



APPLIED DIFFERENTIAL CALCULUS  
LECTURE 1: First-order ordinary differential equations.  
PROBLEMS

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**Problem 1** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y' + y = 2e^{-x} + x^2$$

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**Problem 2** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y' + \frac{1}{x}y = x^2 - 1, \quad x > 0$$

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**Problem 3** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y' + y \cos x = \sin x \cos x$$

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**Problem 4** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y' = x^2/y$$

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**Problem 5** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y' = \frac{x^2}{y(1+x^3)}$$

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**Problem 6** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y' + y^2 \sin x = 0$$

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**Problem 7** Solve the initial value problem (IVP):

$$(IVP) \begin{cases} (1-x)(1-y)y' = \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \\ y(0) = 0 \end{cases} .$$

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**Problem 8** Solve the following differential equation:

$$x^3 + xy^2 + (x^2y + y^3)y' = 0$$

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**Problem 9** Solve the following differential equation:

$$e^y + (xe^y + 2y)y' = 0$$

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**Problem 10** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y^2e^{xy} + \cos x + (e^{xy} + xye^{xy})y' = 0$$

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**Problem 11** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y' = (2x + y)/(x - y)$$

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**Problem 12** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y' = (x^2 + 3y^2)/2xy$$

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**Problem 13** Solve the following differential equation:

$$y' = (y + \sqrt{x^2 - y^2})/x$$

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**Problem 14** Consider the following initial value problem (IVP)

$$\begin{cases} 2ty + (t^2 + y)y' = 0, & 0 < t \leq 1, \\ y(0) = -2. \end{cases}$$

- (i) Classify the given differential equation and prove that  $y(t) = -t^2 - \sqrt{t^4 + 4}$  is the solution of the IVP.
- (ii) Express the differential equation in the form  $y' = f(t, y)$  and consider the numerical scheme

$$Y_{n+1} = Y_n + \frac{h}{2} \left( f(t_{n+1}, \tilde{Y}_{n+1}) + f(t_n, Y_n) \right), \quad \text{with} \quad \tilde{Y}_{n+1} = Y_n + hf(t_n, Y_n).$$

Prove that  $Y_1 = 4/(h^2 - 2)$  for any step  $h$ . In addition, approximate  $y(1)$  using the given scheme with  $h_1 = 0.5$ .

- (iii) Estimate the order of the numerical method, knowing that  $Y_{10}^{h_2} = -3.239$  is an approximation of  $y(1)$  calculated with  $h_2 = 0.1$ .
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**Problem 15** Consider the following initial value problem (IVP)

$$\begin{cases} y' + ky = k \sin t + \cos t \\ y(0) = 1 \end{cases}$$

for  $t \geq 0$ , where  $k$  is a positive real parameter.

- (a) Classify the differential equation of the IVP and calculate its solution.
- (b) Take  $k = 3$  in the IVP and find an approximated value of  $y(\pi/4)$  by applying the method of explicit Euler with step  $h = \pi/4$ . Then, compare the result with that obtained considering the exact solution  $y(t) = \sin t + e^{-3t}$ .
- (c) Is the approximation obtained in (b) with step  $h = \pi/4$  acceptable? If yes, justify your answer. If no, find an upper bound for  $h$  yielding an acceptable approximation of  $y(\pi/4)$ .
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**Problem 16** Solve the following initial value problem, writing the solution in explicit form.

$$\begin{cases} (1 - \ln x) y' = 1 + \ln x + \frac{y}{x}, & \text{for } 0 < x < e, \\ y(1) = 1. \end{cases}$$

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**Problem 17** Consider the following initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} y' + y = 2t^2 \\ y(0) = 5. \end{cases}$$

- (i) Verify that  $y(t) = e^{-t} + 2t^2 - 4t + 4$  is the exact solution.  
(ii) Use the following Runge-Kutta method

$$Y_{n+1} = Y_n + \frac{1}{2} (K_1 + K_2), \quad \text{with } K_1 = h f(t_n, Y_n), \quad K_2 = h f(t_{n+1}, Y_n + K_1),$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , to approximate the value  $y(0.2)$  with  $h = h_1 = 0.1$ .

- (iii) Knowing that  $Y_{20}^{h_2} = 4.09875$  is an approximation of  $y(0.2)$  calculated with  $h = h_2 = 0.01$ , estimate the order of the numerical method in (ii).
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**Problem 18** Consider the differential equation  $xy^2y' + x^3 = y^3$ , with  $0 < x < 2$ .

- (a) Classify it, justifying your answer.  
(b) Solve it together with the condition  $y(1) = 2$ .
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**Problem 19** Consider the following initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} y' + 6y = 0 \\ y(0) = 1. \end{cases}$$

- (a) Apply to the problem one iteration of the explicit Euler method with step  $h_1 = 0.05$ . Then, say whether the method is stable with the suggested step.
- (b) Use the value  $Y_1$  computed in (a) and the following Adams–Moulton method of order 2

$$Y_{n+2} = Y_{n+1} + \frac{h}{2} \left[ f(t_{n+1}, Y_{n+1}) + f(t_{n+2}, Y_{n+2}) \right],$$

for  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ , to approximate the value  $y(0.1)$  with  $h = h_1 = 0.05$ .

- (c) Knowing that  $E_{t=0.1}^{h_2} = 0.00112$  is the error of approximating  $y(0.1)$  using the method in (b) with step  $h_2 = h_1/q$ , calculate the value of  $h_2$  (note that  $y(0.1) = 0.54881$  and  $q \in \mathbb{N}$  is the step reduction factor).

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**Problem 20** Can you use the explicit Euler method to solve approximately the initial value problem:  $y' = 1 + y^2$  in  $x \in [0, 3]$ , with  $y(0) = 0$ ? *Hint: Find the exact solution and discuss.*

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**Problem 21** A new European football league is planned so that the yearly sales of tickets grow at a speed proportional to the difference between sales at time  $t$  and a higher bound of 300 million euros. Assume no ticket has been sold at  $t = 0$  and that sales should be 40 million euro after 3 years (otherwise the competition is cancelled). Based on this assumption, how long it should take for the yearly ticket sales to have reached 220 million euro?

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**Problem 22** The population of a large cluster of atoms decreases to one third its initial size in one year, at a rate proportional to the instantaneous number of atoms. (a) Model the evolution of the atom population by means of a differential equation and calculate its growth rate proportionality constant  $r$ . (b) Use the explicit Euler method to solve the ODE and indicate the maximum step size for which the Euler scheme is stable.

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**Problem 23** Given the Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE):

$$y' = e^{x+y} \quad \text{with} \quad x > 0,$$

- i) Classify this ODE.
- ii) Solve the ODE with initial condition  $y(1) = 1$ .

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**Problem 24** A cauldron of boiling soup is placed in a room at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  and its temperature becomes  $20^\circ\text{C}$  after 30 minutes. (a) Model the evolution of the soup temperature by means of a differential equation (Newton cooling law) and calculate the cooling rate proportionality constant  $-r$ . (b) Use the explicit Euler method to solve the ODE and indicate the maximum step size for which the Euler scheme is stable.

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