

Name:

NetId:

## Honors Ordinary Differential Equations

Final Exam, Fall 2021

**DO NOT OPEN YET**

**...and wait until the proctor announces that it is time to start.**

In the mean time, please write your name and NetID legibly,  
and **read the instructions below carefully.**

- \* Please do not fold or damage the exam papers. After you finish your exam, please put the pages in correct order back into the sleeve.
- \* There are 5 questions in this exam, the sleeve should contain 8 pieces of paper.
- \* The scratch paper is included: three last papers are blank. If your solution continues on scratch paper, please clearly indicate it.
- \* For questions asking to prove a result, the clarity of the mathematical argument will be taken into account in the score.
- \* Questions formulated in terms of real functions should be answered with real functions.
- \* Question marked with (†) is challenge.

**Good luck!**



1. Determine the order of the following differential equations, and whether they are: partial or ordinary, and linear or non-linear. If they are ordinary and first order, determine whether they are autonomous or not, and separable or not. If they are linear, determine whether they are homogeneous.

(a)  $y'' + (y')^2 = 0$ .

(b)  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}y = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}y + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}y$ .

(c)  $y' = y^2 + y^3$ .

(d)  $(t^4 + 1)y' + 100y = \sin(t)$ .

2. In this question, we study an example of numerical approximation of solution to ODE. Consider the initial value problem

$$y' = 1 - t + y, \quad y(t_0) = y_0.$$

- (a) Give the solution  $y(t)$  with exact expression.  
(b) Using the discrete approximation: setting step size  $h > 0$  and  $t_k := t_0 + kh$

$$y_k = (1 + h)y_{k-1} + h - ht_{k-1}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

Show by induction that

$$y_n = (1 + h)^n(y_0 - t_0) + t_n, \tag{1}$$

for each positive integer  $n$ .

- (c) Consider a fixed  $t > t_0$  and, for a given  $n$  choose  $h = (t - t_0)/n$ . Show that for  $y_n$  in (1) and  $y(t)$  in Question (a), we have  $y_n \rightarrow y(t)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .



3. Consider the differential equation

$$x^3y'' + \alpha xy' + \beta y = 0, \quad (2)$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are real constants and  $\alpha \neq 0$ . In this question, we attempt to find its solution of form  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{r+n}$ .

- (a) Show that  $x = 0$  is an irregular singular point.
- (b) Using the formal series solution to write down (2) as

$$F(r)a_0x^r + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n x^{r+n} = 0.$$

Express  $F(r)$  in function of  $r$ , and  $c_n$  in function of  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}, r, \alpha, \beta$ .

- (c) Show that  $F(r) = 0$  only has one root, and consequently there is only one possible formal solution of the assumed form. Write down the recurrence of  $a_n$  under this condition.
- (d) Show that if  $\beta/\alpha \in \{-1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ , then only finite terms in  $(a_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  are non-zero, and therefore it is an actual solution.
- (e) Show that if  $\beta/\alpha \notin \{-1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ , show that the formal series solution has a zero radius of convergence and so does not represent an actual solution in any interval.



4. The convolution operator  $\star$  on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  is defined for two functions  $f, g$  as

$$\forall t \geq 0, \quad (f \star g)(t) = \int_0^t f(t-u)g(u) du,$$

when this integral is well-defined.

- (a) Prove that  $f \star g = g \star f$ .
- (b) Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be Laplace transform. Prove that  $\mathcal{L}[f \star g] = \mathcal{L}[f]\mathcal{L}[g]$ .
- (c) We use Laplace transform and the convolution to study the following differential equation

$$y'' + ay' + by = f, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0,$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants, while  $f$  is a bounded continuous function.

- i. Give the expression of  $\mathcal{L}[y](s)$  in function of  $\mathcal{L}[f](s), a, b, s$ .
- ii. Show that  $y$  has the solution  $y = w \star f$ , where  $w(t)$  is the solution of

$$w'' + aw' + bw = 0, \quad w(0) = 0, w'(0) = 1.$$

[Hint: use (b) and the uniqueness theorem of Laplace transform.]





5. Consider a differential equation

$$y^{(n)} = a_0 y + a_1 y^{(1)} + a_2 y^{(2)} + \cdots + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)}, \quad (3)$$

where  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-1}$  are continuous functions on interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ .

- (a) Show that the vector  $\begin{pmatrix} y \\ y^{(1)} \\ y^{(2)} \\ \dots \\ y^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix}$  is solution of an ODE of order 1.
- (b) Deduce carefully there exists a unique solution to (3) with initial condition  $y(t_0) = y_0$ ,  $y^{(1)}(t_0) = y_0^{(1)}, \dots, y^{(n-1)}(t_0) = y_0^{(n-1)}$ .
- (c) Under which assumption can we ensure that the solutions  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  of (3) are a FSS? Carefully justify and prove your answer. (You are allowed to use the theorems from the courses.)
- (d) Given  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  FSS of (3) and  $y$  solution to (3), write  $y$  in terms of  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  and  $y^{(j)}(t_0), y_i^{(j)}(t_0)$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq n, 0 \leq j \leq n-1$ . (The operations of vector/matrix like product, inverse and determinant are allowed in the expression.)

