

# MATH 22B-001: Differential Equations

## MidTerm Exam I, Wednesday January 31, 2001

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**Problem 1** (20 pts) Consider the following initial value problem (IVP).

$$\frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{2}{t}y = t^2 e^t, \quad t \geq 1, \quad y(1) = 0.$$

- (a) (5 pts) Is this differential equation linear or nonlinear?
- (b) (5 pts) What method would you use to find a solution to this IVP?
- (c) (10 pts) Solve this IVP.

Solution

(a) Linear

(b) Integrating factor or variation of parameters

(c) Multiply on both sides by integrating factor  $\mu(t)$ :

$$\mu y' - \frac{2}{t} \mu y = \mu t^2 e^t$$

Let

$$\mu y' - \frac{2}{t} \mu y = \mu y' + \mu' y$$

which gives

$$\mu' = -\frac{2}{t} \mu \longrightarrow \frac{\mu'}{\mu} = -\frac{2}{t} \longrightarrow \ln |\mu| = -2 \ln |t|$$

so we pick

$$\mu(t) = \frac{1}{t^2}$$

Therefore we have

$$\left(\frac{1}{t^2} y\right)' = \frac{1}{t^2} \cdot t^2 e^t = e^t$$

Integration yields:

$$\frac{1}{t^2} y = e^t + C \longrightarrow y = t^2(e^t + C)$$

Now, solving for the initial condition we get

$$0 = y(1) = 1^2(e^1 + C) \longrightarrow C = -e$$

so

$$y(t) = t^2(e^t - e)$$

**Problem 2** (30 pts) Consider the following differential equation.

$$(1 + t) \frac{dy}{dt} = 1 + y.$$

- (5 pts) Is this differential equation linear or nonlinear?
- (5 pts) What method would you use to find a solution of this differential equation?
- (10 pts) Solve this differential equation.
- (5 pts) Draw several integral curves by varying the integration constant  $c$ .
- (5 pts) All the integral curves pass through a common point on the  $ty$ -plane. What is the coordinate of this common point?

Solution

(a) Linear

(b) Separation of Variables

(c) Assume that  $1 + t \neq 0$  and  $1 + y \neq 0$  then we have:

$$\frac{dy}{1 + y} = \frac{dt}{1 + t}$$

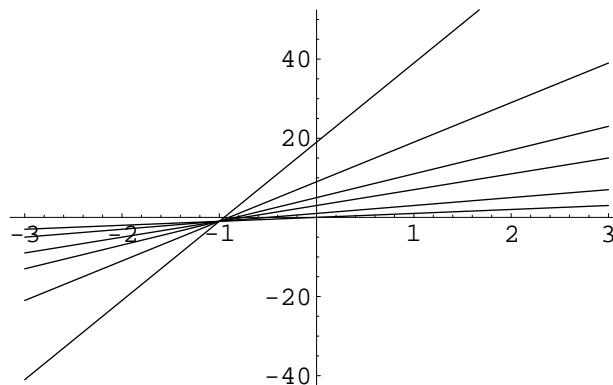
integrating gives:

$$\ln |1 + y| = \ln |1 + t| + C \longrightarrow |1 + y| = e^C |1 + t|$$

So, we have:

$$y(t) = K(t + 1) - 1$$

where  $K$  is an arbitrary constant. (d)



(e)  $(t, y) = (-1, -1)$  for all  $K$ .

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**Problem 3** (30 pts) Consider the following initial value problem of *population dynamics*:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -y(y - \alpha)(y - \beta), \quad y(0) = y_0 > 0,$$

where  $0 < \alpha < \beta < \infty$ .

- (a) (9 pts) What are the equilibrium solutions? You must also state whether each equilibrium solution is asymptotically stable or unstable.
- (b) (8 pts) Draw several integral curves by varying  $y_0$ .
- (c) (8 pts) Repeat (b) for the case  $\alpha = \beta$ .
- (d) (5 pts) In order to avoid extinction, what condition  $y_0$  must satisfy (regardless of  $\alpha < \beta$  or  $\alpha = \beta$ ) ?

Solution

(a) The equilibrium solutions must satisfy

$$f(y) = -y(y - \alpha)(y - \beta) = 0$$

thus, we have  $y = 0, \alpha, \beta$ . To classify each as stable or unstable we note

$$f'(0) < 0; f'(\alpha) > 0; \text{ and } f'(\beta) < 0$$

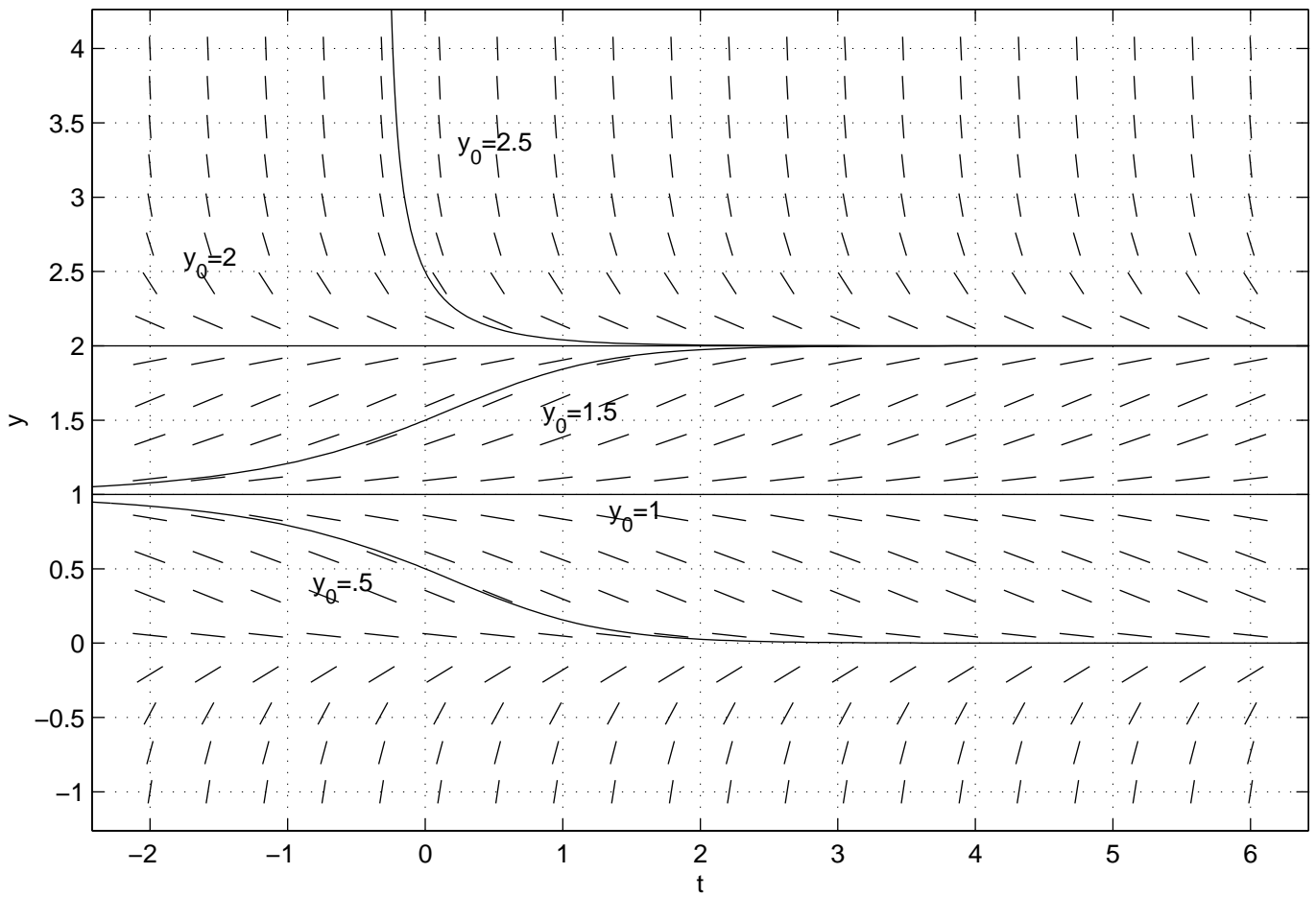
So  $y = 0, \beta$  are asymptotically stable while  $y = \alpha$  is unstable.

(b) In the figure below  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\beta = 2$ .

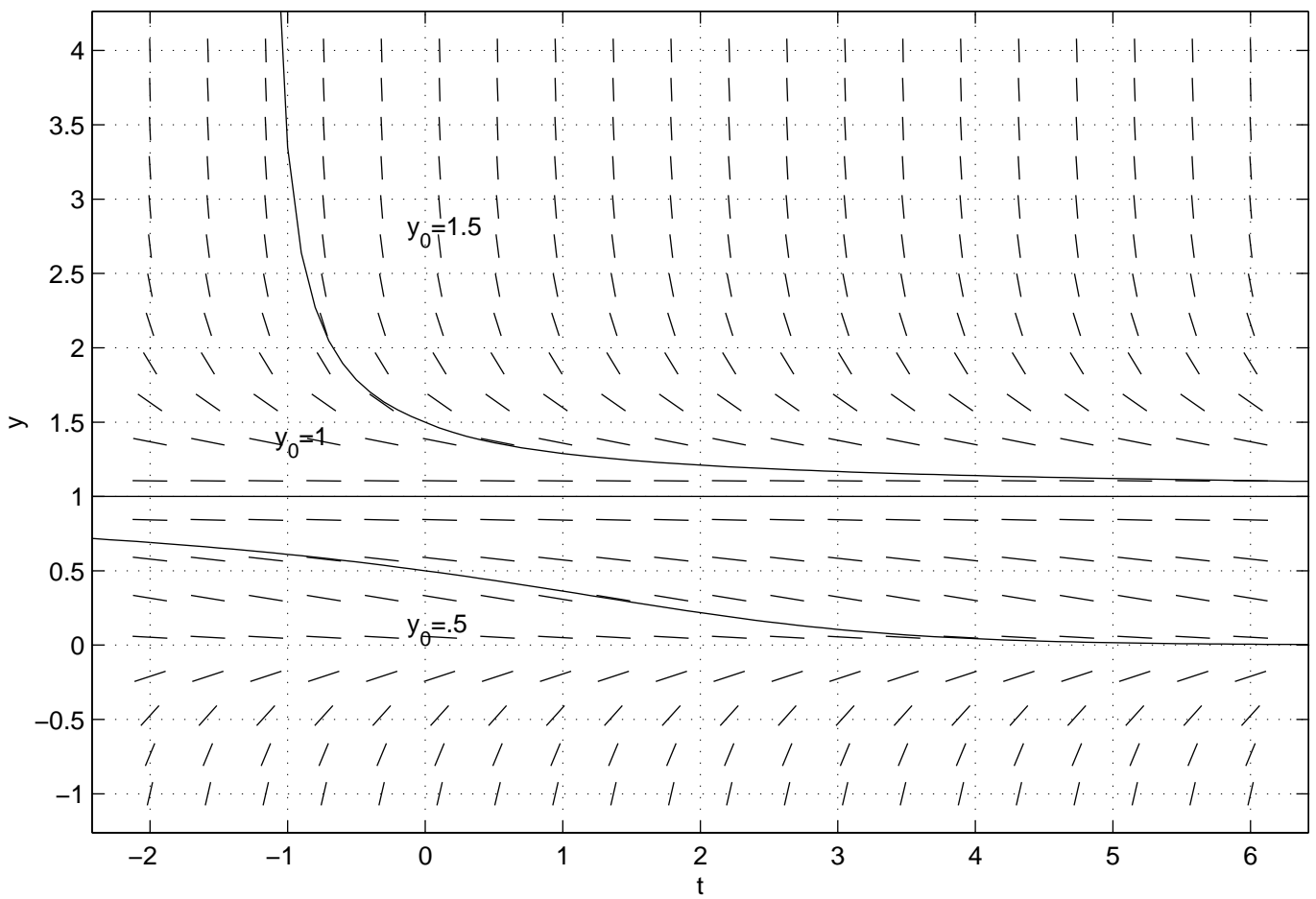
(c) In the figure below  $\alpha = \beta = 1$

(d) Regardless of  $0 < \alpha < \beta$  or  $0 < \alpha = \beta$ , we need to have  $y_0 \geq \alpha$ . Note that  $y_0 = \alpha$  is included.

$$y' = -y(y-1)(y-2)$$



$$y' = -y(y-1)(y-1)$$



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Select one of the following problems (either Problem 4-1 or 4-2), and solve it. You don't have to solve both of them, but if you want to and can solve both of them, you will get extra points.

**Problem 4-1** (20 pts) Consider the following initial value problem (IVP)

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - (\tan x)y = 0, \quad y(\pi) = 1.$$

- (a) (5 pts) Is this differential equation linear or nonlinear?
- (b) (5 pts) What is the interval of  $x$  where the solution to this IVP exists?
- (c) (10 pts) Solve this IVP. [ Hint:  $\frac{d}{dx} \ln |\cos x| = -\frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$ . ]

Solution

(a) Linear

(b) From the theorem of existence and uniqueness of the solution to an IVP, we have to have an interval  $I$  where  $\tan x$  is continuous and  $x = \pi \in I$ . To find the  $I$  we need we write

$$\tan x = \frac{\sin x}{\cos x}$$

Thus,  $\tan x$  is continuous as long as  $\cos x \neq 0$ . But  $\cos x = 0$  for  $x = \dots - \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2} \dots$ . So we see that we have a unique solution on  $I = (\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2})$

(c) We have  $y' - \tan xy = 0$ . This is a separable equation. Thus we have:

$$\frac{dy}{y} = \tan x dx$$

Integrating gives:

$$\ln|y| = -\ln|\cos x| + C \longrightarrow y = \frac{K}{\cos x}$$

where  $K$  is a constant. Now solving for the initial condition  $y(\pi) = 1$  we get  $K = -1$ . Thus

$$y(t) = -\frac{1}{\cos x}$$

**Problem 4-2** (20 pts) Consider the following IVP.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} - 2ty = 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1, \quad y(0) = 1.$$

(a) (10 pts) Derive Euler's formula for this equation. Use  $h$  as a step size.

(b) (10 pts) Let  $h = 0.5$  and compute  $y_0$ ,  $y_1$ , and  $y_2$  numerically by hand.

Solution

(a)  $y' = 2ty + 1 = f(t, y)$  and  $t_i = ih$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} y_0 &= 1 \\ y_{i+1} &= y_i + hf(t_i, y_i) \\ &= y_i + h(2t_i y_i + 1) \\ &= y_i + h(2 \cdot ih \cdot y_i + 1) \\ &= (1 + 2h^2 i)y_i + h \end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} y_0 &= 1 \\ (i = 0) \quad y_1 &= (1 + 2 \cdot .5^2 \cdot 0)y_0 + .5 \\ &= 1.5 \\ (i = 1) \quad y_2 &= (1 + 2 \cdot .5^2 \cdot 1)y_1 + .5 \\ &= 1.5 \cdot 1.5 + .5 \\ &= 2.75 \end{aligned}$$