

These are a few review problems that I stole from previous midterms and finals at UC Berkeley, with partial (or starts at least) of solutions.

Problem 1. Find the general solution to

$$x + yy'e^{-x} = 0$$

Solution: This is a separable equation, and so we can separate it and then integrate. Starting with

$$\begin{aligned} x + yy'e^{-x} &= 0 \\ y \frac{dy}{dx} e^{-x} &= -x \\ ydy &= -xe^x dx \\ \int ydy &= -\int xe^x dx \\ y &= \sqrt{-2 \int xe^x dx} \end{aligned}$$

Problem 2. Find the general solution to

$$y'' + y = \sec x$$

Solution: We can solve using that terrible method the thing with undetermined coefficients. We have two solutions to the auxiliary equation are $y_1 = \sin x$ and $y_2 = \cos x$. Therefore the Wronskian $W(\sin x, \cos x) = 1$, which makes things a little bit easier. Then

$$u_1 = -\int \sec x \cos x dx \qquad u_2 = \int \sec x \sin x dx$$

Solving the left integral gives you $u_1 = -x$. The right integral is $u_2 = -\ln(\cos x)$. So the particular solution is $y_p = x \sin x + -(\ln(\cos x)) \cos x$.

Problem 3. Does this following integral converge or diverge

$$\int_1^2 \frac{4w}{\sqrt[3]{w^2 - 4}}$$

Solution: Making the substitution $u = w^2 - 4$, we have $\int_{-1}^0 \frac{2}{\sqrt[3]{u}}$, which converges.

Problem 4. Find the solution to the differential equation $y'' - xy' - y = 0$ with initial conditions of $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 1$.

Solution: This one is no fun, because you have to solve it by guessing a series. Guess the series $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} y'' &= \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_n(n)(n-1)x^{n-2} \\ y &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n(n)x^{n-1} \end{aligned}$$

Making the substitutions for indexes, we get

$$y'' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{n+2}(n+1)(n)x^n$$

Plugging it back into our differential equation we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_{n+2}(n+1)(n)x^n) - x \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n(n)x^{n-1}) - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n x^n) &= 0 \\ 2 \cdot 1a_2 \cdot x^0 - a_0 x^0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_{n+2}(n+1)(n) - na_n - a_n)x^n &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

From here you just need to solve the relation for the a_n . We have for all n greater than 1 the relation

$$a_{n+2}(n+1)(n) - a_n(n+1) = 0$$

so you just plug in until you can find the pattern!

Problem 5. Determine if the following series converge or diverges. Justify your solution.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{2n+2}{n+4} \right)^n \\ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n^n}{(n^2)!} \\ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n \ln(1+1/n) \end{aligned}$$

Solution: Here are two solutions to the second one. The first one (Chen Yusu) used the ratio test.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\frac{(n+1)^{n+1}}{((n+1)^2)!}}{\frac{n^n}{(n^2)!}} = \frac{\frac{(n+1)(n+1)^n}{(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots (n^2-1) \cdot n^2 \cdot (n^2+1) \cdots ((n+1)^2-1) \cdot (n+1)^2)}}{\frac{n^n}{(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots (n^2-1) \cdot n^2)}}$$

Combining the $(n+1)^n$ and the n^n

$$\begin{aligned} &= (n+1) \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^n \left(\frac{(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots (n^2-1) \cdot n^2}{(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdots (n^2-1) \cdot n^2 \cdot (n^2+1) \cdots ((n+1)^2-1) \cdot (n+1)^2)} \right) \\ &= (n+1) \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^n \left(\frac{1}{(n^2+1) \cdots ((n+1)^2-1) \cdot (n+1)^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Using the fact that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n} \right)^n = e$

$$= (n+1)e \left(\frac{1}{(n^2+1) \cdots ((n+1)^2-1) \cdot (n+1)^2} \right) = 0$$

so by the ratio test it converges. Another way to solve this problem (Margaret Xiao) is by using the comparison test. Notice that whenever $n > 2$ we have that each term looks like

$$\frac{n \cdot n \cdot n \cdots n \cdot n}{1 \cdot 2 \cdots n \cdot (n+1) \cdot (n+2) \cdots (n^2-1) \cdot (n^2)} \leq \frac{1}{n!}$$

Where does this inequality come from. Well, the terms in the denominator coming after n are all greater than n , and there are at least n of them, so we can cancel them out with the ones that are in the numerator. Since $\sum \frac{1}{n!}$ converges, so does the above sum.

Problem 6. Determine the interval of convergence for the power series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \ln(n)x^n$

Solution: Use the ratio test.

Problem 7. Calculate the volume of a sphere, using any method you wish.

Solution: Calculate the volume of rotation of the curve $y = \sqrt{1-x^2}$ for instance.