

**ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS  
ASSIGNMENT 5**

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**Part 1. Homogeneous High Order Linear ODEs with Constant Coefficients**

**Exercise 1.**

Find the general solution of the following differential equations

- (1)  $y'' + 2y'3y = 0$
- (2)  $4y'' - 9y = 0$
- (3)  $y''2y'3y = 0$
- (4)  $4y'' + 9y = 0$
- (5)  $16y'' + 24y' + 9y = 0$
- (6)  $y'''y''y' + y = 0$
- (7)  $y^{(6)} + y = 0$

**Solution 1.**

(1) Let

$$\begin{aligned}y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} + 2\lambda e^{\lambda t} - 3e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore \lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 3 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 + 12}}{2} \\ &= \frac{-2 \pm 4}{2} \\ &= -1 \pm 2\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = -3 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \lambda = 1$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{-3t}$$

or

$$y = e^t$$

(2) Let

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\therefore y' = \lambda e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\therefore y'' = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$$

Therefore,

$$4\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} - 9e^{\lambda t} = 0$$

$$\therefore 4\lambda^2 - 9 = 0$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = \pm \sqrt{\frac{9}{4}}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = -\frac{3}{2}$$

or

$$\lambda = \frac{3}{2}$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{-\frac{3}{2}t}$$

or

$$y = e^{\frac{3}{2}t}$$

(3) Let

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\therefore y' = \lambda e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\therefore y'' = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} - 2\lambda e^{\lambda t} - 3e^{\lambda t} = 0$$

$$\therefore \lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 3 = 0$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4 + 12}}{2}$$

$$\therefore \lambda = 1 \pm 2$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = -1$$

or

$$\lambda = 3$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{-t}$$

or

$$y = e^{3t}$$

(4) Let

$$\begin{aligned}y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}4\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} + 9e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore 4\lambda^2 + 9 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = \pm \sqrt{\frac{-9}{4}}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3i}{2} \qquad \text{or} \qquad \lambda = -\frac{3i}{2}$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{-\frac{3i}{2}t} \qquad \text{or} \qquad y = e^{\frac{3i}{2}t}$$

(5) Let

$$\begin{aligned}y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}16y'' + 24y' + 9y &= 0 \\ 16\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} + 24\lambda e^{\lambda t} + 9e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore 16\lambda^2 + 24\lambda + 9 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \frac{-24 \pm \sqrt{24^2 - 4 \cdot 16 \cdot 9}}{2 \cdot 16} \\ \therefore \lambda &= \frac{-24 \pm \sqrt{576 - 576}}{32} \\ \therefore \lambda &= -\frac{3}{4}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ &= e^{-\frac{3}{4}t}\end{aligned}$$

(6) Let

$$\begin{aligned} y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y''' &= \lambda^3 e^{\lambda t} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^3 e^{\lambda t} - \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} - \lambda e^{\lambda t} + e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore \lambda^3 - \lambda^2 - \lambda + 1 &= 0 \\ \therefore (\lambda - 1)^2(\lambda + 1) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = -1 \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda = 1$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{-t} \quad \text{or} \quad y = e^t$$

(7) Let

$$\begin{aligned} y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y''' &= \lambda^3 e^{\lambda t} \\ &\vdots \\ \therefore y^{(6)} &= \lambda^6 e^{\lambda t} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^6 e^{\lambda t} + e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore \lambda^6 + 1 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = \sqrt[6]{-1}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = e^{\frac{i\pi}{6} + \frac{k\pi}{3}}$$

where  $k \in \{0, \dots, 5\}$ .

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ &= e^{e^{\frac{i\pi}{6} + \frac{k\pi}{3}} t} \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise 2.**

Find the solution for the given initial value problems.

(1)

$$y'' + y'2y = 0$$

$$y(0) = 1$$

$$y'(0) = 1$$

(2)

$$y'' + 4y = 0$$

$$y(0) = 0$$

$$y'(0) = 1$$

(3)

$$y'' - 2y' + 5y = 0$$

$$y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$$

$$y'\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 2$$

(4)

$$9y'' - 12y' + 4y = 0$$

$$y(0) = 2$$

$$y'(0) = -1$$

(5)

$$y''' + y' = 0$$

$$y(0) = 0$$

$$y'(0) = 1$$

$$y''(0) = 2$$

**Solution 2.**

(1) Let

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\therefore y' = \lambda e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\therefore y'' = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} + \lambda e^{\lambda t} - 2e^{\lambda t} = 0$$

$$\therefore \lambda^2 + \lambda - 2 = 0$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1+8}}{2} \\ &= \frac{-1 \pm 3}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = -2 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \lambda = 1$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{-2t} \qquad \text{or} \qquad y = e^t$$

(2) Let

$$\begin{aligned}y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} + 4\lambda e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore \lambda^2 + 4\lambda &= 0 \\ \therefore \lambda(\lambda + 4) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = -4 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \lambda = 0$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{-4t} \qquad \text{or} \qquad y = e^{0t}$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{-4t} \qquad \text{or} \qquad y = 1$$

(3) Let

$$\begin{aligned}y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} - 2\lambda e^{\lambda t} + 5e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 5 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 20}}{2} \\ &= \frac{2 \pm 4i}{2} \\ &= 1 \pm 2i\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = 1 + 2i \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda = 1 - 2i$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{(1+2i)t} \quad \text{or} \quad y = e^{(1-2i)t}$$

(4) Let

$$\begin{aligned}y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}9\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} - 12\lambda e^{\lambda t} + 4e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore 9\lambda^2 - 12\lambda + 4 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda &= \frac{12 \pm \sqrt{144 - 144}}{18} \\ &= \frac{2}{3}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{\frac{2}{3}t}$$

(5) Let

$$\begin{aligned}y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y''' &= \lambda^3 e^{\lambda t}\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}y''' + y' &= 0 \\ \lambda^3 e^{\lambda t} + \lambda e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore \lambda^3 + \lambda &= 0 \\ \therefore \lambda(\lambda^2 + 1) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda = i \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda = -i$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{0t} \quad \text{or} \quad y = e^{it} \quad \text{or} \quad y = e^{-it}$$

Therefore,

$$y = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad y = e^{it} \quad \text{or} \quad y = e^{-it}$$

### Exercise 3.

Consider the ODE  $y'' - (2\alpha - 1)y' + \alpha(\alpha - 1)y = 0$ . Determine the values of  $\alpha$ , if any, such that all solutions tend to zero as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Also determine the values of  $\alpha$ , if any, such that all (nonzero) solutions become unbounded as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

### Solution 3.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} y &= e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y' &= \lambda e^{\lambda t} \\ \therefore y'' &= \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} - (2\alpha - 1)\lambda e^{\lambda t} + \alpha(\alpha - 1)e^{\lambda t} &= 0 \\ \therefore \lambda^2 - (2\alpha - 1)\lambda + \alpha(\alpha - 1) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= \frac{2\alpha - 1 \pm \sqrt{(2\alpha - 1)^2 - 4\alpha(\alpha - 1)}}{2} \\ &= \frac{2\alpha - 1 \pm \sqrt{4\alpha^2 - 4\alpha + 1 - 4\alpha^2 + 4\alpha}}{2} \\ &= \frac{2\alpha - 1 \pm \sqrt{1}}{2} \\ &= \frac{2\alpha - 1 \pm 1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\lambda = \alpha - 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda = \alpha$$

Therefore,

$$y = e^{(\alpha-1)t} \quad \text{or} \quad y = e^{\alpha t}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} e^{-n} = 0$$

Therefore, if  $y > 1$ ,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y = 0$



**Part 2. Reduction of Order****Exercise 1.**

Use the method of reduction of order to find a second solution for the given differential equations.

(1)

$$\begin{aligned} t^2 y'' - 4ty' + 6y &= 0 \\ t &> 0 \\ y_1(t) &= t^2 \end{aligned}$$

(2)

$$\begin{aligned} xy'' - y' + 4x^3y &= 0 \\ x &> 0 \\ y_1(x) &= \sin(x^2) \end{aligned}$$

**Solution 1.**

(1) Let

$$\begin{aligned} y_2(t) &= \nu(t)y_1(t) \\ &= t^2\nu(t) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} y_2'(t) &= 2t\nu(t) + t^2\nu'(t) \\ \therefore y_2''(t) &= 2\nu(t) + 2t\nu'(t) + 2t\nu'(t) + t^2\nu''(t) \\ &= 2\nu(t) + 4t\nu'(t) + t^2\nu''(t) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, substituting  $y_2'$  and  $y_2''$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} t^2 \left( 2\nu(t) + 4t\nu'(t) + t^2\nu''(t) \right) - 4t \left( 2t\nu(t) + t^2\nu'(t) \right) + 6 \left( t^2\nu(t) \right) &= 0 \\ \therefore 2t^2\nu(t) + 4t^3\nu'(t) + t^4\nu''(t) - 8t^2\nu(t) - 4t^3\nu'(t) + 6t^2\nu(t) &= 0 \\ \therefore t^4\nu''(t) &= 0 \\ \therefore \nu''(t) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, let

$$\nu(t) = k_1 t + k_2$$

Therefore,

$$\nu'(t) = k_1$$

Therefore, let  $k_1 = 1$ ,  $k_2 = 1$ .

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} y_2(t) &= t^2 t \\ &= t^3 \end{aligned}$$

(2) Let

$$\begin{aligned} y_2(x) &= \nu(x)y_1(x) \\ &= \sin(x^2)\nu(x) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} y_2'(x) &= \sin(x^2)\nu'(x) + 2x\nu(x)\cos(x^2) \\ y_2''(x) &= \sin(x^2)\nu''(x) + 4x\cos(x^2)\nu'(x) - 4x^2\nu(x)\sin(x^2) + 2\nu(x)\cos(x^2) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, substituting  $y_2'$  and  $y_2''$  and simplifying,

$$\therefore x\sin(x^2)\nu''(x) + \nu'(x)\left(4x^2\cos(x^2) - \sin(x^2)\right) + 4x\nu(x)\cos(x^2) = 0$$

Therefore, the characteristic equation is

$$x\sin(x^2)\lambda^2 + \left(4x^2\cos(x^2) - \sin(x^2)\right)\lambda + 4x\cos(x^2) = 0$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda &= \frac{\sin(x^2) - 4x^2\cos(x^2) \pm \sqrt{\sin^2(x^2) - 8x^2\sin(x^2)\cos(x^2) - 16x^2\sin(x^2)\cos(x^2)}}{2x\sin(x^2)} \\ &= \frac{\sin(x^2) - 4x^2\cos(x^2) \pm \sqrt{\sin^2(x^2) - 24x^2\sin(x^2)\cos(x^2)}}{2x\sin(x^2)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\nu(x) = e^{\lambda x}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} y_2(x) &= \sin(x^2)\nu(x) \\ &= \sin(x^2)e^{\frac{\sin(x^2) - 4x^2\cos(x^2) \pm \sqrt{\sin^2(x^2) - 24x^2\sin(x^2)\cos(x^2)}}{2x\sin(x^2)}} \end{aligned}$$