

1: Consider the system  $\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} xy \\ x + y \end{pmatrix}$ .

(a) In the region  $-3 \leq x \leq 3$ ,  $-3 \leq y \leq 3$ , sketch the curves  $x' = 0$ ,  $y' = 0$ , and  $\frac{y'}{x'} = \pm \frac{1}{2}, \pm 1 \pm 2$ , sketch the direction field for this system, and sketch the three solution curves through  $(1, -1)$ ,  $(1, 1)$  and  $(-1, 1)$ .

(b) Use Euler's method with step size  $\Delta t = \frac{1}{2}$  to approximate the point  $(x(2), y(2))$ , where  $(x(t), y(t))$  is the solution to the above system with  $(x(0), y(0)) = (-1, 1)$ .

2: Consider the system  $\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{y} \\ \frac{2}{x} \end{pmatrix}$ .

(a) Solve the system by first solving the DE  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y'}{x'}$  for  $y = y(x)$ , that is for  $y(t) = y(x(t))$ .

(b) Solve the system again, this time by eliminating  $y$  and  $y'$  from  $x''$  to get a second order DE for  $x = x(t)$ .

(c) Find the unique solution to the system which satisfies the initial conditions  $x(0) = 2$  and  $y(0) = 1$ .

3: Given one solution  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix}$  to the pair of linear homogeneous ODEs given by  $\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$ , (where  $A$  is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix whose entries are continuous functions of  $t$ ), we can often find a second independent solution by trying  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 0 & y_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u + x_1 v \\ y_1 v \end{pmatrix}$ . Then we have  $\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u' + x_1' v + x_1 v' \\ y_1' v + y_1 v' \end{pmatrix}$  and we have  $A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} u + x_1 v \\ y_1 v \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} u \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + A \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} v = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} u \\ a_{21} u \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} x_1' \\ y_1' \end{pmatrix} v = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} u + x_1' v \\ a_{21} u + y_1' v \end{pmatrix}$ , so the pair of ODEs becomes

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} - A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u' + x_1' v + x_1 v' \\ y_1' v + y_1 v' \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} u + x_1' v \\ a_{21} u + y_1' v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u' + x_1 v' - a_{11} u \\ y_1 v' - a_{21} u \end{pmatrix}.$$

Eliminating  $v'$  from the two equations  $u' + x_1 v' - a_{11} u = 0$  and  $y_1 v' - a_{21} u = 0$  (by multiplying the first equation by  $y_1$  and the second by  $x_1$  and subtracting) gives  $y_1 u' - a_{11} y_1 u + a_{21} x_1 u = 0$  which is a first order linear (and separable) DE for  $u = u(x)$ . Once we solve for  $u$  we have found a second independent solution.

Use this method, which is known as **reduction of order**, to solve the IVP given by  $\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{t} \\ \frac{1}{t} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$

with  $x(1) = 2$  and  $y(1) = 3$ , given that  $\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + \frac{1}{t} \\ -\frac{1}{t} \end{pmatrix}$  is one solution.

4: Given  $n$  independent solutions  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  to the system of homogeneous linear ODEs  $x' = Ax$ , we can often find a particular solution to the nonhomogeneous system  $x' = Ax + b$  by trying  $x = x_p = x_1 u_1 + x_2 u_2 + \dots + x_n u_n = Xu$ , where  $X$  is the matrix with columns  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  and  $u = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^T$ . We then have  $x' = X'u + Xu' = AXu + Xu'$  and  $Ax = AXu$ , so the nonhomogeneous system becomes  $b = x' - Ax = AXu + Xu' - AXu = Xu'$ , that is  $u' = X^{-1}b$ . Once we solve for  $u$  we have found a particular solution. This method is known as **variation of parameters**.

Use reduction of order and variation of parameters to solve  $\begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{t^2} \\ 1 & \frac{1}{t} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3\sqrt{t} \end{pmatrix}$  given that

$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{t} \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$  is one solution to the associated homogeneous system.