

SOLUTIONS

MA 214-04

2nd order linear homogeneous, including those with complex roots

1. Write the general solution for each equation.

a. $y'' - 2y' + 2y = 0$

$$r^2 - 2r + 2 = 0$$

$$r = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{2^2 - 4(1)(2)}}{2(1)} = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4-8}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm 2i}{2} = 1 \pm i, \text{ complex roots}$$

$$y(t) = c_1 e^t \cos(t) + c_2 e^t \sin(t)$$

b. $y'' + 2y' - 8y = 0$

$$r^2 + 2r - 8 = 0$$

$$(r+4)(r-2) = 0$$

$$y(t) = c_1 e^{-4t} + c_2 e^{2t}$$

$r = -4, 2$, distinct real roots

c. $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 0$

$$r^2 - 10r + 25 = 0$$

$$(r-5)^2 = 0$$

$r = 5$, repeated roots

$$y(t) = c_1 e^{5t} + c_2 t e^{5t}$$

d. $4y'' + 9y = 0$

$$4r^2 + 9 = 0$$

$$4(r^2 + 9/4) = 0$$

$$r^2 + 9/4 = 0$$

(can also find w/ quadratic formula) $(r - \frac{3}{2}i)(r + \frac{3}{2}i) = 0$

$r = \pm \frac{3}{2}i$, complex roots

$$y(t) = c_1 \cos\left(\frac{3}{2}t\right) + c_2 \sin\left(\frac{3}{2}t\right)$$

2. Solve the initial value problem $y'' + 4y = 0$; $y(0) = 0$; $y'(0) = 1$.

Characteristic Equation: $r^2 + 4 = 0$

$$(r + 2i)(r - 2i) = 0$$

so, $r = \pm 2i$

General Solution: $y(t) = c_1 \cos(2t) + c_2 \sin(2t)$

$$0 = y(0) = c_1 \cos(0) + c_2 \sin(0)$$

$$0 = c_1$$

so, $y(t) = c_2 \sin(2t)$

$$y'(t) = 2c_2 \cos(2t)$$

$$1 = y'(0) = 2c_2 \cos(0)$$

so, $1 = 2c_2$
and $c_2 = 1/2$

The solution to the IVP is

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{2} \sin(2t)$$