

1. [2360/111622 (10 pts)] Consider the differential equation $\frac{d^2u}{dt^2} - \frac{2}{t} \frac{du}{dt} + \frac{2+t^2}{t^2}u = 0$ for $t > 0$.

(a) (4 pts) Show that $u_1 = t \sin t$ is a solution to the differential equation.

(b) (6 pts) Assuming that $u_2 = t \cos t$ is also a solution to the differential equation, is the differential equation's solution space, \mathbb{S} , equal to $\text{span}\{u_1, u_2\}$? Justify your answer.

SOLUTION:

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} u_1' &= t \cos t + \sin t \\ u_1'' &= -t \sin t + 2 \cos t \\ u_1'' - \frac{2}{t}u_1' + \frac{2+t^2}{t^2}u_1 &= -t \sin t + 2 \cos t - \frac{2}{t}(t \cos t + \sin t) + \left(\frac{2+t^2}{t^2}\right)(t \sin t) \\ &= -t \sin t + 2 \cos t - 2 \cos t - \frac{2 \sin t}{t} + \frac{2 \sin t}{t} + t \sin t = 0 \end{aligned}$$

(b) Since this is a second order linear homogeneous equation, the dimension of the solution space is two. u_1, u_2 are both solutions. If, furthermore, u_1 and u_2 are linearly independent they form a basis for the solution space and $\mathbb{S} = \text{span}\{t \sin t, t \cos t\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} W[t \sin t, t \cos t] &= \begin{vmatrix} t \sin t & t \cos t \\ t \cos t + \sin t & -t \sin t + \cos t \end{vmatrix} \\ &= -t^2 \sin^2 t + t \sin t \cos t - (t^2 \cos^2 t + t \sin t \cos t) = -t^2 \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since the Wronskian is not zero, the solutions are linearly independent and thus form a basis for \mathbb{S} . ■

2. [2360/111622 (18 pts)] Let $L(\vec{y}) = y'' + \frac{1}{t}y' - \frac{1}{t^2}y$. A basis for the solution space of $L(\vec{y}) = 0$ is $\{2t, t^{-1}\}$. Find the general solution of $L(\vec{y}) = \frac{1}{t^2}$.

SOLUTION:

Since this is a variable coefficient problem, we must use variation of parameters with $f(t) = t^{-2}$ and $y_1 = 2t$ and $y_2 = t^{-1}$ to find a particular solution of the form $y_p(t) = v_1(t)y_1(t) + v_2(t)y_2(t)$.

$$\begin{aligned} W[y_1, y_2] &= \begin{vmatrix} 2t & t^{-1} \\ 2 & -t^{-2} \end{vmatrix} = -4t^{-1} \\ v_1' &= -\frac{y_2(t)f(t)}{W[y_1, y_2]} = \frac{(-t^{-1})(t^{-2})}{-4t^{-1}} = \frac{1}{4}t^{-2} \implies v_1 = \frac{1}{4} \int t^{-2} dt = -\frac{1}{4t} \\ v_2' &= \frac{y_1(t)f(t)}{W[y_1, y_2]} = \frac{2t(t^{-2})}{-4t^{-1}} = -\frac{1}{2} \implies v_2 = -\int \frac{1}{2} dt = -\frac{t}{2} \\ y_p &= -\frac{1}{4t}(2t) - \frac{t}{2}t^{-1} = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} = -1 \end{aligned}$$

The general solution is $y = y_h + y_p = c_1t + \frac{c_2}{t} - 1$ ■

3. [2360/111622 (24 pts)] With the upcoming holidays, you have decided to give your niece and nephew a sweet new toy. It consists of a 1-kg bucket hooked to a spring which is then attached to a wall. The restoring/spring constant is $\frac{1}{4}$ and the device is hooked up so that the damping force is equal to 4 times the instantaneous velocity of the bucket. A bag of 1-kg stones is included with the toy. Hint: There are no irrational numbers involved in this problem.

(a) (20 pts) Upon seeing the toy, the kids put 6 stones into the 1-kg bucket, pull the bucket 1 meter to the right of the equilibrium position and push it to the left at one-half meter per second. How many times will the bucket pass through the equilibrium position?

- (b) (2 pts) What is the smallest number of stones that need to be in the bucket so that the kids can have the excitement of watching the bucket oscillate?
- (c) (2 pts) The kids really want a thrill and ask you to try to make the toy exhibit resonance. So you have them put 15 stones into the bucket and place the toy onto a table which provides a driving force to the toy given by $f(t) = \cos \frac{1}{8}t$. Will the kids get a thrill?

SOLUTION:

- (a) The initial value problem governing the motion is $7\ddot{x} + 4\dot{x} + \frac{1}{4}x = 0$, $x(0) = 1$, $\dot{x}(0) = -\frac{1}{2}$. The characteristic equation gives

$$7r^2 + 4r + \frac{1}{4} = 0$$

$$r = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{4^2 - 4(7)(\frac{1}{4})}}{2(7)} = \frac{-4 \pm 3}{14} = -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{14}$$

so the general solution is $x(t) = c_1e^{-t/2} + c_2e^{-t/14}$. Applying the initial conditions yields the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 + c_2 &= 1 \\ -\frac{1}{2}c_1 - \frac{1}{14}c_2 &= -\frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

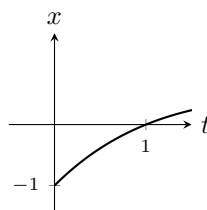
$$c_1 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{14} \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{14} \end{vmatrix}} = 1 \quad c_2 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{14} \end{vmatrix}} = 0$$

So the solution to the initial value problem is $x(t) = e^{-t/2}$ which is never zero, implying that the bucket never passes through the equilibrium position.

- (b) We need $b^2 - 4mk = 16 - 4(m) \left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = 16 - m < 0$ which will occur first here when $m = 17$. At least sixteen stones need to be in the bucket since the bucket itself has a mass of 1 kg.
- (c) No. Even though $\omega_0 = \frac{1}{8}$ matches the forcing frequency, damped oscillators never experience resonance. ■

4. [2360/111622 (8 pts)] Write the word **TRUE** or **FALSE** as appropriate. No work need be shown. No partial credit given.

- (a) The differential equation $3\ddot{u} + 2 \cos u = 5$ describes a conservative system.
- (b) The differential equation $y''' - y = 1$ can be written as a system of differential equations in the form $\vec{x}' = \mathbf{A}\vec{x}$ where $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.
- (c) The solution to a certain differential equation is $x(t) = e^{-t} + 2te^{-t} + e^{-2t} \cos 4t + \sin 5t$. The steady state portion of the solution is $e^{-2t} \cos 4t + \sin 5t$.
- (d) A portion of the equation of motion for an unforced mass/spring system is shown in the following figure. From the graph, the mass was released from rest 1 unit to the left of its equilibrium position.



SOLUTION:

- (a) **TRUE** It can be written in the form $m\ddot{u} + V'(u) = 0$ where $m = 3$ and $V'(u) = 2 \cos u - 5$

(b) **FALSE** Let $x_1 = y$, $x_2 = y'$, $x_3 = y''$. Then

$$x'_1 = y' = x_2$$

$$x'_2 = y'' = x_3$$

$$x'_3 = y''' = 1 + y = 1 + x_1$$

With $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$ we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} x'_1 \\ x'_2 \\ x'_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{x}' = \mathbf{A}\vec{x} + \vec{f}$$

(c) **FALSE** The steady state solution is $\sin 5t$.

(d) **FALSE** The slope of the graph at $t = 0$ is positive meaning the initial velocity was positive, not zero. ■

5. [2360/111622 (20 pts)] Use the Method of Undetermined Coefficients to find the general solution of $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - \frac{dy}{dt} = -40 \cos^2 t$. Hint: $2 \cos^2 t = 1 + \cos 2t$.

SOLUTION:

Using the hint, rewrite the equation as $y'' - y' = -20(2 \cos^2 t) = -20(1 + \cos 2t) = -20 - 20 \cos 2t$. Find the solution to the associated homogeneous equation.

$$y''_h - y'_h = 0$$

$$r^2 - r = r(r - 1) = 0$$

$$r = 0, 1$$

$$y_h = c_1 + c_2 e^t$$

Find the particular solution. Note that a constant is a solution to the associated homogeneous equation.

$$y_p = At + B \cos 2t + C \sin 2t$$

$$y'_p = A - 2B \sin 2t + 2C \cos 2t$$

$$y''_p = -4B \cos 2t - 4C \sin 2t$$

$$y''_p - y'_p = -4B \cos 2t - 4C \sin 2t - (A - 2B \sin 2t + 2C \cos 2t)$$

$$= -A + (-4B - 2C) \cos 2t + (2B - 4C) \sin 2t = -20 - 20 \cos 2t$$

$$-A = -20 \implies A = 20$$

$$-4B - 2C = -20 \implies 2B + C = 10$$

$$2B - 4C = 0 \implies B - 2C = 0$$

$$B = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 10 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{-20}{-5} = 4 \quad C = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 10 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{-10}{-5} = 2$$

$$y = y_h + y_p = c_1 + c_2 e^t + 20t + 4 \cos 2t + 2 \sin 2t$$

6. [2360/111622 (20 pts)] Use Laplace Transforms to solve the initial value problem $y'' + 2y' = 12e^{-2t}$, $y(0) = 5$, $y'(0) = 0$. Hint: The following may be handy: $\frac{1}{s(s+2)^2} = \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s+2} - \frac{2}{(s+2)^2} \right]$

SOLUTION:

$$\mathcal{L} \{y'' + 2y'\} = \mathcal{L} \{12e^{-2t}\}$$

$$s^2Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) + 2[sY(s) - y(0)] = \frac{12}{s+2}$$

$$[s(s+2)]Y(s) = \frac{12}{s+2} + 5(s+2)$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{12}{s(s+2)^2} + \frac{5}{s}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{12}{s(s+2)^2} + \frac{5}{s} \right\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ 3 \left(\frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s+2} - \frac{2}{(s+2)^2} \right) + \frac{5}{s} \right\} \\ &= \mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{8}{s} \right\} - 3\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{s+2} \right\} - 6\mathcal{L}^{-1} \left\{ \frac{1}{(s+2)^2} \right\} = 8 - 3e^{-2t} - 6te^{-2t} \\ &= 8 - 3e^{-2t}(2t+1) \end{aligned}$$