

# Midterm 1 Review of Common Ordinary Differential Equations

## Separable Equations

Separable Equations:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = g(x)k(y)$

Solution:  $\int \frac{dy}{k(y)} = \int g(x)dx + C$

Also check if  $k(y) = 0$  is a solution

## Linear First-order Equations

Linear First-order Equations:  $\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)$

Solution:  $\rho y = \int \rho Q(x)dx$ , where  $\rho = e^{\int P(x)dx}$ .

Applications: Mixture Problems:  $\frac{dx}{dt} = r_i c_i - r_o c_o$ ,  
where  $c_o(t) = \frac{x(t)}{V(t)}$ ,  $V(t) = V_0 + (r_i - r_o)t$

## Exact Equations

Exact Equations:  $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$ , where  $\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}$ .

Solution:  $F(x, y) = C$  such that  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = M$  and  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = N$ .

## Homogeneous Equations

Homogeneous Equations:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = F\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$

To identify: All  $x^n y^m$  have total power  $(n + m)$  the same (after rewriting).

Solution: Substitute  $v = \frac{y}{x}$ , then  $y = vx$ , so  $\frac{dy}{dx} = v + x \frac{dv}{dx}$   
(This converts equation to a separable Diff. E.)

## Bernoulli Equations

Bernoulli Equations:  $\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)y^n$

Rewrite:  $y^{-n}y' + P(x)y^{1-n} = Q(x)$

Solution:  $y^{1-n} = v$  and  $y^{-n}y' = \frac{1}{1-n}v'$   
(This converts equation to a linear Diff. E.)

## Reducible Second-order Equations

Reducible Second-order Equations:  $F(x, y, y'y'') = 0$

Case 1.  $y$  missing: Substitute:  $p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$ ,  $y'' = \frac{dp}{dx}$ .

Case 2.  $x$  missing: Substitute:  $p = y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$ ,  $y'' = p \frac{dp}{dy}$ .

## Population Models

This topic was covered in Section 2.1. We talked about

- Solving the Logistic Equations.
- How solution curves behave near the equilibrium solutions

See illustrative examples from Lecture Notes Section 2.1.

## Acceleration-Velocity Models

This topic was covered in Section 2.3. See the lecture notes and homework questions for examples.

## Autonomous Equations and Equilibrium Solutions

Autonomous Equations:  $\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x)$

Critical points: values of  $x$  such that  $f(x) = 0$ .  
 $f(x_0) = 0 \Rightarrow$  equilibrium solution at  $x = x_0$   
 $f(x_0) < 0 \Rightarrow$  solutions go down at  $x = x_0$   
 $f(x_0) > 0 \Rightarrow$  solutions go up at  $x = x_0$

Stability of Critical Points: Phase diagram method  
unstable = solutions go away (either side)  
stable = solutions go towards (both sides)  
semi-stable = solutions mixed

## Euler's Method

Euler's Method:

Consider  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y), \quad y(x_0) = y_0$

Euler's method with step size  $h$ :

$$\begin{cases} x_{n+1} = x_n + h \\ y_{n+1} = y_n + h \cdot f(x_n, y_n) \end{cases}$$

## Existence and Uniqueness Theorem

First Order, General Initial Value Problem:

$$y' = f(x, y), \quad y(x_0) = y_0$$

- Solution exists and is unique if  $f$  and  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}f$  are continuous at  $(x_0, y_0)$ .
- Solutions are defined somewhere inside the region containing  $(x_0, y_0)$ , where  $f$  and  $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}f$  are continuous.

## Linearly Independent Functions

$f_1, \dots, f_n$  are linearly independent if  $c_1 f_1 + \dots + c_n f_n = 0$  holds if and only if  $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_n = 0$ .

$$\text{Wronskian: } W(x) = \begin{vmatrix} f_1 & f_2 & \cdots & f_n \\ f_1' & f_2' & \cdots & f_n' \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ f_1^{(n-1)} & f_2^{(n-1)} & \cdots & f_n^{(n-1)} \end{vmatrix}.$$

The Wronskian of  $n$  linearly dependent functions  $f_1, \dots, f_n$  is **identically zero**.

## 2nd Order, Homogeneous Linear, Constant Coefficients

2nd Order, Homogeneous Linear, Constant Coefficients:

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0$$

Characteristic Equation:

$$ar^2 + br + c = 0$$

Solution depends on the type of roots:

- $r = r_1, r_2$  (real, not repeated),  
 $y = c_1 e^{r_1 x} + c_2 e^{r_2 x}.$
- $r = r_1 = r_1$  (repeated root),  
 $y = (c_1 + c_2 x) e^{r_1 x}.$
- $r = r_{1,2} = A \pm Bi$  (complex conjugates),  
 $y = e^{Ax} (c_1 \cos Bx + c_2 \sin Bx)$

## Higher Order, Homogeneous Linear, Constant Coefficients

Higher Order, Homogeneous Linear, Constant Coefficients:

$$a_n y^{(n)} + \dots + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0$$

Characteristic Equation:

$$a_n r^n + \dots + a_1 r + a_0 = 0$$

- Solution generalized from 2nd order case.
- Long division method can be used when solving char. eqn.

## Reduction of Order

Consider

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = 0,$$

with one solution  $y = y_1(x)$  known.

$$y = v y_1$$

Substitute:

$$y' = v y_1' + v' y_1$$

$$y'' = v y_1'' + 2v' y_1' + v'' y_1$$

Diff. E. becomes

$$(2v' y_1' + v'' y_1) + p v' y_1 = 0,$$

which is separable:

$$\frac{1}{(v')} (v')' = - \left( p + \frac{2y_1'}{y_1} \right).$$

Applications:

$$\text{Euler Equation: } ax^2 y'' + bxy' + cy = 0$$

## Additional Notes Summarized by Yourself

You can fill in this empty block to summarize the course contents that are not listed in this file.