

Math 250
Section: 4

Quiz 1
Fall 2007

Name: _____
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All work must be shown to receive full credit!

1. For each of the following differential equations find the general solution:

(a) $y'' + 4y' + y = 0$

$$r^2 + 4r + 1 = 0 \quad r_{1,2} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 4}}{2} = -2 \pm \sqrt{3}$$

$$y(t) = c_1 e^{-2 - \sqrt{3}t} + c_2 e^{-2 + \sqrt{3}t}$$

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

$$r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0, \quad r_{1,2} = -1 \pm 0$$

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

(c) $y'' + y = 0$

$$r^2 + 1 = 0 \quad r_{1,2} = \frac{0 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} = \pm i$$

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

2. One solution for the differential equation

$$x^2 y'' + 3xy' + y = 0; \quad \underbrace{y'' + \frac{3}{x}y' + \frac{1}{x^2}y = 0}_{(*)}$$

is $y_1(x) = x^{-1}$.

Find the general solution for the above equation.

Look for a solution

$$y_2(x) = v(x) y_1(x)$$

Substitute y_2 into $(*)$ and recall that the terms with $v(x)$ cancel

$$v'' y_1 + v' \left[2y_1' + \frac{3}{x} y_1 \right] = 0 \quad | \div y_1$$

$$v'' + v' \left[\frac{2y_1'}{y_1} + \frac{3}{x} \right] = 0$$

Recall that $y_1(x) = \frac{1}{x}$; $y_1'(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2}$

$$v'' + v' \left[\frac{-2x^{-2}}{x^{-1}} + 3x^{-1} \right] = 0$$

$$v'' + v' \cdot \left(\frac{1}{x} \right) = 0$$

$$v'' = -\frac{1}{x} v'$$

$$v' = e^{-\ln(x)} = x^{-1}; \quad v = \ln(x)$$

$$y_2(x) = v(x) y_1(x) = \ln(x) x^{-1}$$

General Solution: $y(x) = c_1 \frac{1}{x} + c_2 \frac{\ln(x)}{x}$