1. The solution to the initial value problem:

$$x' = x \quad x(0) = c$$

is given by  $x = ce^t$ . If the initial value is perturbed by  $\epsilon$  so that  $x(0) = c + \epsilon$ , then the solution will be given by  $x = (c + \epsilon)e^t$ . The error at t = 10 would be  $\epsilon e^{10}$  and the error at t = 20 would be  $\epsilon e^{20}$ . In other words, the solution would be grossly wrong.

If, on the other hand, the initial value problem was:

$$x' = -x \quad x(0) = c$$

then the solution is given by  $x = ce^{-t}$ . In this case, the effect of the perturbation would be negligible.

2. Using Taylor series we write:

$$x(t+h) = x(t) + hx'(t) + \frac{h^2}{2}x''(t) + \frac{h^3}{6}x'''(t)$$

x(0.1) can be calculated as:

$$x(0+0.1) = x(0) + 0.1x'(0) + \frac{0.1^2}{2}x''(0) + \frac{0.1^3}{6}x'''(0)$$

x(0) is given in the problem to be 1. So is x'(0) (its value is 2). x''(0) can be calculated from the differential equation:  $x'' = x^2e^t + x'$ . Thus,  $x''(0) = 1^2e^0 + 2 = 3$ . Similarly, x'''(0) can be calculated by first finding x'''(t) and then substituting t = 0. x'''(t) is just the derivative of the given differential equation:  $x''' = 2xx'e^t + x^2e^t + x''$ . So,  $x'''(0) = 2(2)e^0 + e^0 + 3 = 8$ . Putting it all together, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} x(0+0.1) &= x(0) + 0.1x'(0) + \frac{0.1^2}{2}x''(0) + \frac{0.1^3}{6}x'''(0) \\ &= 1 + 0.1(2) + [(0.1)^2/2](3) + [(0.1)^3/6](8) \\ &= 1 + 0.2 + 0.015 + 0.00133 \\ &= 1.21633 \end{aligned}$$

- 3. This question simply involves writing out the Taylor series expansion of x(t + h) and using the initial value at t = 0 to determine the value of x in the interval [0, 1]. As discussed in class, you can either take 'big steps' (e.g., use h = 1 and find x(1) in one shot) or take a lot of 'small steps' (e.g., use h = 0.01, first find x(0.01), then use this as the initial value and find x(0.02), and so on). In general, higher order Taylor methods should perform better.
- 4. In the formulation x' = f(x,t), our f here is  $f = (1+t^2)^{-1}x$ .  $f_x = (1+t^2)^{-1} > 0$ , so the solution curves diverge from one another as  $t \to \infty$ .

5. Since the derivative of x is y and vice versa, the Taylor series expansions will involve alternating sequences of x and y. Thus,

This gives us the following equation for x:

$$\begin{aligned} x(t+h) &= x+hx'+\frac{1}{2}h^2x''+\frac{1}{3!}h^3x'''+\frac{1}{4!}h^4x''''+\frac{1}{5!}h^5x'''''\\ &= x(1+\frac{1}{2}h^2+\frac{1}{24}h^4)+y(h+\frac{1}{6}h^3+\frac{1}{120}h^5) \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} y(t+h) &= y+hy'+\frac{1}{2}h^2y''+\frac{1}{3!}h^3y'''+\frac{1}{4!}h^4y''''+\frac{1}{5!}h^5y'''''\\ &= y(1+\frac{1}{2}h^2+\frac{1}{24}h^4)+x(h+\frac{1}{6}h^3+\frac{1}{120}h^5) \end{aligned}$$

6. Let  $x_1$  refer to x in the original system of equations and  $x_2$  refer to y in the original system of equations. Let  $x_3$  refer to x',  $x_4$  refer to y' and  $x_5$  refer to y'', again in the original system (why is there no  $x_6$ ?). This means we can rewrite the given system of equations as:

$$\begin{array}{lll} x_1' &=& x_3 & (\text{by definition}) \\ x_2' &=& x_4 & (\text{by definition}) \\ x_3' &=& 3x^2 - 7y^2 + sin(t) + cos(x'y') & (\text{from the problem}) \\ &=& 3x_1^2 - 7x_2^2 + sin(t) + cos(x_3x_4) \\ x_4' &=& y'' \\ &=& x_2'' \\ &=& x_5 \\ x_5' &=& y + x^2 - cos(t) - sin(xy'') & (\text{from the problem}) \\ &=& x_2 + x_1^2 - cos(t) - sin(x_1x_5) \end{array}$$

The net effect of this juggling is that we have managed to convert a system of higher-order differential equations into a system of first-order equations (with more variables). Notice that the left side contains the derivatives and the right side is now free of derivatives. So, the final answer is:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \\ x_3' \\ x_4' \\ x_5' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_3 \\ x_4 \\ 3x_1^2 - 7x_2^2 + \sin(t) + \cos(x_3x_4) \\ x_5 \\ x_2 + x_1^2 - \cos(t) - \sin(x_1x_5) \end{bmatrix}$$

This system can be solved by our usual Taylor series method for a system of first-order equations (see previous answer). But the question only asks us to express the given problem as a system of first-order equations, not solve it.

7. We are given  $f = a \sin(\pi x) + b \cos(\pi x)$ . The least-squares error is given by:

$$E = \sum_{i=0}^{m} (a\sin(\pi x_i) + b\cos(\pi x_i) - y_i)^2$$

The goal is to find a and b so that E is minimized.

$$0 = \frac{\partial E}{\partial a} = 2\sum_{i=0}^{m} (a\sin(\pi x_i) + b\cos(\pi x_i) - y_i)\sin(\pi x_i)$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial E}{\partial b} = 2\sum_{i=0}^{m} (a\sin(\pi x_i) + b\cos(\pi x_i) - y_i)\cos(\pi x_i)$$

From the given data, we have:

So, the final solution is  $f = sin(\pi x) + (1/3)cos(\pi x)$ .

8. The coefficients of the quadratic polynomial  $(a + bx + cx^2)$  that best approximates the given data are given by:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 & 10 \\ 0 & 10 & 0 \\ 10 & 0 & 34 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ 18 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving this system of equations produces: a = 0, b = 2/7, and c = 29/35.

9. The closed form solution of the given differential equation  $x' = 4x - 5e^{-t}$  is:

$$x = e^{-t} + ce^{4t}$$

Using the initial condition x(0) = 1, we get c = 0. So, the true solution is given by  $x = e^{-t}$ . Here's a MATLAB program to test the sensitivity of the numerical solution of this equation, to perturbations in the initial value. A third order Taylor method is employed.

```
t = [0:0.01:2];
truex = exp(-t);
plot(t,truex,'bo') % true solution
hold on;
axis([0 2 -0.2 2.3]);
% setup the quantities for numerical solution
h = 0.01;
trueinitialvalue = 1;
perturbs = [0.1 0.01 0.001 0.0001 -0.0001 -0.001 -0.01 -0.1];
for p = perturbs
tvalues(1) = 0;
computedx = [];
```

```
computedx(1) = trueinitialvalue + p;
  count = 1;
  for j = 0+h:h:2
        count = count + 1;
        xoft = computedx(count-1);
        xdashoft = 4 \times 1 - 5 \times (-(j-h));
        xdashdashoft = 4*xdashoft + 5*exp(-(j-h));
        xdashdashdashoft = 4*xdashdashoft - 5*exp(-(j-h));
        computedx(count) = xoft + ...
                          h * xdashoft + ...
                          (h*h/2) * xdashdashoft + ...
                          (h*h*h/6) * xdashdashdashoft;
  end
  plot(t,computedx,'r+');
end
xlabel('t');
ylabel('x');
title('trajectories of solutions of an unstable differential equation');
```

Here's the plot produced. The blue line is the true solution and the red lines are the computed solutions. As can be seen, they diverge as t increases.

