

Assignment 3

PHY310: Mathematical Methods for Physicists I

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No Need to Submit

1. By changing the dependent variable of the DE $y''(x) + 2xy'(x) + x^2y(x) = 0$, show that the general solution is

$$y(x) = [Ae^x + Be^{-x}] \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right).$$

2. Given $y = e^x$ be the one solution of the DE $xy''(x) - y'(x) - (x-1)y(x) = 0$, show that the general solution is

$$y(x) = Ae^x + Be^{-x}(2x+1).$$

3. Verify that $y_1(x) = \cos(ax)$ is one of the solutions of

$$y''(x) + 2a \cot(ax)y'(x) + 3a^2y(x) = 0$$

and show that the general solution of $y''(x) + 2a \cot(ax)y'(x) + 3a^2y(x) = \operatorname{cosec}(ax)$ is given by

$$y(x) = c_1 \cos(ax) + c_2 \frac{\cos(2ax)}{\sin(ax)} + \frac{1}{4a^2} \operatorname{cosec}(ax).$$

4. By changing the dependent variable $y(x) = x^2w(x)$, solve the differential equation

$$y''(x) + 2y'(x) + \left(1 - \frac{12}{x^2}\right)y(x) = x^2 + 4x - 10$$

and show that the general solution is

$$y(x) = e^{-x} \left(Ax^4 + \frac{B}{x^3} \right) + x^2.$$

5. Given that $y = x$ is one of the solutions of the homogeneous part of the differential equation $x^2y''(x) + xy'(x) - y(x) = x^2$, show that the general solution of the above equation is

$$y(x) = Ax + \frac{B}{x} + \frac{x^2}{3}.$$

6. Given $y(x) = (3x^2 - 1)/2$ be the 1st solution of the differential equation

$$(1 - x^2)y''(x) - 2xy'(x) + 6y(x) = 0,$$

obtain it's 2nd solution.

7. Given $y(x) = 1 - x$ be the 1st solution of the differential equation

$$xy''(x) + (1 - x)y'(x) + y(x) = 0,$$

obtain it's 2nd solution.

8. Determine by changing independent variable the general solution of the following differential equations

(a)

$$y''(x) + \frac{2}{x} \left(1 - \frac{1}{x}\right) y'(x) + \frac{1}{x^4} y(x) = 0.$$

(b)

$$y''(x) + \frac{2}{x} y'(x) + \frac{a^4}{x^4} y(x) = 0.$$

(c)

$$x^2 y''(x) + xy'(x) + 4y(x) = 0.$$

9. If $y_1 = x$ and $y_2 = xe^x$ are two solutions of the homogeneous differential equation associated with $x^2 y'' - (x^2 + 2x)y' + (x + 2)y = x^3$, find the general solution of the differential equation.

10. Using Wronskian/Variation of parameters, solve the following differential equation:

(a)

$$y''(x) + 3y'(x) + 2y(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}.$$

(b)

$$x^2 y''(x) - 2xy'(x) + 2y(x) = x \ln x.$$