

1. A rock contains two radioactive isotopes  $A$  and  $B$ , that belong to the same radioactive series; that is  $A$  decays into  $B$ , which then decays into stable atoms. Assume that the rate at which  $A$  decays into  $B$  is  $40e^{-10t}$  kg/sec. Let  $y(t)$  be the mass of  $B$  at time  $t$ . The rate of decay of  $B$  is proportional to the total mass of  $B$  present, i.e.  $y' = -ky$ .

- (a) Write a differential equation modeling the mass of  $B$  present at time  $t$ . Note, the amount of  $B$  is increasing as  $A$  decays and creates more  $B$ , but simultaneously decreasing as  $B$  decays. Assume the constant of proportionality in the decay of  $B$  is  $k = 2/\text{sec}$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \underbrace{40e^{-10t}}_{\text{Rate in}} - \underbrace{ky}_{\text{Rate out}} = 40e^{-10t} - 2y$$

- (b) Express your equation in standard linear form.

$$y' + 2y = 40e^{-10t}$$

- (c) Compute the integrating factor.

$$\mu(t) = e^{\int 2 dt} = e^{2t}$$

- (d) Find a general solution.

$$e^{2t}y' + 2e^{2t}y = 40e^{-8t}$$

$$(e^{2t}y)' = 40e^{-8t}$$

$$e^{2t}y = \int 40e^{-8t} dt = -5e^{-8t} + C$$

$$y = Ce^{-2t} - 5e^{-8t}$$

- (e) If the mass of  $B$  is initially 20 kg, find the mass  $y(t)$  of  $B$  as a function of  $t$  for  $t \geq 0$ .

$$y(0) = 20 \quad \Rightarrow \quad C = 25$$

$$y(t) = 25e^{-2t} - 5e^{-8t}$$

2. Consider the first order linear initial value problem

$$y' + \frac{y}{x-1} = \frac{5}{x^2-1}, \quad y(0) = 1.$$

(a) Find an explicit solution to the initial value problem.

$$\mu(x) = e^{\int \frac{dx}{x-1}} = e^{\ln|x-1|} = x-1 \quad \text{choose}$$

$$y(x) = \frac{5 \ln|x+1| + C}{x-1}$$

$$(x-1)y' + y = \frac{5}{x+1}$$

$$y(0) = 1 = \frac{C}{-1} \quad \text{so } C = -1$$

$$[(x-1)y]' = \frac{5}{x+1}$$

so

$$y(x) = \frac{5 \ln|x+1| - 1}{x-1}$$

$$(x-1)y = \int \frac{5}{x+1} dx = 5 \ln|x+1| + C$$

(b) On what interval is your solution unique?

$$\text{for } x \in (-1, 1)$$

3. For the following initial value problems, are the given solutions unique.

(a) The initial value problem  $y' = -\sqrt{y}$ ,  $y(1) = 0$  has solution  $y(t) = \frac{1}{4}(x-1)^2$ .

$y = 0$  is also a solution, so not unique.

$$\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial y}(-\sqrt{y}) = -\frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} \text{ is not continuous for } y=0 \right]$$

(b) The initial value problem  $y' + 2xy = x$ ,  $y(0) = 1$  has solution  $y(x) = \frac{1}{2}(e^{-x^2} + 1)$ .

$2x$  &  $x$  are continuous everywhere, so the soln-

is unique on  $(-\infty, \infty)$