;  $y(-1) = 0$ 

175. The following system of differential equations is encountered in the study of the decay of a special type of radioactive series of elements

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\lambda_1 x \qquad \qquad \frac{dy}{dt} = \lambda_1 x - \lambda_2 y$$

Where  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are constants.

Discuss how to solve this system subject to  $x(0) = x_0$ ,  $y(0) = y_0$