

# Differential Equations MA2041-A Final Exam

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學號：\_\_\_\_\_ 姓名：\_\_\_\_\_

**Problem 1.** Complete the following.

1. (10pts) Given a solution  $y = \varphi_1(t) = t^2$  to

$$t^2(t+3)y''' - 3t(t+2)y'' + 6(1+t)y' - 6y = 0 \quad \text{for } t > 0,$$

find a fundamental set of the ODE above.

2. (15pts) Find the general solution to the inhomogeneous ODE

$$t^2(t+3)y''' - 3t(t+2)y'' + 6(1+t)y' - 6y = t^2(t+3)^2 \quad \text{for } t > 0.$$

*Solution:*

1. Suppose that  $y = v(t)t^2$  is also a solution to the ODE above. Then

$$t^2(t+3)(v'''t^2 + 6v''t + 6v') - 3t(t+2)(v''t^2 + 4v't + 2v) + 6(1+t)(v't^2 + 2vt) - 6vt^2 = 0$$

which implies that  $v$  satisfies

$$t^4(t+3)v''' + [6t^3(t+3) - 3t^3(t+2)]v'' + [6t^2(t+3) - 12t^2(t+2) + 6t^2(1+t)]v' = 0$$

or equivalently, with  $u$  denoting  $v''$ ,

$$t(t+3)u' + 3(t+4)u = 0.$$

Solving the ODE above, we find that  $u(t) = C_1 t^{-4}(t+3)$  for some constant  $C_1$ ; thus

$$v(t) = \frac{C_1}{2}(t^{-2} + t^{-1}) + C_2 t + C_3$$

for some constants  $C_2$  and  $C_3$ . Therefore, the general solution to the ODE above is given by  $y(t) = C_1(1+t) + C_2 t^3 + C_3 t^2$  which implies that  $\{t^2, t^3, 1+t\}$  is a fundamental set of the ODE.

2. Let  $\varphi_1(t) = t^2$ ,  $\varphi_2(t) = t^3$  and  $\varphi_3(t) = t+1$ . Then

$$W[\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3](t) = \begin{vmatrix} t^2 & t^3 & 1+t \\ 2t & 3t^2 & 1 \\ 2 & 6t & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 12t^2(1+t) + 2t^3 - 6t^2(1+t) - 6t^3 = 2t^2(t+3).$$

and

$$W_1(t) = \begin{vmatrix} t^3 & 1+t \\ 3t^2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -2t^3 - 3t^2, \quad W_2(t) = \begin{vmatrix} t^2 & 1+t \\ 2t & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -t^2 - 2t, \quad W_3(t) = \begin{vmatrix} t^2 & t^3 \\ 2t & 3t^2 \end{vmatrix} = t^4.$$

Rewrite the initial value problem as

$$y''' - \frac{3t(t+3)}{t^2(t+3)}y'' + \frac{6(1+t)}{t^2(t+3)}y' - \frac{6}{t^2(t+3)}y = (t+3).$$

Let  $g(t) = t+3$ . Using the formula in the lecture note, we find that the general solution to the ODE is given by

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= -\varphi_1(t) \int \frac{(2t^3 + 3t^2)g(t)}{2t^2(t+3)} dt + \varphi_2(t) \int \frac{(t^2 + 2t)g(t)}{2t^2(t+3)} dt + \varphi_3(t) \int \frac{t^4 g(t)}{2t^2(t+3)} dt \\ &= -\varphi_1(t) \left( \frac{1}{2}t^2 + \frac{3}{2}t \right) + \varphi_2(t) \left( \frac{t}{2} + \ln t \right) + \varphi_3(t) \frac{t^3}{6} + C_1\varphi_1(t) + C_2\varphi_2(t) + C_3\varphi_3(t) \\ &= C_1\varphi_1(t) + C_2\varphi_2(t) + C_3\varphi_3(t) + \frac{1}{6}t^4 - \frac{4}{3}t^3 + t^3 \ln t. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

**Problem 2.** Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' - 4y' + 5y = 5t^2 - 8t + 7, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1$$

using

1. (20pts) the method of variation of parameters.
2. (20pts) the method of annihilator.
3. (20pts) the Laplace transform.

*Solution:*

1. The zeros of the characteristic equation of the corresponding homogeneous equation is  $r = 2 \pm i$ . Let  $\varphi_1(t) = e^{2t} \cos t$ ,  $\varphi_2(t) = e^{2t} \sin t$  and  $g(t) = 5t^2 - 8t + 7$ . Then

$$W[\varphi_1, \varphi_2](t) = \begin{vmatrix} e^{2t} \cos t & e^{2t} \sin t \\ 2e^{2t} \cos t - e^{2t} \sin t & 2e^{2t} \sin t + e^{2t} \cos t \end{vmatrix} = e^{4t}$$

and  $W_1(t) = e^{2t} \sin t$ ,  $W_2(t) = e^{2t} \cos t$ . Using formula in the lecture note, we find that the general solution is given by

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= -\varphi_1(t) \int \frac{e^{2t} \sin t (5t^2 - 8t + 7)}{e^{4t}} dt + \varphi_2(t) \int \frac{e^{2t} \cos t (5t^2 - 8t + 7)}{e^{4t}} dt \\ &= -\varphi_1(t) \int e^{-2t} \sin t (5t^2 - 8t + 7) dt + \varphi_2(t) \int e^{-2t} \cos t (5t^2 - 8t + 7) dt. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \int e^{-2t} \cos t dt &= e^{-2t} \sin t + 2 \int e^{-2t} \sin t dt = e^{-2t} \sin t - 2 \left[ e^{-2t} \cos t + 2 \int e^{-2t} \sin t dt \right] \\ &= e^{-2t} (\sin t - 2 \cos t) - 4 \int e^{-2t} \sin t dt, \end{aligned}$$

we find that

$$\int e^{-2t} \cos t dt = \frac{e^{-2t}}{5} (\sin t - 2 \cos t) + C$$

and the identity above further implies that

$$\int e^{-2t} \sin t \, dt = -\frac{e^{-2t}}{5}(2 \sin t + \cos t) + C.$$

Integrating by parts,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int e^{-2t} \sin t(5t^2 - 8t + 7) \, dt \\ &= -\frac{e^{-2t}}{5}(2 \sin t + \cos t)(5t^2 - 8t + 7) + \int \frac{e^{-2t}}{5}(2 \sin t + \cos t)(10t - 8) \, dt \\ &= -\frac{e^{-2t}}{5}(2 \sin t + \cos t)(5t^2 - 8t + 7) - \frac{e^{-2t}}{25}(3 \sin t + 4 \cos t)(10t - 8) \\ &\quad + 10 \int \frac{e^{-2t}}{25}(3 \sin t + 4 \cos t) \, dt \\ &= -\frac{e^{-2t}}{5}(2 \sin t + \cos t)(5t^2 - 8t + 7) - \frac{e^{-2t}}{25}(3 \sin t + 4 \cos t)(10t - 8) \\ &\quad - \frac{2e^{-2t}}{25}(2 \sin t + 11 \cos t) + C_1 \end{aligned}$$

and similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int e^{-2t} \cos t(5t^2 - 8t + 7) \, dt \\ &= \frac{e^{-2t}}{5}(\sin t - 2 \cos t)(5t^2 - 8t + 7) - \int \frac{e^{-2t}}{5}(\sin t - 2 \cos t)(10t - 8) \, dt \\ &= \frac{e^{-2t}}{5}(\sin t - 2 \cos t)(5t^2 - 8t + 7) + \frac{e^{-2t}}{25}(4 \sin t - 3 \cos t)(10t - 8) \\ &\quad - 10 \int \frac{e^{-2t}}{25}(4 \sin t - 3 \cos t) \, dt \\ &= \frac{e^{-2t}}{5}(\sin t - 2 \cos t)(5t^2 - 8t + 7) + \frac{e^{-2t}}{25}(4 \sin t - 3 \cos t)(10t - 8) \\ &\quad + \frac{2e^{-2t}}{25}(11 \sin t - 2 \cos t) + C_2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the general solution to the ODE is given by

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= -\cos t \left[ -\frac{1}{5}(2 \sin t + \cos t)(5t^2 - 8t + 7) - \frac{1}{25}(3 \sin t + 4 \cos t)(10t - 8) \right. \\ &\quad \left. - \frac{2}{25}(2 \sin t + 11 \cos t) \right] \\ &\quad + \sin t \left[ \frac{1}{5}(\sin t - 2 \cos t)(5t^2 - 8t + 7) + \frac{1}{25}(4 \sin t - 3 \cos t)(10t - 8) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{2}{25}(11 \sin t - 2 \cos t) \right] \\ &\quad + C_1 e^{2t} \cos t + C_2 e^{2t} \sin t \\ &= \frac{1}{5}(5t^2 - 8t + 7) + \frac{4}{25}(10t - 8) + \frac{22}{25} + C_1 e^{2t} \cos t + C_2 e^{2t} \sin t \\ &= t^2 + 1 + C_1 e^{2t} \cos t + C_2 e^{2t} \sin t. \end{aligned}$$

Using the initial condition, we find that  $C_1 = -1$  and  $C_2 = 3$ ; thus the solution to the initial value problem is given by

$$y(t) = 3e^{2t} \sin t - e^{2t} \cos t + 1 + t^2.$$

2. Let  $L_1 = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} - 4\frac{d}{dt} + 5$  and  $L_2 = \frac{d^3}{dt^3}$ . Then  $L_2L_1y = 0$ . The zeros of the characteristic equation of  $L_2L_1y = 0$  is  $r = 0$  (triple roots) and  $r = 2 \pm i$ . Therefore, the general solution to  $L_2L_1y = 0$  is

$$y(t) = C_1t^2 + C_2t + C_3 + C_4e^{2t} \cos t + C_5e^{2t} \sin t.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} y'(t) &= 2C_1t + C_2 + (2C_4 + C_5)e^{2t} \cos t + (2C_5 - C_4)e^{2t} \sin t, \\ y''(t) &= 2C_1 + (3C_4 + 4C_5)e^{2t} \cos t + (3C_5 - 4C_4)e^{2t} \sin t; \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} &2C_1 + (3C_4 + 4C_5)e^{2t} \cos t + (3C_5 - 4C_4)e^{2t} \sin t \\ &- 4(2C_1t + C_2 + (2C_4 + C_5)e^{2t} \cos t + (2C_5 - C_4)e^{2t} \sin t) \\ &+ 5(C_1t^2 + C_2t + C_3 + C_4e^{2t} \cos t + C_5e^{2t} \sin t) = 5t^2 - 8t + 7. \end{aligned}$$

Taking the initial condition into account,  $C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4, C_5$  satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} 2C_1 - 4C_2 + 5C_3 &= 7, \\ -8C_1 + 5C_2 &= -8, \\ 5C_1 &= 5, \\ C_3 + C_4 &= 0, \\ C_2 + 2C_4 + C_5 &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

which implies that  $(C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4, C_5) = (1, 0, 1, -1, 3)$ . Therefore, the solution to the initial value problem is

$$y(t) = t^2 + 1 - e^{2t} \cos t + 3e^{2t} \sin t.$$

3. Assume that the solution  $y$  to the IVP above is continuously differentiable and  $y''$  is of exponential order  $\alpha$  for some  $\alpha$ . Let  $Y(s) = \mathcal{L}(y)(s)$ . Then by the fact that the Laplace transform of  $5t^2 - 8t + 7$  is  $\frac{10}{s^3} - \frac{8}{s^2} + \frac{7}{s} = \frac{7s^2 - 8s + 10}{s^3}$ , we find that  $Y$  satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \frac{1}{s^2 - 4s + 5} + \frac{7s^2 - 8s + 10}{s^3(s^2 - 4s + 5)} = \frac{1}{(s - 2)^2 + 1} + \frac{7s^2 - 8s + 10}{s^3(s^2 - 4s + 5)} \\ &= \mathcal{L}(e^{2t} \sin t)(s) + \frac{7s^2 - 8s + 10}{s^3(s^2 - 4s + 5)}. \end{aligned}$$

Using partial fraction,

$$\frac{2}{s^3(s^2 - 4s + 5)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s^2} + \frac{C}{s^3} + \frac{Ds + E}{s^2 - 4s + 5},$$

where  $A, B, C, D, E$  satisfy

$$\begin{aligned} A + D &= 0, \\ -4A + B + E &= 0, \\ 5A - 4B + C &= 7, \\ 5B - 4C &= -8, \\ 5C &= 10. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $(A, B, C, D, E) = (1, 0, 2, -1, 4)$  which implies that

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \mathcal{L}(e^{2t} \sin t)(s) + \mathcal{L}(1 + t^2)(s) - \frac{s - 2}{(s - 2)^2 + 1} + \frac{2}{(s - 2)^2 + 1} \\ &= \mathcal{L}(3e^{2t} \sin t)(s) + \mathcal{L}(1 + t^2)(s) - \mathcal{L}(e^{2t} \cos t)(s). \end{aligned}$$

By the unique inversion of Laplace transform, we find that

$$y(t) = 3e^{2t} \sin t - e^{2t} \cos t + 1 + t^2. \quad \square$$

**Problem 3.** (15pts) Find the Laplace transform of the function  $f(t) = te^t \cos t$ .

*Solution:* Since the Fourier transform of the function  $e^t \cos t$  is  $\frac{s - 1}{(s - 1)^2 + 1}$ , by Theorem 6.22 in the lecture note, we find that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(f)(s) &= -\frac{d}{ds} \frac{s - 1}{(s - 1)^2 + 1} = -\frac{(s - 1)^2 + 1 - 2(s - 1)(s - 1)}{[(s - 1)^2 + 1]^2} \\ &= \frac{(s - 1)^2 - 1}{[(s - 1)^2 + 1]^2} = \frac{s^2 - 2s}{[(s - 1)^2 + 1]^2}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 4.** Complete the following.

- (5%) Show that if  $f$  is piecewise continuous and of exponential order  $\alpha$  for some  $\alpha$ , then  $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{L}(f)(s) = 0$ , where  $\mathcal{L}(f)$  is the Laplace transform of  $f$ .
- (15%) Use the Laplace transform to find the solution to the initial value problem

$$y'' + ty' - y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 3.$$

*Solution:*

- Since  $f$  is of exponential order  $\alpha$ , there exists  $M$  such that  $|f(t)| \leq Me^{\alpha t}$  for all  $t > 0$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} |\mathcal{L}(f)(s)| &= \left| \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t) dt \right| \leq \int_0^\infty e^{-st} |f(t)| dt \leq \int_0^\infty e^{-st} M e^{\alpha t} dt \\ &= M \int_0^\infty e^{(\alpha - s)t} dt \leq \frac{M}{s - \alpha} \quad \forall s > \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

As  $s \rightarrow \infty$ , the Sandwich lemma implies that  $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{L}(f)(s) = 0$ .

2. Assume that  $y$  is continuously differentiable of exponential order  $\alpha$  for some  $\alpha > 0$ , and  $y''$  is piecewise continuous on  $[0, \infty)$ . Let  $Y(s) = \mathcal{L}(y)(s)$ . Then

$$s^2Y(s) - 3 - [sY(s)]' - Y(s) = 0 \quad \forall s > \alpha.$$

Therefore,

$$-sY'(s) + (s^2 - 2)Y(s) - 3 = 0$$

which can be further reduced to

$$Y'(s) + \left(\frac{2}{s} - s\right)Y(s) = -\frac{3}{s}.$$

Using the integrating factor  $s^2e^{-\frac{s^2}{2}}$ , we find that

$$[s^2e^{-\frac{s^2}{2}}Y(s)]' = -3se^{-\frac{s^2}{2}};$$

thus

$$s^2e^{-\frac{s^2}{2}}Y(s) = 3e^{-\frac{s^2}{2}} + C.$$

Therefore,  $Y(s) = \frac{3}{s^2} + Ce^{\frac{s^2}{2}}$ . By 1,  $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} Y(s) = 0$ ; thus  $C = 0$ . This shows that  $y(t) = 3t$ .  $\square$