

Module 1 review + self-test

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Practice problems

1. Solve the initial value problem $y' = y \tan(t)$ with $y(0) = 5$.
2. A tank contains 50 liters of water with 100 grams of salt. Brine with 2 grams per liter flows in at 3 liters per minute, and the mixture flows out at 3 liters per minute. Find the ODE for the salt $y(t)$ and the equilibrium value.
3. Consider the autonomous equation $y' = y(y - 2)(y - 4)$. Identify all equilibria and classify their stability.

Solutions

1. Solve the initial value problem $y' = y \tan(t)$ with $y(0) = 5$.

- Separate the variables: $\frac{1}{y} dy = \tan(t) dt$.
- Integrate both sides: $\ln |y| = -\ln |\cos(t)| + C$.
- Simplify using log laws: $\ln |y| = \ln |\sec(t)| + C$.
- Exponentiate: $y = A \sec(t)$.
- Apply initial condition $y(0) = 5$: $5 = A \sec(0) \implies A = 5$.

Answer: $y(t) = 5 \sec(t)$

2. A tank contains 50 liters of water with 100 grams of salt. Brine with 2 grams per liter flows in at 3 liters per minute, and the mixture flows out at 3 liters per minute. Find the ODE for the salt $y(t)$ and the equilibrium value.

- Rate in: $3 \text{ L/min} \times 2 \text{ g/L} = 6 \text{ g/min}$.
- Rate out: $3 \text{ L/min} \times \frac{y}{50} \text{ g/L} = \frac{3y}{50} \text{ g/min}$.
- ODE: $\frac{dy}{dt} = 6 - \frac{3y}{50}$.
- Equilibrium: Set $\frac{dy}{dt} = 0 \implies 6 = \frac{3y}{50} \implies 300 = 3y \implies y = 100$.

Answer: $\frac{dy}{dt} = 6 - \frac{3y}{50}$, $y^* = 100$

3. Consider the autonomous equation $y' = y(y-2)(y-4)$. Identify all equilibria and classify their stability.

- Equilibria are the roots of $f(y) = y(y-2)(y-4)$, which are $y = 0, 2, 4$.
- Compute $f'(y) = (y-2)(y-4) + y(y-4) + y(y-2)$.
- At $y = 0$: $f'(0) = (-2)(-4) = 8 > 0 \implies$ Unstable.
- At $y = 2$: $f'(2) = 2(2-4) = -4 < 0 \implies$ Stable.
- At $y = 4$: $f'(4) = 4(4-2) = 8 > 0 \implies$ Unstable.

Answer: $y = 0$ (Unstable), $y = 2$ (Stable), $y = 4$ (Unstable)