Differential Equations I for Students of Engineering Sciences

Sheet 3, Homework

Exercise 1:

a) Determine the solution of the following initial value problem

$$y'(t) = t + t(y(t))^2$$
 for $t > 0$, $y(0) = 1$.

On which interval $I = [0, t^*)$ is its solution defined?

b) Find the general solution of the following differential equation.

$$y'(t) = e^{-2t} \cdot \sqrt[3]{y(t)}.$$

c) Which solution results in b) if the initial value y(0) = 1 is given?

d) Which solution results in b) if the initial value y(0) = 0 is given?

Sketch of solution of Exercise 1)

a) It is a separable differential equation. One computes $\frac{dy}{dt} = t(1+y^2) \iff \frac{dy}{1+y^2} = tdt. \quad (1 \text{ point})$ Thus $\int \frac{1}{1+y^2} dy = \int tdt \iff \arctan(y(t)) = \frac{t^2}{2} + C.$ $\iff y(t) = \tan\left(\frac{t^2}{2} + C\right). \quad (1 \text{ point})$ $y(0) = \tan\left(\frac{0^2}{2} + C\right) \stackrel{!}{=} 1 \iff C = \frac{\pi}{4} + k\pi, \ k \in \mathbb{Z}. \quad (1 \text{ point})$

As $\tan(\alpha + k\pi) = \tan(\alpha), \forall k \in \mathbb{Z}, \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, one may choose any k to represent the function. Thus for example $y(t) = \tan\left(\frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)$. (1 point)

The solution is only defined for $\frac{t^2}{2} < \frac{\pi}{4}$. The tangent function has poles for the arguments $k\pi + \frac{\pi}{2}, k \in \mathbb{Z}$. (1 point)

b) It is another separable differential equation.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = e^{-2t} \cdot \sqrt[3]{y(t)} \stackrel{(*)}{\longleftrightarrow} \frac{dy}{\sqrt[3]{y}} = e^{-2t}dt. \quad (1 \text{ point})$$
From this one has
$$\int y^{-\frac{1}{3}} dy = \int e^{-2t} dt \iff \frac{3}{2}y^{\frac{2}{3}} = \frac{e^{-2t}}{-2} + \tilde{C} \quad (1 \text{ point})$$

$$\iff \sqrt[3]{y^2(t)} = C - \frac{e^{-2t}}{3} \quad (C = \frac{2}{3}\tilde{C})$$
Thus $y(t) = \pm \sqrt{\left(C - \frac{e^{-2t}}{3}\right)^3}. \quad (1 \text{ point})$

$$y(0) = \pm \sqrt{\left(C - \frac{e^0}{3}\right)^3} = \pm \sqrt{\left(C - \frac{e^0}{3}\right)^3} = 1$$

c)
$$y(0) = \pm \sqrt{\left(C - \frac{e^0}{3}\right)^3} = \pm \sqrt{\left(C - \frac{e^0}{3}\right)^3} \stackrel{!}{=} 1$$

Only the positive sign is allowed and it returns $C = \frac{4}{3}$. (1 point)

d) $y(0) = \pm \sqrt{\left(C - \frac{e^0}{3}\right)^3} = \pm \sqrt{\left(C - \frac{e^0}{3}\right)^3} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$ It yields $C = \frac{1}{3}$ but there is no indication on the sign. (1 point) We will come back to this problem later on. Here one may already notice that the first transformation (*) in Part b) can only be carried out for $y \neq 0$.

Exercise 2:

a) Consider the differential equation

$$y'(t) = f(\alpha t + \beta y(t) + \gamma)$$

with $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\alpha + \beta f(\alpha t + \beta y(t) + \gamma) \neq 0$. Show that with the help of the substitution

$$u(t) := \alpha t + \beta y(t) + \gamma$$

it can be transformed into a separable differential.

b) Determine the general solution of the differential equation

$$y' = 1 + \frac{2}{t - y + 4},$$
 for $t - y + 4 > 0.$

c) Check the solution obtained in Part b) by inserting it into the differential equation.

Sketch of solution for Exercise 2:

a)

$$u(t) := \alpha t + \beta y(t) + \gamma \implies u' = \alpha + \beta y' = \alpha + \beta f(u)$$
$$\frac{du}{\alpha + \beta f(u)} = dt. \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

b) From Part a) it follows with $\alpha = 1, \beta = -1, \gamma = 4$ and $f(u) = 1 + \frac{2}{u}$

$$u' = 1 - \left(1 + \frac{2}{u}\right) = -\frac{2}{u}$$
. (2 points)

Thus we obtain

$$\int u \, du = -\int 2dt \implies \frac{u^2}{2} = -2t + \tilde{c} \implies u(t) = \pm \sqrt{c - 4t} \,. \quad (2 \text{ points})$$

The solution is only defined for c - 4t > 0. Transforming back yields

$$y(t) = t + 4 \mp \sqrt{c - 4t}$$
. (1 point)

c) Inserting into the differential equation on the left-hand side returns:

$$y' = 1 \mp \frac{1}{2\sqrt{c-4t}} \cdot (-4) = 1 \pm \frac{2}{\sqrt{c-4t}}$$

and on the right-hand side

$$1 + \frac{2}{t - y + 4} = 1 + \frac{2}{t - (t + 4 \pm \sqrt{c - 4t}) + 4} = 1 \pm \frac{2}{\sqrt{c - 4t}}.$$
 (3 points)