

Math 2930 Worksheet Forced Vibrations Higher-Order ODEs Week 9 March 22nd, 2019

**Question 1.** Find the general solution of the 4th order differential equation:

$$y^{(4)} + 2y'' + y = 0$$

Question 2. Find the general solution of the 6th order differential equation:

$$y^{(6)} - y'' = 0$$

**Question 3.** Solve the initial value problem:

$$y^{(4)} - 4y''' + 4y'' = 0$$
  
$$y(1) = -1, \quad y'(1) = 2, \quad y''(1) = 0, \quad y'''(1) = 0$$

**Question 4.** A damped forced oscillator is described by the equation:

$$u'' + \lambda u' + u = F_0 \sin(\omega t)$$

where  $\lambda > 0$ .

(a) Find the steady state (*i.e.* particular) solution of this equation.

(b) Find the amplitude of the steady state solution you found in part (a).

**Question 5.** Suppose there are two masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$ .  $m_1$  is suspended by a spring hanging from the ceiling, and  $m_2$  is suspended by another spring hanging from  $m_2$  as in the picture below. Their positions  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  satisfy the coupled system of equations:

$$u_1'' + 5u_1 = 2u_2, \qquad u_2'' + 2u_2 = 2u_1 \tag{1}$$

(a) Solving the first equation of (1) for  $u_2$  and substituting into the second equation, we obtain the following fourth-order equation for  $u_1$ :

$$u_1^{(4)} + 7u_1'' + 6u_1 = 0 (2)$$

Find the general solution of equation (2)



(b) Suppose that the initial conditions are:

 $u_1(0) = 1,$   $u'_1(0) = 0,$   $u_2(0) = 2,$   $u'_2(0) = 0$ 

Use these initial conditions and the first equation of (1) to obtain values for  $u_1''(0)$  and  $u_1'''(0)$ .

(c) Show that the solution of Eq. (2) that satisfies the initial conditions you found in part (b) is

$$u_1(t) = \cos(t)$$

(d) Given your  $u_1(t)$  from part (c), use this to find  $u_2(t)$ 

**Question 6.** Consider a horizontal metal beam of length L subject to a vertical load f(x) per unit length. The resulting vertical displacement in the beam y(x) satisfies a differential equation of the form

$$A\frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = f(x)$$

where A is a constant related to Young's modulus and the moment of inertia of the beam. (See picture below).

Suppose that f(x) is a constant k:

$$A\frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = k$$

(a) Find the general solution of this non-homogeneous fourth-order equation:

For each of the boundary conditions given below, solve for the displacement y(x):

(b) Simply supported at both ends:

$$y(0) = y''(0) = y(L) = y''(L) = 0$$



(c) Clamped at both ends:

$$y(0) = y'(0) = y(L) = y'(L) = 0$$

(d) Clamped at x = 0, free at x = L:

$$y(0) = y'(0) = y''(L) = y'''(L) = 0$$



Answer to Question 1. To find the general solution, we will solve for the roots of the characteristic equation:

$$y^{(4)} + 2y'' + y = 0$$
  

$$r^{4} + 2r^{2} + 1 = 0$$
  

$$(r^{2} + 1)^{2} = 0$$
  

$$r = \pm i, \ \pm i \text{(repeated)}$$

Since the  $\pm i$  roots are repeated, the general solution is:

$$y = c_1 \cos(t) + c_2 \sin(t) + c_3 t \cos(t) + c_4 t \sin(t)$$

Answer to Question 2. To find the general solution, we will solve for the roots of the characteristic equation:

$$y^{(6)} - y'' = 0$$
  

$$r^{6} - r^{2} = 0$$
  

$$r^{2}(r^{4} - 1) = 0$$
  

$$r^{2}(r^{2} + 1)(r^{2} - 1) = 0$$
  

$$r^{2}(r^{2} + 1)(r + 1)(r - 1) = 0$$
  

$$r = 0, 0, \pm i, 1, -1$$

So the corresponding general solution is:

$$y = c_1 + c_2 t + c_3 \cos(t) + c_4 \sin(t) + c_5 e^t + c_6 e^{-t}$$

Answer to Question 3. First, we will start by finding the general solution using the roots of the characteristic equation:

$$y^{(4)} - 4y''' + 4y'' = 0$$
  

$$r^{4} - 4r^{3} + 4r^{2} = 0$$
  

$$r^{2}(r^{2} - 4r + 4) = 0$$
  

$$r^{2}(r - 2)^{2} = 0$$
  

$$r = 0, 0, 2, 2$$

and the corresponding general solution is:

$$y = c_1 + c_2 t + c_3 e^{2t} + c_4 t e^{2t}$$

Now we will need to use the initial conditions to find  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$ ,  $c_3$ , and  $c_4$ . Taking derivatives,

$$y = c_1 + c_2t + c_3e^{2t} + c_4te^{2t}$$
  

$$y' = c_2 + 2c_3e^{2t} + c_4e^{2t} + 2c_4te^{2t}$$
  

$$y'' = 4c_3e^{2t} + 4c_4e^{2t} + 4c_4te^{2t}$$
  

$$y''' = 8c_3e^{2t} + 12c_4e^{2t} + 8c_4te^{2t}$$

Then, plugging in t = 1, we get the following system of equations:

$$y(1) = c_1 + c_2 + c_3 e^2 + c_4 e^2 = -1$$

$$y'(1) = c_2 + 2c_3e^2 + 3c_4e^2 = 2$$

$$y''(1) = 4c_3e^2 + 8c_4e^2 = 0$$

$$y''''(1) = 8c_3e^2 + 20c_4e^2 = 0$$

The last two equations can be solved to find that  $c_3 = c_4 = 0$ . The remaining equations become:

$$c_1 + c_2 = -1$$
$$c_2 = 2$$

which is solved by  $c_1 = -1$  and  $c_2 = 2$ . Putting this all together, the solution is:

$$y = 2t - 3$$

Answer to Question 4. (a) We can solve for the particular equation using the method of undetermined coefficients.

We will guess a particular solution of the form

$$Y = A\cos(\omega t) + B\sin(\omega t)$$

(As an aside, we do not have to worry about multiplying this by a factor of t, since the roots of the original equation will always be real or complex, but never imaginary. So they will never give homogeneous solutions of just  $\cos()$  or  $\sin()$ .)

Taking derivatives,

$$Y = A\cos(\omega t) + B\sin(\omega t)$$
$$Y' = -\omega A\sin(\omega t) + \omega B\cos(\omega t)$$
$$Y'' = -\omega^2 A\cos(\omega t) - \omega^2 B\cos(\omega t)$$

Plugging this into the original equation,

$$Y'' + \lambda Y' + Y = (A + \lambda \omega B - \omega^2 A) \cos(\omega t) + (B - \lambda \omega A - \omega^2 B) \sin(\omega t)$$
$$= F_0 \sin(\omega t)$$

Comparing like terms, we get the following system of two equations for A and B:

$$A + \lambda \omega B - \omega^2 A = 0$$
$$B - \lambda \omega A - \omega^2 B = F_0$$

Using the first equation to solve for A in terms of B, we get:

$$A = \frac{-\lambda\omega}{1-\omega^2}B$$

Plugging this into the second equation,

$$B + \frac{\lambda^2 \omega^2}{1 - \omega^2} - \omega^2 B = F_0$$
$$B \left[ (1 - \omega^2)^2 + \lambda^2 \omega^2 \right] = F_0 (1 - \omega^2)$$
$$B = \frac{F_0 (1 - \omega^2)}{\lambda^2 \omega^2 + (1 - \omega^2)^2}$$

which also gives us that

$$A = \frac{-F_0\lambda\omega}{\lambda^2\omega^2 + (1-\omega^2)^2}$$

So the particular solution is:

$$Y = \frac{-F_0\lambda\omega}{\lambda^2\omega^2 + (1-\omega^2)^2}\cos(\omega t) + \frac{F_0(1-\omega^2)}{\lambda^2\omega^2 + (1-\omega^2)^2}\sin(\omega t)$$

(b) The amplitude R of  $A\cos(\omega t) + B\sin(\omega t)$  is determined by  $R^2 = A^2 + B^2$ . Using our answers from part (a), that means:

$$\begin{split} R^2 &= A^2 + B^2 \\ R^2 &= \frac{F_0^2 (1 - \omega^2)^2}{(\lambda^2 \omega^2 + (1 - \omega^2)^2)^2} + \frac{F_0^2 \lambda^2 \omega^2}{(\lambda^2 \omega^2 + (1 - \omega^2)^2)^2} \\ R^2 &= \frac{F_0^2 [(1 - \omega^2) + \lambda^2 \omega^2]}{(\lambda^2 \omega^2 + (1 - \omega^2)^2)^2} \\ R^2 &= \frac{F_0^2}{\lambda^2 \omega^2 + (1 - \omega^2)^2} \end{split}$$

Taking the square root of both sides,

$$R = \frac{F_0}{\sqrt{\lambda^2 \omega^2 + (1 - \omega^2)^2}}$$

Answer to Question 5. (a) First, we find the general solution by using the roots of the characteristic equation:

$$u_1^{(4)} + 7u_1'' + 6u_1 = 0$$
  

$$r^4 + 7r^2 + 6 = 0$$
  

$$(r^2 + 1)(r^2 + 6) = 0$$
  

$$r = \pm i, \ \pm \sqrt{6}i$$

The corresponding general solution is:

$$u = c_1 \cos(t) + c_2 \sin(t) + c_3 \cos(\sqrt{6}t) + c_4 \sin(\sqrt{6}t)$$

(b) To find the initial conditions, we rearrange the first equation to get:

$$u_1'' = 2u_2 - 5u_1 \tag{3}$$

Plugging in t = 0,

$$u_1''(0) = 2u_2(0) - 5u_1(0) = 2(2) - 5(1)$$
$$u_1''(0) = -1$$

To find u'''(0), we will take the derivative of (3) to get:

$$u_1''' = 2u_2' - 5u_1'$$

Again, plugging in t = 0,

$$u_1''(0) = 2u_2'(0) - 5u_1'(0) = 2(0) - 5(0)$$
$$u_1''(0) = 0$$

(c) Our general solution is:

$$u = c_1 \cos(t) + c_2 \sin(t) + c_3 \cos(\sqrt{6t}) + c_4 \sin(\sqrt{6t})$$

Taking derivatives,

$$u' = -c_1 \sin(t) + c_2 \cos(t) - \sqrt{6}c_3 \sin(\sqrt{6}t) + \sqrt{6}c_4 \cos(\sqrt{6}t)$$
$$u'' = -c_1 \cos(t) - c_2 \sin(t) - 6c_3 \cos(\sqrt{6}t) - 6c_4 \sin(\sqrt{6}t)$$
$$u''' = c_1 \sin(t) - c_2 \cos(t) + 6\sqrt{6}c_3 \sin(\sqrt{6}t) - 6\sqrt{6}c_4 \cos(\sqrt{6}t)$$

Now, we want to match the initial conditions:

$$u_1(0) = 1, \quad u'_1(0) = 0, \quad u''_1(0) = -1, \quad u'''_1(0) = 0$$

Plugging in t = 0, we get the system of equations:

$$u_1(0) = c_1 + c_3 = 1$$

$$u_1'(0) = c_2 + \sqrt{6c_4} = 0$$

$$u_1''(0) = -c_1 - c_3 = -1$$

$$u_1^{\prime\prime\prime}(0) = -c_2 - 6\sqrt{6}c_4 \qquad \qquad = 0$$

The first and third equations can be solved to get  $c_1 = 1$  and  $c_3 = 0$ . The second and fourth equations can be solved to find  $c_2 = c_4 = 0$ . Putting this all together, our solution is:

$$u_1(t) = \cos(t)$$

(d) Solving for  $u_2(t)$ ,

$$u_1'' + 5u_1 = 2u_2$$
  

$$u_2 = \frac{u_1'' + 5u_1}{2}$$
  

$$u_2 = \frac{-\cos(t) + 5\cos(t)}{2}$$
  

$$u_2(t) = 2\cos(t)$$

Answer to Question 6. (a) We can find the general solution of this non-homogeneous fourth-order equation using the method of undetermined coefficients, but it's actually easier to just integrate four times:

$$y^{(4)} = \frac{k}{A}$$
$$y''' = \frac{kx}{A} + C_1$$
$$y'' = \frac{kx^2}{2A} + C_1 x + C_2$$
$$y' = \frac{kx^3}{6A} + C_1 x^2 + C_2 x + C_3$$
$$y = \frac{kx^4}{24A} + C_1 x^3 + C_2 x^2 + C_3 x + C_4$$

(b) We have to be careful here, we can't just use the derivatives of y we had in part (a), because we kept changing what  $C_1$  meant from line to line. For the next parts, I'll use the following derivatives:

$$y = \frac{kx^4}{24A} + C_1 x^3 + C_2 x^2 + C_3 x + C_4$$
$$y' = \frac{kx^3}{6A} + 3C_1 x^2 + 2C_2 x + C_3$$
$$y'' = \frac{kx^2}{2A} + 6C_1 x + 2C_2$$
$$y''' = \frac{kx}{A} + 6C_1$$

Now, for the boundary conditions:

$$y(0) = y''(0) = y(L) = y''(L) = 0$$

Plugging these in,

$$y(0) = C_4 = 0$$
  

$$y''(0) = 2C_2 = 0$$
  

$$y(L) = \frac{kL^4}{24A} + C_1L^3 + C_2L^2 + C_3L + C_4 = 0$$
  

$$y''(L) = \frac{kL^2}{2A} + 6C_1L + 2C_2 = 0$$

The first two equations give us  $C_2 = C_4 = 0$ . This simplifies the last two equations:

$$\frac{kL^4}{24A} + C_1L^3 + C_3L = 0$$
$$\frac{kL^2}{2A} + 6C_1L = 0$$

We can solve the second equation for

$$C_1 = \frac{-kL}{12A}$$

Plugging this in,

$$\frac{kL^4}{24A} - \frac{kL^4}{12A} + C_3L = 0$$
$$C_3 = \frac{kL^3}{24A}$$

Putting it all together, our solution is

$$y = \frac{kx^4}{24A} - \frac{kLx^3}{12A} + \frac{kL^3x}{24A}$$

which we can simplify as:

$$y = \frac{k}{24A}(x^4 - 2Lx^3 + L^3x)$$

(c) Plugging in the boundary conditions:

$$y(0) = y'(0) = y(L) = y'(L) = 0$$

we get the following system of equations:

$$y(0) = C_4 = 0$$
  

$$y'(0) = C_3 = 0$$
  

$$y(L) = \frac{kL^4}{24A} + C_1L^3 + C_2L^2 + C_3L + C_4 = 0$$
  

$$y'(L) = \frac{kL^3}{6A} + 3C_1L^2 + 2C_2L + C_3 = 0$$

Using  $C_3 = C_4 = 0$  from the first two equations, we can reduce this to the systemL

$$\frac{kL^4}{24A} + C_1L^3 + C_2L^2 = 0$$
$$\frac{kL^3}{6A} + 3C_1L^2 + 2C_2L = 0$$

Subtracting the first equation from the 2L times the second equation,

$$\frac{kL^4}{12A} + C_1 L^3 = 0$$
$$C_1 = \frac{-kL}{12A}$$

Substituting that back in,

$$\frac{kL^4}{24A} - \frac{2kL^4}{24A} + C_2L^2 = 0$$
$$C_2 = \frac{kL^2}{24A}$$

So putting this all back together,

$$y = \frac{k}{24A}(x^4 - 2Lx^3 + L^2x^2)$$

(d) Plugging in the boundary conditions:

$$y(0) = y'(0) = y''(L) = y'''(L) = 0$$

We get the following system of equations:

$$y(0) = C_4 = 0$$
  

$$y'(0) = C_3 = 0$$
  

$$y''(L) = \frac{kL^2}{2A} + 6C_1L + 2C_2 = 0$$
  

$$y'''(L) = \frac{kL}{A} + 6C_1 = 0$$

We can solve the last equation to get:

$$C_1 = \frac{-kL}{6A}$$

Substituting that in,

$$\frac{kL^2}{2A} - \frac{kL^2}{A} + 2C_2 = 0$$
$$C_2 = \frac{kL^2}{4A}$$

Putting this all back together, our solution is:

$$y = \frac{kx^4}{24A} - \frac{kLx^3}{6A} + \frac{kL^2x^2}{4A}$$

which simplifies to:

$$y = \frac{k}{24A}(x^4 - 4Lx^3 + 6L^2x^2)$$