

Math 2250-1      Workout Wednesday Super Quiz Tune-Up (Week  
4)

Name and uID: \_\_\_\_\_

**Write your answer in the space provided. Show work for full credit. You do not need to numerically evaluate all expressions for full credit**

1. (10 points) **Problem 1**

An accelerometer in a smart phone measures an acceleration over  $t = 0$  to 1 seconds given by the function

$$a(t) = -t^3 + 1.5t^2 - 0.5t$$

measured in cm per seconds squared. The phone starts from rest ( $x_0 = 0, v_0 = 0$ ). Write down and solve the differential equations to find the distance traveled after one second.

**Solution:** The differential equation for velocity is

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = a(t) = -t^3 + 1.5t^2 - 0.5t$$

Integrate to find  $v(t)$ :

$$v(t) = -0.25t^4 + 0.5t^3 - 0.25t^2 + C$$

Plug in  $t = 1$  s:

$$v(0) = 0 \implies C = 0$$

The distance it has traveled at the end of the 1 s is calculated by integrating again to find  $x(t)$ :

$$x(t) = -0.5t^5 + 0.125t^4 - \frac{0.25}{3}t^3 + C$$

where  $C = 0$ , so that the distance traveled is

$$x(1) = -0.008333333333$$

2. (10 points) **Problem 2**

Suppose a 10-liter tank contains 9 liters of water and 1 liter of ethanol at time  $t = 0$ . A 50% concentration solution of water-ethanol is continuously mixed into the tank at a rate  $r = 2$  liters per minute. The mixed solution is removed from the tank at the same rate. Let  $x(t)$  be the volume in liters of ethanol in the tank at time  $t$  in minutes. Find  $x(t)$  by solving the appropriate differential equation.

**Solution:** The mixing tank DE is always of the form

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = r(c_{in} - c_{out})$$

where  $r = 2$ ,  $c_{in} = 1/2$ , and  $c_{out} = x(t)/10$ . Plugging in, we get

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 2(1/2 - x(t)/10) = 1 - \frac{1}{5}x$$

Solving the linear first order DE by means of integrating factor  $\rho = e^{\frac{1}{5}t}$ :

$$\frac{d}{dt}(xe^{\frac{1}{5}t}) = e^{\frac{1}{5}t}.$$

Then integrate:

$$x(t)e^{\frac{1}{5}t} = 5e^{\frac{1}{5}t} + C$$

Solve for  $x$ :

$$x(t) = 5 + Ce^{-\frac{1}{5}t}$$

Initial condition  $x(0) = 1/10$

$$\frac{1}{10} - 5 = C$$

3. (10 points) **Problem 3**

Consider the differential equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x^2 - 1.$$

- (a) Find the equilibrium solutions.

**Solution:** The equilibrium solutions are the zeros of the right-hand side. Use the quadratic formula

$$(x - 1)(x + 1) = 0 \implies x = \pm 1$$

- (b) Using a phase portrait, decide whether the equilibrium solutions are asymptotically stable or unstable.

**Solution:** Find the sign of the derivative

Zeros	-1		+1		
$\frac{dx}{dt}$	++	0	-	0	++
$x(t)$	↗		↘		↗

Phase portrait:  $\longrightarrow$  -1  $\longleftarrow$  +1  $\longrightarrow$

-1 is asymptotically stable, while +1 is unstable.

- (c) Solve the differential equation with  $x(0) = 0$ .

**Solution:** This is a separable differential equation

$$\frac{dx}{(x - 1)(x + 1)} = dt.$$

We use partial fractions.

$$\frac{1}{(x - 1)(x + 1)} = \frac{A}{x - 1} + \frac{B}{x + 1} \quad (1)$$

$$1 = A(x + 1) + B(x - 1) \quad (2)$$

$$B = -1/2, \quad A = 1/2 \quad (3)$$

Integrate

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln |x - 1| - \frac{1}{2} \ln |x + 1| = t + C.$$

Rewrite and take the exponential

$$\frac{1}{2} \ln \left| \frac{1-x}{x+1} \right| = t + C \quad \Rightarrow \quad \left| \frac{1-x}{x+1} \right| = C e^{2t}$$

$$x(0) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad C = 1$$

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

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