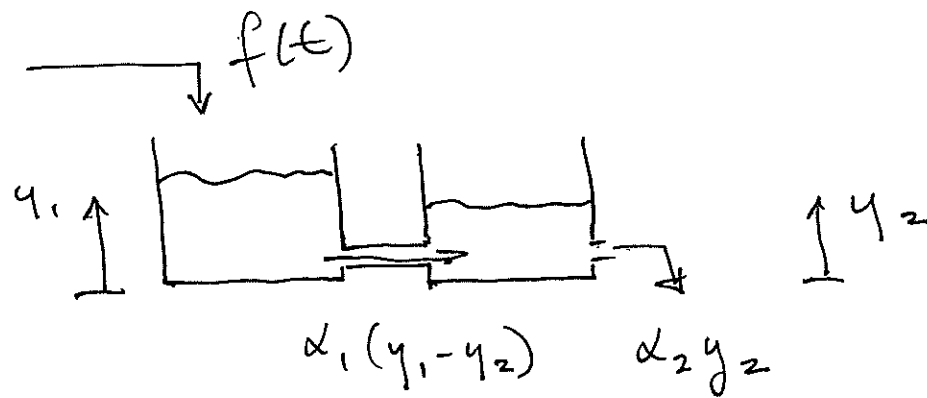


## Additional ODE example:

- to illustrate all of the steps of our approach.

# - Fluid flow example



$f(t)$  - volume flow rate into system

$\alpha_1(y_1 - y_2)$  - " " " from tank 1  
to tank 2

$\alpha_2 y_2$  - volume flow rate out  
of tank 2

If the respective cross-sectional areas of the tanks are constants  $A_1$  &  $A_2$ , then the levels  $y_1$ ,  $y_2$  in the tanks obey the following eq<sup>n</sup>s.

$$A_1 \dot{y}_1 = f - \alpha_1 (y_1 - y_2)$$

$$A_2 \dot{y}_2 = \alpha_1 (y_1 - y_2) - \alpha_2 y_2$$

- or, in our "operator" notation,

$$(A_1 D + \alpha_1) y_1 - \alpha_1 y_2 = f$$

$$-\alpha_1 y_1 + (A_2 D + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2) y_2 = 0$$

Let's eliminate  $y_2$  by "multiplying" the first equation by  $(A_2 D + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$  and the second by  $\alpha_1$ , and adding:

$$[(A_1 D + \alpha_1)(A_2 D + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2) - \alpha_1^2] y_1 = (A_2 D + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2) f$$

This is a linear ODE with constant coefficients,

$$Q(D)y = P(D)f.$$

We know that  $y = P(D)\tilde{y}$  solves this equation provided  $\tilde{y}$  solves the simpler equation

$$Q(D)\tilde{y} = f$$

To solve the latter equation, we add the complementary solution and a particular solution (for a given function  $f(t)$ ).

Suppose that ( $m$ , say, SI units) the numerical values of the constants are given by

$$A_1 = A_2 = 1$$

$$\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 1/2$$

Then the equation becomes

$$(D^2 + \frac{3}{2}D + \frac{1}{4}) \tilde{y} = f$$

and the auxiliary equation is

$$(D^2 + \frac{3}{2}D + \frac{1}{4}) \tilde{y} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  find the roots of the characteristic equation

$$m^2 + \frac{3}{2}m + \frac{1}{4} = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow m = -\frac{3}{4} \pm \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4}$$

The complementary solution

is therefore

$$y_c = c_1 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t} + c_2 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t}$$

(Recall that if any of the roots of the char. eq. is of multiplicity  $k$ , the corresponding exponential is multiplied by a general polynomial of degree  $k-1$ ; in this case,  $k=1$  for both roots.)

Let's suppose that  $f(t)$  is given as

$$f(t) = \sin 2t$$

and find a particular solution.

We can apply our method for exponential functions, because by Euler's identity,

$$\sin 2t = \frac{e^{j2t} - e^{-j2t}}{2j}$$

Specifically, we can find particular solutions for the cases  $f(t) = e^{\pm j2t}$ , and then apply superposition.

Now if  $f(t) = e^{j2t}$ ,  
then the method of undetermined  
coefficients is to look for a  
solution of the form

$$y_p(t) = k e^{j2t}$$

[ Of course, if  $2j$  were  
a root of the characteristic  
equation, we'd have to  
multiply this by the smallest  
power of  $t$  that didn't yield  
a solution of the auxiliary  
equation. ]



- We substitute this "candidate" solution into the diff. eq. to see what values of  $k$  yield solutions:

$$\left(D^2 + \frac{3}{2}D + \frac{1}{4}\right) y_p = e^{j2t}$$

$$\left(-4 + 3j + \frac{1}{4}\right) k e^{j2t} = e^{j2t}$$

$$\left(-\frac{15}{4} + 3j\right) k = 1$$

$$k = \frac{1}{-\frac{15}{4} + 3j}$$

$$= \frac{1}{-\frac{15}{4} + 3j} \cdot \frac{-\frac{15}{4} - 3j}{-\frac{15}{4} - 3j}$$

$$= \frac{-\frac{15}{4} - 3j}{\left(\frac{15}{4}\right)^2 + 3^2} = \frac{-60 - 48j}{369} = \frac{-20 - 16j}{123}$$

So a particular solution

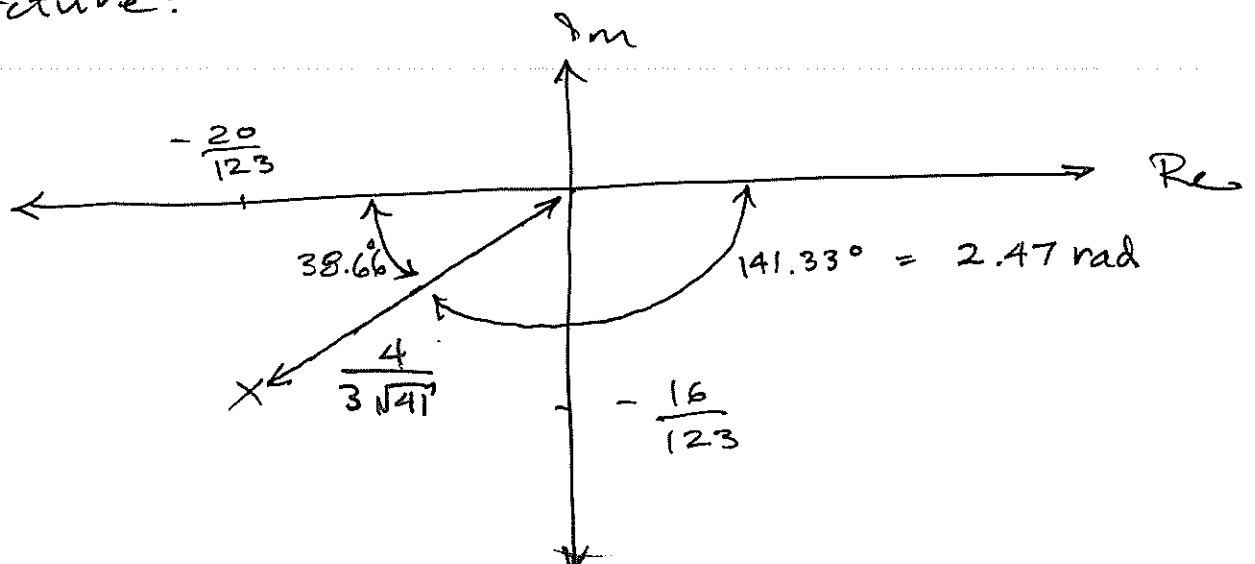
is

$$y_p(t) = \frac{-20 - 16j}{123} e^{j2t}$$

It may be easier to make sense of this result if we rewrite the coefficient in terms of its modulus and its angle:

$$\begin{aligned} k &= \frac{-20 - 16j}{123} = \frac{\sqrt{656}}{123} e^{-j 2.47} \\ &= \frac{4}{3\sqrt{41}} e^{-j 2.47} \end{aligned}$$

Picture:



In other words,

$$\begin{aligned} y_p(t) &= \frac{4}{3\sqrt{41}} e^{j(2t - 2.47)} \\ &= |k| e^{j(2t + \angle k)} \end{aligned}$$

If we go through the same exercise for  $f(t) = e^{-j2t}$ , we'll simply find

$$\begin{aligned} y_p(t) &= \frac{4}{3\sqrt{41}} e^{-j(2t - 2.47)} \\ &= |k^*| e^{j(2t + \angle k^*)} \end{aligned}$$

(check this.)

So, by superposition, if

$$f(t) = \sin 2t = \frac{e^{j2t} - e^{-j2t}}{2j},$$

a particular solution is

$$y_p(t) = \frac{4}{3\sqrt{41}} \frac{e^{j(2t-2.47)} - e^{-j(2t-2.4)}}{2j}$$

$$= \frac{4}{3\sqrt{41}} \sin(2t - 2.47)$$

$$= |k| \sin(2t + \angle k).$$

So  $|k|$  and  $\angle k$  respectively relate the amplitude and phase of  $y_p$  to those of  $f$ .

We now have the general solution of

$$Q(D) \tilde{y} = f ;$$

namely,

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{y}(t) = & c_1 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t} + c_2 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t} \\ & + \frac{4}{3\sqrt{41}} \sin(2t - 2.47) \end{aligned}$$

To find the general solution of

$$Q(D)y = P(D)f ,$$

we need only set

$$y = P(D) \tilde{y} .$$

Recall that

$$\begin{aligned} P(D) &= (A_2 D + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2) \\ &= D + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Differentiating  $\tilde{y}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} D\tilde{y} &= \left(-\frac{3}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4}\right) c_1 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t} \\ &\quad + \left(-\frac{3}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4}\right) c_2 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t} \\ &\quad + \frac{8}{3\sqrt{41}} \cos(2t - 2.47) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } y = (D+1) \tilde{y} \quad \text{is}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4}\right) c_1 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t} \\ &+ \left(\frac{1}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4}\right) c_2 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &+ \frac{4}{3} \frac{\sqrt{5}}{\sqrt{41}} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \sin(2t - 2.47) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \cos(2t - 2.47) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = c_3 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t} + c_4 e^{(-\frac{3}{4} - \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4})t} + \frac{4}{3} \sqrt{\frac{5}{4}} \sin(2t - 2)$$

(because  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \approx \sin(0.47)$ ).

Given initial conditions (values of  $y(0)$ ,  $\dot{y}(0)$ ), we could now evaluate the arbitrary constants  $c_3$ ,  $c_4$ .

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Note: we could simply have applied  $P(D)$  to the particular solution of  $Q(D)\tilde{y} = f$  to find a particular solution of  $Q(D)y = P(D)f$  — the complementary solutions of both equations are the same.