

Math 331, Fall 2002: Problems 13-16

NOTE: Each exercise is worth 10 points and can be turned in at any time before its “expiration date”. At the end of the semester, I will expect you to have turned in at least 2/5 of the exercises assigned. If you do more, I will pick your best grades. If you do less, the missing grades will be counted as zeros. Altogether, these will count the same as one project.

13. (expires 10/20) Find all the solutions to the differential equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt}(t) = -2x(t), \quad t \in \mathbf{R}.$$

Among them, single out the one for which $x(0) = 3$. [Hint: read the help page for `dsolve`, or just do it in your head. It is that easy.]

14. (expires 10/20) Have `Maple` find analytic solutions to the following system of differential equations,

$$\begin{cases} y''(t) - z(t) = e^t, \\ z'(t) - y(t) = 0, \end{cases}$$

with initial conditions: $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 0$, $z(0) = k$. Let us denote the solutions by $y_k(t)$, $z_k(t)$ (since they depend on the parameter k).

For k taking all integer values from -10 to 10, and $t \in [-4, 2]$, plot the functions y_k in blue, and the functions z_k in red, all on the same graph. (Yes, you will then have 42 functions plotted on the same graph.) [This is certainly a case when you don't want to retype the functions that `Maple` finds. You will almost certainly need to read the help page for `dsolve`. I also found `subs`, `unapply`, and `seq` useful.]

15. (expires 10/20) For the functions $y_k(t)$ and $z_k(t)$ found in problem #14, plot the parametric curves $\varphi_k(t) = [y_k(t), z_k(t)]$ for integer values of k between -5 and 5 and $-6 < t < 4$ on the same graph. Use the `view` option of `plot` to only show what lies in the region $-10 < y < 10$, $-10 < z < 10$, and use a sequence of colors so that each solution is a different color. [HINT: you might find something like `seq(COLOR(HUE, i/11), i=0..10)` useful for the latter.]

16. (expires 10/20) Find all the fixed points of the system

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = x^2 + y, \\ \dot{y} = x(y^2 - 1), \end{cases}$$

a fixed point being a solution for which both $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ stay constant. For each of these points, describe the behavior of the solutions that have initial conditions nearby. You can use `Maple` to figure out what happens for nearby points, or you can use more mathematical methods.

NOTE: The fact that there are various notations for differential equations is purely intentional.