

Initial Value Problem Homework

1.

Solutions to the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^3$ also satisfy $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = y^3(1 + 3x^2y^2)$. Let $y = f(x)$ be a

particular solution to the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^3$ with $f(1) = 2$.

- (a) Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of $y = f(x)$ at $x = 1$.
- (b) Use the tangent line equation from part (a) to approximate $f(1.1)$. Given that $f(x) > 0$ for $1 < x < 1.1$, is the approximation for $f(1.1)$ greater than or less than $f(1.1)$? Explain your reasoning.
- (c) Find the particular solution $y = f(x)$ with initial condition $f(1) = 2$.

2.

Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^2}{x-1}$.

- (a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the six points indicated.
- (b) Let $y = f(x)$ be the particular solution to the given differential equation with the initial condition $f(2) = 3$. Write an equation for the line tangent to the graph of $y = f(x)$ at $x = 2$. Use your equation to approximate $f(2.1)$.
- (c) Find the particular solution $y = f(x)$ to the given differential equation with the initial condition $f(2) = 3$.

3.

A coffeepot has the shape of a cylinder with radius 5 inches, as shown in the figure above. Let h be the depth of the coffee in the pot, measured in inches, where h is a function of time t , measured in seconds. The volume V of coffee in the pot is changing at the rate of $-5\pi\sqrt{h}$ cubic inches per second. (The volume V of a cylinder with radius r and height h is $V = \pi r^2 h$.)

- (a) Show that $\frac{dh}{dt} = -\frac{\sqrt{h}}{5}$.
- (b) Given that $h = 17$ at time $t = 0$, solve the differential equation $\frac{dh}{dt} = -\frac{\sqrt{h}}{5}$ for h as a function of t .
- (c) At what time t is the coffeepot empty?

