

MATH 18500, WINTER 2022 - WEEKLY GOALS  
INSTRUCTOR: ZHONGJIAN WANG

**Week 1.**

- (1) Given a first order equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ , sketch its isoclines, slope field, and integral curves.
- (2) Given an autonomous equation  $\frac{dy}{dt} = f(y)$ , find its equilibrium values and sketch its solutions.
- (3) Given an equilibrium value of an autonomous equation, determine whether it is stable/unstable/semistable.
- (4) Solve separable equations  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)g(y)$  by integration.

**Week 2.**

- (1) Solve linear first order equations  $\frac{dy}{dx} + p(x)y = f(x)$  using integrating factors.
- (2) Find power series solutions of first and second order equations by repeated differentiation.
- (3) Find power series solutions by substitution; identify recursion relations for the coefficients.
- (4) Sketch the velocity field and solution curves of a system of first order equations. \*

**Week 3.**

- (1) Solve first order linear systems  $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x}$ , when  $A$  has real eigenvalues.
- (2) Solve first order linear systems  $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x}$ , when  $A$  has complex eigenvalues.
- (3) Sketch the solutions of  $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x}$  in both cases, by hand, with reasonable accuracy.
- (4) Solve inhomogeneous equations  $\frac{d\vec{x}}{dt} = A\vec{x} + \vec{b}$ . \*

**Week 4.**

- (1) Solve second order homogeneous equations by exponential ansatz and superposition principle.
- (2) Solve second order homogeneous equations in the “complex root” case.
- (3) Solve second order equations by repeated integration. \*
- (4) Distinguish between oscillators which are underdamped, overdamped, and critically damped.

**Week 5.**

- (1) Solve second order inhomogeneous equations by exponential ansatz and superposition principle.
- (2) Solve second order inhomogeneous equations with sinusoidal forcing terms.
- (3) Convert between the forms  $\operatorname{Re}[Ze^{i\omega t}]$ ,  $a \sin(\omega t) + b \cos(\omega t)$ , and  $A \cos(\omega t - \phi)$ .
- (4) Find the amplitude gain, phase shift, and resonant frequency of a sinusoidally forced oscillator.

**Week 6.**

- (1) Use Fourier series to solve second order linear ODE with periodic forcing terms.
- (2) Find the Fourier series of a given function with a given period, in the real and complex forms.
- (3) Find the Fourier series of odd and even functions efficiently by exploiting symmetry.
- (4) Find sine series for functions on arbitrary intervals.

**Week 7.**

- (1) Use Fourier series to solve PDE (e.g. the heat equation on an interval).
- (2) Write a function as a Fourier integral by applying the Fourier transform and inversion formula. \*
- (3) Apply the rules for Fourier transforms and inverse Fourier transforms of derivatives. \*
- (4) Use Fourier transforms to solve PDE (e.g. the wave equation on the real line). \*

**Week 8.**

- (1) Find the Laplace transform of a given function.
- (2) Find the inverse Laplace transform of a given function
- (3) Solve ODE using Laplace transforms
- (4) Find the inverse Laplace transform of a product.

**Week 9.**

- (1) Represent arbitrary discontinuous functions in terms of step functions.
- (2) Evaluate integrals and Laplace transforms involving step functions and delta functions.
- (3) Solve ODE involving step functions and delta functions.
- (4) Find the impulse response of an oscillator, and apply it to equations with arbitrary forcing terms.

---

\* depends on actual teaching