

CALCULUS BC  
WORKSHEET ON EULER'S METHOD

Work the following on notebook paper, showing all steps.

- Given the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x + 2$  and  $y(0) = 3$ . Find an approximation for  $y(1)$  by using Euler's method with two equal steps. Sketch your solution.
  - Solve the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x + 2$  with the initial condition  $y(0) = 3$ , and use your solution to find  $y(1)$ .
  - The error in using Euler's Method is the difference between the approximate value and the exact value. What was the error in your answer? How could you produce a smaller error using Euler's Method?
- Suppose a continuous function  $f$  and its derivative  $f'$  have values that are given in the following table. Given that  $f(2) = 5$ , use Euler's Method with two steps of size  $\Delta x = 0.5$  to approximate the value of  $f(3)$ .

$x$	2.0	2.5	3.0
$f'(x)$	0.4	0.6	0.8
$f(x)$	5		

- Given the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x+2}$  and  $y(0) = 1$ . Find an approximation of  $y(1)$  using Euler's Method with two steps and step size  $\Delta x = 0.5$ .
- Given the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x + y$  and  $y(1) = 3$ . Find an approximation of  $y(2)$  using Euler's Method with two equal steps.
- The curve passing through  $(2, 0)$  satisfies the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 4x + y$ . Find an approximation to  $y(3)$  using Euler's Method with two equal steps.
- Assume that  $f$  and  $f'$  have the values given in the table. Use Euler's Method with two equal steps to approximate the value of  $f(4.4)$ .

$x$	4	4.2	4.4
$f'(x)$	-0.5	-0.3	-0.1
$f(x)$	2		

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7. The table gives selected values for the derivative of a function  $f$  on the interval  $-2 \leq x \leq 2$ . If  $f(-2) = 3$  and Euler's method with a step-size of 1.5 is used to approximate  $f(1)$ , what is the resulting approximation?

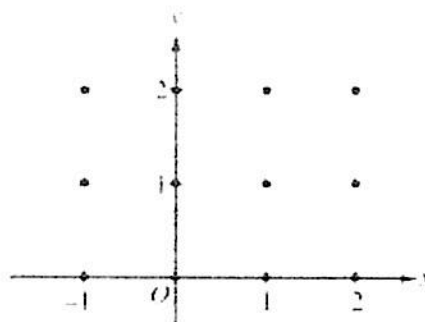
$x$	$f'(x)$
-2	-0.8
-1.5	-0.5
-1	-0.2
-0.5	0.4
0	0.9
0.5	1.6
1	2.2
1.5	3
2	3.7

8. Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x + 2y$  with the initial condition  $f(0) = 1$ . Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 0$  with two steps of equal size, to approximate  $f(-0.6)$ .

9. (2005 BC 4)

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

- (a) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the twelve points indicated, and sketch the solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, 1)$ .



- (b) The solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, 1)$  has a local minimum at  $x = \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)$ . What is the  $y$ -coordinate of this local minimum?

- (c) Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = 1$ . Use Euler's method, starting at  $x = 0$  with two steps of equal size, to approximate  $f(-0.4)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.

- (d) Find  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$  in terms of  $x$  and  $y$ . Determine whether the approximation found in part (c) is less than or greater than  $f(-0.4)$ . Explain your reasoning.

10. (Modified version of 2009 BC 4)

Consider the differential equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 6x^2 - x^2y$ . Let  $y = f(x)$  be the particular solution to the given differential equation with the initial condition  $f(-1) = 2$ .

- (a) Use Euler's method with two steps of equal size, starting at  $x = -1$ , to approximate  $f(0)$ . Show the work that leads to your answer.
- (b) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(-1) = 2$ .