

Quiz 2

Show that $x(t) = \frac{e^{2t} - 1}{e^{2t} + 1}$ solves $\begin{cases} x' = 1 - x^2 \\ x(0) = 0 \end{cases}$

Soln: Compute

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{e^{2t} - 1}{e^{2t} + 1} \right] \stackrel{\text{quotient rule}}{=} \frac{(e^{2t} + 1)(2e^{2t}) - (e^{2t} - 1)(2e^{2t})}{(e^{2t} + 1)^2} \\ &= 2e^{2t} \left[\frac{e^{2t} + 1 - e^{2t} + 1}{(e^{2t} + 1)^2} \right] \\ &= \frac{4e^{2t}}{(e^{2t} + 1)^2} = \frac{4e^{2t}}{e^{4t} + 2e^{2t} + 1} \end{aligned}$$

Also

$$x^2 = \left(\frac{e^{2t} - 1}{e^{2t} + 1} \right)^2 = \frac{(e^{4t} - 2e^{2t} + 1)}{(e^{4t} + 2e^{2t} + 1)}$$

Therefore,

$$1 - x^2 = 1 - \frac{e^{4t} - 2e^{2t} + 1}{e^{4t} + 2e^{2t} + 1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{e^{4t} + 2e^{2t} + 1 - e^{4t} + 2e^{2t} - 1}{e^{4t} + 2e^{2t} + 1} \\ &= \frac{4e^{2t}}{e^{4t} + 2e^{2t} + 1} \end{aligned}$$

Thus we see that $x' = 1 - x^2$. Now also notice

$$x(0) = \frac{e^{2(0)} - 1}{e^{2(0)} + 1} = \frac{1 - 1}{2} = 0 \quad \checkmark$$