

1. Solve each of the following initial value problems. For which values of  $t$  is the solution defined? How does the solution behave as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ?

(a)  $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{-4yt}{t^2 - 1}, \quad y(2) = 1$

**Solution:**

Separating variables gives

$$\frac{dy}{y} = \frac{-4t dt}{t^2 - 1}$$

Now integrate:

$$\int_1^y \frac{dy}{y} = \int_2^t \frac{-4t}{t^2 - 1}$$

so

$$\ln y = -2 \ln(t^2 - 1) \Big|_2^t = -2 \ln(t^2 - 1) + 2 \ln 3 = \ln \frac{9}{(t^2 - 1)^2}$$

and

$$y = \frac{9}{(t^2 - 1)^2}$$

for  $1 < t < \infty$ . The solution blows up as  $t \rightarrow 1^+$ , and tends to 0 as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

(b)  $(1 + t^2) \frac{dy}{dt} + 4ty = (1 + t^2)^{-1}, \quad y(0) = 3$

**Solution:**

Multiplying by  $1 + t^2$  gives

$$(1 + t^2)^2 y' + 4t(1 + t^2)y = 1.$$

The left side is the derivative of  $(1 + t^2)^2 y$ , so integrating gives

$$(1 + t^2)^2 y = t + c$$

and the initial condition gives  $c = 3$ , so

$$y = \frac{t + 3}{(1 + t^2)^2}.$$

The solution is valid for all  $t$ , and  $y \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

2. A tank initially contains fifty gallons of water in which ten pounds of salt is dissolved. A salt water solution containing one pound of salt per gallon begins to enter the tank at a rate of three gallons per minute. The well-mixed fluid leaves the tank through a pipe at the same rate

- (a) Write down an initial value problem (differential equation and initial condition) for the number of pounds  $s$  of salt in the tank after  $t$  minutes.

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{ds}{dt} &= 3 - \frac{3}{50}s \\ s(0) &= 10\end{aligned}$$

- (b) How much salt will be in the tank after 50 minutes?

**Solution:**

First, solve the initial value problem. Write

$$\frac{d}{dt}(s - 50) = -\frac{3}{50}(s - 50)$$

so

$$s - 50 = (s_0 - 50)e^{-3t/50} = -40e^{-3t/50}$$

and

$$s = 50 - 40e^{-3t/50}$$

After 50 minutes, the amount of salt in the tank is

$$s(50) = 50 - 40e^{-3} \approx 48 \text{ pounds.}$$

3. Solve each of the following differential equations. If no initial conditions are given, find the general solution.

(a)  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 24e^{2t}$

**Solution:**

The characteristic roots are  $-1$  and  $-2$ , so the homogeneous part of the solution is

$$y_h = c_1e^{-t} + c_2e^{-2t}.$$

Look for a particular solution of the form  $y = ce^{2t}$ . Substituting into the differential equation gives

$$(4 + 6 + 2)ce^{2t} = 24e^{2t}$$

from which it follows that  $c = 2$ , so  $y_p = 2e^{2t}$ . The general solution is

$$y = y_p + y_h = 2e^{2t} + c_1e^{-t} + c_2e^{-2t}.$$

(b)  $y'' + 4y' + 4y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 0$

**Solution:**

The general solution is

$$y = c_1e^{-2t} + c_2te^{-2t}.$$

Its derivative is

$$y' = -2c_1e^{-2t} + c_2(1 - 2t)e^{-2t}$$

so the initial conditions give

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 &= 1 \\ -2c_1 + c_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

and solving gives  $c_1 = 1$  and  $c_2 = 2$ , so

$$y = e^{-2t} + 2te^{-2t}.$$

(c)  $y'' + 4y' + 5y = 0$

**Solution:**

The characteristic roots are  $-2 \pm i$ , so the general solution is

$$y = e^{-2t}(c_1 \cos t + c_2 \sin t).$$

4. (a) Find the general solution to

$$y'' + 3y' + 2y = 260 \cos(3t).$$

**Solution:**

Complexifying gives

$$z'' + 3z' + 2z = 260e^{3it}.$$

Look for a particular solution of the form  $z = ce^{3it}$ . Substituting into the equation gives

$$(-9 + 9i + 2)c = 260$$

so

$$c = \frac{260}{-7 + 9i} = \frac{260(-7 - 9i)}{130} = -14 - 18i.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} z &= (-14 - 18i)e^{3it} \\ &= (-14 - 18i)(\cos 3t + i \sin 3t) \\ &= -14 \cos 3t + 18 \sin 3t + i(\dots) \end{aligned}$$

and a particular solution to the original equation is

$$y_p = \Re z = -14 \cos 3t + 18 \sin 3t.$$

The general solution is

$$y = y_p + y_h = (-14 \cos 3t + 18 \sin 3t) + c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t}.$$

- (b) As  $t$  increases, the solution settles into a periodic steady state oscillation (which does not depend on the initial conditions). Find its period and amplitude.

**Solution:**

The steady state oscillation is  $y_p$  from part (a). Its period is  $\frac{2\pi}{3}$  and its amplitude is

$$\sqrt{(-14)^2 + 18^2} = 2\sqrt{130}.$$

**Note:** You can find the amplitude from the “complexified” solution without working out its real part. From the beginning of part (a), the complexified oscillation is

$$z = \frac{270}{-7 + 9i} e^{3it}$$

so the amplitude is

$$\left| \frac{270}{-7 + 9i} \right| = \frac{270}{|-7 + 9i|} = \frac{270}{\sqrt{130}}$$