
MATH 255 – Midterm I

October 16, 2006

Your full name: _____

ID Number: _____

Scores:

Problem 1 _____ (5 points)

Problem 2 _____ (5 points)

Problem 3 _____ (5 points)

Problem 4 _____ (5 points)

Problem 5 _____ (5 points)

TOTAL: _____ **(25 points)**

One 8.5×11 sheet of notes allowed.

Show all your work and make your reasoning clear.

Problem 1 (5 points)

Find the solution of

$$y' = x + 2xy, \quad y(0) = 1.$$

Standardform: $y' - 2xy = x, y(0) = 1$
(linear, non-constant coefficients)

integrating factor $\mu' = -2x\mu \Rightarrow \underline{\underline{\mu = e^{-x^2}}}$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-x^2} y' - 2xe^{-x^2} y = xe^{-x^2}$$

$$(e^{-x^2} y)' = xe^{-x^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow e^{-x^2} y &= \int xe^{-x^2} dx + C \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}e^{-x^2} + C \end{aligned}$$

$$y = -\frac{1}{2} + Ce^{x^2}$$

$$y(0) = -\frac{1}{2} + C \stackrel{!}{=} 1 \Rightarrow C = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$\underline{\underline{y = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}e^{x^2}}}$$

Problem 2 (5 points)

Find the general solution of

$$y'' - 5y' + 6y = 4xe^x$$

particular solution:

$$Y = (Ax + B)e^x$$

$$Y' = (A + B)e^x + Axe^x$$

$$Y'' = (2A + B)e^x + Axe^x$$

$$\begin{aligned} Y'' - 5Y' + 6Y &= (2A + B)e^x + Axe^x \\ &\quad - 5((A + B)e^x + Axe^x) \\ &\quad + 6(Ae^x + Bxe^x) \stackrel{!}{=} 4xe^x \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow (2A - 5A + B - 5B + 6B)e^x + 2Axe^x \stackrel{!}{=} 4xe^x$$

$$\Rightarrow 2A = 4 \Rightarrow \underline{A = 2} \quad \text{and} \quad -3A + 2B = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{B = 3}$$

general solution

$$\underline{y(t) = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 e^{3x} + (2x + 3)e^x}$$

Problem 3 (5 points)

Find the general solution of

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

Hint: Use the substitution $z = \frac{y}{x}$.

$$xz = y \Rightarrow y' = z + xz'$$

$$\Rightarrow z + xz' = 1 + z + z^2$$

$$\Rightarrow z' = \frac{1}{x}(1 + z^2) \text{ separable}$$

$$\frac{dz}{1+z^2} = \frac{dx}{x}$$

$$\tan^{-1}(z) = \log|x| + c$$

$$z = \tan(\log|x| + c)$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\underline{y = x \tan(\log|x| + c)}}$$

Problem 4 (5 points)

Consider a cylindrical tank of constant cross section A . Water is pumped into the tank at a constant rate k and leaks out through a small hole of area a in the bottom. Let $h = h(t)$ be the depth of water in the tank at time t . Due to Torricelli's principle, it satisfies the differential equation

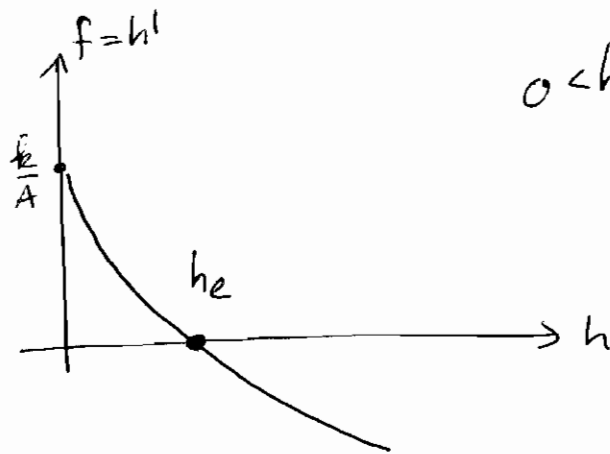
$$Ah' = (k - \alpha a \sqrt{2gh}),$$

where g is the acceleration due to gravity, and α is a contraction coefficient with $0.5 \leq \alpha \leq 1$. Determine the equilibrium depth h_e of water and discuss the asymptotic stability of the equilibrium solution.

Equilibrium solution: $k - \alpha a \sqrt{2gh} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$

$$\Rightarrow k^2 = \alpha^2 a^2 2gh$$
$$\Rightarrow h_e = \frac{k^2}{2\alpha^2 a^2 g}$$

The graph of $f(h) = \frac{k - \alpha a \sqrt{2gh}}{A}$ looks like



$0 < h < h_e$: $f(h)$ positive
 $\Rightarrow h$ increasing

$h > h_e$: $f(h)$ negative
 $\Rightarrow h$ decreasing

\Rightarrow h_e is asymptotically stable

Problem 5 (5 points)

Consider

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

Show that the functions $y_1(x) = x$ and $y_2(x) = \sqrt{x}$ solve the equation and form a fundamental set of solutions.

$$\underline{y_1}: \quad y_1' = 1, \quad y_1'' = 0 \Rightarrow 0 - \frac{1}{2x} \cdot 1 + \frac{1}{2x^2} \cdot x = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$\underline{y_2}: \quad y_2' = \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2}, \quad y_2'' = -\frac{1}{4}x^{-3/2} \Rightarrow -\frac{1}{4}x^{-3/2} - \frac{1}{2x} \cdot \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2} + \frac{1}{2x^2}x^{1/2} \\ = -\frac{2}{4}x^{-3/2} + \frac{1}{2}x^{-3/2} = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

Wronskian.

$$W = \det \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{pmatrix} \Big|_x = \det \begin{pmatrix} x & \sqrt{x} \\ 1 & \frac{1}{2}x^{-1/2} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\sqrt{x}}{2} - \sqrt{x} \\ = \underline{\underline{-\frac{\sqrt{x}}{2}}} \neq 0 \quad (\text{since } x \geq 1)$$

$\Rightarrow y_1$ and y_2 are a fundamental set of solutions