# Differential
# Equations

## With Boundary-Value Problems

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# REVIEW OF DIFFERENTIATION

## Rules

1. Constant: $\dfrac{d}{dx} c = 0$

2. Constant Multiple: $\dfrac{d}{dx} cf(x) = c f'(x)$

3. Sum: $\dfrac{d}{dx}[f(x) \pm g(x)] = f'(x) \pm g'(x)$

4. Product: $\dfrac{d}{dx} f(x)g(x) = f(x)g'(x) + g(x)f'(x)$

5. Quotient: $\dfrac{d}{dx} \dfrac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \dfrac{g(x)f'(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{[g(x)]^2}$

6. Chain: $\dfrac{d}{dx} f(g(x)) = f'(g(x))g'(x)$

7. Power: $\dfrac{d}{dx} x^n = nx^{n-1}$

8. Power: $\dfrac{d}{dx}[g(x)]^n = n[g(x)]^{n-1} g'(x)$

## Functions

Trigonometric:

9. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \sin x = \cos x$

10. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \cos x = -\sin x$

11. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \tan x = \sec^2 x$

12. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \cot x = -\csc^2 x$

13. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \sec x = \sec x \tan x$

14. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \csc x = -\csc x \cot x$

Inverse trigonometric:

15. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \sin^{-1} x = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

16. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \cos^{-1} x = -\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

17. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \tan^{-1} x = \dfrac{1}{1+x^2}$

18. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \cot^{-1} x = -\dfrac{1}{1+x^2}$

19. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \sec^{-1} x = \dfrac{1}{|x|\sqrt{x^2-1}}$

20. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \csc^{-1} x = -\dfrac{1}{|x|\sqrt{x^2-1}}$

Hyperbolic:

21. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \sinh x = \cosh x$

22. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \cosh x = \sinh x$

23. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \tanh x = \operatorname{sech}^2 x$

24. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \coth x = -\operatorname{csch}^2 x$

25. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \operatorname{sech} x = -\operatorname{sech} x \tanh x$

26. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \operatorname{csch} x = -\operatorname{csch} x \coth x$

Inverse hyperbolic:

27. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \sinh^{-1} x = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+1}}$

28. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \cosh^{-1} x = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{x^2-1}}$

29. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \tanh^{-1} x = \dfrac{1}{1-x^2}$

30. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \coth^{-1} x = \dfrac{1}{1-x^2}$

31. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \operatorname{sech}^{-1} x = -\dfrac{1}{x\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

32. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \operatorname{csch}^{-1} x = -\dfrac{1}{|x|\sqrt{x^2+1}}$

Exponential:

33. $\dfrac{d}{dx} e^x = e^x$

34. $\dfrac{d}{dx} b^x = b^x (\ln b)$

Logarithmic:

35. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \ln|x| = \dfrac{1}{x}$

36. $\dfrac{d}{dx} \log_b x = \dfrac{1}{x(\ln b)}$

# BRIEF TABLE OF INTEGRALS

1. $\int u^n \, du = \dfrac{u^{n+1}}{n+1} + C, \; n \neq -1$

2. $\int \dfrac{1}{u} \, du = \ln |u| + C$

3. $\int e^u \, du = e^u + C$

4. $\int a^u \, du = \dfrac{1}{\ln a} a^u + C$

5. $\int \sin u \, du = -\cos u + C$

6. $\int \cos u \, du = \sin u + C$

7. $\int \sec^2 u \, du = \tan u + C$

8. $\int \csc^2 u \, du = -\cot u + C$

9. $\int \sec u \tan u \, du = \sec u + C$

10. $\int \csc u \cot u \, du = -\csc u + C$

11. $\int \tan u \, du = -\ln |\cos u| + C$

12. $\int \cot u \, du = \ln |\sin u| + C$

13. $\int \sec u \, du = \ln |\sec u + \tan u| + C$

14. $\int \csc u \, du = \ln |\csc u - \cot u| + C$

15. $\int u \sin u \, du = \sin u - u \cos u + C$

16. $\int u \cos u \, du = \cos u + u \sin u + C$

17. $\int \sin^2 u \, du = \tfrac{1}{2} u - \tfrac{1}{4} \sin 2u + C$

18. $\int \cos^2 u \, du = \tfrac{1}{2} u + \tfrac{1}{4} \sin 2u + C$

19. $\int \tan^2 u \, du = \tan u - u + C$

20. $\int \cot^2 u \, du = -\cot u - u + C$

21. $\int \sin^3 u \, du = -\tfrac{1}{3} \left( 2 + \sin^2 u \right) \cos u + C$

22. $\int \cos^3 u \, du = \tfrac{1}{3} \left( 2 + \cos^2 u \right) \sin u + C$

23. $\int \tan^3 u \, du = \tfrac{1}{2} \tan^2 u + \ln |\cos u| + C$

24. $\int \cot^3 u \, du = -\tfrac{1}{2} \cot^2 u - \ln |\sin u| + C$

25. $\int \sec^3 u \, du = \tfrac{1}{2} \sec u \tan u + \tfrac{1}{2} \ln |\sec u + \tan u| + C$

26. $\int \csc^3 u \, du = -\tfrac{1}{2} \csc u \cot u + \tfrac{1}{2} \ln |\csc u - \cot u| + C$

27. $\int \sin au \cos bu \, du = \dfrac{\sin(a-b)u}{2(a-b)} - \dfrac{\sin(a+b)u}{2(a+b)} + C$

28. $\int \cos au \cos bu \, du = \dfrac{\sin(a-b)u}{2(a-b)} + \dfrac{\sin(a+b)u}{2(a+b)} + C$

29. $\int e^{au} \sin bu \, du = \dfrac{e^{au}}{a^2 + b^2} \left( a \sin bu - b \cos bu \right) + C$

30. $\int e^{au} \cos bu \, du = \dfrac{e^{au}}{a^2 + b^2} \left( a \cos bu + b \sin bu \right) + C$

31. $\int \sinh u \, du = \cosh u + C$

32. $\int \cosh u \, du = \sinh u + C$

33. $\int \operatorname{sech}^2 u \, du = \tanh u + C$

34. $\int \operatorname{csch}^2 u \, du = -\coth u + C$

35. $\int \tanh u \, du = \ln(\cosh u) + C$

36. $\int \coth u \, du = \ln |\sinh u| + C$

37. $\int \ln u \, du = u \ln u - u + C$

38. $\int u \ln u \, du = \tfrac{1}{2} u^2 \ln u - \tfrac{1}{4} u^2 + C$

39. $\int \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 - u^2}} \, du = \sin^{-1} \dfrac{u}{a} + C$

40. $\int \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + u^2}} \, du = \ln \left| u + \sqrt{a^2 + u^2} \right| + C$

41. $\int \sqrt{a^2 - u^2} \, du = \dfrac{u}{2} \sqrt{a^2 - u^2} + \dfrac{a^2}{2} \sin^{-1} \dfrac{u}{a} + C$

42. $\int \sqrt{a^2 + u^2} \, du = \dfrac{u}{2} \sqrt{a^2 + u^2} + \dfrac{a^2}{2} \ln \left| u + \sqrt{a^2 + u^2} \right| + C$

43. $\int \dfrac{1}{a^2 + u^2} \, du = \dfrac{1}{a} \tan^{-1} \dfrac{u}{a} + C$

44. $\int \dfrac{1}{a^2 - u^2} \, du = \dfrac{1}{2a} \ln \left| \dfrac{a+u}{a-u} \right| + C$

**Note:** Some techniques of integration, such as integration by parts and partial fractions, are reviewed in the *Student Resource and Solutions Manual* that accompanies this text.

# TABLE OF LAPLACE TRANSFORMS

| $f(t)$ | $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ |
|---|---|
| **1.** $1$ | $\dfrac{1}{s}$ |
| **2.** $t$ | $\dfrac{1}{s^2}$ |
| **3.** $t^n$ | $\dfrac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$,  $n$ a positive integer |
| **4.** $t^{-1/2}$ | $\sqrt{\dfrac{\pi}{s}}$ |
| **5.** $t^{1/2}$ | $\dfrac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2s^{3/2}}$ |
| **6.** $t^{\alpha}$ | $\dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{s^{\alpha+1}}$,  $\alpha > -1$ |
| **7.** $\sin kt$ | $\dfrac{k}{s^2 + k^2}$ |
| **8.** $\cos kt$ | $\dfrac{s}{s^2 + k^2}$ |
| **9.** $\sin^2 kt$ | $\dfrac{2k^2}{s(s^2 + 4k^2)}$ |
| **10.** $\cos^2 kt$ | $\dfrac{s^2 + 2k^2}{s(s^2 + 4k^2)}$ |
| **11.** $e^{at}$ | $\dfrac{1}{s - a}$ |
| **12.** $\sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{k}{s^2 - k^2}$ |
| **13.** $\cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{s}{s^2 - k^2}$ |
| **14.** $\sinh^2 kt$ | $\dfrac{2k^2}{s(s^2 - 4k^2)}$ |
| **15.** $\cosh^2 kt$ | $\dfrac{s^2 - 2k^2}{s(s^2 - 4k^2)}$ |
| **16.** $te^{at}$ | $\dfrac{1}{(s - a)^2}$ |
| **17.** $t^n e^{at}$ | $\dfrac{n!}{(s - a)^{n+1}}$,  $n$ a positive integer |
| **18.** $e^{at} \sin kt$ | $\dfrac{k}{(s - a)^2 + k^2}$ |
| **19.** $e^{at} \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{s - a}{(s - a)^2 + k^2}$ |

| $f(t)$ | $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ |
|---|---|
| **20.** $e^{at} \sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{k}{(s - a)^2 - k^2}$ |
| **21.** $e^{at} \cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{s - a}{(s - a)^2 - k^2}$ |
| **22.** $t \sin kt$ | $\dfrac{2ks}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$ |
| **23.** $t \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{s^2 - k^2}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$ |
| **24.** $\sin kt + kt \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{2ks^2}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$ |
| **25.** $\sin kt - kt \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{2k^3}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$ |
| **26.** $t \sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{2ks}{(s^2 - k^2)^2}$ |
| **27.** $t \cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{s^2 + k^2}{(s^2 - k^2)^2}$ |
| **28.** $\dfrac{e^{at} - e^{bt}}{a - b}$ | $\dfrac{1}{(s - a)(s - b)}$ |
| **29.** $\dfrac{ae^{at} - be^{bt}}{a - b}$ | $\dfrac{s}{(s - a)(s - b)}$ |
| **30.** $1 - \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{k^2}{s(s^2 + k^2)}$ |
| **31.** $kt - \sin kt$ | $\dfrac{k^3}{s^2(s^2 + k^2)}$ |
| **32.** $\dfrac{a \sin bt - b \sin at}{ab(a^2 - b^2)}$ | $\dfrac{1}{(s^2 + a^2)(s^2 + b^2)}$ |
| **33.** $\dfrac{\cos bt - \cos at}{a^2 - b^2}$ | $\dfrac{s}{(s^2 + a^2)(s^2 + b^2)}$ |
| **34.** $\sin kt \sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{2k^2 s}{s^4 + 4k^4}$ |
| **35.** $\sin kt \cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{k(s^2 + 2k^2)}{s^4 + 4k^4}$ |
| **36.** $\cos kt \sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{k(s^2 - 2k^2)}{s^4 + 4k^4}$ |
| **37.** $\cos kt \cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{s^3}{s^4 + 4k^4}$ |
| **38.** $J_0(kt)$ | $\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{s^2 + k^2}}$ |

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# DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

with Boundary-Value Problems

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# DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

## with Boundary-Value Problems

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# PREFACE

## TO THE STUDENT

Authors of books live with the hope that someone actually *reads* them. Contrary to what you might believe, almost everything in a typical college-level mathematics text is written for you and not the instructor. True, the topics covered in the text are chosen to appeal to instructors because they make the decision on whether to use it in their classes, but everything written in it is aimed directly at you the student. So I want to encourage you—no, actually I want to *tell* you—to read this textbook! But do not read this text like you would a novel; you should not read it fast and you should not skip anything. Think of it as a *work*book. By this I mean that mathematics should always be read with pencil and paper at the ready because, most likely, you will have to *work* your way through the examples and the discussion. Read—oops, work—all the examples in a section before attempting any of the exercises; the examples are constructed to illustrate what I consider the most important aspects of the section, and therefore, reflect the procedures necessary to work most of the problems in the exercise sets. I tell my students when reading an example, cover up the solution; try working it first, compare your work against the solution given, and then resolve any differences. I have tried to include most of the important steps in each example, but if something is not clear you should always try—and here is where the pencil and paper come in again—to fill in the details or missing steps. This may not be easy, but that is part of the learning process. The accumulation of facts followed by the slow assimilation of understanding simply cannot be achieved without a struggle.

Specifically for you, a *Student Resource and Solutions Manual* (*SRSM*) is available as an optional supplement. In addition to containing solutions of selected problems from the exercises sets, the *SRSM* has hints for solving problems, extra examples, and a review of those areas of algebra and calculus that I feel are particularly important to the successful study of differential equations. Bear in mind you do not have to purchase the *SRSM*; by following my pointers given at the beginning of most sections, you can review the appropriate mathematics from your old precalculus or calculus texts.

In conclusion, I wish you good luck and success. I hope you enjoy the text and the course you are about to embark on—as an undergraduate math major it was one of my favorites because I liked mathematics that connected with the physical world. If you have any comments, or if you find any errors as you read/work your way through the text, or if you come up with a good idea for improving either it or the *SRSM*, please feel free to either contact me or my editor at Brooks/Cole Publishing Company:

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## TO THE INSTRUCTOR

### WHAT IS NEW IN THIS EDITION?

First, let me say what has *not* changed. The chapter lineup by topics, the number and order of sections within a chapter, and the basic underlying philosophy remain the same as in the previous editions.

In case you are examining this text for the first time, *Differential Equations with Boundary-Value Problems, 7th Edition,* can be used for either a one-semester course in ordinary differential equations, or a two-semester course covering ordinary and partial differential equations. The shorter version of the text, *A First Course in Differential Equations with Modeling Applications, 9th Edition*, ends with Chapter 9. For a one-semester course, I assume that the students have successfully completed at least two-semesters of calculus. Since you are reading this, undoubtedly you have already examined the table of contents for the topics that are covered. You will not find a "suggested syllabus" in this preface; I will not pretend to be so wise as to tell other teachers what to teach. I feel that there is plenty of material here to pick from and to form a course to your liking. The text strikes a reasonable balance between the analytical, qualitative, and quantitative approaches to the study of differential equations. As far as my "underlying philosophy" it is this: An undergraduate text should be written with the student's understanding kept firmly in mind, which means to me that the material should be presented in a straightforward, readable, and helpful manner, while keeping the level of theory consistent with the notion of a "first course."

For those who are familiar with the previous editions, I would like to mention a few of the improvements made in this edition.

- *Contributed Problems* Selected exercise sets conclude with one or two contributed problems. These problems were class tested and submitted by instructors of differential equations courses and reflect how they supplement their classroom presentations with additional projects.
- *Exercises* Many exercise sets have been updated by the addition of new problems to better test and challenge the students. In like manner, some exercise sets have been improved by sending some problems into early retirement.
- *Design* This edition has been upgraded to a four-color design, which adds depth of meaning to all of the graphics and emphasis to highlighted phrases. I oversaw the creation of each piece of art to ensure that it is as mathematically correct as the text.
- *New Figure Numeration* It took many editions to do so, but I finally became convinced that the old numeration of figures, theorems, and definitions had to be changed. In this revision I have utilized a double-decimal numeration system. By way of illustration, in the last edition Figure 7.52 only indicates that it is the 52nd figure in Chapter 7. In this edition, the same figure is renumbered as Figure 7.6.5, where

$$\underset{\downarrow}{\textbf{Chapter}} \; \underset{\downarrow}{\text{Section}}$$
$$7.6.5 \leftarrow \text{Fifth figure in the section}$$

  I feel that this system provides a clearer indication to where things are, without the necessity of adding a cumbersome page number.
- *Projects from Previous Editions* Selected projects and essays from past editions of the textbook can now be found on the companion website at academic.cengage.com/math/zill.

## STUDENT RESOURCES

- *Student Resource and Solutions Manual*, by Warren S. Wright, Dennis G. Zill, and Carol D. Wright (ISBN 0495385662 (accompanies A First Course in Differential Equations with Modeling Applications, 9e), 0495383163 (accompanies Differential Equations with Boundary-Value Problems, 7e)) provides reviews of important material from algebra and calculus, the solution of every third problem in each exercise set (with the exception of the Discussion Problems and Computer Lab Assignments), relevant command syntax for the computer algebra systems *Mathematica* and *Maple*, lists of important concepts, as well as helpful hints on how to start certain problems.

- *DE Tools* is a suite of simulations that provide an interactive, visual exploration of the concepts presented in this text. Visit academic.cengage.com/math/zill to find out more or contact your local sales representative to ask about options for bundling DE Tools with this textbook.

## INSTRUCTOR RESOURCES

- *Complete Solutions Manual*, by Warren S. Wright and Carol D. Wright (ISBN 049538609X), provides worked-out solutions to all problems in the text.
- *Test Bank*, by Gilbert Lewis (ISBN 0495386065) Contains multiple-choice and short-answer test items that key directly to the text.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Compiling a mathematics textbook such as this and making sure that its thousands of symbols and hundreds of equations are (mostly) accurate is an enormous task, but since I am called "the author" that is my job and responsibility. But many people besides myself have expended enormous amounts of time and energy in working towards its eventual publication. So I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest appreciation to everyone—most of them unknown to me—at Brooks/Cole Publishing Company, at Cengage Learning, and at Hearthside Publication Services who were involved in the publication of this new edition. I would, however, like to single out a few individuals for special recognition: At Brooks/Cole/Cengage, Cheryll Linthicum, Production Project Manager, for her willingness to listen to an author's ideas and patiently answering the author's many questions; Larry Didona for the excellent cover designs; Diane Beasley for the interior design; Vernon Boes for supervising all the art and design; Charlie Van Wagner, sponsoring editor; Stacy Green for coordinating all the supplements; Leslie Lahr, developmental editor, for her suggestions, support, and for obtaining and organizing the contributed problems; and at Hearthside Production Services, Anne Seitz, production editor, who once again put all the pieces of the puzzle together. Special thanks go to John Samons for the outstanding job he did reviewing the text and answer manuscript for accuracy.

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Finally, over the years these texts have been improved in a countless number of ways through the suggestions and criticisms of the reviewers. Thus it is fitting to conclude with an acknowledgement of my debt to the following people for sharing their expertise and experience.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION TO DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

The words *differential* and *equations* certainly suggest solving some kind of equation that contains derivatives $y'$, $y''$, . . . . Analogous to a course in algebra and trigonometry, in which a good amount of time is spent solving equations such as $x^2 + 5x + 4 = 0$ for the unknown number $x$, in this course *one* of our tasks will be to solve differential equations such as $y'' + 2y' + y = 0$ for an unknown function $y = \phi(x)$.

The preceding paragraph tells something, but not the complete story, about the course you are about to begin. As the course unfolds, you will see that there is more to the study of differential equations than just mastering methods that someone has devised to solve them.

But first things first. In order to read, study, and be conversant in a specialized subject, you have to learn the terminology of that discipline. This is the thrust of the first two sections of this chapter. In the last section we briefly examine the link between differential equations and the real world. Practical questions such as *How fast does a disease spread? How fast does a population change?* involve rates of change or derivatives. As so the mathematical description—or mathematical model—of experiments, observations, or theories may be a differential equation.

| 1.1 | DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY |

**REVIEW MATERIAL**

- Definition of the derivative
- Rules of differentiation
- Derivative as a rate of change
- First derivative and increasing/decreasing
- Second derivative and concavity

**INTRODUCTION**   The derivative $dy/dx$ of a function $y = \phi(x)$ is itself another function $\phi'(x)$ found by an appropriate rule. The function $y = e^{0.1x^2}$ is differentiable on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, and by the Chain Rule its derivative is $dy/dx = 0.2xe^{0.1x^2}$. If we replace $e^{0.1x^2}$ on the right-hand side of the last equation by the symbol $y$, the derivative becomes

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0.2xy. \tag{1}$$

Now imagine that a friend of yours simply hands you equation (1)—you have no idea how it was constructed—and asks, *What is the function represented by the symbol y?* You are now face to face with one of the basic problems in this course:

*How do you solve such an equation for the unknown function* $y = \phi(x)$?

**A DEFINITION**   The equation that we made up in (1) is called a **differential equation.** Before proceeding any further, let us consider a more precise definition of this concept.

---

**DEFINITION 1.1.1**   **Differential Equation**

An equation containing the derivatives of one or more dependent variables, with respect to one or more independent variables, is said to be a **differential equation (DE).**

---

To talk about them, we shall classify differential equations by **type, order,** and **linearity.**

**CLASSIFICATION BY TYPE**   If an equation contains only ordinary derivatives of one or more dependent variables with respect to a single independent variable it is said to be an **ordinary differential equation (ODE).** For example,

A DE can contain more than one dependent variable
↓       ↓

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + 5y = e^x, \qquad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} + 6y = 0, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{dx}{dt} + \frac{dy}{dt} = 2x + y \tag{2}$$

are ordinary differential equations. An equation involving partial derivatives of one or more dependent variables of two or more independent variables is called a

**partial differential equation (PDE).** For example,

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \qquad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - 2\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \qquad (3)$$

are partial differential equations.*

Throughout this text ordinary derivatives will be written by using either the **Leibniz notation** $dy/dx$, $d^2y/dx^2$, $d^3y/dx^3$, ... or the **prime notation** $y'$, $y''$, $y'''$, .... By using the latter notation, the first two differential equations in (2) can be written a little more compactly as $y' + 5y = e^x$ and $y'' - y' + 6y = 0$. Actually, the prime notation is used to denote only the first three derivatives; the fourth derivative is written $y^{(4)}$ instead of $y''''$. In general, the $n$th derivative of $y$ is written $d^ny/dx^n$ or $y^{(n)}$. Although less convenient to write and to typeset, the Leibniz notation has an advantage over the prime notation in that it clearly displays both the dependent and independent variables. For example, in the equation

$$\overset{\text{unknown function}}{\underset{\text{or dependent variable}}{\downarrow}}$$

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 16x = 0$$

$$\underset{\text{independent variable}}{\uparrow}$$

it is immediately seen that the symbol $x$ now represents a dependent variable, whereas the independent variable is $t$. You should also be aware that in physical sciences and engineering, Newton's **dot notation** (derogatively referred to by some as the "flyspeck" notation) is sometimes used to denote derivatives with respect to time $t$. Thus the differential equation $d^2s/dt^2 = -32$ becomes $\ddot{s} = -32$. Partial derivatives are often denoted by a **subscript notation** indicating the independent variables. For example, with the subscript notation the second equation in (3) becomes $u_{xx} = u_{tt} - 2u_t$.

**CLASSIFICATION BY ORDER** The **order of a differential equation** (either ODE or PDE) is the order of the highest derivative in the equation. For example,

$$\overset{\text{second order}}{\underset{\downarrow}{}}\qquad\overset{\text{first order}}{\underset{\downarrow}{}}$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 5\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^3 - 4y = e^x$$

is a second-order ordinary differential equation. First-order ordinary differential equations are occasionally written in differential form $M(x, y)\,dx + N(x, y)\,dy = 0$. For example, if we assume that $y$ denotes the dependent variable in $(y - x)\,dx + 4x\,dy = 0$, then $y' = dy/dx$, so by dividing by the differential $dx$, we get the alternative form $4xy' + y = x$. See the *Remarks* at the end of this section.

In symbols we can express an $n$th-order ordinary differential equation in one dependent variable by the general form

$$F(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0, \qquad (4)$$

where $F$ is a real-valued function of $n + 2$ variables: $x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}$. For both practical and theoretical reasons we shall also make the assumption hereafter that it is possible to solve an ordinary differential equation in the form (4) uniquely for the

---

*Except for this introductory section, only ordinary differential equations are considered in *A First Course in Differential Equations with Modeling Applications,* Ninth Edition. In that text the word *equation* and the abbreviation DE refer only to ODEs. Partial differential equations or PDEs are considered in the expanded volume *Differential Equations with Boundary-Value Problems,* Seventh Edition.

highest derivative $y^{(n)}$ in terms of the remaining $n + 1$ variables. The differential equation

$$\frac{d^n y}{dx^n} = f(x, y, y', \ldots, y^{(n-1)}), \tag{5}$$

where $f$ is a real-valued continuous function, is referred to as the **normal form** of (4). Thus when it suits our purposes, we shall use the normal forms

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y) \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = f(x, y, y')$$

to represent general first- and second-order ordinary differential equations. For example, the normal form of the first-order equation $4xy' + y = x$ is $y' = (x - y)/4x$; the normal form of the second-order equation $y'' - y' + 6y = 0$ is $y'' = y' - 6y$. See the *Remarks*.

**CLASSIFICATION BY LINEARITY**  An $n$th-order ordinary differential equation (4) is said to be **linear** if $F$ is linear in $y, y', \ldots, y^{(n)}$. This means that an $n$th-order ODE is linear when (4) is $a_n(x)y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(x)y^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y - g(x) = 0$ or

$$a_n(x)\frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_{n-1}(x)\frac{d^{n-1}y}{dx^{n-1}} + \cdots + a_1(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x). \tag{6}$$

Two important special cases of (6) are linear first-order ($n = 1$) and linear second-order ($n = 2$) DEs:

$$a_1(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x) \qquad \text{and} \qquad a_2(x)\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + a_1(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x). \tag{7}$$

In the additive combination on the left-hand side of equation (6) we see that the characteristic two properties of a linear ODE are as follows:

- The dependent variable $y$ and all its derivatives $y', y'', \ldots, y^{(n)}$ are of the first degree, that is, the power of each term involving $y$ is 1.
- The coefficients $a_0, a_1, \ldots, a_n$ of $y, y', \ldots, y^{(n)}$ depend at most on the independent variable $x$.

The equations

$$(y - x)dx + 4x\,dy = 0, \qquad y'' - 2y' + y = 0, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} + x\frac{dy}{dx} - 5y = e^x$$

are, in turn, linear first-, second-, and third-order ordinary differential equations. We have just demonstrated that the first equation is linear in the variable $y$ by writing it in the alternative form $4xy' + y = x$. A **nonlinear** ordinary differential equation is simply one that is not linear. Nonlinear functions of the dependent variable or its derivatives, such as $\sin y$ or $e^{y'}$, cannot appear in a linear equation. Therefore

| nonlinear term: coefficient depends on $y$ | nonlinear term: nonlinear function of $y$ | nonlinear term: power not 1 |
|:---:|:---:|:---:|
| ↓ | ↓ | ↓ |

$$(1 - y)y' + 2y = e^x, \qquad \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + \sin y = 0, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{d^4 y}{dx^4} + y^2 = 0$$

are examples of nonlinear first-, second-, and fourth-order ordinary differential equations, respectively.

**SOLUTIONS**  As was stated before, one of the goals in this course is to solve, or find solutions of, differential equations. In the next definition we consider the concept of a solution of an ordinary differential equation.

---

**DEFINITION 1.1.2** Solution of an ODE

Any function $\phi$, defined on an interval $I$ and possessing at least $n$ derivatives that are continuous on $I$, which when substituted into an $n$th-order ordinary differential equation reduces the equation to an identity, is said to be a **solution** of the equation on the interval.

---

In other words, a solution of an $n$th-order ordinary differential equation (4) is a function $\phi$ that possesses at least $n$ derivatives and for which

$$F(x, \phi(x), \phi'(x), \ldots, \phi^{(n)}(x)) = 0 \qquad \text{for all } x \text{ in } I.$$

We say that $\phi$ *satisfies* the differential equation on $I$. For our purposes we shall also assume that a solution $\phi$ is a real-valued function. In our introductory discussion we saw that $y = e^{0.1x^2}$ is a solution of $dy/dx = 0.2xy$ on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

Occasionally, it will be convenient to denote a solution by the alternative symbol $y(x)$.

**INTERVAL OF DEFINITION** You cannot think *solution* of an ordinary differential equation without simultaneously thinking *interval.* The interval $I$ in Definition 1.1.2 is variously called the **interval of definition,** the **interval of existence,** the **interval of validity,** or the **domain of the solution** and can be an open interval $(a, b)$, a closed interval $[a, b]$, an infinite interval $(a, \infty)$, and so on.

---

**EXAMPLE 1** Verification of a Solution

Verify that the indicated function is a solution of the given differential equation on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**(a)** $dy/dx = xy^{1/2};\quad y = \frac{1}{16}x^4$ **(b)** $y'' - 2y' + y = 0;\quad y = xe^x$

**SOLUTION** One way of verifying that the given function is a solution is to see, after substituting, whether each side of the equation is the same for every $x$ in the interval.

**(a)** From

*left-hand side:* $\qquad \dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{1}{16}(4 \cdot x^3) = \dfrac{1}{4}x^3,$

*right-hand side:* $\qquad xy^{1/2} = x \cdot \left(\dfrac{1}{16}x^4\right)^{1/2} = x \cdot \left(\dfrac{1}{4}x^2\right) = \dfrac{1}{4}x^3,$

we see that each side of the equation is the same for every real number $x$. Note that $y^{1/2} = \frac{1}{4}x^2$ is, by definition, the nonnegative square root of $\frac{1}{16}x^4$.

**(b)** From the derivatives $y' = xe^x + e^x$ and $y'' = xe^x + 2e^x$ we have, for every real number $x$,

*left-hand side:* $\qquad y'' - 2y' + y = (xe^x + 2e^x) - 2(xe^x + e^x) + xe^x = 0,$

*right-hand side:* $\qquad 0.$ ■

Note, too, that in Example 1 each differential equation possesses the constant solution $y = 0$, $-\infty < x < \infty$. A solution of a differential equation that is identically zero on an interval $I$ is said to be a **trivial solution.**

**SOLUTION CURVE** The graph of a solution $\phi$ of an ODE is called a **solution curve.** Since $\phi$ is a differentiable function, it is continuous on its interval $I$ of definition. Thus there may be a difference between the graph of the *function* $\phi$ and the

graph of the *solution* $\phi$. Put another way, the domain of the function $\phi$ need not be the same as the interval $I$ of definition (or domain) of the solution $\phi$. Example 2 illustrates the difference.
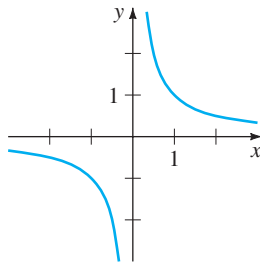


**(a)** function $y = 1/x$, $x \neq 0$
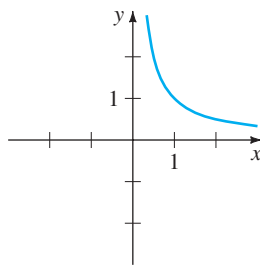


**(b)** solution $y = 1/x$, $(0, \infty)$

**FIGURE 1.1.1** The function $y = 1/x$ is not the same as the solution $y = 1/x$

| **EXAMPLE 2** **Function versus Solution** |

The domain of $y = 1/x$, considered simply as a *function*, is the set of all real numbers $x$ except 0. When we graph $y = 1/x$, we plot points in the $xy$-plane corresponding to a judicious sampling of numbers taken from its domain. The rational function $y = 1/x$ is discontinuous at 0, and its graph, in a neighborhood of the origin, is given in Figure 1.1.1(a). The function $y = 1/x$ is not differentiable at $x = 0$, since the $y$-axis (whose equation is $x = 0$) is a vertical asymptote of the graph.

Now $y = 1/x$ is also a solution of the linear first-order differential equation $xy' + y = 0$. (Verify.) But when we say that $y = 1/x$ is a *solution* of this DE, we mean that it is a function defined on an interval $I$ on which it is differentiable and satisfies the equation. In other words, $y = 1/x$ is a solution of the DE on *any* interval that does not contain 0, such as $(-3, -1)$, $\left(\frac{1}{2}, 10\right)$, $(-\infty, 0)$, or $(0, \infty)$. Because the solution curves defined by $y = 1/x$ for $-3 < x < -1$ and $\frac{1}{2} < x < 10$ are simply segments, or pieces, of the solution curves defined by $y = 1/x$ for $-\infty < x < 0$ and $0 < x < \infty$, respectively, it makes sense to take the interval $I$ to be as large as possible. Thus we take $I$ to be either $(-\infty, 0)$ or $(0, \infty)$. The solution curve on $(0, \infty)$ is shown in Figure 1.1.1(b). ∎

**EXPLICIT AND IMPLICIT SOLUTIONS** You should be familiar with the terms *explicit functions* and *implicit functions* from your study of calculus. A solution in which the dependent variable is expressed solely in terms of the independent variable and constants is said to be an **explicit solution.** For our purposes, let us think of an explicit solution as an explicit formula $y = \phi(x)$ that we can manipulate, evaluate, and differentiate using the standard rules. We have just seen in the last two examples that $y = \frac{1}{16}x^4$, $y = xe^x$, and $y = 1/x$ are, in turn, explicit solutions of $dy/dx = xy^{1/2}$, $y'' - 2y' + y = 0$, and $xy' + y = 0$. Moreover, the trivial solution $y = 0$ is an explicit solution of all three equations. When we get down to the business of actually solving some ordinary differential equations, you will see that methods of solution do not always lead directly to an explicit solution $y = \phi(x)$. This is particularly true when we attempt to solve nonlinear first-order differential equations. Often we have to be content with a relation or expression $G(x, y) = 0$ that defines a solution $\phi$ implicitly.

| **DEFINITION 1.1.3** **Implicit Solution of an ODE** |

A relation $G(x, y) = 0$ is said to be an **implicit solution** of an ordinary differential equation (4) on an interval $I$, provided that there exists at least one function $\phi$ that satisfies the relation as well as the differential equation on $I$.

It is beyond the scope of this course to investigate the conditions under which a relation $G(x, y) = 0$ defines a differentiable function $\phi$. So we shall assume that if the formal implementation of a method of solution leads to a relation $G(x, y) = 0$, then there exists at least one function $\phi$ that satisfies both the relation (that is, $G(x, \phi(x)) = 0$) and the differential equation on an interval $I$. If the implicit solution $G(x, y) = 0$ is fairly simple, we may be able to solve for $y$ in terms of $x$ and obtain one or more explicit solutions. See the *Remarks*.
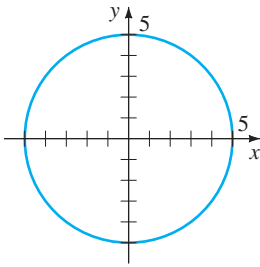
**(a)** implicit solution
$$x^2 + y^2 = 25$$
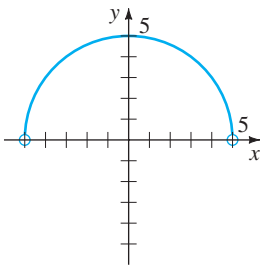


**(b)** explicit solution
$$y_1 = \sqrt{25 - x^2}, \ -5 < x < 5$$
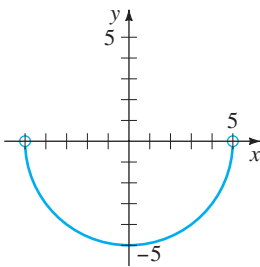


**(c)** explicit solution
$$y_2 = -\sqrt{25 - x^2}, \ -5 < x < 5$$

**FIGURE 1.1.2**   An implicit solution and two explicit solutions of $y' = -x/y$
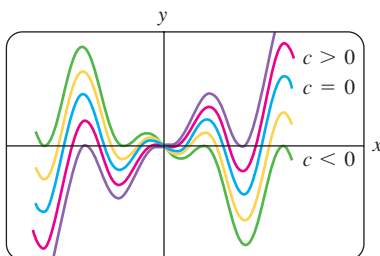


**FIGURE 1.1.3**   Some solutions of $xy' - y = x^2 \sin x$

---

### EXAMPLE 3   Verification of an Implicit Solution

The relation $x^2 + y^2 = 25$ is an implicit solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y} \tag{8}$$

on the open interval $(-5, 5)$. By implicit differentiation we obtain

$$\frac{d}{dx}x^2 + \frac{d}{dx}y^2 = \frac{d}{dx}25 \qquad \text{or} \qquad 2x + 2y\frac{dy}{dx} = 0.$$

Solving the last equation for the symbol $dy/dx$ gives (8). Moreover, solving $x^2 + y^2 = 25$ for $y$ in terms of $x$ yields $y = \pm\sqrt{25 - x^2}$. The two functions $y = \phi_1(x) = \sqrt{25 - x^2}$ and $y = \phi_2(x) = -\sqrt{25 - x^2}$ satisfy the relation (that is, $x^2 + \phi_1^2 = 25$ and $x^2 + \phi_2^2 = 25$) and are explicit solutions defined on the interval $(-5, 5)$. The solution curves given in Figures 1.1.2(b) and 1.1.2(c) are segments of the graph of the implicit solution in Figure 1.1.2(a). ∎

Any relation of the form $x^2 + y^2 - c = 0$ *formally* satisfies (8) for any constant $c$. However, it is understood that the relation should always make sense in the real number system; thus, for example, if $c = -25$, we cannot say that $x^2 + y^2 + 25 = 0$ is an implicit solution of the equation. (Why not?)

Because the distinction between an explicit solution and an implicit solution should be intuitively clear, we will not belabor the issue by always saying, "Here is an explicit (implicit) solution."

**FAMILIES OF SOLUTIONS**   The study of differential equations is similar to that of integral calculus. In some texts a solution $\phi$ is sometimes referred to as an **integral** of the equation, and its graph is called an **integral curve.** When evaluating an anti-derivative or indefinite integral in calculus, we use a single constant $c$ of integration. Analogously, when solving a first-order differential equation $F(x, y, y') = 0$, we *usually* obtain a solution containing a single arbitrary constant or parameter $c$. A solution containing an arbitrary constant represents a set $G(x, y, c) = 0$ of solutions called a **one-parameter family of solutions.** When solving an $n$th-order differential equation $F(x, y, y', \ldots, y^{(n)}) = 0$, we seek an **$n$-parameter family of solutions** $G(x, y, c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_n) = 0$. This means that *a single differential equation can possess an infinite number of solutions* corresponding to the unlimited number of choices for the parameter(s). A solution of a differential equation that is free of arbitrary parameters is called a **particular solution.** For example, the one-parameter family $y = cx - x\cos x$ is an explicit solution of the linear first-order equation $xy' - y = x^2 \sin x$ on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$. (Verify.) Figure 1.1.3, obtained by using graphing software, shows the graphs of some of the solutions in this family. The solution $y = -x\cos x$, the blue curve in the figure, is a particular solution corresponding to $c = 0$. Similarly, on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, $y = c_1 e^x + c_2 x e^x$ is a two-parameter family of solutions of the linear second-order equation $y'' - 2y' + y = 0$ in Example 1. (Verify.) Some particular solutions of the equation are the trivial solution $y = 0$ $(c_1 = c_2 = 0)$, $y = xe^x$ $(c_1 = 0, c_2 = 1)$, $y = 5e^x - 2xe^x$ $(c_1 = 5, c_2 = -2)$, and so on.

Sometimes a differential equation possesses a solution that is not a member of a family of solutions of the equation—that is, a solution that cannot be obtained by specializing *any* of the parameters in the family of solutions. Such an extra solution is called a **singular solution.** For example, we have seen that $y = \frac{1}{16}x^4$ and $y = 0$ are solutions of the differential equation $dy/dx = xy^{1/2}$ on $(-\infty, \infty)$. In Section 2.2 we shall demonstrate, by actually solving it, that the differential equation $dy/dx = xy^{1/2}$ possesses the one-parameter family of solutions $y = \left(\frac{1}{4}x^2 + c\right)^2$. When $c = 0$, the resulting particular solution is $y = \frac{1}{16}x^4$. But notice that the trivial solution $y = 0$ is a singular solution, since

it is not a member of the family $y = \left(\frac{1}{4}x^2 + c\right)^2$; there is no way of assigning a value to the constant $c$ to obtain $y = 0$.

In all the preceding examples we used $x$ and $y$ to denote the independent and dependent variables, respectively. But you should become accustomed to seeing and working with other symbols to denote these variables. For example, we could denote the independent variable by $t$ and the dependent variable by $x$.

---

### EXAMPLE 4   Using Different Symbols

The functions $x = c_1 \cos 4t$ and $x = c_2 \sin 4t$, where $c_1$ and $c_2$ are arbitrary constants or parameters, are both solutions of the linear differential equation

$$x'' + 16x = 0.$$

For $x = c_1 \cos 4t$ the first two derivatives with respect to $t$ are $x' = -4c_1 \sin 4t$ and $x'' = -16c_1 \cos 4t$. Substituting $x''$ and $x$ then gives

$$x'' + 16x = -16c_1 \cos 4t + 16(c_1 \cos 4t) = 0.$$

In like manner, for $x = c_2 \sin 4t$ we have $x'' = -16c_2 \sin 4t$, and so

$$x'' + 16x = -16c_2 \sin 4t + 16(c_2 \sin 4t) = 0.$$

Finally, it is straightforward to verify that the linear combination of solutions, or the two-parameter family $x = c_1 \cos 4t + c_2 \sin 4t$, is also a solution of the differential equation. ∎

The next example shows that a solution of a differential equation can be a piecewise-defined function.

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### EXAMPLE 5   A Piecewise-Defined Solution

You should verify that the one-parameter family $y = cx^4$ is a one-parameter family of solutions of the differential equation $xy' - 4y = 0$ on the inverval $(-\infty, \infty)$. See Figure 1.1.4(a). The piecewise-defined differentiable function

$$y = \begin{cases} -x^4, & x < 0 \\ x^4, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

is a particular solution of the equation but cannot be obtained from the family $y = cx^4$ by a single choice of $c$; the solution is constructed from the family by choosing $c = -1$ for $x < 0$ and $c = 1$ for $x \geq 0$. See Figure 1.1.4(b). ∎

**SYSTEMS OF DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS**  Up to this point we have been discussing single differential equations containing one unknown function. But often in theory, as well as in many applications, we must deal with systems of differential equations. A **system of ordinary differential equations** is two or more equations involving the derivatives of two or more unknown functions of a single independent variable. For example, if $x$ and $y$ denote dependent variables and $t$ denotes the independent variable, then a system of two first-order differential equations is given by

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(t, x, y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = g(t, x, y). \tag{9}$$
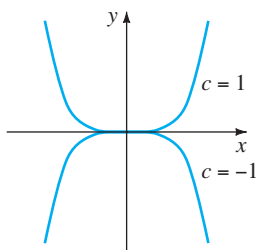


**(a)** two explicit solutions
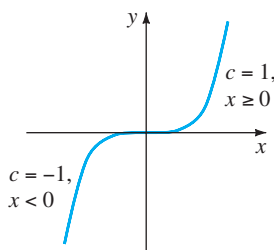


**(b)** piecewise-defined solution

**FIGURE 1.1.4**   Some solutions of $xy' - 4y = 0$

A **solution** of a system such as (9) is a pair of differentiable functions $x = \phi_1(t)$, $y = \phi_2(t)$, defined on a common interval $I$, that satisfy each equation of the system on this interval.

## REMARKS

(*i*) A few last words about implicit solutions of differential equations are in order. In Example 3 we were able to solve the relation $x^2 + y^2 = 25$ for $y$ in terms of $x$ to get two explicit solutions, $\phi_1(x) = \sqrt{25 - x^2}$ and $\phi_2(x) = -\sqrt{25 - x^2}$, of the differential equation (8). But don't read too much into this one example. Unless it is easy or important or you are instructed to, there is usually no need to try to solve an implicit solution $G(x, y) = 0$ for $y$ explicitly in terms of $x$. Also do not misinterpret the second sentence following Definition 1.1.3. An implicit solution $G(x, y) = 0$ can define a perfectly good differentiable function $\phi$ that is a solution of a DE, yet we might not be able to solve $G(x, y) = 0$ using analytical methods such as algebra. The solution curve of $\phi$ may be a segment or piece of the graph of $G(x, y) = 0$. See Problems 45 and 46 in Exercises 1.1. Also, read the discussion following Example 4 in Section 2.2.

(*ii*) Although the concept of a solution has been emphasized in this section, you should also be aware that a DE does not necessarily have to possess a solution. See Problem 39 in Exercises 1.1. The question of whether a solution exists will be touched on in the next section.

(*iii*) It might not be apparent whether a first-order ODE written in differential form $M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0$ is linear or nonlinear because there is nothing in this form that tells us which symbol denotes the dependent variable. See Problems 9 and 10 in Exercises 1.1.

(*iv*) It might not seem like a big deal to assume that $F(x, y, y', \ldots, y^{(n)}) = 0$ can be solved for $y^{(n)}$, but one should be a little bit careful here. There are exceptions, and there certainly are some problems connected with this assumption. See Problems 52 and 53 in Exercises 1.1.

(*v*) You may run across the term *closed form solutions* in DE texts or in lectures in courses in differential equations. Translated, this phrase usually refers to explicit solutions that are expressible in terms of *elementary* (or familiar) *functions:* finite combinations of integer powers of $x$, roots, exponential and logarithmic functions, and trigonometric and inverse trigonometric functions.

(*vi*) If *every* solution of an $n$th-order ODE $F(x, y, y', \ldots, y^{(n)}) = 0$ on an interval $I$ can be obtained from an $n$-parameter family $G(x, y, c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_n) = 0$ by appropriate choices of the parameters $c_i, i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, we then say that the family is the **general solution** of the DE. In solving linear ODEs, we shall impose relatively simple restrictions on the coefficients of the equation; with these restrictions one can be assured that not only does a solution exist on an interval but also that a family of solutions yields all possible solutions. Nonlinear ODEs, with the exception of some first-order equations, are usually difficult or impossible to solve in terms of elementary functions. Furthermore, if we happen to obtain a family of solutions for a nonlinear equation, it is not obvious whether this family contains all solutions. On a practical level, then, the designation "general solution" is applied only to linear ODEs. Don't be concerned about this concept at this point, but store the words "general solution" in the back of your mind—we will come back to this notion in Section 2.3 and again in Chapter 4.

## EXERCISES 1.1

In Problems 1–8 state the order of the given ordinary differential equation. Determine whether the equation is linear or nonlinear by matching it with (6).

**1.** $(1 - x)y'' - 4xy' + 5y = \cos x$

**2.** $x\dfrac{d^3y}{dx^3} - \left(\dfrac{dy}{dx}\right)^4 + y = 0$

**3.** $t^5 y^{(4)} - t^3 y'' + 6y = 0$

**4.** $\dfrac{d^2u}{dr^2} + \dfrac{du}{dr} + u = \cos(r + u)$

**5.** $\dfrac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \sqrt{1 + \left(\dfrac{dy}{dx}\right)^2}$

**6.** $\dfrac{d^2R}{dt^2} = -\dfrac{k}{R^2}$

**7.** $(\sin \theta)y''' - (\cos \theta)y' = 2$

**8.** $\ddot{x} - \left(1 - \dfrac{\dot{x}^2}{3}\right)\dot{x} + x = 0$

In Problems 9 and 10 determine whether the given first-order differential equation is linear in the indicated dependent variable by matching it with the first differential equation given in (7).

**9.** $(y^2 - 1)\, dx + x\, dy = 0$; in $y$; in $x$

**10.** $u\, dv + (v + uv - ue^u)\, du = 0$; in $v$; in $u$

In Problems 11–14 verify that the indicated function is an explicit solution of the given differential equation. Assume an appropriate interval $I$ of definition for each solution.

**11.** $2y' + y = 0$;   $y = e^{-x/2}$

**12.** $\dfrac{dy}{dt} + 20y = 24$;   $y = \dfrac{6}{5} - \dfrac{6}{5}e^{-20t}$

**13.** $y'' - 6y' + 13y = 0$;   $y = e^{3x}\cos 2x$

**14.** $y'' + y = \tan x$;   $y = -(\cos x)\ln(\sec x + \tan x)$

In Problems 15–18 verify that the indicated function $y = \phi(x)$ is an explicit solution of the given first-order differential equation. Proceed as in Example 2, by considering $\phi$ simply as a *function*, give its domain. Then by considering $\phi$ as a *solution* of the differential equation, give at least one interval $I$ of definition.

**15.** $(y - x)y' = y - x + 8$;   $y = x + 4\sqrt{x + 2}$

**16.** $y' = 25 + y^2$;   $y = 5 \tan 5x$

**17.** $y' = 2xy^2$;   $y = 1/(4 - x^2)$

**18.** $2y' = y^3 \cos x$;   $y = (1 - \sin x)^{-1/2}$

In Problems 19 and 20 verify that the indicated expression is an implicit solution of the given first-order differential equation. Find at least one explicit solution $y = \phi(x)$ in each case. Use a graphing utility to obtain the graph of an explicit solution. Give an interval $I$ of definition of each solution $\phi$.

**19.** $\dfrac{dX}{dt} = (X - 1)(1 - 2X)$;   $\ln\left(\dfrac{2X - 1}{X - 1}\right) = t$

**20.** $2xy\, dx + (x^2 - y)\, dy = 0$;   $-2x^2y + y^2 = 1$

In Problems 21–24 verify that the indicated family of functions is a solution of the given differential equation. Assume an appropriate interval $I$ of definition for each solution.

**21.** $\dfrac{dP}{dt} = P(1 - P)$;   $P = \dfrac{c_1 e^t}{1 + c_1 e^t}$

**22.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 2xy = 1$;   $y = e^{-x^2}\displaystyle\int_0^x e^{t^2}\, dt + c_1 e^{-x^2}$

**23.** $\dfrac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 4\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 4y = 0$;   $y = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 xe^{2x}$

**24.** $x^3\dfrac{d^3y}{dx^3} + 2x^2\dfrac{d^2y}{dx^2} - x\dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = 12x^2$;

$y = c_1 x^{-1} + c_2 x + c_3 x \ln x + 4x^2$

**25.** Verify that the piecewise-defined function

$$y = \begin{cases} -x^2, & x < 0 \\ x^2, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

is a solution of the differential equation $xy' - 2y = 0$ on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**26.** In Example 3 we saw that $y = \phi_1(x) = \sqrt{25 - x^2}$ and $y = \phi_2(x) = -\sqrt{25 - x^2}$ are solutions of $dy/dx = -x/y$ on the interval $(-5, 5)$. Explain why the piecewise-defined function

$$y = \begin{cases} \sqrt{25 - x^2}, & -5 < x < 0 \\ -\sqrt{25 - x^2}, & 0 \leq x < 5 \end{cases}$$

is *not* a solution of the differential equation on the interval $(-5, 5)$.

In Problems 27–30 find values of $m$ so that the function $y = e^{mx}$ is a solution of the given differential equation.

**27.** $y' + 2y = 0$

**28.** $5y' = 2y$

**29.** $y'' - 5y' + 6y = 0$

**30.** $2y'' + 7y' - 4y = 0$

In Problems 31 and 32 find values of $m$ so that the function $y = x^m$ is a solution of the given differential equation.

**31.** $xy'' + 2y' = 0$

**32.** $x^2y'' - 7xy' + 15y = 0$

In Problems 33–36 use the concept that $y = c$, $-\infty < x < \infty$, is a constant function if and only if $y' = 0$ to determine whether the given differential equation possesses constant solutions.

**33.** $3xy' + 5y = 10$

**34.** $y' = y^2 + 2y - 3$

**35.** $(y - 1)y' = 1$

**36.** $y'' + 4y' + 6y = 10$

In Problems 37 and 38 verify that the indicated pair of functions is a solution of the given system of differential equations on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**37.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = x + 3y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 5x + 3y;$

$x = e^{-2t} + 3e^{6t},$

$y = -e^{-2t} + 5e^{6t}$

**38.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} = 4y + e^t$

$\dfrac{d^2y}{dt^2} = 4x - e^t;$

$x = \cos 2t + \sin 2t + \tfrac{1}{5} e^t,$

$y = -\cos 2t - \sin 2t - \tfrac{1}{5} e^t$

### Discussion Problems

**39.** Make up a differential equation that does not possess any real solutions.

**40.** Make up a differential equation that you feel confident possesses only the trivial solution $y = 0$. Explain your reasoning.

**41.** What function do you know from calculus is such that its first derivative is itself? Its first derivative is a constant multiple $k$ of itself? Write each answer in the form of a first-order differential equation with a solution.

**42.** What function (or functions) do you know from calculus is such that its second derivative is itself? Its second derivative is the negative of itself? Write each answer in the form of a second-order differential equation with a solution.

**43.** Given that $y = \sin x$ is an explicit solution of the first-order differential equation $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \sqrt{1 - y^2}$. Find an interval $I$ of definition. [*Hint*: $I$ is *not* the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.]

**44.** Discuss why it makes intuitive sense to presume that the linear differential equation $y'' + 2y' + 4y = 5 \sin t$ has a solution of the form $y = A \sin t + B \cos t$, where $A$ and $B$ are constants. Then find specific constants $A$ and $B$ so that $y = A \sin t + B \cos t$ is a particular solution of the DE.

In Problems 45 and 46 the given figure represents the graph of an implicit solution $G(x, y) = 0$ of a differential equation $dy/dx = f(x, y)$. In each case the relation $G(x, y) = 0$ implicitly defines several solutions of the DE. Carefully reproduce each figure on a piece of paper. Use different colored pencils to mark off segments, or pieces, on each graph that correspond to graphs of solutions. Keep in mind that a solution $\phi$ must be a function and differentiable. Use the solution curve to estimate an interval $I$ of definition of each solution $\phi$.
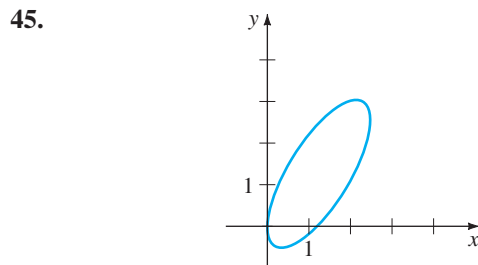
**45.**



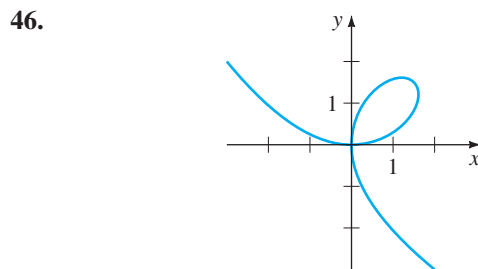**FIGURE 1.1.5** Graph for Problem 45

**46.**



**FIGURE 1.1.6** Graph for Problem 46

**47.** The graphs of members of the one-parameter family $x^3 + y^3 = 3cxy$ are called **folia of Descartes.** Verify that this family is an implicit solution of the first-order differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y(y^3 - 2x^3)}{x(2y^3 - x^3)}.$$

**48.** The graph in Figure 1.1.6 is the member of the family of folia in Problem 47 corresponding to $c = 1$. Discuss: How can the DE in Problem 47 help in finding points on the graph of $x^3 + y^3 = 3xy$ where the tangent line is vertical? How does knowing where a tangent line is vertical help in determining an interval $I$ of definition of a solution $\phi$ of the DE? Carry out your ideas, and compare with your estimates of the intervals in Problem 46.

**49.** In Example 3 the largest interval $I$ over which the explicit solutions $y = \phi_1(x)$ and $y = \phi_2(x)$ are defined is the open interval $(-5, 5)$. Why can't the interval $I$ of definition be the closed interval $[-5, 5]$?

**50.** In Problem 21 a one-parameter family of solutions of the DE $P' = P(1 - P)$ is given. Does any solution curve pass through the point $(0, 3)$? Through the point $(0, 1)$?

**51.** Discuss, and illustrate with examples, how to solve differential equations of the forms $dy/dx = f(x)$ and $d^2y/dx^2 = f(x)$.

**52.** The differential equation $x(y')^2 - 4y' - 12x^3 = 0$ has the form given in (4). Determine whether the equation can be put into the normal form $dy/dx = f(x, y)$.

**53.** The normal form (5) of an $n$th-order differential equation is equivalent to (4) whenever both forms have exactly the same solutions. Make up a first-order differential equation for which $F(x, y, y') = 0$ is not equivalent to the normal form $dy/dx = f(x, y)$.

**54.** Find a linear second-order differential equation $F(x, y, y', y'') = 0$ for which $y = c_1x + c_2x^2$ is a two-parameter family of solutions. Make sure that your equation is free of the arbitrary parameters $c_1$ and $c_2$.

Qualitative information about a solution $y = \phi(x)$ of a differential equation can often be obtained from the equation itself. Before working Problems 55–58, recall the geometric significance of the derivatives $dy/dx$ and $d^2y/dx^2$.

**55.** Consider the differential equation $dy/dx = e^{-x^2}$.

   **(a)** Explain why a solution of the DE must be an increasing function on any interval of the $x$-axis.

   **(b)** What are $\lim\limits_{x \to -\infty} dy/dx$ and $\lim\limits_{x \to \infty} dy/dx$? What does this suggest about a solution curve as $x \to \pm\infty$?

   **(c)** Determine an interval over which a solution curve is concave down and an interval over which the curve is concave up.

   **(d)** Sketch the graph of a solution $y = \phi(x)$ of the differential equation whose shape is suggested by parts (a)–(c).

**56.** Consider the differential equation $dy/dx = 5 - y$.

   **(a)** Either by inspection or by the method suggested in Problems 33–36, find a constant solution of the DE.

   **(b)** Using only the differential equation, find intervals on the $y$-axis on which a nonconstant solution $y = \phi(x)$ is increasing. Find intervals on the $y$-axis on which $y = \phi(x)$ is decreasing.

**57.** Consider the differential equation $dy/dx = y(a - by)$, where $a$ and $b$ are positive constants.

   **(a)** Either by inspection or by the method suggested in Problems 33–36, find two constant solutions of the DE.

   **(b)** Using only the differential equation, find intervals on the $y$-axis on which a nonconstant solution $y = \phi(x)$ is increasing. Find intervals on which $y = \phi(x)$ is decreasing.

   **(c)** Using only the differential equation, explain why $y = a/2b$ is the $y$-coordinate of a point of inflection of the graph of a nonconstant solution $y = \phi(x)$.

   **(d)** On the same coordinate axes, sketch the graphs of the two constant solutions found in part (a). These constant solutions partition the $xy$-plane into three regions. In each region, sketch the graph of a nonconstant solution $y = \phi(x)$ whose shape is suggested by the results in parts (b) and (c).

**58.** Consider the differential equation $y' = y^2 + 4$.

   **(a)** Explain why there exist no constant solutions of the DE.

   **(b)** Describe the graph of a solution $y = \phi(x)$. For example, can a solution curve have any relative extrema?

   **(c)** Explain why $y = 0$ is the $y$-coordinate of a point of inflection of a solution curve.

   **(d)** Sketch the graph of a solution $y = \phi(x)$ of the differential equation whose shape is suggested by parts (a)–(c).

## Computer Lab Assignments

In Problems 59 and 60 use a CAS to compute all derivatives and to carry out the simplifications needed to verify that the indicated function is a particular solution of the given differential equation.

**59.** $y^{(4)} - 20y''' + 158y'' - 580y' + 841y = 0$;
   $y = xe^{5x} \cos 2x$

**60.** $x^3y''' + 2x^2y'' + 20xy' - 78y = 0$;
   $y = 20\dfrac{\cos(5 \ln x)}{x} - 3\dfrac{\sin(5 \ln x)}{x}$

## 1.2 INITIAL-VALUE PROBLEMS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Normal form of a DE
- Solution of a DE
- Family of solutions

**INTRODUCTION** We are often interested in problems in which we seek a solution $y(x)$ of a differential equation so that $y(x)$ satisfies prescribed side conditions—that is, conditions imposed on the unknown $y(x)$ or its derivatives. On some interval $I$ containing $x_0$ the problem

$$\text{Solve:} \quad \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} = f\left(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n-1)}\right)$$

$$\text{Subject to:} \quad y(x_0) = y_0, y'(x_0) = y_1, \dots, y^{(n-1)}(x_0) = y_{n-1}, \tag{1}$$

where $y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}$ are arbitrarily specified real constants, is called an **initial-value problem (IVP).** The values of $y(x)$ and its first $n-1$ derivatives at a single point $x_0$, $y(x_0) = y_0$, $y'(x_0) = y_1, \dots, y^{(n-1)}(x_0) = y_{n-1}$, are called **initial conditions.**

solutions of the DE

**FIGURE 1.2.1** Solution of first-order IVP
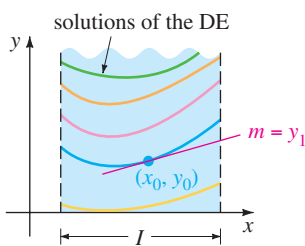
solutions of the DE

**FIGURE 1.2.2** Solution of second-order IVP

**FIRST- AND SECOND-ORDER IVPS** The problem given in (1) is also called an **$n$th-order initial-value problem.** For example,

$$\text{Solve:} \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$$

$$\text{Subject to:} \quad y(x_0) = y_0 \tag{2}$$

and

$$\text{Solve:} \quad \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = f(x, y, y')$$

$$\text{Subject to:} \quad y(x_0) = y_0, y'(x_0) = y_1 \tag{3}$$

are **first-** and **second-order** initial-value problems, respectively. These two problems are easy to interpret in geometric terms. For (2) we are seeking a solution $y(x)$ of the differential equation $y' = f(x, y)$ on an interval $I$ containing $x_0$ so that its graph passes through the specified point $(x_0, y_0)$. A solution curve is shown in blue in Figure 1.2.1. For (3) we want to find a solution $y(x)$ of the differential equation $y'' = f(x, y, y')$ on an interval $I$ containing $x_0$ so that its graph not only passes through $(x_0, y_0)$ but the slope of the curve at this point is the number $y_1$. A solution curve is shown in blue in Figure 1.2.2. The words *initial conditions* derive from physical systems where the independent variable is time $t$ and where $y(t_0) = y_0$ and $y'(t_0) = y_1$ represent the position and velocity, respectively, of an object at some beginning, or initial, time $t_0$.

Solving an $n$th-order initial-value problem such as (1) frequently entails first finding an $n$-parameter family of solutions of the given differential equation and then using the $n$ initial conditions at $x_0$ to determine numerical values of the $n$ constants in the family. The resulting particular solution is defined on some interval $I$ containing the initial point $x_0$.

### EXAMPLE 1  Two First-Order IVPs

In Problem 41 in Exercises 1.1 you were asked to deduce that $y = ce^x$ is a one-parameter family of solutions of the simple first-order equation $y' = y$. All the solutions in this family are defined on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$. If we impose an initial condition, say, $y(0) = 3$, then substituting $x = 0$, $y = 3$ in the family determines the

(0, 3)

(1, –2)
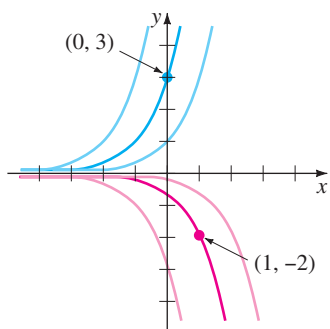
**FIGURE 1.2.3** Solutions of two IVPs



−1        1        x
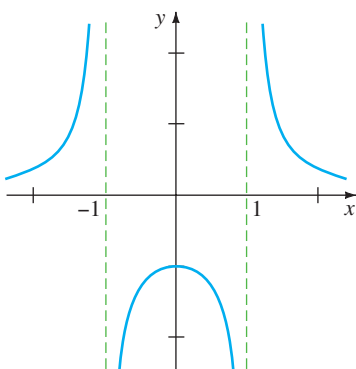
**(a)** function defined for all $x$ except $x = \pm 1$



−1        1   x

(0, −1)
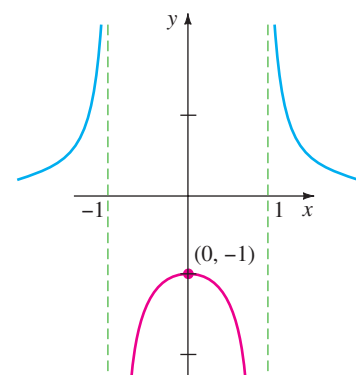
**(b)** solution defined on interval containing $x = 0$

**FIGURE 1.2.4** Graphs of function and solution of IVP in Example 2

constant $3 = ce^0 = c$. Thus $y = 3e^x$ is a solution of the IVP

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

Now if we demand that a solution curve pass through the point $(1, -2)$ rather than $(0, 3)$, then $y(1) = -2$ will yield $-2 = ce$ or $c = -2e^{-1}$. In this case $y = -2e^{x-1}$ is a solution of the IVP

$$y' = y, \quad y(1) = -2.$$

The two solution curves are shown in dark blue and dark red in Figure 1.2.3.   ■

The next example illustrates another first-order initial-value problem. In this example notice how the interval $I$ of definition of the solution $y(x)$ depends on the initial condition $y(x_0) = y_0$.

**EXAMPLE 2** Interval $I$ of Definition of a Solution

In Problem 6 of Exercises 2.2 you will be asked to show that a one-parameter family of solutions of the first-order differential equation $y' + 2xy^2 = 0$ is $y = 1/(x^2 + c)$. If we impose the initial condition $y(0) = -1$, then substituting $x = 0$ and $y = -1$ into the family of solutions gives $-1 = 1/c$ or $c = -1$. Thus $y = 1/(x^2 - 1)$. We now emphasize the following three distinctions:

- Considered as a *function*, the domain of $y = 1/(x^2 - 1)$ is the set of real numbers $x$ for which $y(x)$ is defined; this is the set of all real numbers except $x = -1$ and $x = 1$. See Figure 1.2.4(a).
- Considered as a *solution of the differential equation* $y' + 2xy^2 = 0$, the interval $I$ of definition of $y = 1/(x^2 - 1)$ could be taken to be any interval over which $y(x)$ is defined and differentiable. As can be seen in Figure 1.2.4(a), the largest intervals on which $y = 1/(x^2 - 1)$ is a solution are $(-\infty, -1)$, $(-1, 1)$, and $(1, \infty)$.
- Considered as a *solution of the initial-value problem* $y' + 2xy^2 = 0$, $y(0) = -1$, the interval $I$ of definition of $y = 1/(x^2 - 1)$ could be taken to be any interval over which $y(x)$ is defined, differentiable, *and* contains the initial point $x = 0$; the largest interval for which this is true is $(-1, 1)$. See the red curve in Figure 1.2.4(b).   ■

See Problems 3–6 in Exercises 1.2 for a continuation of Example 2.

**EXAMPLE 3** Second-Order IVP

In Example 4 of Section 1.1 we saw that $x = c_1 \cos 4t + c_2 \sin 4t$ is a two-parameter family of solutions of $x'' + 16x = 0$. Find a solution of the initial-value problem

$$x'' + 16x = 0, \quad x\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = -2, \quad x'\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 1. \tag{4}$$

**SOLUTION**   We first apply $x(\pi/2) = -2$ to the given family of solutions: $c_1 \cos 2\pi + c_2 \sin 2\pi = -2$. Since $\cos 2\pi = 1$ and $\sin 2\pi = 0$, we find that $c_1 = -2$. We next apply $x'(\pi/2) = 1$ to the one-parameter family $x(t) = -2 \cos 4t + c_2 \sin 4t$. Differentiating and then setting $t = \pi/2$ and $x' = 1$ gives $8 \sin 2\pi + 4c_2 \cos 2\pi = 1$, from which we see that $c_2 = \frac{1}{4}$. Hence $x = -2 \cos 4t + \frac{1}{4} \sin 4t$ is a solution of (4).   ■

**EXISTENCE AND UNIQUENESS**   Two fundamental questions arise in considering an initial-value problem:

   *Does a solution of the problem exist?*
   *If a solution exists, is it unique?*

For the first-order initial-value problem (2) we ask:

**Existence** $\begin{cases} \textit{Does the differential equation } dy/dx = f(x, y) \textit{ possess solutions?} \\ \textit{Do any of the solution curves pass through the point } (x_0, y_0)? \end{cases}$

**Uniqueness** $\begin{cases} \textit{When can we be certain that there is precisely one solution curve} \\ \textit{passing through the point } (x_0, y_0)? \end{cases}$

Note that in Examples 1 and 3 the phrase "*a* solution" is used rather than "*the* solution" of the problem. The indefinite article "a" is used deliberately to suggest the possibility that other solutions may exist. At this point it has not been demonstrated that there is a single solution of each problem. The next example illustrates an initial-value problem with two solutions.

---

### EXAMPLE 4   An IVP Can Have Several Solutions

Each of the functions $y = 0$ and $y = \frac{1}{16}x^4$ satisfies the differential equation $dy/dx = xy^{1/2}$ and the initial condition $y(0) = 0$, so the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^{1/2}, \quad y(0) = 0$$

has at least two solutions. As illustrated in Figure 1.2.5, the graphs of both functions pass through the same point (0, 0). ■
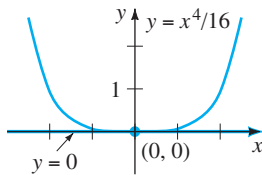
**FIGURE 1.2.5**   Two solutions of the same IVP

Within the safe confines of a formal course in differential equations one can be fairly confident that *most* differential equations will have solutions and that solutions of initial-value problems will *probably* be unique. Real life, however, is not so idyllic. Therefore it is desirable to know in advance of trying to solve an initial-value problem whether a solution exists and, when it does, whether it is the only solution of the problem. Since we are going to consider first-order differential equations in the next two chapters, we state here without proof a straightforward theorem that gives conditions that are sufficient to guarantee the existence and uniqueness of a solution of a first-order initial-value problem of the form given in (2). We shall wait until Chapter 4 to address the question of existence and uniqueness of a second-order initial-value problem.

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### THEOREM 1.2.1   Existence of a Unique Solution

Let $R$ be a rectangular region in the $xy$-plane defined by $a \leq x \leq b$, $c \leq y \leq d$ that contains the point $(x_0, y_0)$ in its interior. If $f(x, y)$ and $\partial f/\partial y$ are continuous on $R$, then there exists some interval $I_0$: $(x_0 - h, x_0 + h)$, $h > 0$, contained in $[a, b]$, and a unique function $y(x)$, defined on $I_0$, that is a solution of the initial-value problem (2).

---

The foregoing result is one of the most popular existence and uniqueness theorems for first-order differential equations because the criteria of continuity of $f(x, y)$ and $\partial f/\partial y$ are relatively easy to check. The geometry of Theorem 1.2.1 is illustrated in Figure 1.2.6.
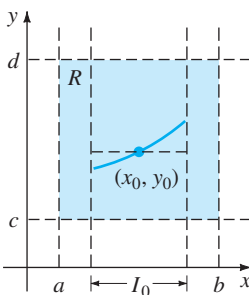
**FIGURE 1.2.6**   Rectangular region $R$

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### EXAMPLE 5   Example 4 Revisited

We saw in Example 4 that the differential equation $dy/dx = xy^{1/2}$ possesses at least two solutions whose graphs pass through (0, 0). Inspection of the functions

$$f(x, y) = xy^{1/2} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{x}{2y^{1/2}}$$

shows that they are continuous in the upper half-plane defined by $y > 0$. Hence Theorem 1.2.1 enables us to conclude that through any point $(x_0, y_0)$, $y_0 > 0$ in the upper half-plane there is some interval centered at $x_0$ on which the given differential equation has a unique solution. Thus, for example, even without solving it, we know that there exists some interval centered at 2 on which the initial-value problem $dy/dx = xy^{1/2}$, $y(2) = 1$ has a unique solution. ∎

In Example 1, Theorem 1.2.1 guarantees that there are no other solutions of the initial-value problems $y' = y$, $y(0) = 3$ and $y' = y$, $y(1) = -2$ other than $y = 3e^x$ and $y = -2e^{x-1}$, respectively. This follows from the fact that $f(x, y) = y$ and $\partial f/\partial y = 1$ are continuous throughout the entire $xy$-plane. It can be further shown that the interval $I$ on which each solution is defined is $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**INTERVAL OF EXISTENCE/UNIQUENESS** Suppose $y(x)$ represents a solution of the initial-value problem (2). The following three sets on the real $x$-axis may not be the same: the domain of the function $y(x)$, the interval $I$ over which the solution $y(x)$ is defined or exists, and the interval $I_0$ of existence *and* uniqueness. Example 2 of Section 1.1 illustrated the difference between the domain of a function and the interval $I$ of definition. Now suppose $(x_0, y_0)$ is a point in the interior of the rectangular region $R$ in Theorem 1.2.1. It turns out that the continuity of the function $f(x, y)$ on $R$ by itself is sufficient to guarantee the existence of at least one solution of $dy/dx = f(x, y)$, $y(x_0) = y_0$, defined on some interval $I$. The interval $I$ of definition for this initial-value problem is usually taken to be the largest interval containing $x_0$ over which the solution $y(x)$ is defined and differentiable. The interval $I$ depends on both $f(x, y)$ and the initial condition $y(x_0) = y_0$. See Problems 31–34 in Exercises 1.2. The extra condition of continuity of the first partial derivative $\partial f/\partial y$ on $R$ enables us to say that not only does a solution exist on some interval $I_0$ containing $x_0$, but it is the *only* solution satisfying $y(x_0) = y_0$. However, Theorem 1.2.1 does not give any indication of the sizes of intervals $I$ and $I_0$; *the interval $I$ of definition need not be as wide as the region $R$, and the interval $I_0$ of existence and uniqueness may not be as large as $I$.* The number $h > 0$ that defines the interval $I_0$: $(x_0 - h, x_0 + h)$ could be very small, so it is best to think that the solution $y(x)$ is *unique in a local sense*—that is, a solution defined near the point $(x_0, y_0)$. See Problem 44 in Exercises 1.2.

## REMARKS

(*i*) The conditions in Theorem 1.2.1 are sufficient but not necessary. This means that when $f(x, y)$ and $\partial f/\partial y$ are continuous on a rectangular region $R$, it must always follow that a solution of (2) exists and is unique whenever $(x_0, y_0)$ is a point interior to $R$. However, if the conditions stated in the hypothesis of Theorem 1.2.1 do not hold, then anything could happen: Problem (2) *may* still have a solution and this solution *may* be unique, or (2) may have several solutions, or it may have no solution at all. A rereading of Example 5 reveals that the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2.1 do not hold on the line $y = 0$ for the differential equation $dy/dx = xy^{1/2}$, so it is not surprising, as we saw in Example 4 of this section, that there are two solutions defined on a common interval $-h < x < h$ satisfying $y(0) = 0$. On the other hand, the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2.1 do not hold on the line $y = 1$ for the differential equation $dy/dx = |y - 1|$. Nevertheless it can be proved that the solution of the initial-value problem $dy/dx = |y - 1|$, $y(0) = 1$, is unique. Can you guess this solution?

(*ii*) You are encouraged to read, think about, work, and then keep in mind Problem 43 in Exercises 1.2.

## EXERCISES 1.2

In Problems 1 and 2, $y = 1/(1 + c_1 e^{-x})$ is a one-parameter family of solutions of the first-order DE $y' = y - y^2$. Find a solution of the first-order IVP consisting of this differential equation and the given initial condition.

**1.** $y(0) = -\frac{1}{3}$

**2.** $y(-1) = 2$

In Problems 3–6, $y = 1/(x^2 + c)$ is a one-parameter family of solutions of the first-order DE $y' + 2xy^2 = 0$. Find a solution of the first-order IVP consisting of this differential equation and the given initial condition. Give the largest interval $I$ over which the solution is defined.

**3.** $y(2) = \frac{1}{3}$

**4.** $y(-2) = \frac{1}{2}$

**5.** $y(0) = 1$

**6.** $y(\frac{1}{2}) = -4$

In Problems 7–10, $x = c_1 \cos t + c_2 \sin t$ is a two-parameter family of solutions of the second-order DE $x'' + x = 0$. Find a solution of the second-order IVP consisting of this differential equation and the given initial conditions.

**7.** $x(0) = -1, \quad x'(0) = 8$

**8.** $x(\pi/2) = 0, \quad x'(\pi/2) = 1$

**9.** $x(\pi/6) = \frac{1}{2}, \quad x'(\pi/6) = 0$

**10.** $x(\pi/4) = \sqrt{2}, \quad x'(\pi/4) = 2\sqrt{2}$

In Problems 11–14, $y = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x}$ is a two-parameter family of solutions of the second-order DE $y'' - y = 0$. Find a solution of the second-order IVP consisting of this differential equation and the given initial conditions.

**11.** $y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 2$

**12.** $y(1) = 0, \quad y'(1) = e$

**13.** $y(-1) = 5, \quad y'(-1) = -5$

**14.** $y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$

In Problems 15 and 16 determine by inspection at least two solutions of the given first-order IVP.

**15.** $y' = 3y^{2/3}, \quad y(0) = 0$

**16.** $xy' = 2y, \quad y(0) = 0$

In Problems 17–24 determine a region of the $xy$-plane for which the given differential equation would have a unique solution whose graph passes through a point $(x_0, y_0)$ in the region.

**17.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y^{2/3}$

**18.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \sqrt{xy}$

**19.** $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y$

**20.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} - y = x$

**21.** $(4 - y^2)y' = x^2$

**22.** $(1 + y^3)y' = x^2$

**23.** $(x^2 + y^2)y' = y^2$

**24.** $(y - x)y' = y + x$

In Problems 25–28 determine whether Theorem 1.2.1 guarantees that the differential equation $y' = \sqrt{y^2 - 9}$ possesses a unique solution through the given point.

**25.** $(1, 4)$

**26.** $(5, 3)$

**27.** $(2, -3)$

**28.** $(-1, 1)$

**29. (a)** By inspection find a one-parameter family of solutions of the differential equation $xy' = y$. Verify that each member of the family is a solution of the initial-value problem $xy' = y$, $y(0) = 0$.

**(b)** Explain part (a) by determining a region $R$ in the $xy$-plane for which the differential equation $xy' = y$ would have a unique solution through a point $(x_0, y_0)$ in $R$.

**(c)** Verify that the piecewise-defined function

$$y = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ x, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

satisfies the condition $y(0) = 0$. Determine whether this function is also a solution of the initial-value problem in part (a).

**30. (a)** Verify that $y = \tan(x + c)$ is a one-parameter family of solutions of the differential equation $y' = 1 + y^2$.

**(b)** Since $f(x, y) = 1 + y^2$ and $\partial f / \partial y = 2y$ are continuous everywhere, the region $R$ in Theorem 1.2.1 can be taken to be the entire $xy$-plane. Use the family of solutions in part (a) to find an explicit solution of the first-order initial-value problem $y' = 1 + y^2$, $y(0) = 0$. Even though $x_0 = 0$ is in the interval $(-2, 2)$, explain why the solution is not defined on this interval.

**(c)** Determine the largest interval $I$ of definition for the solution of the initial-value problem in part (b).

**31. (a)** Verify that $y = -1/(x + c)$ is a one-parameter family of solutions of the differential equation $y' = y^2$.

**(b)** Since $f(x, y) = y^2$ and $\partial f / \partial y = 2y$ are continuous everywhere, the region $R$ in Theorem 1.2.1 can be taken to be the entire $xy$-plane. Find a solution from the family in part (a) that satisfies $y(0) = 1$. Then find a solution from the family in part (a) that satisfies $y(0) = -1$. Determine the largest interval $I$ of definition for the solution of each initial-value problem.

(c) Determine the largest interval $I$ of definition for the solution of the first-order initial-value problem $y' = y^2$, $y(0) = 0$. [*Hint*: The solution is not a member of the family of solutions in part (a).]

**32. (a)** Show that a solution from the family in part (a) of Problem 31 that satisfies $y' = y^2$, $y(1) = 1$, is $y = 1/(2 - x)$.

**(b)** Then show that a solution from the family in part (a) of Problem 31 that satisfies $y' = y^2$, $y(3) = -1$, is $y = 1/(2 - x)$.

**(c)** Are the solutions in parts (a) and (b) the same?

**33. (a)** Verify that $3x^2 - y^2 = c$ is a one-parameter family of solutions of the differential equation $y\,dy/dx = 3x$.

**(b)** By hand, sketch the graph of the implicit solution $3x^2 - y^2 = 3$. Find all explicit solutions $y = \phi(x)$ of the DE in part (a) defined by this relation. Give the interval $I$ of definition of each explicit solution.

**(c)** The point $(-2, 3)$ is on the graph of $3x^2 - y^2 = 3$, but which of the explicit solutions in part (b) satisfies $y(-2) = 3$?

**34. (a)** Use the family of solutions in part (a) of Problem 33 to find an implicit solution of the initial-value problem $y\,dy/dx = 3x$, $y(2) = -4$. Then, by hand, sketch the graph of the explicit solution of this problem and give its interval $I$ of definition.

**(b)** Are there any explicit solutions of $y\,dy/dx = 3x$ that pass through the origin?

In Problems 35–38 the graph of a member of a family of solutions of a second-order differential equation $d^2y/dx^2 = f(x, y, y')$ is given. Match the solution curve with at least one pair of the following initial conditions.

**(a)** $y(1) = 1$, $y'(1) = -2$

**(b)** $y(-1) = 0$, $y'(-1) = -4$

**(c)** $y(1) = 1$, $y'(1) = 2$

**(d)** $y(0) = -1$, $y'(0) = 2$

**(e)** $y(0) = -1$, $y'(0) = 0$

**(f)** $y(0) = -4$, $y'(0) = -2$

**35.**
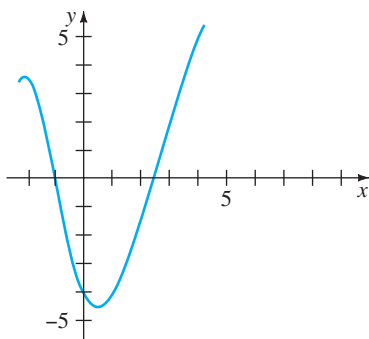


**FIGURE 1.2.7** Graph for Problem 35

**36.**
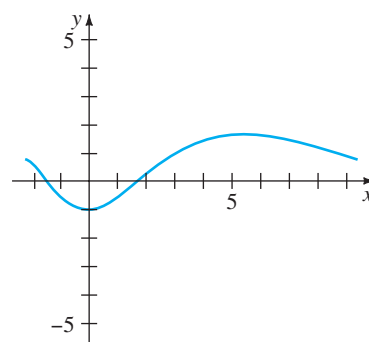


**FIGURE 1.2.8** Graph for Problem 36

**37.**
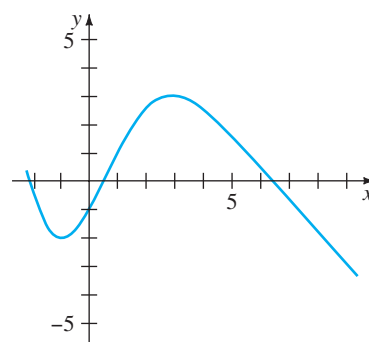


**FIGURE 1.2.9** Graph for Problem 37

**38.**
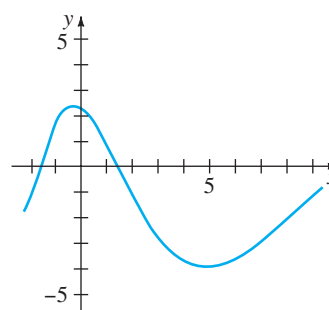


**FIGURE 1.2.10** Graph for Problem 38

## Discussion Problems

In Problems 39 and 40 use Problem 51 in Exercises 1.1 and (2) and (3) of this section.

**39.** Find a function $y = f(x)$ whose graph at each point $(x, y)$ has the slope given by $8e^{2x} + 6x$ and has the $y$-intercept $(0, 9)$.

**40.** Find a function $y = f(x)$ whose second derivative is $y'' = 12x - 2$ at each point $(x, y)$ on its graph and $y = -x + 5$ is tangent to the graph at the point corresponding to $x = 1$.

**41.** Consider the initial-value problem $y' = x - 2y$, $y(0) = \frac{1}{2}$. Determine which of the two curves shown in Figure 1.2.11 is the only plausible solution curve. Explain your reasoning.
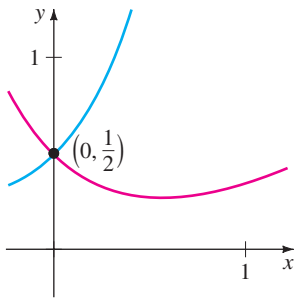
FIGURE 1.2.11 Graphs for Problem 41



FIGURE 1.2.12 Two solutions of the IVP in Problem 44

**42.** Determine a plausible value of $x_0$ for which the graph of the solution of the initial-value problem $y' + 2y = 3x - 6$, $y(x_0) = 0$ is tangent to the $x$-axis at $(x_0, 0)$. Explain your reasoning.

**43.** Suppose that the first-order differential equation $dy/dx = f(x, y)$ possesses a one-parameter family of solutions and that $f(x, y)$ satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 1.2.1 in some rectangular region $R$ of the $xy$-plane. Explain why two different solution curves cannot intersect or be tangent to each other at a point $(x_0, y_0)$ in $R$.

**44.** The functions $y(x) = \frac{1}{16}x^4$, $-\infty < x < \infty$ and

$$y(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ \frac{1}{16}x^4, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

have the same domain but are clearly different. See Figures 1.2.12(a) and 1.2.12(b), respectively. Show that both functions are solutions of the initial-value problem

$dy/dx = xy^{1/2}$, $y(2) = 1$ on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$. Resolve the apparent contradiction between this fact and the last sentence in Example 5.

## Mathematical Model

**45. Population Growth** Beginning in the next section we will see that differential equations can be used to describe or *model* many different physical systems. In this problem suppose that a model of the growing population of a small community is given by the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 0.15P(t) + 20, \quad P(0) = 100,$$

where $P$ is the number of individuals in the community and time $t$ is measured in years. How fast—that is, at what *rate*—is the population increasing at $t = 0$? How fast is the population increasing when the population is 500?

| 1.3 | DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS AS MATHEMATICAL MODELS |

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Units of measurement for weight, mass, and density
- Newton's second law of motion
- Hooke's law
- Kirchhoff's laws
- Archimedes' principle

**INTRODUCTION** In this section we introduce the notion of a differential equation as a mathematical model and discuss some specific models in biology, chemistry, and physics. Once we have studied some methods for solving DEs in Chapters 2 and 4, we return to, and solve, some of these models in Chapters 3 and 5.

**MATHEMATICAL MODELS** It is often desirable to describe the behavior of some real-life system or phenomenon, whether physical, sociological, or even economic, in mathematical terms. The mathematical description of a system of phenomenon is called a **mathematical model** and is constructed with certain goals in mind. For example, we may wish to understand the mechanisms of a certain ecosystem by studying the growth of animal populations in that system, or we may wish to date fossils by analyzing the decay of a radioactive substance either in the fossil or in the stratum in which it was discovered.

Construction of a mathematical model of a system starts with

(*i*)   identification of the variables that are responsible for changing the system. We may choose not to incorporate all these variables into the model at first. In this step we are specifying the **level of resolution** of the model.

Next

(*ii*)   we make a set of reasonable assumptions, or hypotheses, about the system we are trying to describe. These assumptions will also include any empirical laws that may be applicable to the system.

For some purposes it may be perfectly within reason to be content with low-resolution models. For example, you may already be aware that in beginning physics courses, the retarding force of air friction is sometimes ignored in modeling the motion of a body falling near the surface of the Earth, but if you are a scientist whose job it is to accurately predict the flight path of a long-range projectile, you have to take into account air resistance and other factors such as the curvature of the Earth.

Since the assumptions made about a system frequently involve *a rate of change* of one or more of the variables, the mathematical depiction of all these assumptions may be one or more equations involving *derivatives*. In other words, the mathematical model may be a differential equation or a system of differential equations.

Once we have formulated a mathematical model that is either a differential equation or a system of differential equations, we are faced with the not insignificant problem of trying to solve it. *If* we can solve it, then we deem the model to be reasonable if its solution is consistent with either experimental data or known facts about the behavior of the system. But if the predictions produced by the solution are poor, we can either increase the level of resolution of the model or make alternative assumptions about the mechanisms for change in the system. The steps of the modeling process are then repeated, as shown in the following diagram:
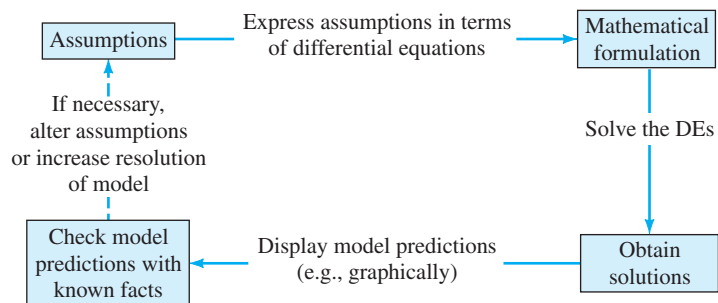


Of course, by increasing the resolution, we add to the complexity of the mathematical model and increase the likelihood that we cannot obtain an explicit solution.

A mathematical model of a physical system will often involve the variable time *t*. A solution of the model then gives the **state of the system;** in other words, the values of the dependent variable (or variables) for appropriate values of *t* describe the system in the past, present, and future.

**POPULATION DYNAMICS**   One of the earliest attempts to model human **population growth** by means of mathematics was by the English economist Thomas Malthus in 1798. Basically, the idea behind the Malthusian model is the assumption that the rate at which the population of a country grows at a certain time is proportional* to the total population of the country at that time. In other words, the more people there are at time *t*, the more there are going to be in the future. In mathematical terms, if *P(t)* denotes the

---

*If two quantities *u* and *v* are proportional, we write $u \propto v$. This means that one quantity is a constant multiple of the other: $u = kv$.

total population at time $t$, then this assumption can be expressed as

$$\frac{dP}{dt} \propto P \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{dP}{dt} = kP, \tag{1}$$

where $k$ is a constant of proportionality. This simple model, which fails to take into account many factors that can influence human populations to either grow or decline (immigration and emigration, for example), nevertheless turned out to be fairly accurate in predicting the population of the United States during the years 1790–1860. Populations that grow at a rate described by (1) are rare; nevertheless, (1) is still used to model *growth of small populations over short intervals of time* (bacteria growing in a petri dish, for example).

**RADIOACTIVE DECAY** The nucleus of an atom consists of combinations of protons and neutrons. Many of these combinations of protons and neutrons are unstable— that is, the atoms decay or transmute into atoms of another substance. Such nuclei are said to be radioactive. For example, over time the highly radioactive radium, Ra-226, transmutes into the radioactive gas radon, Rn-222. To model the phenomenon of **radioactive decay,** it is assumed that the rate $dA/dt$ at which the nuclei of a substance decay is proportional to the amount (more precisely, the number of nuclei) $A(t)$ of the substance remaining at time $t$:

$$\frac{dA}{dt} \propto A \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{dA}{dt} = kA. \tag{2}$$

Of course, equations (1) and (2) are exactly the same; the difference is only in the interpretation of the symbols and the constants of proportionality. For growth, as we expect in (1), $k > 0$, and for decay, as in (2), $k < 0$.

The model (1) for growth can also be seen as the equation $dS/dt = rS$, which describes the growth of capital $S$ when an annual rate of interest $r$ is compounded continuously. The model (2) for decay also occurs in biological applications such as determining the half-life of a drug—the time that it takes for 50% of a drug to be eliminated from a body by excretion or metabolism. In chemistry the decay model (2) appears in the mathematical description of a first-order chemical reaction. The point is this:

*A single differential equation can serve as a mathematical model for many different phenomena.*

Mathematical models are often accompanied by certain side conditions. For example, in (1) and (2) we would expect to know, in turn, the initial population $P_0$ and the initial amount of radioactive substance $A_0$ on hand. If the initial point in time is taken to be $t = 0$, then we know that $P(0) = P_0$ and $A(0) = A_0$. In other words, a mathematical model can consist of either an initial-value problem or, as we shall see later on in Section 5.2, a boundary-value problem.

**NEWTON'S LAW OF COOLING/WARMING** According to Newton's empirical law of cooling/warming, the rate at which the temperature of a body changes is proportional to the difference between the temperature of the body and the temperature of the surrounding medium, the so-called ambient temperature. If $T(t)$ represents the temperature of a body at time $t$, $T_m$ the temperature of the surrounding medium, and $dT/dt$ the rate at which the temperature of the body changes, then Newton's law of cooling/warming translates into the mathematical statement

$$\frac{dT}{dt} \propto T - T_m \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{dT}{dt} = k(T - T_m), \tag{3}$$

where $k$ is a constant of proportionality. In either case, cooling or warming, if $T_m$ is a constant, it stands to reason that $k < 0$.

**SPREAD OF A DISEASE** A contagious disease—for example, a flu virus—is spread throughout a community by people coming into contact with other people. Let $x(t)$ denote the number of people who have contracted the disease and $y(t)$ denote the number of people who have not yet been exposed. It seems reasonable to assume that the rate $dx/dt$ at which the disease spreads is proportional to the number of encounters, or *interactions,* between these two groups of people. If we assume that the number of interactions is jointly proportional to $x(t)$ and $y(t)$—that is, proportional to the product $xy$—then

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = kxy, \tag{4}$$

where $k$ is the usual constant of proportionality. Suppose a small community has a fixed population of $n$ people. If one infected person is introduced into this community, then it could be argued that $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ are related by $x + y = n + 1$. Using this last equation to eliminate $y$ in (4) gives us the model

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = kx(n + 1 - x). \tag{5}$$

An obvious initial condition accompanying equation (5) is $x(0) = 1$.

**CHEMICAL REACTIONS** The disintegration of a radioactive substance, governed by the differential equation (1), is said to be a **first-order reaction.** In chemistry a few reactions follow this same empirical law: If the molecules of substance $A$ decompose into smaller molecules, it is a natural assumption that the rate at which this decomposition takes place is proportional to the amount of the first substance that has not undergone conversion; that is, if $X(t)$ is the amount of substance $A$ remaining at any time, then $dX/dt = kX$, where $k$ is a negative constant since $X$ is decreasing. An example of a first-order chemical reaction is the conversion of $t$-butyl chloride, $(CH_3)_3CCl$, into $t$-butyl alcohol, $(CH_3)_3COH$:

$$(CH_3)_3CCl + NaOH \rightarrow (CH_3)_3COH + NaCl.$$
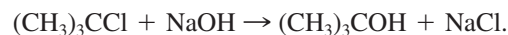
Only the concentration of the $t$-butyl chloride controls the rate of reaction. But in the reaction

$$CH_3Cl + NaOH \rightarrow CH_3OH + NaCl$$
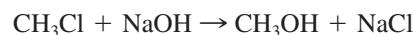
one molecule of sodium hydroxide, NaOH, is consumed for every molecule of methyl chloride, $CH_3Cl$, thus forming one molecule of methyl alcohol, $CH_3OH$, and one molecule of sodium chloride, NaCl. In this case the rate at which the reaction proceeds is proportional to the product of the remaining concentrations of $CH_3Cl$ and NaOH. To describe this second reaction in general, let us suppose *one* molecule of a substance $A$ combines with *one* molecule of a substance $B$ to form *one* molecule of a substance $C$. If $X$ denotes the amount of chemical $C$ formed at time $t$ and if $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are, in turn, the amounts of the two chemicals $A$ and $B$ at $t = 0$ (the initial amounts), then the instantaneous amounts of $A$ and $B$ not converted to chemical $C$ are $\alpha - X$ and $\beta - X$, respectively. Hence the rate of formation of $C$ is given by

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = k(\alpha - X)(\beta - X), \tag{6}$$

where $k$ is a constant of proportionality. A reaction whose model is equation (6) is said to be a **second-order reaction.**

**MIXTURES** The mixing of two salt solutions of differing concentrations gives rise to a first-order differential equation for the amount of salt contained in the mixture. Let us suppose that a large mixing tank initially holds 300 gallons of brine (that is, water in which a certain number of pounds of salt has been dissolved). Another

input rate of brine
3 gal/min

constant
300 gal

output rate of brine
3 gal/min
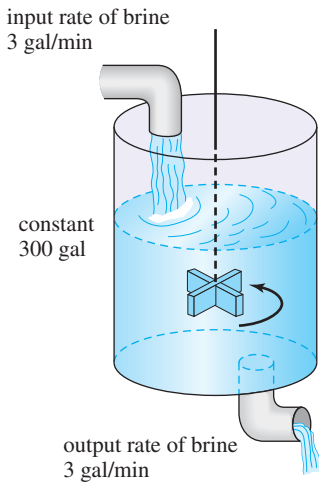
**FIGURE 1.3.1** Mixing tank

brine solution is pumped into the large tank at a rate of 3 gallons per minute; the concentration of the salt in this inflow is 2 pounds per gallon. When the solution in the tank is well stirred, it is pumped out at the same rate as the entering solution. See Figure 1.3.1. If $A(t)$ denotes the amount of salt (measured in pounds) in the tank at time $t$, then the rate at which $A(t)$ changes is a net rate:

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = \left(\begin{array}{c}\textit{input rate} \\ \textit{of salt}\end{array}\right) - \left(\begin{array}{c}\textit{output rate} \\ \textit{of salt}\end{array}\right) = R_{in} - R_{out}. \tag{7}$$

The input rate $R_{in}$ at which salt enters the tank is the product of the inflow concentration of salt and the inflow rate of fluid. Note that $R_{in}$ is measured in pounds per minute:

$$R_{in} = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{concentration} \\ \text{of salt} \\ \text{in inflow}}}{(2 \text{ lb/gal})} \cdot \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{input rate} \\ \text{of brine}}}{(3 \text{ gal/min})} = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{input rate} \\ \text{of salt}}}{(6 \text{ lb/min})}.$$

Now, since the solution is being pumped out of the tank at the same rate that it is pumped in, the number of gallons of brine in the tank at time $t$ is a constant 300 gallons. Hence the concentration of the salt in the tank as well as in the outflow is $c(t) = A(t)/300$ lb/gal, so the output rate $R_{out}$ of salt is

$$R_{out} = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{concentration} \\ \text{of salt} \\ \text{in outflow}}}{\left(\frac{A(t)}{300} \text{ lb/gal}\right)} \cdot \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{output rate} \\ \text{of brine}}}{(3 \text{ gal/min})} = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{output rate} \\ \text{of salt}}}{\frac{A(t)}{100} \text{ lb/min}}.$$

The net rate (7) then becomes

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 6 - \frac{A}{100} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{dA}{dt} + \frac{1}{100}A = 6. \tag{8}$$

If $r_{in}$ and $r_{out}$ denote general input and output rates of the brine solutions,[*] then there are three possibilities: $r_{in} = r_{out}$, $r_{in} > r_{out}$, and $r_{in} < r_{out}$. In the analysis leading to (8) we have assumed that $r_{in} = r_{out}$. In the latter two cases the number of gallons of brine in the tank is either increasing ($r_{in} > r_{out}$) or decreasing ($r_{in} < r_{out}$) at the net rate $r_{in} - r_{out}$. See Problems 10–12 in Exercises 1.3.

**DRAINING A TANK** In hydrodynamics **Torricelli's law** states that the speed $v$ of efflux of water though a sharp-edged hole at the bottom of a tank filled to a depth $h$ is the same as the speed that a body (in this case a drop of water) would acquire in falling freely from a height $h$—that is, $v = \sqrt{2gh}$, where $g$ is the acceleration due to gravity. This last expression comes from equating the kinetic energy $\frac{1}{2}mv^2$ with the potential energy $mgh$ and solving for $v$. Suppose a tank filled with water is allowed to drain through a hole under the influence of gravity. We would like to find the depth $h$ of water remaining in the tank at time $t$. Consider the tank shown in Figure 1.3.2. If the area of the hole is $A_h$ (in ft²) and the speed of the water leaving the tank is $v = \sqrt{2gh}$ (in ft/s), then the volume of water leaving the tank per second is $A_h\sqrt{2gh}$ (in ft³/s). Thus if $V(t)$ denotes the volume of water in the tank at time $t$, then

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = -A_h\sqrt{2gh}, \tag{9}$$



$A_w$

$h$

$A_h$

**FIGURE 1.3.2** Draining tank

---

[*]Don't confuse these symbols with $R_{in}$ and $R_{out}$, which are input and output rates of *salt*.
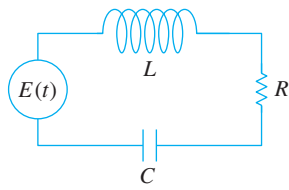
**(a)** *LRC*-series circuit

*Inductor*
inductance *L*: henries (h)
voltage drop across: $L\dfrac{di}{dt}$
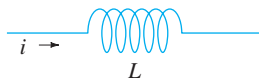
*Resistor*
resistance *R*: ohms ($\Omega$)
voltage drop across: $iR$

*Capacitor*
capacitance *C*: farads (f)
voltage drop across: $\dfrac{1}{C}q$

**(b)**

**FIGURE 1.3.3** Symbols, units, and voltages. Current $i(t)$ and charge $q(t)$ are measured in amperes (A) and coulombs (C), respectively
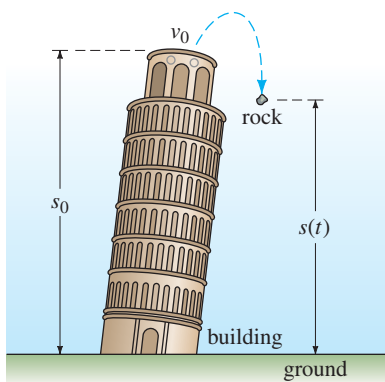
where the minus sign indicates that *V* is decreasing. Note here that we are ignoring the possibility of friction at the hole that might cause a reduction of the rate of flow there. Now if the tank is such that the volume of water in it at time *t* can be written $V(t) = A_w h$, where $A_w$ (in ft$^2$) is the *constant* area of the upper surface of the water (see Figure 1.3.2), then $dV/dt = A_w\, dh/dt$. Substituting this last expression into (9) gives us the desired differential equation for the height of the water at time *t*:

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = -\frac{A_h}{A_w}\sqrt{2gh}. \tag{10}$$

It is interesting to note that (10) remains valid even when $A_w$ is not constant. In this case we must express the upper surface area of the water as a function of *h*—that is, $A_w = A(h)$. See Problem 14 in Exercises 1.3.

**SERIES CIRCUITS** Consider the single-loop series circuit shown in Figure 1.3.3(a), containing an inductor, resistor, and capacitor. The current in a circuit after a switch is closed is denoted by $i(t)$; the charge on a capacitor at time *t* is denoted by $q(t)$. The letters *L*, *R*, and *C* are known as inductance, resistance, and capacitance, respectively, and are generally constants. Now according to **Kirchhoff's second law,** the impressed voltage $E(t)$ on a closed loop must equal the sum of the voltage drops in the loop. Figure 1.3.3(b) shows the symbols and the formulas for the respective voltage drops across an inductor, a capacitor, and a resistor. Since current $i(t)$ is related to charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor by $i = dq/dt$, adding the three voltages

$$\overset{\text{inductor}}{L\frac{di}{dt} = L\frac{d^2q}{dt^2},} \qquad \overset{\text{resistor}}{iR = R\frac{dq}{dt},} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \overset{\text{capacitor}}{\frac{1}{C}q}$$

and equating the sum to the impressed voltage yields a second-order differential equation

$$L\frac{d^2q}{dt^2} + R\frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{1}{C}q = E(t). \tag{11}$$

We will examine a differential equation analogous to (11) in great detail in Section 5.1.

**FALLING BODIES** To construct a mathematical model of the motion of a body moving in a force field, one often starts with Newton's second law of motion. Recall from elementary physics that **Newton's first law of motion** states that a body either will remain at rest or will continue to move with a constant velocity unless acted on by an external force. In each case this is equivalent to saying that when the sum of the forces $F = \sum F_k$—that is, the *net* or resultant force—acting on the body is zero, then the acceleration *a* of the body is zero. **Newton's second law of motion** indicates that when the net force acting on a body is not zero, then the net force is proportional to its acceleration *a* or, more precisely, $F = ma$, where *m* is the mass of the body.

Now suppose a rock is tossed upward from the roof of a building as illustrated in Figure 1.3.4. What is the position $s(t)$ of the rock relative to the ground at time *t*? The acceleration of the rock is the second derivative $d^2s/dt^2$. If we assume that the upward direction is positive and that no force acts on the rock other than the force of gravity, then Newton's second law gives

$$m\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -mg \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -g. \tag{12}$$

In other words, the net force is simply the weight $F = F_1 = -W$ of the rock near the surface of the Earth. Recall that the magnitude of the weight is $W = mg$, where *m* is



**FIGURE 1.3.4** Position of rock measured from ground level

the mass of the body and $g$ is the acceleration due to gravity. The minus sign in (12) is used because the weight of the rock is a force directed downward, which is opposite to the positive direction. If the height of the building is $s_0$ and the initial velocity of the rock is $v_0$, then $s$ is determined from the second-order initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -g, \quad s(0) = s_0, \quad s'(0) = v_0. \tag{13}$$

Although we have not been stressing solutions of the equations we have constructed, note that (13) can be solved by integrating the constant $-g$ twice with respect to $t$. The initial conditions determine the two constants of integration. From elementary physics you might recognize the solution of (13) as the formula $s(t) = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0t + s_0$.

**FALLING BODIES AND AIR RESISTANCE** Before Galileo's famous experiment from the leaning tower of Pisa, it was generally believed that heavier objects in free fall, such as a cannonball, fell with a greater acceleration than lighter objects, such as a feather. Obviously, a cannonball and a feather when dropped simultaneously from the same height *do* fall at different rates, but it is not because a cannonball is heavier. The difference in rates is due to air resistance. The resistive force of air was ignored in the model given in (13). Under some circumstances a falling body of mass $m$, such as a feather with low density and irregular shape, encounters air resistance proportional to its instantaneous velocity $v$. If we take, in this circumstance, the positive direction to be oriented downward, then the net force acting on the mass is given by $F = F_1 + F_2 = mg - kv$, where the weight $F_1 = mg$ of the body is force acting in the positive direction and air resistance $F_2 = -kv$ is a force, called **viscous damping,** acting in the opposite or upward direction. See Figure 1.3.5. Now since $v$ is related to acceleration $a$ by $a = dv/dt$, Newton's second law becomes $F = ma = m\, dv/dt$. By equating the net force to this form of Newton's second law, we obtain a first-order differential equation for the velocity $v(t)$ of the body at time $t$,

$$m\frac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv. \tag{14}$$

Here $k$ is a positive constant of proportionality. If $s(t)$ is the distance the body falls in time $t$ from its initial point of release, then $v = ds/dt$ and $a = dv/dt = d^2s/dt^2$. In terms of $s$, (14) is a second-order differential equation

$$m\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = mg - k\frac{ds}{dt} \qquad \text{or} \qquad m\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} + k\frac{ds}{dt} = mg. \tag{15}$$

**SUSPENDED CABLES** Suppose a flexible cable, wire, or heavy rope is suspended between two vertical supports. Physical examples of this could be one of the two cables supporting the roadbed of a suspension bridge as shown in Figure 1.3.6(a) or a long telephone wire strung between two posts as shown in Figure 1.3.6(b). Our goal is to construct a mathematical model that describes the shape that such a cable assumes.

To begin, let's agree to examine only a portion or element of the cable between its lowest point $P_1$ and any arbitrary point $P_2$. As drawn in blue in Figure 1.3.7, this element of the cable is the curve in a rectangular coordinate system with $y$-axis chosen to pass through the lowest point $P_1$ on the curve and the $x$-axis chosen $a$ units below $P_1$. Three forces are acting on the cable: the tensions $\mathbf{T}_1$ and $\mathbf{T}_2$ in the cable that are tangent to the cable at $P_1$ and $P_2$, respectively, and the portion $\mathbf{W}$ of the total vertical load between the points $P_1$ and $P_2$. Let $T_1 = |\mathbf{T}_1|$, $T_2 = |\mathbf{T}_2|$, and $W = |\mathbf{W}|$ denote the magnitudes of these vectors. Now the tension $\mathbf{T}_2$ resolves into horizontal and vertical components (scalar quantities) $T_2 \cos \theta$ and $T_2 \sin \theta$.
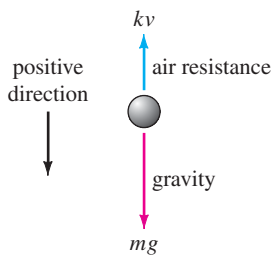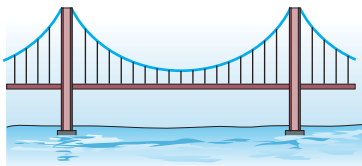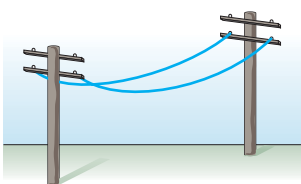


**FIGURE 1.3.5** Falling body of mass $m$



**(a)** suspension bridge cable



**(b)** telephone wires

**FIGURE 1.3.6** Cables suspended between vertical supports
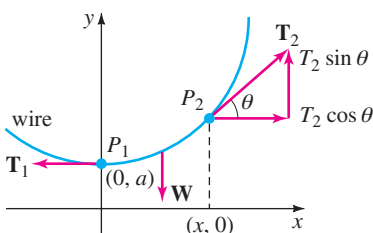


**FIGURE 1.3.7** Element of cable

Because of static equilibrium we can write

$$T_1 = T_2 \cos\theta \qquad \text{and} \qquad W = T_2 \sin\theta.$$

By dividing the last equation by the first, we eliminate $T_2$ and get $\tan\theta = W/T_1$. But because $dy/dx = \tan\theta$, we arrive at

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{W}{T_1}. \tag{16}$$

This simple first-order differential equation serves as a model for both the shape of a flexible wire such as a telephone wire hanging under its own weight and the shape of the cables that support the roadbed of a suspension bridge. We will come back to equation (16) in Exercises 2.2 and Section 5.3.

**WHAT LIES AHEAD** Throughout this text you will see three different types of approaches to, or analyses of, differential equations. Over the centuries differential equations would often spring from the efforts of a scientist or engineer to describe some physical phenomenon or to translate an empirical or experimental law into mathematical terms. As a consequence a scientist, engineer, or mathematician would often spend many years of his or her life trying to find the solutions of a DE. With a solution in hand, the study of its properties then followed. This quest for solutions is called by some the *analytical approach* to differential equations. Once they realized that explicit solutions are at best difficult to obtain and at worst impossible to obtain, mathematicians learned that a differential equation itself could be a font of valuable information. It is possible, in some instances, to glean directly from the differential equation answers to questions such as *Does the DE actually have solutions? If a solution of the DE exists and satisfies an initial condition, is it the only such solution? What are some of the properties of the unknown solutions? What can we say about the geometry of the solution curves?* Such an approach is *qualitative analysis.* Finally, if a differential equation cannot be solved by analytical methods, yet we can prove that a solution exists, the next logical query is *Can we somehow approximate the values of an unknown solution?* Here we enter the realm of *numerical analysis.* An affirmative answer to the last question stems from the fact that a differential equation can be used as a cornerstone for constructing very accurate approximation algorithms. In Chapter 2 we start with qualitative considerations of first-order ODEs, then examine analytical stratagems for solving some special first-order equations, and conclude with an introduction to an elementary numerical method. See Figure 1.3.8.



(a) analytical    (b) qualitative    (c) numerical
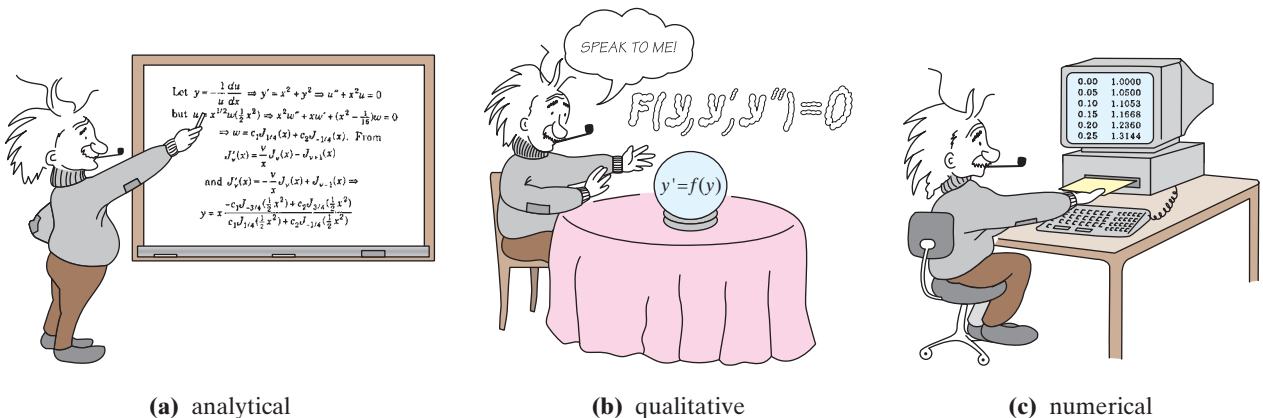
**FIGURE 1.3.8** Different approaches to the study of differential equations

> ## REMARKS
>
> Each example in this section has described a dynamical system—a system that changes or evolves with the flow of time $t$. Since the study of dynamical systems is a branch of mathematics currently in vogue, we shall occasionally relate the terminology of that field to the discussion at hand.
>
> In more precise terms, a **dynamical system** consists of a set of time-dependent variables, called **state variables,** together with a rule that enables us to determine (without ambiguity) the state of the system (this may be a past, present, or future state) in terms of a state prescribed at some time $t_0$. Dynamical systems are classified as either discrete-time systems or continuous-time systems. In this course we shall be concerned only with continuous-time systems— systems in which *all* variables are defined over a continuous range of time. The rule, or mathematical model, in a continuous-time dynamical system is a differential equation or a system of differential equations. The **state of the system** at a time $t$ is the value of the state variables at that time; the specified state of the system at a time $t_0$ is simply the initial conditions that accompany the mathematical model. The solution of the initial-value problem is referred to as the **response of the system.** For example, in the case of radioactive decay, the rule is $dA/dt = kA$. Now if the quantity of a radioactive substance at some time $t_0$ is known, say $A(t_0) = A_0$, then by solving the rule we find that the response of the system for $t \geq t_0$ is $A(t) = A_0 e^{(t-t_0)}$ (see Section 3.1). The response $A(t)$ is the single state variable for this system. In the case of the rock tossed from the roof of a building, the response of the system—the solution of the differential equation $d^2s/dt^2 = -g$, subject to the initial state $s(0) = s_0$, $s'(0) = v_0$, is the function $s(t) = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 + v_0 t + s_0$, $0 \leq t \leq T$, where $T$ represents the time when the rock hits the ground. The state variables are $s(t)$ and $s'(t)$, which are the vertical position of the rock above ground and its velocity at time $t$, respectively. The acceleration $s''(t)$ is *not* a state variable, since we have to know only any initial position and initial velocity at a time $t_0$ to uniquely determine the rock's position $s(t)$ and velocity $s'(t) = v(t)$ for any time in the interval $t_0 \leq t \leq T$. The acceleration $s''(t) = a(t)$ is, of course, given by the differential equation $s''(t) = -g$, $0 < t < T$.
>
> One last point: Not every system studied in this text is a dynamical system. We shall also examine some static systems in which the model is a differential equation.

---

## EXERCISES 1.3

### Population Dynamics

1. Under the same assumptions that underlie the model in (1), determine a differential equation for the population $P(t)$ of a country when individuals are allowed to immigrate into the country at a constant rate $r > 0$. What is the differential equation for the population $P(t)$ of the country when individuals are allowed to emigrate from the country at a constant rate $r > 0$?

2. The population model given in (1) fails to take death into consideration; the growth rate equals the birth rate. In another model of a changing population of a community it is assumed that the rate at which the population changes is a *net* rate—that is, the difference between the rate of births and the rate of deaths in the community. Determine a model for the population $P(t)$ if both the birth rate and the death rate are proportional to the population present at time $t$.

3. Using the concept of net rate introduced in Problem 2, determine a model for a population $P(t)$ if the birth rate is proportional to the population present at time $t$ but the death rate is proportional to the square of the population present at time $t$.

4. Modify the model in Problem 3 for net rate at which the population $P(t)$ of a certain kind of fish changes by also assuming that the fish are harvested at a constant rate $h > 0$.

## Newton's Law of Cooling/Warming

5. A cup of coffee cools according to Newton's law of cooling (3). Use data from the graph of the temperature $T(t)$ in Figure 1.3.9 to estimate the constants $T_m$, $T_0$, and $k$ in a model of the form of a first-order initial-value problem: $dT/dt = k(T - T_m)$, $T(0) = T_0$.
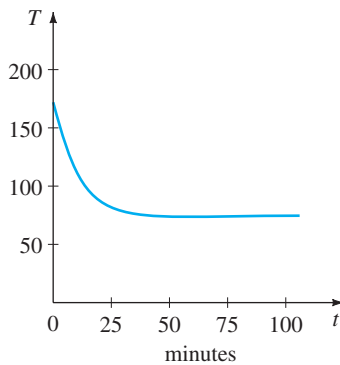


**FIGURE 1.3.9** Cooling curve in Problem 5

6. The ambient temperature $T_m$ in (3) could be a function of time $t$. Suppose that in an artificially controlled environment, $T_m(t)$ is periodic with a 24-hour period, as illustrated in Figure 1.3.10. Devise a mathematical model for the temperature $T(t)$ of a body within this environment.
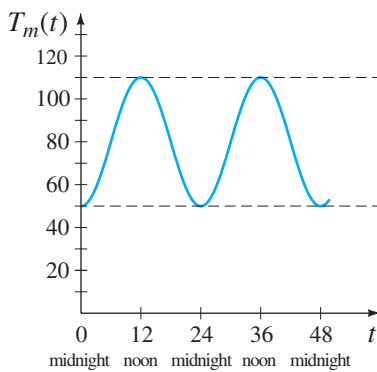


**FIGURE 1.3.10** Ambient temperature in Problem 6

## Spread of a Disease/Technology

7. Suppose a student carrying a flu virus returns to an isolated college campus of 1000 students. Determine a differential equation for the number of people $x(t)$ who have contracted the flu if the rate at which the disease spreads is proportional to the number of interactions between the number of students who have the flu and the number of students who have not yet been exposed to it.

8. At a time denoted as $t = 0$ a technological innovation is introduced into a community that has a fixed population of $n$ people. Determine a differential equation for the number of people $x(t)$ who have adopted the innovation at time $t$ if it is assumed that the rate at which the innovations spread through the community is jointly proportional to the number of people who have adopted it and the number of people who have not adopted it.

## Mixtures

9. Suppose that a large mixing tank initially holds 300 gallons of water in which 50 pounds of salt have been dissolved. Pure water is pumped into the tank at a rate of 3 gal/min, and when the solution is well stirred, it is then pumped out at the same rate. Determine a differential equation for the amount of salt $A(t)$ in the tank at time $t$. What is $A(0)$?

10. Suppose that a large mixing tank initially holds 300 gallons of water is which 50 pounds of salt have been dissolved. Another brine solution is pumped into the tank at a rate of 3 gal/min, and when the solution is well stirred, it is then pumped out at a *slower* rate of 2 gal/min. If the concentration of the solution entering is 2 lb/gal, determine a differential equation for the amount of salt $A(t)$ in the tank at time $t$.

11. What is the differential equation in Problem 10, if the well-stirred solution is pumped out at a *faster* rate of 3.5 gal/min?

12. Generalize the model given in equation (8) on page 23 by assuming that the large tank initially contains $N_0$ number of gallons of brine, $r_{in}$ and $r_{out}$ are the input and output rates of the brine, respectively (measured in gallons per minute), $c_{in}$ is the concentration of the salt in the inflow, $c(t)$ the concentration of the salt in the tank as well as in the outflow at time $t$ (measured in pounds of salt per gallon), and $A(t)$ is the amount of salt in the tank at time $t$.

## Draining a Tank

13. Suppose water is leaking from a tank through a circular hole of area $A_h$ at its bottom. When water leaks through a hole, friction and contraction of the stream near the hole reduce the volume of water leaving the tank per second to $cA_h\sqrt{2gh}$, where $c$ ($0 < c < 1$) is an empirical constant. Determine a differential equation for the height $h$ of water at time $t$ for the cubical tank shown in Figure 1.3.11. The radius of the hole is 2 in., and $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$.
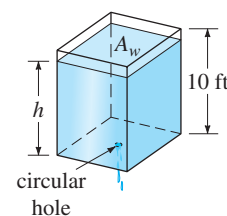


**FIGURE 1.3.11** Cubical tank in Problem 13

**14.** The right-circular conical tank shown in Figure 1.3.12 loses water out of a circular hole at its bottom. Determine a differential equation for the height of the water $h$ at time $t$. The radius of the hole is 2 in., $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$, and the friction/contraction factor introduced in Problem 13 is $c = 0.6$.
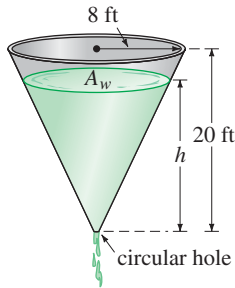


**FIGURE 1.3.12** Conical tank in Problem 14

## Series Circuits

**15.** A series circuit contains a resistor and an inductor as shown in Figure 1.3.13. Determine a differential equation for the current $i(t)$ if the resistance is $R$, the inductance is $L$, and the impressed voltage is $E(t)$.
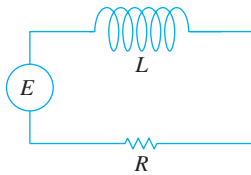


**FIGURE 1.3.13** $LR$ series circuit in Problem 15

**16.** A series circuit contains a resistor and a capacitor as shown in Figure 1.3.14. Determine a differential equation for the charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor if the resistance is $R$, the capacitance is $C$, and the impressed voltage is $E(t)$.
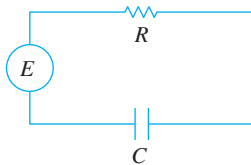


**FIGURE 1.3.14** $RC$ series circuit in Problem 16

## Falling Bodies and Air Resistance

**17.** For high-speed motion through the air—such as the skydiver shown in Figure 1.3.15, falling before the parachute is opened—air resistance is closer to a power of the instantaneous velocity $v(t)$. Determine a differential equation for the velocity $v(t)$ of a falling body of mass $m$ if air resistance is proportional to the square of the instantaneous velocity.
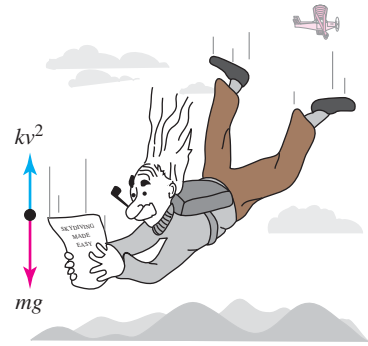


**FIGURE 1.3.15** Air resistance proportional to square of velocity in Problem 17

## Newton's Second Law and Archimedes' Principle

**18.** A cylindrical barrel $s$ feet in diameter of weight $w$ lb is floating in water as shown in Figure 1.3.16(a). After an initial depression the barrel exhibits an up-and-down bobbing motion along a vertical line. Using Figure 1.3.16(b), determine a differential equation for the vertical displacement $y(t)$ if the origin is taken to be on the vertical axis at the surface of the water when the barrel is at rest. Use **Archimedes' principle:** Buoyancy, or upward force of the water on the barrel, is equal to the weight of the water displaced. Assume that the downward direction is positive, that the weight density of water is 62.4 lb/ft$^3$, and that there is no resistance between the barrel and the water.
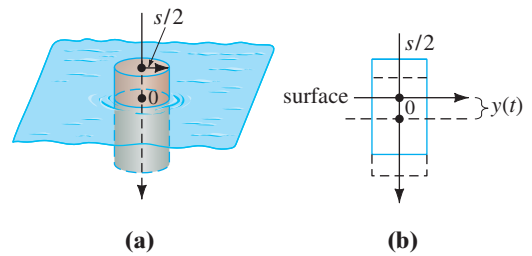


**FIGURE 1.3.16** Bobbing motion of floating barrel in Problem 18

## Newton's Second Law and Hooke's Law

**19.** After a mass $m$ is attached to a spring, it stretches it $s$ units and then hangs at rest in the equilibrium position as shown in Figure 1.3.17(b). After the spring/mass
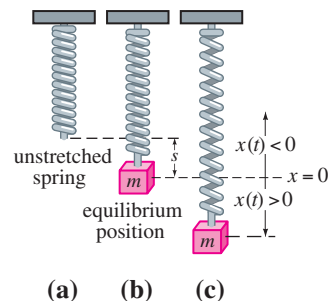


**FIGURE 1.3.17** Spring/mass system in Problem 19

system has been set in motion, let $x(t)$ denote the directed distance of the mass beyond the equilibrium position. As indicated in Figure 1.3.17(c), assume that the downward direction is positive, that the motion takes place in a vertical straight line through the center of gravity of the mass, and that the only forces acting on the system are the weight of the mass and the restoring force of the stretched spring. Use **Hooke's law:** The restoring force of a spring is proportional to its total elongation. Determine a differential equation for the displacement $x(t)$ at time $t$.

20. In Problem 19, what is a differential equation for the displacement $x(t)$ if the motion takes place in a medium that imparts a damping force on the spring/mass system that is proportional to the instantaneous velocity of the mass and acts in a direction opposite to that of motion?

## Newton's Second Law and the Law of Universal Gravitation

21. By **Newton's universal law of gravitation** the free-fall acceleration $a$ of a body, such as the satellite shown in Figure 1.3.18, falling a great distance to the surface is *not* the constant $g$. Rather, the acceleration $a$ is inversely proportional to the square of the distance from the center of the Earth, $a = k/r^2$, where $k$ is the constant of proportionality. Use the fact that at the surface of the Earth $r = R$ and $a = g$ to determine $k$. If the positive direction is upward, use Newton's second law and his universal law of gravitation to find a differential equation for the distance $r$.
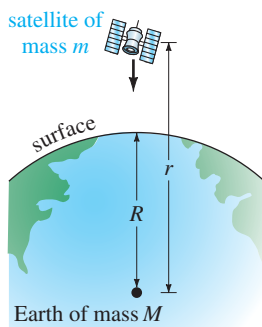


**FIGURE 1.3.18** Satellite in Problem 21

22. Suppose a hole is drilled through the center of the Earth and a bowling ball of mass $m$ is dropped into the hole, as shown in Figure 1.3.19. Construct a mathematical model that describes the motion of the ball. At time $t$ let $r$ denote the distance from the center of the Earth to the mass $m$, $M$ denote the mass of the Earth, $M_r$ denote the mass of that portion of the Earth within a sphere of radius $r$, and $\delta$ denote the constant density of the Earth.
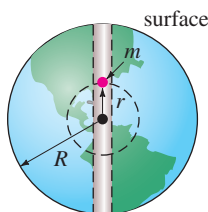


**FIGURE 1.3.19** Hole through Earth in Problem 22

## Additional Mathematical Models

23. **Learning Theory** In the theory of learning, the rate at which a subject is memorized is assumed to be proportional to the amount that is left to be memorized. Suppose $M$ denotes the total amount of a subject to be memorized and $A(t)$ is the amount memorized in time $t$. Determine a differential equation for the amount $A(t)$.

24. **Forgetfulness** In Problem 23 assume that the rate at which material is *forgotten* is proportional to the amount memorized in time $t$. Determine a differential equation for the amount $A(t)$ when forgetfulness is taken into account.

25. **Infusion of a Drug** A drug is infused into a patient's bloodstream at a constant rate of $r$ grams per second. Simultaneously, the drug is removed at a rate proportional to the amount $x(t)$ of the drug present at time $t$. Determine a differential equation for the amount $x(t)$.

26. **Tractrix** A person $P$, starting at the origin, moves in the direction of the positive $x$-axis, pulling a weight along the curve $C$, called a **tractrix,** as shown in Figure 1.3.20. The weight, initially located on the $y$-axis at $(0, s)$, is pulled by a rope of constant length $s$, which is kept taut throughout the motion. Determine a differential equation for the path $C$ of motion. Assume that the rope is always tangent to $C$.
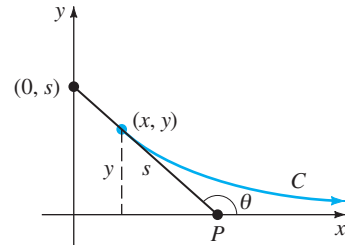


**FIGURE 1.3.20** Tractrix curve in Problem 26

27. **Reflecting Surface** Assume that when the plane curve $C$ shown in Figure 1.3.21 is revolved about the $x$-axis, it generates a surface of revolution with the property that all light rays $L$ parallel to the $x$-axis striking the surface are reflected to a single point $O$ (the origin). Use the fact that the angle of incidence is equal to the angle of reflection to determine a differential equation that
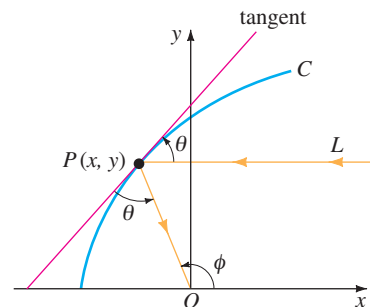


**FIGURE 1.3.21** Reflecting surface in Problem 27

describes the shape of the curve $C$. Such a curve $C$ is important in applications ranging from construction of telescopes to satellite antennas, automobile headlights, and solar collectors. [*Hint*: Inspection of the figure shows that we can write $\phi = 2\theta$. Why? Now use an appropriate trigonometric identity.]

## Discussion Problems

**28.** Reread Problem 41 in Exercises 1.1 and then give an explicit solution $P(t)$ for equation (1). Find a one-parameter family of solutions of (1).

**29.** Reread the sentence following equation (3) and assume that $T_m$ is a positive constant. Discuss why we would expect $k < 0$ in (3) in both cases of cooling and warming. You might start by interpreting, say, $T(t) > T_m$ in a graphical manner.

**30.** Reread the discussion leading up to equation (8). If we assume that initially the tank holds, say, 50 lb of salt, it stands to reason that because salt is being added to the tank continuously for $t > 0$, $A(t)$ should be an increasing function. Discuss how you might determine from the DE, without actually solving it, the number of pounds of salt in the tank after a long period of time.

**31. Population Model** The differential equation $\dfrac{dP}{dt} = (k \cos t)P$, where $k$ is a positive constant, is a model of human population $P(t)$ of a certain community. Discuss an interpretation for the solution of this equation. In other words, what kind of population do you think the differential equation describes?

**32. Rotating Fluid** As shown in Figure 1.3.22(a), a right-circular cylinder partially filled with fluid is rotated with a constant angular velocity $\omega$ about a vertical $y$-axis through its center. The rotating fluid forms a surface of revolution $S$. To identify $S$, we first establish a coordinate system consisting of a vertical plane determined by the $y$-axis and an $x$-axis drawn perpendicular to the $y$-axis such that the point of intersection of the axes (the origin) is located at the lowest point on the surface $S$. We then seek a function $y = f(x)$ that represents the curve $C$ of intersection of the surface $S$ and the vertical coordinate plane. Let the point $P(x, y)$ denote the position of a particle of the rotating fluid of mass $m$ in the coordinate plane. See Figure 1.3.22(b).

**(a)** At $P$ there is a reaction force of magnitude $F$ due to the other particles of the fluid which is normal to the surface $S$. By Newton's second law the magnitude of the net force acting on the particle is $m\omega^2 x$. What is this force? Use Figure 1.3.22(b) to discuss the nature and origin of the equations

$$F \cos \theta = mg, \qquad F \sin \theta = m\omega^2 x.$$

**(b)** Use part (a) to find a first-order differential equation that defines the function $y = f(x)$.



(a)



(b)

**FIGURE 1.3.22** Rotating fluid in Problem 32

**33. Falling Body** In Problem 21, suppose $r = R + s$, where $s$ is the distance from the surface of the Earth to the falling body. What does the differential equation obtained in Problem 21 become when $s$ is very small in comparison to $R$? [*Hint*: Think binomial series for

$$(R + s)^{-2} = R^{-2}(1 + s/R)^{-2}.]$$

**34. Raindrops Keep Falling** In meteorology the term *virga* refers to falling raindrops or ice particles that evaporate before they reach the ground. Assume that a typical raindrop is spherical. Starting at some time, which we can designate as $t = 0$, the raindrop of radius $r_0$ falls from rest from a cloud and begins to evaporate.

**(a)** If it is assumed that a raindrop evaporates in such a manner that its shape remains spherical, then it also makes sense to assume that the rate at which the raindrop evaporates—that is, the rate at which it loses mass—is proportional to its surface area. Show that this latter assumption implies that the rate at which the radius $r$ of the raindrop decreases is a constant. Find $r(t)$. [*Hint*: See Problem 51 in Exercises 1.1.]

**(b)** If the positive direction is downward, construct a mathematical model for the velocity $v$ of the falling raindrop at time $t$. Ignore air resistance. [*Hint*: When the mass $m$ of an object is changing with time, Newton's second law becomes $F = \dfrac{d}{dt}(mv)$, where $F$ is the net force acting on the body and $mv$ is its momentum.]

**35. Let It Snow** The "snowplow problem" is a classic and appears in many differential equations texts but was probably made famous by Ralph Palmer Agnew:

> *"One day it started snowing at a heavy and steady rate. A snowplow started out at noon, going 2 miles the first hour and 1 mile the second hour. What time did it start snowing?"*

Find the text *Differential Equations,* Ralph Palmer Agnew, McGraw-Hill Book Co., and then discuss the construction and solution of the mathematical model.

**36.** Reread this section and classify each mathematical model as linear or nonlinear.

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## CHAPTER 1 IN REVIEW

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-1.*

In Problems 1 and 2 fill in the blank and then write this result as a linear first-order differential equation that is free of the symbol $c_1$ and has the form $dy/dx = f(x, y)$. The symbol $c_1$ represents a constant.

**1.** $\dfrac{d}{dx} c_1 e^{10x} =$ _____

**2.** $\dfrac{d}{dx}(5 + c_1 e^{-2x}) =$ _____

In Problems 3 and 4 fill in the blank and then write this result as a linear second-order differential equation that is free of the symbols $c_1$ and $c_2$ and has the form $F(y, y'') = 0$. The symbols $c_1$, $c_2$, and $k$ represent constants.

**3.** $\dfrac{d^2}{dx^2}(c_1 \cos kx + c_2 \sin kx) =$ _____

**4.** $\dfrac{d^2}{dx^2}(c_1 \cosh kx + c_2 \sinh kx) =$ _____

In Problems 5 and 6 compute $y'$ and $y''$ and then combine these derivatives with $y$ as a linear second-order differential equation that is free of the symbols $c_1$ and $c_2$ and has the form $F(y, y' \, y'') = 0$. The symbols $c_1$ and $c_2$ represent constants.

**5.** $y = c_1 e^x + c_2 x e^x$     **6.** $y = c_1 e^x \cos x + c_2 e^x \sin x$

In Problems 7–12 match each of the given differential equations with one or more of these solutions:

**(a)** $y = 0$,     **(b)** $y = 2$,     **(c)** $y = 2x$,     **(d)** $y = 2x^2$.

**7.** $xy' = 2y$                **8.** $y' = 2$
**9.** $y' = 2y - 4$             **10.** $xy' = y$
**11.** $y'' + 9y = 18$          **12.** $xy'' - y' = 0$

In Problems 13 and 14 determine by inspection at least one solution of the given differential equation.

**13.** $y'' = y'$                **14.** $y' = y(y - 3)$

In Problems 15 and 16 interpret each statement as a differential equation.

**15.** On the graph of $y = \phi(x)$ the slope of the tangent line at a point $P(x, y)$ is the square of the distance from $P(x, y)$ to the origin.

**16.** On the graph of $y = \phi(x)$ the rate at which the slope changes with respect to $x$ at a point $P(x, y)$ is the negative of the slope of the tangent line at $P(x, y)$.

**17. (a)** Give the domain of the function $y = x^{2/3}$.

   **(b)** Give the largest interval $I$ of definition over which $y = x^{2/3}$ is solution of the differential equation $3xy' - 2y = 0$.

**18. (a)** Verify that the one-parameter family $y^2 - 2y = x^2 - x + c$ is an implicit solution of the differential equation $(2y - 2)y' = 2x - 1$.

   **(b)** Find a member of the one-parameter family in part (a) that satisfies the initial condition $y(0) = 1$.

   **(c)** Use your result in part (b) to find an explicit *function* $y = \phi(x)$ that satisfies $y(0) = 1$. Give the domain of the function $\phi$. Is $y = \phi(x)$ a *solution* of the initial-value problem? If so, give its interval $I$ of definition; if not, explain.

**19.** Given that $y = x - 2/x$ is a solution of the DE $xy' + y = 2x$. Find $x_0$ and the largest interval $I$ for which $y(x)$ is a solution of the first-order IVP $xy' + y = 2x$, $y(x_0) = 1$.

**20.** Suppose that $y(x)$ denotes a solution of the first-order IVP $y' = x^2 + y^2$, $y(1) = -1$ and that $y(x)$ possesses at least a second derivative at $x = 1$. In some neighborhood of $x = 1$ use the DE to determine whether $y(x)$ is increasing or decreasing and whether the graph $y(x)$ is concave up or concave down.

**21.** A differential equation may possess more than one family of solutions.

   **(a)** Plot different members of the families $y = \phi_1(x) = x^2 + c_1$ and $y = \phi_2(x) = -x^2 + c_2$.

   **(b)** Verify that $y = \phi_1(x)$ and $y = \phi_2(x)$ are two solutions of the nonlinear first-order differential equation $(y')^2 = 4x^2$.

   **(c)** Construct a piecewise-defined function that is a solution of the nonlinear DE in part (b) but is not a member of either family of solutions in part (a).

**22.** What is the slope of the tangent line to the graph of a solution of $y' = 6\sqrt{y} + 5x^3$ that passes through $(-1, 4)$?

In Problems 23–26 verify that the indicated function is a particular solution of the given differential equation. Give an interval of definition $I$ for each solution.

**23.** $y'' + y = 2 \cos x - 2 \sin x$;   $y = x \sin x + x \cos x$
**24.** $y'' + y = \sec x$;   $y = x \sin x + (\cos x)\ln(\cos x)$

**25.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + y = 0;$   $y = \sin(\ln x)$

**26.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + y = \sec(\ln x);$
$y = \cos(\ln x) \ln(\cos(\ln x)) + (\ln x) \sin(\ln x)$

In Problems 27–30, $y = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-x} - 2x$ is a two-parameter family of the second-order DE $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 6x + 4$. Find a solution of the second-order IVP consisting of this differential equation and the given initial conditions.

**27.** $y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$      **28.** $y(0) = 1, y'(0) = -3$

**29.** $y(1) = 4, y'(1) = -2$      **30.** $y(-1) = 0, y'(-1) = 1$

**31.** The graph of a solution of a second-order initial-value problem $d^2 y / dx^2 = f(x, y, y'), y(2) = y_0, y'(2) = y_1$, is given in Figure 1.R.1. Use the graph to estimate the values of $y_0$ and $y_1$.
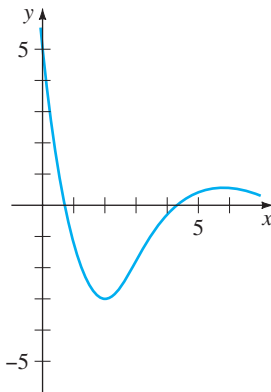


**FIGURE 1.R.1**   Graph for Problem 31

**32.** A tank in the form of a right-circular cylinder of radius 2 feet and height 10 feet is standing on end. If the tank is initially full of water and water leaks from a circular hole of radius $\frac{1}{2}$ inch at its bottom, determine a differential equation for the height $h$ of the water at time $t$. Ignore friction and contraction of water at the hole.

**33.** The number of field mice in a certain pasture is given by the function $200 - 10t$, where time $t$ is measured in years. Determine a differential equation governing a population of owls that feed on the mice if the rate at which the owl population grows is proportional to the difference between the number of owls at time $t$ and number of field mice at time $t$.

**34.** Suppose that $dA/dt = -0.0004332 A(t)$ represents a mathematical model for the radioactive decay of radium-226, where $A(t)$ is the amount of radium (measured in grams) remaining at time $t$ (measured in years). How much of the radium sample remains at the time $t$ when the sample is decaying at a rate of 0.002 gram per year?

# 2 FIRST-ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

The history of mathematics is rife with stories of people who devoted much of their lives to solving equations—algebraic equations at first and then eventually differential equations. In Sections 2.2–2.5 we will study some of the more important analytical methods for solving first-order DEs. However, before we start solving anything, you should be aware of two facts: It is possible for a differential equation to have no solutions, and a differential equation can possess a solution yet there might not exist any analytical method for finding it. In Sections 2.1 and 2.6 we do not solve any DEs but show how to glean information directly from the equation itself. In Section 2.1 we see how the DE yields qualitative information about graphs that enables us to sketch renditions of solutions curves. In Section 2.6 we use the differential equation to construct a numerical procedure for approximating solutions.

## 2.1 SOLUTION CURVES WITHOUT A SOLUTION

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- The first derivative as slope of a tangent line
- The algebraic sign of the first derivative indicates increasing or decreasing

**INTRODUCTION**  Let us imagine for the moment that we have in front of us a first-order differential equation $dy/dx = f(x, y)$, and let us further imagine that we can neither find nor invent a method for solving it analytically. This is not as bad a predicament as one might think, since the differential equation itself can sometimes "tell" us specifics about how its solutions "behave."

We begin our study of first-order differential equations with two ways of analyzing a DE qualitatively. Both these ways enable us to determine, in an approximate sense, what a solution curve must look like without actually solving the equation.

## 2.1.1 DIRECTION FIELDS

**SOME FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS**  We saw in Section 1.2 that whenever $f(x, y)$ and $\partial f/\partial y$ satisfy certain continuity conditions, qualitative questions about existence and uniqueness of solutions can be answered. In this section we shall see that other qualitative questions about properties of solutions—How does a solution behave near a certain point? How does a solution behave as $x \rightarrow \infty$?—can often be answered when the function $f$ depends solely on the variable $y$. We begin, however, with a simple concept from calculus:

*A derivative $dy/dx$ of a differentiable function $y = y(x)$ gives slopes of tangent lines at points on its graph.*

**SLOPE**  Because a solution $y = y(x)$ of a first-order differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y) \tag{1}$$

is necessarily a differentiable function on its interval $I$ of definition, it must also be continuous on $I$. Thus the corresponding solution curve on $I$ must have no breaks and must possess a tangent line at each point $(x, y(x))$. The function $f$ in the normal form (1) is called the **slope function** or **rate function.** The slope of the tangent line at $(x, y(x))$ on a solution curve is the value of the first derivative $dy/dx$ at this point, and we know from (1) that this is the value of the slope function $f(x, y(x))$. Now suppose that $(x, y)$ represents any point in a region of the $xy$-plane over which the function $f$ is defined. The value $f(x, y)$ that the function $f$ assigns to the point represents the slope of a line or, as we shall envision it, a line segment called a **lineal element.** For example, consider the equation $dy/dx = 0.2xy$, where $f(x, y) = 0.2xy$. At, say, the point $(2, 3)$ the slope of a lineal element is $f(2, 3) = 0.2(2)(3) = 1.2$. Figure 2.1.1(a) shows a line segment with slope 1.2 passing though $(2, 3)$. As shown in Figure 2.1.1(b), *if* a solution curve also passes through the point $(2, 3)$, it does so tangent to this line segment; in other words, the lineal element is a miniature tangent line at that point.

**DIRECTION FIELD**  If we systematically evaluate $f$ over a rectangular grid of points in the $xy$-plane and draw a line element at each point $(x, y)$ of the grid with slope $f(x, y)$, then the collection of all these line elements is called a **direction field** or a **slope field** of the differential equation $dy/dx = f(x, y)$. Visually, the direction field suggests the appearance or shape of a family of solution curves of the differential equation, and consequently, it may be possible to see at a glance certain qualitative aspects of the solutions—regions in the plane, for example, in which a
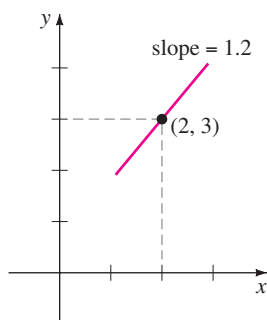


**(a)** lineal element at a point
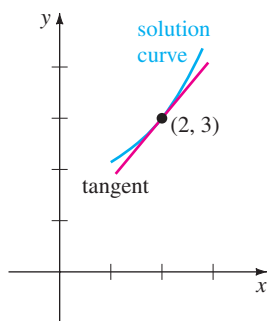


**(b)** lineal element is tangent to solution curve that passes through the point

**FIGURE 2.1.1**  A solution curve is tangent to lineal element at $(2, 3)$
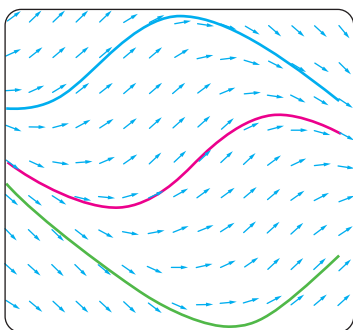
**FIGURE 2.1.2** Solution curves following flow of a direction field
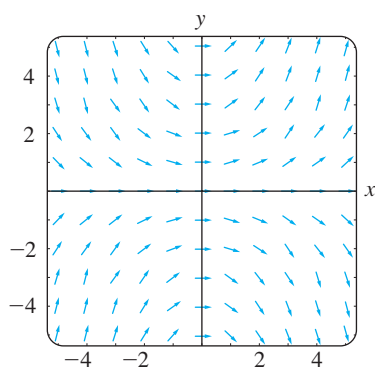


**(a)** direction field for $dy/dx = 0.2xy$
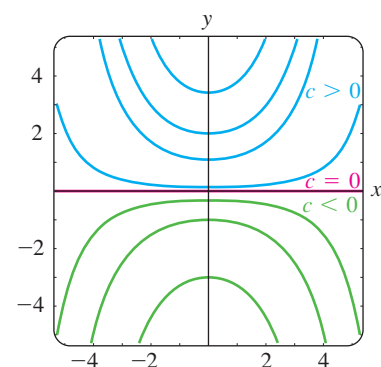


**(b)** some solution curves in the family $y = ce^{0.1x^2}$

**FIGURE 2.1.3** Direction field and solution curves

solution exhibits an unusual behavior. A single solution curve that passes through a direction field must follow the flow pattern of the field; it is tangent to a line element when it intersects a point in the grid. Figure 2.1.2 shows a computer-generated direction field of the differential equation $dy/dx = \sin(x + y)$ over a region of the $xy$-plane. Note how the three solution curves shown in color follow the flow of the field.

### EXAMPLE 1  Direction Field

The direction field for the differential equation $dy/dx = 0.2xy$ shown in Figure 2.1.3(a) was obtained by using computer software in which a $5 \times 5$ grid of points $(mh, nh)$, $m$ and $n$ integers, was defined by letting $-5 \le m \le 5$, $-5 \le n \le 5$, and $h = 1$. Notice in Figure 2.1.3(a) that at any point along the $x$-axis $(y = 0)$ and the $y$-axis $(x = 0)$, the slopes are $f(x, 0) = 0$ and $f(0, y) = 0$, respectively, so the lineal elements are horizontal. Moreover, observe in the first quadrant that for a fixed value of $x$ the values of $f(x, y) = 0.2xy$ increase as $y$ increases; similarly, for a fixed $y$ the values of $f(x, y) = 0.2xy$ increase as $x$ increases. This means that as both $x$ and $y$ increase, the lineal elements almost become vertical and have positive slope ($f(x, y) = 0.2xy > 0$ for $x > 0$, $y > 0$). In the second quadrant, $|f(x, y)|$ increases as $|x|$ and $y$ increase, so the lineal elements again become almost vertical but this time have negative slope ($f(x, y) = 0.2xy < 0$ for $x < 0$, $y > 0$). Reading from left to right, imagine a solution curve that starts at a point in the second quadrant, moves steeply downward, becomes flat as it passes through the $y$-axis, and then, as it enters the first quadrant, moves steeply upward—in other words, its shape would be concave upward and similar to a horseshoe. From this it could be surmised that $y \to \infty$ as $x \to \pm\infty$. Now in the third and fourth quadrants, since $f(x, y) = 0.2xy > 0$ and $f(x, y) = 0.2xy < 0$, respectively, the situation is reversed: A solution curve increases and then decreases as we move from left to right. We saw in (1) of Section 1.1 that $y = e^{0.1x^2}$ is an explicit solution of the differential equation $dy/dx = 0.2xy$; you should verify that a one-parameter family of solutions of the same equation is given by $y = ce^{0.1x^2}$. For purposes of comparison with Figure 2.1.3(a) some representative graphs of members of this family are shown in Figure 2.1.3(b). ∎

### EXAMPLE 2  Direction Field

Use a direction field to sketch an approximate solution curve for the initial-value problem $dy/dx = \sin y$, $y(0) = -\frac{3}{2}$.

**SOLUTION**  Before proceeding, recall that from the continuity of $f(x, y) = \sin y$ and $\partial f/\partial y = \cos y$, Theorem 1.2.1 guarantees the existence of a unique solution curve passing through any specified point $(x_0, y_0)$ in the plane. Now we set our computer software again for a $5 \times 5$ rectangular region and specify (because of the initial condition) points in that region with vertical and horizontal separation of $\frac{1}{2}$ unit—that is, at points $(mh, nh)$, $h = \frac{1}{2}$, $m$ and $n$ integers such that $-10 \le m \le 10$, $-10 \le n \le 10$. The result is shown in Figure 2.1.4. Because the right-hand side of $dy/dx = \sin y$ is 0 at $y = 0$, and at $y = -\pi$, the lineal elements are horizontal at all points whose second coordinates are $y = 0$ or $y = -\pi$. It makes sense then that a solution curve passing through the initial point $(0, -\frac{3}{2})$ has the shape shown in the figure. ∎

**INCREASING/DECREASING**  Interpretation of the derivative $dy/dx$ as a function that gives slope plays the key role in the construction of a direction field. Another telling property of the first derivative will be used next, namely, if $dy/dx > 0$ (or $dy/dx < 0$) for all $x$ in an interval $I$, then a differentiable function $y = y(x)$ is increasing (or decreasing) on $I$.
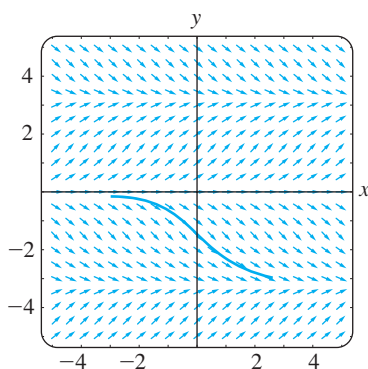
**FIGURE 2.1.4** Direction field for Example 2

## 2.1.2 AUTONOMOUS FIRST-ORDER DEs

**AUTONOMOUS FIRST-ORDER DEs** In Section 1.1 we divided the class of ordinary differential equations into two types: linear and nonlinear. We now consider briefly another kind of classification of ordinary differential equations, a classification that is of particular importance in the qualitative investigation of differential equations. An ordinary differential equation in which the independent variable does not appear explicitly is said to be **autonomous.** If the symbol $x$ denotes the independent variable, then an autonomous first-order differential equation can be written as $f(y, y') = 0$ or in normal form as

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(y). \tag{2}$$

We shall assume throughout that the function $f$ in (2) and its derivative $f'$ are continuous functions of $y$ on some interval $I$. The first-order equations

$$\overset{f(y)}{\underset{\downarrow}{}} \qquad \overset{f(x, y)}{\underset{\downarrow}{}}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 + y^2 \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{dy}{dx} = 0.2xy$$

are autonomous and nonautonomous, respectively.

Many differential equations encountered in applications or equations that are models of physical laws that do not change over time are autonomous. As we have already seen in Section 1.3, in an applied context, symbols other than $y$ and $x$ are routinely used to represent the dependent and independent variables. For example, if $t$ represents time then inspection of

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = kA, \qquad \frac{dx}{dt} = kx(n + 1 - x), \qquad \frac{dT}{dt} = k(T - T_m), \qquad \frac{dA}{dt} = 6 - \frac{1}{100}A,$$

where $k$, $n$, and $T_m$ are constants, shows that each equation is time independent. Indeed, *all* of the first-order differential equations introduced in Section 1.3 are time independent and so are autonomous.

**CRITICAL POINTS** The zeros of the function $f$ in (2) are of special importance. We say that a real number $c$ is a **critical point** of the autonomous differential equation (2) if it is a zero of $f$—that is, $f(c) = 0$. A critical point is also called an **equilibrium point** or **stationary point.** Now observe that if we substitute the constant function $y(x) = c$ into (2), then both sides of the equation are zero. This means:

> If $c$ is a critical point of (2), *then* $y(x) = c$ *is a constant solution of the autonomous differential equation.*

A constant solution $y(x) = c$ of (2) is called an **equilibrium solution;** equilibria are the *only* constant solutions of (2).

As was already mentioned, we can tell when a nonconstant solution $y = y(x)$ of (2) is increasing or decreasing by determining the algebraic sign of the derivative $dy/dx$; in the case of (2) we do this by identifying intervals on the $y$-axis over which the function $f(y)$ is positive or negative.

<br>

**EXAMPLE 3**  **An Autonomous DE**

The differential equation

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(a - bP),$$

where $a$ and $b$ are positive constants, has the normal form $dP/dt = f(P)$, which is (2) with $t$ and $P$ playing the parts of $x$ and $y$, respectively, and hence is autonomous. From $f(P) = P(a - bP) = 0$ we see that $0$ and $a/b$ are critical points of the equation, so the equilibrium solutions are $P(t) = 0$ and $P(t) = a/b$. By putting the critical points on a vertical line, we divide the line into three intervals defined by $-\infty < P < 0$, $0 < P < a/b$, $a/b < P < \infty$. The arrows on the line shown in Figure 2.1.5 indicate the algebraic sign of $f(P) = P(a - bP)$ on these intervals and whether a nonconstant solution $P(t)$ is increasing or decreasing on an interval. The following table explains the figure.
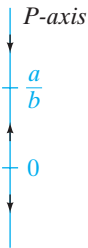


**FIGURE 2.1.5**  Phase portrait of $dP/dt = P(a - bP)$

| Interval | Sign of $f(P)$ | $P(t)$ | Arrow |
|---|---|---|---|
| $(-\infty, 0)$ | minus | decreasing | points down |
| $(0, a/b)$ | plus | increasing | points up |
| $(a/b, \infty)$ | minus | decreasing | points down |

Figure 2.1.5 is called a **one-dimensional phase portrait,** or simply **phase portrait,** of the differential equation $dP/dt = P(a - bP)$. The vertical line is called a **phase line.**

**SOLUTION CURVES**  Without solving an autonomous differential equation, we can usually say a great deal about its solution curves. Since the function $f$ in (2) is independent of the variable $x$, we may consider $f$ defined for $-\infty < x < \infty$ or for $0 \le x < \infty$. Also, since $f$ and its derivative $f'$ are continuous functions of $y$ on some interval $I$ of the $y$-axis, the fundamental results of Theorem 1.2.1 hold in some horizontal strip or region $R$ in the $xy$-plane corresponding to $I$, and so through any point $(x_0, y_0)$ in $R$ there passes only one solution curve of (2). See Figure 2.1.6(a). For the sake of discussion, let us suppose that (2) possesses exactly two critical points $c_1$ and $c_2$ and that $c_1 < c_2$. The graphs of the equilibrium solutions $y(x) = c_1$ and $y(x) = c_2$ are horizontal lines, and these lines partition the region $R$ into three subregions $R_1$, $R_2$, and $R_3$, as illustrated in Figure 2.1.6(b). Without proof here are some conclusions that we can draw about a nonconstant solution $y(x)$ of (2):



**(a)** region $R$



**(b)** subregions $R_1$, $R_2$, and $R_3$ of $R$

**FIGURE 2.1.6**  Lines $y(x) = c_1$ and $y(x) = c_2$ partition $R$ into three horizontal subregions

- If $(x_0, y_0)$ is in a subregion $R_i$, $i = 1, 2, 3$, and $y(x)$ is a solution whose graph passes through this point, then $y(x)$ remains in the subregion $R_i$ for all $x$. As illustrated in Figure 2.1.6(b), the solution $y(x)$ in $R_2$ is bounded below by $c_1$ and above by $c_2$, that is, $c_1 < y(x) < c_2$ for all $x$. The solution curve stays within $R_2$ for all $x$ because the graph of a nonconstant solution of (2) cannot cross the graph of either equilibrium solution $y(x) = c_1$ or $y(x) = c_2$. See Problem 33 in Exercises 2.1.
- By continuity of $f$ we must then have either $f(y) > 0$ or $f(y) < 0$ for all $x$ in a subregion $R_i$, $i = 1, 2, 3$. In other words, $f(y)$ cannot change signs in a subregion. See Problem 33 in Exercises 2.1.

- Since $dy/dx = f(y(x))$ is either positive or negative in a subregion $R_i$, $i = 1$, 2, 3, a solution $y(x)$ is strictly monotonic—that is, $y(x)$ is either increasing or decreasing in the subregion $R_i$. Therefore $y(x)$ cannot be oscillatory, nor can it have a relative extremum (maximum or minimum). See Problem 33 in Exercises 2.1.
- If $y(x)$ is *bounded above* by a critical point $c_1$ (as in subregion $R_1$ where $y(x) < c_1$ for all $x$), then the graph of $y(x)$ must approach the graph of the equilibrium solution $y(x) = c_1$ either as $x \to \infty$ or as $x \to -\infty$. If $y(x)$ is *bounded*—that is, bounded above and below by two consecutive critical points (as in subregion $R_2$ where $c_1 < y(x) < c_2$ for all $x$)—then the graph of $y(x)$ must approach the graphs of the equilibrium solutions $y(x) = c_1$ and $y(x) = c_2$, one as $x \to \infty$ and the other as $x \to -\infty$. If $y(x)$ is *bounded below* by a critical point (as in subregion $R_3$ where $c_2 < y(x)$ for all $x$), then the graph of $y(x)$ must approach the graph of the equilibrium solution $y(x) = c_2$ either as $x \to \infty$ or as $x \to -\infty$. See Problem 34 in Exercises 2.1.

With the foregoing facts in mind, let us reexamine the differential equation in Example 3.

## EXAMPLE 4 Example 3 Revisited

The three intervals determined on the $P$-axis or phase line by the critical points $P = 0$ and $P = a/b$ now correspond in the $tP$-plane to three subregions defined by:

$$R_1: -\infty < P < 0, \qquad R_2: 0 < P < a/b, \qquad \text{and} \qquad R_3: a/b < P < \infty,$$

where $-\infty < t < \infty$. The phase portrait in Figure 2.1.7 tells us that $P(t)$ is decreasing in $R_1$, increasing in $R_2$, and decreasing in $R_3$. If $P(0) = P_0$ is an initial value, then in $R_1$, $R_2$, and $R_3$ we have, respectively, the following:



FIGURE 2.1.7 Phase portrait and solution curves in each of the three subregions

(i) For $P_0 < 0$, $P(t)$ is bounded above. Since $P(t)$ is decreasing, $P(t)$ decreases without bound for increasing $t$, and so $P(t) \to 0$ as $t \to -\infty$. This means that the negative $t$-axis, the graph of the equilibrium solution $P(t) = 0$, is a horizontal asymptote for a solution curve.

(ii) For $0 < P_0 < a/b$, $P(t)$ is bounded. Since $P(t)$ is increasing, $P(t) \to a/b$ as $t \to \infty$ and $P(t) \to 0$ as $t \to -\infty$. The graphs of the two equilibrium solutions, $P(t) = 0$ and $P(t) = a/b$, are horizontal lines that are horizontal asymptotes for any solution curve starting in this subregion.

(iii) For $P_0 > a/b$, $P(t)$ is bounded below. Since $P(t)$ is decreasing, $P(t) \to a/b$ as $t \to \infty$. The graph of the equilibrium solution $P(t) = a/b$ is a horizontal asymptote for a solution curve.

In Figure 2.1.7 the phase line is the $P$-axis in the $tP$-plane. For clarity the original phase line from Figure 2.1.5 is reproduced to the left of the plane in which the subregions $R_1$, $R_2$, and $R_3$ are shaded. The graphs of the equilibrium solutions $P(t) = a/b$ and $P(t) = 0$ (the $t$-axis) are shown in the figure as blue dashed lines; the solid graphs represent typical graphs of $P(t)$ illustrating the three cases just discussed. ■

In a subregion such as $R_1$ in Example 4, where $P(t)$ is decreasing and unbounded below, we must necessarily have $P(t) \to -\infty$. Do *not* interpret this last statement to mean $P(t) \to -\infty$ as $t \to \infty$; we could have $P(t) \to -\infty$ as $t \to T$, where $T > 0$ is a finite number that depends on the initial condition $P(t_0) = P_0$. Thinking in dynamic terms, $P(t)$ could "blow up" in finite time; thinking graphically, $P(t)$ could have a vertical asymptote at $t = T > 0$. A similar remark holds for the subregion $R_3$.

The differential equation $dy/dx = \sin y$ in Example 2 is autonomous and has an infinite number of critical points, since $\sin y = 0$ at $y = n\pi$, $n$ an integer. Moreover, we now know that because the solution $y(x)$ that passes through $(0, -\frac{3}{2})$ is bounded

above and below by two consecutive critical points ($-\pi < y(x) < 0$) and is decreasing ($\sin y < 0$ for $-\pi < y < 0$), the graph of $y(x)$ must approach the graphs of the equilibrium solutions as horizontal asymptotes: $y(x) \rightarrow -\pi$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$ and $y(x) \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow -\infty$.

---

### EXAMPLE 5    Solution Curves of an Autonomous DE

The autonomous equation $dy/dx = (y - 1)^2$ possesses the single critical point 1. From the phase portrait in Figure 2.1.8(a) we conclude that a solution $y(x)$ is an increasing function in the subregions defined by $-\infty < y < 1$ and $1 < y < \infty$, where $-\infty < x < \infty$. For an initial condition $y(0) = y_0 < 1$, a solution $y(x)$ is increasing and bounded above by 1, and so $y(x) \rightarrow 1$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$; for $y(0) = y_0 > 1$ a solution $y(x)$ is increasing and unbounded.

Now $y(x) = 1 - 1/(x + c)$ is a one-parameter family of solutions of the differential equation. (See Problem 4 in Exercises 2.2) A given initial condition determines a value for $c$. For the initial conditions, say, $y(0) = -1 < 1$ and $y(0) = 2 > 1$, we find, in turn, that $y(x) = 1 - 1/(x + \frac{1}{2})$, and $y(x) = 1 - 1/(x - 1)$. As shown in Figures 2.1.8(b) and 2.1.8(c), the graph of each of these rational functions possesses



**(a)** phase line      **(b)** $xy$-plane      **(c)** $xy$-plane
                              $y(0) < 1$            $y(0) > 1$
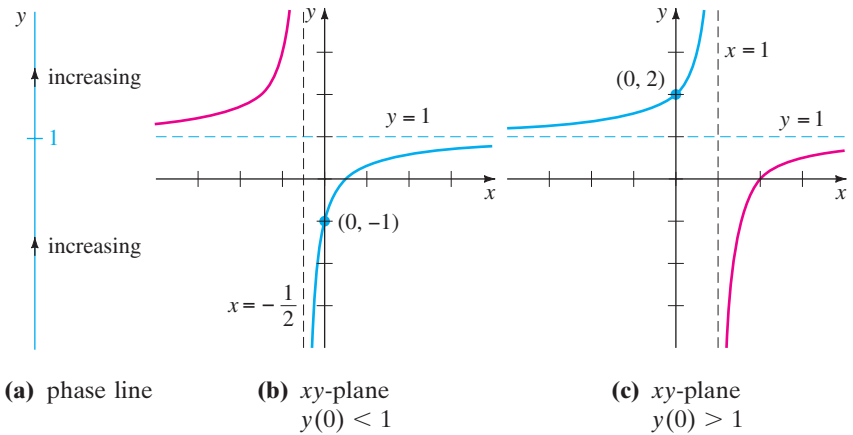
**FIGURE 2.1.8**   Behavior of solutions near $y = 1$

a vertical asymptote. But bear in mind that the solutions of the IVPs

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = (y - 1)^2, \quad y(0) = -1 \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{dy}{dx} = (y - 1)^2, \quad y(0) = 2$$

are defined on special intervals. They are, respectively,

$$y(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{x + \frac{1}{2}}, \quad -\tfrac{1}{2} < x < \infty \qquad \text{and} \qquad y(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{x - 1}, \quad -\infty < x < 1.$$

The solution curves are the portions of the graphs in Figures 2.1.8(b) and 2.1.8(c) shown in blue. As predicted by the phase portrait, for the solution curve in Figure 2.1.8(b), $y(x) \rightarrow 1$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$; for the solution curve in Figure 2.1.8(c), $y(x) \rightarrow \infty$ as $x \rightarrow 1$ from the left. ∎

**ATTRACTORS AND REPELLERS**   Suppose that $y(x)$ is a nonconstant solution of the autonomous differential equation given in (1) and that $c$ is a critical point of the DE. There are basically three types of behavior that $y(x)$ can exhibit near $c$. In Figure 2.1.9 we have placed $c$ on four vertical phase lines. When both arrowheads on either side of the dot labeled $c$ point *toward* $c$, as in Figure 2.1.9(a), all solutions $y(x)$ of (1) that start from an initial point $(x_0, y_0)$ sufficiently near $c$ exhibit the asymptotic behavior $\lim_{x \to \infty} y(x) = c$. For this reason the critical point $c$ is said to be



   (a)     (b)     (c)     (d)
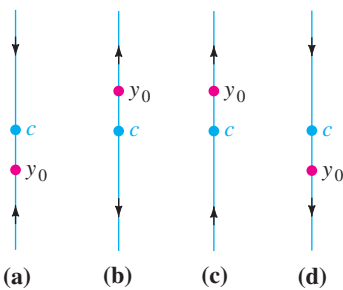
**FIGURE 2.1.9**   Critical point $c$ is an attractor in (a), a repeller in (b), and semi-stable in (c) and (d).
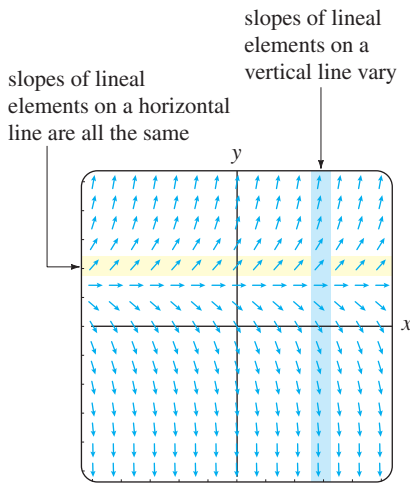
**asymptotically stable.** Using a physical analogy, a solution that starts near $c$ is like a charged particle that, over time, is drawn to a particle of opposite charge, and so $c$ is also referred to as an **attractor.** When both arrowheads on either side of the dot labeled $c$ point *away* from $c$, as in Figure 2.1.9(b), all solutions $y(x)$ of (1) that start from an initial point $(x_0, y_0)$ move away from $c$ as $x$ increases. In this case the critical point $c$ is said to be **unstable.** An unstable critical point is also called a **repeller,** for obvious reasons. The critical point $c$ illustrated in Figures 2.1.9(c) and 2.1.9(d) is neither an attractor nor a repeller. But since $c$ exhibits characteristics of both an attractor and a repeller—that is, a solution starting from an initial point $(x_0, y_0)$ sufficiently near $c$ is attracted to $c$ from one side and repelled from the other side—we say that the critical point $c$ is **semi-stable.** In Example 3 the critical point $a/b$ is asymptotically stable (an attractor) and the critical point 0 is unstable (a repeller). The critical point 1 in Example 5 is semi-stable.

**AUTONOMOUS DEs AND DIRECTION FIELDS**  If a first-order differential equation is autonomous, then we see from the right-hand side of its normal form $dy/dx = f(y)$ that slopes of lineal elements through points in the rectangular grid used to construct a direction field for the DE depend solely on the $y$-coordinate of the points. Put another way, lineal elements passing through points on any *horizontal* line must all have the same slope; slopes of lineal elements along any *vertical* line will, of course, vary. These facts are apparent from inspection of the horizontal gold strip and vertical blue strip in Figure 2.1.10. The figure exhibits a direction field for the autonomous equation $dy/dx = 2y - 2$. With these facts in mind, reexamine Figure 2.1.4.



slopes of lineal elements on a vertical line vary

slopes of lineal elements on a horizontal line are all the same

**FIGURE 2.1.10**  Direction field for an autonomous DE

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# EXERCISES 2.1

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-1.*

## 2.1.1  DIRECTION FIELDS

In Problems 1–4 reproduce the given computer-generated direction field. Then sketch, by hand, an approximate solution curve that passes through each of the indicated points. Use different colored pencils for each solution curve.

**1.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = x^2 - y^2$

**(a)** $y(-2) = 1$     **(b)** $y(3) = 0$

**(c)** $y(0) = 2$     **(d)** $y(0) = 0$
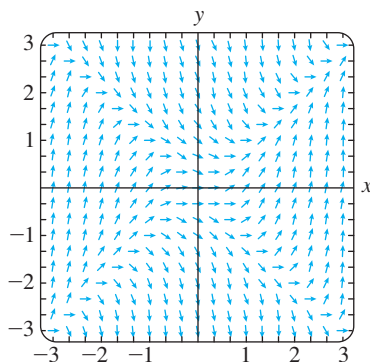


**FIGURE 2.1.11**  Direction field for Problem 1

**2.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = e^{-0.01xy^2}$

**(a)** $y(-6) = 0$     **(b)** $y(0) = 1$

**(c)** $y(0) = -4$     **(d)** $y(8) = -4$
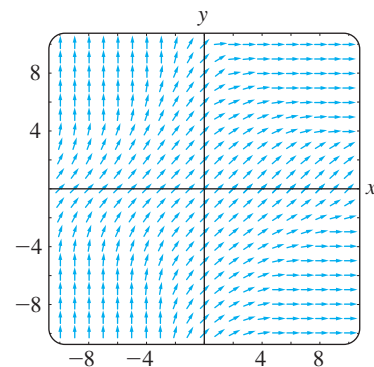


**FIGURE 2.1.12**  Direction field for Problem 2

**3.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 1 - xy$

**(a)** $y(0) = 0$     **(b)** $y(-1) = 0$

**(c)** $y(2) = 2$     **(d)** $y(0) = -4$
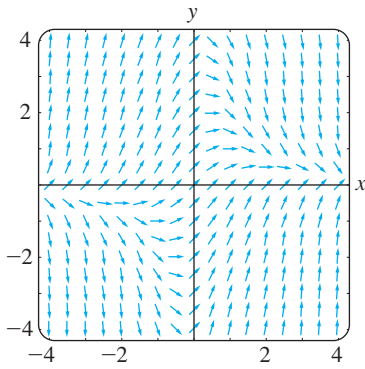
**FIGURE 2.1.13** Direction field for Problem 3

**4.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (\sin x)\cos y$

(a) $y(0) = 1$      (b) $y(1) = 0$

(c) $y(3) = 3$      (d) $y(0) = -\frac{5}{2}$
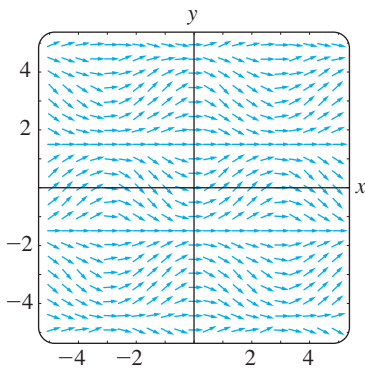


**FIGURE 2.1.14** Direction field for Problem 4

In Problems 5–12 use computer software to obtain a direction field for the given differential equation. By hand, sketch an approximate solution curve passing through each of the given points.

**5.** $y' = x$

(a) $y(0) = 0$

(b) $y(0) = -3$

**6.** $y' = x + y$

(a) $y(-2) = 2$

(b) $y(1) = -3$

**7.** $y\dfrac{dy}{dx} = -x$

(a) $y(1) = 1$

(b) $y(0) = 4$

**8.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{1}{y}$

(a) $y(0) = 1$

(b) $y(-2) = -1$

**9.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 0.2x^2 + y$

(a) $y(0) = \frac{1}{2}$

(b) $y(2) = -1$

**10.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = xe^y$

(a) $y(0) = -2$

(b) $y(1) = 2.5$

**11.** $y' = y - \cos\dfrac{\pi}{2}x$

(a) $y(2) = 2$

(b) $y(-1) = 0$

**12.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 1 - \dfrac{y}{x}$

(a) $y\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2$

(b) $y\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) = 0$

In Problems 13 and 14 the given figure represents the graph of $f(y)$ and $f(x)$, respectively. By hand, sketch a direction field over an appropriate grid for $dy/dx = f(y)$ (Problem 13) and then for $dy/dx = f(x)$ (Problem 14).

**13.**
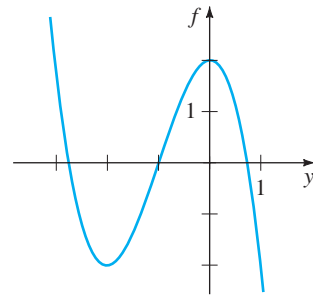


**FIGURE 2.1.15** Graph for Problem 13

**14.**
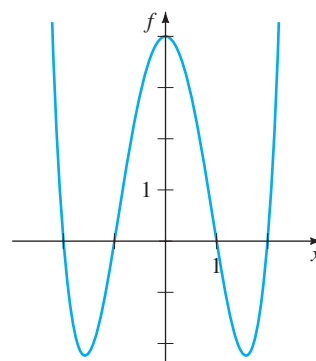


**FIGURE 2.1.16** Graph for Problem 14

**15.** In parts (a) and (b) sketch **isoclines** $f(x, y) = c$ (see the *Remarks* on page 37) for the given differential equation using the indicated values of $c$. Construct a direction field over a grid by carefully drawing lineal elements with the appropriate slope at chosen points on each isocline. In each case, use this rough direction field to sketch an approximate solution curve for the IVP consisting of the DE and the initial condition $y(0) = 1$.

(a) $dy/dx = x + y$; $c$ an integer satisfying $-5 \le c \le 5$

(b) $dy/dx = x^2 + y^2$; $c = \frac{1}{4}$, $c = 1$, $c = \frac{9}{4}$, $c = 4$

## Discussion Problems

**16.** (a) Consider the direction field of the differential equation $dy/dx = x(y - 4)^2 - 2$, but do not use technology to obtain it. Describe the slopes of the lineal elements on the lines $x = 0$, $y = 3$, $y = 4$, and $y = 5$.

(b) Consider the IVP $dy/dx = x(y - 4)^2 - 2$, $y(0) = y_0$, where $y_0 < 4$. Can a solution $y(x) \to \infty$ as $x \to \infty$? Based on the information in part (a), discuss.

**17.** For a first-order DE $dy/dx = f(x, y)$ a curve in the plane defined by $f(x, y) = 0$ is called a **nullcline** of the equation, since a lineal element at a point on the curve has zero slope. Use computer software to obtain a direction field over a rectangular grid of points for $dy/dx = x^2 - 2y$,

and then superimpose the graph of the nullcline $y = \frac{1}{2}x^2$ over the direction field. Discuss the behavior of solution curves in regions of the plane defined by $y < \frac{1}{2}x^2$ and by $y > \frac{1}{2}x^2$. Sketch some approximate solution curves. Try to generalize your observations.

18. **(a)** Identify the nullclines (see Problem 17) in Problems 1, 3, and 4. With a colored pencil, circle any lineal elements in Figures 2.1.11, 2.1.13, and 2.1.14 that you think may be a lineal element at a point on a nullcline.

   **(b)** What are the nullclines of an autonomous first-order DE?

## 2.1.2  AUTONOMOUS FIRST-ORDER DEs

19. Consider the autonomous first-order differential equation $dy/dx = y - y^3$ and the initial condition $y(0) = y_0$. By hand, sketch the graph of a typical solution $y(x)$ when $y_0$ has the given values.

   **(a)** $y_0 > 1$        **(b)** $0 < y_0 < 1$

   **(c)** $-1 < y_0 < 0$     **(d)** $y_0 < -1$

20. Consider the autonomous first-order differential equation $dy/dx = y^2 - y^4$ and the initial condition $y(0) = y_0$. By hand, sketch the graph of a typical solution $y(x)$ when $y_0$ has the given values.

   **(a)** $y_0 > 1$        **(b)** $0 < y_0 < 1$

   **(c)** $-1 < y_0 < 0$     **(d)** $y_0 < -1$

In Problems 21–28 find the critical points and phase portrait of the given autonomous first-order differential equation. Classify each critical point as asymptotically stable, unstable, or semi-stable. By hand, sketch typical solution curves in the regions in the $xy$-plane determined by the graphs of the equilibrium solutions.

21. $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y^2 - 3y$      22. $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y^2 - y^3$

23. $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (y - 2)^4$      24. $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 10 + 3y - y^2$

25. $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y^2(4 - y^2)$      26. $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y(2 - y)(4 - y)$

27. $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y \ln(y + 2)$      28. $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{ye^y - 9y}{e^y}$

In Problems 29 and 30 consider the autonomous differential equation $dy/dx = f(y)$, where the graph of $f$ is given. Use the graph to locate the critical points of each differential equation. Sketch a phase portrait of each differential equation. By hand, sketch typical solution curves in the subregions in the $xy$-plane determined by the graphs of the equilibrium solutions.

29.
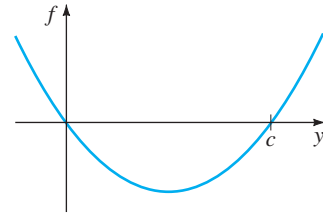


**FIGURE 2.1.17**   Graph for Problem 29

30.
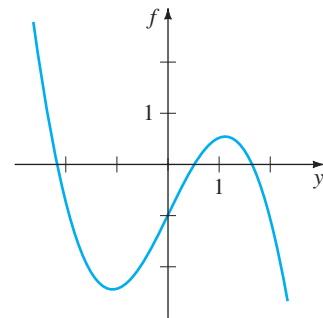


**FIGURE 2.1.18**   Graph for Problem 30

### Discussion Problems

31. Consider the autonomous DE $dy/dx = (2/\pi)y - \sin y$. Determine the critical points of the equation. Discuss a way of obtaining a phase portrait of the equation. Classify the critical points as asymptotically stable, unstable, or semi-stable.

32. A critical point $c$ of an autonomous first-order DE is said to be **isolated** if there exists some open interval that contains $c$ but no other critical point. Can there exist an autonomous DE of the form given in (1) for which *every* critical point is nonisolated? Discuss; do not think profound thoughts.

33. Suppose that $y(x)$ is a nonconstant solution of the autonomous equation $dy/dx = f(y)$ and that $c$ is a critical point of the DE. Discuss. Why can't the graph of $y(x)$ cross the graph of the equilibrium solution $y = c$? Why can't $f(y)$ change signs in one of the subregions discussed on page 38? Why can't $y(x)$ be oscillatory or have a relative extremum (maximum or minimum)?

34. Suppose that $y(x)$ is a solution of the autonomous equation $dy/dx = f(y)$ and is bounded above and below by two consecutive critical points $c_1 < c_2$, as in subregion $R_2$ of Figure 2.1.6(b). If $f(y) > 0$ in the region, then $\lim_{x \to \infty} y(x) = c_2$. Discuss why there cannot exist a number $L < c_2$ such that $\lim_{x \to \infty} y(x) = L$. As part of your discussion, consider what happens to $y'(x)$ as $x \to \infty$.

35. Using the autonomous equation (1), discuss how it is possible to obtain information about the location of points of inflection of a solution curve.

**36.** Consider the autonomous DE $dy/dx = y^2 - y - 6$. Use your ideas from Problem 35 to find intervals on the $y$-axis for which solution curves are concave up and intervals for which solution curves are concave down. Discuss why *each* solution curve of an initial-value problem of the form $dy/dx = y^2 - y - 6$, $y(0) = y_0$, where $-2 < y_0 < 3$, has a point of inflection with the same $y$-coordinate. What is that $y$-coordinate? Carefully sketch the solution curve for which $y(0) = -1$. Repeat for $y(2) = 2$.

**37.** Suppose the autonomous DE in (1) has no critical points. Discuss the behavior of the solutions.

### Mathematical Models

**38. Population Model** The differential equation in Example 3 is a well-known population model. Suppose the DE is changed to

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(aP - b),$$

where $a$ and $b$ are positive constants. Discuss what happens to the population $P$ as time $t$ increases.

**39. Population Model** Another population model is given by

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP - h,$$

where $h$ and $k$ are positive constants. For what initial values $P(0) = P_0$ does this model predict that the population will go extinct?

**40. Terminal Velocity** In Section 1.3 we saw that the autonomous differential equation

$$m\frac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv,$$

where $k$ is a positive constant and $g$ is the acceleration due to gravity, is a model for the velocity $v$ of a body of mass $m$ that is falling under the influence of gravity. Because the term $-kv$ represents air resistance, the velocity of a body falling from a great height does not increase without bound as time $t$ increases. Use a phase portrait of the differential equation to find the limiting, or terminal, velocity of the body. Explain your reasoning.

**41.** Suppose the model in Problem 40 is modified so that air resistance is proportional to $v^2$, that is,

$$m\frac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv^2.$$

See Problem 17 in Exercises 1.3. Use a phase portrait to find the terminal velocity of the body. Explain your reasoning.

**42. Chemical Reactions** When certain kinds of chemicals are combined, the rate at which the new compound is formed is modeled by the autonomous differential equation

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = k(\alpha - X)(\beta - X),$$

where $k > 0$ is a constant of proportionality and $\beta > \alpha > 0$. Here $X(t)$ denotes the number of grams of the new compound formed in time $t$.

**(a)** Use a phase portrait of the differential equation to predict the behavior of $X(t)$ as $t \to \infty$.

**(b)** Consider the case when $\alpha = \beta$. Use a phase portrait of the differential equation to predict the behavior of $X(t)$ as $t \to \infty$ when $X(0) < \alpha$. When $X(0) > \alpha$.

**(c)** Verify that an explicit solution of the DE in the case when $k = 1$ and $\alpha = \beta$ is $X(t) = \alpha - 1/(t + c)$. Find a solution that satisfies $X(0) = \alpha/2$. Then find a solution that satisfies $X(0) = 2\alpha$. Graph these two solutions. Does the behavior of the solutions as $t \to \infty$ agree with your answers to part (b)?

---

## 2.2 SEPARABLE VARIABLES

### REVIEW MATERIAL

● Basic integration formulas (See inside front cover)
● Techniques of integration: integration by parts and partial fraction decomposition
● See also the *Student Resource and Solutions Manual.*

**INTRODUCTION** We begin our study of how to solve differential equations with the simplest of all differential equations: first-order equations with separable variables. Because the method in this section and many techniques for solving differential equations involve integration, you are urged to refresh your memory on important formulas (such as $\int du/u$) and techniques (such as integration by parts) by consulting a calculus text.

**SOLUTION BY INTEGRATION** Consider the first-order differential equation $dy/dx = f(x, y)$. When $f$ does not depend on the variable $y$, that is, $f(x, y) = g(x)$, the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = g(x) \qquad (1)$$

can be solved by integration. If $g(x)$ is a continuous function, then integrating both sides of (1) gives $y = \int g(x)\,dx = G(x) + c$, where $G(x)$ is an antiderivative (indefinite integral) of $g(x)$. For example, if $dy/dx = 1 + e^{2x}$, then its solution is $y = \int(1 + e^{2x})\,dx$ or $y = x + \frac{1}{2}e^{2x} + c$.

**A DEFINITION** Equation (1), as well as its method of solution, is just a special case when the function $f$ in the normal form $dy/dx = f(x, y)$ can be factored into a function of $x$ times a function of $y$.

---

| **DEFINITION 2.2.1** Separable Equation |
| :-- |
| A first-order differential equation of the form $$\frac{dy}{dx} = g(x)h(y)$$ is said to be **separable** or to have **separable variables.** |

For example, the equations

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y^2 x e^{3x+4y} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{dy}{dx} = y + \sin x$$

are separable and nonseparable, respectively. In the first equation we can factor $f(x, y) = y^2 x e^{3x+4y}$ as

$$f(x, y) = y^2 x e^{3x+4y} = \overset{g(x)\ \ \ h(y)}{(x e^{3x})(y^2 e^{4y})},$$

but in the second equation there is no way of expressing $y + \sin x$ as a product of a function of $x$ times a function of $y$.

Observe that by dividing by the function $h(y)$, we can write a separable equation $dy/dx = g(x)h(y)$ as

$$p(y)\frac{dy}{dx} = g(x), \qquad (2)$$

where, for convenience, we have denoted $1/h(y)$ by $p(y)$. From this last form we can see immediately that (2) reduces to (1) when $h(y) = 1$.

Now if $y = \phi(x)$ represents a solution of (2), we must have $p(\phi(x))\phi'(x) = g(x)$, and therefore

$$\int p(\phi(x))\phi'(x)\,dx = \int g(x)\,dx. \qquad (3)$$

But $dy = \phi'(x)\,dx$, and so (3) is the same as

$$\int p(y)\,dy = \int g(x)\,dx \qquad \text{or} \qquad H(y) = G(x) + c, \qquad (4)$$

where $H(y)$ and $G(x)$ are antiderivatives of $p(y) = 1/h(y)$ and $g(x)$, respectively.

**METHOD OF SOLUTION** Equation (4) indicates the procedure for solving separable equations. A one-parameter family of solutions, usually given implicitly, is obtained by integrating both sides of $p(y)\,dy = g(x)\,dx$.

**NOTE** There is no need to use two constants in the integration of a separable equation, because if we write $H(y) + c_1 = G(x) + c_2$, then the difference $c_2 - c_1$ can be replaced by a single constant $c$, as in (4). In many instances throughout the chapters that follow, we will relabel constants in a manner convenient to a given equation. For example, multiples of constants or combinations of constants can sometimes be replaced by a single constant.

---

**EXAMPLE 1**  **Solving a Separable DE**

---

Solve $(1 + x)\,dy - y\,dx = 0$.

**SOLUTION** Dividing by $(1 + x)y$, we can write $dy/y = dx/(1 + x)$, from which it follows that

$$\int \frac{dy}{y} = \int \frac{dx}{1 + x}$$

$$\ln|y| = \ln|1 + x| + c_1$$

$$y = e^{\ln|1+x|+c_1} = e^{\ln|1+x|} \cdot e^{c_1} \quad \leftarrow \text{laws of exponents}$$

$$= |1 + x|\,e^{c_1}$$
$$\leftarrow \begin{cases} |1 + x| = 1 + x, & x \geq -1 \\ |1 + x| = -(1 + x), & x < -1 \end{cases}$$

$$= \pm e^{c_1}(1 + x).$$

Relabeling $\pm e^{c_1}$ as $c$ then gives $y = c(1 + x)$.

**ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION** Because each integral results in a logarithm, a judicious choice for the constant of integration is $\ln|c|$ rather than $c$. Rewriting the second line of the solution as $\ln|y| = \ln|1 + x| + \ln|c|$ enables us to combine the terms on the right-hand side by the properties of logarithms. From $\ln|y| = \ln|c(1 + x)|$ we immediately get $y = c(1 + x)$. Even if the indefinite integrals are not *all* logarithms, it may still be advantageous to use $\ln|c|$. However, no firm rule can be given. ■

In Section 1.1 we saw that a solution curve may be only a segment or an arc of the graph of an implicit solution $G(x, y) = 0$.

---

**EXAMPLE 2**  **Solution Curve**

---

Solve the initial-value problem $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = -\dfrac{x}{y}, \quad y(4) = -3$.

**SOLUTION** Rewriting the equation as $y\,dy = -x\,dx$, we get

$$\int y\,dy = -\int x\,dx \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{y^2}{2} = -\frac{x^2}{2} + c_1.$$

We can write the result of the integration as $x^2 + y^2 = c^2$ by replacing the constant $2c_1$ by $c^2$. This solution of the differential equation represents a family of concentric circles centered at the origin.

Now when $x = 4$, $y = -3$, so $16 + 9 = 25 = c^2$. Thus the initial-value problem determines the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 25$ with radius 5. Because of its simplicity we can solve this implicit solution for an explicit solution that satisfies the initial condition.
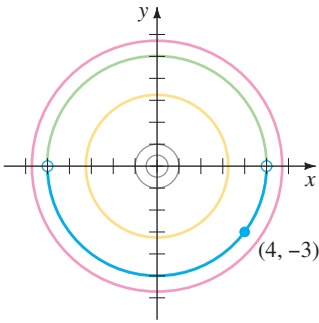
**FIGURE 2.2.1** Solution curve for the IVP in Example 2

We saw this solution as $y = \phi_2(x)$ or $y = -\sqrt{25 - x^2}, -5 < x < 5$ in Example 3 of Section 1.1. A solution curve is the graph of a differentiable function. In this case the solution curve is the lower semicircle, shown in dark blue in Figure 2.2.1 containing the point $(4, -3)$. ∎

**LOSING A SOLUTION**   Some care should be exercised in separating variables, since the variable divisors could be zero at a point. Specifically, if $r$ is a zero of the function $h(y)$, then substituting $y = r$ into $dy/dx = g(x)h(y)$ makes both sides zero; in other words, $y = r$ is a constant solution of the differential equation. But after variables are separated, the left-hand side of $\dfrac{dy}{h(y)} = g(x)\, dx$ is undefined at $r$. As a consequence, $y = r$ might not show up in the family of solutions that are obtained after integration and simplification. Recall that such a solution is called a singular solution.

---

### EXAMPLE 3   Losing a Solution

Solve $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y^2 - 4$.

**SOLUTION**   We put the equation in the form

$$\frac{dy}{y^2 - 4} = dx \qquad \text{or} \qquad \left[\frac{\frac{1}{4}}{y - 2} - \frac{\frac{1}{4}}{y + 2}\right] dy = dx. \tag{5}$$

The second equation in (5) is the result of using partial fractions on the left-hand side of the first equation. Integrating and using the laws of logarithms gives

$$\frac{1}{4} \ln|y - 2| - \frac{1}{4} \ln|y + 2| = x + c_1$$

$$\text{or} \qquad \ln\left|\frac{y - 2}{y + 2}\right| = 4x + c_2 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{y - 2}{y + 2} = \pm e^{4x + c_2}.$$

Here we have replaced $4c_1$ by $c_2$. Finally, after replacing $\pm e^{c_2}$ by $c$ and solving the last equation for $y$, we get the one-parameter family of solutions

$$y = 2\frac{1 + ce^{4x}}{1 - ce^{4x}}. \tag{6}$$

Now if we factor the right-hand side of the differential equation as $dy/dx = (y - 2)(y + 2)$, we know from the discussion of critical points in Section 2.1 that $y = 2$ and $y = -2$ are two constant (equilibrium) solutions. The solution $y = 2$ is a member of the family of solutions defined by (6) corresponding to the value $c = 0$. However, $y = -2$ is a singular solution; it cannot be obtained from (6) for any choice of the parameter $c$. This latter solution was lost early on in the solution process. Inspection of (5) clearly indicates that we must preclude $y = \pm 2$ in these steps. ∎

---

### EXAMPLE 4   An Initial-Value Problem

Solve $(e^{2y} - y) \cos x \dfrac{dy}{dx} = e^y \sin 2x, \quad y(0) = 0.$

**SOLUTION** Dividing the equation by $e^y \cos x$ gives

$$\frac{e^{2y} - y}{e^y} \, dy = \frac{\sin 2x}{\cos x} \, dx.$$

Before integrating, we use termwise division on the left-hand side and the trigonometric identity $\sin 2x = 2 \sin x \cos x$ on the right-hand side. Then

integration by parts → $$\int (e^y - ye^{-y}) \, dy = 2 \int \sin x \, dx$$

yields $$e^y + ye^{-y} + e^{-y} = -2 \cos x + c. \qquad (7)$$

The initial condition $y = 0$ when $x = 0$ implies $c = 4$. Thus a solution of the initial-value problem is

$$e^y + ye^{-y} + e^{-y} = 4 - 2 \cos x. \qquad (8) \quad ■$$

**USE OF COMPUTERS** The *Remarks* at the end of Section 1.1 mentioned that it may be difficult to use an implicit solution $G(x, y) = 0$ to find an explicit solution $y = \phi(x)$. Equation (8) shows that the task of solving for $y$ in terms of $x$ may present more problems than just the drudgery of symbol pushing—sometimes it simply cannot be done! Implicit solutions such as (8) are somewhat frustrating; neither the graph of the equation nor an interval over which a solution satisfying $y(0) = 0$ is defined is apparent. The problem of "seeing" what an implicit solution looks like can be overcome in some cases by means of technology. One way* of proceeding is to use the contour plot application of a computer algebra system (CAS). Recall from multivariate calculus that for a function of two variables $z = G(x, y)$ the *two-dimensional* curves defined by $G(x, y) = c$, where $c$ is constant, are called the *level curves* of the function. With the aid of a CAS, some of the level curves of the function $G(x, y) = e^y + ye^{-y} + e^{-y} + 2 \cos x$ have been reproduced in Figure 2.2.2. The family of solutions defined by (7) is the level curves $G(x, y) = c$. Figure 2.2.3 illustrates the level curve $G(x, y) = 4$, which is the particular solution (8), in blue color. The other curve in Figure 2.2.3 is the level curve $G(x, y) = 2$, which is the member of the family $G(x, y) = c$ that satisfies $y(\pi/2) = 0$.

If an initial condition leads to a particular solution by yielding a specific value of the parameter $c$ in a family of solutions for a first-order differential equation, there is a natural inclination for most students (and instructors) to relax and be content. However, a solution of an initial-value problem might not be unique. We saw in Example 4 of Section 1.2 that the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = xy^{1/2}, \quad y(0) = 0 \qquad (9)$$

has at least two solutions, $y = 0$ and $y = \frac{1}{16}x^4$. We are now in a position to solve the equation. Separating variables and integrating $y^{-1/2} \, dy = x \, dx$ gives

$$2y^{1/2} = \frac{x^2}{2} + c_1 \quad \text{or} \quad y = \left(\frac{x^2}{4} + c\right)^2.$$

When $x = 0$, then $y = 0$, so necessarily, $c = 0$. Therefore $y = \frac{1}{16}x^4$. The trivial solution $y = 0$ was lost by dividing by $y^{1/2}$. In addition, the initial-value problem (9) possesses infinitely many more solutions, since for any choice of the parameter $a \geq 0$ the
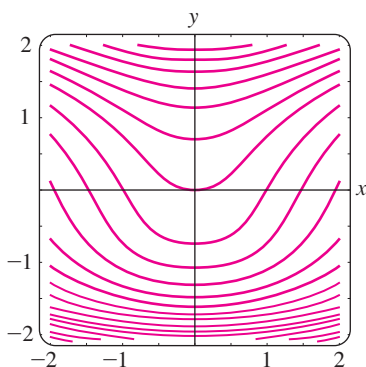


**FIGURE 2.2.2** Level curves $G(x, y) = c$, where $G(x, y) = e^y + ye^{-y} + e^{-y} + 2 \cos x$
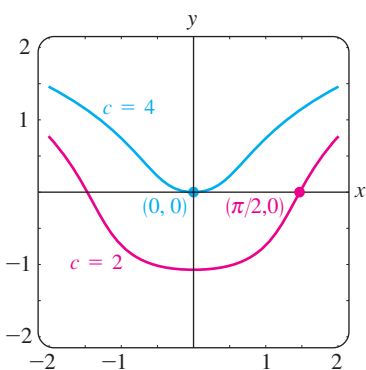


**FIGURE 2.2.3** Level curves $c = 2$ and $c = 4$

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*In Section 2.6 we will discuss several other ways of proceeding that are based on the concept of a numerical solver.

piecewise-defined function
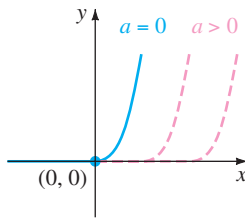


**FIGURE 2.2.4**   Piecewise-defined solutions of (9)

$$y = \begin{cases} 0, & x < a \\ \frac{1}{16}(x^2 - a^2)^2, & x \geq a \end{cases}$$

satisfies both the differential equation and the initial condition. See Figure 2.2.4.

**SOLUTIONS DEFINED BY INTEGRALS**   If $g$ is a function continuous on an open interval $I$ containing $a$, then for every $x$ in $I$,

$$\frac{d}{dx}\int_a^x g(t)\, dt = g(x).$$

You might recall that the foregoing result is one of the two forms of the fundamental theorem of calculus. In other words, $\int_a^x g(t)\, dt$ is an antiderivative of the function $g$. There are times when this form is convenient in solving DEs. For example, if $g$ is continuous on an interval $I$ containing $x_0$ and $x$, then a solution of the simple initial-value problem $dy/dx = g(x)$, $y(x_0) = y_0$, that is defined on $I$ is given by

$$y(x) = y_0 + \int_{x_0}^x g(t)\, dt$$

You should verify that $y(x)$ defined in this manner satisfies the initial condition. Since an antiderivative of a continuous function $g$ cannot always be expressed in terms of elementary functions, this might be the best we can do in obtaining an explicit solution of an IVP. The next example illustrates this idea.

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**EXAMPLE 5**   **An Initial-Value Problem**

Solve $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = e^{-x^2}$, $y(3) = 5$.

**SOLUTION**   The function $g(x) = e^{-x^2}$ is continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$, but its antiderivative is not an elementary function. Using $t$ as dummy variable of integration, we can write

$$\int_3^x \frac{dy}{dt}\, dt = \int_3^x e^{-t^2}\, dt$$

$$y(t)\Big]_3^x = \int_3^x e^{-t^2}\, dt$$

$$y(x) - y(3) = \int_3^x e^{-t^2}\, dt$$

$$y(x) = y(3) + \int_3^x e^{-t^2}\, dt.$$

Using the initial condition $y(3) = 5$, we obtain the solution

$$y(x) = 5 + \int_3^x e^{-t^2}\, dt.$$   ■

The procedure demonstrated in Example 5 works equally well on separable equations $dy/dx = g(x)f(y)$ where, say, $f(y)$ possesses an elementary antiderivative but $g(x)$ does not possess an elementary antiderivative. See Problems 29 and 30 in Exercises 2.2.

## REMARKS

(i) As we have just seen in Example 5, some simple functions do not possess an antiderivative that is an elementary function. Integrals of these kinds of functions are called **nonelementary.** For example, $\int_3^x e^{-t^2} dt$ and $\int \sin x^2 dx$ are nonelementary integrals. We will run into this concept again in Section 2.3.

(ii) In some of the preceding examples we saw that the constant in the one-parameter family of solutions for a first-order differential equation can be relabeled when convenient. Also, it can easily happen that two individuals solving the same equation correctly arrive at dissimilar expressions for their answers. For example, by separation of variables we can show that one-parameter families of solutions for the DE $(1 + y^2) \, dx + (1 + x^2) \, dy = 0$ are

$$\arctan x + \arctan y = c \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{x + y}{1 - xy} = c.$$

As you work your way through the next several sections, bear in mind that families of solutions may be equivalent in the sense that one family may be obtained from another by either relabeling the constant or applying algebra and trigonometry. See Problems 27 and 28 in Exercises 2.2.

## EXERCISES 2.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-1.*

In Problems 1–22 solve the given differential equation by separation of variables.

**1.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \sin 5x$

**2.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (x + 1)^2$

**3.** $dx + e^{3x} dy = 0$

**4.** $dy - (y - 1)^2 dx = 0$

**5.** $x \dfrac{dy}{dx} = 4y$

**6.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 2xy^2 = 0$

**7.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = e^{3x+2y}$

**8.** $e^x y \dfrac{dy}{dx} = e^{-y} + e^{-2x-y}$

**9.** $y \ln x \dfrac{dx}{dy} = \left(\dfrac{y + 1}{x}\right)^2$

**10.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \left(\dfrac{2y + 3}{4x + 5}\right)^2$

**11.** $\csc y \, dx + \sec^2 x \, dy = 0$

**12.** $\sin 3x \, dx + 2y \cos^3 3x \, dy = 0$

**13.** $(e^y + 1)^2 e^{-y} dx + (e^x + 1)^3 e^{-x} dy = 0$

**14.** $x(1 + y^2)^{1/2} dx = y(1 + x^2)^{1/2} dy$

**15.** $\dfrac{dS}{dr} = kS$

**16.** $\dfrac{dQ}{dt} = k(Q - 70)$

**17.** $\dfrac{dP}{dt} = P - P^2$

**18.** $\dfrac{dN}{dt} + N = Nte^{t+2}$

**19.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{xy + 3x - y - 3}{xy - 2x + 4y - 8}$

**20.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{xy + 2y - x - 2}{xy - 3y + x - 3}$

**21.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = x\sqrt{1 - y^2}$

**22.** $(e^x + e^{-x}) \dfrac{dy}{dx} = y^2$

In Problems 23–28 find an explicit solution of the given initial-value problem.

**23.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 4(x^2 + 1), \quad x(\pi/4) = 1$

**24.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{y^2 - 1}{x^2 - 1}, \quad y(2) = 2$

**25.** $x^2 \dfrac{dy}{dx} = y - xy, \quad y(-1) = -1$

**26.** $\dfrac{dy}{dt} + 2y = 1, \quad y(0) = \dfrac{5}{2}$

**27.** $\sqrt{1 - y^2} \, dx - \sqrt{1 - x^2} \, dy = 0, \quad y(0) = \dfrac{\sqrt{3}}{2}$

**28.** $(1 + x^4) \, dy + x(1 + 4y^2) \, dx = 0, \quad y(1) = 0$

In Problems 29 and 30 proceed as in Example 5 and find an explicit solution of the given initial-value problem.

**29.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = ye^{-x^2}, \quad y(4) = 1$

**30.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y^2 \sin x^2, \quad y(-2) = \dfrac{1}{3}$

**31. (a)** Find a solution of the initial-value problem consisting of the differential equation in Example 3 and the initial conditions $y(0) = 2$, $y(0) = -2$, and $y\left(\dfrac{1}{4}\right) = 1$.

**(b)** Find the solution of the differential equation in Example 4 when $\ln c_1$ is used as the constant of integration on the *left-hand* side in the solution and $4 \ln c_1$ is replaced by $\ln c$. Then solve the same initial-value problems in part (a).

**32.** Find a solution of $x \dfrac{dy}{dx} = y^2 - y$ that passes through the indicated points.

**(a)** $(0, 1)$     **(b)** $(0, 0)$     **(c)** $\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$     **(d)** $\left(2, \frac{1}{4}\right)$

**33.** Find a singular solution of Problem 21. Of Problem 22.

**34.** Show that an implicit solution of

$$2x \sin^2 y \, dx - (x^2 + 10) \cos y \, dy = 0$$

is given by $\ln(x^2 + 10) + \csc y = c$. Find the constant solutions, if any, that were lost in the solution of the differential equation.

Often a radical change in the form of the solution of a differential equation corresponds to a very small change in either the initial condition or the equation itself. In Problems 35–38 find an explicit solution of the given initial-value problem. Use a graphing utility to plot the graph of each solution. Compare each solution curve in a neighborhood of $(0, 1)$.

**35.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (y - 1)^2, \quad y(0) = 1$

**36.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (y - 1)^2, \quad y(0) = 1.01$

**37.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (y - 1)^2 + 0.01, \quad y(0) = 1$

**38.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (y - 1)^2 - 0.01, \quad y(0) = 1$

**39.** Every autonomous first-order equation $dy/dx = f(y)$ is separable. Find explicit solutions $y_1(x)$, $y_2(x)$, $y_3(x)$, and $y_4(x)$ of the differential equation $dy/dx = y - y^3$ that satisfy, in turn, the initial conditions $y_1(0) = 2$, $y_2(0) = \frac{1}{2}$, $y_3(0) = -\frac{1}{2}$, and $y_4(0) = -2$. Use a graphing utility to plot the graphs of each solution. Compare these graphs with those predicted in Problem 19 of Exercises 2.1. Give the exact interval of definition for each solution.

**40. (a)** The autonomous first-order differential equation $dy/dx = 1/(y - 3)$ has no critical points. Nevertheless, place 3 on the phase line and obtain a phase portrait of the equation. Compute $d^2y/dx^2$ to determine where solution curves are concave up and where they are concave down (see Problems 35 and 36 in Exercises 2.1). Use the phase portrait and concavity to sketch, by hand, some typical solution curves.

**(b)** Find explicit solutions $y_1(x)$, $y_2(x)$, $y_3(x)$, and $y_4(x)$ of the differential equation in part (a) that satisfy, in turn, the initial conditions $y_1(0) = 4$, $y_2(0) = 2$,

$y_3(1) = 2$, and $y_4(-1) = 4$. Graph each solution and compare with your sketches in part (a). Give the exact interval of definition for each solution.

**41. (a)** Find an explicit solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2x + 1}{2y}, \quad y(-2) = -1.$$

**(b)** Use a graphing utility to plot the graph of the solution in part (a). Use the graph to estimate the interval $I$ of definition of the solution.

**(c)** Determine the exact interval $I$ of definition by analytical methods.

**42.** Repeat parts (a)–(c) of Problem 41 for the IVP consisting of the differential equation in Problem 7 and the initial condition $y(0) = 0$.

## Discussion Problems

**43. (a)** Explain why the interval of definition of the explicit solution $y = \phi_2(x)$ of the initial-value problem in Example 2 is the *open* interval $(-5, 5)$.

**(b)** Can any solution of the differential equation cross the $x$-axis? Do you think that $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ is an implicit solution of the initial-value problem $dy/dx = -x/y, y(1) = 0$?

**44. (a)** If $a > 0$, discuss the differences, if any, between the solutions of the initial-value problems consisting of the differential equation $dy/dx = x/y$ and each of the initial conditions $y(a) = a$, $y(a) = -a$, $y(-a) = a$, and $y(-a) = -a$.

**(b)** Does the initial-value problem $dy/dx = x/y$, $y(0) = 0$ have a solution?

**(c)** Solve $dy/dx = x/y$, $y(1) = 2$ and give the exact interval $I$ of definition of its solution.

**45.** In Problems 39 and 40 we saw that every autonomous first-order differential equation $dy/dx = f(y)$ is separable. Does this fact help in the solution of the initial-value problem $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \sqrt{1 + y^2} \sin^2 y, \quad y(0) = \frac{1}{2}$? Discuss. Sketch, by hand, a plausible solution curve of the problem.

**46.** Without the use of technology, how would you solve

$$\left(\sqrt{x} + x\right)\frac{dy}{dx} = \sqrt{y} + y?$$

Carry out your ideas.

**47.** Find a function whose square plus the square of its derivative is 1.

**48. (a)** The differential equation in Problem 27 is equivalent to the normal form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \sqrt{\frac{1 - y^2}{1 - x^2}}$$

in the square region in the $xy$-plane defined by $|x| < 1, |y| < 1$. But the quantity under the radical is nonnegative also in the regions defined by $|x| > 1$, $|y| > 1$. Sketch all regions in the $xy$-plane for which this differential equation possesses real solutions.

(b) Solve the DE in part (a) in the regions defined by $|x| > 1, |y| > 1$. Then find an implicit and an explicit solution of the differential equation subject to $y(2) = 2$.

## Mathematical Model

**49. Suspension Bridge** In (16) of Section 1.3 we saw that a mathematical model for the shape of a flexible cable strung between two vertical supports is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{W}{T_1}, \tag{10}$$

where $W$ denotes the portion of the total vertical load between the points $P_1$ and $P_2$ shown in Figure 1.3.7. The DE (10) is separable under the following conditions that describe a suspension bridge.

Let us assume that the $x$- and $y$-axes are as shown in Figure 2.2.5—that is, the $x$-axis runs along the horizontal roadbed, and the $y$-axis passes through $(0, a)$, which is the lowest point on one cable over the span of the bridge, coinciding with the interval $[-L/2, L/2]$. In the case of a suspension bridge, the usual assumption is that the vertical load in (10) is only a uniform roadbed distributed along the horizontal axis. In other words, it is assumed that the weight of all cables is negligible in comparison to the weight of the roadbed and that the weight per unit length of the roadbed (say, pounds per horizontal foot) is a constant $\rho$. Use this information to set up and solve an appropriate initial-value problem from which the shape (a curve with equation $y = \phi(x)$) of each of the two cables in a suspension bridge is determined. Express your solution of the IVP in terms of the sag $h$ and span $L$. See Figure 2.2.5.
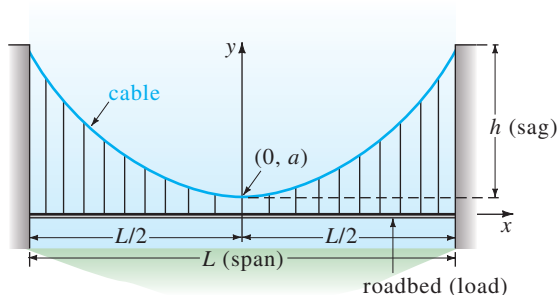


**FIGURE 2.2.5** Shape of a cable in Problem 49

## Computer Lab Assignments

**50. (a)** Use a CAS and the concept of level curves to plot representative graphs of members of the family of solutions of the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{8x + 5}{3y^2 + 1}$. Experiment with different numbers of level curves as well as various rectangular regions defined by $a \le x \le b, c \le y \le d$.

(b) On separate coordinate axes plot the graphs of the particular solutions corresponding to the initial conditions: $y(0) = -1$; $y(0) = 2$; $y(-1) = 4$; $y(-1) = -3$.

**51. (a)** Find an implicit solution of the IVP

$$(2y + 2)\, dy - (4x^3 + 6x)\, dx = 0, \quad y(0) = -3.$$

(b) Use part (a) to find an explicit solution $y = \phi(x)$ of the IVP.

(c) Consider your answer to part (b) as a *function* only. Use a graphing utility or a CAS to graph this function, and then use the graph to estimate its domain.

(d) With the aid of a root-finding application of a CAS, determine the approximate largest interval $I$ of definition of the *solution* $y = \phi(x)$ in part (b). Use a graphing utility or a CAS to graph the solution curve for the IVP on this interval.

**52. (a)** Use a CAS and the concept of level curves to plot representative graphs of members of the family of solutions of the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x(1 - x)}{y(-2 + y)}$. Experiment with different numbers of level curves as well as various rectangular regions in the $xy$-plane until your result resembles Figure 2.2.6.

(b) On separate coordinate axes, plot the graph of the implicit solution corresponding to the initial condition $y(0) = \frac{3}{2}$. Use a colored pencil to mark off that segment of the graph that corresponds to the solution curve of a solution $\phi$ that satisfies the initial condition. With the aid of a root-finding application of a CAS, determine the approximate largest interval $I$ of definition of the solution $\phi$. [*Hint*: First find the points on the curve in part (a) where the tangent is vertical.]

(c) Repeat part (b) for the initial condition $y(0) = -2$.
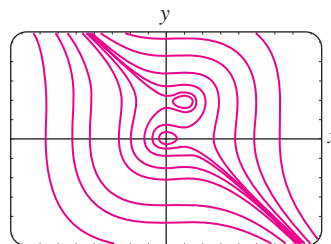


**FIGURE 2.2.6** Level curves in Problem 52

## 2.3   LINEAR EQUATIONS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Review the definition of linear DEs in (6) and (7) of Section 1.1

**INTRODUCTION**   We continue our quest for solutions of first-order DEs by next examining linear equations. Linear differential equations are an especially "friendly" family of differential equations in that, given a linear equation, whether first order or a higher-order kin, there is always a good possibility that we can find some sort of solution of the equation that we can examine.

**A DEFINITION**   The form of a linear first-order DE was given in (7) of Section 1.1. This form, the case when $n = 1$ in (6) of that section, is reproduced here for convenience.

---

**DEFINITION 2.3.1   Linear Equation**

A first-order differential equation of the form

$$a_1(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x) \tag{1}$$

is said to be a **linear equation** in the dependent variable $y$.

---

When $g(x) = 0$, the linear equation (1) is said to be **homogeneous;** otherwise, it is **nonhomogeneous.**

**STANDARD FORM**   By dividing both sides of (1) by the lead coefficient $a_1(x)$, we obtain a more useful form, the **standard form,** of a linear equation:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = f(x). \tag{2}$$

We seek a solution of (2) on an interval $I$ for which both coefficient functions $P$ and $f$ are continuous.

In the discussion that follows we illustrate a property and a procedure and end up with a formula representing the form that every solution of (2) must have. But more than the formula, the property and the procedure are important, because these two concepts carry over to linear equations of higher order.

**THE PROPERTY**   The differential equation (2) has the property that its solution is the **sum** of the two solutions: $y = y_c + y_p$, where $y_c$ is a solution of the associated homogeneous equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = 0 \tag{3}$$

and $y_p$ is a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation (2). To see this, observe that

$$\frac{d}{dx}[y_c + y_p] + P(x)[y_c + y_p] = \underbrace{\left[\frac{dy_c}{dx} + P(x)y_c\right]}_{0} + \underbrace{\left[\frac{dy_p}{dx} + P(x)y_p\right]}_{f(x)} = f(x).$$

Now the homogeneous equation (3) is also separable. This fact enables us to find $y_c$ by writing (3) as

$$\frac{dy}{y} + P(x)\,dx = 0$$

and integrating. Solving for $y$ gives $y_c = ce^{-\int P(x)dx}$. For convenience let us write $y_c = cy_1(x)$, where $y_1 = e^{-\int P(x)dx}$. The fact that $dy_1/dx + P(x)y_1 = 0$ will be used next to determine $y_p$.

**THE PROCEDURE**   We can now find a particular solution of equation (2) by a procedure known as **variation of parameters.** The basic idea here is to find a function $u$ so that $y_p = u(x)y_1(x) = u(x)e^{-\int P(x)dx}$ is a solution of (2). In other words, our assumption for $y_p$ is the same as $y_c = cy_1(x)$ except that $c$ is replaced by the "variable parameter" $u$. Substituting $y_p = uy_1$ into (2) gives

<div align="center">
Product Rule            zero<br>
↓                ↓
</div>

$$u\frac{dy_1}{dx} + y_1\frac{du}{dx} + P(x)uy_1 = f(x) \qquad \text{or} \qquad u\left[\frac{dy_1}{dx} + P(x)y_1\right] + y_1\frac{du}{dx} = f(x)$$

so
$$y_1\frac{du}{dx} = f(x).$$

Separating variables and integrating then gives

$$du = \frac{f(x)}{y_1(x)}\,dx \qquad \text{and} \qquad u = \int \frac{f(x)}{y_1(x)}\,dx.$$

Since $y_1(x) = e^{-\int P(x)dx}$, we see that $1/y_1(x) = e^{\int P(x)dx}$. Therefore

$$y_p = uy_1 = \left(\int \frac{f(x)}{y_1(x)}\,dx\right)e^{-\int P(x)dx} = e^{-\int P(x)dx}\int e^{\int P(x)dx}f(x)\,dx,$$

and
$$y = \underbrace{ce^{-\int P(x)dx}}_{y_c} + \underbrace{e^{-\int P(x)dx}\int e^{\int P(x)dx}f(x)\,dx}_{y_p}. \qquad (4)$$

Hence if (2) has a solution, it must be of form (4). Conversely, it is a straightforward exercise in differentiation to verify that (4) constitutes a one-parameter family of solutions of equation (2).

You should not memorize the formula given in (4). However, you should remember the special term

$$e^{\int P(x)dx} \qquad (5)$$

because it is used in an equivalent but easier way of solving (2). If equation (4) is multiplied by (5),

$$e^{\int P(x)dx}y = c + \int e^{\int P(x)dx}f(x)\,dx, \qquad (6)$$

and then (6) is differentiated,

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[e^{\int P(x)dx}y\right] = e^{\int P(x)dx}f(x), \qquad (7)$$

we get
$$e^{\int P(x)dx}\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)e^{\int P(x)dx}y = e^{\int P(x)dx}f(x). \qquad (8)$$

Dividing the last result by $e^{\int P(x)dx}$ gives (2).

**METHOD OF SOLUTION**  The recommended method of solving (2) actually consists of (6)–(8) worked in reverse order. In other words, if (2) is multiplied by (5), we get (8). The left-hand side of (8) is recognized as the derivative of the product of $e^{\int P(x)dx}$ and $y$. This gets us to (7). We then integrate both sides of (7) to get the solution (6). Because we can solve (2) by integration after multiplication by $e^{\int P(x)dx}$, we call this function an **integrating factor** for the differential equation. For convenience we summarize these results. We again emphasize that you should not memorize formula (4) but work through the following procedure each time.

---

**SOLVING A LINEAR FIRST-ORDER EQUATION**

(*i*)   Put a linear equation of form (1) into the standard form (2).

(*ii*)  From the standard form identify $P(x)$ and then find the integrating factor $e^{\int P(x)dx}$.

(*iii*) Multiply the standard form of the equation by the integrating factor. The left-hand side of the resulting equation is automatically the derivative of the integrating factor and $y$:

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[e^{\int P(x)dx}y\right] = e^{\int P(x)dx}f(x).$$

(*iv*)  Integrate both sides of this last equation.

---

### EXAMPLE 1    Solving a Homogeneous Linear DE

Solve $\dfrac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 0$.

**SOLUTION**  This linear equation can be solved by separation of variables. Alternatively, since the equation is already in the standard form (2), we see that $P(x) = -3$, and so the integrating factor is $e^{\int(-3)dx} = e^{-3x}$. We multiply the equation by this factor and recognize that

$$e^{-3x}\frac{dy}{dx} - 3e^{-3x}y = 0 \qquad \text{is the same as} \qquad \frac{d}{dx}[e^{-3x}y] = 0.$$

Integrating both sides of the last equation gives $e^{-3x}y = c$. Solving for $y$ gives us the explicit solution $y = ce^{3x}$, $-\infty < x < \infty$.  ■

### EXAMPLE 2    Solving a Nonhomogeneous Linear DE

Solve $\dfrac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 6$.

**SOLUTION**  The associated homogeneous equation for this DE was solved in Example 1. Again the equation is already in the standard form (2), and the integrating factor is still $e^{\int(-3)dx} = e^{-3x}$. This time multiplying the given equation by this factor gives

$$e^{-3x}\frac{dy}{dx} - 3e^{-3x}y = 6e^{-3x}, \qquad \text{which is the same as} \qquad \frac{d}{dx}[e^{-3x}y] = 6e^{-3x}.$$

Integrating both sides of the last equation gives $e^{-3x}y = -2e^{-3x} + c$ or $y = -2 + ce^{3x}$, $-\infty < x < \infty$.  ■
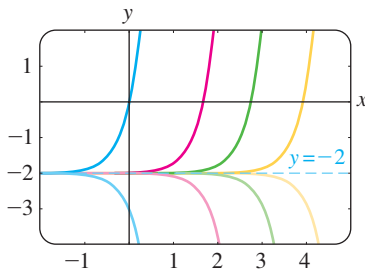
The final solution in Example 2 is the sum of two solutions: $y = y_c + y_p$, where $y_c = ce^{3x}$ is the solution of the homogeneous equation in Example 1 and $y_p = -2$ is a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation $y' - 3y = 6$. You need not be concerned about whether a linear first-order equation is homogeneous or nonhomogeneous; when you follow the solution procedure outlined above, a solution of a nonhomogeneous equation necessarily turns out to be $y = y_c + y_p$. However, the distinction between solving a homogeneous DE and solving a nonhomogeneous DE becomes more important in Chapter 4, where we solve linear higher-order equations.

When $a_1$, $a_0$, and $g$ in (1) are constants, the differential equation is autonomous. In Example 2 you can verify from the normal form $dy/dx = 3(y + 2)$ that $-2$ is a critical point and that it is unstable (a repeller). Thus a solution curve with an initial point either above or below the graph of the equilibrium solution $y = -2$ pushes away from this horizontal line as $x$ increases. Figure 2.3.1, obtained with the aid of a graphing utility, shows the graph of $y = -2$ along with some additional solution curves.



**FIGURE 2.3.1** Some solutions of $y' - 3y = 6$

**CONSTANT OF INTEGRATION**  Notice that in the general discussion and in Examples 1 and 2 we disregarded a constant of integration in the evaluation of the indefinite integral in the exponent of $e^{\int P(x)dx}$. If you think about the laws of exponents and the fact that the integrating factor multiplies both sides of the differential equation, you should be able to explain why writing $\int P(x)dx + c$ is unnecessary. See Problem 44 in Exercises 2.3.

**GENERAL SOLUTION**  Suppose again that the functions $P$ and $f$ in (2) are continuous on a common interval $I$. In the steps leading to (4) we showed that *if* (2) has a solution on $I$, then it must be of the form given in (4). Conversely, it is a straightforward exercise in differentiation to verify that any function of the form given in (4) is a solution of the differential equation (2) on $I$. In other words, (4) is a one-parameter family of solutions of equation (2) and *every solution of* (2) *defined on I is a member of this family.* Therefore we call (4) the **general solution** of the differential equation on the interval $I$. (See the *Remarks* at the end of Section 1.1.) Now by writing (2) in the normal form $y' = F(x, y)$, we can identify $F(x, y) = -P(x)y + f(x)$ and $\partial F/\partial y = -P(x)$. From the continuity of $P$ and $f$ on the interval $I$ we see that $F$ and $\partial F/\partial y$ are also continuous on $I$. With Theorem 1.2.1 as our justification, we conclude that there exists one and only one solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = f(x), \quad y(x_0) = y_0 \tag{9}$$

defined on *some* interval $I_0$ containing $x_0$. But when $x_0$ is in $I$, finding a solution of (9) is just a matter of finding an appropriate value of $c$ in (4)—that is, to each $x_0$ in $I$ there corresponds a distinct $c$. In other words, the interval $I_0$ of existence and uniqueness in Theorem 1.2.1 for the initial-value problem (9) is the entire interval $I$.

**EXAMPLE 3**  General Solution

Solve $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} - 4y = x^6 e^x$.

**SOLUTION**  Dividing by $x$, we get the standard form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - \frac{4}{x}y = x^5 e^x. \tag{10}$$

From this form we identify $P(x) = -4/x$ and $f(x) = x^5 e^x$ and further observe that $P$ and $f$ are continuous on $(0, \infty)$. Hence the integrating factor is

we can use ln $x$ instead of ln $|x|$ since $x > 0$
↓

$$e^{-4\int dx/x} = e^{-4\ln x} = e^{\ln x^{-4}} = x^{-4}.$$

Here we have used the basic identity $b^{\log_b N} = N, N > 0$. Now we multiply (10) by $x^{-4}$ and rewrite

$$x^{-4}\frac{dy}{dx} - 4x^{-5}y = xe^x \qquad \text{as} \qquad \frac{d}{dx}[x^{-4}y] = xe^x.$$

It follows from integration by parts that the general solution defined on the interval $(0, \infty)$ is $x^{-4}y = xe^x - e^x + c$ or $y = x^5 e^x - x^4 e^x + cx^4$. ∎

    Except in the case in which the lead coefficient is 1, the recasting of equation (1) into the standard form (2) requires division by $a_1(x)$. Values of $x$ for which $a_1(x) = 0$ are called **singular points** of the equation. Singular points are potentially troublesome. Specifically, in (2), if $P(x)$ (formed by dividing $a_0(x)$ by $a_1(x)$) is discontinuous at a point, the discontinuity may carry over to solutions of the differential equation.

## EXAMPLE 4    General Solution

Find the general solution of $(x^2 - 9)\dfrac{dy}{dx} + xy = 0$.

**SOLUTION**    We write the differential equation in standard form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{x}{x^2 - 9}y = 0 \tag{11}$$

and identify $P(x) = x/(x^2 - 9)$. Although $P$ is continuous on $(-\infty, -3), (-3, 3)$, and $(3, \infty)$, we shall solve the equation on the first and third intervals. On these intervals the integrating factor is

$$e^{\int x\, dx/(x^2-9)} = e^{\frac{1}{2}\int 2x\, dx/(x^2-9)} = e^{\frac{1}{2}\ln|x^2-9|} = \sqrt{x^2 - 9}.$$

After multiplying the standard form (11) by this factor, we get

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[\sqrt{x^2 - 9}\, y\right] = 0.$$

Integrating both sides of the last equation gives $\sqrt{x^2 - 9}\, y = c$. Thus for either $x > 3$ or $x < -3$ the general solution of the equation is $y = \dfrac{c}{\sqrt{x^2 - 9}}$. ∎

    Notice in Example 4 that $x = 3$ and $x = -3$ are singular points of the equation and that every function in the general solution $y = c/\sqrt{x^2 - 9}$ is discontinuous at these points. On the other hand, $x = 0$ is a singular point of the differential equation in Example 3, but the general solution $y = x^5 e^x - x^4 e^x + cx^4$ is noteworthy in that every function in this one-parameter family is continuous at $x = 0$ and is defined on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ and not just on $(0, \infty)$, as stated in the solution. However, the family $y = x^5 e^x - x^4 e^x + cx^4$ defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$ cannot be considered the general solution of the DE, since the singular point $x = 0$ still causes a problem. See Problem 39 in Exercises 2.3.

FIGURE 2.3.2 Some solutions of $y' + y = x$



FIGURE 2.3.3 Discontinuous $f(x)$

| **EXAMPLE 5** | **An Initial-Value Problem** |

Solve $\dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = x$, $\quad y(0) = 4$.

**SOLUTION** The equation is in standard form, and $P(x) = 1$ and $f(x) = x$ are continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$. The integrating factor is $e^{\int dx} = e^x$, so integrating

$$\frac{d}{dx}[e^x y] = xe^x$$

gives $e^x y = xe^x - e^x + c$. Solving this last equation for $y$ yields the general solution $y = x - 1 + ce^{-x}$. But from the initial condition we know that $y = 4$ when $x = 0$. Substituting these values into the general solution implies that $c = 5$. Hence the solution of the problem is

$$y = x - 1 + 5e^{-x}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty. \tag{12} \blacksquare$$

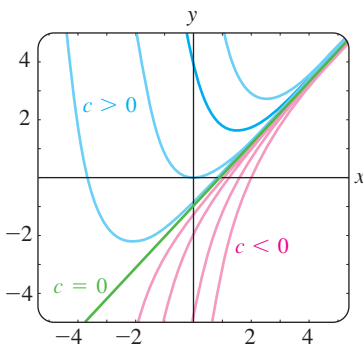Figure 2.3.2, obtained with the aid of a graphing utility, shows the graph of (12) in dark blue, along with the graphs of other representative solutions in the one-parameter family $y = x - 1 + ce^{-x}$. In this general solution we identify $y_c = ce^{-x}$ and $y_p = x - 1$. It is interesting to observe that as $x$ increases, the graphs of *all* members of the family are close to the graph of the particular solution $y_p = x - 1$, which is shown in solid green in Figure 2.3.2. This is because the contribution of $y_c = ce^{-x}$ to the values of a solution becomes negligible for increasing values of $x$. We say that $y_c = ce^{-x}$ is a **transient term,** since $y_c \to 0$ as $x \to \infty$. While this behavior is not a characteristic of all general solutions of linear equations (see Example 2), the notion of a transient is often important in applied problems.

**DISCONTINUOUS COEFFICIENTS** In applications the coefficients $P(x)$ and $f(x)$ in (2) may be piecewise continuous. In the next example $f(x)$ is piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$ with a single discontinuity, namely, a (finite) jump discontinuity at $x = 1$. We solve the problem in two parts corresponding to the two intervals over which $f$ is defined. It is then possible to piece together the two solutions at $x = 1$ so that $y(x)$ is continuous on $[0, \infty)$.

| **EXAMPLE 6** | **An Initial-Value Problem** |

Solve $\dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = f(x)$, $\quad y(0) = 0 \quad$ where $\quad f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \leq x \leq 1, \\ 0, & x > 1. \end{cases}$

**SOLUTION** The graph of the discontinuous function $f$ is shown in Figure 2.3.3. We solve the DE for $y(x)$ first on the interval $[0, 1]$ and then on the interval $(1, \infty)$. For $0 \leq x \leq 1$ we have

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + y = 1 \qquad \text{or, equivalently,} \qquad \frac{d}{dx}[e^x y] = e^x.$$

Integrating this last equation and solving for $y$ gives $y = 1 + c_1 e^{-x}$. Since $y(0) = 0$, we must have $c_1 = -1$, and therefore $y = 1 - e^{-x}$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$. Then for $x > 1$ the equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + y = 0$$
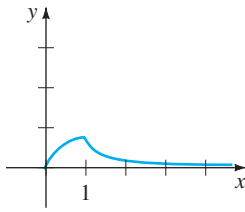
leads to $y = c_2 e^{-x}$. Hence we can write

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-x}, & 0 \le x \le 1, \\ c_2 e^{-x}, & x > 1. \end{cases}$$

By appealing to the definition of continuity at a point, it is possible to determine $c_2$ so that the foregoing function is continuous at $x = 1$. The requirement that $\lim_{x \to 1^+} y(x) = y(1)$ implies that $c_2 e^{-1} = 1 - e^{-1}$ or $c_2 = e - 1$. As seen in Figure 2.3.4, the function

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-x}, & 0 \le x \le 1, \\ (e - 1)e^{-x}, & x > 1 \end{cases} \tag{13}$$

is continuous on $(0, \infty)$.   ■

It is worthwhile to think about (13) and Figure 2.3.4 a little bit; you are urged to read and answer Problem 42 in Exercises 2.3.

**FUNCTIONS DEFINED BY INTEGRALS**   At the end of Section 2.2 we discussed the fact that some simple continuous functions do not possess antiderivatives that are elementary functions and that integrals of these kinds of functions are called **nonelementary.** For example, you may have seen in calculus that $\int e^{-x^2} dx$ and $\int \sin x^2 \, dx$ are nonelementary integrals. In applied mathematics some important functions are *defined* in terms of nonelementary integrals. Two such **special functions** are the **error function** and **complementary error function:**

$$\text{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt \quad \text{and} \quad \text{erfc}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-t^2} dt. \tag{14}$$

From the known result $\int_0^\infty e^{-t^2} dt = \sqrt{\pi}/2$* we can write $(2/\sqrt{\pi}) \int_0^\infty e^{-t^2} dt = 1$. Then from $\int_0^\infty = \int_0^x + \int_x^\infty$ it is seen from (14) that the complementary error function $\text{erfc}(x)$ is related to $\text{erf}(x)$ by $\text{erf}(x) + \text{erfc}(x) = 1$. Because of its importance in probability, statistics, and applied partial differential equations, the error function has been extensively tabulated. Note that $\text{erf}(0) = 0$ is one obvious function value. Values of $\text{erf}(x)$ can also be found by using a CAS.

**EXAMPLE 7   The Error Function**

Solve the initial-value problem $\dfrac{dy}{dx} - 2xy = 2, \quad y(0) = 1.$

**SOLUTION**   Since the equation is already in standard form, we see that the integrating factor is $e^{-x^2} dx$, so from

$$\frac{d}{dx}[e^{-x^2}y] = 2e^{-x^2} \quad \text{we get} \quad y = 2e^{x^2} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt + ce^{x^2}. \tag{15}$$

Applying $y(0) = 1$ to the last expression then gives $c = 1$. Hence the solution of the problem is

$$y = 2e^{x^2} \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt + e^{x^2} \text{ or } y = e^{x^2}[1 + \sqrt{\pi}\,\text{erf}(x)].$$

The graph of this solution on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, shown in dark blue in Figure 2.3.5 among other members of the family defined in (15), was obtained with the aid of a computer algebra system.   ■
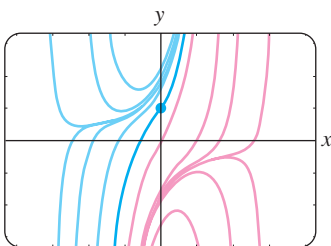
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*This result is usually proved in the third semester of calculus.



**FIGURE 2.3.4**   Graph of function in (13)



**FIGURE 2.3.5**   Some solutions of $y' - 2xy = 2$

**USE OF COMPUTERS** The computer algebra systems *Mathematica* and *Maple* are capable of producing implicit or explicit solutions for some kinds of differential equations using their *dsolve* commands.*

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## REMARKS

(*i*) In general, a linear DE of any order is said to be homogeneous when $g(x) = 0$ in (6) of Section 1.1. For example, the linear second-order DE $y'' - 2y' + 6y = 0$ is homogeneous. As can be seen in this example and in the special case (3) of this section, the trivial solution $y = 0$ is always a solution of a homogeneous linear DE.

(*ii*) Occasionally, a first-order differential equation is not linear in one variable but is linear in the other variable. For example, the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x + y^2}$$

is not linear in the variable $y$. But its reciprocal

$$\frac{dx}{dy} = x + y^2 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{dx}{dy} - x = y^2$$

is recognized as linear in the variable $x$. You should verify that the integrating factor $e^{\int(-1)dy} = e^{-y}$ and integration by parts yield the explicit solution $x = -y^2 - 2y - 2 + ce^y$ for the second equation. This expression is, then, an implicit solution of the first equation.

(*iii*) Mathematicians have adopted as their own certain words from engineering, which they found appropriately descriptive. The word *transient,* used earlier, is one of these terms. In future discussions the words *input* and *output* will occasionally pop up. The function $f$ in (2) is called the **input** or **driving function;** a solution $y(x)$ of the differential equation for a given input is called the **output** or **response.**

(*iv*) The term **special functions** mentioned in conjunction with the error function also applies to the **sine integral function** and the **Fresnel sine integral** introduced in Problems 49 and 50 in Exercises 2.3. "Special Functions" is actually a well-defined branch of mathematics. More special functions are studied in Section 6.3.

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*Certain commands have the same spelling, but in *Mathematica* commands begin with a capital letter (**Dsolve**), whereas in *Maple* the same command begins with a lower case letter (**dsolve**). When discussing such common syntax, we compromise and write, for example, *dsolve.* See the *Student Resource and Solutions Manual* for the complete input commands used to solve a linear first-order DE.

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## EXERCISES 2.3

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-2.*

In Problems 1–24 find the general solution of the given differential equation. Give the largest interval $I$ over which the general solution is defined. Determine whether there are any transient terms in the general solution.

**1.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 5y$

**2.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 0$

**3.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = e^{3x}$

**4.** $3\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 12y = 4$

**5.** $y' + 3x^2y = x^2$

**6.** $y' + 2xy = x^3$

**7.** $x^2y' + xy = 1$

**8.** $y' = 2y + x^2 + 5$

**9.** $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} - y = x^2 \sin x$

**10.** $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 3$

**11.** $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 4y = x^3 - x$

**12.** $(1 + x)\dfrac{dy}{dx} - xy = x + x^2$

**13.** $x^2y' + x(x + 2)y = e^x$

**14.** $xy' + (1 + x)y = e^{-x} \sin 2x$

**15.** $y \, dx - 4(x + y^6) \, dy = 0$

**16.** $y \, dx = (ye^y - 2x) \, dy$

**17.** $\cos x \dfrac{dy}{dx} + (\sin x)y = 1$

**18.** $\cos^2 x \sin x \dfrac{dy}{dx} + (\cos^3 x)y = 1$

**19.** $(x + 1) \dfrac{dy}{dx} + (x + 2)y = 2xe^{-x}$

**20.** $(x + 2)^2 \dfrac{dy}{dx} = 5 - 8y - 4xy$

**21.** $\dfrac{dr}{d\theta} + r \sec \theta = \cos \theta$

**22.** $\dfrac{dP}{dt} + 2tP = P + 4t - 2$

**23.** $x \dfrac{dy}{dx} + (3x + 1)y = e^{-3x}$

**24.** $(x^2 - 1) \dfrac{dy}{dx} + 2y = (x + 1)^2$

In Problems 25–30 solve the given initial-value problem. Give the largest interval $I$ over which the solution is defined.

**25.** $xy' + y = e^x, \quad y(1) = 2$

**26.** $y \dfrac{dx}{dy} - x = 2y^2, \quad y(1) = 5$

**27.** $L \dfrac{di}{dt} + Ri = E, \quad i(0) = i_0,$

   $L, R, E,$ and $i_0$ constants

**28.** $\dfrac{dT}{dt} = k(T - T_m); \quad T(0) = T_0,$

   $k, T_m,$ and $T_0$ constants

**29.** $(x + 1) \dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = \ln x, \quad y(1) = 10$

**30.** $y' + (\tan x)y = \cos^2 x, \quad y(0) = -1$

In Problems 31–34 proceed as in Example 6 to solve the given initial-value problem. Use a graphing utility to graph the continuous function $y(x)$.

**31.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 2y = f(x), y(0) = 0,$ where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \le x \le 3 \\ 0, & x > 3 \end{cases}$$

**32.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = f(x), y(0) = 1,$ where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \le x \le 1 \\ -1, & x > 1 \end{cases}$$

**33.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 2xy = f(x), y(0) = 2,$ where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 \le x < 1 \\ 0, & x \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

**34.** $(1 + x^2) \dfrac{dy}{dx} + 2xy = f(x), y(0) = 0,$ where

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 \le x < 1 \\ -x, & x \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

**35.** Proceed in a manner analogous to Example 6 to solve the initial-value problem $y' + P(x)y = 4x, y(0) = 3,$ where

$$P(x) = \begin{cases} 2, & 0 \le x \le 1, \\ -2/x, & x > 1. \end{cases}$$

Use a graphing utility to graph the continuous function $y(x)$.

**36.** Consider the initial-value problem $y' + e^x y = f(x),$ $y(0) = 1.$ Express the solution of the IVP for $x > 0$ as a nonelementary integral when $f(x) = 1.$ What is the solution when $f(x) = 0?$ When $f(x) = e^x?$

**37.** Express the solution of the initial-value problem $y' - 2xy = 1, y(1) = 1,$ in terms of erf$(x)$.

### Discussion Problems

**38.** Reread the discussion following Example 2. Construct a linear first-order differential equation for which all nonconstant solutions approach the horizontal asymptote $y = 4$ as $x \to \infty.$

**39.** Reread Example 3 and then discuss, with reference to Theorem 1.2.1, the existence and uniqueness of a solution of the initial-value problem consisting of $xy' - 4y = x^6 e^x$ and the given initial condition.

   **(a)** $y(0) = 0$   **(b)** $y(0) = y_0, y_0 > 0$

   **(c)** $y(x_0) = y_0, x_0 > 0, y_0 > 0$

**40.** Reread Example 4 and then find the general solution of the differential equation on the interval $(-3, 3).$

**41.** Reread the discussion following Example 5. Construct a linear first-order differential equation for which all solutions are asymptotic to the line $y = 3x - 5$ as $x \to \infty.$

**42.** Reread Example 6 and then discuss why it is technically incorrect to say that the function in (13) is a "solution" of the IVP on the interval $[0, \infty).$

**43. (a)** Construct a linear first-order differential equation of the form $xy' + a_0(x)y = g(x)$ for which $y_c = c/x^3$ and $y_p = x^3.$ Give an interval on which $y = x^3 + c/x^3$ is the general solution of the DE.

   **(b)** Give an initial condition $y(x_0) = y_0$ for the DE found in part (a) so that the solution of the IVP is $y = x^3 - 1/x^3.$ Repeat if the solution is

$y = x^3 + 2/x^3$. Give an interval $I$ of definition of each of these solutions. Graph the solution curves. Is there an initial-value problem whose solution is defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$?

(c) Is each IVP found in part (b) unique? That is, can there be more than one IVP for which, say, $y = x^3 - 1/x^3$, $x$ in some interval $I$, is the solution?

**44.** In determining the integrating factor (5), we did not use a constant of integration in the evaluation of $\int P(x)\, dx$. Explain why using $\int P(x)\, dx + c$ has no effect on the solution of (2).

**45.** Suppose $P(x)$ is continuous on some interval $I$ and $a$ is a number in $I$. What can be said about the solution of the initial-value problem $y' + P(x)y = 0$, $y(a) = 0$?

## Mathematical Models

**46. Radioactive Decay Series** The following system of differential equations is encountered in the study of the decay of a special type of radioactive series of elements:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\lambda_1 x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \lambda_1 x - \lambda_2 y,$$

where $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$ are constants. Discuss how to solve this system subject to $x(0) = x_0$, $y(0) = y_0$. Carry out your ideas.

**47. Heart Pacemaker** A heart pacemaker consists of a switch, a battery of constant voltage $E_0$, a capacitor with constant capacitance $C$, and the heart as a resistor with constant resistance $R$. When the switch is closed, the capacitor charges; when the switch is open, the capacitor discharges, sending an electrical stimulus to the heart. During the time the heart is being stimulated, the voltage

$E$ across the heart satisfies the linear differential equation

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = -\frac{1}{RC}E.$$

Solve the DE subject to $E(4) = E_0$.

## Computer Lab Assignments

**48. (a)** Express the solution of the initial-value problem $y' - 2xy = -1$, $y(0) = \sqrt{\pi}/2$, in terms of erfc($x$).

**(b)** Use tables or a CAS to find the value of $y(2)$. Use a CAS to graph the solution curve for the IVP on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**49. (a)** The **sine integral function** is defined by $\text{Si}(x) = \int_0^x (\sin t/t)\, dt$, where the integrand is defined to be 1 at $t = 0$. Express the solution $y(x)$ of the initial-value problem $x^3 y' + 2x^2 y = 10\sin x$, $y(1) = 0$ in terms of $\text{Si}(x)$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to graph the solution curve for the IVP for $x > 0$.

**(c)** Use a CAS to find the value of the absolute maximum of the solution $y(x)$ for $x > 0$.

**50. (a)** The **Fresnel sine integral** is defined by $S(x) = \int_0^x \sin(\pi t^2/2)\, dt$. Express the solution $y(x)$ of the initial-value problem $y' - (\sin x^2)y = 0$, $y(0) = 5$, in terms of $S(x)$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to graph the solution curve for the IVP on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**(c)** It is known that $S(x) \to \frac{1}{2}$ as $x \to \infty$ and $S(x) \to -\frac{1}{2}$ as $x \to -\infty$. What does the solution $y(x)$ approach as $x \to \infty$? As $x \to -\infty$?

**(d)** Use a CAS to find the values of the absolute maximum and the absolute minimum of the solution $y(x)$.

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## 2.4 EXACT EQUATIONS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

● Multivariate calculus
● Partial differentiation and partial integration
● Differential of a function of two variables

**INTRODUCTION** Although the simple first-order equation

$$y\, dx + x\, dy = 0$$

is separable, we can solve the equation in an alternative manner by recognizing that the expression on the left-hand side of the equality is the differential of the function $f(x, y) = xy$; that is,

$$d(xy) = y\, dx + x\, dy.$$

In this section we examine first-order equations in differential form $M(x, y)\, dx + N(x, y)\, dy = 0$. By applying a simple test to $M$ and $N$, we can determine whether $M(x, y)\, dx + N(x, y)\, dy$ is a differential of a function $f(x, y)$. If the answer is yes, we can construct $f$ by partial integration.

**DIFFERENTIAL OF A FUNCTION OF TWO VARIABLES**   If $z = f(x, y)$ is a function of two variables with continuous first partial derivatives in a region $R$ of the $xy$-plane, then its differential is

$$dz = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy. \tag{1}$$

In the special case when $f(x, y) = c$, where $c$ is a constant, then (1) implies

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy = 0. \tag{2}$$

In other words, given a one-parameter family of functions $f(x, y) = c$, we can generate a first-order differential equation by computing the differential of both sides of the equality. For example, if $x^2 - 5xy + y^3 = c$, then (2) gives the first-order DE

$$(2x - 5y)\, dx + (-5x + 3y^2)\, dy = 0. \tag{3}$$

**A DEFINITION**   Of course, not every first-order DE written in differential form $M(x, y)\, dx + N(x, y)\, dy = 0$ corresponds to a differential of $f(x, y) = c$. So for our purposes it is more important to turn the foregoing example around; namely, if we are given a first-order DE such as (3), is there some way we can recognize that the differential expression $(2x - 5y)\, dx + (-5x + 3y^2)\, dy$ is the differential $d(x^2 - 5xy + y^3)$? If there is, then an implicit solution of (3) is $x^2 - 5xy + y^3 = c$. We answer this question after the next definition.

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**DEFINITION 2.4.1   Exact Equation**

A differential expression $M(x, y)\, dx + N(x, y)\, dy$ is an **exact differential** in a region $R$ of the $xy$-plane if it corresponds to the differential of some function $f(x, y)$ defined in $R$. A first-order differential equation of the form

$$M(x, y)\, dx + N(x, y)\, dy = 0$$

is said to be an **exact equation** if the expression on the left-hand side is an exact differential.

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For example, $x^2 y^3\, dx + x^3 y^2\, dy = 0$ is an exact equation, because its left-hand side is an exact differential:

$$d\left(\tfrac{1}{3} x^3 y^3\right) = x^2 y^3\, dx + x^3 y^2\, dy.$$

Notice that if we make the identifications $M(x, y) = x^2 y^3$ and $N(x, y) = x^3 y^2$, then $\partial M / \partial y = 3x^2 y^2 = \partial N / \partial x$. Theorem 2.4.1, given next, shows that the equality of the partial derivatives $\partial M / \partial y$ and $\partial N / \partial x$ is no coincidence.

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**THEOREM 2.4.1   Criterion for an Exact Differential**

Let $M(x, y)$ and $N(x, y)$ be continuous and have continuous first partial derivatives in a rectangular region $R$ defined by $a < x < b$, $c < y < d$. Then a necessary and sufficient condition that $M(x, y)\, dx + N(x, y)\, dy$ be an exact differential is

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}. \tag{4}$$

**PROOF OF THE NECESSITY** For simplicity let us assume that $M(x, y)$ and $N(x, y)$ have continuous first partial derivatives for all $(x, y)$. Now if the expression $M(x, y) dx + N(x, y) dy$ is exact, there exists some function $f$ such that for all $x$ in $R$,

$$M(x, y) dx + N(x, y) dy = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} dy.$$

Therefore

$$M(x, y) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \qquad N(x, y) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y},$$

and

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}\right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y\, \partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}\right) = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}.$$

The equality of the mixed partials is a consequence of the continuity of the first partial derivatives of $M(x, y)$ and $N(x, y)$. ∎

The sufficiency part of Theorem 2.4.1 consists of showing that there exists a function $f$ for which $\partial f/\partial x = M(x, y)$ and $\partial f/\partial y = N(x, y)$ whenever (4) holds. The construction of the function $f$ actually reflects a basic procedure for solving exact equations.

**METHOD OF SOLUTION** Given an equation in the differential form $M(x, y) dx + N(x, y) dy = 0$, determine whether the equality in (4) holds. If it does, then there exists a function $f$ for which

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = M(x, y).$$

We can find $f$ by integrating $M(x, y)$ with respect to $x$ while holding $y$ constant:

$$f(x, y) = \int M(x, y)\, dx + g(y), \tag{5}$$

where the arbitrary function $g(y)$ is the "constant" of integration. Now differentiate (5) with respect to $y$ and assume that $\partial f/\partial y = N(x, y)$:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\int M(x, y)\, dx + g'(y) = N(x, y).$$

This gives

$$g'(y) = N(x, y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\int M(x, y)\, dx. \tag{6}$$

Finally, integrate (6) with respect to $y$ and substitute the result in (5). The implicit solution of the equation is $f(x, y) = c$.

Some observations are in order. First, it is important to realize that the expression $N(x, y) - (\partial/\partial y) \int M(x, y)\, dx$ in (6) is independent of $x$, because

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left[N(x, y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\int M(x, y)\, dx\right] = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\int M(x, y)\, dx\right) = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = 0.$$

Second, we could just as well start the foregoing procedure with the assumption that $\partial f/\partial y = N(x, y)$. After integrating $N$ with respect to $y$ and then differentiating that result, we would find the analogues of (5) and (6) to be, respectively,

$$f(x, y) = \int N(x, y)\, dy + h(x) \qquad \text{and} \qquad h'(x) = M(x, y) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\int N(x, y)\, dy.$$

In either case *none of these formulas should be memorized.*

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**EXAMPLE 1** **Solving an Exact DE**

Solve $2xy \, dx + (x^2 - 1) \, dy = 0$.

**SOLUTION** With $M(x, y) = 2xy$ and $N(x, y) = x^2 - 1$ we have

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = 2x = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}.$$

Thus the equation is exact, and so by Theorem 2.4.1 there exists a function $f(x, y)$ such that

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2xy \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = x^2 - 1.$$

From the first of these equations we obtain, after integrating,

$$f(x, y) = x^2 y + g(y).$$

Taking the partial derivative of the last expression with respect to $y$ and setting the result equal to $N(x, y)$ gives

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = x^2 + g'(y) = x^2 - 1. \qquad \leftarrow N(x, y)$$

It follows that $g'(y) = -1$ and $g(y) = -y$. Hence $f(x, y) = x^2 y - y$, so the solution of the equation in implicit form is $x^2 y - y = c$. The explicit form of the solution is easily seen to be $y = c/(1 - x^2)$ and is defined on any interval not containing either $x = 1$ or $x = -1$. ∎

**NOTE** The solution of the DE in Example 1 is *not* $f(x, y) = x^2 y - y$. Rather, it is $f(x, y) = c$; if a constant is used in the integration of $g'(y)$, we can then write the solution as $f(x, y) = 0$. Note, too, that the equation could be solved by separation of variables.

---

**EXAMPLE 2** **Solving an Exact DE**

Solve $(e^{2y} - y \cos xy) \, dx + (2xe^{2y} - x \cos xy + 2y) \, dy = 0$.

**SOLUTION** The equation is exact because

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = 2e^{2y} + xy \sin xy - \cos xy = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}.$$

Hence a function $f(x, y)$ exists for which

$$M(x, y) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \qquad \text{and} \qquad N(x, y) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}.$$

Now for variety we shall start with the assumption that $\partial f / \partial y = N(x, y)$; that is,

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 2xe^{2y} - x \cos xy + 2y$$

$$f(x, y) = 2x \int e^{2y} \, dy - x \int \cos xy \, dy + 2 \int y \, dy.$$

Remember, the reason $x$ can come out in front of the symbol $\int$ is that in the integration with respect to $y$, $x$ is treated as an ordinary constant. It follows that

$$f(x, y) = xe^{2y} - \sin xy + y^2 + h(x)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = e^{2y} - y \cos xy + h'(x) = e^{2y} - y \cos xy, \quad \leftarrow M(x, y)$$

and so $h'(x) = 0$ or $h(x) = c$. Hence a family of solutions is

$$xe^{2y} - \sin xy + y^2 + c = 0. \qquad\blacksquare$$

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### EXAMPLE 3 An Initial-Value Problem

Solve $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{xy^2 - \cos x \sin x}{y(1 - x^2)}$, $y(0) = 2$.

**SOLUTION** By writing the differential equation in the form

$$(\cos x \sin x - xy^2)\,dx + y(1 - x^2)\,dy = 0,$$

we recognize that the equation is exact because

$$\frac{\partial M}{\partial y} = -2xy = \frac{\partial N}{\partial x}.$$

Now

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = y(1 - x^2)$$

$$f(x, y) = \frac{y^2}{2}(1 - x^2) + h(x)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = -xy^2 + h'(x) = \cos x \sin x - xy^2.$$

The last equation implies that $h'(x) = \cos x \sin x$. Integrating gives

$$h(x) = -\int (\cos x)(-\sin x\,dx) = -\frac{1}{2}\cos^2 x.$$

Thus $\quad \dfrac{y^2}{2}(1 - x^2) - \dfrac{1}{2}\cos^2 x = c_1 \quad$ or $\quad y^2(1 - x^2) - \cos^2 x = c, \qquad (7)$

where $2c_1$ has been replaced by $c$. The initial condition $y = 2$ when $x = 0$ demands that $4(1) - \cos^2(0) = c$, and so $c = 3$. An implicit solution of the problem is then $y^2(1 - x^2) - \cos^2 x = 3$.

The solution curve of the IVP is the curve drawn in dark blue in Figure 2.4.1; it is part of an interesting family of curves. The graphs of the members of the one-parameter family of solutions given in (7) can be obtained in several ways, two of which are using software to graph level curves (as discussed in Section 2.2) and using a graphing utility to carefully graph the explicit functions obtained for various values of $c$ by solving $y^2 = (c + \cos^2 x)/(1 - x^2)$ for $y$. $\qquad\blacksquare$
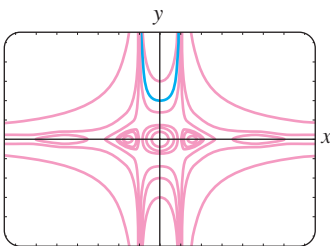


**FIGURE 2.4.1** Some graphs of members of the family $y^2(1 - x^2) - \cos^2 x = c$

**INTEGRATING FACTORS** Recall from Section 2.3 that the left-hand side of the linear equation $y' + P(x)y = f(x)$ can be transformed into a derivative when we multiply the equation by an integrating factor. The same basic idea sometimes works for a nonexact differential equation $M(x, y)\,dx + N(x, y)\,dy = 0$. That is, it is

sometimes possible to find an **integrating factor** $\mu(x, y)$ so that after multiplying, the left-hand side of

$$\mu(x, y)M(x, y)\, dx + \mu(x, y)N(x, y)\, dy = 0 \qquad (8)$$

is an exact differential. In an attempt to find $\mu$, we turn to the criterion (4) for exactness. Equation (8) is exact if and only if $(\mu M)_y = (\mu N)_x$, where the subscripts denote partial derivatives. By the Product Rule of differentiation the last equation is the same as $\mu M_y + \mu_y M = \mu N_x + \mu_x N$ or

$$\mu_x N - \mu_y M = (M_y - N_x)\mu. \qquad (9)$$

Although $M$, $N$, $M_y$, and $N_x$ are known functions of $x$ and $y$, the difficulty here in determining the unknown $\mu(x, y)$ from (9) is that we must solve a partial differential equation. Since we are not prepared to do that, we make a simplifying assumption. Suppose $\mu$ is a function of one variable; for example, say that $\mu$ depends only on $x$. In this case, $\mu_x = d\mu/dx$ and $\mu_y = 0$, so (9) can be written as

$$\frac{d\mu}{dx} = \frac{M_y - N_x}{N}\mu. \qquad (10)$$

We are still at an impasse if the quotient $(M_y - N_x)/N$ depends on both $x$ and $y$. However, if after all obvious algebraic simplifications are made, the quotient $(M_y - N_x)/N$ turns out to depend solely on the variable $x$, then (10) is a first-order ordinary differential equation. We can finally determine $\mu$ because (10) is *separable* as well as *linear*. It follows from either Section 2.2 or Section 2.3 that $\mu(x) = e^{\int((M_y - N_x)/N)\,dx}$. In like manner, it follows from (9) that if $\mu$ depends only on the variable $y$, then

$$\frac{d\mu}{dy} = \frac{N_x - M_y}{M}\mu. \qquad (11)$$

In this case, if $(N_x - M_y)/M$ is a function of $y$ only, then we can solve (11) for $\mu$.

We summarize the results for the differential equation

$$M(x, y)\, dx + N(x, y)\, dy = 0. \qquad (12)$$

- If $(M_y - N_x)/N$ is a function of $x$ alone, then an integrating factor for (12) is

$$\mu(x) = e^{\int \frac{M_y - N_x}{N}\,dx}. \qquad (13)$$

- If $(N_x - M_y)/M$ is a function of $y$ alone, then an integrating factor for (12) is

$$\mu(y) = e^{\int \frac{N_x - M_y}{M}\,dy}. \qquad (14)$$

## EXAMPLE 4   A Nonexact DE Made Exact

The nonlinear first-order differential equation

$$xy\, dx + (2x^2 + 3y^2 - 20)\, dy = 0$$

is not exact. With the identifications $M = xy$, $N = 2x^2 + 3y^2 - 20$, we find the partial derivatives $M_y = x$ and $N_x = 4x$. The first quotient from (13) gets us nowhere, since

$$\frac{M_y - N_x}{N} = \frac{x - 4x}{2x^2 + 3y^2 - 20} = \frac{-3x}{2x^2 + 3y^2 - 20}$$

depends on $x$ and $y$. However, (14) yields a quotient that depends only on $y$:

$$\frac{N_x - M_y}{M} = \frac{4x - x}{xy} = \frac{3x}{xy} = \frac{3}{y}.$$

The integrating factor is then $e^{\int 3dy/y} = e^{3\ln y} = e^{\ln y^3} = y^3$. After we multiply the given DE by $\mu(y) = y^3$, the resulting equation is

$$xy^4\,dx + (2x^2y^3 + 3y^5 - 20y^3)\,dy = 0.$$

You should verify that the last equation is now exact as well as show, using the method of this section, that a family of solutions is $\frac{1}{2}x^2y^4 + \frac{1}{2}y^6 - 5y^4 = c$. ■

## REMARKS

(*i*) When testing an equation for exactness, make sure it is of the precise form $M(x,\ y)\ dx + N(x,\ y)\ dy = 0$. Sometimes a differential equation is written $G(x,\ y)\ dx = H(x,\ y)\ dy$. In this case, first rewrite it as $G(x,\ y)\ dx - H(x,\ y)\ dy = 0$ and then identify $M(x,\ y) = G(x,\ y)$ and $N(x,\ y) = -H(x,\ y)$ before using (4).

(*ii*) In some texts on differential equations the study of exact equations precedes that of linear DEs. Then the method for finding integrating factors just discussed can be used to derive an integrating factor for $y' + P(x)y = f(x)$. By rewriting the last equation in the differential form $(P(x)y - f(x))\ dx + dy = 0$, we see that

$$\frac{M_y - N_x}{N} = P(x).$$

From (13) we arrive at the already familiar integrating factor $e^{\int P(x)dx}$, used in Section 2.3.

## EXERCISES 2.4

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-2.*

In Problems 1–20 determine whether the given differential equation is exact. If it is exact, solve it.

**1.** $(2x - 1)\,dx + (3y + 7)\,dy = 0$

**2.** $(2x + y)\,dx - (x + 6y)\,dy = 0$

**3.** $(5x + 4y)\,dx + (4x - 8y^3)\,dy = 0$

**4.** $(\sin y - y \sin x)\,dx + (\cos x + x \cos y - y)\,dy = 0$

**5.** $(2xy^2 - 3)\,dx + (2x^2y + 4)\,dy = 0$

**6.** $\left(2y - \dfrac{1}{x} + \cos 3x\right)\dfrac{dy}{dx} + \dfrac{y}{x^2} - 4x^3 + 3y \sin 3x = 0$

**7.** $(x^2 - y^2)\,dx + (x^2 - 2xy)\,dy = 0$

**8.** $\left(1 + \ln x + \dfrac{y}{x}\right)dx = (1 - \ln x)\,dy$

**9.** $(x - y^3 + y^2 \sin x)\,dx = (3xy^2 + 2y \cos x)\,dy$

**10.** $(x^3 + y^3)\,dx + 3xy^2\,dy = 0$

**11.** $(y \ln y - e^{-xy})\,dx + \left(\dfrac{1}{y} + x \ln y\right)dy = 0$

**12.** $(3x^2y + e^y)\,dx + (x^3 + xe^y - 2y)\,dy = 0$

**13.** $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 2xe^x - y + 6x^2$

**14.** $\left(1 - \dfrac{3}{y} + x\right)\dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = \dfrac{3}{x} - 1$

**15.** $\left(x^2y^3 - \dfrac{1}{1 + 9x^2}\right)\dfrac{dx}{dy} + x^3y^2 = 0$

**16.** $(5y - 2x)y' - 2y = 0$

**17.** $(\tan x - \sin x \sin y)\,dx + \cos x \cos y\,dy = 0$

**18.** $(2y \sin x \cos x - y + 2y^2 e^{xy^2})\,dx$
$$= (x - \sin^2 x - 4xye^{xy^2})\,dy$$

**19.** $(4t^3y - 15t^2 - y)\,dt + (t^4 + 3y^2 - t)\,dy = 0$

**20.** $\left(\dfrac{1}{t} + \dfrac{1}{t^2} - \dfrac{y}{t^2 + y^2}\right)dt + \left(ye^y + \dfrac{t}{t^2 + y^2}\right)dy = 0$

In Problems 21–26 solve the given initial-value problem.

**21.** $(x + y)^2 \, dx + (2xy + x^2 - 1) \, dy = 0, \quad y(1) = 1$

**22.** $(e^x + y) \, dx + (2 + x + ye^y) \, dy = 0, \quad y(0) = 1$

**23.** $(4y + 2t - 5) \, dt + (6y + 4t - 1) \, dy = 0, \quad y(-1) = 2$

**24.** $\left( \dfrac{3y^2 - t^2}{y^5} \right) \dfrac{dy}{dt} + \dfrac{t}{2y^4} = 0, \quad y(1) = 1$

**25.** $(y^2 \cos x - 3x^2 y - 2x) \, dx$
$+ \, (2y \sin x - x^3 + \ln y) \, dy = 0, \quad y(0) = e$

**26.** $\left( \dfrac{1}{1 + y^2} + \cos x - 2xy \right) \dfrac{dy}{dx} = y(y + \sin x), \quad y(0) = 1$

In Problems 27 and 28 find the value of $k$ so that the given differential equation is exact.

**27.** $(y^3 + kxy^4 - 2x) \, dx + (3xy^2 + 20x^2 y^3) \, dy = 0$

**28.** $(6xy^3 + \cos y) \, dx + (2kx^2 y^2 - x \sin y) \, dy = 0$

In Problems 29 and 30 verify that the given differential equation is not exact. Multiply the given differential equation by the indicated integrating factor $\mu(x, y)$ and verify that the new equation is exact. Solve.

**29.** $(-xy \sin x + 2y \cos x) \, dx + 2x \cos x \, dy = 0;$
$\mu(x, y) = xy$

**30.** $(x^2 + 2xy - y^2) \, dx + (y^2 + 2xy - x^2) \, dy = 0;$
$\mu(x, y) = (x + y)^{-2}$

In Problems 31–36 solve the given differential equation by finding, as in Example 4, an appropriate integrating factor.

**31.** $(2y^2 + 3x) \, dx + 2xy \, dy = 0$

**32.** $y(x + y + 1) \, dx + (x + 2y) \, dy = 0$

**33.** $6xy \, dx + (4y + 9x^2) \, dy = 0$

**34.** $\cos x \, dx + \left( 1 + \dfrac{2}{y} \right) \sin x \, dy = 0$

**35.** $(10 - 6y + e^{-3x}) \, dx - 2 \, dy = 0$

**36.** $(y^2 + xy^3) \, dx + (5y^2 - xy + y^3 \sin y) \, dy = 0$

In Problems 37 and 38 solve the given initial-value problem by finding, as in Example 4, an appropriate integrating factor.

**37.** $x \, dx + (x^2 y + 4y) \, dy = 0, \quad y(4) = 0$

**38.** $(x^2 + y^2 - 5) \, dx = (y + xy) \, dy, \quad y(0) = 1$

**39. (a)** Show that a one-parameter family of solutions of the equation

$$(4xy + 3x^2) \, dx + (2y + 2x^2) \, dy = 0$$

is $x^3 + 2x^2 y + y^2 = c.$

**(b)** Show that the initial conditions $y(0) = -2$ and $y(1) = 1$ determine the same implicit solution.

**(c)** Find explicit solutions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ of the differential equation in part (a) such that $y_1(0) = -2$ and $y_2(1) = 1$. Use a graphing utility to graph $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$.

## Discussion Problems

**40.** Consider the concept of an integrating factor used in Problems 29–38. Are the two equations $M \, dx + N \, dy = 0$ and $\mu M \, dx + \mu N \, dy = 0$ necessarily equivalent in the sense that a solution of one is also a solution of the other? Discuss.

**41.** Reread Example 3 and then discuss why we can conclude that the interval of definition of the explicit solution of the IVP (the blue curve in Figure 2.4.1) is $(-1, 1)$.

**42.** Discuss how the functions $M(x, y)$ and $N(x, y)$ can be found so that each differential equation is exact. Carry out your ideas.

**(a)** $M(x, y) \, dx + \left( xe^{xy} + 2xy + \dfrac{1}{x} \right) dy = 0$

**(b)** $\left( x^{-1/2} y^{1/2} + \dfrac{x}{x^2 + y} \right) dx + N(x, y) \, dy = 0$

**43.** Differential equations are sometimes solved by having a clever idea. Here is a little exercise in cleverness: Although the differential equation $(x - \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}) \, dx + y \, dy = 0$ is not exact, show how the rearrangement $(x \, dx + y \, dy)/\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} = dx$ and the observation $\frac{1}{2} d(x^2 + y^2) = x \, dx + y \, dy$ can lead to a solution.

**44.** True or False: Every separable first-order equation $dy/dx = g(x)h(y)$ is exact.

## Mathematical Model

**45. Falling Chain** A portion of a uniform chain of length 8 ft is loosely coiled around a peg at the edge of a high horizontal platform, and the remaining portion of the chain hangs at rest over the edge of the platform. See Figure 2.4.2. Suppose that the length of the overhanging chain is 3 ft, that the chain weighs 2 lb/ft, and that the positive direction is downward. Starting at $t = 0$ seconds, the weight of the overhanging portion causes the chain on the table to uncoil smoothly and to fall to the floor. If $x(t)$ denotes the length of the chain overhanging the table at time $t > 0$, then $v = dx/dt$ is its velocity. When all resistive forces are ignored, it can be shown that a mathematical model relating $v$ to $x$ is

given by

$$xv \frac{dv}{dx} + v^2 = 32x.$$

**(a)** Rewrite this model in differential form. Proceed as in Problems 31–36 and solve the DE for $v$ in terms of $x$ by finding an appropriate integrating factor. Find an explicit solution $v(x)$.

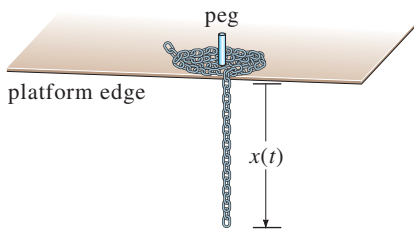**(b)** Determine the velocity with which the chain leaves the platform.



**FIGURE 2.4.2** Uncoiling chain in Problem 45

**Computer Lab Assignments**

**46. Streamlines**

**(a)** The solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \, dx + \left[ 1 + \frac{y^2 - x^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} \right] dy = 0$$

is a family of curves that can be interpreted as streamlines of a fluid flow around a circular object whose boundary is described by the equation $x^2 + y^2 = 1$. Solve this DE and note the solution $f(x, y) = c$ for $c = 0$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to plot the streamlines for $c = 0$, $\pm 0.2$, $\pm 0.4$, $\pm 0.6$, and $\pm 0.8$ in three different ways. First, use the *contourplot* of a CAS. Second, solve for $x$ in terms of the variable $y$. Plot the resulting two functions of $y$ for the given values of $c$, and then combine the graphs. Third, use the CAS to solve a cubic equation for $y$ in terms of $x$.

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| **2.5** | ## SOLUTIONS BY SUBSTITUTIONS |
|---|---|

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Techniques of integration
- Separation of variables
- Solution of linear DEs

**INTRODUCTION** We usually solve a differential equation by recognizing it as a certain kind of equation (say, separable, linear, or exact) and then carrying out a procedure, consisting of *equation-specific mathematical steps,* that yields a solution of the equation. But it is not uncommon to be stumped by a differential equation because it does not fall into one of the classes of equations that we know how to solve. The procedures that are discussed in this section may be helpful in this situation.

**SUBSTITUTIONS** Often the first step in solving a differential equation consists of transforming it into another differential equation by means of a **substitution.** For example, suppose we wish to transform the first-order differential equation $dy/dx = f(x, y)$ by the substitution $y = g(x, u)$, where $u$ is regarded as a function of the variable $x$. If $g$ possesses first-partial derivatives, then the Chain Rule

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\frac{dx}{dx} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial u}\frac{du}{dx} \qquad \text{gives} \qquad \frac{dy}{dx} = g_x(x, u) + g_u(x, u)\frac{du}{dx}.$$

If we replace $dy/dx$ by the foregoing derivative and replace $y$ in $f(x, y)$ by $g(x, u)$, then the DE $dy/dx = f(x, y)$ becomes $g_x(x, u) + g_u(x, u)\dfrac{du}{dx} = f(x, g(x, u))$, which, solved for $du/dx$, has the form $\dfrac{du}{dx} = F(x, u)$. If we can determine a solution $u = \phi(x)$ of this last equation, then a solution of the original differential equation is $y = g(x, \phi(x))$.

In the discussion that follows we examine three different kinds of first-order differential equations that are solvable by means of a substitution.

**HOMOGENEOUS EQUATIONS** If a function $f$ possesses the property $f(tx, ty) = t^\alpha f(x, y)$ for some real number $\alpha$, then $f$ is said to be a **homogeneous function** of degree $\alpha$. For example, $f(x, y) = x^3 + y^3$ is a homogeneous function of degree 3, since

$$f(tx, ty) = (tx)^3 + (ty)^3 = t^3(x^3 + y^3) = t^3 f(x, y),$$

whereas $f(x, y) = x^3 + y^3 + 1$ is not homogeneous. A first-order DE in differential form

$$M(x, y)\,dx + N(x, y)\,dy = 0 \qquad\qquad (1)$$

is said to be **homogeneous**\* if both coefficient functions $M$ and $N$ are homogeneous equations of the *same* degree. In other words, (1) is homogeneous if

$$M(tx, ty) = t^\alpha M(x, y) \qquad \text{and} \qquad N(tx, ty) = t^\alpha N(x, y).$$

In addition, if $M$ and $N$ are homogeneous functions of degree $\alpha$, we can also write

$$M(x, y) = x^\alpha M(1, u) \qquad \text{and} \qquad N(x, y) = x^\alpha N(1, u), \quad \text{where } u = y/x, \quad (2)$$

and

$$M(x, y) = y^\alpha M(v, 1) \qquad \text{and} \qquad N(x, y) = y^\alpha N(v, 1), \quad \text{where } v = x/y. \quad (3)$$

See Problem 31 in Exercises 2.5. Properties (2) and (3) suggest the substitutions that can be used to solve a homogeneous differential equation. Specifically, *either* of the substitutions $y = ux$ or $x = vy$, where $u$ and $v$ are new dependent variables, will reduce a homogeneous equation to a *separable* first-order differential equation. To show this, observe that as a consequence of (2) a homogeneous equation $M(x, y)\,dx + N(x, y)\,dy = 0$ can be rewritten as

$$x^\alpha M(1, u)\,dx + x^\alpha N(1, u)\,dy = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad M(1, u)\,dx + N(1, u)\,dy = 0,$$

where $u = y/x$ or $y = ux$. By substituting the differential $dy = u\,dx + x\,du$ into the last equation and gathering terms, we obtain a separable DE in the variables $u$ and $x$:

$$M(1, u)\,dx + N(1, u)[u\,dx + x\,du] = 0$$

$$[M(1, u) + uN(1, u)]\,dx + xN(1, u)\,du = 0$$

or

$$\frac{dx}{x} + \frac{N(1, u)\,du}{M(1, u) + uN(1, u)} = 0.$$

At this point we offer the same advice as in the preceding sections: Do not memorize anything here (especially the last formula); rather, *work through the procedure each time*. The proof that the substitutions $x = vy$ and $dx = v\,dy + y\,dv$ also lead to a separable equation follows in an analogous manner from (3).

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| **EXAMPLE 1** | **Solving a Homogeneous DE** |

Solve $(x^2 + y^2)\,dx + (x^2 - xy)\,dy = 0$.

**SOLUTION** Inspection of $M(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$ and $N(x, y) = x^2 - xy$ shows that these coefficients are homogeneous functions of degree 2. If we let $y = ux$, then

---

\*Here the word *homogeneous* does not mean the same as it did in Section 2.3. Recall that a linear first-order equation $a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = g(x)$ is homogeneous when $g(x) = 0$.

$dy = u\,dx + x\,du$, so after substituting, the given equation becomes

$$(x^2 + u^2 x^2)\,dx + (x^2 - ux^2)[u\,dx + x\,du] = 0$$

$$x^2(1 + u)\,dx + x^3(1 - u)\,du = 0$$

$$\frac{1 - u}{1 + u}\,du + \frac{dx}{x} = 0$$

$$\left[-1 + \frac{2}{1 + u}\right]du + \frac{dx}{x} = 0. \quad \leftarrow \text{long division}$$

After integration the last line gives

$$-u + 2\ln|1 + u| + \ln|x| = \ln|c|$$

$$-\frac{y}{x} + 2\ln\left|1 + \frac{y}{x}\right| + \ln|x| = \ln|c|. \quad \leftarrow \text{resubstituting } u = y/x$$

Using the properties of logarithms, we can write the preceding solution as

$$\ln\left|\frac{(x + y)^2}{cx}\right| = \frac{y}{x} \quad \text{or} \quad (x + y)^2 = cxe^{y/x}. \qquad ■$$

Although either of the indicated substitutions can be used for every homogeneous differential equation, in practice we try $x = vy$ whenever the function $M(x, y)$ is simpler than $N(x, y)$. Also it could happen that after using one substitution, we may encounter integrals that are difficult or impossible to evaluate in closed form; switching substitutions may result in an easier problem.

**BERNOULLI'S EQUATION**   The differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = f(x)y^n, \tag{4}$$

where $n$ is any real number, is called **Bernoulli's equation.** Note that for $n = 0$ and $n = 1$, equation (4) is linear. For $n \neq 0$ and $n \neq 1$ the substitution $u = y^{1-n}$ reduces any equation of form (4) to a linear equation.

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**EXAMPLE 2   Solving a Bernoulli DE**

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Solve $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = x^2 y^2$.

**SOLUTION**   We first rewrite the equation as

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{1}{x}y = xy^2$$

by dividing by $x$. With $n = 2$ we have $u = y^{-1}$ or $y = u^{-1}$. We then substitute

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du}\frac{du}{dx} = -u^{-2}\frac{du}{dx} \qquad \leftarrow \text{Chain Rule}$$

into the given equation and simplify. The result is

$$\frac{du}{dx} - \frac{1}{x}u = -x.$$

The integrating factor for this linear equation on, say, $(0, \infty)$ is

$$e^{-\int dx/x} = e^{-\ln x} = e^{\ln x^{-1}} = x^{-1}.$$

Integrating

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x^{-1}u] = -1$$

gives $x^{-1}u = -x + c$ or $u = -x^2 + cx$. Since $u = y^{-1}$, we have $y = 1/u$, so a solution of the given equation is $y = 1/(-x^2 + cx)$. ∎

Note that we have not obtained the general solution of the original nonlinear differential equation in Example 2, since $y = 0$ is a singular solution of the equation.

**REDUCTION TO SEPARATION OF VARIABLES**  A differential equation of the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(Ax + By + C) \tag{5}$$

can always be reduced to an equation with separable variables by means of the substitution $u = Ax + By + C$, $B \neq 0$. Example 3 illustrates the technique.

---

### EXAMPLE 3    An Initial-Value Problem

Solve $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (-2x + y)^2 - 7, \quad y(0) = 0.$

**SOLUTION**   If we let $u = -2x + y$, then $du/dx = -2 + dy/dx$, so the differential equation is transformed into

$$\frac{du}{dx} + 2 = u^2 - 7 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{du}{dx} = u^2 - 9.$$

The last equation is separable. Using partial fractions

$$\frac{du}{(u-3)(u+3)} = dx \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{1}{6}\left[\frac{1}{u-3} - \frac{1}{u+3}\right]du = dx$$

and then integrating yields

$$\frac{1}{6}\ln\left|\frac{u-3}{u+3}\right| = x + c_1 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{u-3}{u+3} = e^{6x+6c_1} = ce^{6x}. \qquad \leftarrow \text{replace } e^{6c_1} \text{ by } c$$

Solving the last equation for $u$ and then resubstituting gives the solution

$$u = \frac{3(1 + ce^{6x})}{1 - ce^{6x}} \qquad \text{or} \qquad y = 2x + \frac{3(1 + ce^{6x})}{1 - ce^{6x}}. \tag{6}$$

Finally, applying the initial condition $y(0) = 0$ to the last equation in (6) gives $c = -1$. Figure 2.5.1, obtained with the aid of a graphing utility, shows the graph of the particular solution $y = 2x + \dfrac{3(1 - e^{6x})}{1 + e^{6x}}$ in dark blue, along with the graphs of some other members of the family of solutions (6). ∎
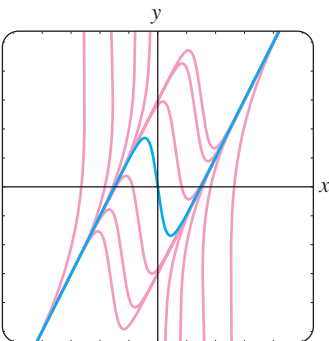


**FIGURE 2.5.1**   Some solutions of $y' = (-2x + y)^2 - 7$

## EXERCISES 2.5

*Each DE in Problems 1–14 is homogeneous.*

In Problems 1–10 solve the given differential equation by using an appropriate substitution.

**1.** $(x - y)\,dx + x\,dy = 0$   **2.** $(x + y)\,dx + x\,dy = 0$

**3.** $x\,dx + (y - 2x)\,dy = 0$   **4.** $y\,dx = 2(x + y)\,dy$

**5.** $(y^2 + yx)\,dx - x^2\,dy = 0$

**6.** $(y^2 + yx)\,dx + x^2\,dy = 0$

**7.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{y - x}{y + x}$

**8.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{x + 3y}{3x + y}$

**9.** $-y\,dx + \left(x + \sqrt{xy}\right)dy = 0$

**10.** $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y + \sqrt{x^2 - y^2}, \quad x > 0$

In Problems 11–14 solve the given initial-value problem.

**11.** $xy^2\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y^3 - x^3, \quad y(1) = 2$

**12.** $(x^2 + 2y^2)\dfrac{dx}{dy} = xy, \quad y(-1) = 1$

**13.** $(x + ye^{y/x})\,dx - xe^{y/x}\,dy = 0, \quad y(1) = 0$

**14.** $y\,dx + x(\ln x - \ln y - 1)\,dy = 0, \quad y(1) = e$

*Each DE in Problems 15–22 is a Bernoulli equation.*

In Problems 15–20 solve the given differential equation by using an appropriate substitution.

**15.** $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = \dfrac{1}{y^2}$   **16.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} - y = e^x y^2$

**17.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = y(xy^3 - 1)$   **18.** $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} - (1 + x)y = xy^2$

**19.** $t^2\dfrac{dy}{dt} + y^2 = ty$   **20.** $3(1 + t^2)\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 2ty(y^3 - 1)$

In Problems 21 and 22 solve the given initial-value problem.

**21.** $x^2\dfrac{dy}{dx} - 2xy = 3y^4, \quad y(1) = \tfrac{1}{2}$

**22.** $y^{1/2}\dfrac{dy}{dx} + y^{3/2} = 1, \quad y(0) = 4$

*Each DE in Problems 23–30 is of the form given in* (5).

In Problems 23–28 solve the given differential equation by using an appropriate substitution.

**23.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (x + y + 1)^2$   **24.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{1 - x - y}{x + y}$

**25.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \tan^2(x + y)$   **26.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \sin(x + y)$

**27.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 2 + \sqrt{y - 2x + 3}$   **28.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 1 + e^{y - x + 5}$

In Problems 29 and 30 solve the given initial-value problem.

**29.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \cos(x + y), \quad y(0) = \pi/4$

**30.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{3x + 2y}{3x + 2y + 2}, \quad y(-1) = -1$

## Discussion Problems

**31.** Explain why it is always possible to express any homogeneous differential equation $M(x, y)\,dx + N(x, y)\,dy = 0$ in the form

$$\dfrac{dy}{dx} = F\left(\dfrac{y}{x}\right).$$

You might start by proving that

$$M(x, y) = x^\alpha M(1, y/x) \quad \text{and} \quad N(x, y) = x^\alpha N(1, y/x).$$

**32.** Put the homogeneous differential equation

$$(5x^2 - 2y^2)\,dx - xy\,dy = 0$$

into the form given in Problem 31.

**33.** **(a)** Determine two singular solutions of the DE in Problem 10.

  **(b)** If the initial condition $y(5) = 0$ is as prescribed in Problem 10, then what is the largest interval $I$ over which the solution is defined? Use a graphing utility to graph the solution curve for the IVP.

**34.** In Example 3 the solution $y(x)$ becomes unbounded as $x \to \pm\infty$. Nevertheless, $y(x)$ is asymptotic to a curve as $x \to -\infty$ and to a different curve as $x \to \infty$. What are the equations of these curves?

**35.** The differential equation $dy/dx = P(x) + Q(x)y + R(x)y^2$ is known as **Riccati's equation.**

  **(a)** A Riccati equation can be solved by a succession of two substitutions *provided* that we know a

particular solution $y_1$ of the equation. Show that the substitution $y = y_1 + u$ reduces Riccati's equation to a Bernoulli equation (4) with $n = 2$. The Bernoulli equation can then be reduced to a linear equation by the substitution $w = u^{-1}$.

**(b)** Find a one-parameter family of solutions for the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{4}{x^2} - \frac{1}{x}y + y^2$$

where $y_1 = 2/x$ is a known solution of the equation.

**36.** Determine an appropriate substitution to solve

$$xy' = y\ln(xy).$$

### Mathematical Models

**37. Falling Chain**   In Problem 45 in Exercises 2.4 we saw that a mathematical model for the velocity $v$ of a chain

slipping off the edge of a high horizontal platform is

$$xv\frac{dv}{dx} + v^2 = 32x.$$

In that problem you were asked to solve the DE by converting it into an exact equation using an integrating factor. This time solve the DE using the fact that it is a Bernoulli equation.

**38. Population Growth**   In the study of population dynamics one of the most famous models for a growing but bounded population is the **logistic equation**

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(a - bP),$$

where $a$ and $b$ are positive constants. Although we will come back to this equation and solve it by an alternative method in Section 3.2, solve the DE this first time using the fact that it is a Bernoulli equation.

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## 2.6    A NUMERICAL METHOD

**INTRODUCTION**   A first-order differential equation $dy/dx = f(x, y)$ is a source of information. We started this chapter by observing that we could garner *qualitative* information from a first-order DE about its solutions even before we attempted to solve the equation. Then in Sections 2.2–2.5 we examined first-order DEs *analytically*—that is, we developed some procedures for obtaining explicit and implicit solutions. But a differential equation can a possess a solution yet we may not be able to obtain it analytically. So to round out the picture of the different types of analyses of differential equations, we conclude this chapter with a method by which we can "solve" the differential equation *numerically*—this means that the DE is used as the cornerstone of an algorithm for approximating the unknown solution.

In this section we are going to develop only the simplest of numerical methods—a method that utilizes the idea that a tangent line can be used to approximate the values of a function in a small neighborhood of the point of tangency. A more extensive treatment of numerical methods for ordinary differential equations is given in Chapter 9.

**USING THE TANGENT LINE**   Let us assume that the first-order initial-value problem

$$y' = f(x, y), \quad y(x_0) = y_0 \tag{1}$$

possesses a solution. One way of approximating this solution is to use tangent lines. For example, let $y(x)$ denote the unknown solution of the first-order initial-value problem $y' = 0.1\sqrt{y} + 0.4x^2$, $y(2) = 4$. The nonlinear differential equation in this IVP cannot be solved directly by any of the methods considered in Sections 2.2, 2.4, and 2.5; nevertheless, we can still find approximate numerical values of the unknown $y(x)$. Specifically, suppose we wish to know the value of $y(2.5)$. The IVP has a solution, and as the flow of the direction field of the DE in Figure 2.6.1(a) suggests, a solution curve must have a shape similar to the curve shown in blue.

The direction field in Figure 2.6.1(a) was generated with lineal elements passing through points in a grid with integer coordinates. As the solution curve passes

through the initial point $(2, 4)$, the lineal element at this point is a tangent line with slope given by $f(2, 4) = 0.1\sqrt{4} + 0.4(2)^2 = 1.8$. As is apparent in Figure 2.6.1(a) and the "zoom in" in Figure 2.6.1(b), when $x$ is close to 2, the points on the solution curve are close to the points on the tangent line (the lineal element). Using the point $(2, 4)$, the slope $f(2, 4) = 1.8$, and the point-slope form of a line, we find that an equation of the tangent line is $y = L(x)$, where $L(x) = 1.8x + 0.4$. This last equation, called a **linearization** of $y(x)$ at $x = 2$, can be used to approximate values of $y(x)$ within a small neighborhood of $x = 2$. If $y_1 = L(x_1)$ denotes the $y$-coordinate on the tangent line and $y(x_1)$ is the $y$-coordinate on the solution curve corresponding to an $x$-coordinate $x_1$ that is close to $x = 2$, then $y(x_1) \approx y_1$. If we choose, say, $x_1 = 2.1$, then $y_1 = L(2.1) = 1.8(2.1) + 0.4 = 4.18$, so $y(2.1) \approx 4.18$.



**(a)** direction field for $y \geq 0$

**(b)** lineal element at $(2, 4)$
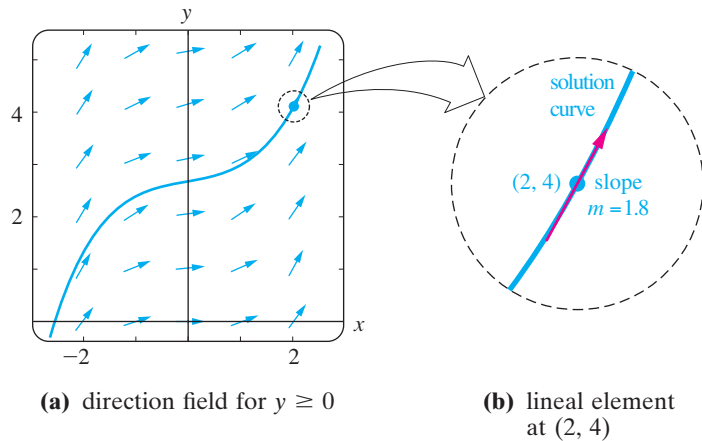
**FIGURE 2.6.1** Magnification of a neighborhood about the point $(2, 4)$
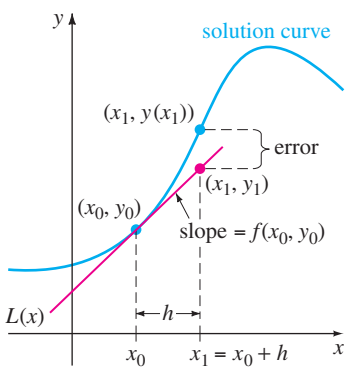


**FIGURE 2.6.2** Approximating $y(x_1)$ using a tangent line

**EULER'S METHOD**   To generalize the procedure just illustrated, we use the linearization of the unknown solution $y(x)$ of (1) at $x = x_0$:

$$L(x) = y_0 + f(x_0, y_0)(x - x_0). \tag{2}$$

The graph of this linearization is a straight line tangent to the graph of $y = y(x)$ at the point $(x_0, y_0)$. We now let $h$ be a positive increment of the $x$-axis, as shown in Figure 2.6.2. Then by replacing $x$ by $x_1 = x_0 + h$ in (2), we get

$$L(x_1) = y_0 + f(x_0, y_0)(x_0 + h - x_0) \quad \text{or} \quad y_1 = y_0 + hf(x_1, y_1),$$

where $y_1 = L(x_1)$. The point $(x_1, y_1)$ on the tangent line is an approximation to the point $(x_1, y(x_1))$ on the solution curve. Of course, the accuracy of the approximation $L(x_1) \approx y(x_1)$ or $y_1 \approx y(x_1)$ depends heavily on the size of the increment $h$. Usually, we must choose this **step size** to be "reasonably small." We now repeat the process using a second "tangent line" at $(x_1, y_1)$.[*] By identifying the new starting point as $(x_1, y_1)$ with $(x_0, y_0)$ in the above discussion, we obtain an approximation $y_2 \approx y(x_2)$ corresponding to two steps of length $h$ from $x_0$, that is, $x_2 = x_1 + h = x_0 + 2h$, and

$$y(x_2) = y(x_0 + 2h) = y(x_1 + h) \approx y_2 = y_1 + hf(x_1, y_1).$$

Continuing in this manner, we see that $y_1, y_2, y_3, \ldots$, can be defined recursively by the general formula

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(x_n, y_n), \tag{3}$$

where $x_n = x_0 + nh$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$. This procedure of using successive "tangent lines" is called **Euler's method.**

---

[*]This is not an actual tangent line, since $(x_1, y_1)$ lies on the first tangent and not on the solution curve.

## EXAMPLE 1   Euler's Method

Consider the initial-value problem $y' = 0.1\sqrt{y} + 0.4x^2$,   $y(2) = 4$. Use Euler's method to obtain an approximation of $y(2.5)$ using first $h = 0.1$ and then $h = 0.05$.

**SOLUTION**   With the identification $f(x, y) = 0.1\sqrt{y} + 0.4x^2$, (3) becomes

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h\left(0.1\sqrt{y_n} + 0.4x_n^2\right).$$

Then for $h = 0.1$, $x_0 = 2$, $y_0 = 4$, and $n = 0$ we find

$$y_1 = y_0 + h\left(0.1\sqrt{y_0} + 0.4x_0^2\right) = 4 + 0.1\left(0.1\sqrt{4} + 0.4(2)^2\right) = 4.18,$$

which, as we have already seen, is an estimate to the value of $y(2.1)$. However, if we use the smaller step size $h = 0.05$, it takes two steps to reach $x = 2.1$. From

$$y_1 = 4 + 0.05\left(0.1\sqrt{4} + 0.4(2)^2\right) = 4.09$$

$$y_2 = 4.09 + 0.05\left(0.1\sqrt{4.09} + 0.4(2.05)^2\right) = 4.18416187$$

we have $y_1 \approx y(2.05)$ and $y_2 \approx y(2.1)$. The remainder of the calculations were carried out by using software. The results are summarized in Tables 2.1 and 2.2, where each entry has been rounded to four decimal places. We see in Tables 2.1 and 2.2 that it takes five steps with $h = 0.1$ and 10 steps with $h = 0.05$, respectively, to get to $x = 2.5$. Intuitively, we would expect that $y_{10} = 5.0997$ corresponding to $h = 0.05$ is the better approximation of $y(2.5)$ than the value $y_5 = 5.0768$ corresponding to $h = 0.1$.   ∎

In Example 2 we apply Euler's method to a differential equation for which we have already found a solution. We do this to compare the values of the approximations $y_n$ at each step with the true or actual values of the solution $y(x_n)$ of the initial-value problem.

## EXAMPLE 2   Comparison of Approximate and Actual Values

Consider the initial-value problem $y' = 0.2xy$, $y(1) = 1$. Use Euler's method to obtain an approximation of $y(1.5)$ using first $h = 0.1$ and then $h = 0.05$.

**SOLUTION**   With the identification $f(x, y) = 0.2xy$, (3) becomes

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h(0.2x_n y_n)$$

where $x_0 = 1$ and $y_0 = 1$. Again with the aid of computer software we obtain the values in Tables 2.3 and 2.4.

**TABLE 2.1**   $h = 0.1$

| $x_n$ | $y_n$ |
|---|---|
| 2.00 | 4.0000 |
| 2.10 | 4.1800 |
| 2.20 | 4.3768 |
| 2.30 | 4.5914 |
| 2.40 | 4.8244 |
| 2.50 | 5.0768 |

**TABLE 2.2**   $h = 0.05$

| $x_n$ | $y_n$ |
|---|---|
| 2.00 | 4.0000 |
| 2.05 | 4.0900 |
| 2.10 | 4.1842 |
| 2.15 | 4.2826 |
| 2.20 | 4.3854 |
| 2.25 | 4.4927 |
| 2.30 | 4.6045 |
| 2.35 | 4.7210 |
| 2.40 | 4.8423 |
| 2.45 | 4.9686 |
| 2.50 | 5.0997 |

**TABLE 2.3**   $h = 0.1$

| $x_n$ | $y_n$ | Actual value | Abs. error | % Rel. error |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.10 | 1.0200 | 1.0212 | 0.0012 | 0.12 |
| 1.20 | 1.0424 | 1.0450 | 0.0025 | 0.24 |
| 1.30 | 1.0675 | 1.0714 | 0.0040 | 0.37 |
| 1.40 | 1.0952 | 1.1008 | 0.0055 | 0.50 |
| 1.50 | 1.1259 | 1.1331 | 0.0073 | 0.64 |

**TABLE 2.4**   $h = 0.05$

| $x_n$ | $y_n$ | Actual value | Abs. error | % Rel. error |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.05 | 1.0100 | 1.0103 | 0.0003 | 0.03 |
| 1.10 | 1.0206 | 1.0212 | 0.0006 | 0.06 |
| 1.15 | 1.0318 | 1.0328 | 0.0009 | 0.09 |
| 1.20 | 1.0437 | 1.0450 | 0.0013 | 0.12 |
| 1.25 | 1.0562 | 1.0579 | 0.0016 | 0.16 |
| 1.30 | 1.0694 | 1.0714 | 0.0020 | 0.19 |
| 1.35 | 1.0833 | 1.0857 | 0.0024 | 0.22 |
| 1.40 | 1.0980 | 1.1008 | 0.0028 | 0.25 |
| 1.45 | 1.1133 | 1.1166 | 0.0032 | 0.29 |
| 1.50 | 1.1295 | 1.1331 | 0.0037 | 0.32 |

In Example 1 the true or actual values were calculated from the known solution $y = e^{0.1(x^2-1)}$. (Verify.) The **absolute error** is defined to be

$$|\,actual\ value - approximation\,|.$$

The **relative error** and **percentage relative error** are, in turn,

$$\frac{absolute\ error}{|\,actual\ value\,|} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{absolute\ error}{|\,actual\ value\,|} \times 100.$$

It is apparent from Tables 2.3 and 2.4 that the accuracy of the approximations improves as the step size $h$ decreases. Also, we see that even though the percentage relative error is growing with each step, it does not appear to be that bad. But you should not be deceived by one example. If we simply change the coefficient of the right side of the DE in Example 2 from 0.2 to 2, then at $x_n = 1.5$ the percentage relative errors increase dramatically. See Problem 4 in Exercises 2.6.

**A CAVEAT**    Euler's method is just one of many different ways in which a solution of a differential equation can be approximated. Although attractive for its simplicity, *Euler's method is seldom used in serious calculations.* It was introduced here simply to give you a first taste of numerical methods. We will go into greater detail in discussing numerical methods that give significantly greater accuracy, notably the **fourth order Runge-Kutta method,** referred to as the **RK4 method,** in Chapter 9.

**NUMERICAL SOLVERS**    Regardless of whether we can actually find an explicit or implicit solution, if a solution of a differential equation exists, it represents a smooth curve in the Cartesian plane. The basic idea behind *any* numerical method for first-order ordinary differential equations is to somehow approximate the $y$-values of a solution for preselected values of $x$. We start at a specified initial point $(x_0, y_0)$ on a solution curve and proceed to calculate in a step-by-step fashion a sequence of points $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \ldots, (x_n, y_n)$ whose $y$-coordinates $y_i$ approximate the $y$-coordinates $y(x_i)$ of points $(x_1, y(x_1)), (x_2, y(x_2)), \ldots, (x_n, y(x_n))$ that lie on the graph of the usually unknown solution $y(x)$. By taking the $x$-coordinates close together (that is, for small values of $h$) and by joining the points $(x_1, y_1)$, $(x_2, y_2), \ldots, (x_n, y_n)$ with short line segments, we obtain a polygonal curve whose qualitative characteristics we hope are close to those of an actual solution curve. Drawing curves is something that is well suited to a computer. A computer program written to either implement a numerical method or render a visual representation of an approximate solution curve fitting the numerical data produced by this method is referred to as a **numerical solver.** Many different numerical solvers are commercially available, either embedded in a larger software package, such as a computer algebra system, or provided as a stand-alone package. Some software packages simply plot the generated numerical approximations, whereas others generate hard numerical data as well as the corresponding approximate or **numerical solution curves.** By way of illustration of the connect-the-dots nature of the graphs produced by a numerical solver, the two colored polygonal graphs in Figure 2.6.3 are the numerical solution curves for the initial-value problem $y' = 0.2xy$, $y(0) = 1$ on the interval $[0, 4]$ obtained from Euler's method and the RK4 method using the step size $h = 1$. The blue smooth curve is the graph of the exact solution $y = e^{0.1x^2}$ of the IVP. Notice in Figure 2.6.3 that, even with the ridiculously large step size of $h = 1$, the RK4 method produces the more believable "solution curve." The numerical solution curve obtained from the RK4 method is indistinguishable from the actual solution curve on the interval $[0, 4]$ when a more typical step size of $h = 0.1$ is used.
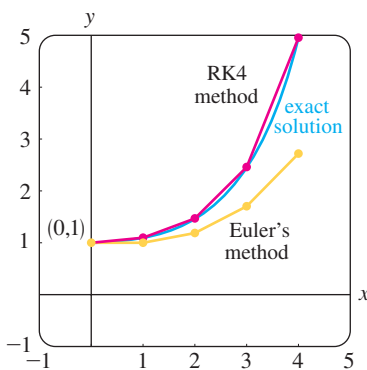


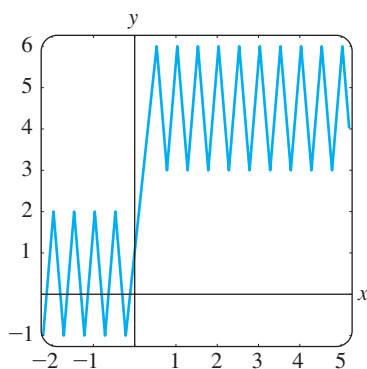**FIGURE 2.6.3**  Comparison of the Runge-Kutta (RK4) and Euler methods

**FIGURE 2.6.4**   A not very helpful numerical solution curve

**USING A NUMERICAL SOLVER**   Knowledge of the various numerical methods is not necessary in order to use a numerical solver. A solver usually requires that the differential equation be expressed in normal form $dy/dx = f(x, y)$. Numerical solvers that generate only curves usually require that you supply $f(x, y)$ and the initial data $x_0$ and $y_0$ and specify the desired numerical method. If the idea is to approximate the numerical value of $y(a)$, then a solver may additionally require that you state a value for $h$ or, equivalently, give the number of steps that you want to take to get from $x = x_0$ to $x = a$. For example, if we wanted to approximate $y(4)$ for the IVP illustrated in Figure 2.6.3, then, starting at $x = 0$ it would take four steps to reach $x = 4$ with a step size of $h = 1$; 40 steps is equivalent to a step size of $h = 0.1$. Although we will not delve here into the many problems that one can encounter when attempting to approximate mathematical quantities, you should at least be aware of the fact that a numerical solver may break down near certain points or give an incomplete or misleading picture when applied to some first-order differential equations in the normal form. Figure 2.6.4 illustrates the graph obtained by applying Euler's method to a certain first-order initial-value problem $dy/dx = f(x, y)$, $y(0) = 1$. Equivalent results were obtained using three different commercial numerical solvers, yet the graph is hardly a plausible solution curve. (Why?) There are several avenues of recourse when a numerical solver has difficulties; three of the more obvious are decrease the step size, use another numerical method, and try a different numerical solver.

## EXERCISES 2.6

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-2.*

In Problems 1 and 2 use Euler's method to obtain a four-decimal approximation of the indicated value. Carry out the recursion of (3) by hand, first using $h = 0.1$ and then using $h = 0.05$.

**1.** $y' = 2x - 3y + 1$, $y(1) = 5$;   $y(1.2)$

**2.** $y' = x + y^2$, $y(0) = 0$;   $y(0.2)$

In Problems 3 and 4 use Euler's method to obtain a four-decimal approximation of the indicated value. First use $h = 0.1$ and then use $h = 0.05$. Find an explicit solution for each initial-value problem and then construct tables similar to Tables 2.3 and 2.4.

**3.** $y' = y$, $y(0) = 1$;   $y(1.0)$

**4.** $y' = 2xy$, $y(1) = 1$;   $y(1.5)$

In Problems 5–10 use a numerical solver and Euler's method to obtain a four-decimal approximation of the indicated value. First use $h = 0.1$ and then use $h = 0.05$.

**5.** $y' = e^{-y}$, $y(0) = 0$;   $y(0.5)$

**6.** $y' = x^2 + y^2$, $y(0) = 1$;   $y(0.5)$

**7.** $y' = (x - y)^2$, $y(0) = 0.5$;   $y(0.5)$

**8.** $y' = xy + \sqrt{y}$, $y(0) = 1$;   $y(0.5)$

**9.** $y' = xy^2 - \dfrac{y}{x}$, $y(1) = 1$;   $y(1.5)$

**10.** $y' = y - y^2$, $y(0) = 0.5$;   $y(0.5)$

In Problems 11 and 12 use a numerical solver to obtain a numerical solution curve for the given initial-value problem. First use Euler's method and then the RK4 method. Use $h = 0.25$ in each case. Superimpose both solution curves on the same coordinate axes. If possible, use a different color for each curve. Repeat, using $h = 0.1$ and $h = 0.05$.

**11.** $y' = 2(\cos x)y$,   $y(0) = 1$

**12.** $y' = y(10 - 2y)$,   $y(0) = 1$

### Discussion Problems

**13.** Use a numerical solver and Euler's method to approximate $y(1.0)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution to $y' = 2xy^2$, $y(0) = 1$. First use $h = 0.1$ and then use $h = 0.05$. Repeat, using the RK4 method. Discuss what might cause the approximations to $y(1.0)$ to differ so greatly.

### Computer Lab Assignments

**14. (a)** Use a numerical solver and the RK4 method to graph the solution of the initial-value problem $y' = -2xy + 1$, $y(0) = 0$.

**(b)** Solve the initial-value problem by one of the analytic procedures developed earlier in this chapter.

**(c)** Use the analytic solution $y(x)$ found in part (b) and a CAS to find the coordinates of all relative extrema.

## CHAPTER 2 IN REVIEW

Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-3.

Answer Problems 1–4 without referring back to the text. Fill in the blanks or answer true or false.

1. The linear DE, $y' - ky = A$, where $k$ and $A$ are constants, is autonomous. The critical point _____ of the equation is a(n) _____ (attractor or repeller) for $k > 0$ and a(n) _____ (attractor or repeller) for $k < 0$.

2. The initial-value problem $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} - 4y = 0$, $y(0) = k$, has an infinite number of solutions for $k =$ _____ and no solution for $k =$ _____.

3. The linear DE, $y' + k_1 y = k_2$, where $k_1$ and $k_2$ are nonzero constants, always possesses a constant solution. _____

4. The linear DE, $a_1(x)y' + a_2(x)y = 0$ is also separable. _____

In Problems 5 and 6 construct an autonomous first-order differential equation $dy/dx = f(y)$ whose phase portrait is consistent with the given figure.

5.



**FIGURE 2.R.1** Graph for Problem 5

6.



**FIGURE 2.R.2** Graph for Problem 6

7. The number 0 is a critical point of the autonomous differential equation $dx/dt = x^n$, where $n$ is a positive integer. For what values of $n$ is 0 asymptotically stable? Semi-stable? Unstable? Repeat for the differential equation $dx/dt = -x^n$.

8. Consider the differential equation $dP/dt = f(P)$, where

$$f(P) = -0.5P^3 - 1.7P + 3.4.$$

The function $f(P)$ has one real zero, as shown in Figure 2.R.3. Without attempting to solve the differential equation, estimate the value of $\lim_{t\to\infty} P(t)$.
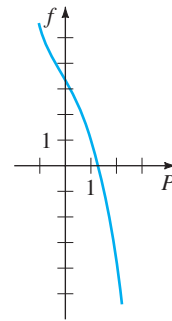


**FIGURE 2.R.3** Graph for Problem 8

9. Figure 2.R.4 is a portion of a direction field of a differential equation $dy/dx = f(x, y)$. By hand, sketch two different solution curves—one that is tangent to the lineal element shown in black and one that is tangent to the lineal element shown in color.
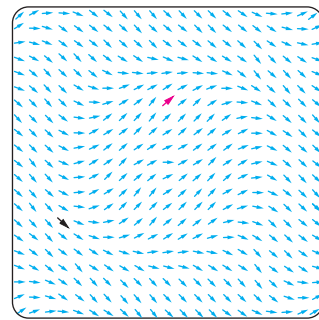


**FIGURE 2.R.4** Portion of a direction field for Problem 9

10. Classify each differential equation as separable, exact, linear, homogeneous, or Bernoulli. Some equations may be more than one kind. Do not solve.

(a) $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{x - y}{x}$

(b) $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{1}{y - x}$

(c) $(x + 1)\dfrac{dy}{dx} = -y + 10$

(d) $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{1}{x(x - y)}$

(e) $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{y^2 + y}{x^2 + x}$

(f) $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 5y + y^2$

(g) $y\,dx = (y - xy^2)\,dy$

(h) $x\dfrac{dy}{dx} = ye^{x/y} - x$

(i) $xy\,y' + y^2 = 2x$

(j) $2xy\,y' + y^2 = 2x^2$

(k) $y\,dx + x\,dy = 0$

(l) $\left(x^2 + \dfrac{2y}{x}\right)dx = (3 - \ln x^2)\,dy$

(m) $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{x}{y} + \dfrac{y}{x} + 1$

(n) $\dfrac{y}{x^2}\dfrac{dy}{dx} + e^{2x^3 + y^2} = 0$

In Problems 11–18 solve the given differential equation.

**11.** $(y^2 + 1)\,dx = y\sec^2 x\,dy$

**12.** $y(\ln x - \ln y)\,dx = (x\ln x - x\ln y - y)\,dy$

**13.** $(6x + 1)y^2\dfrac{dy}{dx} + 3x^2 + 2y^3 = 0$

**14.** $\dfrac{dx}{dy} = -\dfrac{4y^2 + 6xy}{3y^2 + 2x}$

**15.** $t\dfrac{dQ}{dt} + Q = t^4\ln t$

**16.** $(2x + y + 1)y' = 1$

**17.** $(x^2 + 4)\,dy = (2x - 8xy)\,dx$

**18.** $(2r^2\cos\theta\sin\theta + r\cos\theta)\,d\theta$
$\qquad\qquad + (4r + \sin\theta - 2r\cos^2\theta)\,dr = 0$

In Problems 19 and 20 solve the given initial-value problem and give the largest interval $I$ on which the solution is defined.

**19.** $\sin x\dfrac{dy}{dx} + (\cos x)y = 0,\quad y\!\left(\dfrac{7\pi}{6}\right) = -2$

**20.** $\dfrac{dy}{dt} + 2(t + 1)y^2 = 0,\quad y(0) = -\tfrac{1}{8}$

**21.** **(a)** Without solving, explain why the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \sqrt{y},\quad y(x_0) = y_0$$

has no solution for $y_0 < 0$.

**(b)** Solve the initial-value problem in part (a) for $y_0 > 0$ and find the largest interval $I$ on which the solution is defined.

**22.** **(a)** Find an implicit solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y^2 - x^2}{xy},\quad y(1) = -\sqrt{2}.$$

**(b)** Find an explicit solution of the problem in part (a) and give the largest interval $I$ over which the solution is defined. A graphing utility may be helpful here.

**23.** Graphs of some members of a family of solutions for a first-order differential equation $dy/dx = f(x, y)$ are shown in Figure 2.R.5. The graphs of two implicit solutions, one that passes through the point $(1, -1)$ and one that passes through $(-1, 3)$, are shown in red. Reproduce the figure on a piece of paper. With colored pencils trace out the solution curves for the solutions $y = y_1(x)$ and $y = y_2(x)$ defined by the implicit solutions such that $y_1(1) = -1$ and $y_2(-1) = 3$, respectively. Estimate the intervals on which the solutions $y = y_1(x)$ and $y = y_2(x)$ are defined.
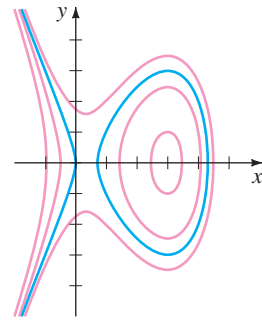


**FIGURE 2.R.5**  Graph for Problem 23

**24.** Use Euler's method with step size $h = 0.1$ to approximate $y(1.2)$, where $y(x)$ is a solution of the initial-value problem $y' = 1 + x\sqrt{y}$, $y(1) = 9$.

In Problems 25 and 26 each figure represents a portion of a direction field of an autonomous first-order differential equation $dy/dx = f(y)$. Reproduce the figure on a separate piece of paper and then complete the direction field over the grid. The points of the grid are $(mh, nh)$, where $h = \tfrac{1}{2}$, $m$ and $n$ integers, $-7 \le m \le 7$, $-7 \le n \le 7$. In each direction field, sketch by hand an approximate solution curve that passes through each of the solid points shown in red. Discuss: Does it appear that the DE possesses critical points in the interval $-3.5 \le y \le 3.5$? If so, classify the critical points as asymptotically stable, unstable, or semi-stable.

**25.**
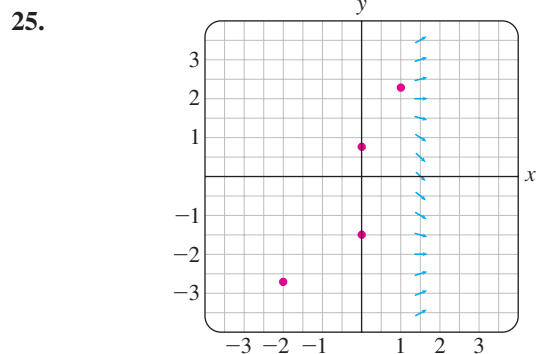


**FIGURE 2.R.6**  Portion of a direction field for Problem 25

**26.**
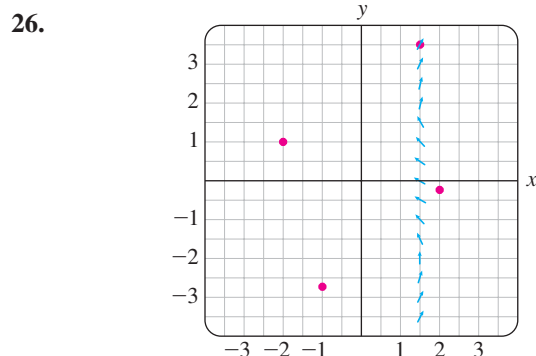


**FIGURE 2.R.7**  Portion of a direction field for Problem 26

# 3 MODELING WITH FIRST-ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS
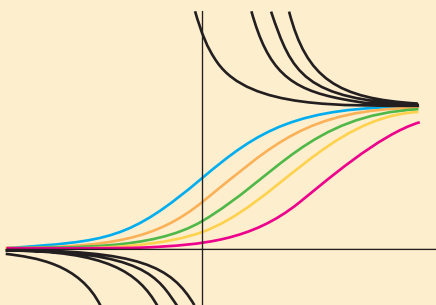
In Section 1.3 we saw how a first-order differential equation could be used as a mathematical model in the study of population growth, radioactive decay, continuous compound interest, cooling of bodies, mixtures, chemical reactions, fluid draining from a tank, velocity of a falling body, and current in a series circuit. Using the methods of Chapter 2, we are now able to solve some of the linear DEs (Section 3.1) and nonlinear DEs (Section 3.2) that commonly appear in applications. The chapter concludes with the natural next step: In Section 3.3 we examine how systems of first-order DEs can arise as mathematical models in coupled physical systems (for example, a population of predators such as foxes interacting with a population of prey such as rabbits).

## 3.1   LINEAR MODELS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- A differential equation as a mathematical model in Section 1.3
- Reread "Solving a Linear First-Order Equation" on page 55 in Section 2.3

**INTRODUCTION**   In this section we solve some of the linear first-order models that were introduced in Section 1.3.

**GROWTH AND DECAY**   The initial-value problem

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = kx, \quad x(t_0) = x_0, \tag{1}$$

where $k$ is a constant of proportionality, serves as a model for diverse phenomena involving either growth or decay. We saw in Section 1.3 that in biological applications the rate of growth of certain populations (bacteria, small animals) over short periods of time is proportional to the population present at time $t$. Knowing the population at some arbitrary initial time $t_0$, we can then use the solution of (1) to predict the population in the future—that is, at times $t > t_0$. The constant of proportionality $k$ in (1) can be determined from the solution of the initial-value problem, using a subsequent measurement of $x$ at a time $t_1 > t_0$. In physics and chemistry (1) is seen in the form of a *first-order reaction*—that is, a reaction whose rate, or velocity, $dx/dt$ is directly proportional to the amount $x$ of a substance that is unconverted or remaining at time $t$. The decomposition, or decay, of U-238 (uranium) by radioactivity into Th-234 (thorium) is a first-order reaction.

### EXAMPLE 1   Bacterial Growth

A culture initially has $P_0$ number of bacteria. At $t = 1$ h the number of bacteria is measured to be $\frac{3}{2}P_0$. If the rate of growth is proportional to the number of bacteria $P(t)$ present at time $t$, determine the time necessary for the number of bacteria to triple.

**SOLUTION**   We first solve the differential equation in (1), with the symbol $x$ replaced by $P$. With $t_0 = 0$ the initial condition is $P(0) = P_0$. We then use the empirical observation that $P(1) = \frac{3}{2}P_0$ to determine the constant of proportionality $k$.

   Notice that the differential equation $dP/dt = kP$ is both separable and linear. When it is put in the standard form of a linear first-order DE,

$$\frac{dP}{dt} - kP = 0,$$

we can see by inspection that the integrating factor is $e^{-kt}$. Multiplying both sides of the equation by this term and integrating gives, in turn,

$$\frac{d}{dt}[e^{-kt}P] = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad e^{-kt}P = c.$$

Therefore $P(t) = ce^{kt}$. At $t = 0$ it follows that $P_0 = ce^0 = c$, so $P(t) = P_0 e^{kt}$. At $t = 1$ we have $\frac{3}{2}P_0 = P_0 e^k$ or $e^k = \frac{3}{2}$. From the last equation we get $k = \ln \frac{3}{2} = 0.4055$, so $P(t) = P_0 e^{0.4055t}$. To find the time at which the number of bacteria has tripled, we solve $3P_0 = P_0 e^{0.4055t}$ for $t$. It follows that $0.4055t = \ln 3$, or

$$t = \frac{\ln 3}{0.4055} \approx 2.71 \text{ h}.$$

See Figure 3.1.1.



$P(t) = P_0 e^{0.4055t}$
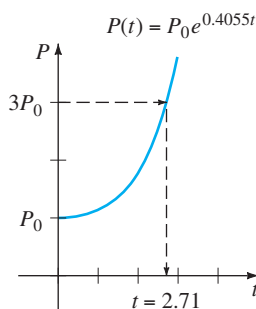
**FIGURE 3.1.1**   Time in which population triples
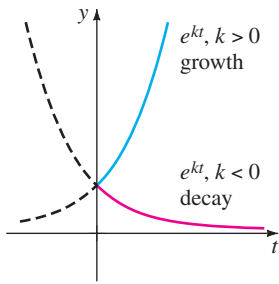
**FIGURE 3.1.2** Growth ($k > 0$) and decay ($k < 0$)

Notice in Example 1 that the actual number $P_0$ of bacteria present at time $t = 0$ played no part in determining the time required for the number in the culture to triple. The time necessary for an initial population of, say, 100 or 1,000,000 bacteria to triple is still approximately 2.71 hours.

As shown in Figure 3.1.2, the exponential function $e^{kt}$ increases as $t$ increases for $k > 0$ and decreases as $t$ increases for $k < 0$. Thus problems describing growth (whether of populations, bacteria, or even capital) are characterized by a positive value of $k$, whereas problems involving decay (as in radioactive disintegration) yield a negative $k$ value. Accordingly, we say that $k$ is either a **growth constant** ($k > 0$) or a **decay constant** ($k < 0$).

**HALF-LIFE** In physics the **half-life** is a measure of the stability of a radioactive substance. The half-life is simply the time it takes for one-half of the atoms in an initial amount $A_0$ to disintegrate, or transmute, into the atoms of another element. The longer the half-life of a substance, the more stable it is. For example, the half-life of highly radioactive radium, Ra-226, is about 1700 years. In 1700 years one-half of a given quantity of Ra-226 is transmuted into radon, Rn-222. The most commonly occurring uranium isotope, U-238, has a half-life of approximately 4,500,000,000 years. In about 4.5 billion years, one-half of a quantity of U-238 is transmuted into lead, Pb-206.

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### EXAMPLE 2  Half-Life of Plutonium

A breeder reactor converts relatively stable uranium 238 into the isotope plutonium 239. After 15 years it is determined that 0.043% of the initial amount $A_0$ of plutonium has disintegrated. Find the half-life of this isotope if the rate of disintegration is proportional to the amount remaining.

**SOLUTION** Let $A(t)$ denote the amount of plutonium remaining at time $t$. As in Example 1 the solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = kA, \quad A(0) = A_0$$

is $A(t) = A_0 e^{kt}$. If 0.043% of the atoms of $A_0$ have disintegrated, then 99.957% of the substance remains. To find the decay constant $k$, we use $0.99957A_0 = A(15)$—that is, $0.99957A_0 = A_0 e^{15k}$. Solving for $k$ then gives $k = \frac{1}{15} \ln 0.99957 = -0.00002867$. Hence $A(t) = A_0 e^{-0.00002867t}$. Now the half-life is the corresponding value of time at which $A(t) = \frac{1}{2}A_0$. Solving for $t$ gives $\frac{1}{2}A_0 = A_0 e^{-0.00002867t}$, or $\frac{1}{2} = e^{-0.00002867t}$. The last equation yields

$$t = \frac{\ln 2}{0.00002867} \approx 24{,}180 \text{ yr.} \qquad \blacksquare$$

**CARBON DATING** About 1950 the chemist Willard Libby devised a method of using radioactive carbon as a means of determining the approximate ages of fossils. The theory of **carbon dating** is based on the fact that the isotope carbon 14 is produced in the atmosphere by the action of cosmic radiation on nitrogen. The ratio of the amount of C-14 to ordinary carbon in the atmosphere appears to be a constant, and as a consequence the proportionate amount of the isotope present in all living organisms is the same as that in the atmosphere. When an organism dies, the absorption of C-14, by either breathing or eating, ceases. Thus by comparing the proportionate amount of C-14 present, say, in a fossil with the constant ratio found in the atmosphere, it is possible to obtain a reasonable estimation of the fossil's age. The method is based on the knowledge that the half-life of radioactive C-14 is approximately 5600 years. For his work Libby won the Nobel Prize for chemistry in

1960. Libby's method has been used to date wooden furniture in Egyptian tombs, the woven flax wrappings of the Dead Sea scrolls, and the cloth of the enigmatic shroud of Turin.

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### EXAMPLE 3    Age of a Fossil

A fossilized bone is found to contain one-thousandth of the C-14 level found in living matter. Estimate the age of the fossil.

**SOLUTION**    The starting point is again $A(t) = A_0 e^{kt}$. To determine the value of the decay constant $k$, we use the fact that $\frac{1}{2} A_0 = A(5600)$ or $\frac{1}{2} A_0 = A_0 e^{5600k}$. From $5600k = \ln \frac{1}{2} = -\ln 2$ we then get $k = -(\ln 2)/5600 = -0.00012378$. Therefore $A(t) = A_0 e^{-0.00012378t}$. With $A(t) = \frac{1}{1000} A_0$ we have $\frac{1}{1000} A_0 = A_0 e^{-0.00012378t}$, so $-0.00012378t = \ln \frac{1}{1000} = -\ln 1000$. Thus the age of the fossil is about

$$t = \frac{\ln 1000}{0.00012378} \approx 55{,}800 \text{ yr.}$$ ∎

The age found in Example 3 is really at the border of accuracy for this method. The usual carbon-14 technique is limited to about 9 half-lives of the isotope, or about 50,000 years. One reason for this limitation is that the chemical analysis needed to obtain an accurate measurement of the remaining C-14 becomes somewhat formidable around the point of $\frac{1}{1000} A_0$. Also, this analysis demands the destruction of a rather large sample of the specimen. If this measurement is accomplished indirectly, based on the actual radioactivity of the specimen, then it is very difficult to distinguish between the radiation from the fossil and the normal background radiation.[*] But recently, the use of a particle accelerator has enabled scientists to separate C-14 from stable C-12 directly. When the precise value of the ratio of C-14 to C-12 is computed, the accuracy of this method can be extended to 70,000–100,000 years. Other isotopic techniques such as using potassium 40 and argon 40 can give ages of several million years.[†] Nonisotopic methods based on the use of amino acids are also sometimes possible.

**NEWTON'S LAW OF COOLING/WARMING**    In equation (3) of Section 1.3 we saw that the mathematical formulation of Newton's empirical law of cooling/warming of an object is given by the linear first-order differential equation

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = k(T - T_m), \tag{2}$$

where $k$ is a constant of proportionality, $T(t)$ is the temperature of the object for $t > 0$, and $T_m$ is the ambient temperature—that is, the temperature of the medium around the object. In Example 4 we assume that $T_m$ is constant.

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### EXAMPLE 4    Cooling of a Cake

When a cake is removed from an oven, its temperature is measured at 300° F. Three minutes later its temperature is 200° F. How long will it take for the cake to cool off to a room temperature of 70° F?

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[*]The number of disintegrations per minute per gram of carbon is recorded by using a Geiger counter. The lower level of detectability is about 0.1 disintegrations per minute per gram.
[†]Potassium-argon dating is used in dating terrestrial materials such as minerals, rocks, and lava and extraterrestrial materials such as meteorites and lunar rocks. The age of a fossil can be estimated by determining the age of the rock stratum in which it was found.
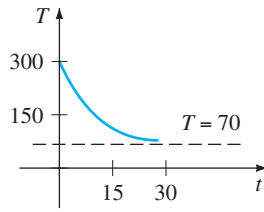
**(a)**

| T(t) | t (min) |
|------|---------|
| 75° | 20.1 |
| 74° | 21.3 |
| 73° | 22.8 |
| 72° | 24.9 |
| 71° | 28.6 |
| 70.5° | 32.3 |

**(b)**

**FIGURE 3.1.3** Temperature of cooling cake approaches room temperature

**SOLUTION** In (2) we make the identification $T_m = 70$. We must then solve the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = k(T - 70), \quad T(0) = 300 \tag{3}$$

and determine the value of $k$ so that $T(3) = 200$.

Equation (3) is both linear and separable. If we separate variables,

$$\frac{dT}{T - 70} = k\, dt,$$

yields $\ln|T - 70| = kt + c_1$, and so $T = 70 + c_2 e^{kt}$. When $t = 0$, $T = 300$, so $300 = 70 + c_2$ gives $c_2 = 230$; therefore $T = 70 + 230e^{kt}$. Finally, the measurement $T(3) = 200$ leads to $e^{3k} = \frac{13}{23}$, or $k = \frac{1}{3} \ln \frac{13}{23} = -0.19018$. Thus

$$T(t) = 70 + 230e^{-0.19018t}. \tag{4}$$

We note that (4) furnishes no finite solution to $T(t) = 70$, since $\lim_{t\to\infty} T(t) = 70$. Yet we intuitively expect the cake to reach room temperature after a reasonably long period of time. How long is "long"? Of course, we should not be disturbed by the fact that the model (3) does not quite live up to our physical intuition. Parts (a) and (b) of Figure 3.1.3 clearly show that the cake will be approximately at room temperature in about one-half hour. ■

The ambient temperature in (2) need not be a constant but could be a function $T_m(t)$ of time $t$. See Problem 18 in Exercises 3.1.

**MIXTURES** The mixing of two fluids sometimes gives rise to a linear first-order differential equation. When we discussed the mixing of two brine solutions in Section 1.3, we assumed that the rate $A'(t)$ at which the amount of salt in the mixing tank changes was a net rate:

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = (\text{input rate of salt}) - (\text{output rate of salt}) = R_{in} - R_{out}. \tag{5}$$

In Example 5 we solve equation (8) of Section 1.3.

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**EXAMPLE 5** Mixture of Two Salt Solutions

Recall that the large tank considered in Section 1.3 held 300 gallons of a brine solution. Salt was entering and leaving the tank; a brine solution was being pumped into the tank at the rate of 3 gal/min; it mixed with the solution there, and then the mixture was pumped out at the rate of 3 gal/min. The concentration of the salt in the inflow, or solution entering, was 2 lb/gal, so salt was entering the tank at the rate $R_{in} = (2 \text{ lb/gal}) \cdot (3 \text{ gal/min}) = 6 \text{ lb/min}$ and leaving the tank at the rate $R_{out} = (A/300 \text{ lb/gal}) \cdot (3 \text{ gal/min}) = A/100 \text{ lb/min}$. From this data and (5) we get equation (8) of Section 1.3. Let us pose the question: If 50 pounds of salt were dissolved initially in the 300 gallons, how much salt is in the tank after a long time?

**SOLUTION** To find the amount of salt $A(t)$ in the tank at time $t$, we solve the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dA}{dt} + \frac{1}{100}A = 6, \quad A(0) = 50.$$

Note here that the side condition is the initial amount of salt $A(0) = 50$ in the tank and *not* the initial amount of liquid in the tank. Now since the integrating factor of the
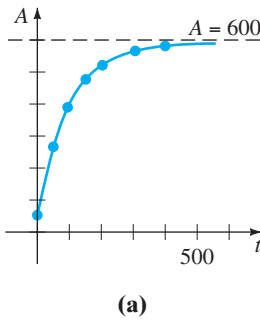
linear differential equation is $e^{t/100}$, we can write the equation as

$$\frac{d}{dt}[e^{t/100}A] = 6e^{t/100}.$$

Integrating the last equation and solving for $A$ gives the general solution $A(t) = 600 + ce^{-t/100}$. When $t = 0$, $A = 50$, so we find that $c = -550$. Thus the amount of salt in the tank at time $t$ is given by

$$A(t) = 600 - 550e^{-t/100}. \tag{6}$$

The solution (6) was used to construct the table in Figure 3.1.4(b). Also, it can be seen from (6) and Figure 3.1.4(a) that $A(t) \to 600$ as $t \to \infty$. Of course, this is what we would intuitively expect; over a long time the number of pounds of salt in the solution must be (300 gal)(2 lb/gal) = 600 lb.    ■

In Example 5 we assumed that the rate at which the solution was pumped in was the same as the rate at which the solution was pumped out. However, this need not be the case; the mixed brine solution could be pumped out at a rate $r_{out}$ that is faster or slower than the rate $r_{in}$ at which the other brine solution is pumped in. For example, if the well-stirred solution in Example 5 is pumped out at a slower rate of, say, $r_{out} = 2$ gal/min, then liquid will accumulate in the tank at the rate of $r_{in} - r_{out} = (3 - 2)$ gal/min = 1 gal/min. After $t$ minutes, (1 gal/min) · ($t$ min) = $t$ gal will accumulate, so the tank will contain $300 + t$ gallons of brine. The concentration of the outflow is then $c(t) = A/(300 + t)$, and the output rate of salt is $R_{out} = c(t) \cdot r_{out}$, or

$$R_{out} = \left(\frac{A}{300 + t}\, \text{lb/gal}\right) \cdot (2\ \text{gal/min}) = \frac{2A}{300 + t}\, \text{lb/min}.$$

Hence equation (5) becomes

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = 6 - \frac{2A}{300 + t} \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{dA}{dt} + \frac{2}{300 + t}A = 6.$$

You should verify that the solution of the last equation, subject to $A(0) = 50$, is $A(t) = 600 + 2t - (4.95 \times 10^7)(300 + t)^{-2}$. See the discussion following (8) of Section 1.3, Problem 12 in Exercises 1.3, and Problems 25–28 in Exercises 3.1.

**SERIES CIRCUITS**    For a series circuit containing only a resistor and an inductor, Kirchhoff's second law states that the sum of the voltage drop across the inductor ($L(di/dt)$) and the voltage drop across the resistor ($iR$) is the same as the impressed voltage ($E(t)$) on the circuit. See Figure 3.1.5.

Thus we obtain the linear differential equation for the current $i(t)$,

$$L\frac{di}{dt} + Ri = E(t), \tag{7}$$

where $L$ and $R$ are constants known as the inductance and the resistance, respectively. The current $i(t)$ is also called the **response** of the system.

The voltage drop across a capacitor with capacitance $C$ is given by $q(t)/C$, where $q$ is the charge on the capacitor. Hence, for the series circuit shown in Figure 3.1.6, Kirchhoff's second law gives

$$Ri + \frac{1}{C}q = E(t). \tag{8}$$

But current $i$ and charge $q$ are related by $i = dq/dt$, so (8) becomes the linear differential equation

$$R\frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{1}{C}q = E(t). \tag{9}$$

(a)

| $t$ (min) | $A$ (lb) |
|-----------|----------|
| 50  | 266.41 |
| 100 | 397.67 |
| 150 | 477.27 |
| 200 | 525.57 |
| 300 | 572.62 |
| 400 | 589.93 |

(b)

**FIGURE 3.1.4**    Pounds of salt in tank as a function of time $t$

**FIGURE 3.1.5**    $LR$ series circuit
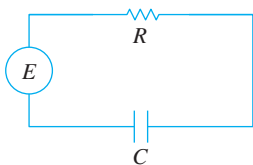
**FIGURE 3.1.6**    $RC$ series circuit

## EXAMPLE 6 Series Circuit

A 12-volt battery is connected to a series circuit in which the inductance is $\frac{1}{2}$ henry and the resistance is 10 ohms. Determine the current $i$ if the initial current is zero.

**SOLUTION** From (7) we see that we must solve

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{di}{dt} + 10i = 12,$$

subject to $i(0) = 0$. First, we multiply the differential equation by 2 and read off the integrating factor $e^{20t}$. We then obtain

$$\frac{d}{dt}[e^{20t}i] = 24e^{20t}.$$

Integrating each side of the last equation and solving for $i$ gives $i(t) = \frac{6}{5} + ce^{-20t}$. Now $i(0) = 0$ implies that $0 = \frac{6}{5} + c$ or $c = -\frac{6}{5}$. Therefore the response is $i(t) = \frac{6}{5} - \frac{6}{5}e^{-20t}$. ■

From (4) of Section 2.3 we can write a general solution of (7):

$$i(t) = \frac{e^{-(R/L)t}}{L}\int e^{(R/L)t}E(t)\,dt + ce^{-(R/L)t}. \tag{10}$$

In particular, when $E(t) = E_0$ is a constant, (10) becomes

$$i(t) = \frac{E_0}{R} + ce^{-(R/L)t}. \tag{11}$$

Note that as $t \to \infty$, the second term in equation (11) approaches zero. Such a term is usually called a **transient term;** any remaining terms are called the **steady-state** part of the solution. In this case $E_0/R$ is also called the **steady-state current;** for large values of time it appears that the current in the circuit is simply governed by Ohm's law ($E = iR$).

## REMARKS

The solution $P(t) = P_0e^{0.4055t}$ of the initial-value problem in Example 1 described the population of a colony of bacteria at any time $t > 0$. Of course, $P(t)$ is a continuous function that takes on *all* real numbers in the interval $P_0 \leq P < \infty$. But since we are talking about a population, common sense dictates that $P$ can take on only positive integer values. Moreover, we would not expect the population to grow continuously—that is, every second, every microsecond, and so on—as predicted by our solution; there may be intervals of time $[t_1, t_2]$ over which there is no growth at all. Perhaps, then, the graph shown in Figure 3.1.7(a) is a more realistic description of $P$ than is the graph of an exponential function. Using a continuous function to describe a discrete phenomenon is often more a matter of convenience than of accuracy. However, for some purposes we may be satisfied if our model describes the system fairly closely when viewed macroscopically in time, as in Figures 3.1.7(b) and 3.1.7(c), rather than microscopically, as in Figure 3.1.7(a).



**(a)**



**(b)**



**(c)**

**FIGURE 3.1.7** Population growth is a discrete process

# EXERCISES 3.1

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-3.*

## Growth and Decay

1. The population of a community is known to increase at a rate proportional to the number of people present at time $t$. If an initial population $P_0$ has doubled in 5 years, how long will it take to triple? To quadruple?

2. Suppose it is known that the population of the community in Problem 1 is 10,000 after 3 years. What was the initial population $P_0$? What will be the population in 10 years? How fast is the population growing at $t = 10$?

3. The population of a town grows at a rate proportional to the population present at time $t$. The initial population of 500 increases by 15% in 10 years. What will be the population in 30 years? How fast is the population growing at $t = 30$?

4. The population of bacteria in a culture grows at a rate proportional to the number of bacteria present at time $t$. After 3 hours it is observed that 400 bacteria are present. After 10 hours 2000 bacteria are present. What was the initial number of bacteria?

5. The radioactive isotope of lead, Pb-209, decays at a rate proportional to the amount present at time $t$ and has a half-life of 3.3 hours. If 1 gram of this isotope is present initially, how long will it take for 90% of the lead to decay?

6. Initially 100 milligrams of a radioactive substance was present. After 6 hours the mass had decreased by 3%. If the rate of decay is proportional to the amount of the substance present at time $t$, find the amount remaining after 24 hours.

7. Determine the half-life of the radioactive substance described in Problem 6.

8. (a) Consider the initial-value problem $dA/dt = kA$, $A(0) = A_0$ as the model for the decay of a radioactive substance. Show that, in general, the half-life $T$ of the substance is $T = -(\ln 2)/k$.

   (b) Show that the solution of the initial-value problem in part (a) can be written $A(t) = A_0 2^{-t/T}$.

   (c) If a radioactive substance has the half-life $T$ given in part (a), how long will it take an initial amount $A_0$ of the substance to decay to $\frac{1}{8} A_0$?

9. When a vertical beam of light passes through a transparent medium, the rate at which its intensity $I$ decreases is proportional to $I(t)$, where $t$ represents the thickness of the medium (in feet). In clear seawater, the intensity 3 feet below the surface is 25% of the initial intensity $I_0$ of the incident beam. What is the intensity of the beam 15 feet below the surface?

10. When interest is compounded continuously, the amount of money increases at a rate proportional to the amount $S$ present at time $t$, that is, $dS/dt = rS$, where $r$ is the annual rate of interest.

    (a) Find the amount of money accrued at the end of 5 years when $5000 is deposited in a savings account drawing $5\frac{3}{4}$% annual interest compounded continuously.

    (b) In how many years will the initial sum deposited have doubled?

    (c) Use a calculator to compare the amount obtained in part (a) with the amount $S = 5000(1 + \frac{1}{4}(0.0575))^{5(4)}$ that is accrued when interest is compounded quarterly.

## Carbon Dating

11. Archaeologists used pieces of burned wood, or charcoal, found at the site to date prehistoric paintings and drawings on walls and ceilings of a cave in Lascaux, France. See Figure 3.1.8. Use the information on page 84 to determine the approximate age of a piece of burned wood, if it was found that 85.5% of the C-14 found in living trees of the same type had decayed.



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12. The shroud of Turin, which shows the negative image of the body of a man who appears to have been crucified, is believed by many to be the burial shroud of Jesus of Nazareth. See Figure 3.1.9. In 1988 the Vatican granted permission to have the shroud carbon-dated. Three independent scientific laboratories analyzed the cloth and concluded that the shroud was approximately 660 years old,[*] an age consistent with its historical appearance.



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[*]Some scholars have disagreed with this finding. For more information on this fascinating mystery see the Shroud of Turin home page at http://www.shroud.com/.

Using this age, determine what percentage of the original amount of C-14 remained in the cloth as of 1988.

## Newton's Law of Cooling/Warming

13. A thermometer is removed from a room where the temperature is 70° F and is taken outside, where the air temperature is 10° F. After one-half minute the thermometer reads 50° F. What is the reading of the thermometer at $t = 1$ min? How long will it take for the thermometer to reach 15° F?

14. A thermometer is taken from an inside room to the outside, where the air temperature is 5° F. After 1 minute the thermometer reads 55° F, and after 5 minutes it reads 30° F. What is the initial temperature of the inside room?

15. A small metal bar, whose initial temperature was 20° C, is dropped into a large container of boiling water. How long will it take the bar to reach 90° C if it is known that its temperature increases 2° in 1 second? How long will it take the bar to reach 98° C?

16. Two large containers A and B of the same size are filled with different fluids. The fluids in containers A and B are maintained at 0° C and 100° C, respectively. A small metal bar, whose initial temperature is 100° C, is lowered into container A. After 1 minute the temperature of the bar is 90° C. After 2 minutes the bar is removed and instantly transferred to the other container. After 1 minute in container B the temperature of the bar rises 10°. How long, measured from the start of the entire process, will it take the bar to reach 99.9° C?

17. A thermometer reading 70° F is placed in an oven preheated to a constant temperature. Through a glass window in the oven door, an observer records that the thermometer reads 110° F after $\frac{1}{2}$ minute and 145° F after 1 minute. How hot is the oven?

18. At $t = 0$ a sealed test tube containing a chemical is immersed in a liquid bath. The initial temperature of the chemical in the test tube is 80° F. The liquid bath has a controlled temperature (measured in degrees Fahrenheit) given by $T_m(t) = 100 - 40e^{-0.1t}$, $t \geq 0$, where $t$ is measured in minutes.

    (a) Assume that $k = -0.1$ in (2). Before solving the IVP, describe in words what you expect the temperature $T(t)$ of the chemical to be like in the short term. In the long term.

    (b) Solve the initial-value problem. Use a graphing utility to plot the graph of $T(t)$ on time intervals of various lengths. Do the graphs agree with your predictions in part (a)?

19. A dead body was found within a closed room of a house where the temperature was a constant 70° F. At the time of discovery the core temperature of the body was determined to be 85° F. One hour later a second mea-

surement showed that the core temperature of the body was 80° F. Assume that the time of death corresponds to $t = 0$ and that the core temperature at that time was 98.6° F. Determine how many hours elapsed before the body was found. [*Hint*: Let $t_1 > 0$ denote the time that the body was discovered.]

20. The rate at which a body cools also depends on its exposed surface area S. If S is a constant, then a modification of (2) is

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = kS(T - T_m),$$

where $k < 0$ and $T_m$ is a constant. Suppose that two cups A and B are filled with coffee at the same time. Initially, the temperature of the coffee is 150° F. The exposed surface area of the coffee in cup B is twice the surface area of the coffee in cup A. After 30 min the temperature of the coffee in cup A is 100° F. If $T_m = 70°$ F, then what is the temperature of the coffee in cup B after 30 min?

## Mixtures

21. A tank contains 200 liters of fluid in which 30 grams of salt is dissolved. Brine containing 1 gram of salt per liter is then pumped into the tank at a rate of 4 L/min; the well-mixed solution is pumped out at the same rate. Find the number $A(t)$ of grams of salt in the tank at time $t$.

22. Solve Problem 21 assuming that pure water is pumped into the tank.

23. A large tank is filled to capacity with 500 gallons of pure water. Brine containing 2 pounds of salt per gallon is pumped into the tank at a rate of 5 gal/min. The well-mixed solution is pumped out at the same rate. Find the number $A(t)$ of pounds of salt in the tank at time $t$.

24. In Problem 23, what is the concentration $c(t)$ of the salt in the tank at time $t$? At $t = 5$ min? What is the concentration of the salt in the tank after a long time, that is, as $t \to \infty$? At what time is the concentration of the salt in the tank equal to one-half this limiting value?

25. Solve Problem 23 under the assumption that the solution is pumped out at a faster rate of 10 gal/min. When is the tank empty?

26. Determine the amount of salt in the tank at time $t$ in Example 5 if the concentration of salt in the inflow is variable and given by $c_{in}(t) = 2 + \sin(t/4)$ lb/gal. Without actually graphing, conjecture what the solution curve of the IVP should look like. Then use a graphing utility to plot the graph of the solution on the interval [0, 300]. Repeat for the interval [0, 600] and compare your graph with that in Figure 3.1.4(a).

27. A large tank is partially filled with 100 gallons of fluid in which 10 pounds of salt is dissolved. Brine containing

$\frac{1}{2}$ pound of salt per gallon is pumped into the tank at a rate of 6 gal/min. The well-mixed solution is then pumped out at a slower rate of 4 gal/min. Find the number of pounds of salt in the tank after 30 minutes.

**28.** In Example 5 the size of the tank containing the salt mixture was not given. Suppose, as in the discussion following Example 5, that the rate at which brine is pumped into the tank is 3 gal/min but that the well-stirred solution is pumped out at a rate of 2 gal/min. It stands to reason that since brine is accumulating in the tank at the rate of 1 gal/min, any finite tank must eventually overflow. Now suppose that the tank has an open top and has a total capacity of 400 gallons.

**(a)** When will the tank overflow?

**(b)** What will be the number of pounds of salt in the tank at the instant it overflows?

**(c)** Assume that although the tank is overflowing, brine solution continues to be pumped in at a rate of 3 gal/min and the well-stirred solution continues to be pumped out at a rate of 2 gal/min. Devise a method for determining the number of pounds of salt in the tank at $t = 150$ minutes.

**(d)** Determine the number of pounds of salt in the tank as $t \to \infty$. Does your answer agree with your intuition?

**(e)** Use a graphing utility to plot the graph of $A(t)$ on the interval $[0, 500)$.

## Series Circuits

**29.** A 30-volt electromotive force is applied to an *LR* series circuit in which the inductance is 0.1 henry and the resistance is 50 ohms. Find the current $i(t)$ if $i(0) = 0$. Determine the current as $t \to \infty$.

**30.** Solve equation (7) under the assumption that $E(t) = E_0 \sin \omega t$ and $i(0) = i_0$.

**31.** A 100-volt electromotive force is applied to an *RC* series circuit in which the resistance is 200 ohms and the capacitance is $10^{-4}$ farad. Find the charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor if $q(0) = 0$. Find the current $i(t)$.

**32.** A 200-volt electromotive force is applied to an *RC* series circuit in which the resistance is 1000 ohms and the capacitance is $5 \times 10^{-6}$ farad. Find the charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor if $i(0) = 0.4$. Determine the charge and current at $t = 0.005$ s. Determine the charge as $t \to \infty$.

**33.** An electromotive force

$$E(t) = \begin{cases} 120, & 0 \le t \le 20 \\ 0, & t > 20 \end{cases}$$

is applied to an *LR* series circuit in which the inductance is 20 henries and the resistance is 2 ohms. Find the current $i(t)$ if $i(0) = 0$.

**34.** Suppose an *RC* series circuit has a variable resistor. If the resistance at time $t$ is given by $R = k_1 + k_2 t$, where $k_1$ and $k_2$ are known positive constants, then (9) becomes

$$(k_1 + k_2 t) \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{1}{C} q = E(t).$$

If $E(t) = E_0$ and $q(0) = q_0$, where $E_0$ and $q_0$ are constants, show that

$$q(t) = E_0 C + (q_0 - E_0 C) \left( \frac{k_1}{k_1 + k_2 t} \right)^{1/Ck_2}.$$

## Additional Linear Models

**35. Air Resistance** In (14) of Section 1.3 we saw that a differential equation describing the velocity $v$ of a falling mass subject to air resistance proportional to the instantaneous velocity is

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv,$$

where $k > 0$ is a constant of proportionality. The positive direction is downward.

**(a)** Solve the equation subject to the initial condition $v(0) = v_0$.

**(b)** Use the solution in part (a) to determine the limiting, or terminal, velocity of the mass. We saw how to determine the terminal velocity without solving the DE in Problem 40 in Exercises 2.1.

**(c)** If the distance $s$, measured from the point where the mass was released above ground, is related to velocity $v$ by $ds/dt = v(t)$, find an explicit expression for $s(t)$ if $s(0) = 0$.

**36. How High?—No Air Resistance** Suppose a small cannonball weighing 16 pounds is shot vertically upward, as shown in Figure 3.1.10, with an initial velocity $v_0 = 300$ ft/s. The answer to the question "How high does the cannonball go?" depends on whether we take air resistance into account.

**(a)** Suppose air resistance is ignored. If the positive direction is upward, then a model for the state of the cannonball is given by $d^2 s/dt^2 = -g$ (equation (12) of Section 1.3). Since $ds/dt = v(t)$ the last
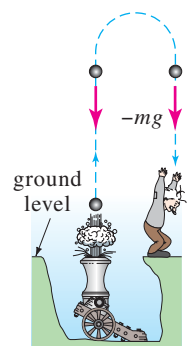


**FIGURE 3.1.10** Find the maximum height of the cannonball in Problem 36

differential equation is the same as $dv/dt = -g$, where we take $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$. Find the velocity $v(t)$ of the cannonball at time $t$.

**(b)** Use the result obtained in part (a) to determine the height $s(t)$ of the cannonball measured from ground level. Find the maximum height attained by the cannonball.

**37. How High?—Linear Air Resistance** Repeat Problem 36, but this time assume that air resistance is proportional to instantaneous velocity. It stands to reason that the maximum height attained by the cannonball must be *less* than that in part (b) of Problem 36. Show this by supposing that the constant of proportionality is $k = 0.0025$. [*Hint*: Slightly modify the DE in Problem 35.]

**38. Skydiving** A skydiver weighs 125 pounds, and her parachute and equipment combined weigh another 35 pounds. After exiting from a plane at an altitude of 15,000 feet, she waits 15 seconds and opens her parachute. Assume that the constant of proportionality in the model in Problem 35 has the value $k = 0.5$ during free fall and $k = 10$ after the parachute is opened. Assume that her initial velocity on leaving the plane is zero. What is her velocity and how far has she traveled 20 seconds after leaving the plane? See Figure 3.1.11. How does her velocity at 20 seconds compare with her terminal velocity? How long does it take her to reach the ground? [*Hint*: Think in terms of two distinct IVPs.]
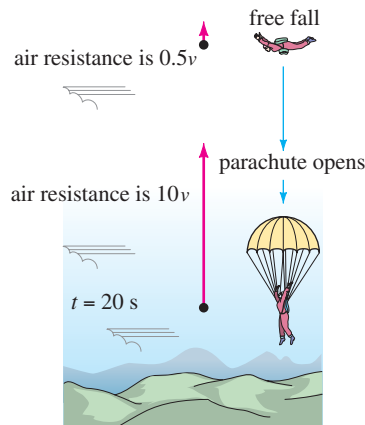
FIGURE 3.1.11
Find the time to reach the ground in Problem 38

**39. Evaporating Raindrop** As a raindrop falls, it evaporates while retaining its spherical shape. If we make the further assumptions that the rate at which the raindrop evaporates is proportional to its surface area and that air resistance is negligible, then a model for the velocity $v(t)$ of the raindrop is

$$\frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{3(k/\rho)}{(k/\rho)t + r_0} v = g.$$

Here $\rho$ is the density of water, $r_0$ is the radius of the raindrop at $t = 0$, $k < 0$ is the constant of proportionality,

and the downward direction is taken to be the positive direction.

**(a)** Solve for $v(t)$ if the raindrop falls from rest.

**(b)** Reread Problem 34 of Exercises 1.3 and then show that the radius of the raindrop at time $t$ is $r(t) = (k/\rho)t + r_0$.

**(c)** If $r_0 = 0.01$ ft and $r = 0.007$ ft 10 seconds after the raindrop falls from a cloud, determine the time at which the raindrop has evaporated completely.

**40. Fluctuating Population** The differential equation $dP/dt = (k \cos t)P$, where $k$ is a positive constant, is a mathematical model for a population $P(t)$ that undergoes yearly seasonal fluctuations. Solve the equation subject to $P(0) = P_0$. Use a graphing utility to graph the solution for different choices of $P_0$.

**41. Population Model** In one model of the changing population $P(t)$ of a community, it is assumed that

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{dB}{dt} - \frac{dD}{dt},$$

where $dB/dt$ and $dD/dt$ are the birth and death rates, respectively.

**(a)** Solve for $P(t)$ if $dB/dt = k_1P$ and $dD/dt = k_2P$.

**(b)** Analyze the cases $k_1 > k_2$, $k_1 = k_2$, and $k_1 < k_2$.

**42. Constant-Harvest Model** A model that describes the population of a fishery in which harvesting takes place at a constant rate is given by

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP - h,$$

where $k$ and $h$ are positive constants.

**(a)** Solve the DE subject to $P(0) = P_0$.

**(b)** Describe the behavior of the population $P(t)$ for increasing time in the three cases $P_0 > h/k$, $P_0 = h/k$, and $0 < P_0 < h/k$.

**(c)** Use the results from part (b) to determine whether the fish population will ever go extinct in finite time, that is, whether there exists a time $T > 0$ such that $P(T) = 0$. If the population goes extinct, then find $T$.

**43. Drug Dissemination** A mathematical model for the rate at which a drug disseminates into the bloodstream is given by

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = r - kx,$$

where $r$ and $k$ are positive constants. The function $x(t)$ describes the concentration of the drug in the bloodstream at time $t$.

**(a)** Since the DE is autonomous, use the phase portrait concept of Section 2.1 to find the limiting value of $x(t)$ as $t \to \infty$.

**(b)** Solve the DE subject to $x(0) = 0$. Sketch the graph of $x(t)$ and verify your prediction in part (a). At what time is the concentration one-half this limiting value?

**44. Memorization** When forgetfulness is taken into account, the rate of memorization of a subject is given by

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = k_1(M - A) - k_2 A,$$

where $k_1 > 0$, $k_2 > 0$, $A(t)$ is the amount memorized in time $t$, $M$ is the total amount to be memorized, and $M - A$ is the amount remaining to be memorized.

**(a)** Since the DE is autonomous, use the phase portrait concept of Section 2.1 to find the limiting value of $A(t)$ as $t \to \infty$. Interpret the result.

**(b)** Solve the DE subject to $A(0) = 0$. Sketch the graph of $A(t)$ and verify your prediction in part (a).

**45. Heart Pacemaker** A heart pacemaker, shown in Figure 3.1.12, consists of a switch, a battery, a capacitor, and the heart as a resistor. When the switch $S$ is at $P$, the capacitor charges; when $S$ is at $Q$, the capacitor discharges, sending an electrical stimulus to the heart. In Problem 47 in Exercises 2.3 we saw that during this time the electrical stimulus is being applied to the heart, the voltage $E$ across the heart satisfies the linear DE

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = -\frac{1}{RC} E.$$

**(a)** Let us assume that over the time interval of length $t_1$, $0 < t < t_1$, the switch $S$ is at position $P$ shown in Figure 3.1.12 and the capacitor is being charged. When the switch is moved to position $Q$ at time $t_1$ the capacitor discharges, sending an impulse to the heart over the time interval of length $t_2$: $t_1 \le t < t_1 + t_2$. Thus over the initial charging/discharging interval $0 < t < t_1 + t_2$ the voltage to the heart is actually modeled by the piecewise-defined differential equation

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < t_1 \\ -\dfrac{1}{RC} E, & t_1 \le t < t_1 + t_2. \end{cases}$$
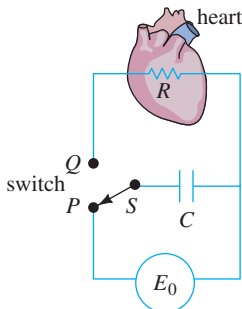


**FIGURE 3.1.12** Model of a pacemaker in Problem 45

By moving $S$ between $P$ and $Q$, the charging and discharging over time intervals of lengths $t_1$ and $t_2$ is repeated indefinitely. Suppose $t_1 = 4$ s, $t_2 = 2$ s, $E_0 = 12$ V, and $E(0) = 0$, $E(4) = 12$, $E(6) = 0$, $E(10) = 12$, $E(12) = 0$, and so on. Solve for $E(t)$ for $0 \le t \le 24$.

**(b)** Suppose for the sake of illustration that $R = C = 1$. Use a graphing utility to graph the solution for the IVP in part (a) for $0 \le t \le 24$.

**46. Sliding Box (a)** A box of mass $m$ slides down an inclined plane that makes an angle $\theta$ with the horizontal as shown in Figure 3.1.13. Find a differential equation for the velocity $v(t)$ of the box at time $t$ in each of the following three cases:

    (i)   No sliding friction and no air resistance
    (ii)  With sliding friction and no air resistance
    (iii) With sliding friction and air resistance

In cases (ii) and (iii), use the fact that the force of friction opposing the motion of the box is $\mu N$, where $\mu$ is the coefficient of sliding friction and $N$ is the normal component of the weight of the box. In case (iii) assume that air resistance is proportional to the instantaneous velocity.

**(b)** In part (a), suppose that the box weighs 96 pounds, that the angle of inclination of the plane is $\theta = 30°$, that the coefficient of sliding friction is $\mu = \sqrt{3}/4$, and that the additional retarding force due to air resistance is numerically equal to $\frac{1}{4}v$. Solve the differential equation in each of the three cases, assuming that the box starts from rest from the highest point 50 ft above ground.
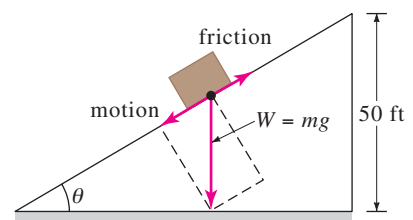


**FIGURE 3.1.13** Box sliding down inclined plane in Problem 46

**47. Sliding Box — Continued (a)** In Problem 46 let $s(t)$ be the distance measured down the inclined plane from the highest point. Use $ds/dt = v(t)$ and the solution for each of the three cases in part (b) of Problem 46 to find the time that it takes the box to slide completely down the inclined plane. A root-finding application of a CAS may be useful here.

**(b)** In the case in which there is friction ($\mu \ne 0$) but no air resistance, explain why the box will not slide down the plane starting from *rest* from the highest

point above ground when the inclination angle $\theta$ satisfies $\tan \theta \leq \mu$.

**(c)** The box *will* slide downward on the plane when $\tan \theta \leq \mu$ if it is given an initial velocity $v(0) = v_0 > 0$. Suppose that $\mu = \sqrt{3}/4$ and $\theta = 23°$. Verify that $\tan \theta \leq \mu$. How far will the box slide down the plane if $v_0 = 1$ ft/s?

**(d)** Using the values $\mu = \sqrt{3}/4$ and $\theta = 23°$, approximate the smallest initial velocity $v_0$ that can be given to the box so that, starting at the highest point 50 ft above ground, it will slide completely down the inclined plane. Then find the corresponding time it takes to slide down the plane.

**48. What Goes Up . . . (a)** It is well known that the model in which air resistance is ignored, part (a) of Problem 36, predicts that the time $t_a$ it takes the cannonball to attain its maximum height is the same as the time $t_d$ it takes the cannonball to fall from the maximum height to the ground. Moreover, the magnitude of the impact velocity $v_i$ will be the same as the initial velocity $v_0$ of the cannonball. Verify both of these results.

**(b)** Then, using the model in Problem 37 that takes air resistance into account, compare the value of $t_a$ with $t_d$ and the value of the magnitude of $v_i$ with $v_0$. A root-finding application of a CAS (or graphic calculator) may be useful here.

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| **3.2** | NONLINEAR MODELS |
|---|---|

### REVIEW MATERIAL

● Equations (5), (6), and (10) of Section 1.3 and Problems 7, 8, 13, 14, and 17 of Exercises 1.3
● Separation of variables in Section 2.2

**INTRODUCTION**    We finish our study of single first-order differential equations with an examination of some nonlinear models.

**POPULATION DYNAMICS**    If $P(t)$ denotes the size of a population at time $t$, the model for exponential growth begins with the assumption that $dP/dt = kP$ for some $k > 0$. In this model, the **relative,** or **specific, growth rate** defined by

$$\frac{dP/dt}{P} \tag{1}$$

is a constant $k$. True cases of exponential growth over long periods of time are hard to find because the limited resources of the environment will at some time exert restrictions on the growth of a population. Thus for other models, (1) can be expected to decrease as the population $P$ increases in size.

The assumption that the rate at which a population grows (or decreases) is dependent only on the number $P$ present and not on any time-dependent mechanisms such as seasonal phenomena (see Problem 31 in Exercises 1.3) can be stated as

$$\frac{dP/dt}{P} = f(P) \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{dP}{dt} = Pf(P). \tag{2}$$

The differential equation in (2), which is widely assumed in models of animal populations, is called the **density-dependent hypothesis.**

**LOGISTIC EQUATION**    Suppose an environment is capable of sustaining no more than a fixed number $K$ of individuals in its population. The quantity $K$ is called the **carrying capacity** of the environment. Hence for the function $f$ in (2) we have $f(K) = 0$, and we simply let $f(0) = r$. Figure 3.2.1 shows three functions $f$ that satisfy these two conditions. The simplest assumption that we can make is that $f(P)$ is linear—that is, $f(P) = c_1P + c_2$. If we use the conditions $f(0) = r$ and
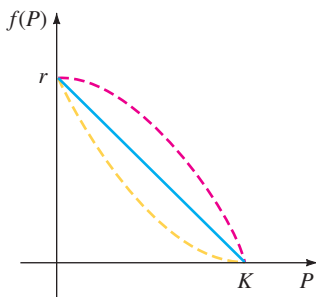


**FIGURE 3.2.1** Simplest assumption for $f(P)$ is a straight line (blue color)

$f(K) = 0$, we find, in turn, $c_2 = r$ and $c_1 = -r/K$, and so $f$ takes on the form $f(P) = r - (r/K)P$. Equation (2) becomes

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P\left(r - \frac{r}{K}P\right). \tag{3}$$

With constants relabeled, the nonlinear equation (3) is the same as

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(a - bP). \tag{4}$$

Around 1840 the Belgian mathematician-biologist P. F. Verhulst was concerned with mathematical models for predicting the human populations of various countries. One of the equations he studied was (4), where $a > 0$ and $b > 0$. Equation (4) came to be known as the **logistic equation,** and its solution is called the **logistic function.** The graph of a logistic function is called a **logistic curve.**

The linear differential equation $dP/dt = kP$ does not provide a very accurate model for population when the population itself is very large. Overcrowded conditions, with the resulting detrimental effects on the environment such as pollution and excessive and competitive demands for food and fuel, can have an inhibiting effect on population growth. As we shall now see, the solution of (4) is bounded as $t \to \infty$. If we rewrite (4) as $dP/dt = aP - bP^2$, the nonlinear term $-bP^2$, $b > 0$, can be interpreted as an "inhibition" or "competition" term. Also, in most applications the positive constant $a$ is much larger than the constant $b$.

Logistic curves have proved to be quite accurate in predicting the growth patterns, in a limited space, of certain types of bacteria, protozoa, water fleas (*Daphnia*), and fruit flies (*Drosophila*).

**SOLUTION OF THE LOGISTIC EQUATION**   One method of solving (4) is separation of variables. Decomposing the left side of $dP/P(a - bP) = dt$ into partial fractions and integrating gives

$$\left(\frac{1/a}{P} + \frac{b/a}{a - bP}\right)dP = dt$$

$$\frac{1}{a}\ln|P| - \frac{1}{a}\ln|a - bP| = t + c$$

$$\ln\left|\frac{P}{a - bP}\right| = at + ac$$

$$\frac{P}{a - bP} = c_1 e^{at}.$$

It follows from the last equation that

$$P(t) = \frac{ac_1 e^{at}}{1 + bc_1 e^{at}} = \frac{ac_1}{bc_1 + e^{-at}}.$$

If $P(0) = P_0$, $P_0 \neq a/b$, we find $c_1 = P_0/(a - bP_0)$, and so after substituting and simplifying, the solution becomes

$$P(t) = \frac{aP_0}{bP_0 + (a - bP_0)e^{-at}}. \tag{5}$$

**GRAPHS OF $P(t)$**   The basic shape of the graph of the logistic function $P(t)$ can be obtained without too much effort. Although the variable $t$ usually represents time and we are seldom concerned with applications in which $t < 0$, it is nonetheless of some interest to include this interval in displaying the various graphs of $P$. From (5) we see that

$$P(t) \to \frac{aP_0}{bP_0} = \frac{a}{b} \quad \text{as} \quad t \to \infty \quad \text{and} \quad P(t) \to 0 \quad \text{as} \quad t \to -\infty.$$

**(a)**



**(b)**
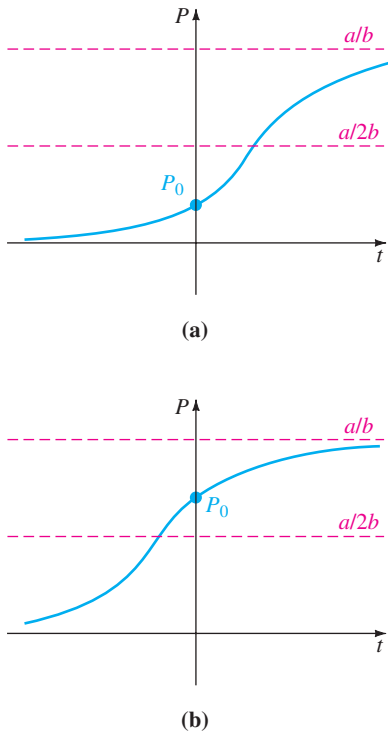
**FIGURE 3.2.2** Logistic curves for different initial conditions
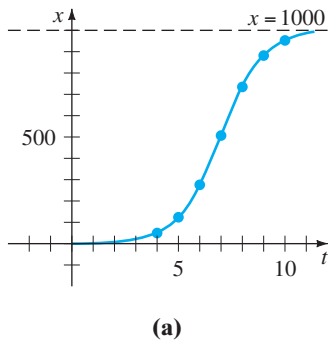
The dashed line $P = a/2b$ shown in Figure 3.2.2 corresponds to the ordinate of a point of inflection of the logistic curve. To show this, we differentiate (4) by the Product Rule:

$$\frac{d^2P}{dt^2} = P\left(-b\frac{dP}{dt}\right) + (a - bP)\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{dP}{dt}(a - 2bP)$$

$$= P(a - bP)(a - 2bP)$$

$$= 2b^2P\left(P - \frac{a}{b}\right)\left(P - \frac{a}{2b}\right).$$

From calculus recall that the points where $d^2P/dt^2 = 0$ are possible points of inflection, but $P = 0$ and $P = a/b$ can obviously be ruled out. Hence $P = a/2b$ is the only possible ordinate value at which the concavity of the graph can change. For $0 < P < a/2b$ it follows that $P'' > 0$, and $a/2b < P < a/b$ implies that $P'' < 0$. Thus, as we read from left to right, the graph changes from concave up to concave down at the point corresponding to $P = a/2b$. When the initial value satisfies $0 < P_0 < a/2b$, the graph of $P(t)$ assumes the shape of an S, as we see in Figure 3.2.2(a). For $a/2b < P_0 < a/b$ the graph is still S-shaped, but the point of inflection occurs at a negative value of $t$, as shown in Figure 3.2.2(b).

We have already seen equation (4) in (5) of Section 1.3 in the form $dx/dt = kx(n + 1 - x)$, $k > 0$. This differential equation provides a reasonable model for describing the spread of an epidemic brought about initially by introducing an infected individual into a static population. The solution $x(t)$ represents the number of individuals infected with the disease at time $t$.

**EXAMPLE 1** **Logistic Growth**

Suppose a student carrying a flu virus returns to an isolated college campus of 1000 students. If it is assumed that the rate at which the virus spreads is proportional not only to the number $x$ of infected students but also to the number of students not infected, determine the number of infected students after 6 days if it is further observed that after 4 days $x(4) = 50$.

**SOLUTION** Assuming that no one leaves the campus throughout the duration of the disease, we must solve the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = kx(1000 - x), \quad x(0) = 1.$$

By making the identification $a = 1000k$ and $b = k$, we have immediately from (5) that

$$x(t) = \frac{1000k}{k + 999ke^{-1000kt}} = \frac{1000}{1 + 999e^{-1000kt}}.$$

Now, using the information $x(4) = 50$, we determine $k$ from

$$50 = \frac{1000}{1 + 999e^{-4000k}}.$$

We find $-1000k = \frac{1}{4}\ln\frac{19}{999} = -0.9906$. Thus

$$x(t) = \frac{1000}{1 + 999e^{-0.9906t}}.$$



**(a)**

| $t$ (days) | $x$ (number infected) |
|------------|------------------------|
| 4 | 50 (observed) |
| 5 | 124 |
| 6 | 276 |
| 7 | 507 |
| 8 | 735 |
| 9 | 882 |
| 10 | 953 |

**(b)**

**FIGURE 3.2.3** Number of infected students $x(t)$ approaches 1000 as time $t$ increases

Finally,

$$x(6) = \frac{1000}{1 + 999e^{-5.9436}} = 276 \text{ students.}$$

Additional calculated values of $x(t)$ are given in the table in Figure 3.2.3(b). ∎

**MODIFICATIONS OF THE LOGISTIC EQUATION** There are many variations of the logistic equation. For example, the differential equations

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(a - bP) - h \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{dP}{dt} = P(a - bP) + h \qquad (6)$$

could serve, in turn, as models for the population in a fishery where fish are **harvested** or are **restocked** at rate $h$. When $h > 0$ is a constant, the DEs in (6) can be readily analyzed qualitatively or solved analytically by separation of variables. The equations in (6) could also serve as models of the human population decreased by emigration or increased by immigration, respectively. The rate $h$ in (6) could be a function of time $t$ or could be population dependent; for example, harvesting might be done periodically over time or might be done at a rate proportional to the population $P$ at time $t$. In the latter instance, the model would look like $P' = P(a - bP) - cP$, $c > 0$. The human population of a community might change because of immigration in such a manner that the contribution due to immigration was large when the population $P$ of the community was itself small but small when $P$ was large; a reasonable model for the population of the community would then be $P' = P(a - bP) + ce^{-kP}$, $c > 0, k > 0$. See Problem 22 in Exercises 3.2. Another equation of the form given in (2),

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(a - b \ln P), \qquad (7)$$

is a modification of the logistic equation known as the **Gompertz differential equation.** This DE is sometimes used as a model in the study of the growth or decline of populations, the growth of solid tumors, and certain kinds of actuarial predictions. See Problem 8 in Exercises 3.2.

**CHEMICAL REACTIONS** Suppose that $a$ grams of chemical $A$ are combined with $b$ grams of chemical $B$. If there are $M$ parts of $A$ and $N$ parts of $B$ formed in the compound and $X(t)$ is the number of grams of chemical $C$ formed, then the number of grams of chemical $A$ and the number of grams of chemical $B$ remaining at time $t$ are, respectively,

$$a - \frac{M}{M + N}X \qquad \text{and} \qquad b - \frac{N}{M + N}X.$$

The law of mass action states that when no temperature change is involved, the rate at which the two substances react is proportional to the product of the amounts of $A$ and $B$ that are untransformed (remaining) at time $t$:

$$\frac{dX}{dt} \propto \left(a - \frac{M}{M + N}X\right)\left(b - \frac{N}{M + N}X\right). \qquad (8)$$

If we factor out $M/(M + N)$ from the first factor and $N/(M + N)$ from the second and introduce a constant of proportionality $k > 0$, (8) has the form

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = k(\alpha - X)(\beta - X), \qquad (9)$$

where $\alpha = a(M + N)/M$ and $\beta = b(M + N)/N$. Recall from (6) of Section 1.3 that a chemical reaction governed by the nonlinear differential equation (9) is said to be a **second-order reaction.**

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**EXAMPLE 2** **Second-Order Chemical Reaction**

A compound $C$ is formed when two chemicals $A$ and $B$ are combined. The resulting reaction between the two chemicals is such that for each gram of $A$, 4 grams of $B$ is used. It is observed that 30 grams of the compound $C$ is formed in 10 minutes.

Determine the amount of $C$ at time $t$ if the rate of the reaction is proportional to the amounts of $A$ and $B$ remaining and if initially there are 50 grams of $A$ and 32 grams of $B$. How much of the compound $C$ is present at 15 minutes? Interpret the solution as $t \to \infty$.

**SOLUTION** Let $X(t)$ denote the number of grams of the compound $C$ present at time $t$. Clearly, $X(0) = 0$ g and $X(10) = 30$ g.

If, for example, 2 grams of compound $C$ is present, we must have used, say, $a$ grams of $A$ and $b$ grams of $B$, so $a + b = 2$ and $b = 4a$. Thus we must use $a = \frac{2}{5} = 2\left(\frac{1}{5}\right)$ g of chemical $A$ and $b = \frac{8}{5} = 2\left(\frac{4}{5}\right)$ g of $B$. In general, for $X$ grams of $C$ we must use

$$\frac{1}{5}X \text{ grams of } A \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{4}{5}X \text{ grams of } B.$$

The amounts of $A$ and $B$ remaining at time $t$ are then

$$50 - \frac{1}{5}X \quad \text{and} \quad 32 - \frac{4}{5}X,$$

respectively.

Now we know that the rate at which compound $C$ is formed satisfies

$$\frac{dX}{dt} \propto \left(50 - \frac{1}{5}X\right)\left(32 - \frac{4}{5}X\right).$$

To simplify the subsequent algebra, we factor $\frac{1}{5}$ from the first term and $\frac{4}{5}$ from the second and then introduce the constant of proportionality:

$$\frac{dX}{dt} = k(250 - X)(40 - X).$$

By separation of variables and partial fractions we can write

$$-\frac{\frac{1}{210}}{250 - X}\, dX + \frac{\frac{1}{210}}{40 - X}\, dX = k\, dt.$$



**(a)**

| t (min) | X (g) |
|---------|-------|
| 10 | 30 (measured) |
| 15 | 34.78 |
| 20 | 37.25 |
| 25 | 38.54 |
| 30 | 39.22 |
| 35 | 39.59 |

**(b)**

**FIGURE 3.2.4** $X(t)$ starts at 0 and approaches 40 as $t$ increases

Integrating gives

$$\ln \frac{250 - X}{40 - X} = 210kt + c_1 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{250 - X}{40 - X} = c_2 e^{210kt}. \tag{10}$$

When $t = 0$, $X = 0$, so it follows at this point that $c_2 = \frac{25}{4}$. Using $X = 30$ g at $t = 10$, we find $210k = \frac{1}{10} \ln \frac{88}{25} = 0.1258$. With this information we solve the last equation in (10) for $X$:

$$X(t) = 1000 \frac{1 - e^{-0.1258t}}{25 - 4e^{-0.1258t}}. \tag{11}$$

The behavior of $X$ as a function of time is displayed in Figure 3.2.4. It is clear from the accompanying table and (11) that $X \to 40$ as $t \to \infty$. This means that 40 grams of compound $C$ is formed, leaving

$$50 - \frac{1}{5}(40) = 42 \text{ g of } A \quad \text{and} \quad 32 - \frac{4}{5}(40) = 0 \text{ g of } B. \quad \blacksquare$$

## REMARKS

The indefinite integral $\int du/(a^2 - u^2)$ can be evaluated in terms of logarithms, the inverse hyperbolic tangent, or the inverse hyperbolic cotangent. For example, of the two results

$$\int \frac{du}{a^2 - u^2} = \frac{1}{a} \tanh^{-1} \frac{u}{a} + c, \quad |u| < a \tag{12}$$

$$\int \frac{du}{a^2 - u^2} = \frac{1}{2a} \ln \left| \frac{a + u}{a - u} \right| + c, \quad |u| \neq a, \tag{13}$$

(12) may be convenient in Problems 15 and 24 in Exercises 3.2, whereas (13) may be preferable in Problem 25.

## EXERCISES 3.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-3.*

### Logistic Equation

**1.** The number $N(t)$ of supermarkets throughout the country that are using a computerized checkout system is described by the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = N(1 - 0.0005N), \quad N(0) = 1.$$

(a) Use the phase portrait concept of Section 2.1 to predict how many supermarkets are expected to adopt the new procedure over a long period of time. By hand, sketch a solution curve of the given initial-value problem.

(b) Solve the initial-value problem and then use a graphing utility to verify the solution curve in part (a). How many companies are expected to adopt the new technology when $t = 10$?

**2.** The number $N(t)$ of people in a community who are exposed to a particular advertisement is governed by the logistic equation. Initially, $N(0) = 500$, and it is observed that $N(1) = 1000$. Solve for $N(t)$ if it is predicted that the limiting number of people in the community who will see the advertisement is 50,000.

**3.** A model for the population $P(t)$ in a suburb of a large city is given by the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(10^{-1} - 10^{-7}P), \quad P(0) = 5000,$$

where $t$ is measured in months. What is the limiting value of the population? At what time will the population be equal to one-half of this limiting value?

**4.** (a) Census data for the United States between 1790 and 1950 are given in Table 3.1. Construct a logistic population model using the data from 1790, 1850, and 1910.

(b) Construct a table comparing actual census population with the population predicted by the model in part (a). Compute the error and the percentage error for each entry pair.

**TABLE 3.1**

| Year | Population (in millions) |
|------|--------------------------|
| 1790 | 3.929 |
| 1800 | 5.308 |
| 1810 | 7.240 |
| 1820 | 9.638 |
| 1830 | 12.866 |
| 1840 | 17.069 |
| 1850 | 23.192 |
| 1860 | 31.433 |
| 1870 | 38.558 |
| 1880 | 50.156 |
| 1890 | 62.948 |
| 1900 | 75.996 |
| 1910 | 91.972 |
| 1920 | 105.711 |
| 1930 | 122.775 |
| 1940 | 131.669 |
| 1950 | 150.697 |

### Modifications of the Logistic Model

**5.** (a) If a constant number $h$ of fish are harvested from a fishery per unit time, then a model for the population $P(t)$ of the fishery at time $t$ is given by

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(a - bP) - h, \quad P(0) = P_0,$$

where $a$, $b$, $h$, and $P_0$ are positive constants. Suppose $a = 5$, $b = 1$, and $h = 4$. Since the DE is autonomous, use the phase portrait concept of Section 2.1 to sketch representative solution curves

corresponding to the cases $P_0 > 4$, $1 < P_0 < 4$, and $0 < P_0 < 1$. Determine the long-term behavior of the population in each case.

(b) Solve the IVP in part (a). Verify the results of your phase portrait in part (a) by using a graphing utility to plot the graph of $P(t)$ with an initial condition taken from each of the three intervals given.

(c) Use the information in parts (a) and (b) to determine whether the fishery population becomes extinct in finite time. If so, find that time.

6. Investigate the harvesting model in Problem 5 both qualitatively and analytically in the case $a = 5$, $b = 1$, $h = \frac{25}{4}$. Determine whether the population becomes extinct in finite time. If so, find that time.

7. Repeat Problem 6 in the case $a = 5$, $b = 1$, $h = 7$.

8. (a) Suppose $a = b = 1$ in the Gompertz differential equation (7). Since the DE is autonomous, use the phase portrait concept of Section 2.1 to sketch representative solution curves corresponding to the cases $P_0 > e$ and $0 < P_0 < e$.

(b) Suppose $a = 1$, $b = -1$ in (7). Use a new phase portrait to sketch representative solution curves corresponding to the cases $P_0 > e^{-1}$ and $0 < P_0 < e^{-1}$.

(c) Find an explicit solution of (7) subject to $P(0) = P_0$.

### Chemical Reactions

9. Two chemicals $A$ and $B$ are combined to form a chemical $C$. The rate, or velocity, of the reaction is proportional to the product of the instantaneous amounts of $A$ and $B$ not converted to chemical $C$. Initially, there are 40 grams of $A$ and 50 grams of $B$, and for each gram of $B$, 2 grams of $A$ is used. It is observed that 10 grams of $C$ is formed in 5 minutes. How much is formed in 20 minutes? What is the limiting amount of $C$ after a long time? How much of chemicals $A$ and $B$ remains after a long time?

10. Solve Problem 9 if 100 grams of chemical $A$ is present initially. At what time is chemical $C$ half-formed?

### Additional Nonlinear Models

11. **Leaking Cylindrical Tank** A tank in the form of a right-circular cylinder standing on end is leaking water through a circular hole in its bottom. As we saw in (10) of Section 1.3, when friction and contraction of water at the hole are ignored, the height $h$ of water in the tank is described by

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = -\frac{A_h}{A_w} \sqrt{2gh},$$

where $A_w$ and $A_h$ are the cross-sectional areas of the water and the hole, respectively.

(a) Solve the DE if the initial height of the water is $H$. By hand, sketch the graph of $h(t)$ and give its interval

$I$ of definition in terms of the symbols $A_w$, $A_h$, and $H$. Use $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$.

(b) Suppose the tank is 10 feet high and has radius 2 feet and the circular hole has radius $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. If the tank is initially full, how long will it take to empty?

12. **Leaking Cylindrical Tank—Continued** When friction and contraction of the water at the hole are taken into account, the model in Problem 11 becomes

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = -c\frac{A_h}{A_w}\sqrt{2gh},$$

where $0 < c < 1$. How long will it take the tank in Problem 11(b) to empty if $c = 0.6$? See Problem 13 in Exercises 1.3.

13. **Leaking Conical Tank** A tank in the form of a right-circular cone standing on end, vertex down, is leaking water through a circular hole in its bottom.

(a) Suppose the tank is 20 feet high and has radius 8 feet and the circular hole has radius 2 inches. In Problem 14 in Exercises 1.3 you were asked to show that the differential equation governing the height $h$ of water leaking from a tank is

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = -\frac{5}{6h^{3/2}}.$$

In this model, friction and contraction of the water at the hole were taken into account with $c = 0.6$, and $g$ was taken to be 32 ft/s$^2$. See Figure 1.3.12. If the tank is initially full, how long will it take the tank to empty?

(b) Suppose the tank has a vertex angle of 60° and the circular hole has radius 2 inches. Determine the differential equation governing the height $h$ of water. Use $c = 0.6$ and $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$. If the height of the water is initially 9 feet, how long will it take the tank to empty?

14. **Inverted Conical Tank** Suppose that the conical tank in Problem 13(a) is inverted, as shown in Figure 3.2.5, and that water leaks out a circular hole of radius 2 inches in the center of its circular base. Is the time it takes to empty a full tank the same as for the tank with vertex down in Problem 13? Take the friction/contraction coefficient to be $c = 0.6$ and $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$.
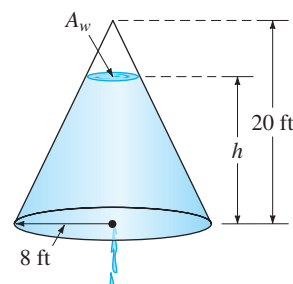


**FIGURE 3.2.5** Inverted conical tank in Problem 14

**15. Air Resistance** A differential equation for the velocity $v$ of a falling mass $m$ subjected to air resistance proportional to the square of the instantaneous velocity is

$$m\frac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv^2,$$

where $k > 0$ is a constant of proportionality. The positive direction is downward.

(a) Solve the equation subject to the initial condition $v(0) = v_0$.

(b) Use the solution in part (a) to determine the limiting, or terminal, velocity of the mass. We saw how to determine the terminal velocity without solving the DE in Problem 41 in Exercises 2.1.

(c) If the distance $s$, measured from the point where the mass was released above ground, is related to velocity $v$ by $ds/dt = v(t)$, find an explicit expression for $s(t)$ if $s(0) = 0$.

**16. How High?—Nonlinear Air Resistance** Consider the 16-pound cannonball shot vertically upward in Problems 36 and 37 in Exercises 3.1 with an initial velocity $v_0 = 300$ ft/s. Determine the maximum height attained by the cannonball if air resistance is assumed to be proportional to the square of the instantaneous velocity. Assume that the positive direction is upward and take $k = 0.0003$. [*Hint*: Slightly modify the DE in Problem 15.]

**17. That Sinking Feeling** (a) Determine a differential equation for the velocity $v(t)$ of a mass $m$ sinking in water that imparts a resistance proportional to the square of the instantaneous velocity and also exerts an upward buoyant force whose magnitude is given by Archimedes' principle. See Problem 18 in Exercises 1.3. Assume that the positive direction is downward.

(b) Solve the differential equation in part (a).

(c) Determine the limiting, or terminal, velocity of the sinking mass.

**18. Solar Collector** The differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-x + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{y}$$

describes the shape of a plane curve $C$ that will reflect all incoming light beams to the same point and could be a model for the mirror of a reflecting telescope, a satellite antenna, or a solar collector. See Problem 27 in Exercises 1.3. There are several ways of solving this DE.

(a) Verify that the differential equation is homogeneous (see Section 2.5). Show that the substitution $y = ux$ yields

$$\frac{u\,du}{\sqrt{1 + u^2}\left(1 - \sqrt{1 + u^2}\right)} = \frac{dx}{x}.$$

Use a CAS (or another judicious substitution) to integrate the left-hand side of the equation. Show that the curve $C$ must be a parabola with focus at the origin and is symmetric with respect to the $x$-axis.

(b) Show that the first differential equation can also be solved by means of the substitution $u = x^2 + y^2$.

**19. Tsunami** (a) A simple model for the shape of a tsunami, or tidal wave, is given by

$$\frac{dW}{dx} = W\sqrt{4 - 2W},$$

where $W(x) > 0$ is the height of the wave expressed as a function of its position relative to a point offshore. By inspection, find all constant solutions of the DE.

(b) Solve the differential equation in part (a). A CAS may be useful for integration.

(c) Use a graphing utility to obtain the graphs of all solutions that satisfy the initial condition $W(0) = 2$.

**20. Evaporation** An outdoor decorative pond in the shape of a hemispherical tank is to be filled with water pumped into the tank through an inlet in its bottom. Suppose that the radius of the tank is $R = 10$ ft, that water is pumped in at a rate of $\pi$ ft$^3$/min, and that the tank is initially empty. See Figure 3.2.6. As the tank fills, it loses water through evaporation. Assume that the rate of evaporation is proportional to the area $A$ of the surface of the water and that the constant of proportionality is $k = 0.01$.

(a) The rate of change $dV/dt$ of the volume of the water at time $t$ is a net rate. Use this net rate to determine a differential equation for the height $h$ of the water at time $t$. The volume of the water shown in the figure is $V = \pi Rh^2 - \frac{1}{3}\pi h^3$, where $R = 10$. Express the area of the surface of the water $A = \pi r^2$ in terms of $h$.

(b) Solve the differential equation in part (a). Graph the solution.

(c) If there were no evaporation, how long would it take the tank to fill?

(d) With evaporation, what is the depth of the water at the time found in part (c)? Will the tank ever be filled? Prove your assertion.

Output: water evaporates at rate proportional to area $A$ of surface
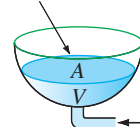


Input: water pumped in at rate $\pi$ ft$^3$/min
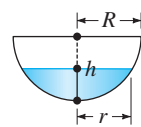
(a) hemispherical tank        (b) cross-section of tank

**FIGURE 3.2.6** Decorative pond in Problem 20

## Project Problems

**21. Regression Line** Read the documentation for your CAS on *scatter plots* (or *scatter diagrams*) and *least-squares linear fit*. The straight line that best fits a set of data points is called a **regression line** or a **least squares line.** Your task is to construct a logistic model for the population of the United States, defining $f(P)$ in (2) as an equation of a regression line based on the population data in the table in Problem 4. One way of doing this is to approximate the left-hand side $\dfrac{1}{P}\dfrac{dP}{dt}$ of the first equation in (2), using the forward difference quotient in place of $dP/dt$:

$$Q(t) = \frac{1}{P(t)}\frac{P(t+h)-P(t)}{h}.$$

(a) Make a table of the values $t$, $P(t)$, and $Q(t)$ using $t = 0, 10, 20, \ldots, 160$ and $h = 10$. For example, the first line of the table should contain $t = 0$, $P(0)$, and $Q(0)$. With $P(0) = 3.929$ and $P(10) = 5.308$,

$$Q(0) = \frac{1}{P(0)}\frac{P(10)-P(0)}{10} = 0.035.$$

Note that $Q(160)$ depends on the 1960 census population $P(170)$. Look up this value.

(b) Use a CAS to obtain a scatter plot of the data $(P(t), Q(t))$ computed in part (a). Also use a CAS to find an equation of the regression line and to superimpose its graph on the scatter plot.

(c) Construct a logistic model $dP/dt = Pf(P)$, where $f(P)$ is the equation of the regression line found in part (b).

(d) Solve the model in part (c) using the initial condition $P(0) = 3.929$.

(e) Use a CAS to obtain another scatter plot, this time of the ordered pairs $(t, P(t))$ from your table in part (a). Use your CAS to superimpose the graph of the solution in part (d) on the scatter plot.

(f) Look up the U.S. census data for 1970, 1980, and 1990. What population does the logistic model in part (c) predict for these years? What does the model predict for the U.S. population $P(t)$ as $t \to \infty$?

**22. Immigration Model** (a) In Examples 3 and 4 of Section 2.1 we saw that any solution $P(t)$ of (4) possesses the asymptotic behavior $P(t) \to a/b$ as $t \to \infty$ for $P_0 > a/b$ and for $0 < P_0 < a/b$; as a consequence the equilibrium solution $P = a/b$ is called an attractor. Use a root-finding application of a CAS (or a graphic calculator) to approximate the equilibrium solution of the immigration model

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(1-P) + 0.3e^{-P}.$$

(b) Use a graphing utility to graph the function $F(P) = P(1-P) + 0.3e^{-P}$. Explain how this graph

can be used to determine whether the number found in part (a) is an attractor.

(c) Use a numerical solver to compare the solution curves for the IVPs

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(1-P), \quad P(0) = P_0$$

for $P_0 = 0.2$ and $P_0 = 1.2$ with the solution curves for the IVPs

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = P(1-P) + 0.3e^{-P}, \quad P(0) = P_0$$

for $P_0 = 0.2$ and $P_0 = 1.2$. Superimpose all curves on the same coordinate axes but, if possible, use a different color for the curves of the second initial-value problem. Over a long period of time, what percentage increase does the immigration model predict in the population compared to the logistic model?

**23. What Goes Up . . .** In Problem 16 let $t_a$ be the time it takes the cannonball to attain its maximum height and let $t_d$ be the time it takes the cannonball to fall from the maximum height to the ground. Compare the value of $t_a$ with the value of $t_d$ and compare the magnitude of the impact velocity $v_i$ with the initial velocity $v_0$. See Problem 48 in Exercises 3.1. A root-finding application of a CAS might be useful here. [*Hint:* Use the model in Problem 15 when the cannonball is falling.]

**24. Skydiving** A skydiver is equipped with a stopwatch and an altimeter. As shown in Figure 3.2.7, he opens his parachute 25 seconds after exiting a plane flying at an altitude of 20,000 feet and observes that his altitude is 14,800 feet. Assume that air resistance is proportional to the square of the instantaneous velocity, his initial velocity on leaving the plane is zero, and $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$.

(a) Find the distance $s(t)$, measured from the plane, the skydiver has traveled during freefall in time $t$. [*Hint:* The constant of proportionality $k$ in the model given in Problem 15 is not specified. Use the expression for terminal velocity $v_t$ obtained in part (b) of Problem 15 to eliminate $k$ from the IVP. Then eventually solve for $v_t$.]

(b) How far does the skydiver fall and what is his velocity at $t = 15$ s?
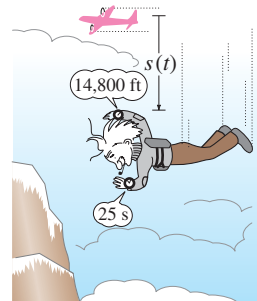


**FIGURE 3.2.7** Skydiver in Problem 24

**25. Hitting Bottom** A helicopter hovers 500 feet above a large open tank full of liquid (not water). A dense compact object weighing 160 pounds is dropped (released from rest) from the helicopter into the liquid. Assume that air resistance is proportional to instantaneous velocity $v$ while the object is in the air and that viscous damping is proportional to $v^2$ after the object has entered the liquid. For air take $k = \frac{1}{4}$, and for the liquid take $k = 0.1$. Assume that the positive direction is downward. If the tank is 75 feet high, determine the time and the impact velocity when the object hits the bottom of the tank. [*Hint*: Think in terms of two distinct IVPs. If you use (13), be careful in removing the absolute value sign. You might compare the velocity when the object hits the liquid—the initial velocity for the second problem—with the terminal velocity $v_t$ of the object falling through the liquid.]

**26. Old Man River . . .** In Figure 3.2.8(a) suppose that the $y$-axis and the dashed vertical line $x = 1$ represent, respectively, the straight west and east beaches of a river that is 1 mile wide. The river flows northward with a velocity $\mathbf{v}_r$, where $|\mathbf{v}_r| = v_r$ mi/h is a constant. A man enters the current at the point $(1, 0)$ on the east shore and swims in a direction and rate relative to the river given by the vector $\mathbf{v}_s$, where the speed $|\mathbf{v}_s| = v_s$ mi/h is a constant. The man wants to reach the west beach exactly at $(0, 0)$ and so swims in such a manner that keeps his velocity vector $\mathbf{v}_s$ always directed toward the point $(0, 0)$. Use Figure 3.2.8(b) as an aid in showing that a mathematical model for the path of the swimmer in the river is

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{v_s y - v_r \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{v_s x}.$$

[*Hint*: The velocity $\mathbf{v}$ of the swimmer along the path or curve shown in Figure 3.2.8 is the resultant $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_s + \mathbf{v}_r$. Resolve $\mathbf{v}_s$ and $\mathbf{v}_r$ into components in the $x$- and $y$-directions. If $x = x(t)$, $y = y(t)$ are parametric equations of the swimmer's path, then $\mathbf{v} = (dx/dt, dy/dt)$.]
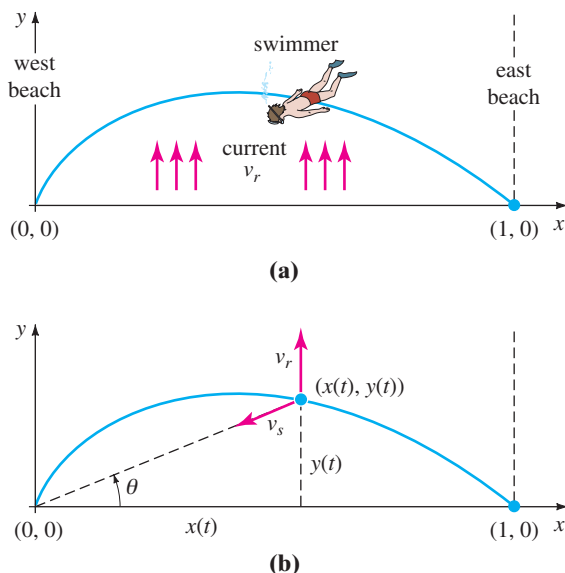
**27. (a)** Solve the DE in Problem 26 subject to $y(1) = 0$. For convenience let $k = v_r/v_s$.

**(b)** Determine the values of $v_s$ for which the swimmer will reach the point $(0, 0)$ by examining $\lim_{x \to 0^+} y(x)$ in the cases $k = 1$, $k > 1$, and $0 < k < 1$.

**28. Old Man River Keeps Moving . . .** Suppose the man in Problem 26 again enters the current at $(1, 0)$ but this time decides to swim so that his velocity vector $\mathbf{v}_s$ is always directed toward the west beach. Assume that the speed $|\mathbf{v}_s| = v_s$ mi/h is a constant. Show that a mathematical model for the path of the swimmer in the river is now

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{v_r}{v_s}.$$

**29.** The current speed $v_r$ of a straight river such as that in Problem 26 is usually not a constant. Rather, an approximation to the current speed (measured in miles per hour) could be a function such as $v_r(x) = 30x(1 - x)$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$, whose values are small at the shores (in this case, $v_r(0) = 0$ and $v_r(1) = 0$) and largest in the middle of the river. Solve the DE in Problem 28 subject to $y(1) = 0$, where $v_s = 2$ mi/h and $v_r(x)$ is as given. When the swimmer makes it across the river, how far will he have to walk along the beach to reach the point $(0, 0)$?

**30. Raindrops Keep Falling . . .** When a bottle of liquid refreshment was opened recently, the following factoid was found inside the bottle cap:

*The average velocity of a falling raindrop is 7 miles/hour.*

A quick search of the Internet found that meteorologist Jeff Haby offers the additional information that an "average" spherical raindrop has a radius of 0.04 in. and an approximate volume of 0.000000155 ft³. Use this data and, if need be, dig up other data and make other reasonable assumptions to determine whether *"average velocity of . . . 7 mph"* is consistent with the models in Problems 35 and 36 in Exercises 3.1 and Problem 15 in this exercise set. Also see Problem 34 in Exercises 1.3.

**31. Time Drips By** The **clepsydra**, or water clock, was a device that the ancient Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, and Chinese used to measure the passage of time by observing the change in the height of water that was permitted to flow out of a small hole in the bottom of a container or tank.

**(a)** Suppose a tank is made of glass and has the shape of a right-circular cylinder of radius 1 ft. Assume that $h(0) = 2$ ft corresponds to water filled to the top of the tank, a hole in the bottom is circular with radius $\frac{1}{32}$ in., $g = 32$ ft/s², and $c = 0.6$. Use the differential equation in Problem 12 to find the height $h(t)$ of the water.



**FIGURE 3.2.8** Path of swimmer in Problem 26

**(b)** For the tank in part (a), how far up from its bottom should a mark be made on its side, as shown in Figure 3.2.9, that corresponds to the passage of one hour? Next determine where to place the marks corresponding to the passage of 2 hr, 3 hr, . . . , 12 hr. Explain why these marks are not evenly spaced.
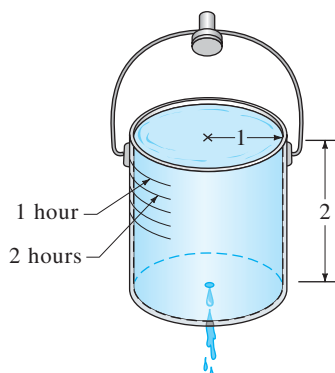


**FIGURE 3.2.9** Clepsydra in Problem 31

**32. (a)** Suppose that a glass tank has the shape of a cone with circular cross section as shown in Figure 3.2.10. As in part (a) of Problem 31, assume that $h(0) = 2$ ft corresponds to water filled to the top of the tank, a hole in the bottom is circular with radius $\frac{1}{32}$ in., $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$, and $c = 0.6$. Use the differential equation in Problem 12 to find the height $h(t)$ of the water.

**(b)** Can this water clock measure 12 time intervals of length equal to 1 hour? Explain using sound mathematics.
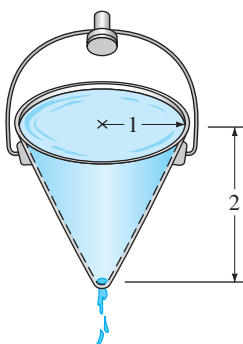


**FIGURE 3.2.10** Clepsydra in Problem 32

**33.** Suppose that $r = f(h)$ defines the shape of a water clock for which the time marks are equally spaced. Use the differential equation in Problem 12 to find $f(h)$ and sketch a typical graph of $h$ as a function of $r$. Assume that the cross-sectional area $A_h$ of the hole is constant. [*Hint*: In this situation $dh/dt = -a$, where $a > 0$ is a constant.]

**Contributed Problem** | Michael Prophet, Ph.D<br>Doug Shaw, Ph.D<br>Associate Professors<br>Mathematics Department<br>University of Northern Iowa

**34. A Logistic Model of Sunflower Growth** This problem involves planting a sunflower seed and plotting the height of the sunflower versus time. It should take 3–4 months to gather the data, so start early! You can substitute a different plant if you like, but you may then have to adjust the time scale and the height scale appropriately.

**(a)** You are going to be creating a plot of the sunflower height (in cm) versus the time (in days). Before beginning, guess what this curve is going to look like, and fill in your guess on the grid.
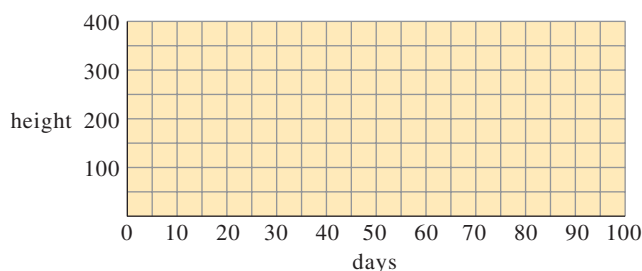


**(b)** Now plant your sunflower. Take a height measurement the first day that your flower sprouts, and call that day 0. Then take a measurement at least once a week until it is time to start writing up your data.

**(c)** Do your data points more closely resemble exponential growth or logistic growth? Why?

**(d)** If your data more closely resemble exponential growth, the equation for height versus time will be $dH/dt = kH$. If your data more closely resemble logistic growth, the equation for height versus time will be $dH/dt = kH(C - H)$. What is the physical meaning of $C$? Use your data to estimate $C$.

**(e)** We now experimentally determine $k$. At each of your $t$ values, estimate $dH/dt$ by using difference quotients. Then use the fact that $k = \dfrac{dH/dt}{H(C - H)}$ to get a best estimate of $k$.

**(f)** Solve your differential equation. Now graph your solution along with the data points. Did you come up with a good model? Do you think that $k$ will change if you plant a different sunflower next year?

**Contributed Problem** | Ben Fitzpatrick, Ph.D<br>Clarence Wallen Chair<br>of Mathematics<br>Mathematics Department<br>Loyola Marymount University

**35. Torricelli's Law** If we punch a hole in a bucket full of water, the fluid drains at a rate governed by Torricelli's law, which states that the rate of change of volume is proportional to the square root of the height of the fluid.

The rate equation given in Figure 3.2.11 arises from Bernoulli's principle in fluid dynamics, which states that the quantity $P + \frac{1}{2}\rho v^2 + \rho g h$ is constant. Here $P$ is pressure, $\rho$ is fluid density, $v$ is velocity, and $g$ is the acceleration due to gravity. Comparing the top of the fluid, at the height $h$, to the fluid at the hole, we have

$$P_{\text{top}} + \tfrac{1}{2}\rho v_{\text{top}}^2 + \rho g h = P_{\text{hole}} + \tfrac{1}{2}\rho v_{\text{hole}}^2 + \rho g \cdot 0.$$

If the pressure at the top and the pressure at the bottom are both atmospheric pressure and if the drainage hole radius is much less than the radius of the bucket, then $P_{\text{top}} = P_{\text{hole}}$ and $v_{\text{top}} = 0$, so $\rho g h = \frac{1}{2}\rho v_{\text{hole}}^2$ leads to Torricelli's law: $v = \sqrt{2gh}$. Since $\dfrac{dV}{dt} = -A_{\text{hole}}v$, we have the differential equation

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = -A_{\text{hole}}\sqrt{2gh}.$$
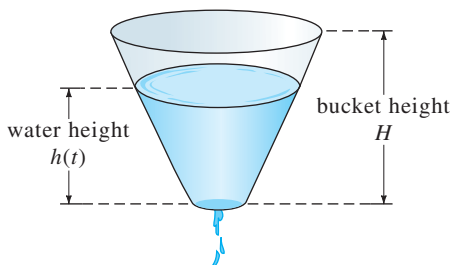


rate equation: $\dfrac{dV}{dt} = -A_{\text{hole}}\sqrt{2gh}$

**FIGURE 3.2.11** Bucket Drainage

In this problem, we seek a comparison of Torricelli's differential equation with actual data.

**(a)** If the water is at a height $h$, we can find the volume of water in the bucket by the formula

$$V(h) = \frac{\pi}{3m}\left[(mh + R_B)^3 - R_B^3\right]$$

in which $m = (R_T - R_B)/H$. Here $R_T$ and $R_B$ denote the top and bottom radii of the bucket, respectively, and $H$ denotes the height of the bucket. Taking this formula as given, differentiate to find a relationship between the rates $dV/dt$ and $dh/dt$.

**(b)** Use the relationship derived in part (a) to find a differential equation for $h(t)$ (that is, you should have an independent variable $t$, a dependent variable $h$, and constants in the equation).

**(c)** Solve this differential equation using separation of variables. It is relatively straightforward to determine time as a function of height, but solving for height as a function of time may be difficult.

**(d)** Obtain a flowerpot, fill it with water, and watch it drain. At a fixed set of heights, record the time at which the water reaches the height. Compare the results to the differential equation's solution.

**(e)** It has been observed that a more accurate differential equation is

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = -(0.84)A_{\text{hole}}\sqrt{gh}.$$

Solve this differential equation and compare to the results of part (d).

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## 3.3 MODELING WITH SYSTEMS OF FIRST-ORDER DEs

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Section 1.3

**INTRODUCTION** This section is similar to Section 1.3 in that we are just going to discuss certain mathematical models, but instead of a single differential equation the models will be systems of first-order differential equations. Although some of the models will be based on topics that we explored in the preceding two sections, we are not going to develop any general methods for solving these systems. There are reasons for this: First, we do not possess the necessary mathematical tools for solving systems at this point. Second, some of the systems that we discuss—notably the systems of *nonlinear* first-order DEs—simply cannot be solved analytically. We shall examine solution methods for systems of *linear* DEs in Chapters 4, 7, and 8.

**LINEAR/NONLINEAR SYSTEMS** We have seen that a single differential equation can serve as a mathematical model for a single population in an environment. But if there are, say, two interacting and perhaps competing species living in the same environment (for example, rabbits and foxes), then a model for their populations $x(t)$

and $y(t)$ might be a system of two first-order differential equations such as

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = g_1(t, x, y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = g_2(t, x, y).$$

(1)

When $g_1$ and $g_2$ are linear in the variables $x$ and $y$—that is, $g_1$ and $g_2$ have the forms

$$g_1(t, x, y) = c_1 x + c_2 y + f_1(t) \quad \text{and} \quad g_2(t, x, y) = c_3 x + c_4 y + f_2(t),$$

where the coefficients $c_i$ could depend on $t$—then (1) is said to be a **linear system.** A system of differential equations that is not linear is said to be **nonlinear.**

**RADIOACTIVE SERIES** In the discussion of radioactive decay in Sections 1.3 and 3.1 we assumed that the rate of decay was proportional to the number $A(t)$ of nuclei of the substance present at time $t$. When a substance decays by radioactivity, it usually doesn't just transmute in one step into a stable substance; rather, the first substance decays into another radioactive substance, which in turn decays into a third substance, and so on. This process, called a **radioactive decay series,** continues until a stable element is reached. For example, the uranium decay series is U-238 $\rightarrow$ Th-234 $\rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow$ Pb-206, where Pb-206 is a stable isotope of lead. The half-lives of the various elements in a radioactive series can range from billions of years ($4.5 \times 10^9$ years for U-238) to a fraction of a second. Suppose a radioactive series is described schematically by $X \xrightarrow{-\lambda_1} Y \xrightarrow{-\lambda_2} Z$, where $k_1 = -\lambda_1 < 0$ and $k_2 = -\lambda_2 < 0$ are the decay constants for substances $X$ and $Y$, respectively, and $Z$ is a stable element. Suppose, too, that $x(t)$, $y(t)$, and $z(t)$ denote amounts of substances $X$, $Y$, and $Z$, respectively, remaining at time $t$. The decay of element $X$ is described by

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\lambda_1 x,$$

whereas the rate at which the second element $Y$ decays is the net rate

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \lambda_1 x - \lambda_2 y,$$

since $Y$ is *gaining* atoms from the decay of $X$ and at the same time *losing* atoms because of its own decay. Since $Z$ is a stable element, it is simply gaining atoms from the decay of element $Y$:

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \lambda_2 y.$$

In other words, a model of the radioactive decay series for three elements is the linear system of three first-order differential equations

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\lambda_1 x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \lambda_1 x - \lambda_2 y$$

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = \lambda_2 y.$$

(2)

**MIXTURES** Consider the two tanks shown in Figure 3.3.1. Let us suppose for the sake of discussion that tank $A$ contains 50 gallons of water in which 25 pounds of salt is dissolved. Suppose tank $B$ contains 50 gallons of pure water. Liquid is pumped into and out of the tanks as indicated in the figure; the mixture exchanged between the two tanks and the liquid pumped out of tank $B$ are assumed to be well stirred.
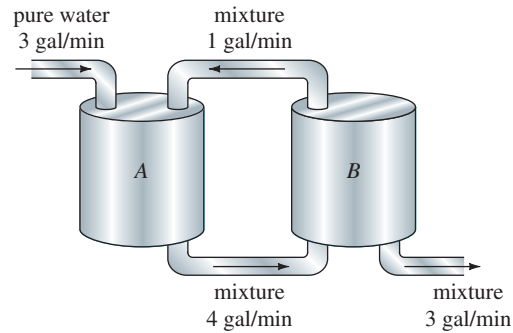
**FIGURE 3.3.1** Connected mixing tanks

We wish to construct a mathematical model that describes the number of pounds $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ of salt in tanks $A$ and $B$, respectively, at time $t$.

By an analysis similar to that on page 23 in Section 1.3 and Example 5 of Section 3.1 we see that the net rate of change of $x_1(t)$ for tank $A$ is

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = \overbrace{(3 \text{ gal/min}) \cdot (0 \text{ lb/gal}) + (1 \text{ gal/min}) \cdot \left(\frac{x_2}{50} \text{ lb/gal}\right)}^{\substack{\text{input rate} \\ \text{of salt}}} - \overbrace{(4 \text{ gal/min}) \cdot \left(\frac{x_1}{50} \text{ lb/gal}\right)}^{\substack{\text{output rate} \\ \text{of salt}}}$$

$$= -\frac{2}{25}x_1 + \frac{1}{50}x_2.$$

Similarly, for tank $B$ the net rate of change of $x_2(t)$ is

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = 4 \cdot \frac{x_1}{50} - 3 \cdot \frac{x_2}{50} - 1 \cdot \frac{x_2}{50}$$

$$= \frac{2}{25}x_1 - \frac{2}{25}x_2.$$

Thus we obtain the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx_1}{dt} &= -\frac{2}{25}x_1 + \frac{1}{50}x_2 \\ \frac{dx_2}{dt} &= \frac{2}{25}x_1 - \frac{2}{25}x_2. \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Observe that the foregoing system is accompanied by the initial conditions $x_1(0) = 25$, $x_2(0) = 0$.

**A PREDATOR-PREY MODEL**  Suppose that two different species of animals interact within the same environment or ecosystem, and suppose further that the first species eats only vegetation and the second eats only the first species. In other words, one species is a predator and the other is a prey. For example, wolves hunt grass-eating caribou, sharks devour little fish, and the snowy owl pursues an arctic rodent called the lemming. For the sake of discussion, let us imagine that the predators are foxes and the prey are rabbits.

Let $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ denote the fox and rabbit populations, respectively, at time $t$. If there were no rabbits, then one might expect that the foxes, lacking an adequate food supply, would decline in number according to

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -ax, \qquad a > 0. \tag{4}$$

When rabbits are present in the environment, however, it seems reasonable that the number of encounters or interactions between these two species per unit time is

jointly proportional to their populations $x$ and $y$—that is, proportional to the product $xy$. Thus when rabbits are present, there is a supply of food, so foxes are added to the system at a rate $bxy$, $b > 0$. Adding this last rate to (4) gives a model for the fox population:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -ax + bxy. \tag{5}$$

On the other hand, if there were no foxes, then the rabbits would, with an added assumption of unlimited food supply, grow at a rate that is proportional to the number of rabbits present at time $t$:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = dy, \qquad d > 0. \tag{6}$$

But when foxes are present, a model for the rabbit population is (6) decreased by $cxy$, $c > 0$—that is, decreased by the rate at which the rabbits are eaten during their encounters with the foxes:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = dy - cxy. \tag{7}$$

Equations (5) and (7) constitute a system of nonlinear differential equations

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -ax + bxy = x(-a + by)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = dy - cxy = y(d - cx), \tag{8}$$

where $a$, $b$, $c$, and $d$ are positive constants. This famous system of equations is known as the **Lotka-Volterra predator-prey model.**

Except for two constant solutions, $x(t) = 0$, $y(t) = 0$ and $x(t) = d/c$, $y(t) = a/b$, the nonlinear system (8) cannot be solved in terms of elementary functions. However, we can analyze such systems quantitatively and qualitatively. See Chapter 9, "Numerical Solutions of Ordinary Differential Equations," and Chapter 10, "Plane Autonomous Systems."[*]

### EXAMPLE 1 Predator-Prey Model

Suppose

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -0.16x + 0.08xy$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 4.5y - 0.9xy$$

represents a predator-prey model. Because we are dealing with populations, we have $x(t) \geq 0$, $y(t) \geq 0$. Figure 3.3.2, obtained with the aid of a numerical solver, shows typical population curves of the predators and prey for this model superimposed on the same coordinate axes. The initial conditions used were $x(0) = 4$, $y(0) = 4$. The curve in red represents the population $x(t)$ of the predators (foxes), and the blue curve is the population $y(t)$ of the prey (rabbits). Observe that the model seems to predict that both populations $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ are periodic in time. This makes intuitive sense because as the number of prey decreases, the predator population eventually decreases because of a diminished food supply; but attendant to a decrease in the number of predators is an increase in the number of prey; this in turn gives rise to an increased number of predators, which ultimately brings about another decrease in the number of prey. ■



**FIGURE 3.3.2** Populations of predators (red) and prey (blue) appear to be periodic

**COMPETITION MODELS** Now suppose two different species of animals occupy the same ecosystem, not as predator and prey but rather as competitors for the same resources (such as food and living space) in the system. In the absence of the other, let us assume that the rate at which each population grows is given by

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = ax \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = cy, \tag{9}$$

respectively.

Since the two species compete, another assumption might be that each of these rates is diminished simply by the influence, or existence, of the other population. Thus a model for the two populations is given by the linear system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = ax - by$$
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = cy - dx, \tag{10}$$

where $a$, $b$, $c$, and $d$ are positive constants.

On the other hand, we might assume, as we did in (5), that each growth rate in (9) should be reduced by a rate proportional to the number of interactions between the two species:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = ax - bxy$$
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = cy - dxy. \tag{11}$$

Inspection shows that this nonlinear system is similar to the Lotka-Volterra predator-prey model. Finally, it might be more realistic to replace the rates in (9), which indicate that the population of each species in isolation grows exponentially, with rates indicating that each population grows logistically (that is, over a long time the population is bounded):

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = a_1 x - b_1 x^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = a_2 y - b_2 y^2. \tag{12}$$

When these new rates are decreased by rates proportional to the number of interactions, we obtain another nonlinear model:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = a_1 x - b_1 x^2 - c_1 xy = x(a_1 - b_1 x - c_1 y)$$
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = a_2 y - b_2 y^2 - c_2 xy = y(a_2 - b_2 y - c_2 x), \tag{13}$$

where all coefficients are positive. The linear system (10) and the nonlinear systems (11) and (13) are, of course, called **competition models.**

**NETWORKS** An electrical network having more than one loop also gives rise to simultaneous differential equations. As shown in Figure 3.3.3, the current $i_1(t)$ splits in the directions shown at point $B_1$, called a *branch point* of the network. By **Kirchhoff's first law** we can write

$$i_1(t) = i_2(t) + i_3(t). \tag{14}$$

We can also apply **Kirchhoff's second law** to each loop. For loop $A_1B_1B_2A_2A_1$, summing the voltage drops across each part of the loop gives

$$E(t) = i_1 R_1 + L_1 \frac{di_2}{dt} + i_2 R_2. \tag{15}$$

Similarly, for loop $A_1B_1C_1C_2B_2A_2A_1$ we find

$$E(t) = i_1 R_1 + L_2 \frac{di_3}{dt}. \tag{16}$$

**FIGURE 3.3.3** Network whose model is given in (17)

Using (14) to eliminate $i_1$ in (15) and (16) yields two linear first-order equations for the currents $i_2(t)$ and $i_3(t)$:

$$L_1\frac{di_2}{dt} + (R_1 + R_2)i_2 + R_1i_3 = E(t)$$

$$L_2\frac{di_3}{dt} + \quad R_1i_2 + R_1i_3 = E(t).$$

(17)

We leave it as an exercise (see Problem 14) to show that the system of differential equations describing the currents $i_1(t)$ and $i_2(t)$ in the network containing a resistor, an inductor, and a capacitor shown in Figure 3.3.4 is

$$L\frac{di_1}{dt} + Ri_2 \qquad = E(t)$$

$$RC\frac{di_2}{dt} + \quad i_2 - i_1 = 0.$$

(18)
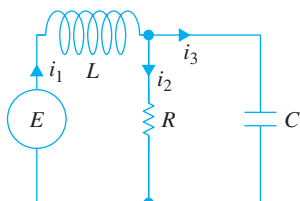
**FIGURE 3.3.4** Network whose model is given in (18)

## EXERCISES 3.3

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-4.*

### Radioactive Series

1. We have not discussed methods by which systems of first-order differential equations can be solved. Nevertheless, systems such as (2) can be solved with no knowledge other than how to solve a single linear first-order equation. Find a solution of (2) subject to the initial conditions $x(0) = x_0$, $y(0) = 0$, $z(0) = 0$.

2. In Problem 1 suppose that time is measured in days, that the decay constants are $k_1 = -0.138629$ and $k_2 = -0.004951$, and that $x_0 = 20$. Use a graphing utility to obtain the graphs of the solutions $x(t)$, $y(t)$, and $z(t)$ on the same set of coordinate axes. Use the graphs to approximate the half-lives of substances $X$ and $Y$.

3. Use the graphs in Problem 2 to approximate the times when the amounts $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ are the same, the times when the amounts $x(t)$ and $z(t)$ are the same, and the times when the amounts $y(t)$ and $z(t)$ are the same. Why does the time that is determined when the amounts $y(t)$ and $z(t)$ are the same make intuitive sense?

4. Construct a mathematical model for a radioactive series of four elements $W$, $X$, $Y$, and $Z$, where $Z$ is a stable element.

### Mixtures

5. Consider two tanks $A$ and $B$, with liquid being pumped in and out at the same rates, as described by the system of equations (3). What is the system of differential equations if, instead of pure water, a brine solution containing 2 pounds of salt per gallon is pumped into tank $A$?

6. Use the information given in Figure 3.3.5 to construct a mathematical model for the number of pounds of salt $x_1(t)$, $x_2(t)$, and $x_3(t)$ at time $t$ in tanks $A$, $B$, and $C$, respectively.
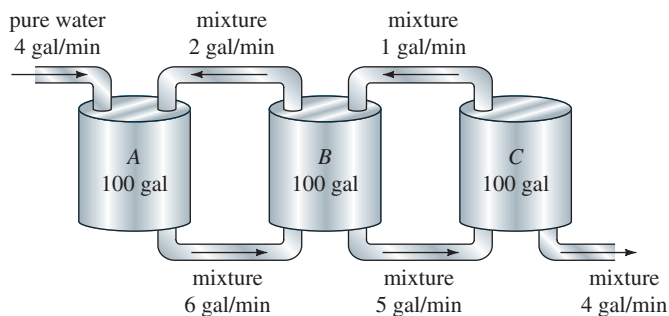
**FIGURE 3.3.5** Mixing tanks in Problem 6

7. Two very large tanks $A$ and $B$ are each partially filled with 100 gallons of brine. Initially, 100 pounds of salt is dissolved in the solution in tank $A$ and 50 pounds of salt is dissolved in the solution in tank $B$. The system is closed in that the well-stirred liquid is pumped only between the tanks, as shown in Figure 3.3.6.
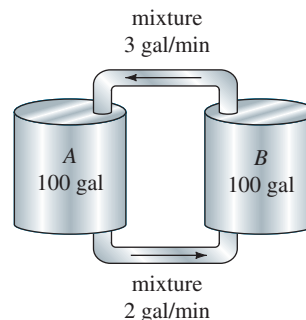
**FIGURE 3.3.6** Mixing tanks in Problem 7

(a) Use the information given in the figure to construct a mathematical model for the number of pounds of salt $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ at time $t$ in tanks $A$ and $B$, respectively.

**(b)** Find a relationship between the variables $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ that holds at time $t$. Explain why this relationship makes intuitive sense. Use this relationship to help find the amount of salt in tank $B$ at $t = 30$ min.

**8.** Three large tanks contain brine, as shown in Figure 3.3.7. Use the information in the figure to construct a mathematical model for the number of pounds of salt $x_1(t)$, $x_2(t)$, and $x_3(t)$ at time $t$ in tanks $A$, $B$, and $C$, respectively. Without solving the system, predict limiting values of $x_1(t)$, $x_2(t)$, and $x_3(t)$ as $t \to \infty$.

pure water
4 gal/min
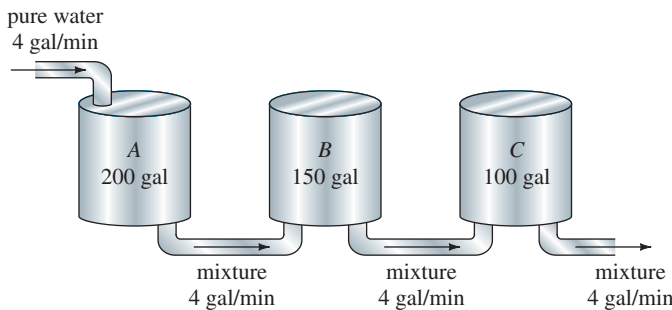


**FIGURE 3.3.7** Mixing tanks in Problem 8

## Predator-Prey Models

**9.** Consider the Lotka-Volterra predator-prey model defined by

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -0.1x + 0.02xy$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 0.2y - 0.025xy,$$

where the populations $x(t)$ (predators) and $y(t)$ (prey) are measured in thousands. Suppose $x(0) = 6$ and $y(0) = 6$. Use a numerical solver to graph $x(t)$ and $y(t)$. Use the graphs to approximate the time $t > 0$ when the two populations are first equal. Use the graphs to approximate the period of each population.

## Competition Models

**10.** Consider the competition model defined by

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x(2 - 0.4x - 0.3y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = y(1 - 0.1y - 0.3x),$$

where the populations $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ are measured in thousands and $t$ in years. Use a numerical solver to analyze the populations over a long period of time for each of the following cases:
**(a)** $x(0) = 1.5$, $y(0) = 3.5$
**(b)** $x(0) = 1$, $y(0) = 1$
**(c)** $x(0) = 2$, $y(0) = 7$
**(d)** $x(0) = 4.5$, $y(0) = 0.5$

**11.** Consider the competition model defined by

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x(1 - 0.1x - 0.05y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = y(1.7 - 0.1y - 0.15x),$$

where the populations $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ are measured in thousands and $t$ in years. Use a numerical solver to analyze the populations over a long period of time for each of the following cases:
**(a)** $x(0) = 1$, $y(0) = 1$
**(b)** $x(0) = 4$, $y(0) = 10$
**(c)** $x(0) = 9$, $y(0) = 4$
**(d)** $x(0) = 5.5$, $y(0) = 3.5$

## Networks

**12.** Show that a system of differential equations that describes the currents $i_2(t)$ and $i_3(t)$ in the electrical network shown in Figure 3.3.8 is

$$L\frac{di_2}{dt} + L\frac{di_3}{dt} + R_1 i_2 = E(t)$$

$$-R_1\frac{di_2}{dt} + R_2\frac{di_3}{dt} + \frac{1}{C}i_3 = 0.$$
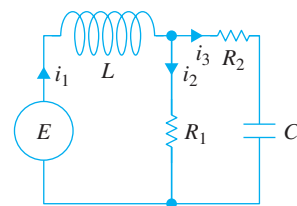


**FIGURE 3.3.8** Network in Problem 12

**13.** Determine a system of first-order differential equations that describes the currents $i_2(t)$ and $i_3(t)$ in the electrical network shown in Figure 3.3.9.
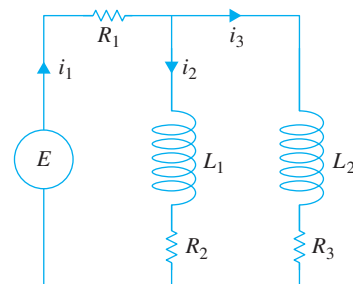


**FIGURE 3.3.9** Network in Problem 13

**14.** Show that the linear system given in (18) describes the currents $i_1(t)$ and $i_2(t)$ in the network shown in Figure 3.3.4. [*Hint*: $dq/dt = i_3$.]

## Additional Nonlinear Models

15. **SIR Model** A communicable disease is spread throughout a small community, with a fixed population of $n$ people, by contact between infected individuals and people who are susceptible to the disease. Suppose that everyone is initially susceptible to the disease and that no one leaves the community while the epidemic is spreading. At time $t$, let $s(t)$, $i(t)$, and $r(t)$ denote, in turn, the number of people in the community (measured in hundreds) who are *susceptible* to the disease but not yet infected with it, the number of people who are *infected* with the disease, and the number of people who have *recovered* from the disease. Explain why the system of differential equations

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = -k_1 si$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} = -k_2 i + k_1 si$$

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = k_2 i,$$

where $k_1$ (called the *infection rate*) and $k_2$ (called the *removal rate*) are positive constants, is a reasonable mathematical model, commonly called a **SIR model,** for the spread of the epidemic throughout the community. Give plausible initial conditions associated with this system of equations.

16. (a) In Problem 15, explain why it is sufficient to analyze only

$$\frac{ds}{dt} = -k_1 si$$

$$\frac{di}{dt} = -k_2 i + k_1 si.$$

(b) Suppose $k_1 = 0.2$, $k_2 = 0.7$, and $n = 10$. Choose various values of $i(0) = i_0$, $0 < i_0 < 10$. Use a numerical solver to determine what the model predicts about the epidemic in the two cases $s_0 > k_2/k_1$ and $s_0 \leq k_2/k_1$. In the case of an epidemic, estimate the number of people who are eventually infected.

## Project Problems

17. **Concentration of a Nutrient** Suppose compartments $A$ and $B$ shown in Figure 3.3.10 are filled with fluids and are separated by a permeable membrane. The figure is a compartmental representation of the exterior and interior of a cell. Suppose, too, that a nutrient necessary for cell growth passes through the membrane. A model for the concentrations $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ of the nutrient in compartments $A$ and $B$, respectively, at time $t$ is given by the linear system of differential equations
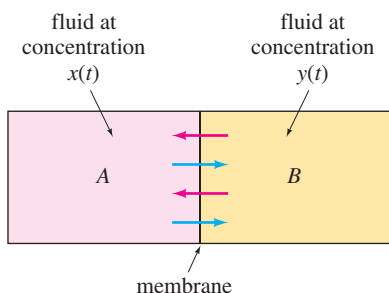
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{\kappa}{V_A}(y - x)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{\kappa}{V_B}(x - y),$$

where $V_A$ and $V_B$ are the volumes of the compartments, and $\kappa > 0$ is a permeability factor. Let $x(0) = x_0$ and $y(0) = y_0$ denote the initial concentrations of the nutrient. Solely on the basis of the equations in the system and the assumption $x_0 > y_0 > 0$, sketch, on the same set of coordinate axes, possible solution curves of the system. Explain your reasoning. Discuss the behavior of the solutions over a long period of time.

18. The system in Problem 17, like the system in (2), can be solved with no advanced knowledge. Solve for $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ and compare their graphs with your sketches in Problem 17. Determine the limiting values of $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. Explain why the answer to the last question makes intuitive sense.

19. Solely on the basis of the physical description of the mixture problem on page 107 and in Figure 3.3.1, discuss the nature of the functions $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$. What is the behavior of each function over a long period of time? Sketch possible graphs of $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$. Check your conjectures by using a numerical solver to obtain numerical solution curves of (3) subject to the initial conditions $x_1(0) = 25$, $x_2(0) = 0$.

20. **Newton's Law of Cooling/Warming** As shown in Figure 3.3.11, a small metal bar is placed inside container $A$, and container $A$ then is placed within a much larger container $B$. As the metal bar cools, the ambient temperature $T_A(t)$ of the medium within container $A$ changes according to Newton's law of cooling. As container $A$ cools, the temperature of the medium inside container $B$ does not change significantly and can be considered to be a constant $T_B$. Construct a mathematical



**FIGURE 3.3.10** Nutrient flow through a membrane in Problem 17
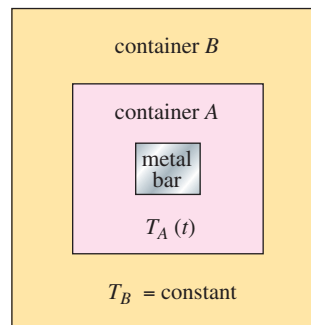


**FIGURE 3.3.11** Container within a container in Problem 20

model for the temperatures $T(t)$ and $T_A(t)$, where $T(t)$ is the temperature of the metal bar inside container $A$. As in Problems 1 and 18, this model can be solved by using prior knowledge. Find a solution of the system subject to the initial conditions $T(0) = T_0$, $T_A(0) = T_1$.

## Contributed Problem

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**21. A Mixing Problem** A pair of tanks are connected as shown in Figure 3.3.12. At $t = 0$, tank $A$ contains 500 liters of liquid, 200 of which are ethanol, and tank $B$ contains 100 liters of liquid, 7 of which are ethanol. Beginning at $t = 0$, 3 liters of 20% ethanol solution are added per minute. An additional 2 L/min are pumped from tank $B$ back into tank $A$. The result is continuously mixed, and 5 L/min are pumped into tank $B$. The contents of tank $B$ are also continuously mixed. In addition to the 2 liters that are returned to tank $A$, 3 L/min are discharged from the system. Let $P(t)$ and $Q(t)$ denote the number of liters of ethanol in tanks $A$ and $B$ at time $t$. We wish to find $P(t)$. Using the principle that

rate of change = input rate of ethanol − output rate of ethanol,

we obtain the system of first-order differential equations

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = 3(0.2) + 2\left(\frac{Q}{100}\right) - 5\left(\frac{P}{500}\right) = 0.6 + \frac{Q}{50} - \frac{P}{100} \quad (19)$$

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = 5\left(\frac{P}{500}\right) - 5\left(\frac{Q}{100}\right) = \frac{P}{100} - \frac{Q}{20}. \quad (20)$$

**(a)** Qualitatively discuss the behavior of the system. What is happening in the short term? What happens in the long term?



ethanol solution 3 L/min
mixture 5 L/min

A
500 liters

B
100 liters

mixture 2 L/min
mixture 3 L/min
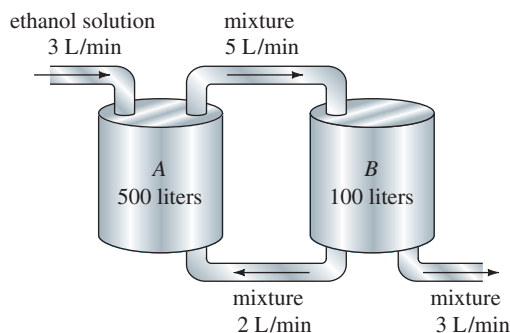
**FIGURE 3.3.12** Mixing tanks in Problem 21

**(b)** We now attempt to solve this system. When (19) is differentiated with respect to $t$, we obtain

$$\frac{d^2P}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{50}\frac{dQ}{dt} - \frac{1}{100}\frac{dP}{dt}.$$

Substitute (20) into this equation and simplify.

**(c)** Show that when we solve (19) for $Q$ and substitute it into our answer in part (b), we obtain

$$100\frac{d^2P}{dt^2} + 6\frac{dP}{dt} + \frac{3}{100}P = 3.$$

**(d)** We are given that $P(0) = 200$. Show that $P'(0) = -\frac{63}{50}$. Then solve the differential equation in part (c) subject to these initial conditions.

**(e)** Substitute the solution of part (d) back into (19) and solve for $Q(t)$.

**(f)** What happens to $P(t)$ and $Q(t)$ as $t \to \infty$?

## CHAPTER 3 IN REVIEW

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-4.*

Answer Problems 1 and 2 without referring back to the text. Fill in the blank or answer true or false.

**1.** If $P(t) = P_0e^{0.15t}$ gives the population in an environment at time $t$, then a differential equation satisfied by $P(t)$ is _____.

**2.** If the rate of decay of a radioactive substance is proportional to the amount $A(t)$ remaining at time $t$, then the half-life of the substance is necessarily $T = -(\ln 2)/k$. The rate of decay of the substance at time $t = T$ is one-half the rate of decay at $t = 0$. _____

**3.** In March 1976 the world population reached 4 billion. At that time, a popular news magazine predicted that with an average yearly growth rate of 1.8%, the world population would be 8 billion in 45 years. How does this value compare with the value predicted by the model

that assumes that the rate of increase in population is proportional to the population present at time $t$?

**4.** Air containing 0.06% carbon dioxide is pumped into a room whose volume is 8000 ft³. The air is pumped in at a rate of 2000 ft³/min, and the circulated air is then pumped out at the same rate. If there is an initial concentration of 0.2% carbon dioxide in the room, determine the subsequent amount in the room at time $t$. What is the concentration of carbon dioxide at 10 minutes? What is the steady-state, or equilibrium, concentration of carbon dioxide?

**5.** Solve the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{y}{\sqrt{s^2 - y^2}}$$

of the tractrix. See Problem 26 in Exercises 1.3. Assume that the initial point on the y-axis in (0, 10) and that the length of the rope is $x = 10$ ft.

6. Suppose a cell is suspended in a solution containing a solute of constant concentration $C_s$. Suppose further that the cell has constant volume $V$ and that the area of its permeable membrane is the constant $A$. By **Fick's law** the rate of change of its mass $m$ is directly proportional to the area $A$ and the difference $C_s - C(t)$, where $C(t)$ is the concentration of the solute inside the cell at time $t$. Find $C(t)$ if $m = V \cdot C(t)$ and $C(0) = C_0$. See Figure 3.R.1.
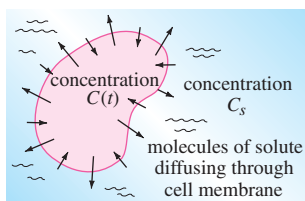


**FIGURE 3.R.1**   Cell in Problem 6

7. Suppose that as a body cools, the temperature of the surrounding medium increases because it completely absorbs the heat being lost by the body. Let $T(t)$ and $T_m(t)$ be the temperatures of the body and the medium at time $t$, respectively. If the initial temperature of the body is $T_1$ and the initial temperature of the medium is $T_2$, then it can be shown in this case that Newton's law of cooling is $dT/dt = k(T - T_m)$, $k < 0$, where $T_m = T_2 + B(T_1 - T)$, $B > 0$ is a constant.

   (a) The foregoing DE is autonomous. Use the phase portrait concept of Section 2.1 to determine the limiting value of the temperature $T(t)$ as $t \to \infty$. What is the limiting value of $T_m(t)$ as $t \to \infty$?

   (b) Verify your answers in part (a) by actually solving the differential equation.

   (c) Discuss a physical interpretation of your answers in part (a).

8. According to **Stefan's law of radiation** the absolute temperature $T$ of a body cooling in a medium at constant absolute temperature $T_m$ is given by

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = k(T^4 - T_m^4),$$

   where $k$ is a constant. Stefan's law can be used over a greater temperature range than Newton's law of cooling.

   (a) Solve the differential equation.

   (b) Show that when $T - T_m$ is small in comparison to $T_m$ then Newton's law of cooling approximates Stefan's law. [*Hint*: Think binomial series of the right-hand side of the DE.]

9. An *LR* series circuit has a variable inductor with the inductance defined by

$$L(t) = \begin{cases} 1 - \dfrac{1}{10}t, & 0 \le t < 10 \\ 0, & t \ge 10. \end{cases}$$

   Find the current $i(t)$ if the resistance is 0.2 ohm, the impressed voltage is $E(t) = 4$, and $i(0) = 0$. Graph $i(t)$.

10. A classical problem in the calculus of variations is to find the shape of a curve $\mathscr{C}$ such that a bead, under the influence of gravity, will slide from point $A(0, 0)$ to point $B(x_1, y_1)$ in the least time. See Figure 3.R.2. It can be shown that a nonlinear differential for the shape $y(x)$ of the path is $y[1 + (y')^2] = k$, where $k$ is a constant. First solve for $dx$ in terms of $y$ and $dy$, and then use the substitution $y = k \sin^2\theta$ to obtain a parametric form of the solution. The curve $\mathscr{C}$ turns out to be a cycloid.
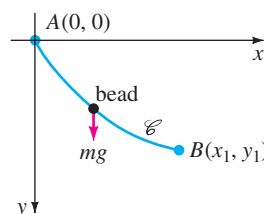


**FIGURE 3.R.2**   Sliding bead in Problem 10

11. A model for the populations of two interacting species of animals is

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1 x(\alpha - x)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = k_2 xy.$$

   Solve for $x$ and $y$ in terms of $t$.

12. Initially, two large tanks $A$ and $B$ each hold 100 gallons of brine. The well-stirred liquid is pumped between the tanks as shown in Figure 3.R.3. Use the information given in the figure to construct a mathematical model for the number of pounds of salt $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ at time $t$ in tanks $A$ and $B$, respectively.
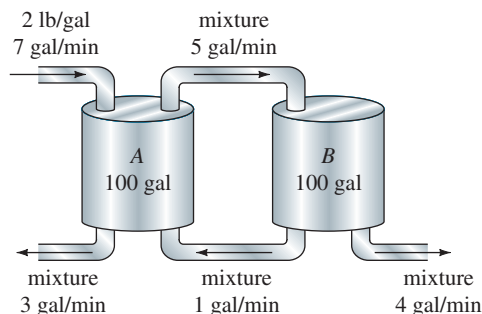


**FIGURE 3.R.3**   Mixing tanks in Problem 12

When all the curves in a family $G(x, y, c_1) = 0$ intersect orthogonally all the curves in another family $H(x, y, c_2) = 0$, the families are said to be **orthogonal trajectories** of each other. See Figure 3.R.4. If $dy/dx = f(x, y)$ is the differential equation of one family, then the differential equation for the orthogonal trajectories of this family is $dy/dx = -1/f(x, y)$. In Problems 13 and 14 find the differential equation of the given family. Find the orthogonal trajectories of this family. Use a graphing utility to graph both families on the same set of coordinate axes.
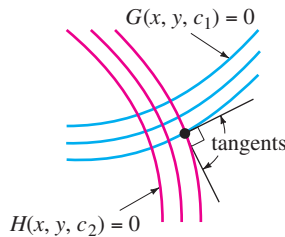


**FIGURE 3.R.4**   Orthogonal trajectories

**13.** $y = -x - 1 + c_1 e^x$     **14.** $y = \dfrac{1}{x + c_1}$

**Contributed Problem**

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**15. Aquifers and Darcy's Law** According to the Sacramento, California, Department of Utilities, approximately 15% of the water source for Sacramento comes from **aquifers.** Unlike water sources such as rivers or lakes that lie above ground, an aquifer is an underground layer of a porous material that contains water. The water may reside in the void spaces between rocks or in the cracks of the rocks. Because of the material lying above, the water is subjected to pressure that drives the fluid motion.

Darcy's law is a generalized relationship to describe the flow of a fluid through a porous medium. It shows the flow rate of a fluid through a container as a function of the cross sectional area, elevation and fluid pressure. The configuration that we will consider in this problem is what is called a *one-dimensional flow problem.* Consider the flow column as shown in Figure 3.R.5. As indicated by the arrows, the fluid flow is from left to right through a container with a circular cross section. The container is filled with a porous material (for example, pebbles, sand, or cotton) that allows for the fluid to flow. At the entrance and the exit of the container are piezometers that measure the hydraulic head, that is, the water pressure per unit weight, by reporting the height of the water column. The difference in the water heights in the pizeometers is denoted $\Delta h$. For this configuration Darcy experimentally calculated that

$$Q = AK\frac{\Delta h}{L},$$

where length is measured in meters (m) and time in seconds (s):

$Q$ = volumetric flow rate (m³/s)
$A$ = cross-sectional flow area, perpendicular to the flow direction (m²)
$K$ = hydraulic conductivity (m/s)
$L$ = flow path length (m)
$\Delta h$ = hydraulic head difference (m).

Since the hydraulic head at a specific point is the sum of the pressure head and the elevation, the flow rate can be rewritten as

$$Q = AK\frac{\Delta\left[\dfrac{p}{\rho g} + y\right]}{L},$$

where

$p$ = water pressure (N/m²)
$\rho$ = water density (kg/m³)
$g$ = gravitational acceleration (m/s²)
$y$ = elevation (m).

A more general form of the equation results when the limit of $\Delta h$ with respect to the flow direction ($x$ as shown in Figure 3.R.5) is evaluated as the flow path length $L \to 0$. Performing this calculation yields

$$Q = -AK\frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{p}{\rho g} + y\right],$$

where the sign change reflects the fact that the hydraulic head always decreases in the direction of flow. The volumetric flow per unit area is called the **Darcy flux $q$** and is defined by the differential equation

$$q = \frac{Q}{A} = -K\frac{d}{dx}\left[\frac{p}{\rho g} + y\right], \tag{1}$$

where $q$ is measured in m/s.

**(a)** Assume that the fluid density $\rho$ and the Darcy flux $q$ are functions of $x$. Solve (1) for the pressure $p$. You may assume that $K$ and $g$ are constants.

**(b)** Suppose the Darcy flux is negatively valued, that is, $q < 0$. What does this say about the ratio $p/\rho$? Specifically, is the ratio between the pressure and the density increasing or decreasing with respect to $x$? Assume that the elevation $y$ of the cylinder is fixed. What can be said about the ratio $p/\rho$ if the Darcy flux is zero?

**(c)** Assume that the fluid density $\rho$ is constant. Solve (1) for the pressure $p(x)$ when the Darcy flux is proportional to the pressure, that is, $q = \alpha p$, where $\alpha$ is a constant of proportionality. Sketch the family of solutions for the pressure.

**(d)** Now if we assume that the pressure $p$ is constant but the density $\rho$ is a function of $x$, then Darcy flux is a function of $x$. Solve (1) for the density $\rho(x)$.

Solve (1) for the density $\rho(x)$ when the Darcy flux is proportional to the density, $q = \beta\rho$, where $\beta$ is a constant of proportionality.

**(e)** Assume that the Darcy flux is $q(x) = \sin e^{-x}$ and the density function is

$$\rho(x) = \frac{1}{1 + \ln(2 + x)}.$$

Use a CAS to plot the pressure $p(x)$ over the interval $0 \le x \le 2\pi$. Suppose that $K/g = -1$ and that the pressure at the left end point $(x = 0)$ is normalized to 1. Assume that the elevation $y$ is constant. Explain the physical implications of your result.
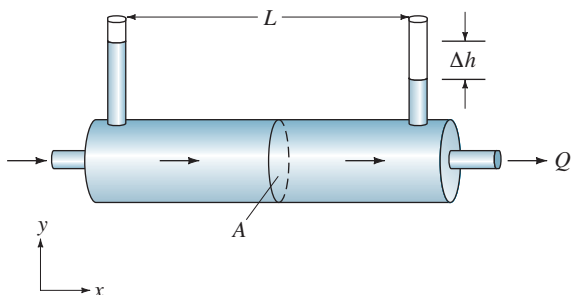


**FIGURE 3.R.5**   Flow in Problem 15

**Contributed Problem**

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**16. Population Growth Models**   We can use direction fields to obtain a great deal of information about population growth models. In this problem you can create direction fields by hand or use a computer algebra system to create detailed ones. At time $t = 0$ a thin sheet of water begins pouring over the concrete spillway of a dam. At the same time, 1000 algae are attached to the spillway. We will be modeling $P(t)$, the number of algae (in thousands) present after $t$ hours.

**Exponential Growth Model:**   We assume that the rate of population change is proportional to the population present: $dP/dt = kP$. In this particular case take $k = \frac{1}{12}$.

**(a)** Create a direction field for this differential equation and sketch the solution curve.

**(b)** Solve this differential equation and graph the solution. Compare your graph to the sketch from part (a).

**(c)** Describe the equilibrium solutions of this autonomous differential equation.

**(d)** According to this model, what happens as $t \to \infty$?

**(e)** In our model, $P(0) = 1$. Describe how a change in $P(0)$ would affect the solution.

**(f)** Consider the solution corresponding to $P(0) = 0$. How would a small change in $P(0)$ affect that solution?

**Logistic Growth Model:**   As you saw in part (d), the exponential growth model above becomes unrealistic for very large $t$. What limits the algae population? Assume that the water flow provides a steady source of nutrients and carries away all waste materials. In that case the major limiting factor is the area of the spillway. We might model this as follows: Each algae-algae interaction stresses the organisms involved. This causes additional mortality. The number of such possible interactions is proportional to the *square* of the number of organisms present. Thus a reasonable model would be

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP - mP^2,$$

where $k$ and $m$ are positive constants. In this particular case take $k = \frac{1}{12}$ and $m = \frac{1}{500}$.

**(g)** Create a direction field for this differential equation and sketch the solution curve.

**(h)** Solve this differential equation and graph the solution. Compare your graph to the sketch from part (g).

**(i)** Describe the equilibrium solutions of this autonomous differential equation.

**(j)** According to this model, what happens as $t \to \infty$?

**(k)** In our model, $P(0) = 1$. Describe how a change in $P(0)$ would affect the solution.

**(l)** Consider the solution corresponding to $P(0) = 0$. How would a small change in $P(0)$ affect that solution?

**(m)** Consider the solution corresponding to $P(0) = k/m$. How would a small change in $P(0)$ affect that solution?

**A Nonautonomous Model:**   Suppose that the flow of water across the spillway is decreasing in time, so the prime algae habitat also shrinks in time. This would increase the effect of crowding. A reasonable model now would be

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP - m(1 + nt)P^2,$$

where $n$ would be determined by the rate at which the spillway is drying. In our example, take $k$ and $m$ as above and $n = \frac{1}{10}$.

**(n)** Create a direction field for this differential equation and sketch the solution curve.

**(o)** Describe the constant solutions of this nonautonomous differential equation.

**(p)** According to this model, what happens as $t \to \infty$? What happens if you change the value of $P(0)$?

# 4 HIGHER-ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

We turn now to the solution of ordinary differential equations of order two or higher. In the first seven sections of this chapter we examine the underlying theory and solution methods for certain kinds of *linear* equations. The elimination method for solving systems of linear equations is introduced in Section 4.8 because this method simply uncouples a system into individual linear equations in each dependent variable. The chapter concludes with a brief examinations of *nonlinear* higher-order equations.

| 4.1 | PRELIMINARY THEORY—LINEAR EQUATIONS |
|---|---|

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Reread the *Remarks* at the end of Section 1.1
- Section 2.3 (especially pages 54–58)

**INTRODUCTION**   In Chapter 2 we saw that we could solve a few first-order differential equations by recognizing them as separable, linear, exact, homogeneous, or perhaps Bernoulli equations. Even though the solutions of these equations were in the form of a one-parameter family, this family, with one exception, did not represent the general solution of the differential equation. Only in the case of *linear* first-order differential equations were we able to obtain general solutions, by paying attention to certain continuity conditions imposed on the coefficients. Recall that a **general solution** is a family of solutions defined on some interval *I* that contains *all* solutions of the DE that are defined on *I*. Because our primary goal in this chapter is to find general solutions of linear higher-order DEs, we first need to examine some of the theory of linear equations.

## 4.1.1 INITIAL-VALUE AND BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS

**INITIAL-VALUE PROBLEM**   In Section 1.2 we defined an initial-value problem for a general *n*th-order differential equation. For a linear differential equation an **nth-order initial-value problem** is

*Solve*: 
$$a_n(x)\frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_{n-1}(x)\frac{d^{n-1}y}{dx^{n-1}} + \cdots + a_1(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x)$$

(1)

*Subject to*:   $y(x_0) = y_0, \quad y'(x_0) = y_1, \ldots, \quad y^{(n-1)}(x_0) = y_{n-1}.$

Recall that for a problem such as this one we seek a function defined on some interval *I*, containing $x_0$, that satisfies the differential equation and the *n* initial conditions specified at $x_0$: $y(x_0) = y_0, y'(x_0) = y_1, \ldots, y^{(n-1)}(x_0) = y_{n-1}$. We have already seen that in the case of a second-order initial-value problem a solution curve must pass through the point $(x_0, y_0)$ and have slope $y_1$ at this point.

**EXISTENCE AND UNIQUENESS**   In Section 1.2 we stated a theorem that gave conditions under which the existence and uniqueness of a solution of a first-order initial-value problem were guaranteed. The theorem that follows gives sufficient conditions for the existence of a unique solution of the problem in (1).

---

**THEOREM 4.1.1**   **Existence of a Unique Solution**

Let $a_n(x), a_{n-1}(x), \ldots, a_1(x), a_0(x)$ and $g(x)$ be continuous on an interval *I* and let $a_n(x) \neq 0$ for every *x* in this interval. If $x = x_0$ is any point in this interval, then a solution $y(x)$ of the initial-value problem (1) exists on the interval and is unique.

---

### EXAMPLE 1   Unique Solution of an IVP

The initial-value problem

$$3y''' + 5y'' - y' + 7y = 0, \quad y(1) = 0, \quad y'(1) = 0, \quad y''(1) = 0$$

possesses the trivial solution $y = 0$. Because the third-order equation is linear with constant coefficients, it follows that all the conditions of Theorem 4.1.1 are fulfilled. Hence $y = 0$ is the *only* solution on any interval containing $x = 1$. ∎

---

**EXAMPLE 2    Unique Solution of an IVP**

---

You should verify that the function $y = 3e^{2x} + e^{-2x} - 3x$ is a solution of the initial-value problem

$$y'' - 4y = 12x, \quad y(0) = 4, \quad y'(0) = 1.$$

Now the differential equation is linear, the coefficients as well as $g(x) = 12x$ are continuous, and $a_2(x) = 1 \neq 0$ on any interval $I$ containing $x = 0$. We conclude from Theorem 4.1.1 that the given function is the unique solution on $I$. ∎

The requirements in Theorem 4.1.1 that $a_i(x)$, $i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n$ be continuous and $a_n(x) \neq 0$ for every $x$ in $I$ are both important. Specifically, if $a_n(x) = 0$ for some $x$ in the interval, then the solution of a linear initial-value problem may not be unique or even exist. For example, you should verify that the function $y = cx^2 + x + 3$ is a solution of the initial-value problem

$$x^2 y'' - 2xy' + 2y = 6, \quad y(0) = 3, \quad y'(0) = 1$$

on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ for any choice of the parameter $c$. In other words, there is no unique solution of the problem. Although most of the conditions of Theorem 4.1.1 are satisfied, the obvious difficulties are that $a_2(x) = x^2$ is zero at $x = 0$ and that the initial conditions are also imposed at $x = 0$.

**BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEM**   Another type of problem consists of solving a linear differential equation of order two or greater in which the dependent variable $y$ or its derivatives are specified at *different points.* A problem such as

$$\text{Solve:} \qquad a_2(x)\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + a_1(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x)$$

$$\text{Subject to:} \qquad y(a) = y_0, \quad y(b) = y_1$$

is called a **boundary-value problem (BVP).** The prescribed values $y(a) = y_0$ and $y(b) = y_1$ are called **boundary conditions.** A solution of the foregoing problem is a function satisfying the differential equation on some interval $I$, containing $a$ and $b$, whose graph passes through the two points $(a, y_0)$ and $(b, y_1)$. See Figure 4.1.1.

For a second-order differential equation other pairs of boundary conditions could be

$$y'(a) = y_0, \qquad y(b) = y_1$$

$$y(a) = y_0, \qquad y'(b) = y_1$$

$$y'(a) = y_0, \qquad y'(b) = y_1,$$

where $y_0$ and $y_1$ denote arbitrary constants. These three pairs of conditions are just special cases of the general boundary conditions

$$\alpha_1 y(a) + \beta_1 y'(a) = \gamma_1$$

$$\alpha_2 y(b) + \beta_2 y'(b) = \gamma_2.$$

The next example shows that even when the conditions of Theorem 4.1.1 are fulfilled, a boundary-value problem may have several solutions (as suggested in Figure 4.1.1), a unique solution, or no solution at all.



solutions of the DE

$(b, y_1)$

$(a, y_0)$

**FIGURE 4.1.1**   Solution curves of a BVP that pass through two points

**FIGURE 4.1.2** Some solution curves of (3)

> **EXAMPLE 3**    **A BVP Can Have Many, One, or No Solutions**

In Example 4 of Section 1.1 we saw that the two-parameter family of solutions of the differential equation $x'' + 16x = 0$ is

$$x = c_1 \cos 4t + c_2 \sin 4t. \tag{2}$$

**(a)** Suppose we now wish to determine the solution of the equation that further satisfies the boundary conditions $x(0) = 0$, $x(\pi/2) = 0$. Observe that the first condition $0 = c_1 \cos 0 + c_2 \sin 0$ implies that $c_1 = 0$, so $x = c_2 \sin 4t$. But when $t = \pi/2$, $0 = c_2 \sin 2\pi$ is satisfied for any choice of $c_2$, since $\sin 2\pi = 0$. Hence the boundary-value problem

$$x'' + 16x = 0, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0 \tag{3}$$

has infinitely many solutions. Figure 4.1.2 shows the graphs of some of the members of the one-parameter family $x = c_2 \sin 4t$ that pass through the two points $(0, 0)$ and $(\pi/2, 0)$.

**(b)** If the boundary-value problem in (3) is changed to

$$x'' + 16x = 0, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = 0, \tag{4}$$

then $x(0) = 0$ still requires $c_1 = 0$ in the solution (2). But applying $x(\pi/8) = 0$ to $x = c_2 \sin 4t$ demands that $0 = c_2 \sin(\pi/2) = c_2 \cdot 1$. Hence $x = 0$ is a solution of this new boundary-value problem. Indeed, it can be proved that $x = 0$ is the *only* solution of (4).

**(c)** Finally, if we change the problem to

$$x'' + 16x = 0, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 1, \tag{5}$$

we find again from $x(0) = 0$ that $c_1 = 0$, but applying $x(\pi/2) = 1$ to $x = c_2 \sin 4t$ leads to the contradiction $1 = c_2 \sin 2\pi = c_2 \cdot 0 = 0$. Hence the boundary-value problem (5) has no solution.  ∎

### 4.1.2  HOMOGENEOUS EQUATIONS

A linear $n$th-order differential equation of the form

$$a_n(x)\frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_{n-1}(x)\frac{d^{n-1}y}{dx^{n-1}} + \cdots + a_1(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = 0 \tag{6}$$

is said to be **homogeneous,** whereas an equation

$$a_n(x)\frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_{n-1}(x)\frac{d^{n-1}y}{dx^{n-1}} + \cdots + a_1(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x), \tag{7}$$

with $g(x)$ not identically zero, is said to be **nonhomogeneous.** For example, $2y'' + 3y' - 5y = 0$ is a homogeneous linear second-order differential equation, whereas $x^3 y''' + 6y' + 10y = e^x$ is a nonhomogeneous linear third-order differential equation. The word *homogeneous* in this context does not refer to coefficients that are homogeneous functions, as in Section 2.5.

We shall see that to solve a nonhomogeneous linear equation (7), we must first be able to solve the **associated homogeneous equation** (6).

To avoid needless repetition throughout the remainder of this text, we shall, as a matter of course, make the following important assumptions when

stating definitions and theorems about linear equations (1). On some common interval $I$,

- the coefficient functions $a_i(x)$, $i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n$ and $g(x)$ are continuous;
- $a_n(x) \neq 0$ for every $x$ in the interval.

**DIFFERENTIAL OPERATORS**   In calculus differentiation is often denoted by the capital letter $D$—that is, $dy/dx = Dy$. The symbol $D$ is called a **differential operator** because it transforms a differentiable function into another function. For example, $D(\cos 4x) = -4 \sin 4x$ and $D(5x^3 - 6x^2) = 15x^2 - 12x$. Higher-order derivatives can be expressed in terms of $D$ in a natural manner:

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right) = \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = D(Dy) = D^2y \qquad \text{and, in general,} \qquad \frac{d^ny}{dx^n} = D^ny,$$

where $y$ represents a sufficiently differentiable function. Polynomial expressions involving $D$, such as $D + 3$, $D^2 + 3D - 4$, and $5x^3D^3 - 6x^2D^2 + 4xD + 9$, are also differential operators. In general, we define an ***n*th-order differential operator** or **polynomial operator** to be

$$L = a_n(x)D^n + a_{n-1}(x)D^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1(x)D + a_0(x). \tag{8}$$

As a consequence of two basic properties of differentiation, $D(cf(x)) = cDf(x)$, $c$ is a constant, and $D\{f(x) + g(x)\} = Df(x) + Dg(x)$, the differential operator $L$ possesses a linearity property; that is, $L$ operating on a linear combination of two differentiable functions is the same as the linear combination of $L$ operating on the individual functions. In symbols this means that

$$L\{\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x)\} = \alpha L(f(x)) + \beta L(g(x)), \tag{9}$$

where $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are constants. Because of (9) we say that the $n$th-order differential operator $L$ is a **linear operator.**

**DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS**   Any linear differential equation can be expressed in terms of the $D$ notation. For example, the differential equation $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 5x - 3$ can be written as $D^2y + 5Dy + 6y = 5x - 3$ or $(D^2 + 5D + 6)y = 5x - 3$. Using (8), we can write the linear $n$th-order differential equations (6) and (7) compactly as

$$L(y) = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad L(y) = g(x),$$

respectively.

**SUPERPOSITION PRINCIPLE**   In the next theorem we see that the sum, or **superposition,** of two or more solutions of a homogeneous linear differential equation is also a solution.

---

**THEOREM 4.1.2   Superposition Principle—Homogeneous Equations**

Let $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k$ be solutions of the homogeneous $n$th-order differential equation (6) on an interval $I$. Then the linear combination

$$y = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_k y_k(x),$$

where the $c_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$ are arbitrary constants, is also a solution on the interval.

---

**PROOF**   We prove the case $k = 2$. Let $L$ be the differential operator defined in (8), and let $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ be solutions of the homogeneous equation $L(y) = 0$. If we define $y = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x)$, then by linearity of $L$ we have

$$L(y) = L\{c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x)\} = c_1\, L(y_1) + c_2\, L(y_2) = c_1 \cdot 0 + c_2 \cdot 0 = 0. \qquad ■$$

---

**COROLLARIES TO THEOREM 4.1.2**

**(A)** A constant multiple $y = c_1y_1(x)$ of a solution $y_1(x)$ of a homogeneous linear differential equation is also a solution.

**(B)** A homogeneous linear differential equation always possesses the trivial solution $y = 0$.

---

**EXAMPLE 4** **Superposition—Homogeneous DE**

The functions $y_1 = x^2$ and $y_2 = x^2 \ln x$ are both solutions of the homogeneous linear equation $x^3y''' - 2xy' + 4y = 0$ on the interval $(0, \infty)$. By the superposition principle the linear combination

$$y = c_1x^2 + c_2x^2 \ln x$$

is also a solution of the equation on the interval. ■

The function $y = e^{7x}$ is a solution of $y'' - 9y' + 14y = 0$. Because the differential equation is linear and homogeneous, the constant multiple $y = ce^{7x}$ is also a solution. For various values of $c$ we see that $y = 9e^{7x}, y = 0, y = -\sqrt{5}e^{7x}, \ldots$ are all solutions of the equation.

**LINEAR DEPENDENCE AND LINEAR INDEPENDENCE** The next two concepts are basic to the study of linear differential equations.

---

**DEFINITION 4.1.1** **Linear Dependence/Independence**

A set of functions $f_1(x), f_2(x), \ldots, f_n(x)$ is said to be **linearly dependent** on an interval $I$ if there exist constants $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_n$, not all zero, such that

$$c_1f_1(x) + c_2f_2(x) + \cdots + c_nf_n(x) = 0$$

for every $x$ in the interval. If the set of functions is not linearly dependent on the interval, it is said to be **linearly independent.**

---

In other words, a set of functions is linearly independent on an interval $I$ if the only constants for which

$$c_1f_1(x) + c_2f_2(x) + \cdots + c_nf_n(x) = 0$$

for every $x$ in the interval are $c_1 = c_2 = \cdots = c_n = 0$.

It is easy to understand these definitions for a set consisting of two functions $f_1(x)$ and $f_2(x)$. If the set of functions is linearly dependent on an interval, then there exist constants $c_1$ and $c_2$ that are not both zero such that for every $x$ in the interval, $c_1f_1(x) + c_2f_2(x) = 0$. Therefore if we assume that $c_1 \neq 0$, it follows that $f_1(x) = (-c_2/c_1)f_2(x)$; that is, *if a set of two functions is linearly dependent, then one function is simply a constant multiple of the other.* Conversely, if $f_1(x) = c_2f_2(x)$ for some constant $c_2$, then $(-1) \cdot f_1(x) + c_2f_2(x) = 0$ for every $x$ in the interval. Hence the set of functions is linearly dependent because at least one of the constants (namely, $c_1 = -1$) is not zero. We conclude that *a set of two functions $f_1(x)$ and $f_2(x)$ is linearly independent when neither function is a constant multiple of the other* on the interval. For example, the set of functions $f_1(x) = \sin 2x$, $f_2(x) = \sin x \cos x$ is linearly dependent on $(-\infty, \infty)$ because $f_1(x)$ is a constant multiple of $f_2(x)$. Recall from the double-angle formula for the sine that $\sin 2x = 2 \sin x \cos x$. On the other hand, the set of functions $f_1(x) = x, f_2(x) = |x|$ is linearly independent on $(-\infty, \infty)$. Inspection of Figure 4.1.3 should convince you that neither function is a constant multiple of the other on the interval.

**(a)**

**(b)**

**FIGURE 4.1.3** Set consisting of $f_1$ and $f_2$ is linearly independent on $(-\infty, \infty)$

It follows from the preceding discussion that the quotient $f_2(x)/f_1(x)$ is not a constant on an interval on which the set $f_1(x), f_2(x)$ is linearly independent. This little fact will be used in the next section.

---

### EXAMPLE 5   Linearly Dependent Set of Functions

The set of functions $f_1(x) = \cos^2 x$, $f_2(x) = \sin^2 x$, $f_3(x) = \sec^2 x$, $f_4(x) = \tan^2 x$ is linearly dependent on the interval $(-\pi/2, \pi/2)$ because

$$c_1 \cos^2 x + c_2 \sin^2 x + c_3 \sec^2 x + c_4 \tan^2 x = 0$$

when $c_1 = c_2 = 1$, $c_3 = -1$, $c_4 = 1$. We used here $\cos^2 x + \sin^2 x = 1$ and $1 + \tan^2 x = \sec^2 x$. ■

A set of functions $f_1(x), f_2(x), \ldots, f_n(x)$ is linearly dependent on an interval if at least one function can be expressed as a linear combination of the remaining functions.

---

### EXAMPLE 6   Linearly Dependent Set of Functions

The set of functions $f_1(x) = \sqrt{x} + 5, f_2(x) = \sqrt{x} + 5x, f_3(x) = x - 1, f_4(x) = x^2$ is linearly dependent on the interval $(0, \infty)$ because $f_2$ can be written as a linear combination of $f_1, f_3$, and $f_4$. Observe that

$$f_2(x) = 1 \cdot f_1(x) + 5 \cdot f_3(x) + 0 \cdot f_4(x)$$

for every $x$ in the interval $(0, \infty)$. ■

**SOLUTIONS OF DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS**   We are primarily interested in linearly independent functions or, more to the point, linearly independent solutions of a linear differential equation. Although we could always appeal directly to Definition 4.1.1, it turns out that the question of whether the set of $n$ solutions $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ of a homogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation (6) is linearly independent can be settled somewhat mechanically by using a determinant.

---

**DEFINITION 4.1.2   Wronskian**

Suppose each of the functions $f_1(x), f_2(x), \ldots, f_n(x)$ possesses at least $n - 1$ derivatives. The determinant

$$W(f_1, f_2, \ldots, f_n) = \begin{vmatrix} f_1 & f_2 & \cdots & f_n \\ f_1' & f_2' & \cdots & f_n' \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ f_1^{(n-1)} & f_2^{(n-1)} & \cdots & f_n^{(n-1)} \end{vmatrix},$$

where the primes denote derivatives, is called the **Wronskian** of the functions.

---

**THEOREM 4.1.3   Criterion for Linearly Independent Solutions**

Let $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ be $n$ solutions of the homogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation (6) on an interval $I$. Then the set of solutions is **linearly independent** on $I$ if and only if $W(y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n) \neq 0$ for every $x$ in the interval.

It follows from Theorem 4.1.3 that when $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ are $n$ solutions of (6) on an interval $I$, the Wronskian $W(y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n)$ is either identically zero or never zero on the interval.

A set of $n$ linearly independent solutions of a homogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation is given a special name.

---

**DEFINITION 4.1.3** **Fundamental Set of Solutions**

Any set $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ of $n$ linearly independent solutions of the homogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation (6) on an interval $I$ is said to be a **fundamental set of solutions** on the interval.

---

The basic question of whether a fundamental set of solutions exists for a linear equation is answered in the next theorem.

---

**THEOREM 4.1.4** **Existence of a Fundamental Set**

There exists a fundamental set of solutions for the homogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation (6) on an interval $I$.

---

Analogous to the fact that any vector in three dimensions can be expressed as a linear combination of the *linearly independent* vectors **i, j, k,** any solution of an $n$th-order homogeneous linear differential equation on an interval $I$ can be expressed as a linear combination of $n$ linearly independent solutions on $I$. In other words, $n$ linearly independent solutions $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ are the basic building blocks for the general solution of the equation.

---

**THEOREM 4.1.5** **General Solution—Homogeneous Equations**

Let $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ be a fundamental set of solutions of the homogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation (6) on an interval $I$. Then the **general solution** of the equation on the interval is

$$y = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_n y_n(x),$$

where $c_i, i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ are arbitrary constants.

---

Theorem 4.1.5 states that if $Y(x)$ is any solution of (6) on the interval, then constants $C_1, C_2, \ldots, C_n$ can always be found so that

$$Y(x) = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + C_n y_n(x).$$

We will prove the case when $n = 2$.

**PROOF** Let $Y$ be a solution and let $y_1$ and $y_2$ be linearly independent solutions of $a_2 y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0$ on an interval $I$. Suppose that $x = t$ is a point in $I$ for which $W(y_1(t), y_2(t)) \neq 0$. Suppose also that $Y(t) = k_1$ and $Y'(t) = k_2$. If we now examine the equations

$$C_1 y_1(t) + C_2 y_2(t) = k_1$$

$$C_1 y_1'(t) + C_2 y_2'(t) = k_2,$$

it follows that we can determine $C_1$ and $C_2$ uniquely, provided that the determinant of the coefficients satisfies

$$\begin{vmatrix} y_1(t) & y_2(t) \\ y_1'(t) & y_2'(t) \end{vmatrix} \neq 0.$$

But this determinant is simply the Wronskian evaluated at $x = t$, and by assumption, $W \neq 0$. If we define $G(x) = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x)$, we observe that $G(x)$ satisfies the differential equation since it is a superposition of two known solutions; $G(x)$ satisfies the initial conditions

$$G(t) = C_1 y_1(t) + C_2 y_2(t) = k_1 \qquad \text{and} \qquad G'(t) = C_1 y_1'(t) + C_2 y_2'(t) = k_2;$$

and $Y(x)$ satisfies the *same* linear equation and the *same* initial conditions. Because the solution of this linear initial-value problem is unique (Theorem 4.1.1), we have $Y(x) = G(x)$ or $Y(x) = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x)$. ■

> **EXAMPLE 7**   **General Solution of a Homogeneous DE**

The functions $y_1 = e^{3x}$ and $y_2 = e^{-3x}$ are both solutions of the homogeneous linear equation $y'' - 9y = 0$ on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$. By inspection the solutions are linearly independent on the $x$-axis. This fact can be corroborated by observing that the Wronskian

$$W(e^{3x}, e^{-3x}) = \begin{vmatrix} e^{3x} & e^{-3x} \\ 3e^{3x} & -3e^{-3x} \end{vmatrix} = -6 \neq 0$$

for every $x$. We conclude that $y_1$ and $y_2$ form a fundamental set of solutions, and consequently, $y = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-3x}$ is the general solution of the equation on the interval. ■

> **EXAMPLE 8**   **A Solution Obtained from a General Solution**

The function $y = 4\sinh 3x - 5e^{3x}$ is a solution of the differential equation in Example 7. (Verify this.) In view of Theorem 4.1.5 we must be able to obtain this solution from the general solution $y = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-3x}$. Observe that if we choose $c_1 = 2$ and $c_2 = -7$, then $y = 2e^{3x} - 7e^{-3x}$ can be rewritten as

$$y = 2e^{3x} - 2e^{-3x} - 5e^{-3x} = 4\left(\frac{e^{3x} - e^{-3x}}{2}\right) - 5e^{-3x}.$$

The last expression is recognized as $y = 4 \sinh 3x - 5e^{-3x}$. ■

> **EXAMPLE 9**   **General Solution of a Homogeneous DE**

The functions $y_1 = e^x$, $y_2 = e^{2x}$, and $y_3 = e^{3x}$ satisfy the third-order equation $y''' - 6y'' + 11y' - 6y = 0$. Since

$$W(e^x, e^{2x}, e^{3x}) = \begin{vmatrix} e^x & e^{2x} & e^{3x} \\ e^x & 2e^{2x} & 3e^{3x} \\ e^x & 4e^{2x} & 9e^{3x} \end{vmatrix} = 2e^{6x} \neq 0$$

for every real value of $x$, the functions $y_1$, $y_2$, and $y_3$ form a fundamental set of solutions on $(-\infty, \infty)$. We conclude that $y = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{2x} + c_3 e^{3x}$ is the general solution of the differential equation on the interval. ■

## 4.1.3   NONHOMOGENEOUS EQUATIONS

Any function $y_p$, free of arbitrary parameters, that satisfies (7) is said to be a **particular solution** or **particular integral** of the equation. For example, it is a straightforward task to show that the constant function $y_p = 3$ is a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation $y'' + 9y = 27$.

Now if $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k$ are solutions of (6) on an interval $I$ and $y_p$ is any particular solution of (7) on $I$, then the linear combination

$$y = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_k y_k(x) + y_p \tag{10}$$

is also a solution of the nonhomogeneous equation (7). If you think about it, this makes sense, because the linear combination $c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_k y_k(x)$ is transformed into 0 by the operator $L = a_n D^n + a_{n-1} D^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 D + a_0$, whereas $y_p$ is transformed into $g(x)$. If we use $k = n$ linearly independent solutions of the $n$th-order equation (6), then the expression in (10) becomes the general solution of (7).

---

**THEOREM 4.1.6** **General Solution—Nonhomogeneous Equations**

Let $y_p$ be any particular solution of the nonhomogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation (7) on an interval $I$, and let $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ be a fundamental set of solutions of the associated homogeneous differential equation (6) on $I$. Then the **general solution** of the equation on the interval is

$$y = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_n y_n(x) + y_p,$$

where the $c_i, i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ are arbitrary constants.

---

**PROOF** Let $L$ be the differential operator defined in (8) and let $Y(x)$ and $y_p(x)$ be particular solutions of the nonhomogeneous equation $L(y) = g(x)$. If we define $u(x) = Y(x) - y_p(x)$, then by linearity of $L$ we have

$$L(u) = L\{Y(x) - y_p(x)\} = L(Y(x)) - L(y_p(x)) = g(x) - g(x) = 0.$$

This shows that $u(x)$ is a solution of the homogeneous equation $L(y) = 0$. Hence by Theorem 4.1.5, $u(x) = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_n y_n(x)$, and so

$$Y(x) - y_p(x) = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_n y_n(x)$$

or $\qquad\qquad Y(x) = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_n y_n(x) + y_p(x).$ ■

**COMPLEMENTARY FUNCTION** We see in Theorem 4.1.6 that the general solution of a nonhomogeneous linear equation consists of the sum of two functions:

$$y = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_n y_n(x) + y_p(x) = y_c(x) + y_p(x).$$

The linear combination $y_c(x) = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \cdots + c_n y_n(x)$, which is the general solution of (6), is called the **complementary function** for equation (7). In other words, to solve a nonhomogeneous linear differential equation, we first solve the associated homogeneous equation and then find any particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation. The general solution of the nonhomogeneous equation is then

$$y = \textit{complementary function} + \textit{any particular solution}$$
$$= y_c + y_p.$$

---

**EXAMPLE 10** **General Solution of a Nonhomogeneous DE**

By substitution the function $y_p = -\frac{11}{12} - \frac{1}{2}x$ is readily shown to be a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation

$$y''' - 6y'' + 11y' - 6y = 3x. \tag{11}$$

To write the general solution of (11), we must also be able to solve the associated homogeneous equation

$$y''' - 6y'' + 11y' - 6y = 0.$$

But in Example 9 we saw that the general solution of this latter equation on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ was $y_c = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{2x} + c_3 e^{3x}$. Hence the general solution of (11) on the interval is

$$y = y_c + y_p = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{2x} + c_3 e^{3x} - \frac{11}{12} - \frac{1}{2}x. \qquad \blacksquare$$

**ANOTHER SUPERPOSITION PRINCIPLE**  The last theorem of this discussion will be useful in Section 4.4 when we consider a method for finding particular solutions of nonhomogeneous equations.

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**THEOREM 4.1.7  Superposition Principle—Nonhomogeneous Equations**

Let $y_{p_1}, y_{p_2}, \ldots, y_{p_k}$ be $k$ particular solutions of the nonhomogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation (7) on an interval $I$ corresponding, in turn, to $k$ distinct functions $g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_k$. That is, suppose $y_{p_i}$ denotes a particular solution of the corresponding differential equation

$$a_n(x)y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(x)y^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = g_i(x), \quad (12)$$

where $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$. Then

$$y_p = y_{p_1}(x) + y_{p_2}(x) + \cdots + y_{p_k}(x) \qquad (13)$$

is a particular solution of

$$a_n(x)y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(x)y^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y$$
$$= g_1(x) + g_2(x) + \cdots + g_k(x). \qquad (14)$$

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**PROOF**  We prove the case $k = 2$. Let $L$ be the differential operator defined in (8) and let $y_{p_1}(x)$ and $y_{p_2}(x)$ be particular solutions of the nonhomogeneous equations $L(y) = g_1(x)$ and $L(y) = g_2(x)$, respectively. If we define $y_p = y_{p_1}(x) + y_{p_2}(x)$, we want to show that $y_p$ is a particular solution of $L(y) = g_1(x) + g_2(x)$. The result follows again by the linearity of the operator $L$:

$$L(y_p) = L\{y_{p_1}(x) + y_{p_2}(x)\} = L(y_{p_1}(x)) + L(y_{p_2}(x)) = g_1(x) + g_2(x). \qquad \blacksquare$$

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**EXAMPLE 11**   **Superposition—Nonhomogeneous DE**

You should verify that

$$y_{p_1} = -4x^2 \quad \text{is a particular solution of} \quad y'' - 3y' + 4y = -16x^2 + 24x - 8,$$
$$y_{p_2} = e^{2x} \quad \text{is a particular solution of} \quad y'' - 3y' + 4y = 2e^{2x},$$
$$y_{p_3} = xe^x \quad \text{is a particular solution of} \quad y'' - 3y' + 4y = 2xe^x - e^x.$$

It follows from (13) of Theorem 4.1.7 that the superposition of $y_{p_1}$, $y_{p_2}$, and $y_{p_3}$,

$$y = y_{p_1} + y_{p_2} + y_{p_3} = -4x^2 + e^{2x} + xe^x,$$

is a solution of

$$y'' - 3y' + 4y = \underbrace{-16x^2 + 24x - 8}_{g_1(x)} + \underbrace{2e^{2x}}_{g_2(x)} + \underbrace{2xe^x - e^x}_{g_3(x)}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

**NOTE** If the $y_{p_i}$ are particular solutions of (12) for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$, then the linear combination

$$y_p = c_1 y_{p_1} + c_2 y_{p_2} + \cdots + c_k y_{p_k},$$

where the $c_i$ are constants, is also a particular solution of (14) when the right-hand member of the equation is the linear combination

$$c_1 g_1(x) + c_2 g_2(x) + \cdots + c_k g_k(x).$$

Before we actually start solving homogeneous and nonhomogeneous linear differential equations, we need one additional bit of theory, which is presented in the next section.

### REMARKS

This remark is a continuation of the brief discussion of dynamical systems given at the end of Section 1.3.

A dynamical system whose rule or mathematical model is a linear $n$th-order differential equation

$$a_n(t)y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(t)y^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1(t)y' + a_0(t)y = g(t)$$

is said to be an $n$th-order **linear system.** The $n$ time-dependent functions $y(t)$, $y'(t), \ldots, y^{(n-1)}(t)$ are the **state variables** of the system. Recall that their values at some time $t$ give the **state of the system.** The function $g$ is variously called the **input function, forcing function,** or **excitation function.** A solution $y(t)$ of the differential equation is said to be the **output** or **response of the system.** Under the conditions stated in Theorem 4.1.1, the output or response $y(t)$ is uniquely determined by the input and the state of the system prescribed at a time $t_0$—that is, by the initial conditions $y(t_0), y'(t_0), \ldots, y^{(n-1)}(t_0)$.

For a dynamical system to be a linear system, it is necessary that the superposition principle (Theorem 4.1.7) holds in the system; that is, the response of the system to a superposition of inputs is a superposition of outputs. We have already examined some simple linear systems in Section 3.1 (linear first-order equations); in Section 5.1 we examine linear systems in which the mathematical models are second-order differential equations.

## EXERCISES 4.1

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-4.*

### 4.1.1 INITIAL-VALUE AND BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS

In Problems 1–4 the given family of functions is the general solution of the differential equation on the indicated interval. Find a member of the family that is a solution of the initial-value problem.

**1.** $y = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x}, (-\infty, \infty)$;
$y'' - y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1$

**2.** $y = c_1 e^{4x} + c_2 e^{-x}, (-\infty, \infty)$;
$y'' - 3y' - 4y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 2$

**3.** $y = c_1 x + c_2 x \ln x, (0, \infty)$;
$x^2 y'' - xy' + y = 0, \quad y(1) = 3, \quad y'(1) = -1$

**4.** $y = c_1 + c_2 \cos x + c_3 \sin x, (-\infty, \infty)$;
$y''' + y' = 0, \quad y(\pi) = 0, \quad y'(\pi) = 2, \quad y''(\pi) = -1$

**5.** Given that $y = c_1 + c_2 x^2$ is a two-parameter family of solutions of $xy'' - y' = 0$ on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, show that constants $c_1$ and $c_2$ cannot be found so that a member of the family satisfies the initial conditions $y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 1$. Explain why this does not violate Theorem 4.1.1.

**6.** Find two members of the family of solutions in Problem 5 that satisfy the initial conditions $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$.

**7.** Given that $x(t) = c_1 \cos \omega t + c_2 \sin \omega t$ is the general solution of $x'' + \omega^2 x = 0$ on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, show that a solution satisfying the initial conditions $x(0) = x_0, x'(0) = x_1$ is given by

$$x(t) = x_0 \cos \omega t + \frac{x_1}{\omega} \sin \omega t.$$

**8.** Use the general solution of $x'' + \omega^2 x = 0$ given in Problem 7 to show that a solution satisfying the initial conditions $x(t_0) = x_0$, $x'(t_0) = x_1$ is the solution given in Problem 7 shifted by an amount $t_0$:

$$x(t) = x_0 \cos \omega(t - t_0) + \frac{x_1}{\omega} \sin \omega(t - t_0).$$

In Problems 9 and 10 find an interval centered about $x = 0$ for which the given initial-value problem has a unique solution.

**9.** $(x - 2)y'' + 3y = x, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1$

**10.** $y'' + (\tan x)y = e^x, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 0$

**11. (a)** Use the family in Problem 1 to find a solution of $y'' - y = 0$ that satisfies the boundary conditions $y(0) = 0, y(1) = 1$.

**(b)** The DE in part (a) has the alternative general solution $y = c_3 \cosh x + c_4 \sinh x$ on $(-\infty, \infty)$. Use this family to find a solution that satisfies the boundary conditions in part (a).

**(c)** Show that the solutions in parts (a) and (b) are equivalent

**12.** Use the family in Problem 5 to find a solution of $xy'' - y' = 0$ that satisfies the boundary conditions $y(0) = 1, y'(1) = 6$.

In Problems 13 and 14 the given two-parameter family is a solution of the indicated differential equation on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$. Determine whether a member of the family can be found that satisfies the boundary conditions.

**13.** $y = c_1 e^x \cos x + c_2 e^x \sin x; \quad y'' - 2y' + 2y = 0$

**(a)** $y(0) = 1, \quad y'(\pi) = 0$    **(b)** $y(0) = 1, \quad y(\pi) = -1$

**(c)** $y(0) = 1, \quad y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 1$    **(d)** $y(0) = 0, \quad y(\pi) = 0.$

**14.** $y = c_1 x^2 + c_2 x^4 + 3; \quad x^2 y'' - 5xy' + 8y = 24$

**(a)** $y(-1) = 0, \quad y(1) = 4$    **(b)** $y(0) = 1, \quad y(1) = 2$

**(c)** $y(0) = 3, \quad y(1) = 0$    **(d)** $y(1) = 3, \quad y(2) = 15$

### 4.1.2 HOMOGENEOUS EQUATIONS

In Problems 15–22 determine whether the given set of functions is linearly independent on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**15.** $f_1(x) = x, \quad f_2(x) = x^2, \quad f_3(x) = 4x - 3x^2$

**16.** $f_1(x) = 0, \quad f_2(x) = x, \quad f_3(x) = e^x$

**17.** $f_1(x) = 5, \quad f_2(x) = \cos^2 x, \quad f_3(x) = \sin^2 x$

**18.** $f_1(x) = \cos 2x, \quad f_2(x) = 1, \quad f_3(x) = \cos^2 x$

**19.** $f_1(x) = x, \quad f_2(x) = x - 1, \quad f_3(x) = x + 3$

**20.** $f_1(x) = 2 + x, \quad f_2(x) = 2 + |x|$

**21.** $f_1(x) = 1 + x, \quad f_2(x) = x, \quad f_3(x) = x^2$

**22.** $f_1(x) = e^x, \quad f_2(x) = e^{-x}, \quad f_3(x) = \sinh x$

In Problems 23–30 verify that the given functions form a fundamental set of solutions of the differential equation on the indicated interval. Form the general solution.

**23.** $y'' - y' - 12y = 0; \quad e^{-3x}, e^{4x}, (-\infty, \infty)$

**24.** $y'' - 4y = 0; \quad \cosh 2x, \sinh 2x, (-\infty, \infty)$

**25.** $y'' - 2y' + 5y = 0; \quad e^x \cos 2x, e^x \sin 2x, (-\infty, \infty)$

**26.** $4y'' - 4y' + y = 0; \quad e^{x/2}, xe^{x/2}, (-\infty, \infty)$

**27.** $x^2 y'' - 6xy' + 12y = 0; \quad x^3, x^4, (0, \infty)$

**28.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + y = 0; \quad \cos(\ln x), \sin(\ln x), (0, \infty)$

**29.** $x^3 y''' + 6x^2 y'' + 4xy' - 4y = 0; \quad x, x^{-2}, x^{-2} \ln x, (0, \infty)$

**30.** $y^{(4)} + y'' = 0; \quad 1, x, \cos x, \sin x, (-\infty, \infty)$

### 4.1.3 NONHOMOGENEOUS EQUATIONS

In Problems 31–34 verify that the given two-parameter family of functions is the general solution of the nonhomogeneous differential equation on the indicated interval.

**31.** $y'' - 7y' + 10y = 24e^x;$
$y = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 e^{5x} + 6e^x, (-\infty, \infty)$

**32.** $y'' + y = \sec x;$
$y = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x + x \sin x + (\cos x) \ln(\cos x),$
$(-\pi/2, \pi/2)$

**33.** $y'' - 4y' + 4y = 2e^{2x} + 4x - 12;$
$y = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 xe^{2x} + x^2 e^{2x} + x - 2, (-\infty, \infty)$

**34.** $2x^2 y'' + 5xy' + y = x^2 - x;$
$y = c_1 x^{-1/2} + c_2 x^{-1} + \frac{1}{15}x^2 - \frac{1}{6}x, (0, \infty)$

**35. (a)** Verify that $y_{p_1} = 3e^{2x}$ and $y_{p_2} = x^2 + 3x$ are, respectively, particular solutions of

$$y'' - 6y' + 5y = -9e^{2x}$$

and $\quad y'' - 6y' + 5y = 5x^2 + 3x - 16.$

**(b)** Use part (a) to find particular solutions of

$$y'' - 6y' + 5y = 5x^2 + 3x - 16 - 9e^{2x}$$

and $\quad y'' - 6y' + 5y = -10x^2 - 6x + 32 + e^{2x}.$

**36. (a)** By inspection find a particular solution of

$$y'' + 2y = 10.$$

**(b)** By inspection find a particular solution of

$$y'' + 2y = -4x.$$

**(c)** Find a particular solution of $y'' + 2y = -4x + 10.$

**(d)** Find a particular solution of $y'' + 2y = 8x + 5.$

## Discussion Problems

**37.** Let $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ . Discuss how the observations $D^n x^{n-1} = 0$ and $D^n x^n = n!$ can be used to find the general solutions of the given differential equations.

 **(a)** $y'' = 0$ **(b)** $y''' = 0$ **(c)** $y^{(4)} = 0$

 **(d)** $y'' = 2$ **(e)** $y''' = 6$ **(f)** $y^{(4)} = 24$

**38.** Suppose that $y_1 = e^x$ and $y_2 = e^{-x}$ are two solutions of a homogeneous linear differential equation. Explain why $y_3 = \cosh x$ and $y_4 = \sinh x$ are also solutions of the equation.

**39. (a)** Verify that $y_1 = x^3$ and $y_2 = |x|^3$ are linearly independent solutions of the differential equation $x^2 y'' - 4xy' + 6y = 0$ on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

 **(b)** Show that $W(y_1, y_2) = 0$ for every real number $x$. Does this result violate Theorem 4.1.3? Explain.

 **(c)** Verify that $Y_1 = x^3$ and $Y_2 = x^2$ are also linearly independent solutions of the differential equation in part (a) on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

 **(d)** Find a solution of the differential equation satisfying $y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$.

**(e)** By the superposition principle, Theorem 4.1.2, both linear combinations $y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$ and $Y = c_1 Y_1 + c_2 Y_2$ are solutions of the differential equation. Discuss whether one, both, or neither of the linear combinations is a general solution of the differential equation on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**40.** Is the set of functions $f_1(x) = e^{x+2}$, $f_2(x) = e^{x-3}$ linearly dependent or linearly independent on $(-\infty, \infty)$? Discuss.

**41.** Suppose $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k$ are $k$ linearly independent solutions on $(-\infty, \infty)$ of a homogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation with constant coefficients. By Theorem 4.1.2 it follows that $y_{k+1} = 0$ is also a solution of the differential equation. Is the set of solutions $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k, y_{k+1}$ linearly dependent or linearly independent on $(-\infty, \infty)$? Discuss.

**42.** Suppose that $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k$ are $k$ nontrivial solutions of a homogeneous linear $n$th-order differential equation with constant coefficients and that $k = n + 1$. Is the set of solutions $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_k$ linearly dependent or linearly independent on $(-\infty, \infty)$? Discuss.

## 4.2 REDUCTION OF ORDER

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Section 2.5 (using a substitution)
- Section 4.1

**INTRODUCTION** In the preceding section we saw that the general solution of a homogeneous linear second-order differential equation

$$a_2(x)y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = 0 \qquad (1)$$

is a linear combination $y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$, where $y_1$ and $y_2$ are solutions that constitute a linearly independent set on some interval $I$. Beginning in the next section, we examine a method for determining these solutions when the coefficients of the differential equation in (1) are constants. This method, which is a straightforward exercise in algebra, breaks down in a few cases and yields only a single solution $y_1$ of the DE. It turns out that we can construct a second solution $y_2$ of a homogeneous equation (1) (even when the coefficients in (1) are variable) provided that we know a nontrivial solution $y_1$ of the DE. The basic idea described in this section is that *equation (1) can be reduced to a linear first-order DE by means of a substitution* involving the known solution $y_1$. A second solution $y_2$ of (1) is apparent after this first-order differential equation is solved.

**REDUCTION OF ORDER** Suppose that $y_1$ denotes a nontrivial solution of (1) and that $y_1$ is defined on an interval $I$. We seek a second solution $y_2$ so that the set consisting of $y_1$ and $y_2$ is linearly independent on $I$. Recall from Section 4.1 that if $y_1$ and $y_2$ are linearly independent, then their quotient $y_2/y_1$ is nonconstant on $I$—that is, $y_2(x)/y_1(x) = u(x)$ or $y_2(x) = u(x)y_1(x)$. The function $u(x)$ can be found by substituting $y_2(x) = u(x)y_1(x)$ into the given differential equation. This method is called **reduction of order** because we must solve a linear first-order differential equation to find $u$.

**EXAMPLE 1** A Second Solution by Reduction of Order

Given that $y_1 = e^x$ is a solution of $y'' - y = 0$ on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, use reduction of order to find a second solution $y_2$.

**SOLUTION** If $y = u(x)y_1(x) = u(x)e^x$, then the Product Rule gives

$$y' = ue^x + e^xu', \quad y'' = ue^x + 2e^xu' + e^xu'',$$

and so

$$y'' - y = e^x(u'' + 2u') = 0.$$

Since $e^x \neq 0$, the last equation requires $u'' + 2u' = 0$. If we make the substitution $w = u'$, this linear second-order equation in $u$ becomes $w' + 2w = 0$, which is a linear first-order equation in $w$. Using the integrating factor $e^{2x}$, we can write $\dfrac{d}{dx}[e^{2x}w] = 0$. After integrating, we get $w = c_1e^{-2x}$ or $u' = c_1e^{-2x}$. Integrating again then yields $u = -\frac{1}{2}c_1e^{-2x} + c_2$. Thus

$$y = u(x)e^x = -\frac{c_1}{2}e^{-x} + c_2e^x. \tag{2}$$

By picking $c_2 = 0$ and $c_1 = -2$, we obtain the desired second solution, $y_2 = e^{-x}$. Because $W(e^x, e^{-x}) \neq 0$ for every $x$, the solutions are linearly independent on $(-\infty, \infty)$. ∎

Since we have shown that $y_1 = e^x$ and $y_2 = e^{-x}$ are linearly independent solutions of a linear second-order equation, the expression in (2) is actually the general solution of $y'' - y = 0$ on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**GENERAL CASE** Suppose we divide by $a_2(x)$ to put equation (1) in the **standard form**

$$y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0, \tag{3}$$

where $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ are continuous on some interval $I$. Let us suppose further that $y_1(x)$ is a known solution of (3) on $I$ and that $y_1(x) \neq 0$ for every $x$ in the interval. If we define $y = u(x)y_1(x)$, it follows that

$$y' = uy_1' + y_1u', \quad y'' = uy_1'' + 2y_1'u' + y_1u''$$

$$y'' + Py' + Qy = u[\underbrace{y_1'' + Py_1' + Qy_1}_{\text{zero}}] + y_1u'' + (2y_1' + Py_1)u' = 0.$$

This implies that we must have

$$y_1u'' + (2y_1' + Py_1)u' = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad y_1w' + (2y_1' + Py_1)w = 0, \tag{4}$$

where we have let $w = u'$. Observe that the last equation in (4) is both linear and separable. Separating variables and integrating, we obtain

$$\frac{dw}{w} + 2\frac{y_1'}{y_1}dx + P\,dx = 0$$

$$\ln|wy_1^2| = -\int P\,dx + c \quad \text{or} \quad wy_1^2 = c_1e^{-\int P\,dx}.$$

We solve the last equation for $w$, use $w = u'$, and integrate again:

$$u = c_1\int \frac{e^{-\int P\,dx}}{y_1^2}\,dx + c_2.$$

By choosing $c_1 = 1$ and $c_2 = 0$, we find from $y = u(x)y_1(x)$ that a second solution of equation (3) is

$$y_2 = y_1(x) \int \frac{e^{-\int P(x)\,dx}}{y_1^2(x)}\,dx. \qquad (5)$$

It makes a good review of differentiation to verify that the function $y_2(x)$ defined in (5) satisfies equation (3) and that $y_1$ and $y_2$ are linearly independent on any interval on which $y_1(x)$ is not zero.

### EXAMPLE 2    A Second Solution by Formula (5)

The function $y_1 = x^2$ is a solution of $x^2 y'' - 3xy' + 4y = 0$. Find the general solution of the differential equation on the interval $(0, \infty)$.

**SOLUTION**    From the standard form of the equation,

$$y'' - \frac{3}{x} y' + \frac{4}{x^2} y = 0,$$

we find from (5)

$$y_2 = x^2 \int \frac{e^{3\int dx/x}}{x^4}\,dx \qquad \leftarrow e^{3\int dx/x} = e^{\ln x^3} = x^3$$

$$= x^2 \int \frac{dx}{x} = x^2 \ln x.$$

The general solution on the interval $(0, \infty)$ is given by $y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$; that is,

$$y = c_1 x^2 + c_2 x^2 \ln x. \qquad \blacksquare$$

### REMARKS

(*i*)  The derivation and use of formula (5) have been illustrated here because this formula appears again in the next section and in Sections 4.7 and 6.2. We use (5) simply to save time in obtaining a desired result. Your instructor will tell you whether you should memorize (5) or whether you should know the first principles of reduction of order.

(*ii*)  Reduction of order can be used to find the general solution of a nonhomogeneous equation $a_2(x)y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = g(x)$ whenever a solution $y_1$ of the associated homogeneous equation is known. See Problems 17–20 in Exercises 4.2.

## EXERCISES 4.2

In Problems 1–16 the indicated function $y_1(x)$ is a solution of the given differential equation. Use reduction of order or formula (5), as instructed, to find a second solution $y_2(x)$.

**1.** $y'' - 4y' + 4y = 0$;   $y_1 = e^{2x}$

**2.** $y'' + 2y' + y = 0$;   $y_1 = xe^{-x}$

**3.** $y'' + 16y = 0$;   $y_1 = \cos 4x$

**4.** $y'' + 9y = 0$;   $y_1 = \sin 3x$

**5.** $y'' - y = 0$;   $y_1 = \cosh x$

**6.** $y'' - 25y = 0$;   $y_1 = e^{5x}$

**7.** $9y'' - 12y' + 4y = 0$;   $y_1 = e^{2x/3}$

**8.** $6y'' + y' - y = 0$;   $y_1 = e^{x/3}$

**9.** $x^2 y'' - 7xy' + 16y = 0$;   $y_1 = x^4$

**10.** $x^2 y'' + 2xy' - 6y = 0$;   $y_1 = x^2$

**11.** $xy'' + y' = 0$;   $y_1 = \ln x$

**12.** $4x^2 y'' + y = 0$;   $y_1 = x^{1/2} \ln x$

**13.** $x^2 y'' - xy' + 2y = 0$;   $y_1 = x \sin(\ln x)$

**14.** $x^2 y'' - 3xy' + 5y = 0$;   $y_1 = x^2 \cos(\ln x)$

**15.** $(1 - 2x - x^2)y'' + 2(1 + x)y' - 2y = 0;$  $y_1 = x + 1$

**16.** $(1 - x^2)y'' + 2xy' = 0;$  $y_1 = 1$

In Problems 17–20 the indicated function $y_1(x)$ is a solution of the associated homogeneous equation. Use the method of reduction of order to find a second solution $y_2(x)$ of the homogeneous equation and a particular solution of the given nonhomogeneous equation.

**17.** $y'' - 4y = 2;$  $y_1 = e^{-2x}$

**18.** $y'' + y' = 1;$  $y_1 = 1$

**19.** $y'' - 3y' + 2y = 5e^{3x};$  $y_1 = e^x$

**20.** $y'' - 4y' + 3y = x;$  $y_1 = e^x$

### Discussion Problems

**21. (a)** Give a convincing demonstration that the second-order equation $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$, $a$, $b$, and $c$ constants, always possesses at least one solution of the form $y_1 = e^{m_1 x}$, $m_1$ a constant.

**(b)** Explain why the differential equation in part (a) must then have a second solution either of the form

$y_2 = e^{m_2 x}$ or of the form $y_2 = xe^{m_1 x}$, $m_1$ and $m_2$ constants.

**(c)** Reexamine Problems 1–8. Can you explain why the statements in parts (a) and (b) above are not contradicted by the answers to Problems 3–5?

**22.** Verify that $y_1(x) = x$ is a solution of $xy'' - xy' + y = 0$. Use reduction of order to find a second solution $y_2(x)$ in the form of an infinite series. Conjecture an interval of definition for $y_2(x)$.

### Computer Lab Assignments

**23. (a)** Verify that $y_1(x) = e^x$ is a solution of

$$xy'' - (x + 10)y' + 10y = 0.$$

**(b)** Use (5) to find a second solution $y_2(x)$. Use a CAS to carry out the required integration.

**(c)** Explain, using Corollary (A) of Theorem 4.1.2, why the second solution can be written compactly as

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{10} \frac{1}{n!} x^n.$$

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## 4.3 HOMOGENEOUS LINEAR EQUATIONS WITH CONSTANT COEFFICIENTS

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Review Problem 27 in Exercises 1.1 and Theorem 4.1.5
- Review the algebra of solving polynomial equations (see the *Student Resource and Solutions Manual*)

**INTRODUCTION**  As a means of motivating the discussion in this section, let us return to first-order differential equations—more specifically, to *homogeneous* linear equations $ay' + by = 0$, where the coefficients $a \neq 0$ and $b$ are constants. This type of equation can be solved either by separation of variables or with the aid of an integrating factor, but there is another solution method, one that uses only algebra. Before illustrating this alternative method, we make one observation: Solving $ay' + by = 0$ for $y'$ yields $y' = ky$, where $k$ is a constant. This observation reveals the nature of the unknown solution $y$; the only nontrivial elementary function whose derivative is a constant multiple of itself is an exponential function $e^{mx}$. Now the new solution method: If we substitute $y = e^{mx}$ and $y' = me^{mx}$ into $ay' + by = 0$, we get

$$ame^{mx} + be^{mx} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad e^{mx}(am + b) = 0.$$

Since $e^{mx}$ is never zero for real values of $x$, the last equation is satisfied only when $m$ is a solution or root of the first-degree polynomial equation $am + b = 0$. For this single value of $m$, $y = e^{mx}$ is a solution of the DE. To illustrate, consider the constant-coefficient equation $2y' + 5y = 0$. It is not necessary to go through the differentiation and substitution of $y = e^{mx}$ into the DE; we merely have to form the equation $2m + 5 = 0$ and solve it for $m$. From $m = -\frac{5}{2}$ we conclude that $y = e^{-5x/2}$ is a solution of $2y' + 5y = 0$, and its general solution on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ is $y = c_1 e^{-5x/2}$.

In this section we will see that the foregoing procedure can produce exponential solutions for homogeneous linear higher-order DEs,

$$a_n y^{(n)} + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_2 y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0, \qquad (1)$$

where the coefficients $a_i$, $i = 0, 1, \ldots, n$ are real constants and $a_n \neq 0$.

**AUXILIARY EQUATION** We begin by considering the special case of the second-order equation

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0, \tag{2}$$

where $a$, $b$, and $c$ are constants. If we try to find a solution of the form $y = e^{mx}$, then after substitution of $y' = me^{mx}$ and $y'' = m^2 e^{mx}$, equation (2) becomes

$$am^2 e^{mx} + bme^{mx} + ce^{mx} = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad e^{mx}(am^2 + bm + c) = 0.$$

As in the introduction we argue that because $e^{mx} \neq 0$ for all $x$, it is apparent that the only way $y = e^{mx}$ can satisfy the differential equation (2) is when $m$ is chosen as a root of the quadratic equation

$$am^2 + bm + c = 0. \tag{3}$$

This last equation is called the **auxiliary equation** of the differential equation (2). Since the two roots of (3) are $m_1 = (-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$ and $m_2 = (-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$, there will be three forms of the general solution of (2) corresponding to the three cases:

- $m_1$ and $m_2$ real and distinct ($b^2 - 4ac > 0$),
- $m_1$ and $m_2$ real and equal ($b^2 - 4ac = 0$), and
- $m_1$ and $m_2$ conjugate complex numbers ($b^2 - 4ac < 0$).

We discuss each of these cases in turn.

**CASE I: DISTINCT REAL ROOTS** Under the assumption that the auxiliary equation (3) has two unequal real roots $m_1$ and $m_2$, we find two solutions, $y_1 = e^{m_1 x}$ and $y_2 = e^{m_2 x}$. We see that these functions are linearly independent on $(-\infty, \infty)$ and hence form a fundamental set. It follows that the general solution of (2) on this interval is

$$y = c_1 e^{m_1 x} + c_2 e^{m_2 x}. \tag{4}$$

**CASE II: REPEATED REAL ROOTS** When $m_1 = m_2$, we necessarily obtain only one exponential solution, $y_1 = e^{m_1 x}$. From the quadratic formula we find that $m_1 = -b/2a$ since the only way to have $m_1 = m_2$ is to have $b^2 - 4ac = 0$. It follows from (5) in Section 4.2 that a second solution of the equation is

$$y_2 = e^{m_1 x} \int \frac{e^{2m_1 x}}{e^{2m_1 x}} \, dx = e^{m_1 x} \int dx = xe^{m_1 x}. \tag{5}$$

In (5) we have used the fact that $-b/a = 2m_1$. The general solution is then

$$y = c_1 e^{m_1 x} + c_2 xe^{m_1 x}. \tag{6}$$

**CASE III: CONJUGATE COMPLEX ROOTS** If $m_1$ and $m_2$ are complex, then we can write $m_1 = \alpha + i\beta$ and $m_2 = \alpha - i\beta$, where $\alpha$ and $\beta > 0$ are real and $i^2 = -1$. Formally, there is no difference between this case and Case I, and hence

$$y = C_1 e^{(\alpha + i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha - i\beta)x}.$$

However, in practice we prefer to work with real functions instead of complex exponentials. To this end we use **Euler's formula:**

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta,$$

where $\theta$ is any real number.[*] It follows from this formula that

$$e^{i\beta x} = \cos \beta x + i \sin \beta x \qquad \text{and} \qquad e^{-i\beta x} = \cos \beta x - i \sin \beta x, \tag{7}$$

---

[*]A formal derivation of Euler's formula can be obtained from the Maclaurin series $e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \dfrac{x^n}{n!}$ by substituting $x = i\theta$, using $i^2 = -1$, $i^3 = -i$, ..., and then separating the series into real and imaginary parts. The plausibility thus established, we can adopt $\cos \theta + i \sin \theta$ as the *definition* of $e^{i\theta}$.

where we have used $\cos(-\beta x) = \cos \beta x$ and $\sin(-\beta x) = -\sin \beta x$. Note that by first adding and then subtracting the two equations in (7), we obtain, respectively,

$$e^{i\beta x} + e^{-i\beta x} = 2 \cos \beta x \qquad \text{and} \qquad e^{i\beta x} - e^{-i\beta x} = 2i \sin \beta x.$$

Since $y = C_1 e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}$ is a solution of (2) for any choice of the constants $C_1$ and $C_2$, the choices $C_1 = C_2 = 1$ and $C_1 = 1$, $C_2 = -1$ give, in turn, two solutions:

$$y_1 = e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} + e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x} \qquad \text{and} \qquad y_2 = e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} - e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}.$$

But

$$y_1 = e^{\alpha x}(e^{i\beta x} + e^{-i\beta x}) = 2e^{\alpha x} \cos \beta x$$

and

$$y_2 = e^{\alpha x}(e^{i\beta x} - e^{-i\beta x}) = 2ie^{\alpha x} \sin \beta x.$$

Hence from Corollary (A) of Theorem 4.1.2 the last two results show that $e^{\alpha x} \cos \beta x$ and $e^{\alpha x} \sin \beta x$ are *real* solutions of (2). Moreover, these solutions form a fundamental set on $(-\infty, \infty)$. Consequently, the general solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{\alpha x} \cos \beta x + c_2 e^{\alpha x} \sin \beta x = e^{\alpha x}(c_1 \cos \beta x + c_2 \sin \beta x). \tag{8}$$

---

### EXAMPLE 1   Second-Order DEs

Solve the following differential equations.

**(a)** $2y'' - 5y' - 3y = 0$     **(b)** $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 0$     **(c)** $y'' + 4y' + 7y = 0$

**SOLUTION** We give the auxiliary equations, the roots, and the corresponding general solutions.

**(a)** $2m^2 - 5m - 3 = (2m + 1)(m - 3) = 0$,    $m_1 = -\frac{1}{2}$, $m_2 = 3$

From (4), $y = c_1 e^{-x/2} + c_2 e^{3x}$.

**(b)** $m^2 - 10m + 25 = (m - 5)^2 = 0$,    $m_1 = m_2 = 5$

From (6), $y = c_1 e^{5x} + c_2 x e^{5x}$.

**(c)** $m^2 + 4m + 7 = 0$, $m_1 = -2 + \sqrt{3}i$,    $m_2 = -2 - \sqrt{3}i$

From (8) with $\alpha = -2$, $\beta = \sqrt{3}$, $y = e^{-2x}\left(c_1 \cos \sqrt{3}x + c_2 \sin \sqrt{3}x\right)$. ∎

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### EXAMPLE 2   An Initial-Value Problem

Solve $4y'' + 4y' + 17y = 0$, $y(0) = -1$, $y'(0) = 2$.
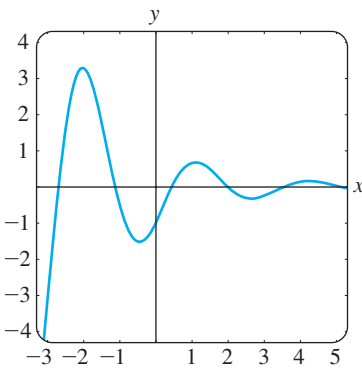


**FIGURE 4.3.1** Solution curve of IVP in Example 2

**SOLUTION** By the quadratic formula we find that the roots of the auxiliary equation $4m^2 + 4m + 17 = 0$ are $m_1 = -\frac{1}{2} + 2i$ and $m_2 = -\frac{1}{2} - 2i$. Thus from (8) we have $y = e^{-x/2}(c_1 \cos 2x + c_2 \sin 2x)$. Applying the condition $y(0) = -1$, we see from $e^0(c_1 \cos 0 + c_2 \sin 0) = -1$ that $c_1 = -1$. Differentiating $y = e^{-x/2}(-\cos 2x + c_2 \sin 2x)$ and then using $y'(0) = 2$ gives $2c_2 + \frac{1}{2} = 2$ or $c_2 = \frac{3}{4}$. Hence the solution of the IVP is $y = e^{-x/2}(-\cos 2x + \frac{3}{4} \sin 2x)$. In Figure 4.3.1 we see that the solution is oscillatory, but $y \to 0$ as $x \to \infty$ and $|y| \to \infty$ as $x \to -\infty$. ∎

**TWO EQUATIONS WORTH KNOWING** The two differential equations

$$y'' + k^2 y = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad y'' - k^2 y = 0,$$

where $k$ is real, are important in applied mathematics. For $y'' + k^2 y = 0$ the auxiliary equation $m^2 + k^2 = 0$ has imaginary roots $m_1 = ki$ and $m_2 = -ki$. With $\alpha = 0$ and $\beta = k$ in (8) the general solution of the DE is seen to be

$$y = c_1 \cos kx + c_2 \sin kx. \tag{9}$$

On the other hand, the auxiliary equation $m^2 - k^2 = 0$ for $y'' - k^2 y = 0$ has distinct real roots $m_1 = k$ and $m_2 = -k$, and so by (4) the general solution of the DE is

$$y = c_1 e^{kx} + c_2 e^{-kx}. \tag{10}$$

Notice that if we choose $c_1 = c_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ and $c_1 = \frac{1}{2}$, $c_2 = -\frac{1}{2}$ in (10), we get the particular solutions $y = \frac{1}{2}(e^{kx} + e^{-kx}) = \cosh kx$ and $y = \frac{1}{2}(e^{kx} - e^{-kx}) = \sinh kx$. Since $\cosh kx$ and $\sinh kx$ are linearly independent on any interval of the $x$-axis, an alternative form for the general solution of $y'' - k^2 y = 0$ is

$$y = c_1 \cosh kx + c_2 \sinh kx. \tag{11}$$

See Problems 41 and 42 in Exercises 4.3.

**HIGHER-ORDER EQUATIONS** In general, to solve an $n$th-order differential equation (1), where the $a_i$, $i = 0, 1, \ldots, n$ are real constants, we must solve an $n$th-degree polynomial equation

$$a_n m^n + a_{n-1} m^{n-1} + \cdots + a_2 m^2 + a_1 m + a_0 = 0. \tag{12}$$

If all the roots of (12) are real and distinct, then the general solution of (1) is

$$y = c_1 e^{m_1 x} + c_2 e^{m_2 x} + \cdots + c_n e^{m_n x}.$$

It is somewhat harder to summarize the analogues of Cases II and III because the roots of an auxiliary equation of degree greater than two can occur in many combinations. For example, a fifth-degree equation could have five distinct real roots, or three distinct real and two complex roots, or one real and four complex roots, or five real but equal roots, or five real roots but two of them equal, and so on. When $m_1$ is a root of multiplicity $k$ of an $n$th-degree auxiliary equation (that is, $k$ roots are equal to $m_1$), it can be shown that the linearly independent solutions are

$$e^{m_1 x}, \quad x e^{m_1 x}, \quad x^2 e^{m_1 x}, \ldots, \quad x^{k-1} e^{m_1 x}$$

and the general solution must contain the linear combination

$$c_1 e^{m_1 x} + c_2 x e^{m_1 x} + c_3 x^2 e^{m_1 x} + \cdots + c_k x^{k-1} e^{m_1 x}.$$

Finally, it should be remembered that when the coefficients are real, complex roots of an auxiliary equation always appear in conjugate pairs. Thus, for example, a cubic polynomial equation can have at most two complex roots.

---

**EXAMPLE 3**   **Third-Order DE**

Solve $y''' + 3y'' - 4y = 0$.

**SOLUTION**   It should be apparent from inspection of $m^3 + 3m^2 - 4 = 0$ that one root is $m_1 = 1$, so $m - 1$ is a factor of $m^3 + 3m^2 - 4$. By division we find

$$m^3 + 3m^2 - 4 = (m - 1)(m^2 + 4m + 4) = (m - 1)(m + 2)^2,$$

so the other roots are $m_2 = m_3 = -2$. Thus the general solution of the DE is $y = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-2x} + c_3 x e^{-2x}$.  ∎

---

## EXAMPLE 4    Fourth-Order DE

Solve $\dfrac{d^4y}{dx^4} + 2\dfrac{d^2y}{dx^2} + y = 0$.

**SOLUTION**  The auxiliary equation $m^4 + 2m^2 + 1 = (m^2 + 1)^2 = 0$ has roots $m_1 = m_3 = i$ and $m_2 = m_4 = -i$. Thus from Case II the solution is

$$y = C_1 e^{ix} + C_2 e^{-ix} + C_3 x e^{ix} + C_4 x e^{-ix}.$$

By Euler's formula the grouping $C_1 e^{ix} + C_2 e^{-ix}$ can be rewritten as

$$c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x$$

after a relabeling of constants. Similarly, $x(C_3 e^{ix} + C_4 e^{-ix})$ can be expressed as $x(c_3 \cos x + c_4 \sin x)$. Hence the general solution is

$$y = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x + c_3 x \cos x + c_4 x \sin x. \qquad ■$$

Example 4 illustrates a special case when the auxiliary equation has repeated complex roots. In general, if $m_1 = \alpha + i\beta$, $\beta > 0$ is a complex root of multiplicity $k$ of an auxiliary equation with real coefficients, then its conjugate $m_2 = \alpha - i\beta$ is also a root of multiplicity $k$. From the $2k$ complex-valued solutions

$$e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x}, \quad xe^{(\alpha+i\beta)x}, \quad x^2 e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x}, \quad \ldots, \quad x^{k-1}e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x},$$

$$e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}, \quad xe^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}, \quad x^2 e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}, \quad \ldots, \quad x^{k-1}e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x},$$

we conclude, with the aid of Euler's formula, that the general solution of the corresponding differential equation must then contain a linear combination of the $2k$ real linearly independent solutions

$$e^{\alpha x}\cos \beta x, \quad xe^{\alpha x}\cos \beta x, \quad x^2 e^{\alpha x}\cos \beta x, \quad \ldots, \quad x^{k-1}e^{\alpha x}\cos \beta x,$$

$$e^{\alpha x}\sin \beta x, \quad xe^{\alpha x}\sin \beta x, \quad x^2 e^{\alpha x}\sin \beta x, \quad \ldots, \quad x^{k-1}e^{\alpha x}\sin \beta x.$$

In Example 4 we identify $k = 2$, $\alpha = 0$, and $\beta = 1$.

Of course the most difficult aspect of solving constant-coefficient differential equations is finding roots of auxiliary equations of degree greater than two. For example, to solve $3y''' + 5y'' + 10y' - 4y = 0$, we must solve $3m^3 + 5m^2 + 10m - 4 = 0$. Something we can try is to test the auxiliary equation for rational roots. Recall that if $m_1 = p/q$ is a rational root (expressed in lowest terms) of an auxiliary equation $a_n m^n + \cdots + a_1 m + a_0 = 0$ with integer coefficients, then $p$ is a factor of $a_0$ and $q$ is a factor of $a_n$. For our specific cubic auxiliary equation, all the factors of $a_0 = -4$ and $a_n = 3$ are $p$: $\pm1$, $\pm2$, $\pm4$ and $q$: $\pm1$, $\pm3$, so the possible rational roots are $p/q$: $\pm1, \pm2, \pm4, \pm\frac{1}{3}, \pm\frac{2}{3}, \pm\frac{4}{3}$ Each of these numbers can then be tested—say, by synthetic division. In this way we discover both the root $m_1 = \frac{1}{3}$ and the factorization

$$3m^3 + 5m^2 + 10m - 4 = \left(m - \tfrac{1}{3}\right)(3m^2 + 6m + 12).$$

The quadratic formula then yields the remaining roots $m_2 = -1 + \sqrt{3}i$ and $m_3 = -1 - \sqrt{3}i$. Therefore the general solution of $3y''' + 5y'' + 10y' - 4y = 0$ is $y = c_1 e^{x/3} + e^{-x}(c_2 \cos \sqrt{3}x + c_3 \sin \sqrt{3}x)$.

**USE OF COMPUTERS**  Finding roots or approximation of roots of auxiliary equations is a routine problem with an appropriate calculator or computer software. Polynomial equations (in one variable) of degree less than five can be solved by means of algebraic formulas using the *solve* commands in *Mathematica* and *Maple*. For auxiliary equations of degree five or greater it might be necessary to resort to numerical commands such as **NSolve** and **FindRoot** in *Mathematica*. Because of their capability of solving polynomial equations, it is not surprising that these computer algebra

systems are also able, by means of their *dsolve* commands, to provide explicit solutions of homogeneous linear constant-coefficient differential equations.

In the classic text *Differential Equations* by Ralph Palmer Agnew[*] (used by the author as a student) the following statement is made:

> It is not reasonable to expect students in this course to have computing skill and equipment necessary for efficient solving of equations such as

$$4.317 \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} + 2.179 \frac{d^3y}{dx^3} + 1.416 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 1.295 \frac{dy}{dx} + 3.169y = 0. \quad (13)$$

Although it is debatable whether computing skills have improved in the intervening years, it is a certainty that technology has. If one has access to a computer algebra system, equation (13) could now be considered reasonable. After simplification and some relabeling of output, *Mathematica* yields the (approximate) general solution

$$y = c_1 e^{-0.728852x} \cos(0.618605x) + c_2 e^{-0.728852x} \sin(0.618605x)$$

$$+ c_3 e^{0.476478x} \cos(0.759081x) + c_4 e^{0.476478x} \sin(0.759081x).$$

Finally, if we are faced with an initial-value problem consisting of, say, a fourth-order equation, then to fit the general solution of the DE to the four initial conditions, we must solve four linear equations in four unknowns (the $c_1$, $c_2$, $c_3$, $c_4$ in the general solution). Using a CAS to solve the system can save lots of time. See Problems 59 and 60 in Exercises 4.3 and Problem 35 in Chapter 4 in Review.

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## EXERCISES 4.3

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-4.*

In Problems 1–14 find the general solution of the given second-order differential equation.

**1.** $4y'' + y' = 0$

**2.** $y'' - 36y = 0$

**3.** $y'' - y' - 6y = 0$

**4.** $y'' - 3y' + 2y = 0$

**5.** $y'' + 8y' + 16y = 0$

**6.** $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 0$

**7.** $12y'' - 5y' - 2y = 0$

**8.** $y'' + 4y' - y = 0$

**9.** $y'' + 9y = 0$

**10.** $3y'' + y = 0$

**11.** $y'' - 4y' + 5y = 0$

**12.** $2y'' + 2y' + y = 0$

**13.** $3y'' + 2y' + y = 0$

**14.** $2y'' - 3y' + 4y = 0$

In Problems 15–28 find the general solution of the given higher-order differential equation.

**15.** $y''' - 4y'' - 5y' = 0$

**16.** $y''' - y = 0$

**17.** $y''' - 5y'' + 3y' + 9y = 0$

**18.** $y''' + 3y'' - 4y' - 12y = 0$

**19.** $\dfrac{d^3u}{dt^3} + \dfrac{d^2u}{dt^2} - 2u = 0$

**20.** $\dfrac{d^3x}{dt^3} - \dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} - 4x = 0$

**21.** $y''' + 3y'' + 3y' + y = 0$

**22.** $y''' - 6y'' + 12y' - 8y = 0$

**23.** $y^{(4)} + y''' + y'' = 0$

**24.** $y^{(4)} - 2y'' + y = 0$

**25.** $16 \dfrac{d^4y}{dx^4} + 24 \dfrac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 9y = 0$

**26.** $\dfrac{d^4y}{dx^4} - 7 \dfrac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 18y = 0$

**27.** $\dfrac{d^5u}{dr^5} + 5 \dfrac{d^4u}{dr^4} - 2 \dfrac{d^3u}{dr^3} - 10 \dfrac{d^2u}{dr^2} + \dfrac{du}{dr} + 5u = 0$

**28.** $2 \dfrac{d^5x}{ds^5} - 7 \dfrac{d^4x}{ds^4} + 12 \dfrac{d^3x}{ds^3} + 8 \dfrac{d^2x}{ds^2} = 0$

In Problems 29–36 solve the given initial-value problem.

**29.** $y'' + 16y = 0, \quad y(0) = 2, y'(0) = -2$

**30.** $\dfrac{d^2y}{d\theta^2} + y = 0, \quad y\left(\dfrac{\pi}{3}\right) = 0, y'\left(\dfrac{\pi}{3}\right) = 2$

**31.** $\dfrac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 4\dfrac{dy}{dt} - 5y = 0, \quad y(1) = 0, \, y'(1) = 2$

**32.** $4y'' - 4y' - 3y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \, y'(0) = 5$

**33.** $y'' + y' + 2y = 0, \quad y(0) = y'(0) = 0$

**34.** $y'' - 2y' + y = 0, \quad y(0) = 5, \, y'(0) = 10$

**35.** $y''' + 12y'' + 36y' = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \, y'(0) = 1, \, y''(0) = -7$

**36.** $y''' + 2y'' - 5y' - 6y = 0, \quad y(0) = y'(0) = 0, \, y''(0) = 1$

In Problems 37–40 solve the given boundary-value problem.

**37.** $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \, y(1) = 0$

**38.** $y'' + 4y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \, y(\pi) = 0$

**39.** $y'' + y = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0, \, y'\!\left(\dfrac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$

**40.** $y'' - 2y' + 2y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \, y(\pi) = 1$

In Problems 41 and 42 solve the given problem first using the form of the general solution given in (10). Solve again, this time using the form given in (11).

**41.** $y'' - 3y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \, y'(0) = 5$

**42.** $y'' - y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \, y'(1) = 0$

In Problems 43–48 each figure represents the graph of a particular solution of one of the following differential equations:

    **(a)** $y'' - 3y' - 4y = 0$     **(b)** $y'' + 4y = 0$
    **(c)** $y'' + 2y' + y = 0$     **(d)** $y'' + y = 0$
    **(e)** $y'' + 2y' + 2y = 0$     **(f)** $y'' - 3y' + 2y = 0$

Match a solution curve with one of the differential equations. Explain your reasoning.

**43.**
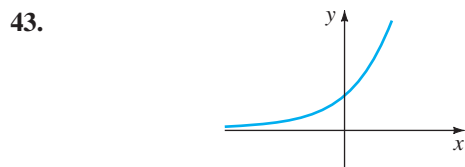


**FIGURE 4.3.2** Graph for Problem 43

**44.**
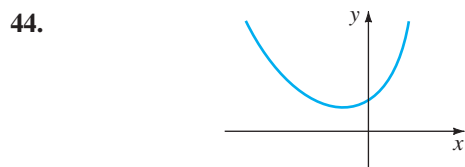


**FIGURE 4.3.3** Graph for Problem 44

**45.**
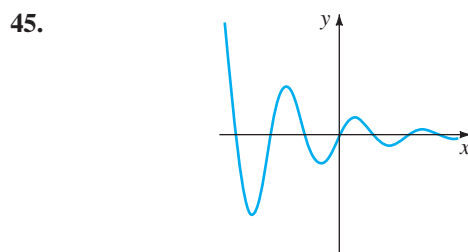


**FIGURE 4.3.4** Graph for Problem 45

**46.**
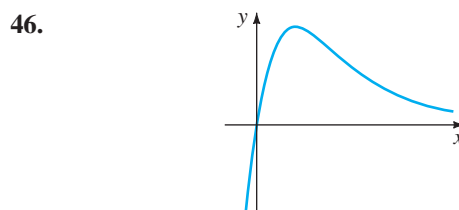


**FIGURE 4.3.5** Graph for Problem 46

**47.**
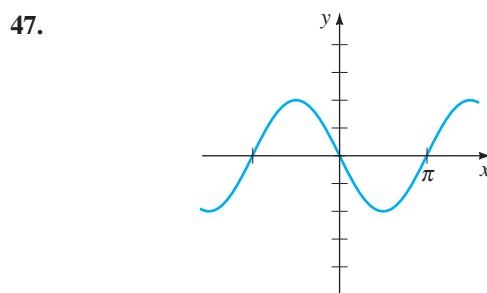


**FIGURE 4.3.6** Graph for Problem 47

**48.**
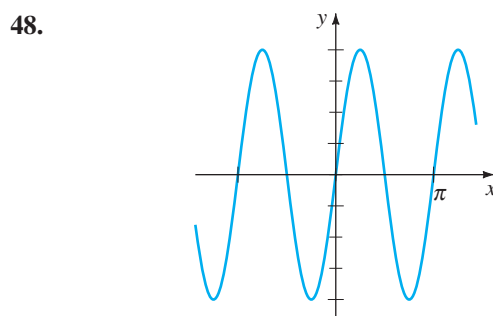


**FIGURE 4.3.7** Graph for Problem 48

## Discussion Problems

**49.** The roots of a cubic auxiliary equation are $m_1 = 4$ and $m_2 = m_3 = -5$. What is the corresponding homogeneous linear differential equation? Discuss: Is your answer unique?

**50.** Two roots of a cubic auxiliary equation with real coefficients are $m_1 = -\dfrac{1}{2}$ and $m_2 = 3 + i$. What is the corresponding homogeneous linear differential equation?

**51.** Find the general solution of $y''' + 6y'' + y' - 34y = 0$ if it is known that $y_1 = e^{-4x} \cos x$ is one solution.

**52.** To solve $y^{(4)} + y = 0$, we must find the roots of $m^4 + 1 = 0$. This is a trivial problem using a CAS but can also be done by hand working with complex numbers. Observe that $m^4 + 1 = (m^2 + 1)^2 - 2m^2$. How does this help? Solve the differential equation.

**53.** Verify that $y = \sinh x - 2 \cos (x + \pi/6)$ is a particular solution of $y^{(4)} - y = 0$. Reconcile this particular solution with the general solution of the DE.

**54.** Consider the boundary-value problem $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y(\pi/2) = 0$. Discuss: Is it possible to determine values of $\lambda$ so that the problem possesses **(a)** trivial solutions? **(b)** nontrivial solutions?

### Computer Lab Assignments

In Problems 55–58 use a computer either as an aid in solving the auxiliary equation or as a means of directly obtaining the general solution of the given differential equation. If you use a CAS to obtain the general solution, simplify the output and, if necessary, write the solution in terms of real functions.

**55.** $y''' - 6y'' + 2y' + y = 0$

**56.** $6.11y''' + 8.59y'' + 7.93y' + 0.778y = 0$

**57.** $3.15y^{(4)} - 5.34y'' + 6.33y' - 2.03y = 0$

**58.** $y^{(4)} + 2y'' - y' + 2y = 0$

In Problems 59 and 60 use a CAS as an aid in solving the auxiliary equation. Form the general solution of the differential equation. Then use a CAS as an aid in solving the system of equations for the coefficients $c_i$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ that results when the initial conditions are applied to the general solution.

**59.** $2y^{(4)} + 3y''' - 16y'' + 15y' - 4y = 0$, $y(0) = -2, y'(0) = 6, y''(0) = 3, y'''(0) = \frac{1}{2}$

**60.** $y^{(4)} - 3y''' + 3y'' - y' = 0$, $y(0) = y'(0) = 0, y''(0) = y'''(0) = 1$

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## 4.4 UNDETERMINED COEFFICIENTS—SUPERPOSITION APPROACH*

### REVIEW MATERIAL
● Review Theorems 4.1.6 and 4.1.7 (Section 4.1)

**INTRODUCTION**  To solve a nonhomogeneous linear differential equation

$$a_n y^{(n)} + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1 y' + a_0 y = g(x), \tag{1}$$

we must do two things:

● find the complementary function $y_c$ and
● find *any* particular solution $y_p$ of the nonhomogeneous equation (1).

Then, as was discussed in Section 4.1, the general solution of (1) is $y = y_c + y_p$. The complementary function $y_c$ is the general solution of the associated homogeneous DE of (1), that is,

$$a_n y^{(n)} + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0.$$

In Section 4.3 we saw how to solve these kinds of equations when the coefficients were constants. Our goal in the present section is to develop a method for obtaining particular solutions.

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*Note to the Instructor: In this section the method of undetermined coefficients is developed from the viewpoint of the superposition principle for nonhomogeneous equations (Theorem 4.7.1). In Section 4.5 an entirely different approach will be presented, one utilizing the concept of differential annihilator operators. Take your pick.

**METHOD OF UNDETERMINED COEFFICIENTS**    The first of two ways we shall consider for obtaining a particular solution $y_p$ for a nonhomogeneous linear DE is called the **method of undetermined coefficients.** The underlying idea behind this method is a conjecture about the form of $y_p$, an educated guess really, that is motivated by the kinds of functions that make up the input function $g(x)$. The general method is limited to linear DEs such as (1) where

- the coefficients $a_i$, $i = 0, 1, \ldots, n$ are constants and
- $g(x)$ is a constant $k$, a polynomial function, an exponential function $e^{\alpha x}$, a sine or cosine function $\sin \beta x$ or $\cos \beta x$, or finite sums and products of these functions.

**NOTE**    Strictly speaking, $g(x) = k$ (constant) is a polynomial function. Since a constant function is probably not the first thing that comes to mind when you think of polynomial functions, for emphasis we shall continue to use the redundancy "constant functions, polynomials, . . . ."

The following functions are some examples of the types of inputs $g(x)$ that are appropriate for this discussion:

$$g(x) = 10, \quad g(x) = x^2 - 5x, \quad g(x) = 15x - 6 + 8e^{-x},$$

$$g(x) = \sin 3x - 5x \cos 2x, \quad g(x) = xe^x \sin x + (3x^2 - 1)e^{-4x}.$$

That is, $g(x)$ is a linear combination of functions of the type

$$P(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 x + a_0, \quad P(x) e^{\alpha x}, \quad P(x) e^{\alpha x} \sin \beta x, \quad \text{and} \quad P(x) e^{\alpha x} \cos \beta x,$$

where $n$ is a nonnegative integer and $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are real numbers. The method of undetermined coefficients is not applicable to equations of form (1) when

$$g(x) = \ln x, \quad g(x) = \frac{1}{x}, \quad g(x) = \tan x, \quad g(x) = \sin^{-1} x,$$

and so on. Differential equations in which the input $g(x)$ is a function of this last kind will be considered in Section 4.6.

The set of functions that consists of constants, polynomials, exponentials $e^{\alpha x}$, sines, and cosines has the remarkable property that derivatives of their sums and products are again sums and products of constants, polynomials, exponentials $e^{\alpha x}$, sines, and cosines. Because the linear combination of derivatives $a_n y_p^{(n)} + a_{n-1} y_p^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1 y_p' + a_0 y_p$ must be identical to $g(x)$, it seems reasonable to assume that $y_p$ *has the same form as* $g(x)$.

The next two examples illustrate the basic method.

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**EXAMPLE 1**    **General Solution Using Undetermined Coefficients**

Solve $y'' + 4y' - 2y = 2x^2 - 3x + 6$.    (2)

**SOLUTION**    **Step 1.**    We first solve the associated homogeneous equation $y'' + 4y' - 2y = 0$. From the quadratic formula we find that the roots of the auxiliary equation $m^2 + 4m - 2 = 0$ are $m_1 = -2 - \sqrt{6}$ and $m_2 = -2 + \sqrt{6}$. Hence the complementary function is

$$y_c = c_1 e^{-(2+\sqrt{6})x} + c_2 e^{(-2+\sqrt{6})x}.$$

**Step 2.**    Now, because the function $g(x)$ is a quadratic polynomial, let us assume a particular solution that is also in the form of a quadratic polynomial:

$$y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C.$$

We seek to determine *specific* coefficients $A$, $B$, and $C$ for which $y_p$ is a solution of (2). Substituting $y_p$ and the derivatives

$$y_p' = 2Ax + B \qquad \text{and} \qquad y_p'' = 2A$$

into the given differential equation (2), we get

$$y_p'' + 4y_p' - 2y_p = 2A + 8Ax + 4B - 2Ax^2 - 2Bx - 2C = 2x^2 - 3x + 6.$$

Because the last equation is supposed to be an identity, the coefficients of like powers of $x$ must be equal:

<div align="center">equal</div>

$$\boxed{-2A} \; x^2 + \boxed{8A - 2B} \; x + \boxed{2A + 4B - 2C} \; = 2x^2 - 3x + 6$$

That is, $\qquad -2A = 2, \qquad 8A - 2B = -3, \qquad 2A + 4B - 2C = 6.$

Solving this system of equations leads to the values $A = -1$, $B = -\frac{5}{2}$, and $C = -9$. Thus a particular solution is

$$y_p = -x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x - 9.$$

**Step 3.** The general solution of the given equation is

$$y = y_c + y_p = c_1 e^{-(2+\sqrt{6})x} + c_1 e^{(-2+\sqrt{6})x} - x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x - 9. \qquad ■$$

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| **EXAMPLE 2** | **Particular Solution Using Undetermined Coefficients** |

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Find a particular solution of $y'' - y' + y = 2 \sin 3x$.

**SOLUTION** A natural first guess for a particular solution would be $A \sin 3x$. But because successive differentiations of $\sin 3x$ produce $\sin 3x$ *and* $\cos 3x$, we are prompted instead to assume a particular solution that includes both of these terms:

$$y_p = A \cos 3x + B \sin 3x.$$

Differentiating $y_p$ and substituting the results into the differential equation gives, after regrouping,

$$y_p'' - y_p' + y_p = (-8A - 3B) \cos 3x + (3A - 8B) \sin 3x = 2 \sin 3x$$

or

<div align="center">equal</div>

$$\boxed{-8A - 3B} \; \cos 3x + \boxed{3A - 8B} \; \sin 3x = 0 \cos 3x + 2 \sin 3x.$$

From the resulting system of equations,

$$-8A - 3B = 0, \qquad 3A - 8B = 2,$$

we get $A = \frac{6}{73}$ and $B = -\frac{16}{73}$. A particular solution of the equation is

$$y_p = \frac{6}{73} \cos 3x - \frac{16}{73} \sin 3x. \qquad ■$$

As we mentioned, the form that we assume for the particular solution $y_p$ is an educated guess; it is not a blind guess. This educated guess must take into consideration not only the types of functions that make up $g(x)$ but also, as we shall see in Example 4, the functions that make up the complementary function $y_c$.

> **EXAMPLE 3**  Forming $y_p$ by Superposition

Solve $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 4x - 5 + 6xe^{2x}$.  (3)

**SOLUTION  Step 1.**  First, the solution of the associated homogeneous equation $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 0$ is found to be $y_c = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{3x}$.

**Step 2.**  Next, the presence of $4x - 5$ in $g(x)$ suggests that the particular solution includes a linear polynomial. Furthermore, because the derivative of the product $xe^{2x}$ produces $2xe^{2x}$ and $e^{2x}$, we also assume that the particular solution includes both $xe^{2x}$ and $e^{2x}$. In other words, $g$ is the sum of two basic kinds of functions:

$$g(x) = g_1(x) + g_2(x) = polynomial + exponentials.$$

Correspondingly, the superposition principle for nonhomogeneous equations (Theorem 4.1.7) suggests that we seek a particular solution

$$y_p = y_{p_1} + y_{p_2},$$

where $y_{p_1} = Ax + B$ and $y_{p_2} = Cxe^{2x} + Ee^{2x}$. Substituting

$$y_p = Ax + B + Cxe^{2x} + Ee^{2x}$$

into the given equation (3) and grouping like terms gives

$$y_p'' - 2y_p' - 3y_p = -3Ax - 2A - 3B - 3Cxe^{2x} + (2C - 3E)e^{2x} = 4x - 5 + 6xe^{2x}. \quad (4)$$

From this identity we obtain the four equations

$$-3A = 4, \qquad -2A - 3B = -5, \qquad -3C = 6, \qquad 2C - 3E = 0.$$

The last equation in this system results from the interpretation that the coefficient of $e^{2x}$ in the right member of (4) is zero. Solving, we find $A = -\frac{4}{3}$, $B = \frac{23}{9}$, $C = -2$, and $E = -\frac{4}{3}$. Consequently,

$$y_p = -\frac{4}{3}x + \frac{23}{9} - 2xe^{2x} - \frac{4}{3}e^{2x}.$$

**Step 3.**  The general solution of the equation is

$$y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{3x} - \frac{4}{3}x + \frac{23}{9} - \left(2x + \frac{4}{3}\right)e^{2x}.$$  ∎

In light of the superposition principle (Theorem 4.1.7) we can also approach Example 3 from the viewpoint of solving two simpler problems. You should verify that substituting

$$y_{p_1} = Ax + B \qquad \text{into} \qquad y'' - 2y' - 3y = 4x - 5$$

and $\qquad y_{p_2} = Cxe^{2x} + Ee^{2x} \qquad \text{into} \qquad y'' - 2y' - 3y = 6xe^{2x}$

yields, in turn, $y_{p_1} = -\frac{4}{3}x + \frac{23}{9}$ and $y_{p_2} = -(2x + \frac{4}{3})e^{2x}$. A particular solution of (3) is then $y_p = y_{p_1} + y_{p_2}$.

The next example illustrates that sometimes the "obvious" assumption for the form of $y_p$ is not a correct assumption.

> **EXAMPLE 4**  A Glitch in the Method

Find a particular solution of $y'' - 5y' + 4y = 8e^x$.

**SOLUTION**  Differentiation of $e^x$ produces no new functions. Therefore proceeding as we did in the earlier examples, we can reasonably assume a particular solution of the form $y_p = Ae^x$. But substitution of this expression into the differential equation

yields the contradictory statement $0 = 8e^x$, so we have clearly made the wrong guess for $y_p$.

The difficulty here is apparent on examining the complementary function $y_c = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{4x}$. Observe that our assumption $Ae^x$ is already present in $y_c$. This means that $e^x$ is a solution of the associated homogeneous differential equation, and a constant multiple $Ae^x$ when substituted into the differential equation necessarily produces zero.

What then should be the form of $y_p$? Inspired by Case II of Section 4.3, let's see whether we can find a particular solution of the form

$$y_p = Axe^x.$$

Substituting $y_p' = Axe^x + Ae^x$ and $y_p'' = Axe^x + 2Ae^x$ into the differential equation and simplifying gives

$$y_p'' - 5y_p' + 4y_p = -3Ae^x = 8e^x.$$

From the last equality we see that the value of $A$ is now determined as $A = -\frac{8}{3}$. Therefore a particular solution of the given equation is $y_p = -\frac{8}{3}xe^x$. ∎

The difference in the procedures used in Examples 1–3 and in Example 4 suggests that we consider two cases. The first case reflects the situation in Examples 1–3.

**CASE I**  No function in the assumed particular solution is a solution of the associated homogeneous differential equation.

In Table 4.1 we illustrate some specific examples of $g(x)$ in (1) along with the corresponding form of the particular solution. We are, of course, taking for granted that no function in the assumed particular solution $y_p$ is duplicated by a function in the complementary function $y_c$.

**TABLE 4.1**  Trial Particular Solutions

| $g(x)$ | Form of $y_p$ |
|---|---|
| **1.** 1 (any constant) | $A$ |
| **2.** $5x + 7$ | $Ax + B$ |
| **3.** $3x^2 - 2$ | $Ax^2 + Bx + C$ |
| **4.** $x^3 - x + 1$ | $Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx + E$ |
| **5.** $\sin 4x$ | $A \cos 4x + B \sin 4x$ |
| **6.** $\cos 4x$ | $A \cos 4x + B \sin 4x$ |
| **7.** $e^{5x}$ | $Ae^{5x}$ |
| **8.** $(9x - 2)e^{5x}$ | $(Ax + B)e^{5x}$ |
| **9.** $x^2 e^{5x}$ | $(Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{5x}$ |
| **10.** $e^{3x} \sin 4x$ | $Ae^{3x} \cos 4x + Be^{3x} \sin 4x$ |
| **11.** $5x^2 \sin 4x$ | $(Ax^2 + Bx + C) \cos 4x + (Ex^2 + Fx + G) \sin 4x$ |
| **12.** $xe^{3x} \cos 4x$ | $(Ax + B)e^{3x} \cos 4x + (Cx + E)e^{3x} \sin 4x$ |

**EXAMPLE 5**  Forms of Particular Solutions—Case I

Determine the form of a particular solution of

**(a)** $y'' - 8y' + 25y = 5x^3 e^{-x} - 7e^{-x}$     **(b)** $y'' + 4y = x \cos x$

**SOLUTION**  **(a)** We can write $g(x) = (5x^3 - 7)e^{-x}$. Using entry 9 in Table 4.1 as a model, we assume a particular solution of the form

$$y_p = (Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx + E)e^{-x}.$$

Note that there is no duplication between the terms in $y_p$ and the terms in the complementary function $y_c = e^{4x}(c_1 \cos 3x + c_2 \sin 3x)$.

**(b)** The function $g(x) = x \cos x$ is similar to entry 11 in Table 4.1 except, of course, that we use a linear rather than a quadratic polynomial and $\cos x$ and $\sin x$ instead of $\cos 4x$ and $\sin 4x$ in the form of $y_p$:

$$y_p = (Ax + B) \cos x + (Cx + E) \sin x.$$

Again observe that there is no duplication of terms between $y_p$ and $y_c = c_1 \cos 2x + c_2 \sin 2x$. ∎

If $g(x)$ consists of a sum of, say, $m$ terms of the kind listed in the table, then (as in Example 3) the assumption for a particular solution $y_p$ consists of the sum of the trial forms $y_{p_1}, y_{p_2}, \ldots, y_{p_m}$ corresponding to these terms:

$$y_p = y_{p_1} + y_{p_2} + \cdots + y_{p_m}.$$

The foregoing sentence can be put another way.

> ***Form Rule for Case I*** *The form of $y_p$ is a linear combination of all linearly independent functions that are generated by repeated differentiations of $g(x)$.*

### EXAMPLE 6   Forming $y_p$ by Superposition—Case I

Determine the form of a particular solution of

$$y'' - 9y' + 14y = 3x^2 - 5 \sin 2x + 7xe^{6x}.$$

**SOLUTION**

Corresponding to $3x^2$ we assume $\qquad y_{p_1} = Ax^2 + Bx + C.$

Corresponding to $-5 \sin 2x$ we assume $\qquad y_{p_2} = E \cos 2x + F \sin 2x.$

Corresponding to $7xe^{6x}$ we assume $\qquad y_{p_3} = (Gx + H)e^{6x}.$

The assumption for the particular solution is then

$$y_p = y_{p_1} + y_{p_2} + y_{p_3} = Ax^2 + Bx + C + E \cos 2x + F \sin 2x + (Gx + H)e^{6x}.$$

No term in this assumption duplicates a term in $y_c = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 e^{7x}$. ∎

**CASE II**   A function in the assumed particular solution is also a solution of the associated homogeneous differential equation.

The next example is similar to Example 4.

### EXAMPLE 7   Particular Solution—Case II

Find a particular solution of $y'' - 2y' + y = e^x$.

**SOLUTION**   The complementary function is $y_c = c_1 e^x + c_2 xe^x$. As in Example 4, the assumption $y_p = Ae^x$ will fail, since it is apparent from $y_c$ that $e^x$ is a solution of the associated homogeneous equation $y'' - 2y' + y = 0$. Moreover, we will not be able to find a particular solution of the form $y_p = Axe^x$, since the term $xe^x$ is also duplicated in $y_c$. We next try

$$y_p = Ax^2 e^x.$$

Substituting into the given differential equation yields $2Ae^x = e^x$, so $A = \frac{1}{2}$. Thus a particular solution is $y_p = \frac{1}{2}x^2 e^x$. ∎

Suppose again that $g(x)$ consists of $m$ terms of the kind given in Table 4.1, and suppose further that the usual assumption for a particular solution is

$$y_p = y_{p_1} + y_{p_2} + \cdots + y_{p_m},$$

where the $y_{p_i}$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$ are the trial particular solution forms corresponding to these terms. Under the circumstances described in Case II, we can make up the following general rule.

> **Multiplication Rule for Case II**   If any $y_{p_i}$ contains terms that duplicate terms in $y_c$, then that $y_{p_i}$ must be multiplied by $x^n$, where $n$ is the smallest positive integer that eliminates that duplication.

### EXAMPLE 8   An Initial-Value Problem

Solve $y'' + y = 4x + 10 \sin x$, $y(\pi) = 0$, $y'(\pi) = 2$.

**SOLUTION**   The solution of the associated homogeneous equation $y'' + y = 0$ is $y_c = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x$. Because $g(x) = 4x + 10 \sin x$ is the sum of a linear polynomial and a sine function, our normal assumption for $y_p$, from entries 2 and 5 of Table 4.1, would be the sum of $y_{p_1} = Ax + B$ and $y_{p_2} = C \cos x + E \sin x$:

$$y_p = Ax + B + C \cos x + E \sin x. \tag{5}$$

But there is an obvious duplication of the terms $\cos x$ and $\sin x$ in this assumed form and two terms in the complementary function. This duplication can be eliminated by simply multiplying $y_{p_2}$ by $x$. Instead of (5) we now use

$$y_p = Ax + B + Cx \cos x + Ex \sin x. \tag{6}$$

Differentiating this expression and substituting the results into the differential equation gives

$$y_p'' + y_p = Ax + B - 2C \sin x + 2E \cos x = 4x + 10 \sin x,$$

and so $A = 4$, $B = 0$, $-2C = 10$, and $2E = 0$. The solutions of the system are immediate: $A = 4$, $B = 0$, $C = -5$, and $E = 0$. Therefore from (6) we obtain $y_p = 4x - 5x \cos x$. The general solution of the given equation is

$$y = y_c + y_p = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x + 4x - 5x \cos x.$$

We now apply the prescribed initial conditions to the general solution of the equation. First, $y(\pi) = c_1 \cos \pi + c_2 \sin \pi + 4\pi - 5\pi \cos \pi = 0$ yields $c_1 = 9\pi$, since $\cos \pi = -1$ and $\sin \pi = 0$. Next, from the derivative

$$y' = -9\pi \sin x + c_2 \cos x + 4 + 5x \sin x - 5 \cos x$$

and     $$y'(\pi) = -9\pi \sin \pi + c_2 \cos \pi + 4 + 5\pi \sin \pi - 5 \cos \pi = 2$$

we find $c_2 = 7$. The solution of the initial-value is then

$$y = 9\pi \cos x + 7 \sin x + 4x - 5x \cos x. \qquad \blacksquare$$

### EXAMPLE 9   Using the Multiplication Rule

Solve $y'' - 6y' + 9y = 6x^2 + 2 - 12e^{3x}$.

**SOLUTION**   The complementary function is $y_c = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 x e^{3x}$. And so, based on entries 3 and 7 of Table 4.1, the usual assumption for a particular solution would be

$$y_p = \underbrace{Ax^2 + Bx + C}_{y_{p_1}} + \underbrace{Ee^{3x}}_{y_{p_2}}.$$

Inspection of these functions shows that the one term in $y_{p_2}$ is duplicated in $y_c$. If we multiply $y_{p_2}$ by $x$, we note that the term $xe^{3x}$ is still part of $y_c$. But multiplying $y_{p_2}$ by $x^2$ eliminates all duplications. Thus the operative form of a particular solution is

$$y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C + Ex^2e^{3x}.$$

Differentiating this last form, substituting into the differential equation, and collecting like terms gives

$$y_p'' - 6y_p' + 9y_p = 9Ax^2 + (-12A + 9B)x + 2A - 6B + 9C + 2Ee^{3x} = 6x^2 + 2 - 12e^{3x}.$$

It follows from this identity that $A = \frac{2}{3}$, $B = \frac{8}{9}$, $C = \frac{2}{3}$, and $E = -6$. Hence the general solution $y = y_c + y_p$ is $y = c_1e^{3x} + c_2xe^{3x} + \frac{2}{3}x^2 + \frac{8}{9}x + \frac{2}{3} - 6x^2e^{3x}$.  ∎

---

### EXAMPLE 10    Third-Order DE—Case I

Solve $y''' + y'' = e^x \cos x$.

**SOLUTION**  From the characteristic equation $m^3 + m^2 = 0$ we find $m_1 = m_2 = 0$ and $m_3 = -1$. Hence the complementary function of the equation is $y_c = c_1 + c_2x + c_3e^{-x}$. With $g(x) = e^x \cos x$, we see from entry 10 of Table 4.1 that we should assume that

$$y_p = Ae^x \cos x + Be^x \sin x.$$

Because there are no functions in $y_p$ that duplicate functions in the complementary solution, we proceed in the usual manner. From

$$y_p''' + y_p'' = (-2A + 4B)e^x \cos x + (-4A - 2B)e^x \sin x = e^x \cos x$$

we get $-2A + 4B = 1$ and $-4A - 2B = 0$. This system gives $A = -\frac{1}{10}$ and $B = \frac{1}{5}$, so a particular solution is $y_p = -\frac{1}{10}e^x \cos x + \frac{1}{5}e^x \sin x$. The general solution of the equation is

$$y = y_c + y_p = c_1 + c_2x + c_3e^{-x} - \frac{1}{10}e^x \cos x + \frac{1}{5}e^x \sin x.$$  ∎

---

### EXAMPLE 11    Fourth-Order DE—Case II

Determine the form of a particular solution of $y^{(4)} + y''' = 1 - x^2e^{-x}$.

**SOLUTION**  Comparing $y_c = c_1 + c_2x + c_3x^2 + c_4e^{-x}$ with our normal assumption for a particular solution

$$y_p = \underbrace{A}_{y_{p_1}} + \underbrace{Bx^2e^{-x} + Cxe^{-x} + Ee^{-x}}_{y_{p_2}},$$

we see that the duplications between $y_c$ and $y_p$ are eliminated when $y_{p_1}$ is multiplied by $x^3$ and $y_{p_2}$ is multiplied by $x$. Thus the correct assumption for a particular solution is $y_p = Ax^3 + Bx^3e^{-x} + Cx^2e^{-x} + Exe^{-x}$.  ∎

**REMARKS**

(*i*) In Problems 27–36 in Exercises 4.4 you are asked to solve initial-value problems, and in Problems 37–40 you are asked to solve boundary-value problems. As illustrated in Example 8, be sure to apply the initial conditions or the boundary conditions to the general solution $y = y_c + y_p$. Students often make the mistake of applying these conditions only to the complementary function $y_c$ because it is that part of the solution that contains the constants $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_n$.

(*ii*) From the "Form Rule for Case I" on page 145 of this section you see why the method of undetermined coefficients is not well suited to nonhomogeneous linear DEs when the input function $g(x)$ is something other than one of the four basic types highlighted in color on page 141. For example, if $P(x)$ is a polynomial, then continued differentiation of $P(x)e^{\alpha x} \sin \beta x$ will generate an independent set containing only a *finite* number of functions—all of the same type, namely, a polynomial times $e^{\alpha x} \sin \beta x$ or a polynomial times $e^{\alpha x} \cos \beta x$. On the other hand, repeated differentiation of input functions such as $g(x) = \ln x$ or $g(x) = \tan^{-1}x$ generates an independent set containing an *infinite* number of functions:

$$\text{derivatives of } \ln x: \qquad \frac{1}{x}, \frac{-1}{x^2}, \frac{2}{x^3}, \ldots,$$

$$\text{derivatives of } \tan^{-1}x: \qquad \frac{1}{1 + x^2}, \frac{-2x}{(1 + x^2)^2}, \frac{-2 + 6x^2}{(1 + x^2)^3}, \ldots.$$

## EXERCISES 4.4

In Problems 1–26 solve the given differential equation by undetermined coefficients.

**1.** $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 6$

**2.** $4y'' + 9y = 15$

**3.** $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 30x + 3$

**4.** $y'' + y' - 6y = 2x$

**5.** $\frac{1}{4}y'' + y' + y = x^2 - 2x$

**6.** $y'' - 8y' + 20y = 100x^2 - 26xe^x$

**7.** $y'' + 3y = -48x^2e^{3x}$

**8.** $4y'' - 4y' - 3y = \cos 2x$

**9.** $y'' - y' = -3$

**10.** $y'' + 2y' = 2x + 5 - e^{-2x}$

**11.** $y'' - y' + \frac{1}{4}y = 3 + e^{x/2}$

**12.** $y'' - 16y = 2e^{4x}$

**13.** $y'' + 4y = 3 \sin 2x$

**14.** $y'' - 4y = (x^2 - 3) \sin 2x$

**15.** $y'' + y = 2x \sin x$

**16.** $y'' - 5y' = 2x^3 - 4x^2 - x + 6$

**17.** $y'' - 2y' + 5y = e^x \cos 2x$

**18.** $y'' - 2y' + 2y = e^{2x}(\cos x - 3 \sin x)$

**19.** $y'' + 2y' + y = \sin x + 3 \cos 2x$

**20.** $y'' + 2y' - 24y = 16 - (x + 2)e^{4x}$

**21.** $y''' - 6y'' = 3 - \cos x$

**22.** $y''' - 2y'' - 4y' + 8y = 6xe^{2x}$

**23.** $y''' - 3y'' + 3y' - y = x - 4e^x$

**24.** $y''' - y'' - 4y' + 4y = 5 - e^x + e^{2x}$

**25.** $y^{(4)} + 2y'' + y = (x - 1)^2$

**26.** $y^{(4)} - y'' = 4x + 2xe^{-x}$

In Problems 27–36 solve the given initial-value problem.

**27.** $y'' + 4y = -2, \quad y\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = \frac{1}{2}, y'\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) = 2$

**28.** $2y'' + 3y' - 2y = 14x^2 - 4x - 11, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**29.** $5y'' + y' = -6x, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = -10$

**30.** $y'' + 4y' + 4y = (3 + x)e^{-2x}, \quad y(0) = 2, y'(0) = 5$

**31.** $y'' + 4y' + 5y = 35e^{-4x}, \quad y(0) = -3, y'(0) = 1$

**32.** $y'' - y = \cosh x$, $y(0) = 2$, $y'(0) = 12$

**33.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega^2 x = F_0 \sin \omega t$, $x(0) = 0$, $x'(0) = 0$

**34.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega^2 x = F_0 \cos \gamma t$, $x(0) = 0$, $x'(0) = 0$

**35.** $y''' - 2y'' + y' = 2 - 24e^x + 40e^{5x}$, $y(0) = \frac{1}{2}$,
$y'(0) = \frac{5}{2}$, $y''(0) = -\frac{9}{2}$

**36.** $y''' + 8y = 2x - 5 + 8e^{-2x}$, $y(0) = -5$, $y'(0) = 3$,
$y''(0) = -4$

In Problems 37–40 solve the given boundary-value problem.

**37.** $y'' + y = x^2 + 1$, $y(0) = 5$, $y(1) = 0$

**38.** $y'' - 2y' + 2y = 2x - 2$, $y(0) = 0$, $y(\pi) = \pi$

**39.** $y'' + 3y = 6x$, $y(0) = 0$, $y(1) + y'(1) = 0$

**40.** $y'' + 3y = 6x$, $y(0) + y'(0) = 0$, $y(1) = 0$

In Problems 41 and 42 solve the given initial-value problem in which the input function $g(x)$ is discontinuous. [*Hint:* Solve each problem on two intervals, and then find a solution so that $y$ and $y'$ are continuous at $x = \pi/2$ (Problem 41) and at $x = \pi$ (Problem 42).]

**41.** $y'' + 4y = g(x)$, $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 2$, where

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} \sin x, & 0 \le x \le \pi/2 \\ 0, & x > \pi/2 \end{cases}$$

**42.** $y'' - 2y' + 10y = g(x)$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, where

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 20, & 0 \le x \le \pi \\ 0, & x > \pi \end{cases}$$

## Discussion Problems

**43.** Consider the differential equation $ay'' + by' + cy = e^{kx}$, where $a$, $b$, $c$, and $k$ are constants. The auxiliary equation of the associated homogeneous equation is $am^2 + bm + c = 0$.

   **(a)** If $k$ is not a root of the auxiliary equation, show that we can find a particular solution of the form $y_p = Ae^{kx}$, where $A = 1/(ak^2 + bk + c)$.

   **(b)** If $k$ is a root of the auxiliary equation of multiplicity one, show that we can find a particular solution of the form $y_p = Axe^{kx}$, where $A = 1/(2ak + b)$. Explain how we know that $k \neq -b/(2a)$.

   **(c)** If $k$ is a root of the auxiliary equation of multiplicity two, show that we can find a particular solution of the form $y = Ax^2e^{kx}$, where $A = 1/(2a)$.

**44.** Discuss how the method of this section can be used to find a particular solution of $y'' + y = \sin x \cos 2x$. Carry out your idea.

**45.** Without solving, match a solution curve of $y'' + y = f(x)$ shown in the figure with one of the following functions:
   (i) $f(x) = 1$,        (ii) $f(x) = e^{-x}$,
   (iii) $f(x) = e^x$,      (iv) $f(x) = \sin 2x$,
   (v) $f(x) = e^x \sin x$,  (vi) $f(x) = \sin x$.
Briefly discuss your reasoning.

**(a)**
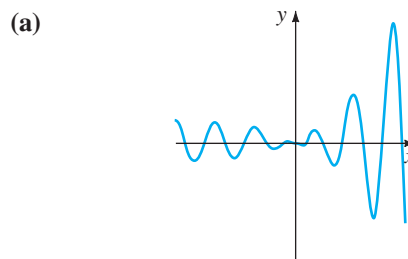


**FIGURE 4.4.1** Solution curve

**(b)**
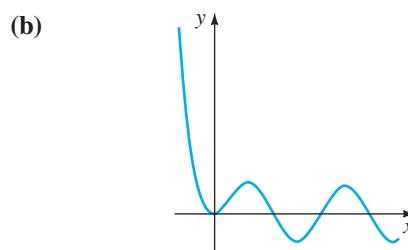


**FIGURE 4.4.2** Solution curve

**(c)**
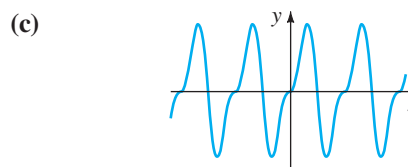


**FIGURE 4.4.3** Solution curve

**(d)**
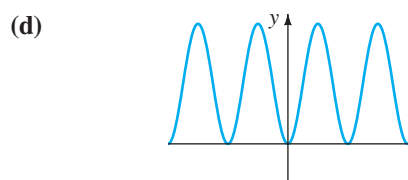


**FIGURE 4.4.4** Solution curve

## Computer Lab Assignments

In Problems 46 and 47 find a particular solution of the given differential equation. Use a CAS as an aid in carrying out differentiations, simplifications, and algebra.

**46.** $y'' - 4y' + 8y = (2x^2 - 3x)e^{2x} \cos 2x$
$\qquad\qquad + (10x^2 - x - 1)e^{2x} \sin 2x$

**47.** $y^{(4)} + 2y'' + y = 2 \cos x - 3x \sin x$

## 4.5 UNDETERMINED COEFFICIENTS—ANNIHILATOR APPROACH

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Review Theorems 4.1.6 and 4.1.7 (Section 4.1)

**INTRODUCTION**   We saw in Section 4.1 that an $n$th-order differential equation can be written

$$a_n D^n y + a_{n-1} D^{n-1} y + \cdots + a_1 D y + a_0 y = g(x), \tag{1}$$

where $D^k y = d^k y / dx^k$, $k = 0, 1, \ldots, n$. When it suits our purpose, (1) is also written as $L(y) = g(x)$, where $L$ denotes the linear $n$th-order differential, or polynomial, operator

$$a_n D^n + a_{n-1} D^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 D + a_0. \tag{2}$$

Not only is the operator notation a helpful shorthand, but also on a very practical level the application of differential operators enables us to justify the somewhat mind-numbing rules for determining the form of particular solution $y_p$ that were presented in the preceding section. In this section there are no special rules; the form of $y_p$ follows almost automatically once we have found an appropriate linear differential operator that *annihilates* $g(x)$ in (1). Before investigating how this is done, we need to examine two concepts.

**FACTORING OPERATORS**   When the coefficients $a_i$, $i = 0, 1, \ldots, n$ are real constants, a linear differential operator (1) can be factored whenever the characteristic polynomial $a_n m^n + a_{n-1} m^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 m + a_0$ factors. In other words, if $r_1$ is a root of the auxiliary equation

$$a_n m^n + a_{n-1} m^{n-1} + \cdots + a_1 m + a_0 = 0,$$

then $L = (D - r_1) P(D)$, where the polynomial expression $P(D)$ is a linear differential operator of order $n - 1$. For example, if we treat $D$ as an algebraic quantity, then the operator $D^2 + 5D + 6$ can be factored as $(D + 2)(D + 3)$ or as $(D + 3)(D + 2)$. Thus if a function $y = f(x)$ possesses a second derivative, then

$$(D^2 + 5D + 6)y = (D + 2)(D + 3)y = (D + 3)(D + 2)y.$$

This illustrates a general property:

*Factors of a linear differential operator with constant coefficients commute.*

A differential equation such as $y'' + 4y' + 4y = 0$ can be written as

$$(D^2 + 4D + 4)y = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad (D + 2)(D + 2)y = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad (D + 2)^2 y = 0.$$

**ANNIHILATOR OPERATOR**   If $L$ is a linear differential operator with constant coefficients and $f$ is a sufficiently differentiable function such that

$$L(f(x)) = 0,$$

then $L$ is said to be an **annihilator** of the function. For example, a constant function $y = k$ is annihilated by $D$, since $Dk = 0$. The function $y = x$ is annihilated by the differential operator $D^2$ since the first and second derivatives of $x$ are 1 and 0, respectively. Similarly, $D^3 x^2 = 0$, and so on.

The differential operator $D^n$ annihilates each of the functions

$$1, \quad x, \quad x^2, \quad \ldots, \quad x^{n-1}. \tag{3}$$

As an immediate consequence of (3) and the fact that differentiation can be done term by term, a polynomial

$$c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + \cdots + c_{n-1}x^{n-1} \tag{4}$$

can be annihilated by finding an operator that annihilates the highest power of $x$.

The functions that are annihilated by a linear $n$th-order differential operator $L$ are simply those functions that can be obtained from the general solution of the homogeneous differential equation $L(y) = 0$.

> The differential operator $(D - \alpha)^n$ annihilates each of the functions
>
> $$e^{\alpha x}, \quad xe^{\alpha x}, \quad x^2e^{\alpha x}, \quad \ldots, \quad x^{n-1}e^{\alpha x}. \tag{5}$$

To see this, note that the auxiliary equation of the homogeneous equation $(D - \alpha)^ny = 0$ is $(m - \alpha)^n = 0$. Since $\alpha$ is a root of multiplicity $n$, the general solution is

$$y = c_1e^{\alpha x} + c_2xe^{\alpha x} + \cdots + c_nx^{n-1}e^{\alpha x}. \tag{6}$$

### EXAMPLE 1    Annihilator Operators

Find a differential operator that annihilates the given function.

**(a)** $1 - 5x^2 + 8x^3$    **(b)** $e^{-3x}$    **(c)** $4e^{2x} - 10xe^{2x}$

**SOLUTION**    **(a)** From (3) we know that $D^4x^3 = 0$, so it follows from (4) that

$$D^4(1 - 5x^2 + 8x^3) = 0.$$

**(b)** From (5), with $\alpha = -3$ and $n = 1$, we see that

$$(D + 3)e^{-3x} = 0.$$

**(c)** From (5) and (6), with $\alpha = 2$ and $n = 2$, we have

$$(D - 2)^2(4e^{2x} - 10xe^{2x}) = 0. \qquad \blacksquare$$

When $\alpha$ and $\beta$, $\beta > 0$ are real numbers, the quadratic formula reveals that $[m^2 - 2\alpha m + (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)]^n = 0$ has complex roots $\alpha + i\beta$, $\alpha - i\beta$, both of multiplicity $n$. From the discussion at the end of Section 4.3 we have the next result.

> The differential operator $[D^2 - 2\alpha D + (\alpha^2 + \beta^2)]^n$ annihilates each of the functions
>
> $$e^{\alpha x}\cos\beta x, \quad xe^{\alpha x}\cos\beta x, \quad x^2e^{\alpha x}\cos\beta x, \quad \ldots, \quad x^{n-1}e^{\alpha x}\cos\beta x,$$
> $$e^{\alpha x}\sin\beta x, \quad xe^{\alpha x}\sin\beta x, \quad x^2e^{\alpha x}\sin\beta x, \quad \ldots, \quad x^{n-1}e^{\alpha x}\sin\beta x. \tag{7}$$

### EXAMPLE 2    Annihilator Operator

Find a differential operator that annihilates $5e^{-x}\cos 2x - 9e^{-x}\sin 2x$.

**SOLUTION**    Inspection of the functions $e^{-x}\cos 2x$ and $e^{-x}\sin 2x$ shows that $\alpha = -1$ and $\beta = 2$. Hence from (7) we conclude that $D^2 + 2D + 5$ will annihilate each function. Since $D^2 + 2D + 5$ is a linear operator, it will annihilate *any* linear combination of these functions such as $5e^{-x}\cos 2x - 9e^{-x}\sin 2x$. $\blacksquare$

When $\alpha = 0$ and $n = 1$, a special case of (7) is

$$(D^2 + \beta^2) \begin{cases} \cos \beta x \\ \sin \beta x \end{cases} = 0. \tag{8}$$

For example, $D^2 + 16$ will annihilate any linear combination of $\sin 4x$ and $\cos 4x$.

We are often interested in annihilating the sum of two or more functions. As we have just seen in Examples 1 and 2, if $L$ is a linear differential operator such that $L(y_1) = 0$ and $L(y_2) = 0$, then $L$ will annihilate the linear combination $c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x)$. This is a direct consequence of Theorem 4.1.2. Let us now suppose that $L_1$ and $L_2$ are linear differential operators with constant coefficients such that $L_1$ annihilates $y_1(x)$ and $L_2$ annihilates $y_2(x)$, but $L_1(y_2) \neq 0$ and $L_2(y_1) \neq 0$. Then the *product* of differential operators $L_1 L_2$ annihilates the sum $c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x)$. We can easily demonstrate this, using linearity and the fact that $L_1 L_2 = L_2 L_1$:

$$\begin{aligned} L_1 L_2(y_1 + y_2) &= L_1 L_2(y_1) + L_1 L_2(y_2) \\ &= L_2 L_1(y_1) + L_1 L_2(y_2) \\ &= L_2[\underbrace{L_1(y_1)}_{\text{zero}}] + L_1[\underbrace{L_2(y_2)}_{\text{zero}}] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

For example, we know from (3) that $D^2$ annihilates $7 - x$ and from (8) that $D^2 + 16$ annihilates $\sin 4x$. Therefore the product of operators $D^2(D^2 + 16)$ will annihilate the linear combination $7 - x + 6 \sin 4x$.

**NOTE** The differential operator that annihilates a function is not unique. We saw in part (b) of Example 1 that $D + 3$ will annihilate $e^{-3x}$, but so will differential operators of higher order as long as $D + 3$ is one of the factors of the operator. For example, $(D + 3)(D + 1)$, $(D + 3)^2$, and $D^3(D + 3)$ all annihilate $e^{-3x}$. (Verify this.) As a matter of course, when we seek a differential annihilator for a function $y = f(x)$, we want the operator of *lowest possible order* that does the job.

**UNDETERMINED COEFFICIENTS** This brings us to the point of the preceding discussion. Suppose that $L(y) = g(x)$ is a linear differential equation with constant coefficients and that the input $g(x)$ consists of finite sums and products of the functions listed in (3), (5), and (7)—that is, $g(x)$ is a linear combination of functions of the form

$$k \text{ (constant)}, \quad x^m, \quad x^m e^{\alpha x}, \quad x^m e^{\alpha x} \cos \beta x, \quad \text{and} \quad x^m e^{\alpha x} \sin \beta x,$$

where $m$ is a nonnegative integer and $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are real numbers. We now know that such a function $g(x)$ can be annihilated by a differential operator $L_1$ of lowest order, consisting of a product of the operators $D^n$, $(D - \alpha)^n$, and $(D^2 - 2\alpha D + \alpha^2 + \beta^2)^n$. Applying $L_1$ to both sides of the equation $L(y) = g(x)$ yields $L_1 L(y) = L_1(g(x)) = 0$. By solving the *homogeneous higher-order* equation $L_1 L(y) = 0$, we can discover the *form* of a particular solution $y_p$ for the original *nonhomogeneous* equation $L(y) = g(x)$. We then substitute this assumed form into $L(y) = g(x)$ to find an explicit particular solution. This procedure for determining $y_p$, called the **method of undetermined coefficients,** is illustrated in the next several examples.

Before proceeding, recall that the general solution of a nonhomogeneous linear differential equation $L(y) = g(x)$ is $y = y_c + y_p$, where $y_c$ is the complementary function—that is, the general solution of the associated homogeneous equation $L(y) = 0$. The general solution of each equation $L(y) = g(x)$ is defined on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

## EXAMPLE 3    General Solution Using Undetermined Coefficients

Solve $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 4x^2$. $\qquad(9)$

**SOLUTION    Step 1.**    First, we solve the homogeneous equation $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 0$. Then, from the auxiliary equation $m^2 + 3m + 2 = (m + 1)(m + 2) = 0$ we find $m_1 = -1$ and $m_2 = -2$, and so the complementary function is

$$y_c = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{-2x}.$$

**Step 2.**    Now, since $4x^2$ is annihilated by the differential operator $D^3$, we see that $D^3(D^2 + 3D + 2)y = 4D^3 x^2$ is the same as

$$D^3(D^2 + 3D + 2)y = 0. \qquad(10)$$

The auxiliary equation of the fifth-order equation in (10),

$$m^3(m^2 + 3m + 2) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad m^3(m + 1)(m + 2) = 0,$$

has roots $m_1 = m_2 = m_3 = 0$, $m_4 = -1$, and $m_5 = -2$. Thus its general solution must be

$$y = c_1 + c_2 x + c_3 x^2 + \boxed{c_4 e^{-x} + c_5 e^{-2x}}. \qquad(11)$$

The terms in the shaded box in (11) constitute the complementary function of the original equation (9). We can then argue that a particular solution $y_p$ of (9) should also satisfy equation (10). This means that the terms remaining in (11) must be the basic form of $y_p$:

$$y_p = A + Bx + Cx^2, \qquad(12)$$

where, for convenience, we have replaced $c_1$, $c_2$, and $c_3$ by $A$, $B$, and $C$, respectively. For (12) to be a particular solution of (9), it is necessary to find *specific* coefficients $A$, $B$, and $C$. Differentiating (12), we have

$$y_p' = B + 2Cx, \qquad y_p'' = 2C,$$

and substitution into (9) then gives

$$y_p'' + 3y_p' + 2y_p = 2C + 3B + 6Cx + 2A + 2Bx + 2Cx^2 = 4x^2.$$

Because the last equation is supposed to be an identity, the coefficients of like powers of $x$ must be equal:

equal

$$\boxed{2C}\, x^2 + \boxed{2B + 6C}\, x + \boxed{2A + 3B + 2C} = 4x^2 + 0x + 0.$$

That is $\qquad 2C = 4, \qquad 2B + 6C = 0, \qquad 2A + 3B + 2C = 0$. $\qquad(13)$

Solving the equations in (13) gives $A = 7$, $B = -6$, and $C = 2$. Thus $y_p = 7 - 6x + 2x^2$.

**Step 3.**    The general solution of the equation in (9) is $y = y_c + y_p$ or

$$y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{-2x} + 7 - 6x + 2x^2. \qquad ∎$$

**EXAMPLE 4** General Solution Using Undetermined Coefficients

Solve $y'' - 3y' = 8e^{3x} + 4 \sin x$. (14)

**SOLUTION** **Step 1.** The auxiliary equation for the associated homogeneous equation $y'' - 3y' = 0$ is $m^2 - 3m = m(m - 3) = 0$, so $y_c = c_1 + c_2 e^{3x}$.

**Step 2.** Now, since $(D - 3)e^{3x} = 0$ and $(D^2 + 1) \sin x = 0$, we apply the differential operator $(D - 3)(D^2 + 1)$ to both sides of (14):

$$(D - 3)(D^2 + 1)(D^2 - 3D)y = 0.$$ (15)

The auxiliary equation of (15) is

$$(m - 3)(m^2 + 1)(m^2 - 3m) = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad m(m - 3)^2(m^2 + 1) = 0.$$

Thus $\qquad y = \boxed{c_1 + c_2 e^{3x}} + c_3 x e^{3x} + c_4 \cos x + c_5 \sin x.$

After excluding the linear combination of terms in the box that corresponds to $y_c$, we arrive at the form of $y_p$:

$$y_p = Ax e^{3x} + B \cos x + C \sin x.$$

Substituting $y_p$ in (14) and simplifying yield

$$y_p'' - 3y_p' = 3Ae^{3x} + (-B - 3C) \cos x + (3B - C) \sin x = 8e^{3x} + 4 \sin x.$$

Equating coefficients gives $3A = 8$, $-B - 3C = 0$, and $3B - C = 4$. We find $A = \frac{8}{3}$, $B = \frac{6}{5}$, and $C = -\frac{2}{5}$, and consequently,

$$y_p = \frac{8}{3} x e^{3x} + \frac{6}{5} \cos x - \frac{2}{5} \sin x.$$

**Step 3.** The general solution of (14) is then

$$y = c_1 + c_2 e^{3x} + \frac{8}{3} x e^{3x} + \frac{6}{5} \cos x - \frac{2}{5} \sin x.$$ ∎

**EXAMPLE 5** General Solution Using Undetermined Coefficients

Solve $y'' + y = x \cos x - \cos x$. (16)

**SOLUTION** The complementary function is $y_c = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x$. Now by comparing $\cos x$ and $x \cos x$ with the functions in the first row of (7), we see that $\alpha = 0$ and $n = 1$, and so $(D^2 + 1)^2$ is an annihilator for the right-hand member of the equation in (16). Applying this operator to the differential equation gives

$$(D^2 + 1)^2 (D^2 + 1)y = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad (D^2 + 1)^3 y = 0.$$

Since $i$ and $-i$ are both complex roots of multiplicity 3 of the auxiliary equation of the last differential equation, we conclude that

$$y = \boxed{c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x} + c_3 x \cos x + c_4 x \sin x + c_5 x^2 \cos x + c_6 x^2 \sin x.$$

We substitute

$$y_p = Ax \cos x + Bx \sin x + Cx^2 \cos x + Ex^2 \sin x$$

into (16) and simplify:

$$y_p'' + y_p = 4 Ex \cos x - 4 Cx \sin x + (2B + 2C) \cos x + (-2A + 2E) \sin x$$
$$= x \cos x - \cos x.$$

Equating coefficients gives the equations $4E = 1$, $-4C = 0$, $2B + 2C = -1$, and $-2A + 2E = 0$, from which we find $A = \frac{1}{4}$, $B = -\frac{1}{2}$, $C = 0$, and $E = \frac{1}{4}$. Hence the general solution of (16) is

$$y = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x + \frac{1}{4} x \cos x - \frac{1}{2} x \sin x + \frac{1}{4} x^2 \sin x. \quad \blacksquare$$

---

**EXAMPLE 6** Form of a Particular Solution

Determine the form of a particular solution for

$$y'' - 2y' + y = 10e^{-2x} \cos x. \quad (17)$$

**SOLUTION** The complementary function for the given equation is $y_c = c_1 e^x + c_2 x e^x$.

Now from (7), with $\alpha = -2$, $\beta = 1$, and $n = 1$, we know that

$$(D^2 + 4D + 5)e^{-2x} \cos x = 0.$$

Applying the operator $D^2 + 4D + 5$ to (17) gives

$$(D^2 + 4D + 5)(D^2 - 2D + 1)y = 0. \quad (18)$$

Since the roots of the auxiliary equation of (18) are $-2 - i$, $-2 + i$, 1, and 1, we see from

$$y = \boxed{c_1 e^x + c_2 x e^x} + c_3 e^{-2x} \cos x + c_4 e^{-2x} \sin x$$

that a particular solution of (17) can be found with the form

$$y_p = Ae^{-2x} \cos x + Be^{-2x} \sin x. \quad \blacksquare$$

---

**EXAMPLE 7** Form of a Particular Solution

Determine the form of a particular solution for

$$y''' - 4y'' + 4y' = 5x^2 - 6x + 4x^2 e^{2x} + 3e^{5x}. \quad (19)$$

**SOLUTION** Observe that

$$D^3(5x^2 - 6x) = 0, \quad (D - 2)^3 x^2 e^{2x} = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad (D - 5)e^{5x} = 0.$$

Therefore $D^3(D - 2)^3(D - 5)$ applied to (19) gives

$$D^3(D - 2)^3(D - 5)(D^3 - 4D^2 + 4D)y = 0$$

or

$$D^4(D - 2)^5(D - 5)y = 0.$$

The roots of the auxiliary equation for the last differential equation are easily seen to be 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 2, 2, 2, 2, and 5. Hence

$$y = \boxed{c_1} + c_2 x + c_3 x^2 + c_4 x^3 + \boxed{c_5 e^{2x} + c_6 x e^{2x}} + c_7 x^2 e^{2x} + c_8 x^3 e^{2x} + c_9 x^4 e^{2x} + c_{10} e^{5x}. \quad (20)$$

Because the linear combination $c_1 + c_5 e^{2x} + c_6 x e^{2x}$ corresponds to the complementary function of (19), the remaining terms in (20) give the form of a particular solution of the differential equation:

$$y_p = Ax + Bx^2 + Cx^3 + Ex^2 e^{2x} + Fx^3 e^{2x} + Gx^4 e^{2x} + He^{5x}. \quad \blacksquare$$

**SUMMARY OF THE METHOD** For your convenience the method of undetermined coefficients is summarized as follows.

| UNDETERMINED COEFFICIENTS—ANNIHILATOR APPROACH |
| --- |

The differential equation $L(y) = g(x)$ has constant coefficients, and the function $g(x)$ consists of finite sums and products of constants, polynomials, exponential functions $e^{\alpha x}$, sines, and cosines.

(*i*)   Find the complementary solution $y_c$ for the homogeneous equation $L(y) = 0$.

(*ii*)   Operate on both sides of the nonhomogeneous equation $L(y) = g(x)$ with a differential operator $L_1$ that annihilates the function $g(x)$.

(*iii*)   Find the general solution of the higher-order homogeneous differential equation $L_1 L(y) = 0$.

(*iv*)   Delete from the solution in step (*iii*) all those terms that are duplicated in the complementary solution $y_c$ found in step (*i*). Form a linear combination $y_p$ of the terms that remain. This is the form of a particular solution of $L(y) = g(x)$.

(*v*)   Substitute $y_p$ found in step (*iv*) into $L(y) = g(x)$. Match coefficients of the various functions on each side of the equality, and solve the resulting system of equations for the unknown coefficients in $y_p$.

(*vi*)   With the particular solution found in step (*v*), form the general solution $y = y_c + y_p$ of the given differential equation.

## REMARKS

The method of undetermined coefficients is not applicable to linear differential equations with variable coefficients nor is it applicable to linear equations with constant coefficients when $g(x)$ is a function such as

$$g(x) = \ln x, \qquad g(x) = \frac{1}{x}, \qquad g(x) = \tan x, \qquad g(x) = \sin^{-1} x,$$

and so on. Differential equations in which the input $g(x)$ is a function of this last kind will be considered in the next section.

## EXERCISES 4.5

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-5.*

In Problems 1–10 write the given differential equation in the form $L(y) = g(x)$, where $L$ is a linear differential operator with constant coefficients. If possible, factor $L$.

**1.** $9y'' - 4y = \sin x$     **2.** $y'' - 5y = x^2 - 2x$

**3.** $y'' - 4y' - 12y = x - 6$     **4.** $2y'' - 3y' - 2y = 1$

**5.** $y''' + 10y'' + 25y' = e^x$     **6.** $y''' + 4y' = e^x \cos 2x$

**7.** $y''' + 2y'' - 13y' + 10y = xe^{-x}$

**8.** $y''' + 4y'' + 3y' = x^2 \cos x - 3x$

**9.** $y^{(4)} + 8y' = 4$

**10.** $y^{(4)} - 8y'' + 16y = (x^3 - 2x)e^{4x}$

In Problems 11–14 verify that the given differential operator annihilates the indicated functions.

**11.** $D^4; \quad y = 10x^3 - 2x$     **12.** $2D - 1; \quad y = 4e^{x/2}$

**13.** $(D - 2)(D + 5); \quad y = e^{2x} + 3e^{-5x}$

**14.** $D^2 + 64; \quad y = 2\cos 8x - 5\sin 8x$

In Problems 15–26 find a linear differential operator that annihilates the given function.

**15.** $1 + 6x - 2x^3$     **16.** $x^3(1 - 5x)$

**17.** $1 + 7e^{2x}$     **18.** $x + 3xe^{6x}$

**19.** $\cos 2x$     **20.** $1 + \sin x$

**21.** $13x + 9x^2 - \sin 4x$     **22.** $8x - \sin x + 10\cos 5x$

**23.** $e^{-x} + 2xe^x - x^2 e^x$     **24.** $(2 - e^x)^2$

**25.** $3 + e^x \cos 2x$     **26.** $e^{-x} \sin x - e^{2x} \cos x$

In Problems 27–34 find linearly independent functions that are annihilated by the given differential operator.

**27.** $D^5$

**28.** $D^2 + 4D$

**29.** $(D - 6)(2D + 3)$

**30.** $D^2 - 9D - 36$

**31.** $D^2 + 5$

**32.** $D^2 - 6D + 10$

**33.** $D^3 - 10D^2 + 25D$

**34.** $D^2(D - 5)(D - 7)$

In Problems 35–64 solve the given differential equation by undetermined coefficients.

**35.** $y'' - 9y = 54$

**36.** $2y'' - 7y' + 5y = -29$

**37.** $y'' + y' = 3$

**38.** $y''' + 2y'' + y' = 10$

**39.** $y'' + 4y' + 4y = 2x + 6$

**40.** $y'' + 3y' = 4x - 5$

**41.** $y''' + y'' = 8x^2$

**42.** $y'' - 2y' + y = x^3 + 4x$

**43.** $y'' - y' - 12y = e^{4x}$

**44.** $y'' + 2y' + 2y = 5e^{6x}$

**45.** $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 4e^x - 9$

**46.** $y'' + 6y' + 8y = 3e^{-2x} + 2x$

**47.** $y'' + 25y = 6 \sin x$

**48.** $y'' + 4y = 4 \cos x + 3 \sin x - 8$

**49.** $y'' + 6y' + 9y = -xe^{4x}$

**50.** $y'' + 3y' - 10y = x(e^x + 1)$

**51.** $y'' - y = x^2 e^x + 5$

**52.** $y'' + 2y' + y = x^2 e^{-x}$

**53.** $y'' - 2y' + 5y = e^x \sin x$

**54.** $y'' + y' + \dfrac{1}{4}y = e^x(\sin 3x - \cos 3x)$

**55.** $y'' + 25y = 20 \sin 5x$

**56.** $y'' + y = 4 \cos x - \sin x$

**57.** $y'' + y' + y = x \sin x$

**58.** $y'' + 4y = \cos^2 x$

**59.** $y''' + 8y'' = -6x^2 + 9x + 2$

**60.** $y''' - y'' + y' - y = xe^x - e^{-x} + 7$

**61.** $y''' - 3y'' + 3y' - y = e^x - x + 16$

**62.** $2y''' - 3y'' - 3y' + 2y = (e^x + e^{-x})^2$

**63.** $y^{(4)} - 2y''' + y'' = e^x + 1$

**64.** $y^{(4)} - 4y'' = 5x^2 - e^{2x}$

In Problems 65–72 solve the given initial-value problem.

**65.** $y'' - 64y = 16, \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 0$

**66.** $y'' + y' = x, \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 0$

**67.** $y'' - 5y' = x - 2, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 2$

**68.** $y'' + 5y' - 6y = 10e^{2x}, \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 1$

**69.** $y'' + y = 8 \cos 2x - 4 \sin x, \quad y\left(\dfrac{\pi}{2}\right) = -1, y'\left(\dfrac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$

**70.** $y''' - 2y'' + y' = xe^x + 5, \quad y(0) = 2, y'(0) = 2, y''(0) = -1$

**71.** $y'' - 4y' + 8y = x^3, \quad y(0) = 2, y'(0) = 4$

**72.** $y^{(4)} - y''' = x + e^x, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0, y''(0) = 0, y'''(0) = 0$

## Discussion Problems

**73.** Suppose $L$ is a linear differential operator that factors but has variable coefficients. Do the factors of $L$ commute? Defend your answer.

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| **4.6** | VARIATION OF PARAMETERS |
|---|---|

### REVIEW MATERIAL

● Variation of parameters was first introduced in Section 2.3 and used again in Section 4.2. A review of those sections is recommended.

**INTRODUCTION** The procedure that we used to find a particular solution $y_p$ of a linear first-order differential equation on an interval is applicable to linear higher-order DEs as well. To adapt the method of **variation of parameters** to a linear second-order differential equation

$$a_2(x)y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = g(x), \tag{1}$$

we begin by putting the equation into the standard form

$$y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = f(x) \tag{2}$$

by dividing through by the lead coefficient $a_2(x)$. Equation (2) is the second-order analogue of the standard form of a linear first-order equation: $dy/dx + P(x)y = f(x)$. In (2) we suppose that $P(x)$, $Q(x)$, and $f(x)$ are continuous on some common interval $I$. As we have already seen in Section 4.3, there is no difficulty in obtaining the complementary function $y_c$, the general solution of the associated homogeneous equation of (2), when the coefficients are constant.

**ASSUMPTIONS** Corresponding to the assumption $y_p = u_1(x)y_1(x)$ that we used in Section 2.3 to find a particular solution $y_p$ of $dy/dx + P(x)y = f(x)$, for the linear second-order equation (2) we seek a solution of the form

$$y_p = u_1(x)y_1(x) + u_2(x)y_2(x), \qquad (3)$$

where $y_1$ and $y_2$ form a fundamental set of solutions on $I$ of the associated homogeneous form of (1). Using the Product Rule to differentiate $y_p$ twice, we get

$$y_p' = u_1 y_1' + y_1 u_1' + u_2 y_2' + y_2 u_2'$$

$$y_p'' = u_1 y_1'' + y_1' u_1' + y_1 u_1'' + u_1' y_1' + u_2 y_2'' + y_2' u_2' + y_2 u_2'' + u_2' y_2'.$$

Substituting (3) and the foregoing derivatives into (2) and grouping terms yields

$$y_p'' + P(x)y_p' + Q(x)y_p = u_1[\underbrace{y_1'' + Py_1' + Qy_1}_{\text{zero}}] + u_2[\underbrace{y_2'' + Py_2' + Qy_2}_{\text{zero}}] + y_1 u_1'' + u_1' y_1'$$

$$+ y_2 u_2'' + u_2' y_2' + P[y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2'] + y_1' u_1' + y_2' u_2'$$

$$= \frac{d}{dx}[y_1 u_1'] + \frac{d}{dx}[y_2 u_2'] + P[y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2'] + y_1' u_1' + y_2' u_2'$$

$$= \frac{d}{dx}[y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2'] + P[y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2'] + y_1' u_1' + y_2' u_2' = f(x). \qquad (4)$$

Because we seek to determine two unknown functions $u_1$ and $u_2$, reason dictates that we need two equations. We can obtain these equations by making the further assumption that the functions $u_1$ and $u_2$ satisfy $y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2' = 0$. This assumption does not come out of the blue but is prompted by the first two terms in (4), since if we demand that $y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2' = 0$, then (4) reduces to $y_1' u_1' + y_2' u_2' = f(x)$. We now have our desired two equations, albeit two equations for determining the derivatives $u_1'$ and $u_2'$. By Cramer's Rule, the solution of the system

$$y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2' = 0$$

$$y_1' u_1' + y_2' u_2' = f(x)$$

can be expressed in terms of determinants:

$$u_1' = \frac{W_1}{W} = -\frac{y_2 f(x)}{W} \qquad \text{and} \qquad u_2' = \frac{W_2}{W} = \frac{y_1 f(x)}{W}, \qquad (5)$$

where $\qquad W = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{vmatrix}, \qquad W_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & y_2 \\ f(x) & y_2' \end{vmatrix}, \qquad W_2 = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & 0 \\ y_1' & f(x) \end{vmatrix}. \qquad (6)$

The functions $u_1$ and $u_2$ are found by integrating the results in (5). The determinant $W$ is recognized as the Wronskian of $y_1$ and $y_2$. By linear independence of $y_1$ and $y_2$ on $I$, we know that $W(y_1(x), y_2(x)) \neq 0$ for every $x$ in the interval.

**SUMMARY OF THE METHOD** Usually, it is not a good idea to memorize formulas in lieu of understanding a procedure. However, the foregoing procedure is too long and complicated to use each time we wish to solve a differential equation. In this case it is more efficient to simply use the formulas in (5). Thus to solve $a_2 y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = g(x)$, first find the complementary function $y_c = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$ and then compute the Wronskian $W(y_1(x), y_2(x))$. By dividing by $a_2$, we put the equation into the standard form $y'' + Py' + Qy = f(x)$ to determine $f(x)$. We find $u_1$ and $u_2$ by integrating $u_1' = W_1/W$ and $u_2' = W_2/W$, where $W_1$ and $W_2$ are defined as in (6). A particular solution is $y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$. The general solution of the equation is then $y = y_c + y_p$.

---

**EXAMPLE 1** General Solution Using Variation of Parameters

Solve $y'' - 4y' + 4y = (x + 1)e^{2x}$.

**SOLUTION** From the auxiliary equation $m^2 - 4m + 4 = (m - 2)^2 = 0$ we have $y_c = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 x e^{2x}$. With the identifications $y_1 = e^{2x}$ and $y_2 = xe^{2x}$, we next compute the Wronskian:

$$W(e^{2x}, xe^{2x}) = \begin{vmatrix} e^{2x} & xe^{2x} \\ 2e^{2x} & 2xe^{2x} + e^{2x} \end{vmatrix} = e^{4x}.$$

Since the given differential equation is already in form (2) (that is, the coefficient of $y''$ is 1), we identify $f(x) = (x + 1)e^{2x}$. From (6) we obtain

$$W_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & xe^{2x} \\ (x + 1)e^{2x} & 2xe^{2x} + e^{2x} \end{vmatrix} = -(x + 1)xe^{4x}, \qquad W_2 = \begin{vmatrix} e^{2x} & 0 \\ 2e^{2x} & (x + 1)e^{2x} \end{vmatrix} = (x + 1)e^{4x},$$

and so from (5)

$$u_1' = -\frac{(x + 1)xe^{4x}}{e^{4x}} = -x^2 - x, \qquad u_2' = \frac{(x + 1)e^{4x}}{e^{4x}} = x + 1.$$

It follows that $u_1 = -\frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2$ and $u_2 = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + x$. Hence

$$y_p = \left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{2}x^2\right)e^{2x} + \left(\frac{1}{2}x^2 + x\right)xe^{2x} = \frac{1}{6}x^3 e^{2x} + \frac{1}{2}x^2 e^{2x}$$

and

$$y = y_c + y_p = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 x e^{2x} + \frac{1}{6}x^3 e^{2x} + \frac{1}{2}x^2 e^{2x}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

---

**EXAMPLE 2** General Solution Using Variation of Parameters

Solve $4y'' + 36y = \csc 3x$.

**SOLUTION** We first put the equation in the standard form (2) by dividing by 4:

$$y'' + 9y = \frac{1}{4}\csc 3x.$$

Because the roots of the auxiliary equation $m^2 + 9 = 0$ are $m_1 = 3i$ and $m_2 = -3i$, the complementary function is $y_c = c_1 \cos 3x + c_2 \sin 3x$. Using $y_1 = \cos 3x$, $y_2 = \sin 3x$, and $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}\csc 3x$, we obtain

$$W(\cos 3x, \sin 3x) = \begin{vmatrix} \cos 3x & \sin 3x \\ -3 \sin 3x & 3 \cos 3x \end{vmatrix} = 3,$$

$$W_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & \sin 3x \\ \frac{1}{4} \csc 3x & 3 \cos 3x \end{vmatrix} = -\frac{1}{4}, \qquad W_2 = \begin{vmatrix} \cos 3x & 0 \\ -3 \sin 3x & \frac{1}{4} \csc 3x \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{4}\frac{\cos 3x}{\sin 3x}.$$

Integrating

$$u_1' = \frac{W_1}{W} = -\frac{1}{12} \qquad \text{and} \qquad u_2' = \frac{W_2}{W} = \frac{1}{12}\frac{\cos 3x}{\sin 3x}$$

gives $u_1 = -\frac{1}{12}x$ and $u_2 = \frac{1}{36}\ln|\sin 3x|$. Thus a particular solution is

$$y_p = -\frac{1}{12}x \cos 3x + \frac{1}{36}(\sin 3x) \ln|\sin 3x|.$$

The general solution of the equation is

$$y = y_c + y_p = c_1 \cos 3x + c_2 \sin 3x - \frac{1}{12}x \cos 3x + \frac{1}{36}(\sin 3x) \ln|\sin 3x|. \qquad (7) \quad \blacksquare$$

Equation (7) represents the general solution of the differential equation on, say, the interval $(0, \pi/6)$.

**CONSTANTS OF INTEGRATION**   When computing the indefinite integrals of $u_1'$ and $u_2'$, we need not introduce any constants. This is because

$$
\begin{aligned}
y = y_c + y_p &= c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + (u_1 + a_1)y_1 + (u_2 + b_1)y_2 \\
&= (c_1 + a_1)y_1 + (c_2 + b_1)y_2 + u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2 \\
&= C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2 + u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2.
\end{aligned}
$$

| **EXAMPLE 3**   **General Solution Using Variation of Parameters** |

Solve $y'' - y = \dfrac{1}{x}$.

**SOLUTION**   The auxiliary equation $m^2 - 1 = 0$ yields $m_1 = -1$ and $m_2 = 1$. Therefore $y_c = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x}$. Now $W(e^x, e^{-x}) = -2$, and

$$
u_1' = -\frac{e^{-x}(1/x)}{-2}, \qquad u_1 = \frac{1}{2} \int_{x_0}^{x} \frac{e^{-t}}{t}\, dt,
$$

$$
u_2' = \frac{e^{x}(1/x)}{-2}, \qquad u_2 = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{x_0}^{x} \frac{e^{t}}{t}\, dt.
$$

Since the foregoing integrals are nonelementary, we are forced to write

$$
y_p = \frac{1}{2} e^x \int_{x_0}^{x} \frac{e^{-t}}{t}\, dt - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x} \int_{x_0}^{x} \frac{e^{t}}{t}\, dt,
$$

and so $\quad y = y_c + y_p = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x} + \dfrac{1}{2} e^x \displaystyle\int_{x_0}^{x} \frac{e^{-t}}{t}\, dt - \dfrac{1}{2} e^{-x} \displaystyle\int_{x_0}^{x} \frac{e^{t}}{t}\, dt.$   (8)   ∎

In Example 3 we can integrate on any interval $[x_0, x]$ that does not contain the origin.

**HIGHER-ORDER EQUATIONS**   The method that we have just examined for nonhomogeneous second-order differential equations can be generalized to linear $n$th-order equations that have been put into the standard form

$$
y^{(n)} + P_{n-1}(x)y^{(n-1)} + \cdots + P_1(x)y' + P_0(x)y = f(x). \tag{9}
$$

If $y_c = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + \cdots + c_n y_n$ is the complementary function for (9), then a particular solution is

$$
y_p = u_1(x)y_1(x) + u_2(x)y_2(x) + \cdots + u_n(x)y_n(x),
$$

where the $u_k'$, $k = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ are determined by the $n$ equations

$$
\begin{aligned}
y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2' + \cdots + y_n u_n' &= 0 \\
y_1' u_1' + y_2' u_2' + \cdots + y_n' u_n' &= 0 \\
&\;\;\vdots \\
y_1^{(n-1)} u_1' + y_2^{(n-1)} u_2' + \cdots + y_n^{(n-1)} u_n' &= f(x).
\end{aligned} \tag{10}
$$

The first $n - 1$ equations in this system, like $y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2' = 0$ in (4), are assumptions that are made to simplify the resulting equation after $y_p = u_1(x)y_1(x) + \cdots + u_n(x)y_n(x)$ is substituted in (9). In this case Cramer's rule gives

$$u_k' = \frac{W_k}{W}, \quad k = 1, 2, \ldots, n,$$

where $W$ is the Wronskian of $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n$ and $W_k$ is the determinant obtained by replacing the $k$th column of the Wronskian by the column consisting of the right-hand side of (10)—that is, the column consisting of $(0, 0, \ldots, f(x))$. When $n = 2$, we get (5). When $n = 3$, the particular solution is $y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2 + u_3 y_3$, where $y_1$, $y_2$, and $y_3$ constitute a linearly independent set of solutions of the associated homogeneous DE and $u_1$, $u_2$, $u_3$ are determined from

$$u_1' = \frac{W_1}{W}, \qquad u_2' = \frac{W_2}{W}, \qquad u_3' = \frac{W_3}{W}, \tag{11}$$

$$W_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & y_2 & y_3 \\ 0 & y_2' & y_3' \\ f(x) & y_2'' & y_3'' \end{vmatrix}, \quad W_2 = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & 0 & y_3 \\ y_1' & 0 & y_3' \\ y_1'' & f(x) & y_3'' \end{vmatrix}, \quad W_3 = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & 0 \\ y_1' & y_2' & 0 \\ y_1'' & y_2'' & f(x) \end{vmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad W = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ y_1' & y_2' & y_3' \\ y_1'' & y_2'' & y_3'' \end{vmatrix}.$$

See Problems 25 and 26 in Exercises 4.6.

### REMARKS

(*i*) Variation of parameters has a distinct advantage over the method of undetermined coefficients in that it will *always* yield a particular solution $y_p$ provided that the associated homogeneous equation can be solved. The present method is not limited to a function $f(x)$ that is a combination of the four types listed on page 141. As we shall see in the next section, variation of parameters, unlike undetermined coefficients, is applicable to linear DEs with variable coefficients.

(*ii*) In the problems that follow, do not hesitate to simplify the form of $y_p$. Depending on how the antiderivatives of $u_1'$ and $u_2'$ are found, you might not obtain the same $y_p$ as given in the answer section. For example, in Problem 3 in Exercises 4.6 both $y_p = \frac{1}{2} \sin x - \frac{1}{2} x \cos x$ and $y_p = \frac{1}{4} \sin x - \frac{1}{2} x \cos x$ are valid answers. In either case the general solution $y = y_c + y_p$ simplifies to $y = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x - \frac{1}{2} x \cos x$. Why?

## EXERCISES 4.6

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-5.*

In Problems 1–18 solve each differential equation by variation of parameters.

**1.** $y'' + y = \sec x$

**2.** $y'' + y = \tan x$

**3.** $y'' + y = \sin x$

**4.** $y'' + y = \sec \theta \tan \theta$

**5.** $y'' + y = \cos^2 x$

**6.** $y'' + y = \sec^2 x$

**7.** $y'' - y = \cosh x$

**8.** $y'' - y = \sinh 2x$

**9.** $y'' - 4y = \dfrac{e^{2x}}{x}$

**10.** $y'' - 9y = \dfrac{9x}{e^{3x}}$

**11.** $y'' + 3y' + 2y = \dfrac{1}{1 + e^x}$

**12.** $y'' - 2y' + y = \dfrac{e^x}{1 + x^2}$

**13.** $y'' + 3y' + 2y = \sin e^x$

**14.** $y'' - 2y' + y = e^t \arctan t$

**15.** $y'' + 2y' + y = e^{-t} \ln t$    **16.** $2y'' + 2y' + y = 4\sqrt{x}$

**17.** $3y'' - 6y' + 6y = e^x \sec x$

**18.** $4y'' - 4y' + y = e^{x/2}\sqrt{1 - x^2}$

In Problems 19–22 solve each differential equation by variation of parameters, subject to the initial conditions $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 0$.

**19.** $4y'' - y = xe^{x/2}$

**20.** $2y'' + y' - y = x + 1$

**21.** $y'' + 2y' - 8y = 2e^{-2x} - e^{-x}$

**22.** $y'' - 4y' + 4y = (12x^2 - 6x)e^{2x}$

In Problems 23 and 24 the indicated functions are known linearly independent solutions of the associated homogeneous differential equation on $(0, \infty)$. Find the general solution of the given nonhomogeneous equation.

**23.** $x^2y'' + xy' + \left(x^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right)y = x^{3/2}$;

   $y_1 = x^{-1/2} \cos x$, $y_2 = x^{-1/2} \sin x$

**24.** $x^2y'' + xy' + y = \sec(\ln x)$;

   $y_1 = \cos(\ln x)$, $y_2 = \sin(\ln x)$

In Problems 25 and 26 solve the given third-order differential equation by variation of parameters.

**25.** $y''' + y' = \tan x$        **26.** $y''' + 4y' = \sec 2x$

### Discussion Problems

In Problems 27 and 28 discuss how the methods of undetermined coefficients and variation of parameters can be combined to solve the given differential equation. Carry out your ideas.

**27.** $3y'' - 6y' + 30y = 15 \sin x + e^x \tan 3x$

**28.** $y'' - 2y' + y = 4x^2 - 3 + x^{-1}e^x$

**29.** What are the intervals of definition of the general solutions in Problems 1, 7, 9, and 18? Discuss why the interval of definition of the general solution in Problem 24 is *not* $(0, \infty)$.

**30.** Find the general solution of $x^4y'' + x^3y' - 4x^2y = 1$ given that $y_1 = x^2$ is a solution of the associated homogeneous equation.

**31.** Suppose $y_p(x) = u_1(x)y_1(x) + u_2(x)y_2(x)$, where $u_1$ and $u_2$ are defined by (5) is a particular solution of (2) on an interval $I$ for which $P$, $Q$, and $f$ are continuous. Show that $y_p$ can be written as

$$y_p(x) = \int_{x_0}^{x} G(x, t)f(t)\, dt, \tag{12}$$

where $x$ and $x_0$ are in $I$,

$$G(x, t) = \frac{y_1(t)y_2(x) - y_1(x)y_2(t)}{W(t)}, \tag{13}$$

and $W(t) = W(y_1(t), y_2(t))$ is the Wronskian. The function $G(x, t)$ in (13) is called the **Green's function** for the differential equation (2).

**32.** Use (13) to construct the Green's function for the differential equation in Example 3. Express the general solution given in (8) in terms of the particular solution (12).

**33.** Verify that (12) is a solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + P\frac{dy}{dx} + Qy = f(x), \quad y(x_0) = 0, \quad y'(x_0) = 0.$$

on the interval $I$. [*Hint*: Look up Leibniz's Rule for differentiation under an integral sign.]

**34.** Use the results of Problems 31 and 33 and the Green's function found in Problem 32 to find a solution of the initial-value problem

$$y'' - y = e^{2x}, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$$

using (12). Evaluate the integral.

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| 4.7 | CAUCHY-EULER EQUATION |
|---|---|

### REVIEW MATERIAL
● Review the concept of the auxiliary equation in Section 4.3.

**INTRODUCTION**    The same relative ease with which we were able to find explicit solutions of higher-order linear differential equations with constant coefficients in the preceding sections does not, in general, carry over to linear equations with variable coefficients. We shall see in Chapter 6 that when a linear DE has variable coefficients, the best that we can *usually* expect is to find a solution in the form of an infinite series. However, the type of differential equation that we consider in this section is an exception to this rule; it is a linear equation with variable coefficients whose general solution can always be expressed in terms of powers of $x$, sines, cosines, and logarithmic functions. Moreover, its method of solution is quite similar to that for constant-coefficient equations in that an auxiliary equation must be solved.

**CAUCHY-EULER EQUATION**   A linear differential equation of the form

$$a_n x^n \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \cdots + a_1 x \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0 y = g(x),$$

where the coefficients $a_n$, $a_{n-1}$, ..., $a_0$ are constants, is known as a **Cauchy-Euler equation.** The observable characteristic of this type of equation is that the degree $k = n$, $n - 1$, ..., 1, 0 of the monomial coefficients $x^k$ matches the order $k$ of differentiation $d^k y / dx^k$:

$$\underset{\underset{a_n x^n}{\uparrow}}{\overset{\text{same}}{\downarrow}} \underset{\underset{\dfrac{d^n y}{dx^n}}{\uparrow}}{\overset{\text{same}}{\downarrow}} + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \cdots .$$

As in Section 4.3, we start the discussion with a detailed examination of the forms of the general solutions of the homogeneous second-order equation

$$ax^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + bx \frac{dy}{dx} + cy = 0.$$

The solution of higher-order equations follows analogously. Also, we can solve the nonhomogeneous equation $ax^2 y'' + bxy' + cy = g(x)$ by variation of parameters, once we have determined the complementary function $y_c$.

**NOTE**   The coefficient $ax^2$ of $y''$ is zero at $x = 0$. Hence to guarantee that the fundamental results of Theorem 4.1.1 are applicable to the Cauchy-Euler equation, we confine our attention to finding the general solutions defined on the interval $(0, \infty)$. Solutions on the interval $(-\infty, 0)$ can be obtained by substituting $t = -x$ into the differential equation. See Problems 37 and 38 in Exercises 4.7.

**METHOD OF SOLUTION**   We try a solution of the form $y = x^m$, where $m$ is to be determined. Analogous to what happened when we substituted $e^{mx}$ into a linear equation with constant coefficients, when we substitute $x^m$, each term of a Cauchy-Euler equation becomes a polynomial in $m$ times $x^m$, since

$$a_k x^k \frac{d^k y}{dx^k} = a_k x^k m(m-1)(m-2) \cdots (m-k+1) x^{m-k} = a_k m(m-1)(m-2) \cdots (m-k+1) x^m.$$

For example, when we substitute $y = x^m$, the second-order equation becomes

$$ax^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + bx \frac{dy}{dx} + cy = am(m-1)x^m + bmx^m + cx^m = (am(m-1) + bm + c)x^m.$$

Thus $y = x^m$ is a solution of the differential equation whenever $m$ is a solution of the **auxiliary equation**

$$am(m-1) + bm + c = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad am^2 + (b-a)m + c = 0. \qquad (1)$$

There are three different cases to be considered, depending on whether the roots of this quadratic equation are real and distinct, real and equal, or complex. In the last case the roots appear as a conjugate pair.

**CASE I: DISTINCT REAL ROOTS**   Let $m_1$ and $m_2$ denote the real roots of (1) such that $m_1 \neq m_2$. Then $y_1 = x^{m_1}$ and $y_2 = x^{m_2}$ form a fundamental set of solutions. Hence the general solution is

$$y = c_1 x^{m_1} + c_2 x^{m_2}. \qquad (2)$$

### EXAMPLE 1   Distinct Roots

Solve $x^2 \dfrac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2x \dfrac{dy}{dx} - 4y = 0$.

**SOLUTION**   Rather than just memorizing equation (1), it is preferable to assume $y = x^m$ as the solution a few times to understand the origin and the difference between this new form of the auxiliary equation and that obtained in Section 4.3. Differentiate twice,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = mx^{m-1}, \qquad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = m(m - 1)x^{m-2},$$

and substitute back into the differential equation:

$$x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2x \frac{dy}{dx} - 4y = x^2 \cdot m(m - 1)x^{m-2} - 2x \cdot mx^{m-1} - 4x^m$$

$$= x^m(m(m - 1) - 2m - 4) = x^m(m^2 - 3m - 4) = 0$$

if $m^2 - 3m - 4 = 0$. Now $(m + 1)(m - 4) = 0$ implies $m_1 = -1$, $m_2 = 4$, so $y = c_1 x^{-1} + c_2 x^4$. ■

**CASE II: REPEATED REAL ROOTS**   If the roots of (1) are repeated (that is, $m_1 = m_2$), then we obtain only one solution—namely, $y = x^{m_1}$. When the roots of the quadratic equation $am^2 + (b - a)m + c = 0$ are equal, the discriminant of the coefficients is necessarily zero. It follows from the quadratic formula that the root must be $m_1 = -(b - a)/2a$.

Now we can construct a second solution $y_2$, using (5) of Section 4.2. We first write the Cauchy-Euler equation in the standard form

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \frac{b}{ax} \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{c}{ax^2} y = 0$$

and make the identifications $P(x) = b/ax$ and $\int (b/ax)\,dx = (b/a) \ln x$. Thus

$$y_2 = x^{m_1} \int \frac{e^{-(b/a)\ln x}}{x^{2m_1}}\,dx$$

$$= x^{m_1} \int x^{-b/a} \cdot x^{-2m_1}\,dx \qquad \leftarrow e^{-(b/a)\ln x} = e^{\ln x^{-b/a}} = x^{-b/a}$$

$$= x^{m_1} \int x^{-b/a} \cdot x^{(b-a)/a}\,dx \qquad \leftarrow -2m_1 = (b - a)/a$$

$$= x^{m_1} \int \frac{dx}{x} = x^{m_1} \ln x.$$

The general solution is then

$$y = c_1 x^{m_1} + c_2 x^{m_1} \ln x. \tag{3}$$

### EXAMPLE 2   Repeated Roots

Solve $4x^2 \dfrac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 8x \dfrac{dy}{dx} + y = 0$.

**SOLUTION**   The  substitution $y = x^m$ yields

$$4x^2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 8x \frac{dy}{dx} + y = x^m(4m(m - 1) + 8m + 1) = x^m(4m^2 + 4m + 1) = 0$$

when $4m^2 + 4m + 1 = 0$ or $(2m + 1)^2 = 0$. Since $m_1 = -\frac{1}{2}$, the general solution is $y = c_1 x^{-1/2} + c_2 x^{-1/2} \ln x$. ∎

For higher-order equations, if $m_1$ is a root of multiplicity $k$, then it can be shown that

$$x^{m_1}, \quad x^{m_1} \ln x, \quad x^{m_1}(\ln x)^2, \ldots, \quad x^{m_1}(\ln x)^{k-1}$$

are $k$ linearly independent solutions. Correspondingly, the general solution of the differential equation must then contain a linear combination of these $k$ solutions.

**CASE III: CONJUGATE COMPLEX ROOTS** If the roots of (1) are the conjugate pair $m_1 = \alpha + i\beta$, $m_2 = \alpha - i\beta$, where $\alpha$ and $\beta > 0$ are real, then a solution is

$$y = C_1 x^{\alpha+i\beta} + C_2 x^{\alpha-i\beta}.$$

But when the roots of the auxiliary equation are complex, as in the case of equations with constant coefficients, we wish to write the solution in terms of real functions only. We note the identity

$$x^{i\beta} = (e^{\ln x})^{i\beta} = e^{i\beta \ln x},$$

which, by Euler's formula, is the same as

$$x^{i\beta} = \cos(\beta \ln x) + i \sin(\beta \ln x).$$

Similarly, $\qquad\qquad x^{-i\beta} = \cos(\beta \ln x) - i \sin(\beta \ln x).$

Adding and subtracting the last two results yields

$$x^{i\beta} + x^{-i\beta} = 2\cos(\beta \ln x) \qquad \text{and} \qquad x^{i\beta} - x^{-i\beta} = 2i \sin(\beta \ln x),$$

respectively. From the fact that $y = C_1 x^{\alpha+i\beta} + C_2 x^{\alpha-i\beta}$ is a solution for any values of the constants, we see, in turn, for $C_1 = C_2 = 1$ and $C_1 = 1$, $C_2 = -1$ that

$$y_1 = x^\alpha(x^{i\beta} + x^{-i\beta}) \qquad \text{and} \qquad y_2 = x^\alpha(x^{i\beta} - x^{-i\beta})$$

or $\qquad\qquad y_1 = 2x^\alpha \cos(\beta \ln x) \qquad \text{and} \qquad y_2 = 2ix^\alpha \sin(\beta \ln x)$

are also solutions. Since $W(x^\alpha \cos(\beta \ln x), x^\alpha \sin(\beta \ln x)) = \beta x^{2\alpha-1} \neq 0$, $\beta > 0$ on the interval $(0, \infty)$, we conclude that

$$y_1 = x^\alpha \cos(\beta \ln x) \qquad \text{and} \qquad y_2 = x^\alpha \sin(\beta \ln x)$$

constitute a fundamental set of real solutions of the differential equation. Hence the general solution is

$$y = x^\alpha[c_1 \cos(\beta \ln x) + c_2 \sin(\beta \ln x)]. \qquad (4)$$
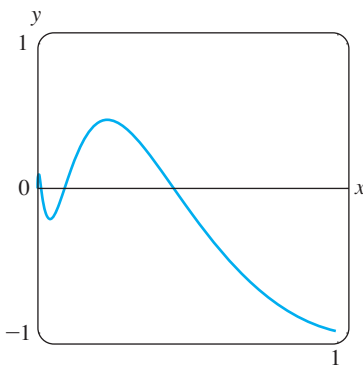


**(a)** solution for $0 < x \leq 1$
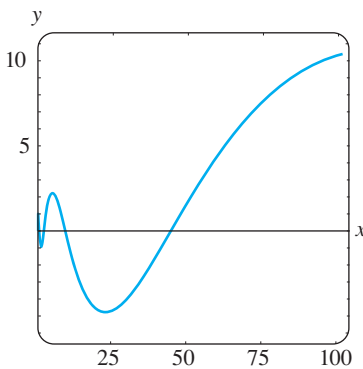


**(b)** solution for $0 < x \leq 100$

**FIGURE 4.7.1** Solution curve of IVP in Example 3

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### EXAMPLE 3 An Initial-Value Problem

Solve $4x^2 y'' + 17y = 0$, $y(1) = -1$, $y'(1) = -\frac{1}{2}$.

**SOLUTION** The $y'$ term is missing in the given Cauchy-Euler equation; nevertheless, the substitution $y = x^m$ yields

$$4x^2 y'' + 17y = x^m(4m(m - 1) + 17) = x^m(4m^2 - 4m + 17) = 0$$

when $4m^2 - 4m + 17 = 0$. From the quadratic formula we find that the roots are $m_1 = \frac{1}{2} + 2i$ and $m_2 = \frac{1}{2} - 2i$. With the identifications $\alpha = \frac{1}{2}$ and $\beta = 2$ we see from (4) that the general solution of the differential equation is

$$y = x^{1/2}[c_1 \cos(2 \ln x) + c_2 \sin(2 \ln x)].$$

By applying the initial conditions $y(1) = -1$, $y'(1) = -\frac{1}{2}$ to the foregoing solution and using $\ln 1 = 0$, we then find, in turn, that $c_1 = -1$ and $c_2 = 0$. Hence the solution

of the initial-value problem is $y = -x^{1/2} \cos(2 \ln x)$. The graph of this function, obtained with the aid of computer software, is given in Figure 4.7.1. The particular solution is seen to be oscillatory and unbounded as $x \to \infty$. ∎

The next example illustrates the solution of a third-order Cauchy-Euler equation.

## EXAMPLE 4  Third-Order Equation

Solve $x^3 \dfrac{d^3 y}{dx^3} + 5x^2 \dfrac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 7x \dfrac{dy}{dx} + 8y = 0.$

**SOLUTION**  The first three derivatives of $y = x^m$ are

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = mx^{m-1}, \qquad \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = m(m-1)x^{m-2}, \qquad \frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} = m(m-1)(m-2)x^{m-3},$$

so the given differential equation becomes

$$x^3 \frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} + 5x^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 7x \frac{dy}{dx} + 8y = x^3 m(m-1)(m-2)x^{m-3} + 5x^2 m(m-1)x^{m-2} + 7xmx^{m-1} + 8x^m$$

$$= x^m (m(m-1)(m-2) + 5m(m-1) + 7m + 8)$$

$$= x^m (m^3 + 2m^2 + 4m + 8) = x^m (m+2)(m^2 + 4) = 0.$$

In this case we see that $y = x^m$ will be a solution of the differential equation for $m_1 = -2$, $m_2 = 2i$, and $m_3 = -2i$. Hence the general solution is $y = c_1 x^{-2} + c_2 \cos(2 \ln x) + c_3 \sin(2 \ln x)$. ∎

The method of undetermined coefficients described in Sections 4.5 and 4.6 does not carry over, *in general,* to linear differential equations with variable coefficients. Consequently, in our next example the method of variation of parameters is employed.

## EXAMPLE 5  Variation of Parameters

Solve $x^2 y'' - 3xy' + 3y = 2x^4 e^x.$

**SOLUTION**  Since the equation is nonhomogeneous, we first solve the associated homogeneous equation. From the auxiliary equation $(m-1)(m-3) = 0$ we find $y_c = c_1 x + c_2 x^3$. Now before using variation of parameters to find a particular solution $y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$, recall that the formulas $u_1' = W_1/W$ and $u_2' = W_2/W$, where $W_1$, $W_2$, and $W$ are the determinants defined on page 158, were derived under the assumption that the differential equation has been put into the standard form $y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = f(x)$. Therefore we divide the given equation by $x^2$, and from

$$y'' - \frac{3}{x} y' + \frac{3}{x^2} y = 2x^2 e^x$$

we make the identification $f(x) = 2x^2 e^x$. Now with $y_1 = x$, $y_2 = x^3$, and

$$W = \begin{vmatrix} x & x^3 \\ 1 & 3x^2 \end{vmatrix} = 2x^3, \quad W_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & x^3 \\ 2x^2 e^x & 3x^2 \end{vmatrix} = -2x^5 e^x, \quad W_2 = \begin{vmatrix} x & 0 \\ 1 & 2x^2 e^x \end{vmatrix} = 2x^3 e^x,$$

we find $\qquad u_1' = -\dfrac{2x^5 e^x}{2x^3} = -x^2 e^x \qquad$ and $\qquad u_2' = \dfrac{2x^3 e^x}{2x^3} = e^x.$

The integral of the last function is immediate, but in the case of $u_1'$ we integrate by parts twice. The results are $u_1 = -x^2 e^x + 2xe^x - 2e^x$ and $u_2 = e^x$. Hence $y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$ is

$$y_p = (-x^2 e^x + 2xe^x - 2e^x)x + e^x x^3 = 2x^2 e^x - 2xe^x.$$

Finally, $\qquad\qquad y = y_c + y_p = c_1 x + c_2 x^3 + 2x^2 e^x - 2xe^x.$ ∎

**REDUCTION TO CONSTANT COEFFICIENTS** The similarities between the forms of solutions of Cauchy-Euler equations and solutions of linear equations with constant coefficients are not just a coincidence. For example, when the roots of the auxiliary equations for $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$ and $ax^2 y'' + bxy' + cy = 0$ are distinct and real, the respective general solutions are

$$y = c_1 e^{m_1 x} + c_2 e^{m_2 x} \qquad \text{and} \qquad y = c_1 x^{m_1} + c_2 x^{m_2}, \quad x > 0. \qquad (5)$$

In view of the identity $e^{\ln x} = x$, $x > 0$, the second solution given in (5) can be expressed in the same form as the first solution:

$$y = c_1 e^{m_1 \ln x} + c_2 e^{m_2 \ln x} = c_1 e^{m_1 t} + c_2 e^{m_2 t},$$

where $t = \ln x$. This last result illustrates the fact that any Cauchy-Euler equation can *always* be rewritten as a linear differential equation with constant coefficients by means of the substitution $x = e^t$. The idea is to solve the new differential equation in terms of the variable $t$, using the methods of the previous sections, and, once the general solution is obtained, resubstitute $t = \ln x$. This method, illustrated in the last example, requires the use of the Chain Rule of differentiation.

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### EXAMPLE 6 Changing to Constant Coefficients

Solve $x^2 y'' - xy' + y = \ln x$.

**SOLUTION** With the substitution $x = e^t$ or $t = \ln x$, it follows that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dt}\frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{1}{x}\frac{dy}{dt} \qquad\qquad \leftarrow \text{Chain Rule}$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{1}{x}\frac{d}{dx}\left(\frac{dy}{dt}\right) + \frac{dy}{dt}\left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right) \qquad \leftarrow \text{Product Rule and Chain Rule}$$

$$= \frac{1}{x}\left(\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2}\frac{1}{x}\right) + \frac{dy}{dt}\left(-\frac{1}{x^2}\right) = \frac{1}{x^2}\left(\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} - \frac{dy}{dt}\right).$$

Substituting in the given differential equation and simplifying yields

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} - 2\frac{dy}{dt} + y = t.$$

Since this last equation has constant coefficients, its auxiliary equation is $m^2 - 2m + 1 = 0$, or $(m - 1)^2 = 0$. Thus we obtain $y_c = c_1 e^t + c_2 t e^t$.

By undetermined coefficients we try a particular solution of the form $y_p = A + Bt$. This assumption leads to $-2B + A + Bt = t$, so $A = 2$ and $B = 1$. Using $y = y_c + y_p$, we get

$$y = c_1 e^t + c_2 t e^t + 2 + t,$$

so the general solution of the original differential equation on the interval $(0, \infty)$ is $y = c_1 x + c_2 x \ln x + 2 + \ln x$. ∎

## EXERCISES 4.7

In Problems 1–18 solve the given differential equation.

**1.** $x^2y'' - 2y = 0$

**2.** $4x^2y'' + y = 0$

**3.** $xy'' + y' = 0$

**4.** $xy'' - 3y' = 0$

**5.** $x^2y'' + xy' + 4y = 0$

**6.** $x^2y'' + 5xy' + 3y = 0$

**7.** $x^2y'' - 3xy' - 2y = 0$

**8.** $x^2y'' + 3xy' - 4y = 0$

**9.** $25x^2y'' + 25xy' + y = 0$

**10.** $4x^2y'' + 4xy' - y = 0$

**11.** $x^2y'' + 5xy' + 4y = 0$

**12.** $x^2y'' + 8xy' + 6y = 0$

**13.** $3x^2y'' + 6xy' + y = 0$

**14.** $x^2y'' - 7xy' + 41y = 0$

**15.** $x^3y''' - 6y = 0$

**16.** $x^3y''' + xy' - y = 0$

**17.** $xy^{(4)} + 6y''' = 0$

**18.** $x^4y^{(4)} + 6x^3y''' + 9x^2y'' + 3xy' + y = 0$

In Problems 19–24 solve the given differential equation by variation of parameters.

**19.** $xy'' - 4y' = x^4$

**20.** $2x^2y'' + 5xy' + y = x^2 - x$

**21.** $x^2y'' - xy' + y = 2x$

**22.** $x^2y'' - 2xy' + 2y = x^4e^x$

**23.** $x^2y'' + xy' - y = \ln x$

**24.** $x^2y'' + xy' - y = \dfrac{1}{x + 1}$

In Problems 25–30 solve the given initial-value problem. Use a graphing utility to graph the solution curve.

**25.** $x^2y'' + 3xy' = 0, \quad y(1) = 0, y'(1) = 4$

**26.** $x^2y'' - 5xy' + 8y = 0, \quad y(2) = 32, y'(2) = 0$

**27.** $x^2y'' + xy' + y = 0, \quad y(1) = 1, y'(1) = 2$

**28.** $x^2y'' - 3xy' + 4y = 0, \quad y(1) = 5, y'(1) = 3$

**29.** $xy'' + y' = x, \quad y(1) = 1, y'(1) = -\frac{1}{2}$

**30.** $x^2y'' - 5xy' + 8y = 8x^6, \quad y(\frac{1}{2}) = 0, y'(\frac{1}{2}) = 0$

In Problems 31–36 use the substitution $x = e^t$ to transform the given Cauchy-Euler equation to a differential equation with constant coefficients. Solve the original equation by solving the new equation using the procedures in Sections 4.3–4.5.

**31.** $x^2y'' + 9xy' - 20y = 0$

**32.** $x^2y'' - 9xy' + 25y = 0$

**33.** $x^2y'' + 10xy' + 8y = x^2$

**34.** $x^2y'' - 4xy' + 6y = \ln x^2$

**35.** $x^2y'' - 3xy' + 13y = 4 + 3x$

**36.** $x^3y''' - 3x^2y'' + 6xy' - 6y = 3 + \ln x^3$

In Problems 37 and 38 solve the given initial-value problem on the interval $(-\infty, 0)$.

**37.** $4x^2y'' + y = 0, \quad y(-1) = 2, y'(-1) = 4$

**38.** $x^2y'' - 4xy' + 6y = 0, \quad y(-2) = 8, y'(-2) = 0$

### Discussion Problems

**39.** How would you use the method of this section to solve

$$(x + 2)^2y'' + (x + 2)y' + y = 0?$$

Carry out your ideas. State an interval over which the solution is defined.

**40.** Can a Cauchy-Euler differential equation of lowest order with real coefficients be found if it is known that 2 and $1 - i$ are roots of its auxiliary equation? Carry out your ideas.

**41.** The initial-conditions $y(0) = y_0$, $y'(0) = y_1$ apply to each of the following differential equations:

$$x^2y'' = 0,$$
$$x^2y'' - 2xy' + 2y = 0,$$
$$x^2y'' - 4xy' + 6y = 0.$$

For what values of $y_0$ and $y_1$ does each initial-value problem have a solution?

**42.** What are the $x$-intercepts of the solution curve shown in Figure 4.7.1? How many $x$-intercepts are there for $0 < x < \frac{1}{2}$?

### Computer Lab Assignments

In Problems 43–46 solve the given differential equation by using a CAS to find the (approximate) roots of the auxiliary equation.

**43.** $2x^3y''' - 10.98x^2y'' + 8.5xy' + 1.3y = 0$

**44.** $x^3y''' + 4x^2y'' + 5xy' - 9y = 0$

**45.** $x^4y^{(4)} + 6x^3y''' + 3x^2y'' - 3xy' + 4y = 0$

**46.** $x^4y^{(4)} - 6x^3y''' + 33x^2y'' - 105xy' + 169y = 0$

**47.** Solve $x^3y''' - x^2y'' - 2xy' + 6y = x^2$ by variation of parameters. Use a CAS as an aid in computing roots of the auxiliary equation and the determinants given in (10) of Section 4.6.

# SOLVING SYSTEMS OF LINEAR DEs BY ELIMINATION

**REVIEW MATERIAL**

● Because the method of systematic elimination uncouples a system into distinct linear ODEs in each dependent variable, this section gives you an opportunity to practice what you learned in Sections 4.3, 4.4 (or 4.5), and 4.6.

**INTRODUCTION**  Simultaneous ordinary differential equations involve two or more equations that contain derivatives of two or more dependent variables—the unknown functions—with respect to a single independent variable. The method of **systematic elimination** for solving systems of differential equations with constant coefficients is based on the algebraic principle of elimination of variables. We shall see that the analogue of *multiplying* an algebraic equation by a constant is *operating* on an ODE with some combination of derivatives.

**SYSTEMATIC ELIMINATION**  The elimination of an unknown in a system of linear differential equations is expedited by rewriting each equation in the system in differential operator notation. Recall from Section 4.1 that a single linear equation

$$a_n y^{(n)} + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1 y' + a_0 y = g(t),$$

where the $a_i$, $i = 0, 1, \ldots, n$ are constants, can be written as

$$(a_n D^n + a_{n-1} D^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1 D + a_0)y = g(t).$$

If the $n$th-order differential operator $a_n D^n + a_{n-1} D^{(n-1)} + \cdots + a_1 D + a_0$ factors into differential operators of lower order, then the factors commute. Now, for example, to rewrite the system

$$x'' + 2x' + y'' = x + 3y + \sin t$$
$$x' + y' = -4x + 2y + e^{-t}$$

in terms of the operator $D$, we first bring all terms involving the dependent variables to one side and group the same variables:

$$x'' + 2x' - x + y'' - 3y = \sin t$$
$$x' - 4x + y' - 2y = e^{-t}$$

is the same as

$$(D^2 + 2D - 1)x + (D^2 - 3)y = \sin t$$
$$(D - 4)x + (D - 2)y = e^{-t}.$$

**SOLUTION OF A SYSTEM**  A **solution** of a system of differential equations is a set of sufficiently differentiable functions $x = \phi_1(t)$, $y = \phi_2(t)$, $z = \phi_3(t)$, and so on that satisfies each equation in the system on some common interval $I$.

**METHOD OF SOLUTION**  Consider the simple system of linear first-order equations

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 3y$$
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2x$$

or, equivalently,

$$Dx - 3y = 0$$
$$2x - Dy = 0. \tag{1}$$

Operating on the first equation in (1) by $D$ while multiplying the second by $-3$ and then adding eliminates $y$ from the system and gives $D^2 x - 6x = 0$. Since the roots of the auxiliary equation of the last DE are $m_1 = \sqrt{6}$ and $m_2 = -\sqrt{6}$, we obtain

$$x(t) = c_1 e^{-\sqrt{6}t} + c_2 e^{\sqrt{6}t}. \tag{2}$$

Multiplying the first equation in (1) by 2 while operating on the second by $D$ and then subtracting gives the differential equation for $y$, $D^2 y - 6y = 0$. It follows immediately that

$$y(t) = c_3 e^{-\sqrt{6}t} + c_4 e^{\sqrt{6}t}. \tag{3}$$

Now (2) and (3) do not satisfy the system (1) for every choice of $c_1$, $c_2$, $c_3$, and $c_4$ because the system itself puts a constraint on the number of parameters in a solution that can be chosen arbitrarily. To see this, observe that substituting $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ into the first equation of the original system (1) gives, after simplification,

$$(-\sqrt{6}c_1 - 3c_3)e^{-\sqrt{6}t} + (\sqrt{6}c_2 - 3c_4)e^{\sqrt{6}t} = 0.$$

Since the latter expression is to be zero for all values of $t$, we must have $-\sqrt{6}c_1 - 3c_3 = 0$ and $\sqrt{6}c_2 - 3c_4 = 0$. These two equations enable us to write $c_3$ as a multiple of $c_1$ and $c_4$ as a multiple of $c_2$:

$$c_3 = -\frac{\sqrt{6}}{3}c_1 \quad \text{and} \quad c_4 = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{3}c_2. \tag{4}$$

Hence we conclude that a solution of the system must be

$$x(t) = c_1 e^{-\sqrt{6}t} + c_2 e^{\sqrt{6}t}, \qquad y(t) = -\frac{\sqrt{6}}{3}c_1 e^{-\sqrt{6}t} + \frac{\sqrt{6}}{3}c_2 e^{\sqrt{6}t}.$$

You are urged to substitute (2) and (3) into the second equation of (1) and verify that the same relationship (4) holds between the constants.

### EXAMPLE 1 Solution by Elimination

Solve
$$Dx + (D + 2)y = 0$$
$$(D - 3)x - \qquad 2y = 0. \tag{5}$$

**SOLUTION** Operating on the first equation by $D - 3$ and on the second by $D$ and then subtracting eliminates $x$ from the system. It follows that the differential equation for $y$ is

$$[(D - 3)(D + 2) + 2D]y = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad (D^2 + D - 6)y = 0.$$

Since the characteristic equation of this last differential equation is $m^2 + m - 6 = (m - 2)(m + 3) = 0$, we obtain the solution

$$y(t) = c_1 e^{2t} + c_2 e^{-3t}. \tag{6}$$

Eliminating $y$ in a similar manner yields $(D^2 + D - 6)x = 0$, from which we find

$$x(t) = c_3 e^{2t} + c_4 e^{-3t}. \tag{7}$$

As we noted in the foregoing discussion, a solution of (5) does not contain four independent constants. Substituting (6) and (7) into the first equation of (5) gives

$$(4c_1 + 2c_3)e^{2t} + (-c_2 - 3c_4)e^{-3t} = 0.$$

From $4c_1 + 2c_3 = 0$ and $-c_2 - 3c_4 = 0$ we get $c_3 = -2c_1$ and $c_4 = -\frac{1}{3}c_2$. Accordingly, a solution of the system is

$$x(t) = -2c_1 e^{2t} - \frac{1}{3}c_2 e^{-3t}, \qquad y(t) = c_1 e^{2t} + c_2 e^{-3t}. \qquad ■$$

Because we could just as easily solve for $c_3$ and $c_4$ in terms of $c_1$ and $c_2$, the solution in Example 1 can be written in the alternative form

$$x(t) = c_3 e^{2t} + c_4 e^{-3t}, \qquad y(t) = -\frac{1}{2}c_3 e^{2t} - 3c_4 e^{-3t}.$$

It sometimes pays to keep one's eyes open when solving systems. Had we solved for $x$ first in Example 1, then $y$ could be found, along with the relationship between the constants, using the last equation in the system (5). You should verify that substituting $x(t)$ into $y = \frac{1}{2}(Dx - 3x)$ yields $y = -\frac{1}{2}c_3 e^{2t} - 3c_4 e^{-3t}$. Also note in the initial discussion that the relationship given in (4) and the solution $y(t)$ of (1) could also have been obtained by using $x(t)$ in (2) and the first equation of (1) in the form

■ This might save you some time.

$$y = \tfrac{1}{3} Dx = -\tfrac{1}{3}\sqrt{6}c_1 e^{-\sqrt{6}t} + \tfrac{1}{3}\sqrt{6}c_2 e^{\sqrt{6}t}.$$

### EXAMPLE 2  Solution by Elimination

Solve
$$\begin{aligned} x' - 4x + y'' &= t^2 \\ x' + x + y' &= 0. \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

**SOLUTION**  First we write the system in differential operator notation:

$$\begin{aligned} (D - 4)x + D^2 y &= t^2 \\ (D + 1)x + Dy &= 0. \end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

Then, by eliminating $x$, we obtain

$$[(D + 1)D^2 - (D - 4)D]y = (D + 1)t^2 - (D - 4)0$$

or $$(D^3 + 4D)y = t^2 + 2t.$$

Since the roots of the auxiliary equation $m(m^2 + 4) = 0$ are $m_1 = 0$, $m_2 = 2i$, and $m_3 = -2i$, the complementary function is $y_c = c_1 + c_2 \cos 2t + c_3 \sin 2t$. To determine the particular solution $y_p$, we use undetermined coefficients by assuming that $y_p = At^3 + Bt^2 + Ct$. Therefore $y'_p = 3At^2 + 2Bt + C$, $y''_p = 6At + 2B$, $y'''_p = 6A$,

$$y'''_p + 4y'_p = 12At^2 + 8Bt + 6A + 4C = t^2 + 2t.$$

The last equality implies that $12A = 1$, $8B = 2$, and $6A + 4C = 0$; hence $A = \frac{1}{12}$, $B = \frac{1}{4}$, and $C = -\frac{1}{8}$. Thus

$$y = y_c + y_p = c_1 + c_2 \cos 2t + c_3 \sin 2t + \frac{1}{12}t^3 + \frac{1}{4}t^2 - \frac{1}{8}t. \tag{10}$$

Eliminating $y$ from the system (9) leads to

$$[(D - 4) - D(D + 1)]x = t^2 \qquad \text{or} \qquad (D^2 + 4)x = -t^2.$$

It should be obvious that $x_c = c_4 \cos 2t + c_5 \sin 2t$ and that undetermined coefficients can be applied to obtain a particular solution of the form $x_p = At^2 + Bt + C$. In this case the usual differentiations and algebra yield $x_p = -\frac{1}{4}t^2 + \frac{1}{8}$, and so

$$x = x_c + x_p = c_4 \cos 2t + c_5 \sin 2t - \frac{1}{4}t^2 + \frac{1}{8}. \tag{11}$$

Now $c_4$ and $c_5$ can be expressed in terms of $c_2$ and $c_3$ by substituting (10) and (11) into either equation of (8). By using the second equation, we find, after combining terms,

$$(c_5 - 2c_4 - 2c_2) \sin 2t + (2c_5 + c_4 + 2c_3) \cos 2t = 0,$$

so $c_5 - 2c_4 - 2c_2 = 0$ and $2c_5 + c_4 + 2c_3 = 0$. Solving for $c_4$ and $c_5$ in terms of $c_2$ and $c_3$ gives $c_4 = -\frac{1}{5}(4c_2 + 2c_3)$ and $c_5 = \frac{1}{5}(2c_2 - 4c_3)$. Finally, a solution of (8) is found to be

$$x(t) = -\frac{1}{5}(4c_2 + 2c_3) \cos 2t + \frac{1}{5}(2c_2 - 4c_3) \sin 2t - \frac{1}{4}t^2 + \frac{1}{8},$$

$$y(t) = c_1 + c_2 \cos 2t + c_3 \sin 2t + \frac{1}{12}t^3 + \frac{1}{4}t^2 - \frac{1}{8}t. \qquad ■$$

| EXAMPLE 3 | A Mixture Problem Revisited |

In (3) of Section 3.3 we saw that the system of linear first-order differential equations

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -\frac{2}{25}x_1 + \frac{1}{50}x_2$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = \frac{2}{25}x_1 - \frac{2}{25}x_2$$

is a model for the number of pounds of salt $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ in brine mixtures in tanks $A$ and $B$, respectively, shown in Figure 3.3.1. At that time we were not able to solve the system. But now, in terms of differential operators, the foregoing system can be written as

$$\left(D + \frac{2}{25}\right)x_1 - \frac{1}{50}x_2 = 0$$

$$-\frac{2}{25}x_1 + \left(D + \frac{2}{25}\right)x_2 = 0.$$

Operating on the first equation by $D + \frac{2}{25}$, multiplying the second equation by $\frac{1}{50}$, adding, and then simplifying gives $(625D^2 + 100D + 3)x_1 = 0$. From the auxiliary equation

$$625m^2 + 100m + 3 = (25m + 1)(25m + 3) = 0$$

we see immediately that $x_1(t) = c_1 e^{-t/25} + c_2 e^{-3t/25}$. We can now obtain $x_2(t)$ by using the first DE of the system in the form $x_2 = 50(D + \frac{2}{25})x_1$. In this manner we find the solution of the system to be

$$x_1(t) = c_1 e^{-t/25} + c_2 e^{-3t/25}, \qquad x_2(t) = 2c_1 e^{-t/25} - 2c_2 e^{-3t/25}.$$

In the original discussion on page 107 we assumed that the initial conditions were $x_1(0) = 25$ and $x_2(0) = 0$. Applying these conditions to the solution yields $c_1 + c_2 = 25$ and $2c_1 - 2c_2 = 0$. Solving these equations simultaneously gives $c_1 = c_2 = \frac{25}{2}$. Finally, a solution of the initial-value problem is

$$x_1(t) = \frac{25}{2}e^{-t/25} + \frac{25}{2}e^{-3t/25}, \qquad x_2(t) = 25e^{-t/25} - 25e^{-3t/25}.$$
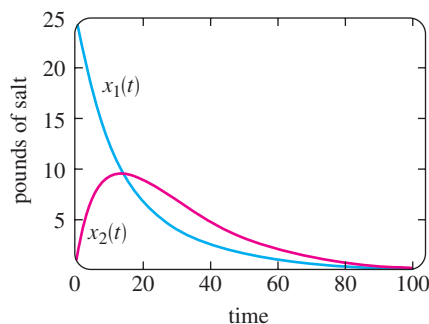


FIGURE 4.8.1 Pounds of salt in tanks $A$ and $B$

The graphs of both of these equations are given in Figure 4.8.1. Consistent with the fact that pure water is being pumped into tank $A$ we see in the figure that $x_1(t) \to 0$ and $x_2(t) \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$. ∎

## EXERCISES 4.8

In Problems 1–20 solve the given system of differential equations by systematic elimination.

**1.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 2x - y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = x$

**2.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 4x + 7y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = x - 2y$

**3.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -y + t$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = x - t$

**4.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} - 4y = 1$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} + x = 2$

**5.** $(D^2 + 5)x - 2y = 0$

$-2x + (D^2 + 2)y = 0$

**6.** $(D + 1)x + (D - 1)y = 2$

$3x + (D + 2)y = -1$

**7.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} = 4y + e^t$

$\dfrac{d^2y}{dt^2} = 4x - e^t$

**8.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \dfrac{dy}{dt} = -5x$

$\dfrac{dx}{dt} + \dfrac{dy}{dt} = -x + 4y$

**9.** $Dx + D^2y = e^{3t}$

$(D + 1)x + (D - 1)y = 4e^{3t}$

**10.**
$$D^2x - \qquad Dy = t$$
$$(D + 3)x + (D + 3)y = 2$$

**11.** $(D^2 - 1)x - \quad y = 0$
$\quad (D - 1)x + Dy = 0$

**12.** $(2D^2 - D - 1)x - (2D + 1)y = 1$
$\quad\quad (D - 1)x + \qquad Dy = -1$

**13.** $2\dfrac{dx}{dt} - 5x + \dfrac{dy}{dt} = e^t$

$\quad \dfrac{dx}{dt} - \quad x + \dfrac{dy}{dt} = 5e^t$

**14.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} + \dfrac{dy}{dt} \qquad = e^t$

$\quad -\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \dfrac{dx}{dt} + x + y = 0$

**15.** $(D - 1)x + (D^2 + 1)y = 1$
$\quad (D^2 - 1)x + (D + 1)y = 2$

**16.** $D^2x - 2(D^2 + D)y = \sin t$
$\quad\quad x + \qquad Dy = 0$

**17.** $Dx = y$  **18.** $\quad Dx + \qquad z = e^t$
$\quad Dy = z$ $\quad\quad (D - 1)x + Dy + Dz = 0$
$\quad Dz = x$ $\quad\quad x + 2y + Dz = e^t$

**19.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 6y$  **20.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -x + z$

$\quad \dfrac{dy}{dt} = x + z$ $\qquad \dfrac{dy}{dt} = -y + z$

$\quad \dfrac{dz}{dt} = x + y$ $\qquad \dfrac{dz}{dt} = -x + y$

In Problems 21 and 22 solve the given initial-value problem.

**21.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -5x - y$  **22.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = y - 1$

$\quad \dfrac{dy}{dt} = 4x - y$ $\qquad \dfrac{dy}{dt} = -3x + 2y$

$\quad x(1) = 0,\ y(1) = 1$ $\qquad x(0) = 0,\ y(0) = 0$

### Mathematical Models

**23. Projectile Motion**  A projectile shot from a gun has weight $w = mg$ and velocity $\mathbf{v}$ tangent to its path of motion. Ignoring air resistance and all other forces acting on the projectile except its weight, determine a system of differential equations that describes its path of motion. See Figure 4.8.2. Solve the system. [*Hint*: Use Newton's second law of motion in the $x$ and $y$ directions.]
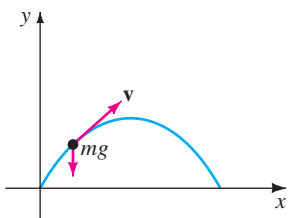


**FIGURE 4.8.2**  Path of projectile in Problem 23

**24. Projectile Motion with Air Resistance**  Determine a system of differential equations that describes the path of motion in Problem 23 if air resistance is a retarding force $\mathbf{k}$ (of magnitude $k$) acting tangent to the path of the projectile but opposite to its motion. See Figure 4.8.3. Solve the system. [*Hint*: $\mathbf{k}$ is a multiple of velocity, say, $c\mathbf{v}$.]
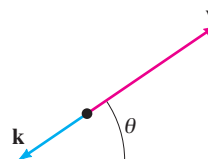


**FIGURE 4.8.3**  Forces in Problem 24

### Discussion Problems

**25.** Examine and discuss the following system:

$$Dx \qquad - 2Dy = t^2$$
$$(D + 1)x - 2(D + 1)y = 1.$$

### Computer Lab Assignments

**26.** Reexamine Figure 4.8.1 in Example 3. Then use a root-finding application to determine when tank $B$ contains more salt than tank $A$.

**27. (a)** Reread Problem 8 of Exercises 3.3. In that problem you were asked to show that the system of differential equations

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -\frac{1}{50}x_1$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = \frac{1}{50}x_1 - \frac{2}{75}x_2$$

$$\frac{dx_3}{dt} = \frac{2}{75}x_2 - \frac{1}{25}x_3$$

is a model for the amounts of salt in the connected mixing tanks $A$, $B$, and $C$ shown in Figure 3.3.7. Solve the system subject to $x_1(0) = 15$, $x_2(t) = 10$, $x_3(t) = 5$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to graph $x_1(t)$, $x_2(t)$, and $x_3(t)$ in the same coordinate plane (as in Figure 4.8.1) on the interval [0, 200].

**(c)** Because only pure water is pumped into Tank $A$, it stands to reason that the salt will eventually be flushed out of all three tanks. Use a root-finding application of a CAS to determine the time when the amount of salt in each tank is less than or equal to 0.5 pound. When will the amounts of salt $x_1(t)$, $x_2(t)$, and $x_3(t)$ be simultaneously less than or equal to 0.5 pound?

| 4.9 | NONLINEAR DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS |
|---|---|

**REVIEW MATERIAL**
- Sections 2.2 and 2.5
- Section 4.2
- A review of Taylor series from calculus is also recommended.

**INTRODUCTION** The difficulties that surround higher-order *nonlinear* differential equations and the few methods that yield analytic solutions are examined next. Two of the solution methods considered in this section employ a change of variable to reduce a second-order DE to a first-order DE. In that sense these methods are analogous to the material in Section 4.2.

**SOME DIFFERENCES** There are several significant differences between linear and nonlinear differential equations. We saw in Section 4.1 that homogeneous linear equations of order two or higher have the property that a linear combination of solutions is also a solution (Theorem 4.1.2). Nonlinear equations do not possess this property of superposability. See Problems 1 and 18 in Exercises 4.9. We can find general solutions of linear first-order DEs and higher-order equations with constant coefficients. Even when we can solve a nonlinear first-order differential equation in the form of a one-parameter family, this family does not, as a rule, represent a general solution. Stated another way, nonlinear first-order DEs can possess singular solutions, whereas linear equations cannot. But the major difference between linear and nonlinear equations of order two or higher lies in the realm of solvability. Given a linear equation, there is a chance that we can find some form of a solution that we can look at—an explicit solution or perhaps a solution in the form of an infinite series (see Chapter 6). On the other hand, nonlinear higher-order differential equations virtually defy solution by analytical methods. Although this might sound disheartening, there are still things that can be done. As was pointed out at the end of Section 1.3, we can always analyze a nonlinear DE qualitatively and numerically.

Let us make it clear at the outset that nonlinear higher-order differential equations are important—dare we say even more important than linear equations?—because as we fine-tune the mathematical model of, say, a physical system, we also increase the likelihood that this higher-resolution model will be nonlinear.

We begin by illustrating an analytical method that *occasionally* enables us to find explicit/implicit solutions of special kinds of nonlinear second-order differential equations.

**REDUCTION OF ORDER** Nonlinear second-order differential equations $F(x, y', y'') = 0$, where the dependent variable $y$ is missing, and $F(y, y', y'') = 0$, where the independent variable $x$ is missing, can sometimes be solved by using first-order methods. Each equation can be reduced to a first-order equation by means of the substitution $u = y'$.

The next example illustrates the substitution technique for an equation of the form $F(x, y', y'') = 0$. If $u = y'$, then the differential equation becomes $F(x, u, u') = 0$. If we can solve this last equation for $u$, we can find $y$ by integration. Note that since we are solving a second-order equation, its solution will contain two arbitrary constants.

---

**EXAMPLE 1**    **Dependent Variable *y* Is Missing**

Solve $y'' = 2x(y')^2$.

**SOLUTION**   If we let $u = y'$, then $du/dx = y''$. After substituting, the second-order equation reduces to a first-order equation with separable variables; the independent variable is $x$ and the dependent variable is $u$:

$$\frac{du}{dx} = 2xu^2 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{du}{u^2} = 2x\,dx$$

$$\int u^{-2}\,du = \int 2x\,dx$$

$$-u^{-1} = x^2 + c_1^2.$$

The constant of integration is written as $c_1^2$ for convenience. The reason should be obvious in the next few steps. Because $u^{-1} = 1/y'$, it follows that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{1}{x^2 + c_1^2},$$

and so     $\displaystyle y = -\int \frac{dx}{x^2 + c_1^2}$     or     $\displaystyle y = -\frac{1}{c_1}\tan^{-1}\frac{x}{c_1} + c_2.$     ■

Next we show how to solve an equation that has the form $F(y, y', y'') = 0$. Once more we let $u = y'$, but because the independent variable $x$ is missing, we use this substitution to transform the differential equation into one in which the independent variable is $y$ and the dependent variable is $u$. To this end we use the Chain Rule to compute the second derivative of $y$:

$$y'' = \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{du}{dy}\frac{dy}{dx} = u\frac{du}{dy}.$$

In this case the first-order equation that we must now solve is

$$F\!\left(y, u, u\frac{du}{dy}\right) = 0.$$

---

| **EXAMPLE 2**   **Independent Variable $x$ Is Missing** |
| :-- |

Solve $yy'' = (y')^2$.

**SOLUTION**   With the aid of $u = y'$, the Chain Rule shown above, and separation of variables, the given differential equation becomes

$$y\!\left(u\frac{du}{dy}\right) = u^2 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{du}{u} = \frac{dy}{y}.$$

Integrating the last equation then yields $\ln|u| = \ln|y| + c_1$, which, in turn, gives $u = c_2 y$, where the constant $\pm e^{c_1}$ has been relabeled as $c_2$. We now resubstitute $u = dy/dx$, separate variables once again, integrate, and relabel constants a second time:

$$\int \frac{dy}{y} = c_2 \int dx \quad \text{or} \quad \ln|y| = c_2 x + c_3 \quad \text{or} \quad y = c_4 e^{c_2 x}.$$     ■

**USE OF TAYLOR SERIES**   In some instances a solution of a nonlinear initial-value problem, in which the initial conditions are specified at $x_0$, can be approximated by a Taylor series centered at $x_0$.

**EXAMPLE 3**  **Taylor Series Solution of an IVP**

Let us assume that a solution of the initial-value problem

$$y'' = x + y - y^2, \quad y(0) = -1, \quad y'(0) = 1 \qquad (1)$$

exists. If we further assume that the solution $y(x)$ of the problem is analytic at 0, then $y(x)$ possesses a Taylor series expansion centered at 0:

$$y(x) = y(0) + \frac{y'(0)}{1!}x + \frac{y''(0)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{y'''(0)}{3!}x^3 + \frac{y^{(4)}(0)}{4!}x^4 + \frac{y^{(5)}(0)}{5!}x^5 + \cdots. \qquad (2)$$

Note that the values of the first and second terms in the series (2) are known since those values are the specified initial conditions $y(0) = -1$, $y'(0) = 1$. Moreover, the differential equation itself defines the value of the second derivative at 0: $y''(0) = 0 + y(0) - y(0)^2 = 0 + (-1) - (-1)^2 = -2$. We can then find expressions for the higher derivatives $y'''$, $y^{(4)}$, ... by calculating the successive derivatives of the differential equation:

$$y'''(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(x + y - y^2) = 1 + y' - 2yy' \qquad (3)$$

$$y^{(4)}(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(1 + y' - 2yy') = y'' - 2yy'' - 2(y')^2 \qquad (4)$$

$$y^{(5)}(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(y'' - 2yy'' - 2(y')^2) = y''' - 2yy''' - 6y'y'', \qquad (5)$$

and so on. Now using $y(0) = -1$ and $y'(0) = 1$, we find from (3) that $y'''(0) = 4$. From the values $y(0) = -1$, $y'(0) = 1$, and $y''(0) = -2$ we find $y^{(4)}(0) = -8$ from (4). With the additional information that $y'''(0) = 4$, we then see from (5) that $y^{(5)}(0) = 24$. Hence from (2) the first six terms of a series solution of the initial-value problem (1) are

$$y(x) = -1 + x - x^2 + \frac{2}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{3}x^4 + \frac{1}{5}x^5 + \cdots. \qquad ■$$

**USE OF A NUMERICAL SOLVER**  Numerical methods, such as Euler's method or the Runge-Kutta method, are developed solely for first-order differential equations and then are extended to systems of first-order equations. To analyze an $n$th-order initial-value problem numerically, we express the $n$th-order ODE as a system of $n$ first-order equations. In brief, here is how it is done for a second-order initial-value problem: First, solve for $y''$—that is, put the DE into normal form $y'' = f(x, y, y')$—and then let $y' = u$. For example, if we substitute $y' = u$ in

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = f(x, y, y'), \quad y(x_0) = y_0, \quad y'(x_0) = u_0, \qquad (6)$$

then $y'' = u'$ and $y'(x_0) = u(x_0)$, so the initial-value problem (6) becomes

$$\text{Solve:} \qquad \begin{cases} y' = u \\ u' = f(x, y, u) \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Subject to:} \qquad y(x_0) = y_0, u(x_0) = u_0.$$

However, it should be noted that a commercial numerical solver *might not* require[*] that you supply the system.

---

[*]Some numerical solvers require only that a second-order differential equation be expressed in normal form $y'' = f(x, y, y')$. The translation of the single equation into a system of two equations is then built into the computer program, since the first equation of the system is always $y' = u$ and the second equation is $u' = f(x, y, u)$.
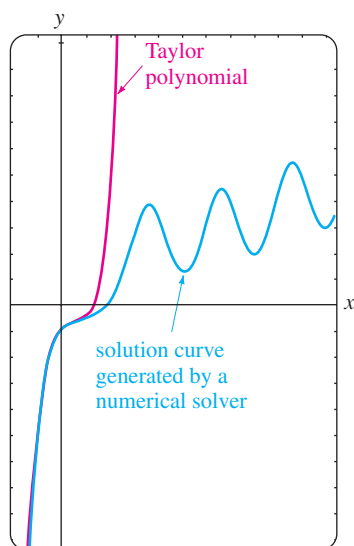
**FIGURE 4.9.1** Comparison of two approximate solutions
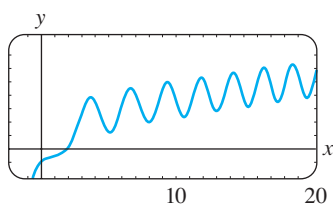


**FIGURE 4.9.2** Numerical solution curve for the IVP in (1)

## EXAMPLE 4  Graphical Analysis of Example 3

Following the foregoing procedure, we find that the second-order initial-value problem in Example 3 is equivalent to

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = u$$

$$\frac{du}{dx} = x + y - y^2$$

with initial conditions $y(0) = -1$, $u(0) = 1$. With the aid of a numerical solver we get the solution curve shown in blue in Figure 4.9.1. For comparison the graph of the fifth-degree Taylor polynomial $T_5(x) = -1 + x - x^2 + \frac{2}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{3}x^4 + \frac{1}{5}x^5$ is shown in red. Although we do not know the interval of convergence of the Taylor series obtained in Example 3, the closeness of the two curves in a neighborhood of the origin suggests that the power series may converge on the interval $(-1, 1)$.  ∎

**QUALITATIVE QUESTIONS**  The blue graph in Figure 4.9.1 raises some questions of a qualitative nature: Is the solution of the original initial-value problem oscillatory as $x \to \infty$? The graph generated by a numerical solver on the larger interval shown in Figure 4.9.2 would seem to *suggest* that the answer is yes. But this single example— or even an assortment of examples—does not answer the basic question as to whether *all* solutions of the differential equation $y'' = x + y - y^2$ are oscillatory in nature. Also, what is happening to the solution curve in Figure 4.9.2 when $x$ is near $-1$? What is the behavior of solutions of the differential equation as $x \to -\infty$? Are solutions bounded as $x \to \infty$? Questions such as these are not easily answered, in general, for nonlinear second-order differential equations. But certain kinds of second-order equations lend themselves to a systematic qualitative analysis, and these, like their first-order relatives encountered in Section 2.1, are the kind that have no explicit dependence on the independent variable. Second-order ODEs of the form

$$F(y, y', y'') = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = f(y, y'),$$

equations free of the independent variable $x$, are called **autonomous.** The differential equation in Example 2 is autonomous, and because of the presence of the $x$ term on its right-hand side, the equation in Example 3 is nonautonomous. For an in-depth treatment of the topic of stability of autonomous second-order differential equations and autonomous systems of differential equations, refer to Chapter 10 in *Differential Equations with Boundary-Value Problems.*

## EXERCISES 4.9

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-6.*

In Problems 1 and 2 verify that $y_1$ and $y_2$ are solutions of the given differential equation but that $y = c_1y_1 + c_2y_2$ is, in general, not a solution.

**1.** $(y'')^2 = y^2$;  $y_1 = e^x$, $y_2 = \cos x$

**2.** $yy'' = \frac{1}{2}(y')^2$;  $y_1 = 1$, $y_2 = x^2$

In Problems 3–8 solve the given differential equation by using the substitution $u = y'$.

**3.** $y'' + (y')^2 + 1 = 0$    **4.** $y'' = 1 + (y')^2$

**5.** $x^2y'' + (y')^2 = 0$    **6.** $(y + 1)y'' = (y')^2$

**7.** $y'' + 2y(y')^3 = 0$    **8.** $y^2y'' = y'$

**9.** Consider the initial-value problem

$$y'' + yy' = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \, y'(0) = -1.$$

(a) Use the DE and a numerical solver to graph the solution curve.

(b) Find an explicit solution of the IVP. Use a graphing utility to graph this solution.

(c) Find an interval of definition for the solution in part (b).

**10.** Find two solutions of the initial-value problem

$$(y'')^2 + (y')^2 = 1, \quad y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2}, \quad y'\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}.$$

Use a numerical solver to graph the solution curves.

In Problems 11 and 12 show that the substitution $u = y'$ leads to a Bernoulli equation. Solve this equation (see Section 2.5).

**11.** $xy'' = y' + (y')^3$       **12.** $xy'' = y' + x(y')^2$

In Problems 13–16 proceed as in Example 3 and obtain the first six nonzero terms of a Taylor series solution, centered at 0, of the given initial-value problem. Use a numerical solver and a graphing utility to compare the solution curve with the graph of the Taylor polynomial.

**13.** $y'' = x + y^2, \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 1$

**14.** $y'' + y^2 = 1, \quad y(0) = 2, y'(0) = 3$

**15.** $y'' = x^2 + y^2 - 2y', \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 1$

**16.** $y'' = e^y, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = -1$

**17.** In calculus the curvature of a curve that is defined by a function $y = f(x)$ is defined as

$$\kappa = \frac{y''}{[1 + (y')^2]^{3/2}}.$$

Find $y = f(x)$ for which $\kappa = 1$. [*Hint*: For simplicity, ignore constants of integration.]

## Discussion Problems

**18.** In Problem 1 we saw that $\cos x$ and $e^x$ were solutions of the nonlinear equation $(y'')^2 - y^2 = 0$. Verify that $\sin x$ and $e^{-x}$ are also solutions. Without attempting to solve the differential equation, discuss how these explicit solutions can be found by using knowledge about linear equations. Without attempting to verify, discuss why the linear combinations $y = c_1e^x + c_2e^{-x} + c_3 \cos x + c_4 \sin x$ and $y = c_2e^{-x} + c_4 \sin x$ are not, in general, solutions, but

the two special linear combinations $y = c_1e^x + c_2e^{-x}$ and $y = c_3 \cos x + c_4 \sin x$ *must* satisfy the differential equation.

**19.** Discuss how the method of reduction of order considered in this section can be applied to the third-order differential equation $y''' = \sqrt{1 + (y'')^2}$. Carry out your ideas and solve the equation.

**20.** Discuss how to find an alternative two-parameter family of solutions for the nonlinear differential equation $y'' = 2x(y')^2$ in Example 1. [*Hint*: Suppose that $-c_1^2$ is used as the constant of integration instead of $+c_1^2$.]

## Mathematical Models

**21.** **Motion in a Force Field** A mathematical model for the position $x(t)$ of a body moving rectilinearly on the $x$-axis in an inverse-square force field is given by

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\frac{k^2}{x^2}.$$

Suppose that at $t = 0$ the body starts from rest from the position $x = x_0$, $x_0 > 0$. Show that the velocity of the body at time $t$ is given by $v^2 = 2k^2(1/x - 1/x_0)$. Use the last expression and a CAS to carry out the integration to express time $t$ in terms of $x$.

**22.** A mathematical model for the position $x(t)$ of a moving object is

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \sin x = 0.$$

Use a numerical solver to graphically investigate the solutions of the equation subject to $x(0) = 0$, $x'(0) = x_1$, $x_1 \geq 0$. Discuss the motion of the object for $t \geq 0$ and for various choices of $x_1$. Investigate the equation

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \frac{dx}{dt} + \sin x = 0$$

in the same manner. Give a possible physical interpretation of the $dx/dt$ term.

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# CHAPTER 4 IN REVIEW

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-6.*

Answer Problems 1–4 without referring back to the text. Fill in the blank or answer true or false.

**1.** The only solution of the initial-value problem $y'' + x^2y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$ is _____.

**2.** For the method of undetermined coefficients, the assumed form of the particular solution $y_p$ for $y'' - y = 1 + e^x$ is _____.

**3.** A constant multiple of a solution of a linear differential equation is also a solution. _____

**4.** If the set consisting of two functions $f_1$ and $f_2$ is linearly independent on an interval $I$, then the Wronskian $W(f_1, f_2) \neq 0$ for all $x$ in $I$. _____

**5.** Give an interval over which the set of two functions $f_1(x) = x^2$ and $f_2(x) = x|x|$ is linearly independent.

Then give an interval over which the set consisting of $f_1$ and $f_2$ is linearly dependent.

**6.** Without the aid of the Wronskian, determine whether the given set of functions is linearly independent or linearly dependent on the indicated interval.

**(a)** $f_1(x) = \ln x, f_2(x) = \ln x^2, (0, \infty)$

**(b)** $f_1(x) = x^n, f_2(x) = x^{n+1}, n = 1, 2, \ldots, (-\infty, \infty)$

**(c)** $f_1(x) = x, f_2(x) = x + 1, (-\infty, \infty)$

**(d)** $f_1(x) = \cos\left(x + \dfrac{\pi}{2}\right), f_2(x) = \sin x, (-\infty, \infty)$

**(e)** $f_1(x) = 0, f_2(x) = x, (-5, 5)$

**(f)** $f_1(x) = 2, f_2(x) = 2x, (-\infty, \infty)$

**(g)** $f_1(x) = x^2, f_2(x) = 1 - x^2, f_3(x) = 2 + x^2, (-\infty, \infty)$

**(h)** $f_1(x) = xe^{x+1}, f_2(x) = (4x - 5)e^x,$
$f_3(x) = xe^x, (-\infty, \infty)$

**7.** Suppose $m_1 = 3$, $m_2 = -5$, and $m_3 = 1$ are roots of multiplicity one, two, and three, respectively, of an auxiliary equation. Write down the general solution of the corresponding homogeneous linear DE if it is

**(a)** an equation with constant coefficients,

**(b)** a Cauchy-Euler equation.

**8.** Consider the differential equation $ay'' + by' + cy = g(x)$, where $a$, $b$, and $c$ are constants. Choose the input functions $g(x)$ for which the method of undetermined coefficients is applicable and the input functions for which the method of variation of parameters is applicable.

**(a)** $g(x) = e^x \ln x$  **(b)** $g(x) = x^3 \cos x$

**(c)** $g(x) = \dfrac{\sin x}{e^x}$  **(d)** $g(x) = 2x^{-2}e^x$

**(e)** $g(x) = \sin^2 x$  **(f)** $g(x) = \dfrac{e^x}{\sin x}$

In Problems 9–24 use the procedures developed in this chapter to find the general solution of each differential equation.

**9.** $y'' - 2y' - 2y = 0$

**10.** $2y'' + 2y' + 3y = 0$

**11.** $y''' + 10y'' + 25y' = 0$

**12.** $2y''' + 9y'' + 12y' + 5y = 0$

**13.** $3y''' + 10y'' + 15y' + 4y = 0$

**14.** $2y^{(4)} + 3y''' + 2y'' + 6y' - 4y = 0$

**15.** $y'' - 3y' + 5y = 4x^3 - 2x$

**16.** $y'' - 2y' + y = x^2 e^x$

**17.** $y''' - 5y'' + 6y' = 8 + 2\sin x$

**18.** $y''' - y'' = 6$

**19.** $y'' - 2y' + 2y = e^x \tan x$

**20.** $y'' - y = \dfrac{2e^x}{e^x + e^{-x}}$

**21.** $6x^2 y'' + 5xy' - y = 0$

**22.** $2x^3 y''' + 19x^2 y'' + 39xy' + 9y = 0$

**23.** $x^2 y'' - 4xy' + 6y = 2x^4 + x^2$

**24.** $x^2 y'' - xy' + y = x^3$

**25.** Write down the form of the general solution $y = y_c + y_p$ of the given differential equation in the two cases $\omega \neq \alpha$ and $\omega = \alpha$. Do not determine the coefficients in $y_p$.

**(a)** $y'' + \omega^2 y = \sin \alpha x$  **(b)** $y'' - \omega^2 y = e^{\alpha x}$

**26. (a)** Given that $y = \sin x$ is a solution of

$$y^{(4)} + 2y''' + 11y'' + 2y' + 10y = 0,$$

find the general solution of the DE *without the aid of a calculator or a computer.*

**(b)** Find a linear second-order differential equation with constant coefficients for which $y_1 = 1$ and $y_2 = e^{-x}$ are solutions of the associated homogeneous equation and $y_p = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - x$ is a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation.

**27. (a)** Write the general solution of the fourth-order DE $y^{(4)} - 2y'' + y = 0$ entirely in terms of hyperbolic functions.

**(b)** Write down the form of a particular solution of $y^{(4)} - 2y'' + y = \sinh x$.

**28.** Consider the differential equation

$$x^2 y'' - (x^2 + 2x)y' + (x + 2)y = x^3.$$

Verify that $y_1 = x$ is one solution of the associated homogeneous equation. Then show that the method of reduction of order discussed in Section 4.2 leads to a second solution $y_2$ of the homogeneous equation as well as a particular solution $y_p$ of the nonhomogeneous equation. Form the general solution of the DE on the interval $(0, \infty)$.

In Problems 29–34 solve the given differential equation subject to the indicated conditions.

**29.** $y'' - 2y' + 2y = 0, \quad y\left(\dfrac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0, y(\pi) = -1$

**30.** $y'' + 2y' + y = 0, \quad y(-1) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**31.** $y'' - y = x + \sin x, \quad y(0) = 2, y'(0) = 3$

**32.** $y'' + y = \sec^3 x, \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = \dfrac{1}{2}$

**33.** $y'y'' = 4x$,  $y(1) = 5$, $y'(1) = 2$

**34.** $2y'' = 3y^2$,  $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 1$

**35.** **(a)** Use a CAS as an aid in finding the roots of the auxiliary equation for

$$12y^{(4)} + 64y''' + 59y'' - 23y' - 12y = 0.$$

Give the general solution of the equation.

**(b)** Solve the DE in part (a) subject to the initial conditions $y(0) = -1$, $y'(0) = 2$, $y''(0) = 5$, $y'''(0) = 0$. Use a CAS as an aid in solving the resulting systems of four equations in four unknowns.

**36.** Find a member of the family of solutions of $xy'' + y' + \sqrt{x} = 0$ whose graph is tangent to the $x$-axis at $x = 1$. Use a graphing utility to graph the solution curve.

In Problems 37–40 use systematic elimination to solve the given system.

**37.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} + \dfrac{dy}{dt} = 2x + 2y + 1$

$\dfrac{dx}{dt} + 2\dfrac{dy}{dt} = \qquad y + 3$

**38.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 2x + \quad y + \quad t - 2$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 3x + 4y - 4t$

**39.** $(D - 2)x \qquad\qquad - y = -e^t$

$\qquad -3x + (D - 4)\, y = -7e^t$

**40.** $(D + 2)x + (D + 1)y = \sin 2t$

$\qquad 5x + (D + 3)y = \cos 2t$

# 5 MODELING WITH HIGHER-ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

We have seen that a single differential equation can serve as a mathematical model for diverse physical systems. For this reason we examine just one application, the motion of a mass attached to a spring, in great detail in Section 5.1. Except for terminology and physical interpretations of the four terms in the linear equation $ay'' + by' + cy = g(t)$, the mathematics of, say, an electrical series circuit is identical to that of vibrating spring/mass system. Forms of this linear second-order DE appear in the analysis of problems in many diverse areas of science and engineering. In Section 5.1 we deal exclusively with initial-value problems, whereas in Section 5.2 we examine applications described by boundary-value problems. In Section 5.2 we also see how some boundary-value problems lead to the important concepts of *eigenvalues* and *eigenfunctions*. Section 5.3 begins with a discussion on the differences between linear and nonlinear springs; we then show how the simple pendulum and a suspended wire lead to nonlinear models.

| 5.1 | LINEAR MODELS: INITIAL-VALUE PROBLEMS |

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Sections 4.1, 4.3, and 4.4
- Problems 29–36 in Exercises 4.3
- Problems 27–36 in Exercises 4.4

**INTRODUCTION**   In this section we are going to consider several linear dynamical systems in which each mathematical model is a second-order differential equation with constant coefficients along with initial conditions specified at a time that we shall take to be $t = 0$:

$$a\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + b\frac{dy}{dt} + cy = g(t), \quad y(0) = y_0, \quad y'(0) = y_1.$$

Recall that the function $g$ is the **input, driving function,** or **forcing function** of the system. A solution $y(t)$ of the differential equation on an interval $I$ containing $t = 0$ that satisfies the initial conditions is called the **output** or **response** of the system.

## 5.1.1   SPRING/MASS SYSTEMS: FREE UNDAMPED MOTION

**HOOKE'S LAW**   Suppose that a flexible spring is suspended vertically from a rigid support and then a mass $m$ is attached to its free end. The amount of stretch, or elongation, of the spring will of course depend on the mass; masses with different weights stretch the spring by differing amounts. By Hooke's law the spring itself exerts a restoring force $F$ opposite to the direction of elongation and proportional to the amount of elongation $s$. Simply stated, $F = ks$, where $k$ is a constant of proportionality called the **spring constant.** The spring is essentially characterized by the number $k$. For example, if a mass weighing 10 pounds stretches a spring $\frac{1}{2}$ foot, then $10 = k\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ implies $k = 20$ lb/ft. Necessarily then, a mass weighing, say, 8 pounds stretches the same spring only $\frac{2}{5}$ foot.



unstretched

equilibrium
position
$mg - ks = 0$

motion

**(a)        (b)        (c)**

**FIGURE 5.1.1**   Spring/mass system

**NEWTON'S SECOND LAW**   After a mass $m$ is attached to a spring, it stretches the spring by an amount $s$ and attains a position of equilibrium at which its weight $W$ is balanced by the restoring force $ks$. Recall that weight is defined by $W = mg$, where mass is measured in slugs, kilograms, or grams and $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$, 9.8 m/s$^2$, or 980 cm/s$^2$, respectively. As indicated in Figure 5.1.1(b), the condition of equilibrium is $mg = ks$ or $mg - ks = 0$. If the mass is displaced by an amount $x$ from its equilibrium position, the restoring force of the spring is then $k(x + s)$. Assuming that there are no retarding forces acting on the system and assuming that the mass vibrates free of other external forces—**free motion**—we can equate Newton's second law with the net, or resultant, force of the restoring force and the weight:

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -k(s + x) + mg = -kx + \underbrace{mg - ks}_{\text{zero}} = -kx. \tag{1}$$



$x = 0$

$x < 0$

$x > 0$

**FIGURE 5.1.2**   Direction below the equilibrium position is positive.

The negative sign in (1) indicates that the restoring force of the spring acts opposite to the direction of motion. Furthermore, we adopt the convention that displacements measured *below* the equilibrium position are positive. See Figure 5.1.2.

**DE OF FREE UNDAMPED MOTION**   By dividing (1) by the mass $m$, we obtain the second-order differential equation $d^2x/dt^2 + (k/m)x = 0$, or

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega^2 x = 0, \tag{2}$$

where $\omega^2 = k/m$. Equation (2) is said to describe **simple harmonic motion** or **free undamped motion.** Two obvious initial conditions associated with (2) are $x(0) = x_0$ and $x'(0) = x_1$, the initial displacement and initial velocity of the mass, respectively. For example, if $x_0 > 0$, $x_1 < 0$, the mass starts from a point *below* the equilibrium position with an imparted *upward* velocity. When $x'(0) = 0$, the mass is said to be released from rest. For example, if $x_0 < 0$, $x_1 = 0$, the mass is released from *rest* from a point $|x_0|$ units *above* the equilibrium position.

**EQUATION OF MOTION**   To solve equation (2), we note that the solutions of its auxiliary equation $m^2 + \omega^2 = 0$ are the complex numbers $m_1 = \omega i$, $m_2 = -\omega i$. Thus from (8) of Section 4.3 we find the general solution of (2) to be

$$x(t) = c_1 \cos \omega t + c_2 \sin \omega t. \tag{3}$$

The **period** of motion described by (3) is $T = 2\pi/\omega$. The number $T$ represents the time (measured in seconds) it takes the mass to execute one cycle of motion. A cycle is one complete oscillation of the mass, that is, the mass $m$ moving from, say, the lowest point below the equilibrium position to the point highest above the equilibrium position and then back to the lowest point. From a graphical viewpoint $T = 2\pi/\omega$ seconds is the length of the time interval between two successive maxima (or minima) of $x(t)$. Keep in mind that a maximum of $x(t)$ is a positive displacement corresponding to the mass attaining its greatest distance below the equilibrium position, whereas a minimum of $x(t)$ is negative displacement corresponding to the mass attaining its greatest height above the equilibrium position. We refer to either case as an **extreme displacement** of the mass. The **frequency** of motion is $f = 1/T = \omega/2\pi$ and is the number of cycles completed each second. For example, if $x(t) = 2 \cos 3\pi t - 4 \sin 3\pi t$, then the period is $T = 2\pi/3\pi = 2/3$ s, and the frequency is $f = 3/2$ cycles/s. From a graphical viewpoint the graph of $x(t)$ repeats every $\frac{2}{3}$ second, that is, $x\left(t + \frac{2}{3}\right) = x(t)$, and $\frac{3}{2}$ cycles of the graph are completed each second (or, equivalently, three cycles of the graph are completed every 2 seconds). The number $\omega = \sqrt{k/m}$ (measured in radians per second) is called the **circular frequency** of the system. Depending on which text you read, both $f = \omega/2\pi$ and $\omega$ are also referred to as the **natural frequency** of the system. Finally, when the initial conditions are used to determine the constants $c_1$ and $c_2$ in (3), we say that the resulting particular solution or response is the **equation of motion.**

---

### EXAMPLE 1   Free Undamped Motion

A mass weighing 2 pounds stretches a spring 6 inches. At $t = 0$ the mass is released from a point 8 inches below the equilibrium position with an upward velocity of $\frac{4}{3}$ ft/s. Determine the equation of motion.

**SOLUTION**   Because we are using the engineering system of units, the measurements given in terms of inches must be converted into feet: 6 in. $= \frac{1}{2}$ ft; 8 in. $= \frac{2}{3}$ ft. In addition, we must convert the units of weight given in pounds into units of mass. From $m = W/g$ we have $m = \frac{2}{32} = \frac{1}{16}$ slug. Also, from Hooke's law, $2 = k\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$ implies that the spring constant is $k = 4$ lb/ft. Hence (1) gives

$$\frac{1}{16}\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -4x \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 64x = 0.$$

The initial displacement and initial velocity are $x(0) = \frac{2}{3}$, $x'(0) = -\frac{4}{3}$, where the negative sign in the last condition is a consequence of the fact that the mass is given an initial velocity in the negative, or upward, direction.

Now $\omega^2 = 64$ or $\omega = 8$, so the general solution of the differential equation is

$$x(t) = c_1 \cos 8t + c_2 \sin 8t. \tag{4}$$

Applying the initial conditions to $x(t)$ and $x'(t)$ gives $c_1 = \frac{2}{3}$ and $c_2 = -\frac{1}{6}$. Thus the equation of motion is

$$x(t) = \frac{2}{3} \cos 8t - \frac{1}{6} \sin 8t. \tag{5} \quad\blacksquare$$

**ALTERNATIVE FORM OF $X(t)$**   When $c_1 \neq 0$ and $c_2 \neq 0$, the actual **amplitude** $A$ of free vibrations is not obvious from inspection of equation (3). For example, although the mass in Example 1 is initially displaced $\frac{2}{3}$ foot beyond the equilibrium position, the amplitude of vibrations is a number larger than $\frac{2}{3}$. Hence it is often convenient to convert a solution of form (3) to the simpler form

$$x(t) = A \sin(\omega t + \phi), \tag{6}$$

where $A = \sqrt{c_1^2 + c_2^2}$ and $\phi$ is a **phase angle** defined by

$$\left.\begin{array}{l} \sin\phi = \dfrac{c_1}{A} \\[2mm] \cos\phi = \dfrac{c_2}{A} \end{array}\right\} \quad \tan\phi = \dfrac{c_1}{c_2}. \tag{7}$$

To verify this, we expand (6) by the addition formula for the sine function:

$$A \sin \omega t \cos \phi + A \cos \omega t \sin \phi = (A \sin \phi)\cos \omega t + (A \cos \phi)\sin \omega t. \tag{8}$$

It follows from Figure 5.1.3 that if $\phi$ is defined by

$$\sin\phi = \frac{c_1}{\sqrt{c_1^2 + c_2^2}} = \frac{c_1}{A}, \qquad \cos\phi = \frac{c_2}{\sqrt{c_1^2 + c_2^2}} = \frac{c_2}{A},$$

then (8) becomes

$$A \frac{c_1}{A} \cos \omega t + A \frac{c_2}{A} \sin \omega t = c_1 \cos \omega t + c_2 \sin \omega t = x(t).$$
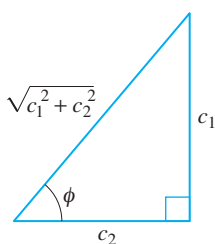
**FIGURE 5.1.3**   A relationship between $c_1 > 0$, $c_2 > 0$ and phase angle $\phi$

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**EXAMPLE 2**   **Alternative Form of Solution (5)**

In view of the foregoing discussion we can write solution (5) in the alternative form $x(t) = A \sin(8t + \phi)$. Computation of the amplitude is straightforward, $A = \sqrt{\left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{1}{6}\right)^2} = \sqrt{\frac{17}{36}} \approx 0.69$ ft, but some care should be exercised in computing the phase angle $\phi$ defined by (7). With $c_1 = \frac{2}{3}$ and $c_2 = -\frac{1}{6}$ we find $\tan\phi = -4$, and a calculator then gives $\tan^{-1}(-4) = -1.326$ rad. This is *not* the phase angle, since $\tan^{-1}(-4)$ is located in the *fourth quadrant* and therefore contradicts the fact that $\sin\phi > 0$ and $\cos\phi < 0$ because $c_1 > 0$ and $c_2 < 0$. Hence we must take $\phi$ to be the *second-quadrant* angle $\phi = \pi + (-1.326) = 1.816$ rad. Thus (5) is the same as

$$x(t) = \frac{\sqrt{17}}{6} \sin(8t + 1.816). \tag{9}$$

The period of this function is $T = 2\pi/8 = \pi/4$ s. $\quad\blacksquare$

Figure 5.1.4(a) illustrates the mass in Example 2 going through approximately two complete cycles of motion. Reading from left to right, the first five positions (marked with black dots) correspond to the initial position of the mass below the equilibrium position $\left(x = \frac{2}{3}\right)$, the mass passing through the equilibrium position

**(a)**



**(b)**
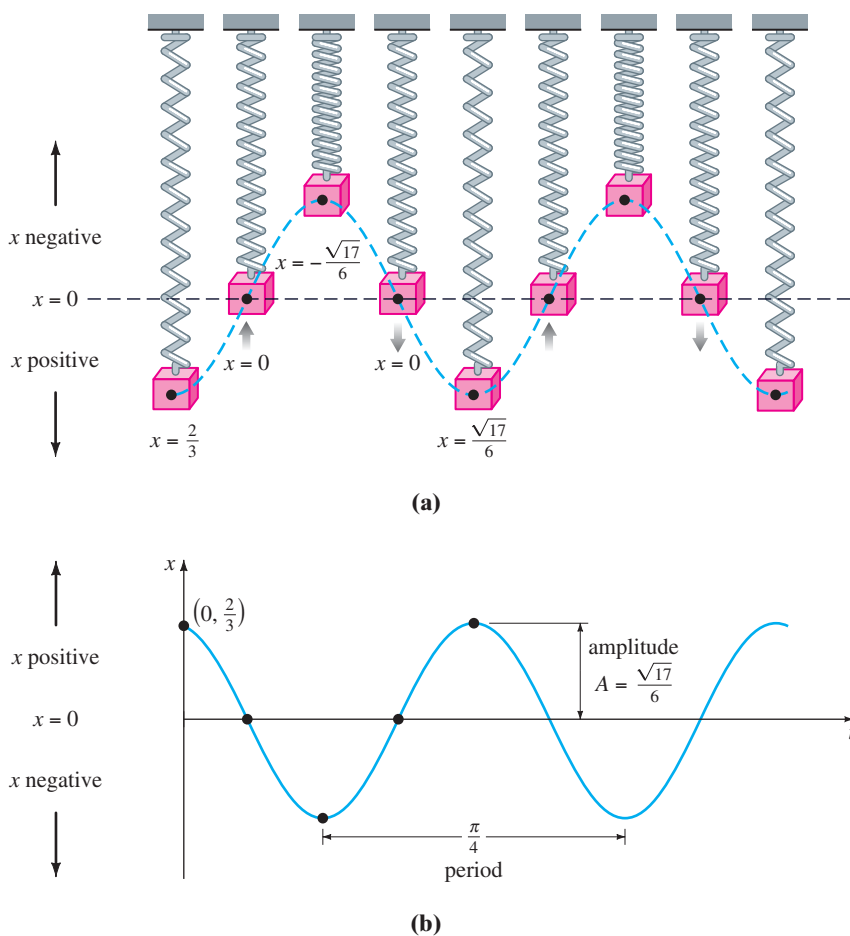
**FIGURE 5.1.4** Simple harmonic motion

for the first time heading upward ($x = 0$), the mass at its extreme displacement above the equilibrium position ($x = -\sqrt{17}/6$), the mass at the equilibrium position for the second time heading downward ($x = 0$), and the mass at its extreme displacement below the equilibrium position ($x = \sqrt{17}/6$). The black dots on the graph of (9), given in Figure 5.1.4(b), also agree with the five positions just given. Note, however, that in Figure 5.1.4(b) the positive direction in the $tx$-plane is the usual upward direction and so is opposite to the positive direction indicated in Figure 5.1.4(a). Hence the solid blue graph representing the motion of the mass in Figure 5.1.4(b) is the reflection through the $t$-axis of the blue dashed curve in Figure 5.1.4(a).

Form (6) is very useful because it is easy to find values of time for which the graph of $x(t)$ crosses the positive $t$-axis (the line $x = 0$). We observe that $\sin(\omega t + \phi) = 0$ when $\omega t + \phi = n\pi$, where $n$ is a nonnegative integer.

**SYSTEMS WITH VARIABLE SPRING CONSTANTS** In the model discussed above we assumed an ideal world—a world in which the physical characteristics of the spring do not change over time. In the nonideal world, however, it seems reasonable to expect that when a spring/mass system is in motion for a long period, the spring will weaken; in other words, the "spring constant" will vary—or, more specifically, decay—with time. In one model for the **aging spring** the spring constant $k$ in (1) is replaced by the decreasing function $K(t) = ke^{-\alpha t}$, $k > 0$, $\alpha > 0$. The linear differential equation $mx'' + ke^{-\alpha t}x = 0$ cannot be solved by the methods that were considered in Chapter 4. Nevertheless, we can obtain two linearly independent solutions using the methods in Chapter 6. See Problem 15 in Exercises 5.1, Example 4 in Section 6.3, and Problems 33 and 39 in Exercises 6.3.

When a spring/mass system is subjected to an environment in which the temperature is rapidly decreasing, it might make sense to replace the constant $k$ with $K(t) = kt$, $k > 0$, a function that increases with time. The resulting model, $mx'' + ktx = 0$, is a form of **Airy's differential equation.** Like the equation for an aging spring, Airy's equation can be solved by the methods of Chapter 6. See Problem 16 in Exercises 5.1, Example 3 in Section 6.1, and Problems 34, 35, and 40 in Exercises 6.3.

## 5.1.2 SPRING/MASS SYSTEMS: FREE DAMPED MOTION

The concept of free harmonic motion is somewhat unrealistic, since the motion described by equation (1) assumes that there are no retarding forces acting on the moving mass. Unless the mass is suspended in a perfect vacuum, there will be at least a resisting force due to the surrounding medium. As Figure 5.1.5 shows, the mass could be suspended in a viscous medium or connected to a dashpot damping device.



**(a)**



**(b)**

**FIGURE 5.1.5** Damping devices

**DE OF FREE DAMPED MOTION** In the study of mechanics, damping forces acting on a body are considered to be proportional to a power of the instantaneous velocity. In particular, we shall assume throughout the subsequent discussion that this force is given by a constant multiple of $dx/dt$. When no other external forces are impressed on the system, it follows from Newton's second law that

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -kx - \beta\frac{dx}{dt}, \tag{10}$$

where $\beta$ is a positive *damping constant* and the negative sign is a consequence of the fact that the damping force acts in a direction opposite to the motion.

Dividing (10) by the mass $m$, we find that the differential equation of **free damped motion** is $d^2x/dt^2 + (\beta/m)dx/dt + (k/m)x = 0$ or

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\lambda\frac{dx}{dt} + \omega^2x = 0, \tag{11}$$

where

$$2\lambda = \frac{\beta}{m}, \qquad \omega^2 = \frac{k}{m}. \tag{12}$$

The symbol $2\lambda$ is used only for algebraic convenience because the auxiliary equation is $m^2 + 2\lambda m + \omega^2 = 0$, and the corresponding roots are then

$$m_1 = -\lambda + \sqrt{\lambda^2 - \omega^2}, \qquad m_2 = -\lambda - \sqrt{\lambda^2 - \omega^2}.$$

We can now distinguish three possible cases depending on the algebraic sign of $\lambda^2 - \omega^2$. Since each solution contains the *damping factor* $e^{-\lambda t}$, $\lambda > 0$, the displacements of the mass become negligible as time $t$ increases.

**CASE I: $\lambda^2 - \omega^2 > 0$** In this situation the system is said to be **overdamped** because the damping coefficient $\beta$ is large when compared to the spring constant $k$. The corresponding solution of (11) is $x(t) = c_1 e^{m_1 t} + c_2 e^{m_2 t}$ or
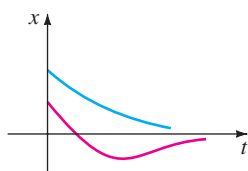


**FIGURE 5.1.6** Motion of an overdamped system

$$x(t) = e^{-\lambda t}\left(c_1 e^{\sqrt{\lambda^2 - \omega^2}\,t} + c_2 e^{-\sqrt{\lambda^2 - \omega^2}\,t}\right). \tag{13}$$

This equation represents a smooth and nonoscillatory motion. Figure 5.1.6 shows two possible graphs of $x(t)$.
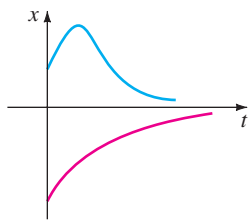
**FIGURE 5.1.7** Motion of a critically damped system
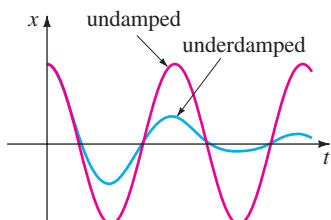


**FIGURE 5.1.8** Motion of an underdamped system

**CASE II: $\lambda^2 - \omega^2 = 0$** The system is said to be **critically damped** because any slight decrease in the damping force would result in oscillatory motion. The general solution of (11) is $x(t) = c_1 e^{m_1 t} + c_2 t e^{m_1 t}$ or

$$x(t) = e^{-\lambda t}(c_1 + c_2 t). \tag{14}$$

Some graphs of typical motion are given in Figure 5.1.7. Notice that the motion is quite similar to that of an overdamped system. It is also apparent from (14) that the mass can pass through the equilibrium position at most one time.

**CASE III: $\lambda^2 - \omega^2 < 0$** In this case the system is said to be **underdamped,** since the damping coefficient is small in comparison to the spring constant. The roots $m_1$ and $m_2$ are now complex:

$$m_1 = -\lambda + \sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\,i, \qquad m_2 = -\lambda - \sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\,i.$$

Thus the general solution of equation (11) is

$$x(t) = e^{-\lambda t}\left(c_1 \cos \sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\,t + c_2 \sin \sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\,t\right). \tag{15}$$

As indicated in Figure 5.1.8, the motion described by (15) is oscillatory; but because of the coefficient $e^{-\lambda t}$, the amplitudes of vibration $\to 0$ as $t \to \infty$.

---

| **EXAMPLE 3** | **Overdamped Motion** |

It is readily verified that the solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + 5\frac{dx}{dt} + 4x = 0, \quad x(0) = 1, \quad x'(0) = 1$$

is

$$x(t) = \frac{5}{3} e^{-t} - \frac{2}{3} e^{-4t}. \tag{16}$$



(a)

| $t$ | $x(t)$ |
|-----|--------|
| 1   | 0.601  |
| 1.5 | 0.370  |
| 2   | 0.225  |
| 2.5 | 0.137  |
| 3   | 0.083  |

(b)

**FIGURE 5.1.9** Overdamped system

The problem can be interpreted as representing the overdamped motion of a mass on a spring. The mass is initially released from a position 1 unit *below* the equilibrium position with a *downward* velocity of 1 ft/s.

To graph $x(t)$, we find the value of $t$ for which the function has an extremum—that is, the value of time for which the first derivative (velocity) is zero. Differentiating (16) gives $x'(t) = -\frac{5}{3} e^{-t} + \frac{8}{3} e^{-4t}$, so $x'(t) = 0$ implies that $e^{3t} = \frac{8}{5}$ or $t = \frac{1}{3} \ln \frac{8}{5} = 0.157$. It follows from the first derivative test, as well as our physical intuition, that $x(0.157) = 1.069$ ft is actually a maximum. In other words, the mass attains an extreme displacement of 1.069 feet below the equilibrium position.

We should also check to see whether the graph crosses the $t$-axis—that is, whether the mass passes through the equilibrium position. This cannot happen in this instance because the equation $x(t) = 0$, or $e^{3t} = \frac{2}{5}$, has the physically irrelevant solution $t = \frac{1}{3} \ln \frac{2}{5} = -0.305$.

The graph of $x(t)$, along with some other pertinent data, is given in Figure 5.1.9. ∎

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| **EXAMPLE 4** | **Critically Damped Motion** |

A mass weighing 8 pounds stretches a spring 2 feet. Assuming that a damping force numerically equal to 2 times the instantaneous velocity acts on the system, determine the equation of motion if the mass is initially released from the equilibrium position with an upward velocity of 3 ft/s.

**SOLUTION** From Hooke's law we see that $8 = k(2)$ gives $k = 4$ lb/ft and that $W = mg$ gives $m = \frac{8}{32} = \frac{1}{4}$ slug. The differential equation of motion is then

$$\frac{1}{4}\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -4x - 2\frac{dx}{dt} \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 8\frac{dx}{dt} + 16x = 0. \qquad (17)$$

The auxiliary equation for (17) is $m^2 + 8m + 16 = (m + 4)^2 = 0$, so $m_1 = m_2 = -4$. Hence the system is critically damped, and

$$x(t) = c_1 e^{-4t} + c_2 t e^{-4t}. \qquad (18)$$

Applying the initial conditions $x(0) = 0$ and $x'(0) = -3$, we find, in turn, that $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = -3$. Thus the equation of motion is

$$x(t) = -3t e^{-4t}. \qquad (19)$$

To graph $x(t)$, we proceed as in Example 3. From $x'(t) = -3e^{-4t}(1 - 4t)$ we see that $x'(t) = 0$ when $t = \frac{1}{4}$. The corresponding extreme displacement is $x\left(\frac{1}{4}\right) = -3\left(\frac{1}{4}\right)e^{-1} = -0.276$ ft. As shown in Figure 5.1.10, we interpret this value to mean that the mass reaches a maximum height of 0.276 foot above the equilibrium position.
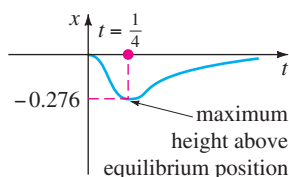


**FIGURE 5.1.10** Critically damped system

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## EXAMPLE 5 Underdamped Motion

A mass weighing 16 pounds is attached to a 5-foot-long spring. At equilibrium the spring measures 8.2 feet. If the mass is initially released from rest at a point 2 feet above the equilibrium position, find the displacements $x(t)$ if it is further known that the surrounding medium offers a resistance numerically equal to the instantaneous velocity.

**SOLUTION** The elongation of the spring after the mass is attached is $8.2 - 5 = 3.2$ ft, so it follows from Hooke's law that $16 = k(3.2)$ or $k = 5$ lb/ft. In addition, $m = \frac{16}{32} = \frac{1}{2}$ slug, so the differential equation is given by

$$\frac{1}{2}\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -5x - \frac{dx}{dt} \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\frac{dx}{dt} + 10x = 0. \qquad (20)$$

Proceeding, we find that the roots of $m^2 + 2m + 10 = 0$ are $m_1 = -1 + 3i$ and $m_2 = -1 - 3i$, which then implies that the system is underdamped, and

$$x(t) = e^{-t}(c_1 \cos 3t + c_2 \sin 3t). \qquad (21)$$

Finally, the initial conditions $x(0) = -2$ and $x'(0) = 0$ yield $c_1 = -2$ and $c_2 = -\frac{2}{3}$, so the equation of motion is

$$x(t) = e^{-t}\left(-2 \cos 3t - \frac{2}{3} \sin 3t\right). \qquad (22)$$

**ALTERNATIVE FORM OF $x(t)$** In a manner identical to the procedure used on page 184, we can write any solution

$$x(t) = e^{-\lambda t}\left(c_1 \cos \sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\,t + c_2 \sin \sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\,t\right)$$

in the alternative form

$$x(t) = A e^{-\lambda t} \sin\left(\sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\,t + \phi\right), \qquad (23)$$

where $A = \sqrt{c_1^2 + c_2^2}$ and the phase angle $\phi$ is determined from the equations

$$\sin \phi = \frac{c_1}{A}, \qquad \cos \phi = \frac{c_2}{A}, \qquad \tan \phi = \frac{c_1}{c_2}.$$

The coefficient $Ae^{-\lambda t}$ is sometimes called the **damped amplitude** of vibrations. Because (23) is not a periodic function, the number $2\pi/\sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}$ is called the **quasi period** and $\sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}/2\pi$ is the **quasi frequency.** The quasi period is the time interval between two successive maxima of $x(t)$. You should verify, for the equation of motion in Example 5, that $A = 2\sqrt{10}/3$ and $\phi = 4.391$. Therefore an equivalent form of (22) is

$$x(t) = \frac{2\sqrt{10}}{3} e^{-t} \sin(3t + 4.391).$$

## 5.1.3  SPRING/MASS SYSTEMS: DRIVEN MOTION

**DE OF DRIVEN MOTION WITH DAMPING**  Suppose we now take into consideration an external force $f(t)$ acting on a vibrating mass on a spring. For example, $f(t)$ could represent a driving force causing an oscillatory vertical motion of the support of the spring. See Figure 5.1.11. The inclusion of $f(t)$ in the formulation of Newton's second law gives the differential equation of **driven** or **forced motion:**

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -kx - \beta\frac{dx}{dt} + f(t). \tag{24}$$

Dividing (24) by $m$ gives

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\lambda\frac{dx}{dt} + \omega^2 x = F(t), \tag{25}$$

where $F(t) = f(t)/m$ and, as in the preceding section, $2\lambda = \beta/m$, $\omega^2 = k/m$. To solve the latter nonhomogeneous equation, we can use either the method of undetermined coefficients or variation of parameters.



**FIGURE 5.1.11**  Oscillatory vertical motion of the support

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| **EXAMPLE 6**  **Interpretation of an Initial-Value Problem** |

Interpret and solve the initial-value problem

$$\frac{1}{5}\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 1.2\frac{dx}{dt} + 2x = 5\cos 4t, \quad x(0) = \frac{1}{2}, \quad x'(0) = 0. \tag{26}$$

**SOLUTION**  We can interpret the problem to represent a vibrational system consisting of a mass ($m = \frac{1}{5}$ slug or kilogram) attached to a spring ($k = 2$ lb/ft or N/m). The mass is initially released from rest $\frac{1}{2}$ unit (foot or meter) below the equilibrium position. The motion is damped ($\beta = 1.2$) and is being driven by an external periodic ($T = \pi/2$ s) force beginning at $t = 0$. Intuitively, we would expect that even with damping, the system would remain in motion until such time as the forcing function was "turned off," in which case the amplitudes would diminish. However, as the problem is given, $f(t) = 5\cos 4t$ will remain "on" forever.

We first multiply the differential equation in (26) by 5 and solve

$$\frac{dx^2}{dt^2} + 6\frac{dx}{dt} + 10x = 0$$

by the usual methods. Because $m_1 = -3 + i$, $m_2 = -3 - i$, it follows that $x_c(t) = e^{-3t}(c_1\cos t + c_2\sin t)$. Using the method of undetermined coefficients, we assume a particular solution of the form $x_p(t) = A\cos 4t + B\sin 4t$. Differentiating $x_p(t)$ and substituting into the DE gives

$$x_p'' + 6x_p' + 10x_p = (-6A + 24B)\cos 4t + (-24A - 6B)\sin 4t = 25\cos 4t.$$
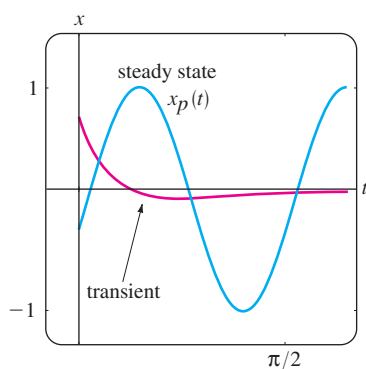
**(a)**
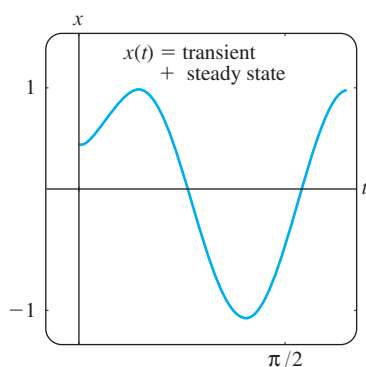


**(b)**

**FIGURE 5.1.12** Graph of solution given in (28)
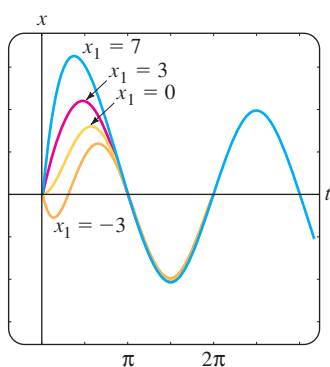


**FIGURE 5.1.13** Graph of solution in Example 7 for various $x_1$

The resulting system of equations

$$-6A + 24B = 25, \qquad -24A - 6B = 0$$

yields $A = -\frac{25}{102}$ and $B = \frac{50}{51}$. It follows that

$$x(t) = e^{-3t}(c_1 \cos t + c_2 \sin t) - \frac{25}{102} \cos 4t + \frac{50}{51} \sin 4t. \qquad (27)$$

When we set $t = 0$ in the above equation, we obtain $c_1 = \frac{38}{51}$. By differentiating the expression and then setting $t = 0$, we also find that $c_2 = -\frac{86}{51}$. Therefore the equation of motion is

$$x(t) = e^{-3t}\left(\frac{38}{51} \cos t - \frac{86}{51} \sin t\right) - \frac{25}{102} \cos 4t + \frac{50}{51} \sin 4t. \qquad (28) \quad \blacksquare$$

**TRANSIENT AND STEADY-STATE TERMS** When $F$ is a periodic function, such as $F(t) = F_0 \sin \gamma t$ or $F(t) = F_0 \cos \gamma t$, the general solution of (25) for $\lambda > 0$ is the sum of a nonperiodic function $x_c(t)$ and a periodic function $x_p(t)$. Moreover, $x_c(t)$ dies off as time increases—that is, $\lim_{t \to \infty} x_c(t) = 0$. Thus for large values of time, the displacements of the mass are closely approximated by the particular solution $x_p(t)$. The complementary function $x_c(t)$ is said to be a **transient term** or **transient solution,** and the function $x_p(t)$, the part of the solution that remains after an interval of time, is called a **steady-state term** or **steady-state solution.** Note therefore that the effect of the initial conditions on a spring/mass system driven by $F$ is transient. In the particular solution (28), $e^{-3t}\left(\frac{38}{51} \cos t - \frac{86}{51} \sin t\right)$ is a transient term, and $x_p(t) = -\frac{25}{102} \cos 4t + \frac{50}{51} \sin 4t$ is a steady-state term. The graphs of these two terms and the solution (28) are given in Figures 5.1.12(a) and 5.1.12(b), respectively.

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**EXAMPLE 7**   **Transient/Steady-State Solutions**

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The solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\frac{dx}{dt} + 2x = 4 \cos t + 2 \sin t, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = x_1,$$

where $x_1$ is constant, is given by

$$x(t) = \underbrace{(x_1 - 2) e^{-t} \sin t}_{\text{transient}} + \underbrace{2 \sin t}_{\text{steady-state}}.$$

Solution curves for selected values of the initial velocity $x_1$ are shown in Figure 5.1.13. The graphs show that the influence of the transient term is negligible for about $t > 3\pi/2$. $\quad \blacksquare$

**DE OF DRIVEN MOTION WITHOUT DAMPING** With a periodic impressed force and no damping force, there is no transient term in the solution of a problem. Also, we shall see that a periodic impressed force with a frequency near or the same as the frequency of free undamped vibrations can cause a severe problem in any oscillatory mechanical system.

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**EXAMPLE 8**   **Undamped Forced Motion**

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Solve the initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega^2 x = F_0 \sin \gamma t, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0, \qquad (29)$$

where $F_0$ is a constant and $\gamma \neq \omega$.

**SOLUTION** The complementary function is $x_c(t) = c_1 \cos \omega t + c_2 \sin \omega t$. To obtain a particular solution, we assume $x_p(t) = A \cos \gamma t + B \sin \gamma t$ so that

$$x_p'' + \omega^2 x_p = A(\omega^2 - \gamma^2) \cos \gamma t + B(\omega^2 - \gamma^2) \sin \gamma t = F_0 \sin \gamma t.$$

Equating coefficients immediately gives $A = 0$ and $B = F_0/(\omega^2 - \gamma^2)$. Therefore

$$x_p(t) = \frac{F_0}{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} \sin \gamma t.$$

Applying the given initial conditions to the general solution

$$x(t) = c_1 \cos \omega t + c_2 \sin \omega t + \frac{F_0}{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} \sin \gamma t$$

yields $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = -\gamma F_0/\omega(\omega^2 - \gamma^2)$. Thus the solution is

$$x(t) = \frac{F_0}{\omega(\omega^2 - \gamma^2)}(-\gamma \sin \omega t + \omega \sin \gamma t), \qquad \gamma \neq \omega. \qquad (30) \quad \blacksquare$$

**PURE RESONANCE** Although equation (30) is not defined for $\gamma = \omega$, it is interesting to observe that its limiting value as $\gamma \to \omega$ can be obtained by applying L'Hôpital's Rule. This limiting process is analogous to "tuning in" the frequency of the driving force $(\gamma/2\pi)$ to the frequency of free vibrations $(\omega/2\pi)$. Intuitively, we expect that over a length of time we should be able to substantially increase the amplitudes of vibration. For $\gamma = \omega$ we define the solution to be

$$x(t) = \lim_{\gamma \to \omega} F_0 \frac{-\gamma \sin \omega t + \omega \sin \gamma t}{\omega(\omega^2 - \gamma^2)} = F_0 \lim_{\gamma \to \omega} \frac{\dfrac{d}{d\gamma}(-\gamma \sin \omega t + \omega \sin \gamma t)}{\dfrac{d}{d\gamma}(\omega^3 - \omega\gamma^2)}$$

$$= F_0 \lim_{\gamma \to \omega} \frac{-\sin \omega t + \omega t \cos \gamma t}{-2\omega\gamma} \qquad (31)$$

$$= F_0 \frac{-\sin \omega t + \omega t \cos \omega t}{-2\omega^2}$$

$$= \frac{F_0}{2\omega^2} \sin \omega t - \frac{F_0}{2\omega} t \cos \omega t.$$
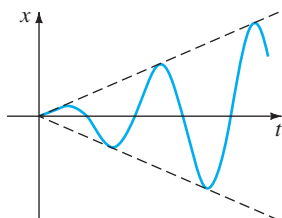


**FIGURE 5.1.14** Pure resonance

As suspected, when $t \to \infty$, the displacements become large; in fact, $|x(t_n)| \to \infty$ when $t_n = n\pi/\omega$, $n = 1, 2, \ldots$ . The phenomenon that we have just described is known as **pure resonance.** The graph given in Figure 5.1.14 shows typical motion in this case.

In conclusion it should be noted that there is no actual need to use a limiting process on (30) to obtain the solution for $\gamma = \omega$. Alternatively, equation (31) follows by solving the initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega^2 x = F_0 \sin \omega t, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0$$

directly by conventional methods.

If the displacements of a spring/mass system were actually described by a function such as (31), the system would necessarily fail. Large oscillations of the mass would eventually force the spring beyond its elastic limit. One might argue too that the resonating model presented in Figure 5.1.14 is completely unrealistic because it ignores the retarding effects of ever-present damping forces. Although it is true that pure resonance cannot occur when the smallest amount of damping is taken into consideration, large and equally destructive amplitudes of vibration (although bounded as $t \to \infty$) can occur. See Problem 43 in Exercises 5.1.

## 5.1.4 SERIES CIRCUIT ANALOGUE
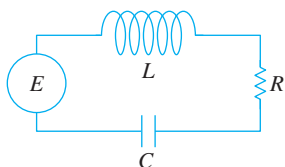


**FIGURE 5.1.15** *LRC* series circuit

*LRC* **SERIES CIRCUITS** As was mentioned in the introduction to this chapter, many different physical systems can be described by a linear second-order differential equation similar to the differential equation of forced motion with damping:

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \beta\frac{dx}{dt} + kx = f(t). \tag{32}$$

If $i(t)$ denotes current in the *LRC* **series electrical circuit** shown in Figure 5.1.15, then the voltage drops across the inductor, resistor, and capacitor are as shown in Figure 1.3.3. By Kirchhoff's second law the sum of these voltages equals the voltage $E(t)$ impressed on the circuit; that is,

$$L\frac{di}{dt} + Ri + \frac{1}{C}q = E(t). \tag{33}$$

But the charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor is related to the current $i(t)$ by $i = dq/dt$, so (33) becomes the linear second-order differential equation

$$L\frac{d^2q}{dt^2} + R\frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{1}{C}q = E(t). \tag{34}$$

The nomenclature used in the analysis of circuits is similar to that used to describe spring/mass systems.

If $E(t) = 0$, the **electrical vibrations** of the circuit are said to be **free.** Because the auxiliary equation for (34) is $Lm^2 + Rm + 1/C = 0$, there will be three forms of the solution with $R \neq 0$, depending on the value of the discriminant $R^2 - 4L/C$. We say that the circuit is

**overdamped** if $\qquad R^2 - 4L/C > 0,$

**critically damped** if $\quad R^2 - 4L/C = 0,$

and $\qquad$ **underdamped** if $\qquad R^2 - 4L/C < 0.$

In each of these three cases the general solution of (34) contains the factor $e^{-Rt/2L}$, so $q(t) \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$. In the underdamped case when $q(0) = q_0$, the charge on the capacitor oscillates as it decays; in other words, the capacitor is charging and discharging as $t \to \infty$. When $E(t) = 0$ and $R = 0$, the circuit is said to be undamped, and the electrical vibrations do not approach zero as $t$ increases without bound; the response of the circuit is **simple harmonic.**

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### EXAMPLE 9 Underdamped Series Circuit

Find the charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor in an *LRC* series circuit when $L = 0.25$ henry (h), $R = 10$ ohms ($\Omega$), $C = 0.001$ farad (f), $E(t) = 0$, $q(0) = q_0$ coulombs (C), and $i(0) = 0$.

**SOLUTION** Since $1/C = 1000$, equation (34) becomes

$$\frac{1}{4}q'' + 10q' + 1000q = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad q'' + 40q' + 4000q = 0.$$

Solving this homogeneous equation in the usual manner, we find that the circuit is underdamped and $q(t) = e^{-20t}(c_1 \cos 60t + c_2 \sin 60t)$. Applying the initial conditions, we find $c_1 = q_0$ and $c_2 = \frac{1}{3}q_0$. Thus

$$q(t) = q_0 e^{-20t}\left(\cos 60t + \frac{1}{3}\sin 60t\right).$$

Using (23), we can write the foregoing solution as

$$q(t) = \frac{q_0\sqrt{10}}{3} e^{-20t} \sin(60t + 1.249).$$ ■

When there is an impressed voltage $E(t)$ on the circuit, the electrical vibrations are said to be **forced.** In the case when $R \neq 0$, the complementary function $q_c(t)$ of (34) is called a **transient solution.** If $E(t)$ is periodic or a constant, then the particular solution $q_p(t)$ of (34) is a **steady-state solution.**

## EXAMPLE 10  Steady-State Current

Find the steady-state solution $q_p(t)$ and the **steady-state current** in an $LRC$ series circuit when the impressed voltage is $E(t) = E_0 \sin \gamma t$.

**SOLUTION**  The steady-state solution $q_p(t)$ is a particular solution of the differential equation

$$L\frac{d^2q}{dt^2} + R\frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{1}{C}q = E_0 \sin \gamma t.$$

Using the method of undetermined coefficients, we assume a particular solution of the form $q_p(t) = A \sin \gamma t + B \cos \gamma t$. Substituting this expression into the differential equation, simplifying, and equating coefficients gives

$$A = \frac{E_0\left(L\gamma - \dfrac{1}{C\gamma}\right)}{-\gamma\left(L^2\gamma^2 - \dfrac{2L}{C} + \dfrac{1}{C^2\gamma^2} + R^2\right)}, \qquad B = \frac{E_0R}{-\gamma\left(L^2\gamma^2 - \dfrac{2L}{C} + \dfrac{1}{C^2\gamma^2} + R^2\right)}.$$

It is convenient to express $A$ and $B$ in terms of some new symbols.

If $\qquad X = L\gamma - \dfrac{1}{C\gamma},$ $\qquad$ then $\qquad X^2 = L^2\gamma^2 - \dfrac{2L}{C} + \dfrac{1}{C^2\gamma^2}.$

If $\qquad Z = \sqrt{X^2 + R^2},$ $\qquad$ then $\qquad Z^2 = L^2\gamma^2 - \dfrac{2L}{C} + \dfrac{1}{C^2\gamma^2} + R^2.$

Therefore $A = E_0X/(-\gamma Z^2)$ and $B = E_0R/(-\gamma Z^2)$, so the steady-state charge is

$$q_p(t) = -\frac{E_0X}{\gamma Z^2}\sin \gamma t - \frac{E_0R}{\gamma Z^2}\cos \gamma t.$$

Now the steady-state current is given by $i_p(t) = q'_p(t)$:

$$i_p(t) = \frac{E_0}{Z}\left(\frac{R}{Z}\sin \gamma t - \frac{X}{Z}\cos \gamma t\right). \tag{35} ■$$

The quantities $X = L\gamma - 1/C\gamma$ and $Z = \sqrt{X^2 + R^2}$ defined in Example 11 are called the **reactance** and **impedance,** respectively, of the circuit. Both the reactance and the impedance are measured in ohms.

## EXERCISES 5.1

### 5.1.1 SPRING/MASS SYSTEMS: FREE UNDAMPED MOTION

1. A mass weighing 4 pounds is attached to a spring whose spring constant is 16 lb/ft. What is the period of simple harmonic motion?

2. A 20-kilogram mass is attached to a spring. If the frequency of simple harmonic motion is $2/\pi$ cycles/s, what is the spring constant $k$? What is the frequency of simple harmonic motion if the original mass is replaced with an 80-kilogram mass?

3. A mass weighing 24 pounds, attached to the end of a spring, stretches it 4 inches. Initially, the mass is released from rest from a point 3 inches above the equilibrium position. Find the equation of motion.

4. Determine the equation of motion if the mass in Problem 3 is initially released from the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of 2 ft/s.

5. A mass weighing 20 pounds stretches a spring 6 inches. The mass is initially released from rest from a point 6 inches below the equilibrium position.
   (a) Find the position of the mass at the times $t = \pi/12$, $\pi/8$, $\pi/6$, $\pi/4$, and $9\pi/32$ s.
   (b) What is the velocity of the mass when $t = 3\pi/16$ s? In which direction is the mass heading at this instant?
   (c) At what times does the mass pass through the equilibrium position?

6. A force of 400 newtons stretches a spring 2 meters. A mass of 50 kilograms is attached to the end of the spring and is initially released from the equilibrium position with an upward velocity of 10 m/s. Find the equation of motion.

7. Another spring whose constant is 20 N/m is suspended from the same rigid support but parallel to the spring/mass system in Problem 6. A mass of 20 kilograms is attached to the second spring, and both masses are initially released from the equilibrium position with an upward velocity of 10 m/s.
   (a) Which mass exhibits the greater amplitude of motion?
   (b) Which mass is moving faster at $t = \pi/4$ s? At $\pi/2$ s?
   (c) At what times are the two masses in the same position? Where are the masses at these times? In which directions are the masses moving?

8. A mass weighing 32 pounds stretches a spring 2 feet. Determine the amplitude and period of motion if the mass is initially released from a point 1 foot above the equilibrium position with an upward velocity of 2 ft/s. How many complete cycles will the mass have completed at the end of $4\pi$ seconds?

9. A mass weighing 8 pounds is attached to a spring. When set in motion, the spring/mass system exhibits simple harmonic motion. Determine the equation of motion if the spring constant is 1 lb/ft and the mass is initially released from a point 6 inches below the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of $\frac{3}{2}$ ft/s. Express the equation of motion in the form given in (6).

10. A mass weighing 10 pounds stretches a spring $\frac{1}{4}$ foot. This mass is removed and replaced with a mass of 1.6 slugs, which is initially released from a point $\frac{1}{3}$ foot above the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of $\frac{5}{4}$ ft/s. Express the equation of motion in the form given in (6). At what times does the mass attain a displacement below the equilibrium position numerically equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ the amplitude?

11. A mass weighing 64 pounds stretches a spring 0.32 foot. The mass is initially released from a point 8 inches above the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of 5 ft/s.
    (a) Find the equation of motion.
    (b) What are the amplitude and period of motion?
    (c) How many complete cycles will the mass have completed at the end of $3\pi$ seconds?
    (d) At what time does the mass pass through the equilibrium position heading downward for the second time?
    (e) At what times does the mass attain its extreme displacements on either side of the equilibrium position?
    (f) What is the position of the mass at $t = 3$ s?
    (g) What is the instantaneous velocity at $t = 3$ s?
    (h) What is the acceleration at $t = 3$ s?
    (i) What is the instantaneous velocity at the times when the mass passes through the equilibrium position?
    (j) At what times is the mass 5 inches below the equilibrium position?
    (k) At what times is the mass 5 inches below the equilibrium position heading in the upward direction?

12. A mass of 1 slug is suspended from a spring whose spring constant is 9 lb/ft. The mass is initially released from a point 1 foot above the equilibrium position with an upward velocity of $\sqrt{3}$ ft/s. Find the times at which the mass is heading downward at a velocity of 3 ft/s.

13. Under some circumstances when two parallel springs, with constants $k_1$ and $k_2$, support a single mass, the

**effective spring constant** of the system is given by $k = 4k_1k_2/(k_1 + k_2)$. A mass weighing 20 pounds stretches one spring 6 inches and another spring 2 inches. The springs are attached to a common rigid support and then to a metal plate. As shown in Figure 5.1.16, the mass is attached to the center of the plate in the double-spring arrangement. Determine the effective spring constant of this system. Find the equation of motion if the mass is initially released from the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of 2 ft/s.
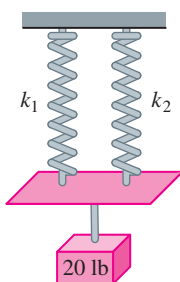


**FIGURE 5.1.16** Double-spring system in Problem 13

14. A certain mass stretches one spring $\frac{1}{3}$ foot and another spring $\frac{1}{2}$ foot. The two springs are attached to a common rigid support in the manner described in Problem 13 and Figure 5.1.16. The first mass is set aside, a mass weighing 8 pounds is attached to the double-spring arrangement, and the system is set in motion. If the period of motion is $\pi/15$ second, determine how much the first mass weighs.

15. A model of a spring/mass system is $4x'' + e^{-0.1t}x = 0$. By inspection of the differential equation only, discuss the behavior of the system over a long period of time.

16. A model of a spring/mass system is $4x'' + tx = 0$. By inspection of the differential equation only, discuss the behavior of the system over a long period of time.

## 5.1.2 SPRING/MASS SYSTEMS: FREE DAMPED MOTION

In Problems 17–20 the given figure represents the graph of an equation of motion for a damped spring/mass system. Use the graph to determine

(a) whether the initial displacement is above or below the equilibrium position and

(b) whether the mass is initially released from rest, heading downward, or heading upward.

17.
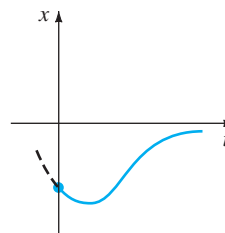


**FIGURE 5.1.17** Graph for Problem 17

18.
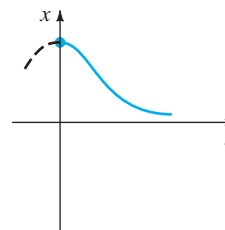


**FIGURE 5.1.18** Graph for Problem 18

19.
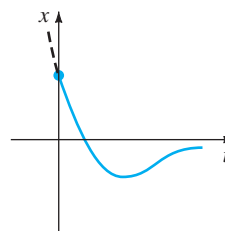


**FIGURE 5.1.19** Graph for Problem 19

20.
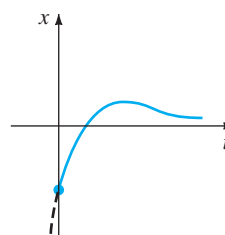


**FIGURE 5.1.20** Graph for Problem 20

21. A mass weighing 4 pounds is attached to a spring whose constant is 2 lb/ft. The medium offers a damping force that is numerically equal to the instantaneous velocity. The mass is initially released from a point 1 foot above the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of 8 ft/s. Determine the time at which the mass passes through the equilibrium position. Find the time at which the mass attains its extreme displacement from the equilibrium position. What is the position of the mass at this instant?

**22.** A 4-foot spring measures 8 feet long after a mass weighing 8 pounds is attached to it. The medium through which the mass moves offers a damping force numerically equal to $\sqrt{2}$ times the instantaneous velocity. Find the equation of motion if the mass is initially released from the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of 5 ft/s. Find the time at which the mass attains its extreme displacement from the equilibrium position. What is the position of the mass at this instant?

**23.** A 1-kilogram mass is attached to a spring whose constant is 16 N/m, and the entire system is then submerged in a liquid that imparts a damping force numerically equal to 10 times the instantaneous velocity. Determine the equations of motion if

    **(a)** the mass is initially released from rest from a point 1 meter below the equilibrium position, and then

    **(b)** the mass is initially released from a point 1 meter below the equilibrium position with an upward velocity of 12 m/s.

**24.** In parts (a) and (b) of Problem 23 determine whether the mass passes through the equilibrium position. In each case find the time at which the mass attains its extreme displacement from the equilibrium position. What is the position of the mass at this instant?

**25.** A force of 2 pounds stretches a spring 1 foot. A mass weighing 3.2 pounds is attached to the spring, and the system is then immersed in a medium that offers a damping force that is numerically equal to 0.4 times the instantaneous velocity.

    **(a)** Find the equation of motion if the mass is initially released from rest from a point 1 foot above the equilibrium position.

    **(b)** Express the equation of motion in the form given in (23).

    **(c)** Find the first time at which the mass passes through the equilibrium position heading upward.

**26.** After a mass weighing 10 pounds is attached to a 5-foot spring, the spring measures 7 feet. This mass is removed and replaced with another mass that weighs 8 pounds. The entire system is placed in a medium that offers a damping force that is numerically equal to the instantaneous velocity.

    **(a)** Find the equation of motion if the mass is initially released from a point $\frac{1}{2}$ foot below the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of 1 ft/s.

    **(b)** Express the equation of motion in the form given in (23).

    **(c)** Find the times at which the mass passes through the equilibrium position heading downward.

    **(d)** Graph the equation of motion.

**27.** A mass weighing 10 pounds stretches a spring 2 feet. The mass is attached to a dashpot device that offers a damping force numerically equal to $\beta$ ($\beta > 0$) times the instantaneous velocity. Determine the values of the damping constant $\beta$ so that the subsequent motion is **(a)** overdamped, **(b)** critically damped, and **(c)** underdamped.

**28.** A mass weighing 24 pounds stretches a spring 4 feet. The subsequent motion takes place in medium that offers a damping force numerically equal to $\beta$ ($\beta > 0$) times the instantaneous velocity. If the mass is initially released from the equilibrium position with an upward velocity of 2 ft/s, show that when $\beta > 3\sqrt{2}$ the equation of motion is

$$x(t) = \frac{-3}{\sqrt{\beta^2 - 18}} e^{-2\beta t/3} \sinh \frac{2}{3} \sqrt{\beta^2 - 18}\, t.$$

### 5.1.3 SPRING/MASS SYSTEMS: DRIVEN MOTION

**29.** A mass weighing 16 pounds stretches a spring $\frac{8}{3}$ feet. The mass is initially released from rest from a point 2 feet below the equilibrium position, and the subsequent motion takes place in a medium that offers a damping force that is numerically equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ the instantaneous velocity. Find the equation of motion if the mass is driven by an external force equal to $f(t) = 10 \cos 3t$.

**30.** A mass of 1 slug is attached to a spring whose constant is 5 lb/ft. Initially, the mass is released 1 foot below the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of 5 ft/s, and the subsequent motion takes place in a medium that offers a damping force that is numerically equal to 2 times the instantaneous velocity.

    **(a)** Find the equation of motion if the mass is driven by an external force equal to $f(t) = 12 \cos 2t + 3 \sin 2t$.

    **(b)** Graph the transient and steady-state solutions on the same coordinate axes.

    **(c)** Graph the equation of motion.

**31.** A mass of 1 slug, when attached to a spring, stretches it 2 feet and then comes to rest in the equilibrium position. Starting at $t = 0$, an external force equal to $f(t) = 8 \sin 4t$ is applied to the system. Find the equation of motion if the surrounding medium offers a damping force that is numerically equal to 8 times the instantaneous velocity.

**32.** In Problem 31 determine the equation of motion if the external force is $f(t) = e^{-t} \sin 4t$. Analyze the displacements for $t \to \infty$.

**33.** When a mass of 2 kilograms is attached to a spring whose constant is 32 N/m, it comes to rest in the equilibrium position. Starting at $t = 0$, a force equal to $f(t) = 68e^{-2t} \cos 4t$ is applied to the system. Find the equation of motion in the absence of damping.

**34.** In Problem 33 write the equation of motion in the form $x(t) = A \sin(\omega t + \phi) + Be^{-2t} \sin(4t + \theta)$. What is the amplitude of vibrations after a very long time?

**35.** A mass $m$ is attached to the end of a spring whose constant is $k$. After the mass reaches equilibrium, its support begins to oscillate vertically about a horizontal line $L$ according to a formula $h(t)$. The value of $h$ represents the distance in feet measured from $L$. See Figure 5.1.21.

  **(a)** Determine the differential equation of motion if the entire system moves through a medium offering a damping force that is numerically equal to $\beta(dx/dt)$.

  **(b)** Solve the differential equation in part (a) if the spring is stretched 4 feet by a mass weighing 16 pounds and $\beta = 2$, $h(t) = 5 \cos t$, $x(0) = x'(0) = 0$.
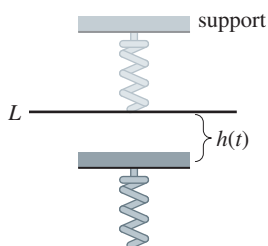


**FIGURE 5.1.21**   Oscillating support in Problem 35

**36.** A mass of 100 grams is attached to a spring whose constant is 1600 dynes/cm. After the mass reaches equilibrium, its support oscillates according to the formula $h(t) = \sin 8t$, where $h$ represents displacement from its original position. See Problem 35 and Figure 5.1.21.

  **(a)** In the absence of damping, determine the equation of motion if the mass starts from rest from the equilibrium position.

  **(b)** At what times does the mass pass through the equilibrium position?

  **(c)** At what times does the mass attain its extreme displacements?

  **(d)** What are the maximum and minimum displacements?

  **(e)** Graph the equation of motion.

In Problems 37 and 38 solve the given initial-value problem.

**37.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 4x = -5 \sin 2t + 3 \cos 2t$,

  $x(0) = -1, \quad x'(0) = 1$

**38.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 9x = 5 \sin 3t, \quad x(0) = 2, \quad x'(0) = 0$

**39. (a)** Show that the solution of the initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega^2 x = F_0 \cos \gamma t, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0$$

  is    $x(t) = \dfrac{F_0}{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}(\cos \gamma t - \cos \omega t)$.

**(b)** Evaluate $\displaystyle\lim_{\gamma \to \omega} \frac{F_0}{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}(\cos \gamma t - \cos \omega t)$.

**40.** Compare the result obtained in part (b) of Problem 39 with the solution obtained using variation of parameters when the external force is $F_0 \cos \omega t$.

**41. (a)** Show that $x(t)$ given in part (a) of Problem 39 can be written in the form

$$x(t) = \frac{-2F_0}{\omega^2 - \gamma^2} \sin \frac{1}{2}(\gamma - \omega)t \, \sin \frac{1}{2}(\gamma + \omega)t.$$

**(b)** If we define $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{2}(\gamma - \omega)$, show that when $\varepsilon$ is small an approximate solution is

$$x(t) = \frac{F_0}{2\varepsilon\gamma} \sin \varepsilon t \, \sin \gamma t.$$

When $\varepsilon$ is small, the frequency $\gamma/2\pi$ of the impressed force is close to the frequency $\omega/2\pi$ of free vibrations. When this occurs, the motion is as indicated in Figure 5.1.22. Oscillations of this kind are called **beats** and are due to the fact that the frequency of $\sin \varepsilon t$ is quite small in comparison to the frequency of $\sin \gamma t$. The dashed curves, or envelope of the graph of $x(t)$, are obtained from the graphs of $\pm(F_0/2\varepsilon\gamma) \sin \varepsilon t$. Use a graphing utility with various values of $F_0$, $\varepsilon$, and $\gamma$ to verify the graph in Figure 5.1.22.
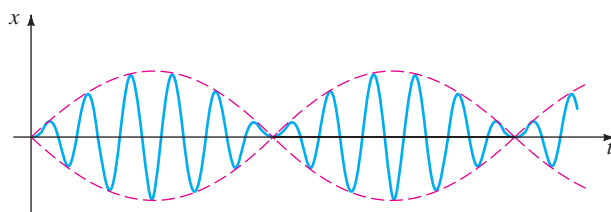


**FIGURE 5.1.22**   Beats phenomenon in Problem 41

## Computer Lab Assignments

**42.** Can there be beats when a damping force is added to the model in part (a) of Problem 39? Defend your position with graphs obtained either from the explicit solution of the problem

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\lambda\frac{dx}{dt} + \omega^2 x = F_0 \cos \gamma t, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0$$

or from solution curves obtained using a numerical solver.

**43. (a)** Show that the general solution of

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\lambda\frac{dx}{dt} + \omega^2 x = F_0 \sin \gamma t$$

is

$$x(t) = Ae^{-\lambda t} \sin\left(\sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\, t + \phi\right)$$
$$+ \frac{F_0}{\sqrt{(\omega^2 - \gamma^2)^2 + 4\lambda^2\gamma^2}} \sin(\gamma t + \theta),$$

where $A = \sqrt{c_1^2 + c_2^2}$ and the phase angles $\phi$ and $\theta$ are, respectively, defined by $\sin\phi = c_1/A$, $\cos\phi = c_2/A$ and

$$\sin\theta = \frac{-2\lambda\gamma}{\sqrt{(\omega^2 - \gamma^2)^2 + 4\lambda^2\gamma^2}},$$

$$\cos\theta = \frac{\omega^2 - \gamma^2}{\sqrt{(\omega^2 - \gamma^2)^2 + 4\lambda^2\gamma^2}}.$$

**(b)** The solution in part (a) has the form $x(t) = x_c(t) + x_p(t)$. Inspection shows that $x_c(t)$ is transient, and hence for large values of time, the solution is approximated by $x_p(t) = g(\gamma) \sin(\gamma t + \theta)$, where

$$g(\gamma) = \frac{F_0}{\sqrt{(\omega^2 - \gamma^2)^2 + 4\lambda^2\gamma^2}}.$$

Although the amplitude $g(\gamma)$ of $x_p(t)$ is bounded as $t \to \infty$, show that the maximum oscillations will occur at the value $\gamma_1 = \sqrt{\omega^2 - 2\lambda^2}$. What is the maximum value of $g$? The number $\sqrt{\omega^2 - 2\lambda^2}/2\pi$ is said to be the **resonance frequency** of the system.

**(c)** When $F_0 = 2$, $m = 1$, and $k = 4$, $g$ becomes

$$g(\gamma) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{(4 - \gamma^2)^2 + \beta^2\gamma^2}}.$$

Construct a table of the values of $\gamma_1$ and $g(\gamma_1)$ corresponding to the damping coefficients $\beta = 2$, $\beta = 1$, $\beta = \frac{3}{4}$, $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$, and $\beta = \frac{1}{4}$. Use a graphing utility to obtain the graphs of $g$ corresponding to these damping coefficients. Use the same coordinate axes. This family of graphs is called the **resonance curve** or **frequency response curve** of the system. What is $\gamma_1$ approaching as $\beta \to 0$? What is happening to the resonance curve as $\beta \to 0$?

**44.** Consider a driven undamped spring/mass system described by the initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \omega^2 x = F_0 \sin^n \gamma t, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0.$$

**(a)** For $n = 2$, discuss why there is a single frequency $\gamma_1/2\pi$ at which the system is in pure resonance.

**(b)** For $n = 3$, discuss why there are two frequencies $\gamma_1/2\pi$ and $\gamma_2/2\pi$ at which the system is in pure resonance.

**(c)** Suppose $\omega = 1$ and $F_0 = 1$. Use a numerical solver to obtain the graph of the solution of the initial-value problem for $n = 2$ and $\gamma = \gamma_1$ in part (a). Obtain the graph of the solution of the initial-value problem for $n = 3$ corresponding, in turn, to $\gamma = \gamma_1$ and $\gamma = \gamma_2$ in part (b).

## 5.1.4 SERIES CIRCUIT ANALOGUE

**45.** Find the charge on the capacitor in an *LRC* series circuit at $t = 0.01$ s when $L = 0.05$ h, $R = 2\,\Omega$, $C = 0.01$ f, $E(t) = 0$ V, $q(0) = 5$ C, and $i(0) = 0$ A. Determine the first time at which the charge on the capacitor is equal to zero.

**46.** Find the charge on the capacitor in an *LRC* series circuit when $L = \frac{1}{4}$ h, $R = 20\,\Omega$, $C = \frac{1}{300}$ f, $E(t) = 0$ V, $q(0) = 4$ C, and $i(0) = 0$ A. Is the charge on the capacitor ever equal to zero?

In Problems 47 and 48 find the charge on the capacitor and the current in the given *LRC* series circuit. Find the maximum charge on the capacitor.

**47.** $L = \frac{5}{3}$ h, $R = 10\,\Omega$, $C = \frac{1}{30}$ f, $E(t) = 300$ V, $q(0) = 0$ C, $i(0) = 0$ A

**48.** $L = 1$ h, $R = 100\,\Omega$, $C = 0.0004$ f, $E(t) = 30$ V, $q(0) = 0$ C, $i(0) = 2$ A

**49.** Find the steady-state charge and the steady-state current in an *LRC* series circuit when $L = 1$ h, $R = 2\,\Omega$, $C = 0.25$ f, and $E(t) = 50\cos t$ V.

**50.** Show that the amplitude of the steady-state current in the *LRC* series circuit in Example 10 is given by $E_0/Z$, where $Z$ is the impedance of the circuit.

**51.** Use Problem 50 to show that the steady-state current in an *LRC* series circuit when $L = \frac{1}{2}$ h, $R = 20\,\Omega$, $C = 0.001$ f, and $E(t) = 100\sin 60t$ V, is given by $i_p(t) = 4.160\sin(60t - 0.588)$.

**52.** Find the steady-state current in an *LRC* series circuit when $L = \frac{1}{2}$ h, $R = 20\,\Omega$, $C = 0.001$ f, and $E(t) = 100\sin 60t + 200\cos 40t$ V.

**53.** Find the charge on the capacitor in an *LRC* series circuit when $L = \frac{1}{2}$ h, $R = 10\,\Omega$, $C = 0.01$ f, $E(t) = 150$ V, $q(0) = 1$ C, and $i(0) = 0$ A. What is the charge on the capacitor after a long time?

**54.** Show that if $L$, $R$, $C$, and $E_0$ are constant, then the amplitude of the steady-state current in Example 10 is a maximum when $\gamma = 1/\sqrt{LC}$. What is the maximum amplitude?

**55.** Show that if $L$, $R$, $E_0$, and $\gamma$ are constant, then the amplitude of the steady-state current in Example 10 is a maximum when the capacitance is $C = 1/L\gamma^2$.

**56.** Find the charge on the capacitor and the current in an *LC* circuit when $L = 0.1$ h, $C = 0.1$ f, $E(t) = 100\sin\gamma t$ V, $q(0) = 0$ C, and $i(0) = 0$ A.

**57.** Find the charge on the capacitor and the current in an *LC* circuit when $E(t) = E_0\cos\gamma t$ V, $q(0) = q_0$ C, and $i(0) = i_0$ A.

**58.** In Problem 57 find the current when the circuit is in resonance.

## 5.2 | LINEAR MODELS: BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS

**REVIEW MATERIAL**
- Problems 37–40 in Exercises 4.3
- Problems 37–40 in Exercises 4.4

**INTRODUCTION**   The preceding section was devoted to systems in which a second-order mathematical model was accompanied by initial conditions—that is, side conditions that are specified on the unknown function and its first derivative at a single point. But often the mathematical description of a physical system demands that we solve a homogeneous linear differential equation subject to boundary conditions—that is, conditions specified on the unknown function, or on one of its derivatives, or even on a linear combination of the unknown function and one of its derivatives at two (or more) different points.



axis of symmetry

**(a)**



deflection curve

**(b)**

**FIGURE 5.2.1**   Deflection of a homogeneous beam

**DEFLECTION OF A BEAM**   Many structures are constructed by using girders or beams, and these beams deflect or distort under their own weight or under the influence of some external force. As we shall now see, this deflection $y(x)$ is governed by a relatively simple linear fourth-order differential equation.

To begin, let us assume that a beam of length $L$ is homogeneous and has uniform cross sections along its length. In the absence of any load on the beam (including its weight), a curve joining the centroids of all its cross sections is a straight line called the **axis of symmetry.** See Figure 5.2.1(a). If a load is applied to the beam in a vertical plane containing the axis of symmetry, the beam, as shown in Figure 5.2.1(b), undergoes a distortion, and the curve connecting the centroids of all cross sections is called the **deflection curve** or **elastic curve.** The deflection curve approximates the shape of the beam. Now suppose that the $x$-axis coincides with the axis of symmetry and that the deflection $y(x)$, measured from this axis, is positive if downward. In the theory of elasticity it is shown that the bending moment $M(x)$ at a point $x$ along the beam is related to the load per unit length $w(x)$ by the equation

$$\frac{d^2M}{dx^2} = w(x). \tag{1}$$

In addition, the bending moment $M(x)$ is proportional to the curvature $\kappa$ of the elastic curve

$$M(x) = EI\kappa, \tag{2}$$

where $E$ and $I$ are constants; $E$ is Young's modulus of elasticity of the material of the beam, and $I$ is the moment of inertia of a cross section of the beam (about an axis known as the neutral axis). The product $EI$ is called the **flexural rigidity** of the beam.

Now, from calculus, curvature is given by $\kappa = y''/[1 + (y')^2]^{3/2}$. When the deflection $y(x)$ is small, the slope $y' \approx 0$, and so $[1 + (y')^2]^{3/2} \approx 1$. If we let $\kappa \approx y''$, equation (2) becomes $M = EI\, y''$. The second derivative of this last expression is

$$\frac{d^2M}{dx^2} = EI\frac{d^2}{dx^2}\,y'' = EI\frac{d^4y}{dx^4}. \tag{3}$$

Using the given result in (1) to replace $d^2M/dx^2$ in (3), we see that the deflection $y(x)$ satisfies the fourth-order differential equation

$$EI\,\frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = w(x). \tag{4}$$

**(a)** embedded at both ends
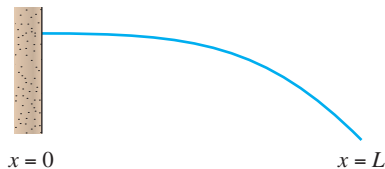


**(b)** cantilever beam: embedded at the left end, free at the right end



**(c)** simply supported at both ends

**FIGURE 5.2.2**  Beams with various end conditions

**TABLE 5.1**

| Ends of the Beam | Boundary Conditions |
|---|---|
| embedded | $y = 0, \quad y' = 0$ |
| free | $y'' = 0, \quad y''' = 0$ |
| simply supported or hinged | $y = 0, \quad y'' = 0$ |

Boundary conditions associated with equation (4) depend on how the ends of the beam are supported. A cantilever beam is **embedded** or **clamped** at one end and **free** at the other. A diving board, an outstretched arm, an airplane wing, and a balcony are common examples of such beams, but even trees, flagpoles, skyscrapers, and the George Washington Monument can act as cantilever beams because they are embedded at one end and are subject to the bending force of the wind. For a cantilever beam the deflection $y(x)$ must satisfy the following two conditions at the embedded end $x = 0$:

- $y(0) = 0$ because there is no deflection, and
- $y'(0) = 0$ because the deflection curve is tangent to the $x$-axis (in other words, the slope of the deflection curve is zero at this point).

At $x = L$ the free-end conditions are

- $y''(L) = 0$ because the bending moment is zero, and
- $y'''(L) = 0$ because the shear force is zero.

The function $F(x) = dM/dx = EI \, d^3y/dx^3$ is called the shear force. If an end of a beam is **simply supported** or **hinged** (also called **pin supported** and **fulcrum supported**) then we must have $y = 0$ and $y'' = 0$ at that end. Table 5.1 summarizes the boundary conditions that are associated with (4). See Figure 5.2.2.

---

### EXAMPLE 1   An Embedded Beam

A beam of length $L$ is embedded at both ends. Find the deflection of the beam if a constant load $w_0$ is uniformly distributed along its length—that is, $w(x) = w_0, \, 0 < x < L$.

**SOLUTION**   From (4) we see that the deflection $y(x)$ satisfies

$$EI \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = w_0.$$

Because the beam is embedded at both its left end ($x = 0$) and its right end ($x = L$), there is no vertical deflection and the line of deflection is horizontal at these points. Thus the boundary conditions are

$$y(0) = 0, \qquad y'(0) = 0, \qquad y(L) = 0, \qquad y'(L) = 0.$$

We can solve the nonhomogeneous differential equation in the usual manner (find $y_c$ by observing that $m = 0$ is root of multiplicity four of the auxiliary equation $m^4 = 0$ and then find a particular solution $y_p$ by undetermined coefficients), or we can simply integrate the equation $d^4y/dx^4 = w_0/EI$ four times in succession. Either way, we find the general solution of the equation $y = y_c + y_p$ to be

$$y(x) = c_1 + c_2x + c_3x^2 + c_4x^3 + \frac{w_0}{24EI}x^4.$$

Now the conditions $y(0) = 0$ and $y'(0) = 0$ give, in turn, $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = 0$, whereas the remaining conditions $y(L) = 0$ and $y'(L) = 0$ applied to $y(x) = c_3x^2 + c_4x^3 + \frac{w_0}{24EI}x^4$ yield the simultaneous equations

$$c_3L^2 + c_4L^3 + \frac{w_0}{24EI}L^4 = 0$$

$$2c_3L + 3c_4L^2 + \frac{w_0}{6EI}L^3 = 0.$$

0.5

1 $x$

$y$
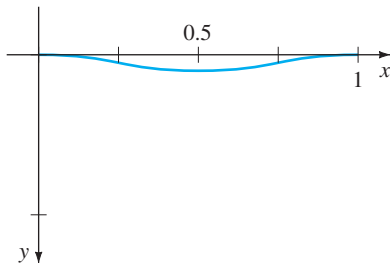
**FIGURE 5.2.3** Deflection curve for Example 1

Solving this system gives $c_3 = w_0 L^2 / 24 EI$ and $c_4 = -w_0 L / 12 EI$. Thus the deflection is

$$y(x) = \frac{w_0 L^2}{24 EI} x^2 - \frac{w_0 L}{12 EI} x^3 + \frac{w_0}{24 EI} x^4$$

or $y(x) = \dfrac{w_0}{24 EI} x^2 (x - L)^2$. By choosing $w_0 = 24EI$, and $L = 1$, we obtain the deflection curve in Figure 5.2.3. ∎

**EIGENVALUES AND EIGENFUNCTIONS** Many applied problems demand that we solve a two-point boundary-value problem (BVP) involving a linear differential equation that contains a parameter $\lambda$. We seek the values of $\lambda$ for which the boundary-value problem has *nontrivial*, that is, *nonzero*, solutions.

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**EXAMPLE 2** **Nontrivial Solutions of a BVP**

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Solve the boundary-value problem

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0.$$

**SOLUTION** We shall consider three cases: $\lambda = 0$, $\lambda < 0$, and $\lambda > 0$.

**CASE I:** For $\lambda = 0$ the solution of $y'' = 0$ is $y = c_1 x + c_2$. The conditions $y(0) = 0$ and $y(L) = 0$ applied to this solution imply, in turn, $c_2 = 0$ and $c_1 = 0$. Hence for $\lambda = 0$ the only solution of the boundary-value problem is the trivial solution $y = 0$.

**CASE II:** For $\lambda < 0$ it is convenient to write $\lambda = -\alpha^2$, where $\alpha$ denotes a positive number. With this notation the roots of the auxiliary equation $m^2 - \alpha^2 = 0$ are $m_1 = \alpha$ and $m_2 = -\alpha$. Since the interval on which we are working is finite, we choose to write the general solution of $y'' - \alpha^2 y = 0$ as $y = c_1 \cosh \alpha x + c_2 \sinh \alpha x$. Now $y(0)$ is

■ Note that we use hyperbolic functions here. Reread "Two Equations Worth Knowing" on page 135.

$$y(0) = c_1 \cosh 0 + c_2 \sinh 0 = c_1 \cdot 1 + c_2 \cdot 0 = c_1,$$

and so $y(0) = 0$ implies that $c_1 = 0$. Thus $y = c_2 \sinh \alpha x$. The second condition, $y(L) = 0$, demands that $c_2 \sinh \alpha L = 0$. For $\alpha \neq 0$, $\sinh \alpha L \neq 0$; consequently, we are forced to choose $c_2 = 0$. Again the only solution of the BVP is the trivial solution $y = 0$.

**CASE III:** For $\lambda > 0$ we write $\lambda = \alpha^2$, where $\alpha$ is a positive number. Because the auxiliary equation $m^2 + \alpha^2 = 0$ has complex roots $m_1 = i\alpha$ and $m_2 = -i\alpha$, the general solution of $y'' + \alpha^2 y = 0$ is $y = c_1 \cos \alpha x + c_2 \sin \alpha x$. As before, $y(0) = 0$ yields $c_1 = 0$, and so $y = c_2 \sin \alpha x$. Now the last condition $y(L) = 0$, or

$$c_2 \sin \alpha L = 0,$$

is satisfied by choosing $c_2 = 0$. But this means that $y = 0$. If we require $c_2 \neq 0$, then $\sin \alpha L = 0$ is satisfied whenever $\alpha L$ is an integer multiple of $\pi$.

$$\alpha L = n\pi \quad \text{or} \quad \alpha = \frac{n\pi}{L} \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda_n = \alpha_n^2 = \left( \frac{n\pi}{L} \right)^2, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots .$$

Therefore for any real nonzero $c_2$, $y = c_2 \sin(n\pi x / L)$ is a solution of the problem for each $n$. Because the differential equation is homogeneous, any constant multiple of a solution is also a solution, so we may, if desired, simply take $c_2 = 1$. In other words, for each number in the sequence

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{\pi^2}{L^2}, \quad \lambda_2 = \frac{4\pi^2}{L^2}, \quad \lambda_3 = \frac{9\pi^2}{L^2}, \ldots,$$

the *corresponding* function in the sequence

$$y_1 = \sin\frac{\pi}{L}x, \quad y_2 = \sin\frac{2\pi}{L}x, \quad y_3 = \sin\frac{3\pi}{L}x, \cdots,$$

is a nontrivial solution of the original problem. ∎

The numbers $\lambda_n = n^2\pi^2/L^2$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ for which the boundary-value problem in Example 2 possesses nontrivial solutions are known as **eigenvalues.** The nontrivial solutions that depend on these values of $\lambda_n$, $y_n = c_2 \sin(n\pi x/L)$ or simply $y_n = \sin(n\pi x/L)$, are called **eigenfunctions.**

**BUCKLING OF A THIN VERTICAL COLUMN** In the eighteenth century Leonhard Euler was one of the first mathematicians to study an eigenvalue problem in analyzing how a thin elastic column buckles under a compressive axial force.

Consider a long, slender vertical column of uniform cross section and length $L$. Let $y(x)$ denote the deflection of the column when a constant vertical compressive force, or load, $P$ is applied to its top, as shown in Figure 5.2.4. By comparing bending moments at any point along the column, we obtain

$$EI\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -Py \quad \text{or} \quad EI\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + Py = 0, \tag{5}$$

where $E$ is Young's modulus of elasticity and $I$ is the moment of inertia of a cross section about a vertical line through its centroid.



**FIGURE 5.2.4** Elastic column buckling under a compressive force

**EXAMPLE 3** The Euler Load

Find the deflection of a thin vertical homogeneous column of length $L$ subjected to a constant axial load $P$ if the column is hinged at both ends.

**SOLUTION** The boundary-value problem to be solved is

$$EI\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + Py = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0.$$

First note that $y = 0$ is a perfectly good solution of this problem. This solution has a simple intuitive interpretation: If the load $P$ is not great enough, there is no deflection. The question then is this: For what values of $P$ will the column bend? In mathematical terms: For what values of $P$ does the given boundary-value problem possess nontrivial solutions?

By writing $\lambda = P/EI$, we see that

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0$$

is identical to the problem in Example 2. From Case III of that discussion we see that the deflections are $y_n(x) = c_2 \sin(n\pi x/L)$ corresponding to the eigenvalues $\lambda_n = P_n/EI = n^2\pi^2/L^2$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. Physically, this means that the column will buckle or deflect only when the compressive force is one of the values $P_n = n^2\pi^2 EI/L^2$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. These different forces are called **critical loads.** The deflection corresponding to the smallest critical load $P_1 = \pi^2 EI/L^2$, called the **Euler load,** is $y_1(x) = c_2 \sin(\pi x/L)$ and is known as the **first buckling mode.** ∎
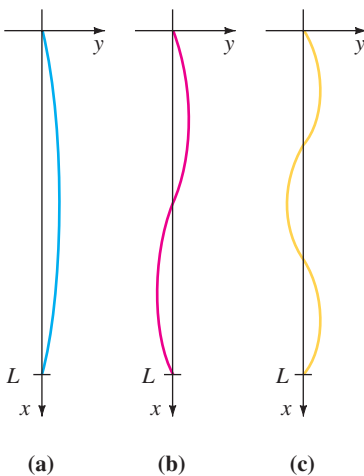


**FIGURE 5.2.5** Deflection curves corresponding to compressive forces $P_1, P_2, P_3$

The deflection curves in Example 3 corresponding to $n = 1$, $n = 2$, and $n = 3$ are shown in Figure 5.2.5. Note that if the original column has some sort of physical restraint put on it at $x = L/2$, then the smallest critical load will be $P_2 = 4\pi^2 EI/L^2$, and the deflection curve will be as shown in Figure 5.2.5(b). If restraints are put on the column at $x = L/3$ and at $x = 2L/3$, then the column will not buckle until the

critical load $P_3 = 9\pi^2 EI/L^2$ is applied, and the deflection curve will be as shown in Figure 5.2.5(c). See Problem 23 in Exercises 5.2.
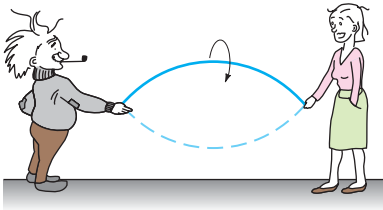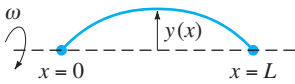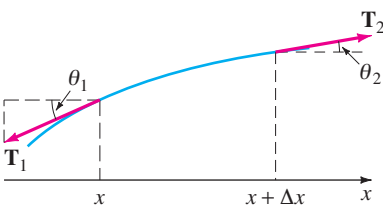
**ROTATING STRING** The simple linear second-order differential equation

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0 \tag{6}$$

occurs again and again as a mathematical model. In Section 5.1 we saw (6) in the forms $d^2x/dt^2 + (k/m)x = 0$ and $d^2q/dt^2 + (1/LC)q = 0$ as models for, respectively, the simple harmonic motion of a spring/mass system and the simple harmonic response of a series circuit. It is apparent when the model for the deflection of a thin column in (5) is written as $d^2y/dx^2 + (P/EI)y = 0$ that it is the same as (6). We encounter the basic equation (6) one more time in this section: as a model that defines the deflection curve or the shape $y(x)$ assumed by a rotating string. The physical situation is analogous to when two people hold a jump rope and twirl it in a synchronous manner. See Figures 5.2.6(a) and 5.2.6(b).

Suppose a string of length $L$ with constant linear density $\rho$ (mass per unit length) is stretched along the $x$-axis and fixed at $x = 0$ and $x = L$. Suppose the string is then rotated about that axis at a constant angular speed $\omega$. Consider a portion of the string on the interval $[x, x + \Delta x]$, where $\Delta x$ is small. If the magnitude $T$ of the tension $\mathbf{T}$, acting tangential to the string, is constant along the string, then the desired differential equation can be obtained by equating two different formulations of the net force acting on the string on the interval $[x, x + \Delta x]$. First, we see from Figure 5.2.6(c) that the net vertical force is

$$F = T \sin \theta_2 - T \sin \theta_1. \tag{7}$$

When angles $\theta_1$ and $\theta_2$ (measured in radians) are small, we have $\sin \theta_2 \approx \tan \theta_2$ and $\sin \theta_1 \approx \tan \theta_1$. Moreover, since $\tan \theta_2$ and $\tan \theta_1$ are, in turn, slopes of the lines containing the vectors $\mathbf{T}_2$ and $\mathbf{T}_1$, we can also write

$$\tan \theta_2 = y'(x + \Delta x) \qquad \text{and} \qquad \tan \theta_1 = y'(x).$$

Thus (7) becomes

$$F \approx T[y'(x + \Delta x) - y'(x)]. \tag{8}$$

Second, we can obtain a different form of this same net force using Newton's second law, $F = ma$. Here the mass of the string on the interval is $m = \rho\,\Delta x$; the centripetal acceleration of a body rotating with angular speed $\omega$ in a circle of radius $r$ is $a = r\omega^2$. With $\Delta x$ small we take $r = y$. Thus the net vertical force is also approximated by

$$F \approx -(\rho\,\Delta x)y\omega^2, \tag{9}$$

where the minus sign comes from the fact that the acceleration points in the direction opposite to the positive $y$-direction. Now by equating (8) and (9), we have

$$\underset{\text{difference quotient}}{\downarrow}$$

$$T[y'(x + \Delta x) - y'(x)] = -(\rho\Delta x)y\omega^2 \qquad \text{or} \qquad T\frac{y'(x + \Delta x) - y'(x)}{\Delta x} + \rho\omega^2 y = 0. \tag{10}$$

For $\Delta x$ close to zero the difference quotient in (10) is approximately the second derivative $d^2y/dx^2$. Finally, we arrive at the model

$$T\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \rho\omega^2 y = 0. \tag{11}$$

Since the string is anchored at its ends $x = 0$ and $x = L$, we expect that the solution $y(x)$ of equation (11) should also satisfy the boundary conditions $y(0) = 0$ and $y(L) = 0$.

**(a)**

**(b)**

**(c)**

**FIGURE 5.2.6** Rotating string and forces acting on it

**REMARKS**

(*i*) Eigenvalues are not always easily found, as they were in Example 2; you might have to approximate roots of equations such as $\tan x = -x$ or $\cos x \cosh x = 1$. See Problems 34–38 in Exercises 5.2.

(*ii*) Boundary conditions applied to a general solution of a linear differential equation can lead to a homogeneous algebraic system of linear equations in which the unknowns are the coefficients $c_i$ in the general solution. A homogeneous algebraic system of linear equations is always consistent because it possesses at least a trivial solution. But a homogeneous system of $n$ linear equations in $n$ unknowns has a nontrivial solution if and only if the determinant of the coefficients equals zero. You might need to use this last fact in Problems 19 and 20 in Exercises 5.2.

## EXERCISES 5.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-8.*

### Deflection of a Beam

In Problems 1–5 solve equation (4) subject to the appropriate boundary conditions. The beam is of length $L$, and $w_0$ is a constant.

**1. (a)** The beam is embedded at its left end and free at its right end, and $w(x) = w_0$, $0 < x < L$.

**(b)** Use a graphing utility to graph the deflection curve when $w_0 = 24EI$ and $L = 1$.

**2. (a)** The beam is simply supported at both ends, and $w(x) = w_0$, $0 < x < L$.

**(b)** Use a graphing utility to graph the deflection curve when $w_0 = 24EI$ and $L = 1$.

**3. (a)** The beam is embedded at its left end and simply supported at its right end, and $w(x) = w_0$, $0 < x < L$.

**(b)** Use a graphing utility to graph the deflection curve when $w_0 = 48EI$ and $L = 1$.

**4. (a)** The beam is embedded at its left end and simply supported at its right end, and $w(x) = w_0 \sin(\pi x/L)$, $0 < x < L$.

**(b)** Use a graphing utility to graph the deflection curve when $w_0 = 2\pi^3 EI$ and $L = 1$.

**(c)** Use a root-finding application of a CAS (or a graphic calculator) to approximate the point in the graph in part (b) at which the maximum deflection occurs. What is the maximum deflection?

**5. (a)** The beam is simply supported at both ends, and $w(x) = w_0 x$, $0 < x < L$.

**(b)** Use a graphing utility to graph the deflection curve when $w_0 = 36EI$ and $L = 1$.

**(c)** Use a root-finding application of a CAS (or a graphic calculator) to approximate the point in the

graph in part (b) at which the maximum deflection occurs. What is the maximum deflection?

**6. (a)** Find the maximum deflection of the cantilever beam in Problem 1.

**(b)** How does the maximum deflection of a beam that is half as long compare with the value in part (a)?

**(c)** Find the maximum deflection of the simply supported beam in Problem 2.

**(d)** How does the maximum deflection of the simply supported beam in part (c) compare with the value of maximum deflection of the embedded beam in Example 1?

**7.** A cantilever beam of length $L$ is embedded at its right end, and a horizontal tensile force of $P$ pounds is applied to its free left end. When the origin is taken at its free end, as shown in Figure 5.2.7, the deflection $y(x)$ of the beam can be shown to satisfy the differential equation

$$EI y'' = Py - w(x)\frac{x}{2}.$$

Find the deflection of the cantilever beam if $w(x) = w_0 x$, $0 < x < L$, and $y(0) = 0$, $y'(L) = 0$.
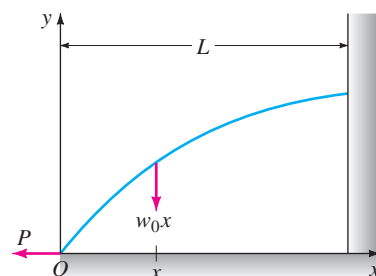


**FIGURE 5.2.7** Deflection of cantilever beam in Problem 7

8. When a compressive instead of a tensile force is applied at the free end of the beam in Problem 7, the differential equation of the deflection is

$$EIy'' = -Py - w(x)\frac{x}{2}.$$

Solve this equation if $w(x) = w_0 x$, $0 < x < L$, and $y(0) = 0$, $y'(L) = 0$.

## Eigenvalues and Eigenfunctions

In Problems 9–18 find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions for the given boundary-value problem.

9. $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y(\pi) = 0$

10. $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y(\pi/4) = 0$

11. $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y(L) = 0$

12. $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(\pi/2) = 0$

13. $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y'(\pi) = 0$

14. $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y(-\pi) = 0$, $y(\pi) = 0$

15. $y'' + 2y' + (\lambda + 1)y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y(5) = 0$

16. $y'' + (\lambda + 1)y = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y'(1) = 0$

17. $x^2 y'' + xy' + \lambda y = 0$, $y(1) = 0$, $y(e^\pi) = 0$

18. $x^2 y'' + xy' + \lambda y = 0$, $y'(e^{-1}) = 0$, $y(1) = 0$

In Problems 19 and 20 find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions for the given boundary-value problem. Consider only the case $\lambda = \alpha^4$, $\alpha > 0$.

19. $y^{(4)} - \lambda y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y''(0) = 0$, $y(1) = 0$, $y''(1) = 0$

20. $y^{(4)} - \lambda y = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y'''(0) = 0$, $y(\pi) = 0$, $y''(\pi) = 0$

## Buckling of a Thin Column

21. Consider Figure 5.2.5. Where should physical restraints be placed on the column if we want the critical load to be $P_4$? Sketch the deflection curve corresponding to this load.

22. The critical loads of thin columns depend on the end conditions of the column. The value of the Euler load $P_1$ in Example 3 was derived under the assumption that the column was hinged at both ends. Suppose that a thin vertical homogeneous column is embedded at its base $(x = 0)$ and free at its top $(x = L)$ and that a constant axial load $P$ is applied to its free end. This load either causes a small deflection $\delta$ as shown in Figure 5.2.8 or does not cause such a deflection. In either case the differential equation for the deflection $y(x)$ is

$$EI\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + Py = P\delta.$$
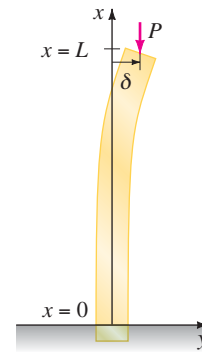


FIGURE 5.2.8 Deflection of vertical column in Problem 22

(a) What is the predicted deflection when $\delta = 0$?

(b) When $\delta \neq 0$, show that the Euler load for this column is one-fourth of the Euler load for the hinged column in Example 3.

23. As was mentioned in Problem 22, the differential equation (5) that governs the deflection $y(x)$ of a thin elastic column subject to a constant compressive axial force $P$ is valid only when the ends of the column are hinged. In general, the differential equation governing the deflection of the column is given by

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2}\left(EI\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}\right) + P\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0.$$

Assume that the column is uniform ($EI$ is a constant) and that the ends of the column are hinged. Show that the solution of this fourth-order differential equation subject to the boundary conditions $y(0) = 0$, $y''(0) = 0$, $y(L) = 0$, $y''(L) = 0$ is equivalent to the analysis in Example 3.

24. Suppose that a uniform thin elastic column is hinged at the end $x = 0$ and embedded at the end $x = L$.

(a) Use the fourth-order differential equation given in Problem 23 to find the eigenvalues $\lambda_n$, the critical loads $P_n$, the Euler load $P_1$, and the deflections $y_n(x)$.

(b) Use a graphing utility to graph the first buckling mode.

## Rotating String

25. Consider the boundary-value problem introduced in the construction of the mathematical model for the shape of a rotating string:

$$T\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \rho\omega^2 y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0.$$

For constant $T$ and $\rho$, define the critical speeds of angular rotation $\omega_n$ as the values of $\omega$ for which the boundary-value problem has nontrivial solutions. Find the critical speeds $\omega_n$ and the corresponding deflections $y_n(x)$.

**26.** When the magnitude of tension $T$ is not constant, then a model for the deflection curve or shape $y(x)$ assumed by a rotating string is given by

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[T(x)\frac{dy}{dx}\right] + \rho\omega^2 y = 0.$$

Suppose that $1 < x < e$ and that $T(x) = x^2$.

**(a)** If $y(1) = 0$, $y(e) = 0$, and $\rho\omega^2 > 0.25$, show that the critical speeds of angular rotation are $\omega_n = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{(4n^2\pi^2 + 1)/\rho}$ and the corresponding deflections are

$$y_n(x) = c_2 x^{-1/2} \sin(n\pi \ln x), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots.$$

**(b)** Use a graphing utility to graph the deflection curves on the interval $[1, e]$ for $n = 1, 2, 3$. Choose $c_2 = 1$.

## Miscellaneous Boundary-Value Problems

**27. Temperature in a Sphere** Consider two concentric spheres of radius $r = a$ and $r = b$, $a < b$. See Figure 5.2.9. The temperature $u(r)$ in the region between the spheres is determined from the boundary-value problem

$$r\frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} + 2\frac{du}{dr} = 0, \quad u(a) = u_0, \quad u(b) = u_1,$$

where $u_0$ and $u_1$ are constants. Solve for $u(r)$.
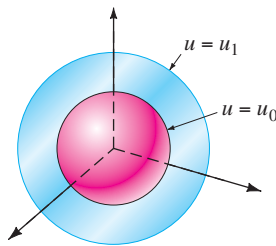


**FIGURE 5.2.9** Concentric spheres in Problem 27

**28. Temperature in a Ring** The temperature $u(r)$ in the circular ring shown in Figure 5.2.10 is determined from the boundary-value problem

$$r\frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} + \frac{du}{dr} = 0, \quad u(a) = u_0, \quad u(b) = u_1,$$
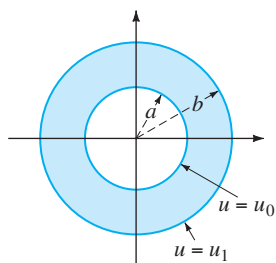


**FIGURE 5.2.10** Circular ring in Problem 28

where $u_0$ and $u_1$ are constants. Show that

$$u(r) = \frac{u_0 \ln(r/b) - u_1 \ln(r/a)}{\ln(a/b)}.$$

## Discussion Problems

**29. Simple Harmonic Motion** The model $mx'' + kx = 0$ for simple harmonic motion, discussed in Section 5.1, can be related to Example 2 of this section.

Consider a free undamped spring/mass system for which the spring constant is, say, $k = 10$ lb/ft. Determine those masses $m_n$ that can be attached to the spring so that when each mass is released at the equilibrium position at $t = 0$ with a nonzero velocity $v_0$, it will then pass through the equilibrium position at $t = 1$ second. How many times will each mass $m_n$ pass through the equilibrium position in the time interval $0 < t < 1$?

**30. Damped Motion** Assume that the model for the spring/mass system in Problem 29 is replaced by $mx'' + 2x' + kx = 0$. In other words, the system is free but is subjected to damping numerically equal to 2 times the instantaneous velocity. With the same initial conditions and spring constant as in Problem 29, investigate whether a mass $m$ can be found that will pass through the equilibrium position at $t = 1$ second.

In Problems 31 and 32 determine whether it is possible to find values $y_0$ and $y_1$ (Problem 31) and values of $L > 0$ (Problem 32) so that the given boundary-value problem has **(a)** precisely one nontrivial solution, **(b)** more than one solution, **(c)** no solution, **(d)** the trivial solution.

**31.** $y'' + 16y = 0, \quad y(0) = y_0, y(\pi/2) = y_1$

**32.** $y'' + 16y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, y(L) = 1$

**33.** Consider the boundary-value problem

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(-\pi) = y(\pi), \quad y'(-\pi) = y'(\pi).$$

**(a)** The type of boundary conditions specified are called **periodic boundary conditions.** Give a geometric interpretation of these conditions.

**(b)** Find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the problem.

**(c)** Use a graphing utility to graph some of the eigenfunctions. Verify your geometric interpretation of the boundary conditions given in part (a).

**34.** Show that the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the boundary-value problem

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(1) + y'(1) = 0$$

are $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2$ and $y_n = \sin \alpha_n x$, respectively, where $\alpha_n$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ are the consecutive positive roots of the equation $\tan \alpha = -\alpha$.

## Computer Lab Assignments

**35.** Use a CAS to plot graphs to convince yourself that the equation $\tan \alpha = -\alpha$ in Problem 34 has an infinite number of roots. Explain why the negative roots of the equation can be ignored. Explain why $\lambda = 0$ is not an eigenvalue even though $\alpha = 0$ is an obvious solution of the equation $\tan \alpha = -\alpha$.

**36.** Use a root-finding application of a CAS to approximate the first four eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$, and $\lambda_4$ for the BVP in Problem 34.

In Problems 37 and 38 find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the given boundary-value problem. Use a CAS to approximate the first four eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$, and $\lambda_4$.

**37.** $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y(1) - \frac{1}{2}y'(1) = 0$

**38.** $y^{(4)} - \lambda y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y(1) = 0$, $y'(1) = 0$
[*Hint*: Consider only $\lambda = \alpha^4, \alpha > 0$.]

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## 5.3    NONLINEAR MODELS

### REVIEW MATERIAL
● Section 4.9

**INTRODUCTION**  In this section we examine some nonlinear higher-order mathematical models. We are able to solve some of these models using the substitution method (leading to reduction of the order of the DE) introduced on page 174. In some cases in which the model cannot be solved, we show how a nonlinear DE can be replaced by a linear DE through a process called *linearization.*

**NONLINEAR SPRINGS**  The mathematical model in (1) of Section 5.1 has the form

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + F(x) = 0, \tag{1}$$

where $F(x) = kx$. Because $x$ denotes the displacement of the mass from its equilibrium position, $F(x) = kx$ is Hooke's law—that is, the force exerted by the spring that tends to restore the mass to the equilibrium position. A spring acting under a linear restoring force $F(x) = kx$ is naturally referred to as a **linear spring.** But springs are seldom perfectly linear. Depending on how it is constructed and the material that is used, a spring can range from "mushy," or soft, to "stiff," or hard, so its restorative force may vary from something below to something above that given by the linear law. In the case of free motion, if we assume that a nonaging spring has some nonlinear characteristics, then it might be reasonable to assume that the restorative force of a spring—that is, $F(x)$ in (1)—is proportional to, say, the cube of the displacement $x$ of the mass beyond its equilibrium position or that $F(x)$ is a linear combination of powers of the displacement such as that given by the nonlinear function $F(x) = kx + k_1x^3$. A spring whose mathematical model incorporates a nonlinear restorative force, such as

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + kx^3 = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + kx + k_1x^3 = 0, \tag{2}$$

is called a **nonlinear spring.** In addition, we examined mathematical models in which damping imparted to the motion was proportional to the instantaneous velocity $dx/dt$ and the restoring force of a spring was given by the linear function $F(x) = kx$. But these were simply assumptions; in more realistic situations damping could be proportional to some power of the instantaneous velocity $dx/dt$. The nonlinear differential equation

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \beta\left|\frac{dx}{dt}\right|\frac{dx}{dt} + kx = 0 \tag{3}$$

is one model of a free spring/mass system in which the damping force is proportional to the square of the velocity. One can then envision other kinds of models: linear damping and nonlinear restoring force, nonlinear damping and nonlinear restoring force, and so on. The point is that nonlinear characteristics of a physical system lead to a mathematical model that is nonlinear.

Notice in (2) that both $F(x) = kx^3$ and $F(x) = kx + k_1x^3$ are odd functions of $x$. To see why a polynomial function containing only odd powers of $x$ provides a reasonable model for the restoring force, let us express $F$ as a power series centered at the equilibrium position $x = 0$:

$$F(x) = c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + c_3x^3 + \cdots.$$

When the displacements $x$ are small, the values of $x^n$ are negligible for $n$ sufficiently large. If we truncate the power series with, say, the fourth term, then $F(x) = c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + c_3x^3$. For the force at $x > 0$,

$$F(x) = c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + c_3x^3,$$

and for the force at $-x < 0$,

$$F(-x) = c_0 - c_1x + c_2x^2 - c_3x^3$$

to have the same magnitude but act in the opposite direction, we must have $F(-x) = -F(x)$. Because this means that $F$ is an odd function, we must have $c_0 = 0$ and $c_2 = 0$, and so $F(x) = c_1x + c_3x^3$. Had we used only the first two terms in the series, the same argument yields the linear function $F(x) = c_1x$. A restoring force with mixed powers, such as $F(x) = c_1x + c_2x^2$, and the corresponding vibrations are said to be unsymmetrical. In the next discussion we shall write $c_1 = k$ and $c_3 = k_1$.
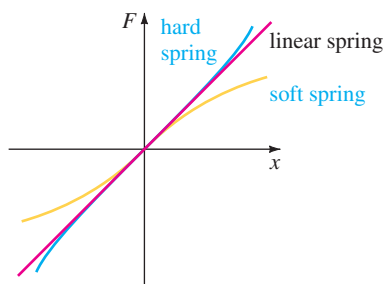


**FIGURE 5.3.1** Hard and soft springs

**HARD AND SOFT SPRINGS** Let us take a closer look at the equation in (1) in the case in which the restoring force is given by $F(x) = kx + k_1x^3$, $k > 0$. The spring is said to be **hard** if $k_1 > 0$ and **soft** if $k_1 < 0$. Graphs of three types of restoring forces are illustrated in Figure 5.3.1. The next example illustrates these two special cases of the differential equation $m\,d^2x/dt^2 + kx + k_1x^3 = 0$, $m > 0$, $k > 0$.



**(a)** hard spring

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**EXAMPLE 1** **Comparison of Hard and Soft Springs**

The differential equations

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + x + x^3 = 0 \tag{4}$$

and

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + x - x^3 = 0 \tag{5}$$

are special cases of the second equation in (2) and are models of a hard spring and a soft spring, respectively. Figure 5.3.2(a) shows two solutions of (4) and Figure 5.3.2(b) shows two solutions of (5) obtained from a numerical solver. The curves shown in red are solutions that satisfy the initial conditions $x(0) = 2$, $x'(0) = -3$; the two curves in blue are solutions that satisfy $x(0) = 2$, $x'(0) = 0$. These solution curves certainly suggest that the motion of a mass on the hard spring is oscillatory, whereas motion of a mass on the soft spring appears to be nonoscillatory. But we must be careful about drawing conclusions based on a couple of numerical solution curves. A more complete picture of the nature of the solutions of both of these equations can be obtained from the qualitative analysis discussed in Chapter 10.
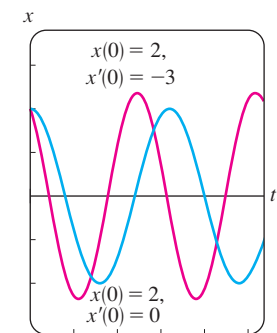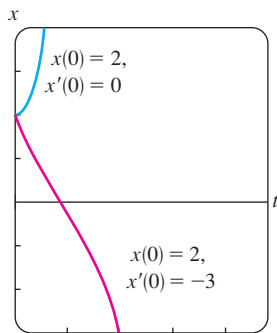


**(b)** soft spring

**FIGURE 5.3.2** Numerical solution curves
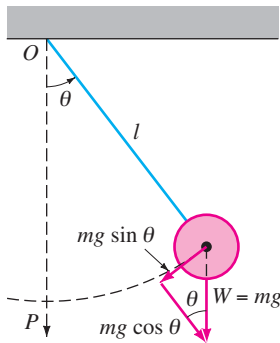
FIGURE 5.3.3 Simple pendulum

**NONLINEAR PENDULUM**  Any object that swings back and forth is called a **physical pendulum.** The **simple pendulum** is a special case of the physical pendulum and consists of a rod of length $l$ to which a mass $m$ is attached at one end. In describing the motion of a simple pendulum in a vertical plane, we make the simplifying assumptions that the mass of the rod is negligible and that no external damping or driving forces act on the system. The displacement angle $\theta$ of the pendulum, measured from the vertical as shown in Figure 5.3.3, is considered positive when measured to the right of $OP$ and negative to the left of $OP$. Now recall the arc $s$ of a circle of radius $l$ is related to the central angle $\theta$ by the formula $s = l\theta$. Hence angular acceleration is

$$a = \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = l\,\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2}.$$

From Newton's second law we then have

$$F = ma = ml\,\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2}.$$

From Figure 5.3.3 we see that the magnitude of the tangential component of the force due to the weight $W$ is $mg \sin \theta$. In direction this force is $-mg \sin \theta$ because it points to the left for $\theta > 0$ and to the right for $\theta < 0$. We equate the two different versions of the tangential force to obtain $ml\, d^2\theta/dt^2 = -mg \sin \theta$, or

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \frac{g}{l}\sin\theta = 0. \qquad (6)$$

**LINEARIZATION**  Because of the presence of $\sin\theta$, the model in (6) is non-linear. In an attempt to understand the behavior of the solutions of nonlinear higher-order differential equations, one sometimes tries to simplify the problem by replacing nonlinear terms by certain approximations. For example, the Maclaurin series for $\sin \theta$ is given by

$$\sin\theta = \theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} - \cdots$$



(a)

so if we use the approximation $\sin\theta \approx \theta - \theta^3/6$, equation (6) becomes $d^2\theta/dt^2 + (g/l)\theta - (g/6l)\theta^3 = 0$. Observe that this last equation is the same as the second nonlinear equation in (2) with $m = 1$, $k = g/l$, and $k_1 = -g/6l$. However, if we assume that the displacements $\theta$ are small enough to justify using the replacement $\sin\theta \approx \theta$, then (6) becomes

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \frac{g}{l}\theta = 0. \qquad (7)$$

See Problem 22 in Exercises 5.3. If we set $\omega^2 = g/l$, we recognize (7) as the differential equation (2) of Section 5.1 that is a model for the free undamped vibrations of a linear spring/mass system. In other words, (7) is again the basic linear equation $y'' + \lambda y = 0$ discussed on page 201 of Section 5.2. As a consequence we say that equation (7) is a **linearization** of equation (6). Because the general solution of (7) is $\theta(t) = c_1 \cos \omega t + c_2 \sin \omega t$, this linearization suggests that for initial conditions amenable to small oscillations the motion of the pendulum described by (6) will be periodic.



**(b)** $\theta(0) = \frac{1}{2}$, $\theta'(0) = \frac{1}{2}$



**(c)** $\theta(0) = \frac{1}{2}$, $\theta'(0) = 2$

FIGURE 5.3.4  Oscillating pendulum in (b); whirling pendulum in (c)

| EXAMPLE 2 | Two Initial-Value Problems |

The graphs in Figure 5.3.4(a) were obtained with the aid of a numerical solver and represent solution curves of (6) when $\omega^2 = 1$. The blue curve depicts the solution of (6) that satisfies the initial conditions $\theta(0) = \frac{1}{2}$, $\theta'(0) = \frac{1}{2}$, whereas the red curve is the solution of (6) that satisfies $\theta(0) = \frac{1}{2}$, $\theta'(0) = 2$. The blue curve

represents a periodic solution—the pendulum oscillating back and forth as shown in Figure 5.3.4(b) with an apparent amplitude $A \leq 1$. The red curve shows that $\theta$ increases without bound as time increases—the pendulum, starting from the same initial displacement, is given an initial velocity of magnitude great enough to send it over the top; in other words, the pendulum is whirling about its pivot as shown in Figure 5.3.4(c). In the absence of damping, the motion in each case is continued indefinitely. ∎

**TELEPHONE WIRES** The first-order differential equation $dy/dx = W/T_1$ is equation (17) of Section 1.3. This differential equation, established with the aid of Figure 1.3.7 on page 25, serves as a mathematical model for the shape of a flexible cable suspended between two vertical supports when the cable is carrying a vertical load. In Section 2.2 we solved this simple DE under the assumption that the vertical load carried by the cables of a suspension bridge was the weight of a horizontal roadbed distributed evenly along the $x$-axis. With $W = \rho x$, $\rho$ the weight per unit length of the roadbed, the shape of each cable between the vertical supports turned out to be parabolic. We are now in a position to determine the shape of a uniform flexible cable hanging only under its own weight, such as a wire strung between two telephone posts. The vertical load is now the wire itself, and so if $\rho$ is the linear density of the wire (measured, say, in pounds per feet) and $s$ is the length of the segment $P_1 P_2$ in Figure 1.3.7 then $W = \rho s$. Hence

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\rho s}{T_1}. \tag{8}$$

Since the arc length between points $P_1$ and $P_2$ is given by

$$s = \int_0^x \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2}\, dx, \tag{9}$$

it follows from the fundamental theorem of calculus that the derivative of (9) is

$$\frac{ds}{dx} = \sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2}. \tag{10}$$

Differentiating (8) with respect to $x$ and using (10) lead to the second-order equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{\rho}{T_1}\frac{ds}{dx} \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{\rho}{T_1}\sqrt{1 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2}. \tag{11}$$

In the example that follows we solve (11) and show that the curve assumed by the suspended cable is a **catenary.** Before proceeding, observe that the nonlinear second-order differential equation (11) is one of those equations having the form $F(x, y', y'') = 0$ discussed in Section 4.9. Recall that we have a chance of solving an equation of this type by reducing the order of the equation by means of the substitution $u = y'$.

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**EXAMPLE 3** **An Initial-Value Problem**

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From the position of the $y$-axis in Figure 1.3.7 it is apparent that initial conditions associated with the second differential equation in (11) are $y(0) = a$ and $y'(0) = 0$.

If we substitute $u = y'$, then the equation in (11) becomes $\dfrac{du}{dx} = \dfrac{\rho}{T_1}\sqrt{1 + u^2}$. Separating variables, we find that

$$\int \frac{du}{\sqrt{1 + u^2}} = \frac{\rho}{T_1}\int dx \qquad \text{gives} \qquad \sinh^{-1}u = \frac{\rho}{T_1}x + c_1.$$

Now, $y'(0) = 0$ is equivalent to $u(0) = 0$. Since $\sinh^{-1} 0 = 0$, $c_1 = 0$, so $u = \sinh(\rho x/T_1)$. Finally, by integrating both sides of

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \sinh\frac{\rho}{T_1}x, \qquad \text{we get} \qquad y = \frac{T_1}{\rho}\cosh\frac{\rho}{T_1}x + c_2.$$

Using $y(0) = a$, $\cosh 0 = 1$, the last equation implies that $c_2 = a - T_1/\rho$. Thus we see that the shape of the hanging wire is given by $y = (T_1/\rho)\cosh(\rho x/T_1) + a - T_1/\rho$. ∎

In Example 3, had we been clever enough at the start to choose $a = T_1/\rho$, then the solution of the problem would have been simply the hyperbolic cosine $y = (T_1/\rho)\cosh(\rho x/T_1)$.
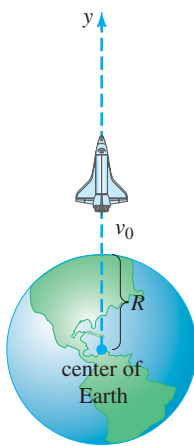
**ROCKET MOTION** In Section 1.3 we saw that the differential equation of a free-falling body of mass $m$ near the surface of the Earth is given by

$$m\frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -mg, \qquad \text{or simply} \qquad \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = -g,$$

where $s$ represents the distance from the surface of the Earth to the object and the positive direction is considered to be upward. In other words, the underlying assumption here is that the distance $s$ to the object is small when compared with the radius $R$ of the Earth; put yet another way, the distance $y$ from the center of the Earth to the object is approximately the same as $R$. If, on the other hand, the distance $y$ to the object, such as a rocket or a space probe, is large when compared to $R$, then we combine Newton's second law of motion and his universal law of gravitation to derive a differential equation in the variable $y$.

Suppose a rocket is launched vertically upward from the ground as shown in Figure 5.3.5. If the positive direction is upward and air resistance is ignored, then the differential equation of motion after fuel burnout is

$$m\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -k\frac{Mm}{y^2} \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -k\frac{M}{y^2}, \tag{12}$$

where $k$ is a constant of proportionality, $y$ is the distance from the center of the Earth to the rocket, $M$ is the mass of the Earth, and $m$ is the mass of the rocket. To determine the constant $k$, we use the fact that when $y = R$, $kMm/R^2 = mg$ or $k = gR^2/M$. Thus the last equation in (12) becomes

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -g\frac{R^2}{y^2}. \tag{13}$$

See Problem 14 in Exercises 5.3.

**VARIABLE MASS** Notice in the preceding discussion that we described the motion of the rocket after it has burned all its fuel, when presumably its mass $m$ is constant. Of course, during its powered ascent the total mass of the rocket varies as its fuel is being expended. The second law of motion, as originally advanced by Newton, states that when a body of mass $m$ moves through a force field with velocity $v$, the time rate of change of the momentum $mv$ of the body is equal to applied or net force $F$ acting on the body:

$$F = \frac{d}{dt}(mv). \tag{14}$$

If $m$ is constant, then (14) yields the more familiar form $F = m\, dv/dt = ma$, where $a$ is acceleration. We use the form of Newton's second law given in (14) in the next example, in which the mass $m$ of the body is variable.



**FIGURE 5.3.5** Distance to rocket is large compared to $R$.
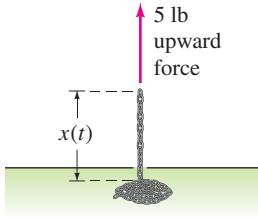
**FIGURE 5.3.6** Chain pulled upward by a constant force

## EXAMPLE 4 Chain Pulled Upward by a Constant Force

A uniform 10-foot-long chain is coiled loosely on the ground. One end of the chain is pulled vertically upward by means of constant force of 5 pounds. The chain weighs 1 pound per foot. Determine the height of the end above ground level at time $t$. See Figure 5.3.6.

**SOLUTION** Let us suppose that $x = x(t)$ denotes the height of the end of the chain in the air at time $t$, $v = dx/dt$, and the positive direction is upward. For the portion of the chain that is in the air at time $t$ we have the following variable quantities:

$$\text{weight:} \quad W = (x \text{ ft}) \cdot (1 \text{ lb/ft}) = x,$$

$$\text{mass:} \quad m = W/g = x/32,$$

$$\text{net force:} \quad F = 5 - W = 5 - x.$$

Thus from (14) we have

Product Rule

$$\frac{d}{dt}\left(\frac{x}{32}v\right) = 5 - x \quad \text{or} \quad x\frac{dv}{dt} + v\frac{dx}{dt} = 160 - 32x. \quad (15)$$

Because $v = dx/dt$, the last equation becomes

$$x\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + 32x = 160. \quad (16)$$

The nonlinear second-order differential equation (16) has the form $F(x, x', x'') = 0$, which is the second of the two forms considered in Section 4.9 that can possibly be solved by reduction of order. To solve (16), we revert back to (15) and use $v = x'$ along with the Chain Rule. From $\dfrac{dv}{dt} = \dfrac{dv}{dx}\dfrac{dx}{dt} = v\dfrac{dv}{dx}$ the second equation in (15) can be rewritten as

$$xv\frac{dv}{dx} + v^2 = 160 - 32x. \quad (17)$$

On inspection (17) might appear intractable, since it cannot be characterized as any of the first-order equations that were solved in Chapter 2. However, by rewriting (17) in differential form $M(x,v)dx + N(x,v)dv = 0$, we observe that although the equation

$$(v^2 + 32x - 160)dx + xv\,dv = 0 \quad (18)$$

is not exact, it can be transformed into an exact equation by multiplying it by an integrating factor. From $(M_v - N_x)/N = 1/x$ we see from (13) of Section 2.4 that an integrating factor is $e^{\int dx/x} = e^{\ln x} = x$. When (18) is multiplied by $\mu(x) = x$, the resulting equation is exact (verify). By identifying $\partial f/\partial x = xv^2 + 32x^2 - 160x$, $\partial f/\partial v = x^2v$ and then proceeding as in Section 2.4, we obtain

$$\frac{1}{2}x^2v^2 + \frac{32}{3}x^3 - 80x^2 = c_1. \quad (19)$$

Since we have assumed that all of the chain is on the floor initially, we have $x(0) = 0$. This last condition applied to (19) yields $c_1 = 0$. By solving the algebraic equation $\frac{1}{2}x^2v^2 + \frac{32}{3}x^3 - 80x^2 = 0$ for $v = dx/dt > 0$, we get another first-order differential equation,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \sqrt{160 - \frac{64}{3}x}.$$
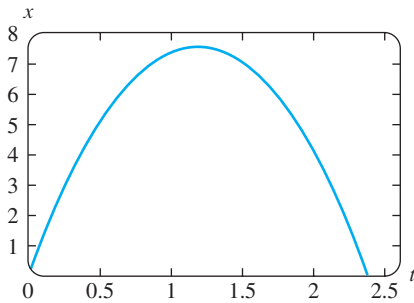
**FIGURE 5.3.7** Graph of (21) for $x(t) \geq 0$

The last equation can be solved by separation of variables. You should verify that

$$-\frac{3}{32}\left(160 - \frac{64}{3}x\right)^{1/2} = t + c_2. \qquad (20)$$

This time the initial condition $x(0) = 0$ implies that $c_2 = -3\sqrt{10}/8$. Finally, by squaring both sides of (20) and solving for $x$, we arrive at the desired result,

$$x(t) = \frac{15}{2} - \frac{15}{2}\left(1 - \frac{4\sqrt{10}}{15}t\right)^2. \qquad (21)$$

The graph of (21) given in Figure 5.3.7 should not, on physical grounds, be taken at face value. See Problem 15 in Exercises 5.3. ∎

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# EXERCISES 5.3

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-8.*

***To the Instructor*** In addition to Problems 24 and 25, all or portions of Problems 1–6, 8–13, 15, 20, and 21 could serve as Computer Lab Assignments.

## Nonlinear Springs

In Problems 1–4, the given differential equation is model of an undamped spring/mass system in which the restoring force $F(x)$ in (1) is nonlinear. For each equation use a numerical solver to plot the solution curves that satisfy the given initial conditions. If the solutions appear to be periodic use the solution curve to estimate the period $T$ of oscillations.

**1.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + x^3 = 0,$

$x(0) = 1, x'(0) = 1; \quad x(0) = \frac{1}{2}, x'(0) = -1$

**2.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 4x - 16x^3 = 0,$

$x(0) = 1, x'(0) = 1; \quad x(0) = -2, x'(0) = 2$

**3.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2x - x^2 = 0,$

$x(0) = 1, x'(0) = 1; \quad x(0) = \frac{3}{2}, x'(0) = -1$

**4.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + xe^{0.01x} = 0,$

$x(0) = 1, x'(0) = 1; \quad x(0) = 3, x'(0) = -1$

**5.** In Problem 3, suppose the mass is released from the initial position $x(0) = 1$ with an initial velocity $x'(0) = x_1$. Use a numerical solver to estimate the smallest value of $|x_1|$ at which the motion of the mass is nonperiodic.

**6.** In Problem 3, suppose the mass is released from an initial position $x(0) = x_0$ with the initial velocity $x'(0) = 1$. Use a numerical solver to estimate an interval $a \leq x_0 \leq b$ for which the motion is oscillatory.

**7.** Find a linearization of the differential equation in Problem 4.

**8.** Consider the model of an undamped nonlinear spring/mass system given by $x'' + 8x - 6x^3 + x^5 = 0$. Use a numerical solver to discuss the nature of the oscillations of the system corresponding to the initial conditions:

$x(0) = 1, x'(0) = 1; \quad x(0) = -2, x'(0) = \frac{1}{2};$

$x(0) = \sqrt{2}, x'(0) = 1; \quad x(0) = 2, x'(0) = \frac{1}{2};$

$x(0) = 2, x'(0) = 0; \quad x(0) = -\sqrt{2}, x'(0) = -1.$

In Problems 9 and 10 the given differential equation is a model of a damped nonlinear spring/mass system. Predict the behavior of each system as $t \to \infty$. For each equation use a numerical solver to obtain the solution curves satisfying the given initial conditions.

**9.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \dfrac{dx}{dt} + x + x^3 = 0,$

$x(0) = -3, x'(0) = 4; \quad x(0) = 0, x'(0) = -8$

**10.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \dfrac{dx}{dt} + x - x^3 = 0,$

$x(0) = 0, x'(0) = \frac{3}{2}; \quad x(0) = -1, x'(0) = 1$

**11.** The model $mx'' + kx + k_1x^3 = F_0\cos\omega t$ of an undamped periodically driven spring/mass system is called **Duffing's differential equation.** Consider the initial-value problem $x'' + x + k_1x^3 = 5\cos t, x(0) = 1,$ $x'(0) = 0$. Use a numerical solver to investigate the behavior of the system for values of $k_1 > 0$ ranging from $k_1 = 0.01$ to $k_1 = 100$. State your conclusions.

**12. (a)** Find values of $k_1 < 0$ for which the system in Problem 11 is oscillatory.

**(b)** Consider the initial-value problem

$$x'' + x + k_1x^3 = \cos\tfrac{3}{2}t, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0.$$

Find values for $k_1 < 0$ for which the system is oscillatory.

## Nonlinear Pendulum

**13.** Consider the model of the free damped nonlinear pendulum given by

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + 2\lambda\frac{d\theta}{dt} + \omega^2\sin\theta = 0.$$

Use a numerical solver to investigate whether the motion in the two cases $\lambda^2 - \omega^2 > 0$ and $\lambda^2 - \omega^2 < 0$ corresponds, respectively, to the overdamped and underdamped cases discussed in Section 5.1 for spring/mass systems. Choose appropriate initial conditions and values of $\lambda$ and $\omega$.

## Rocket Motion

**14. (a)** Use the substitution $v = dy/dt$ to solve (13) for $v$ in terms of $y$. Assuming that the velocity of the rocket at burnout is $v = v_0$ and $y \approx R$ at that instant, show that the approximate value of the constant $c$ of integration is $c = -gR + \frac{1}{2}v_0^2$.

**(b)** Use the solution for $v$ in part (a) to show that the escape velocity of the rocket is given by $v_0 = \sqrt{2gR}$. [*Hint:* Take $y \to \infty$ and assume $v > 0$ for all time $t$.]

**(c)** The result in part (b) holds for any body in the solar system. Use the values $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$ and $R = 4000$ mi to show that the escape velocity from the Earth is (approximately) $v_0 = 25{,}000$ mi/h.

**(d)** Find the escape velocity from the Moon if the acceleration of gravity is $0.165g$ and $R = 1080$ mi.

## Variable Mass

**15. (a)** In Example 4, how much of the chain would you intuitively expect the constant 5-pound force to be able to lift?

**(b)** What is the initial velocity of the chain?

**(c)** Why is the time interval corresponding to $x(t) \geq 0$ given in Figure 5.3.7 not the interval $I$ of definition of the solution (21)? Determine the interval $I$. How much chain is actually lifted? Explain any difference between this answer and your prediction in part (a).

**(d)** Why would you expect $x(t)$ to be a periodic solution?

**16.** A uniform chain of length $L$, measured in feet, is held vertically so that the lower end just touches the floor. The chain weighs 2 lb/ft. The upper end that is held is released from rest at $t = 0$ and the chain falls straight down. If $x(t)$ denotes the length of the chain on the floor at time $t$, air resistance is ignored, and the positive direction is taken to be downward, then

$$(L - x)\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} - \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 = Lg.$$

**(a)** Solve for $v$ in terms of $x$. Solve for $x$ in terms of $t$. Express $v$ in terms of $t$.

**(b)** Determine how long it takes for the chain to fall completely to the ground.

**(c)** What velocity does the model in part (a) predict for the upper end of the chain as it hits the ground?

## Miscellaneous Mathematical Models

**17. Pursuit Curve** In a naval exercise a ship $S_1$ is pursued by a submarine $S_2$ as shown in Figure 5.3.8. Ship $S_1$ departs point $(0, 0)$ at $t = 0$ and proceeds along a straight-line course (the $y$-axis) at a constant speed $v_1$. The submarine $S_2$ keeps ship $S_1$ in visual contact, indicated by the straight dashed line $L$ in the figure, while traveling at a constant speed $v_2$ along a curve $C$. Assume that ship $S_2$ starts at the point $(a, 0)$, $a > 0$, at $t = 0$ and that $L$ is tangent to $C$.

**(a)** Determine a mathematical model that describes the curve $C$.

**(b)** Find an explicit solution of the differential equation. For convenience define $r = v_1/v_2$.

**(c)** Determine whether the paths of $S_1$ and $S_2$ will ever intersect by considering the cases $r > 1$, $r < 1$, and $r = 1$.

[*Hint:* $\dfrac{dt}{dx} = \dfrac{dt}{ds}\dfrac{ds}{dx}$, where $s$ is arc length measured along $C$.]
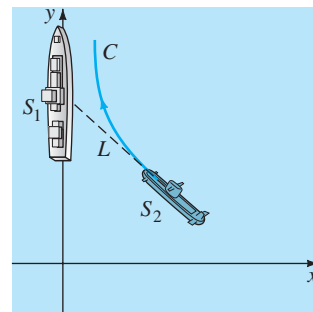


**FIGURE 5.3.8** Pursuit curve in Problem 17

**18. Pursuit Curve** In another naval exercise a destroyer $S_1$ pursues a submerged submarine $S_2$. Suppose that $S_1$ at $(9, 0)$ on the $x$-axis detects $S_2$ at $(0, 0)$ and that $S_2$ simultaneously detects $S_1$. The captain of the destroyer $S_1$ assumes that the submarine will take immediate evasive action and conjectures that its likely new course is the straight line indicated in Figure 5.3.9. When $S_1$ is at $(3, 0)$, it changes from its straight-line course toward the origin to a pursuit curve $C$. Assume that the speed of the destroyer is, at all times, a constant 30 mi/h and that the submarine's speed is a constant 15 mi/h.

**(a)** Explain why the captain waits until $S_1$ reaches $(3, 0)$ before ordering a course change to $C$.

**(b)** Using polar coordinates, find an equation $r = f(\theta)$ for the curve $C$.

**(c)** Let $T$ denote the time, measured from the initial detection, at which the destroyer intercepts the submarine. Find an upper bound for $T$.
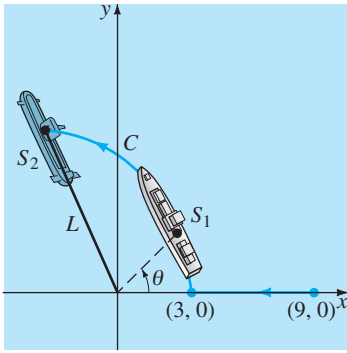
**FIGURE 5.3.9** Pursuit curve in Problem 18

## Discussion Problems

**19.** Discuss why the damping term in equation (3) is written as

$$\beta \left| \frac{dx}{dt} \right| \frac{dx}{dt} \quad \text{instead of} \quad \beta \left( \frac{dx}{dt} \right)^2.$$

**20. (a)** Experiment with a calculator to find an interval $0 \leq \theta < \theta_1$, where $\theta$ is measured in radians, for which you think $\sin \theta \approx \theta$ is a fairly good estimate. Then use a graphing utility to plot the graphs of $y = x$ and $y = \sin x$ on the same coordinate axes for $0 \leq x \leq \pi/2$. Do the graphs confirm your observations with the calculator?

**(b)** Use a numerical solver to plot the solution curves of the initial-value problems

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \sin \theta = 0, \quad \theta(0) = \theta_0, \quad \theta'(0) = 0$$

and $$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \theta = 0, \quad \theta(0) = \theta_0, \quad \theta'(0) = 0$$

for several values of $\theta_0$ in the interval $0 \leq \theta < \theta_1$ found in part (a). Then plot solution curves of the initial-value problems for several values of $\theta_0$ for which $\theta_0 > \theta_1$.

**21. (a)** Consider the nonlinear pendulum whose oscillations are defined by (6). Use a numerical solver as an aid to determine whether a pendulum of length $l$ will oscillate faster on the Earth or on the Moon. Use the same initial conditions, but choose these initial conditions so that the pendulum oscillates back and forth.

**(b)** For which location in part (a) does the pendulum have greater amplitude?

**(c)** Are the conclusions in parts (a) and (b) the same when the linear model (7) is used?

## Computer Lab Assignments

**22.** Consider the initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \sin \theta = 0, \quad \theta(0) = \frac{\pi}{12}, \quad \theta'(0) = -\frac{1}{3}$$

for a nonlinear pendulum. Since we cannot solve the differential equation, we can find no explicit solution of

this problem. But suppose we wish to determine the first time $t_1 > 0$ for which the pendulum in Figure 5.3.3, starting from its initial position to the right, reaches the position $OP$—that is, the first positive root of $\theta(t) = 0$. In this problem and the next we examine several ways to proceed.

**(a)** Approximate $t_1$ by solving the linear problem $d^2\theta/dt^2 + \theta = 0$, $\theta(0) = \pi/12$, $\theta'(0) = -\frac{1}{3}$.

**(b)** Use the method illustrated in Example 3 of Section 4.9 to find the first four nonzero terms of a Taylor series solution $\theta(t)$ centered at 0 for the nonlinear initial-value problem. Give the exact values of all coefficients.

**(c)** Use the first two terms of the Taylor series in part (b) to approximate $t_1$.

**(d)** Use the first three terms of the Taylor series in part (b) to approximate $t_1$.

**(e)** Use a root-finding application of a CAS (or a graphic calculator) and the first four terms of the Taylor series in part (b) to approximate $t_1$.

**(f)** In this part of the problem you are led through the commands in *Mathematica* that enable you to approximate the root $t_1$. The procedure is easily modified so that any root of $\theta(t) = 0$ can be approximated. (*If you do not have Mathematica, adapt the given procedure by finding the corresponding syntax for the CAS you have on hand.*) Precisely reproduce and then, in turn, execute each line in the given sequence of commands.

```
sol = NDSolve[{y″[t] + Sin[y[t]] == 0,
            y[0] == Pi/12, y′[0] == −1/3},
            y, {t, 0, 5}]//Flatten
solution = y[t]/.sol
Clear[y]
y[t_]: = Evaluate[solution]
y[t]
gr1 = Plot[y[t], {t, 0, 5}]
root = FindRoot[y[t] == 0, {t, 1}]
```

**(g)** Appropriately modify the syntax in part (f) and find the next two positive roots of $\theta(t) = 0$.

**23.** Consider a pendulum that is released from rest from an initial displacement of $\theta_0$ radians. Solving the linear model (7) subject to the initial conditions $\theta(0) = \theta_0$, $\theta'(0) = 0$ gives $\theta(t) = \theta_0 \cos \sqrt{g/l}\, t$. The period of oscillations predicted by this model is given by the familiar formula $T = 2\pi/\sqrt{g/l} = 2\pi\sqrt{l/g}$. The interesting thing about this formula for $T$ is that it does not depend on the magnitude of the initial displacement $\theta_0$. In other words, the linear model predicts that the time it would take the pendulum to swing from an initial displacement of, say, $\theta_0 = \pi/2$ ($= 90°$) to $-\pi/2$ and back again would be exactly the same as the time it would take to cycle from, say, $\theta_0 = \pi/360$ ($= 0.5°$) to $-\pi/360$. This is intuitively unreasonable; the actual period must depend on $\theta_0$.

If we assume that $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$ and $l = 32$ ft, then the period of oscillation of the linear model is $T = 2\pi$ s. Let us compare this last number with the period predicted by the nonlinear model when $\theta_0 = \pi/4$. Using a numerical solver that is capable of generating hard data, approximate the solution of

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \sin\theta = 0, \quad \theta(0) = \frac{\pi}{4}, \quad \theta'(0) = 0$$

on the interval $0 \le t \le 2$. As in Problem 22, if $t_1$ denotes the first time the pendulum reaches the position $OP$ in Figure 5.3.3, then the period of the nonlinear pendulum is $4t_1$. Here is another way of solving the equation $\theta(t) = 0$. Experiment with small step sizes and advance the time, starting at $t = 0$ and ending at $t = 2$. From your hard data observe the time $t_1$ when $\theta(t)$ changes, for the first time, from positive to negative. Use the value $t_1$ to determine the true value of the period of the nonlinear pendulum. Compute the percentage relative error in the period estimated by $T = 2\pi$.

### Contributed Problem

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24. **The Ballistic Pendulum**
Historically, to maintain quality control over munitions (bullets) produced by an assembly line, the manufacturer would use a **ballistic pendulum** to determine the muzzle velocity of a gun, that is, the speed of a bullet as it leaves the barrel. The ballistic pendulum (invented in 1742) is simply a plane pendulum consisting of a rod of negligible mass to which a block of wood of mass $m_w$ is attached. The system is set in motion by the impact of a bullet that is moving horizontally at the unknown velocity $v_b$; at the time of the impact, which we take as $t = 0$, the combined mass is $m_w + m_b$, where $m_b$ is the mass of the bullet imbedded in the wood. In (7) we saw that in the case of small oscillations, the angular displacement $\theta(t)$ of a plane pendulum shown in Figure 5.3.3 is given by the linear DE $\theta'' + (g/l)\theta = 0$, where $\theta > 0$ corresponds to motion to the right of vertical. The velocity $v_b$ can be found by measuring the height $h$ of the mass $m_w + m_b$ at the maximum displacement angle $\theta_{max}$ shown in Figure 5.3.10.

Intuitively, the horizontal velocity $V$ of the combined mass (wood plus bullet) after impact is only a fraction of the velocity $v_b$ of the bullet, that is,

$$V = \left(\frac{m_b}{m_w + m_b}\right)v_b.$$

Now, recall that a distance $s$ traveled by a particle moving along a circular path is related to the radius $l$ and central angle $\theta$ by the formula $s = l\theta$. By differentiating the last formula with respect to time $t$, it follows that the angular velocity $\omega$ of the mass and its linear velocity $v$ are related by $v = l\omega$. Thus the initial angular velocity $\omega_0$ at the time $t$ at which the bullet impacts the wood block is related to $V$ by $V = l\omega_0$ or

$$\omega_0 = \left(\frac{m_b}{m_w + m_b}\right)\frac{v_b}{l}.$$

(a) Solve the initial-value problem

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \frac{g}{l}\theta = 0, \quad \theta(0) = 0, \quad \theta'(0) = \omega_0.$$

(b) Use the result from part (a) to show that

$$v_b = \left(\frac{m_w + m_b}{m_b}\right)\sqrt{lg}\,\theta_{max}.$$

(c) Use Figure 5.3.10 to express $\cos\theta_{max}$ in terms of $l$ and $h$. Then use the first two terms of the Maclaurin series for $\cos\theta$ to express $\theta_{max}$ in terms of $l$ and $h$. Finally, show that $v_b$ is given (approximately) by

$$v_b = \left(\frac{m_w + m_b}{m_b}\right)\sqrt{2gh}.$$

(d) Use the result in part (c) to find $v_b$ when $m_b = 5$ g, $m_w = 1$ kg, and $h = 6$ cm.
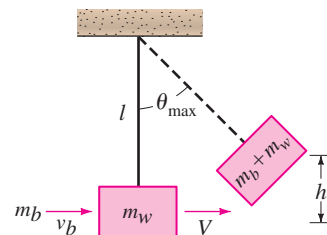


**FIGURE 5.3.10** Ballistic pendulum

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# CHAPTER 5 IN REVIEW

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-8.*

Answer Problems 1–8 without referring back to the text. Fill in the blank or answer true/false.

1. If a mass weighing 10 pounds stretches a spring 2.5 feet, a mass weighing 32 pounds will stretch it _____ feet.

2. The period of simple harmonic motion of mass weighing 8 pounds attached to a spring whose constant is 6.25 lb/ft is _____ seconds.

3. The differential equation of a spring/mass system is $x'' + 16x = 0$. If the mass is initially released from a

point 1 meter above the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of 3 m/s, the amplitude of vibrations is _____ meters.

**4.** Pure resonance cannot take place in the presence of a damping force. _____

**5.** In the presence of a damping force, the displacements of a mass on a spring will always approach zero as $t \to \infty$. _____

**6.** A mass on a spring whose motion is critically damped can possibly pass through the equilibrium position twice. _____

**7.** At critical damping any increase in damping will result in an _____ system.

**8.** If simple harmonic motion is described by $x = (\sqrt{2}/2)\sin(2t + \phi)$, the phase angle $\phi$ is _____ when the initial conditions are $x(0) = -\frac{1}{2}$ and $x'(0) = 1$.

In Problems 9 and 10 the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the boundary-value problem $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y'(\pi) = 0$ are $\lambda_n = n^2$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$, and $y = \cos nx$, respectively. Fill in the blanks.

**9.** A solution of the BVP when $\lambda = 8$ is $y =$ _____ because _____.

**10.** A solution of the BVP when $\lambda = 36$ is $y =$ _____ because _____.

**11.** A free undamped spring/mass system oscillates with a period of 3 seconds. When 8 pounds are removed from the spring, the system has a period of 2 seconds. What was the weight of the original mass on the spring?

**12.** A mass weighing 12 pounds stretches a spring 2 feet. The mass is initially released from a point 1 foot below the equilibrium position with an upward velocity of 4 ft/s.

(a) Find the equation of motion.

(b) What are the amplitude, period, and frequency of the simple harmonic motion?

(c) At what times does the mass return to the point 1 foot below the equilibrium position?

(d) At what times does the mass pass through the equilibrium position moving upward? Moving downward?

(e) What is the velocity of the mass at $t = 3\pi/16$ s?

(f) At what times is the velocity zero?

**13.** A force of 2 pounds stretches a spring 1 foot. With one end held fixed, a mass weighing 8 pounds is attached to the other end. The system lies on a table that imparts a frictional force numerically equal to $\frac{3}{2}$ times the instantaneous velocity. Initially, the mass is displaced 4 inches above the equilibrium position and released from rest. Find the equation of motion if the motion takes place along a horizontal straight line that is taken as the $x$-axis.

**14.** A mass weighing 32 pounds stretches a spring 6 inches. The mass moves through a medium offering a damping force that is numerically equal to $\beta$ times the instantaneous velocity. Determine the values of $\beta > 0$ for which the spring/mass system will exhibit oscillatory motion.

**15.** A spring with constant $k = 2$ is suspended in a liquid that offers a damping force numerically equal to 4 times the instantaneous velocity. If a mass $m$ is suspended from the spring, determine the values of $m$ for which the subsequent free motion is nonoscillatory.

**16.** The vertical motion of a mass attached to a spring is described by the IVP $\frac{1}{4}x'' + x' + x = 0$, $x(0) = 4$, $x'(0) = 2$. Determine the maximum vertical displacement of the mass.

**17.** A mass weighing 4 pounds stretches a spring 18 inches. A periodic force equal to $f(t) = \cos \gamma t + \sin \gamma t$ is impressed on the system starting at $t = 0$. In the absence of a damping force, for what value of $\gamma$ will the system be in a state of pure resonance?

**18.** Find a particular solution for $x'' + 2\lambda x' + \omega^2 x = A$, where $A$ is a constant force.

**19.** A mass weighing 4 pounds is suspended from a spring whose constant is 3 lb/ft. The entire system is immersed in a fluid offering a damping force numerically equal to the instantaneous velocity. Beginning at $t = 0$, an external force equal to $f(t) = e^{-t}$ is impressed on the system. Determine the equation of motion if the mass is initially released from rest at a point 2 feet below the equilibrium position.

**20.** (a) Two springs are attached in series as shown in Figure 5.R.1. If the mass of each spring is ignored, show that the effective spring constant $k$ of the system is defined by $1/k = 1/k_1 + 1/k_2$.

(b) A mass weighing $W$ pounds stretches a spring $\frac{1}{2}$ foot and stretches a different spring $\frac{1}{4}$ foot. The two springs are attached, and the mass is then attached to the double spring as shown in Figure 5.R.1. Assume that the motion is free and that there is no damping force present. Determine the equation of motion if the mass is initially released at a point 1 foot below the equilibrium position with a downward velocity of $\frac{2}{3}$ ft/s.

(c) Show that the maximum speed of the mass is $\frac{2}{3}\sqrt{3g + 1}$.
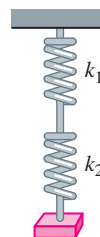


**FIGURE 5.R.1** Attached springs in Problem 20

**21.** A series circuit contains an inductance of $L = 1$ h, a capacitance of $C = 10^{-4}$ f, and an electromotive force of $E(t) = 100 \sin 50t$ V. Initially, the charge $q$ and current $i$ are zero.

   **(a)** Determine the charge $q(t)$.

   **(b)** Determine the current $i(t)$.

   **(c)** Find the times for which the charge on the capacitor is zero.

**22. (a)** Show that the current $i(t)$ in an *LRC* series circuit

$$\text{satisfies } L\frac{d^2 i}{dt^2} + R\frac{di}{dt} + \frac{1}{C}i = E'(t), \text{ where } E'(t)$$

   denotes the derivative of $E(t)$.

   **(b)** Two initial conditions $i(0)$ and $i'(0)$ can be specified for the DE in part (a). If $i(0) = i_0$ and $q(0) = q_0$, what is $i'(0)$?

**23.** Consider the boundary-value problem

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(0) = y(2\pi), \quad y'(0) = y'(2\pi).$$

Show that except for the case $\lambda = 0$, there are two independent eigenfunctions corresponding to each eigenvalue.

**24.** A bead is constrained to slide along a frictionless rod of length $L$. The rod is rotating in a vertical plane with a constant angular velocity $\omega$ about a pivot $P$ fixed at the midpoint of the rod, but the design of the pivot allows the bead to move along the entire length of the rod. Let $r(t)$ denote the position of the bead relative to this rotating coordinate system as shown in Figure 5.R.2. To apply Newton's second law of motion to this rotating frame of reference, it is necessary to use the fact that the net force acting on the bead is the sum of the real forces (in this case, the force due to gravity) and the inertial forces (coriolis, transverse, and centrifugal). The mathematics is a little complicated, so we just give the resulting differential equation for $r$:

$$m\frac{d^2 r}{dt^2} = m\omega^2 r - mg \sin \omega t.$$

   **(a)** Solve the foregoing DE subject to the initial conditions $r(0) = r_0, r'(0) = v_0$.

   **(b)** Determine the initial conditions for which the bead exhibits simple harmonic motion. What is the minimum length $L$ of the rod for which it can accommodate simple harmonic motion of the bead?

   **(c)** For initial conditions other than those obtained in part (b), the bead must eventually fly off the rod. Explain using the solution $r(t)$ in part (a).

   **(d)** Suppose $\omega = 1$ rad/s. Use a graphing utility to graph the solution $r(t)$ for the initial conditions $r(0) = 0, r'(0) = v_0$, where $v_0$ is 0, 10, 15, 16, 16.1, and 17.

   **(e)** Suppose the length of the rod is $L = 40$ ft. For each pair of initial conditions in part (d), use a root-finding application to find the total time that the bead stays on the rod.
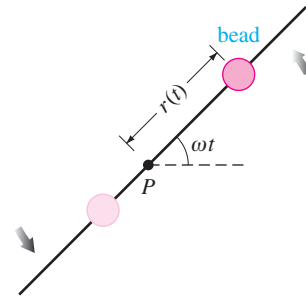


**FIGURE 5.R.2** Rotating rod in Problem 24

**25.** Suppose a mass $m$ lying on a flat, dry, frictionless surface is attached to the free end of a spring whose constant is $k$. In Figure 5.R.3(a) the mass is shown at the equilibrium position $x = 0$, that is, the spring is neither stretched nor compressed. As shown in Figure 5.R.3(b), the displacement $x(t)$ of the mass to the right of the equilibrium position is positive and negative to the left. Derive a differential equation for the free horizontal (sliding) motion of the mass. Discuss the difference between the derivation of this DE and the analysis leading to (1) of Section 5.1.
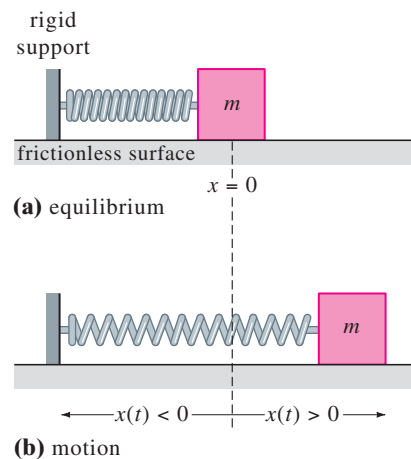


**FIGURE 5.R.3** Sliding spring/mass system in Problem 25

**26.** What is the differential equation of motion in Problem 25 if kinetic friction (but no other damping forces) acts on the sliding mass? [*Hint*: Assume that the magnitude of the force of kinetic friction is $f_k = \mu mg$, where $mg$ is the weight of the mass and the constant $\mu > 0$ is the coefficient of kinetic friction. Then consider two cases, $x' > 0$ and $x' < 0$. Interpret these cases physically.]

# 6 SERIES SOLUTIONS OF LINEAR EQUATIONS
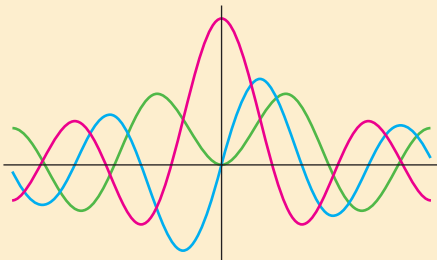
Up to now we have primarily solved linear differential equations of order two or higher when the equation had constant coefficients. The only exception was the Cauchy-Euler equation studied in Section 4.7. In applications, higher-order linear equations with variable coefficients are just as important as, if not more important than, differential equations with constant coefficients. As pointed out in Section 4.7, even a simple linear second-order equation with variable coefficients such as $y'' + xy = 0$ does not possess solutions that are elementary functions. But we can find two linearly independent solutions of $y'' + xy = 0$; we shall see in Sections 6.1 and 6.3 that the solutions of this equation are defined by infinite series.

    In this chapter we shall study two infinite-series methods for finding solutions of homogeneous linear second-order DEs $a_2(x)y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = 0$ where the variable coefficients $a_2(x)$, $a_1(x)$, and $a_0(x)$ are, for the most part, simple polynomials.

## 6.1 SOLUTIONS ABOUT ORDINARY POINTS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Power Series (see any Calculus Text)

**INTRODUCTION** In Section 4.3 we saw that solving a homogeneous linear DE with *constant coefficients* was essentially a problem in algebra. By finding the roots of the auxiliary equation, we could write a general solution of the DE as a linear combination of the elementary functions $x^k$, $x^k e^{\alpha x}$, $x^k e^{\alpha x} \cos \beta x$, and $x^k e^{\alpha x} \sin \beta x$, where $k$ is a nonnegative integer. But as was pointed out in the introduction to Section 4.7, *most* linear higher-order DEs with *variable coefficients* cannot be solved in terms of elementary functions. A usual course of action for equations of this sort is to assume a solution in the form of infinite series and proceed in a manner similar to the method of undetermined coefficients (Section 4.4). In this section we consider linear second-order DEs with variable coefficients that possess solutions in the form of *power series*.

We begin with a brief review of some of the important facts about power series. For a more comprehensive treatment of the subject you should consult a calculus text.

### 6.1.1 REVIEW OF POWER SERIES

Recall from calculus that a power series in $x - a$ is an infinite series of the form

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x - a)^n = c_0 + c_1(x - a) + c_2(x - a)^2 + \cdots.$$

Such a series is also said to be a **power series centered at $a$.** For example, the power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (x + 1)^n$ is centered at $a = -1$. In this section we are concerned mainly with power series in $x$, in other words, power series such as $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{n-1} x^n = x + 2x^2 + 4x^3 + \cdots$ that are centered at $a = 0$. The following list summarizes some important facts about power series.

- **Convergence** A power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x - a)^n$ is convergent at a specified value of $x$ if its sequence of partial sums $\{S_N(x)\}$ converges—that is, $\lim_{N \to \infty} S_N(x) = \lim_{N \to \infty} \sum_{n=0}^{N} c_n(x - a)^n$ exists. If the limit does not exist at $x$, then the series is said to be divergent.

- **Interval of Convergence** Every power series has an interval of convergence. The interval of convergence is the set of all real numbers $x$ for which the series converges.

- **Radius of Convergence** Every power series has a radius of convergence $R$. If $R > 0$, then the power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x - a)^n$ converges for $|x - a| < R$ and diverges for $|x - a| > R$. If the series converges only at its center $a$, then $R = 0$. If the series converges for all $x$, then we write $R = \infty$. Recall that the absolute-value inequality $|x - a| < R$ is equivalent to the simultaneous inequality $a - R < x < a + R$. A power series might or might not converge at the endpoints $a - R$ and $a + R$ of this interval.



divergence | absolute convergence | divergence

$a - R$    $a$    $a + R$

series may converge or diverge at endpoints

**FIGURE 6.1.1** Absolute convergence within the interval of convergence and divergence outside of this interval

- **Absolute Convergence** Within its interval of convergence a power series converges absolutely. In other words, if $x$ is a number in the interval of convergence and is not an endpoint of the interval, then the series of absolute values $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |c_n(x - a)^n|$ converges. See Figure 6.1.1.

- **Ratio Test** Convergence of a power series can often be determined by the ratio test. Suppose that $c_n \neq 0$ for all $n$ and that

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} \left| \frac{c_{n+1}(x - a)^{n+1}}{c_n(x - a)^n} \right| = |x - a| \lim_{n \to \infty} \left| \frac{c_{n+1}}{c_n} \right| = L.$$

If $L < 1$, the series converges absolutely; if $L > 1$, the series diverges; and if $L = 1$, the test is inconclusive. For example, for the power series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}(x - 3)^n/2^n n$ the ratio test gives

$$\lim_{n\to\infty}\left|\frac{\dfrac{(x-3)^{n+1}}{2^{n+1}(n+1)}}{\dfrac{(x-3)^n}{2^n n}}\right| = |x - 3|\lim_{n\to\infty}\frac{n}{2(n+1)} = \frac{1}{2}|x - 3|;$$

the series converges absolutely for $\frac{1}{2}|x - 3| < 1$ or $|x - 3| < 2$ or $1 < x < 5$. This last inequality defines the *open* interval of convergence. The series diverges for $|x - 3| > 2$, that is, for $x > 5$ or $x < 1$. At the left endpoint $x = 1$ of the open interval of convergence, the series of constants $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}((-1)^n/n)$ is convergent by the alternating series test. At the right endpoint $x = 5$, the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}(1/n)$ is the divergent harmonic series. The interval of convergence of the series is $[1, 5)$, and the radius of convergence is $R = 2$.

- **A Power Series Defines a Function**  A power series defines a function $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty}c_n(x - a)^n$ whose domain is the interval of convergence of the series. If the radius of convergence is $R > 0$, then $f$ is continuous, differentiable, and integrable on the interval $(a - R, a + R)$. Moreover, $f'(x)$ and $\int f(x)dx$ can be found by term-by-term differentiation and integration. Convergence at an endpoint may be either lost by differentiation or gained through integration. If $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty}c_n x^n$ is a power series in $x$, then the first two derivatives are $y' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty}nx^{n-1}$ and $y'' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty}n(n - 1)x^{n-2}$. Notice that the first term in the first derivative and the first two terms in the second derivative are zero. We omit these zero terms and write

$$y' = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}c_n n x^{n-1} \qquad \text{and} \qquad y'' = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty}c_n n(n - 1)x^{n-2}. \qquad (1)$$

These results are important and will be used shortly.

- **Identity Property**  If $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}c_n(x - a)^n = 0, R > 0$ for all numbers $x$ in the interval of convergence, then $c_n = 0$ for all $n$.

- **Analytic at a Point**  A function $f$ is analytic at a point $a$ if it can be represented by a power series in $x - a$ with a positive or infinite radius of convergence. In calculus it is seen that functions such as $e^x$, $\cos x$, $\sin x$, $\ln(1 - x)$, and so on can be represented by Taylor series. Recall, for example, that

$$e^x = 1 + \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \cdots, \qquad \sin x = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \cdots, \qquad \cos x = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \cdots \qquad (2)$$

for $|x| < \infty$. These Taylor series centered at 0, called Maclaurin series, show that $e^x$, $\sin x$, and $\cos x$ are analytic at $x = 0$.

- **Arithmetic of Power Series**  Power series can be combined through the operations of addition, multiplication, and division. The procedures for power series are similar to those by which two polynomials are added, multiplied, and divided—that is, we add coefficients of like powers of $x$, use the distributive law and collect like terms, and perform long division. For example, using the series in (2), we have

$$e^x\sin x = \left(1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^4}{24} + \cdots\right)\left(x - \frac{x^3}{6} + \frac{x^5}{120} - \frac{x^7}{5040} + \cdots\right)$$

$$= (1)x + (1)x^2 + \left(-\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{2}\right)x^3 + \left(-\frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6}\right)x^4 + \left(\frac{1}{120} - \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{24}\right)x^5 + \cdots$$

$$= x + x^2 + \frac{x^3}{3} - \frac{x^5}{30} - \cdots.$$

Since the power series for $e^x$ and $\sin x$ converge for $|x| < \infty$, the product series converges on the same interval. Problems involving multiplication or division of power series can be done with minimal fuss by using a CAS.

**SHIFTING THE SUMMATION INDEX** For the remainder of this section, as well as this chapter, it is important that you become adept at simplifying the sum of two or more power series, each expressed in summation (sigma) notation, to an expression with a single $\Sigma$. As the next example illustrates, combining two or more summations as a single summation often requires a reindexing — that is, a shift in the index of summation.

---

### EXAMPLE 1   Adding Two Power Series

Write $\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n - 1)c_n x^{n-2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+1}$ as a single power series whose general term involves $x^k$.

**SOLUTION** To add the two series, it is necessary that both summation indices start with the same number and that the powers of $x$ in each series be "in phase"; that is, if one series starts with a multiple of, say, $x$ to the first power, then we want the other series to start with the same power. Note that in the given problem the first series starts with $x^0$, whereas the second series starts with $x^1$. By writing the first term of the first series outside the summation notation,

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n - 1)c_n x^{n-2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+1} = 2 \cdot 1 c_2 x^0 + \underset{\underset{\text{for } n=3}{\overset{\text{series starts}}{\text{with } x}}}{\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} n(n - 1)c_n x^{n-2}} + \underset{\underset{\text{for } n=0}{\overset{\text{series starts}}{\text{with } x}}}{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+1}},$$

we see that both series on the right-hand side start with the same power of $x$ — namely, $x^1$. Now to get the same summation index, we are inspired by the exponents of $x$; we let $k = n - 2$ in the first series and at the same time let $k = n + 1$ in the second series. The right-hand side becomes

$$2c_2 + \underset{}{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k + 2)(k + 1)c_{k+2}x^k} + \underset{\overset{\uparrow}{\text{same}}}{\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_{k-1}x^k}. \tag{3}$$

Remember that the summation index is a "dummy" variable; the fact that $k = n - 1$ in one case and $k = n + 1$ in the other should cause no confusion if you keep in mind that it is the *value* of the summation index that is important. In both cases $k$ takes on the same successive values $k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ when $n$ takes on the values $n = 2, 3, 4, \ldots$ for $k = n - 1$ and $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ for $k = n + 1$. We are now in a position to add the series in (3) term by term:

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)c_n x^{n-2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+1} = 2c_2 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [(k + 2)(k + 1)c_{k+2} + c_{k-1}]x^k. \tag{4} \blacksquare$$

If you are not convinced of the result in (4), then write out a few terms on both sides of the equality.

## 6.1.2 POWER SERIES SOLUTIONS

**A DEFINITION**   Suppose the linear second-order differential equation

$$a_2(x)y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = 0 \tag{5}$$

is put into standard form

$$y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0 \tag{6}$$

by dividing by the leading coefficient $a_2(x)$. We have the following definition.

---

**DEFINITION 6.1.1   Ordinary and Singular Points**

A point $x_0$ is said to be an **ordinary point** of the differential equation (5) if both $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ in the standard form (6) are analytic at $x_0$. A point that is not an ordinary point is said to be a **singular point** of the equation.

---

Every finite value of $x$ is an ordinary point of the differential equation $y'' + (e^x)y' + (\sin x)y = 0$. In particular, $x = 0$ is an ordinary point because, as we have already seen in (2), both $e^x$ and $\sin x$ are analytic at this point. The negation in the second sentence of Definition 6.1.1 stipulates that if at least one of the functions $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ in (6) fails to be analytic at $x_0$, then $x_0$ is a singular point. Note that $x = 0$ is a singular point of the differential equation $y'' + (e^x)y' + (\ln x)y = 0$ because $Q(x) = \ln x$ is discontinuous at $x = 0$ and so cannot be represented by a power series in $x$.

**POLYNOMIAL COEFFICIENTS**   We shall be interested primarily in the case when (5) has polynomial coefficients. A polynomial is analytic at any value $x$, and a rational function is analytic *except* at points where its denominator is zero. Thus if $a_2(x)$, $a_1(x)$, and $a_0(x)$ are *polynomials* with no common factors, then both rational functions $P(x) = a_1(x)/a_2(x)$ and $Q(x) = a_0(x)/a_2(x)$ are analytic except where $a_2(x) = 0$. It follows, then, that:

> $x = x_0$ is an ordinary point of (5) if $a_2(x_0) \neq 0$ whereas $x = x_0$ is a singular point of (5) if $a_2(x_0) = 0$.

For example, the only singular points of the equation $(x^2 - 1)y'' + 2xy' + 6y = 0$ are solutions of $x^2 - 1 = 0$ or $x = \pm 1$. All other finite values* of $x$ are ordinary points. Inspection of the Cauchy-Euler equation $ax^2y'' + bxy' + cy = 0$ shows that it has a singular point at $x = 0$. Singular points need not be real numbers. The equation $(x^2 + 1)y'' + xy' - y = 0$ has singular points at the solutions of $x^2 + 1 = 0$ — namely, $x = \pm i$. All other values of $x$, real or complex, are ordinary points.

We state the following theorem about the existence of power series solutions without proof.

---

**THEOREM 6.1.1      Existence of Power Series Solutions**

If $x = x_0$ is an ordinary point of the differential equation (5), we can always find two linearly independent solutions in the form of a power series centered at $x_0$, that is, $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x - x_0)^n$. A series solution converges at least on some interval defined by $|x - x_0| < R$, where $R$ is the distance from $x_0$ to the closest singular point.

---

*For our purposes, ordinary points and singular points will always be finite points. It is possible for an ODE to have, say, a singular point at infinity.

A solution of the form $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x - x_0)^n$ is said to be a **solution about the ordinary point $x_0$.** The distance $R$ in Theorem 6.1.1 is the *minimum value* or the *lower bound* for the radius of convergence of series solutions of the differential equation about $x_0$.

In the next example we use the fact that in the complex plane the distance between two complex numbers $a + bi$ and $c + di$ is just the distance between the two points $(a, b)$ and $(c, d)$.

---

### EXAMPLE 2 Lower Bound for Radius of Convergence

The complex numbers $1 \pm 2i$ are singular points of the differential equation $(x^2 - 2x + 5)y'' + xy' - y = 0$. Because $x = 0$ is an ordinary point of the equation, Theorem 6.1.1 guarantees that we can find two power series solutions about 0, that is, solutions that look like $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$. Without actually finding these solutions, we know that *each* series must converge *at least* for $|x| < \sqrt{5}$ because $R = \sqrt{5}$ is the distance in the complex plane from 0 (the point $(0, 0)$) to either of the numbers $1 + 2i$ (the point $(1, 2)$) or $1 - 2i$ (the point $(1, -2)$). However, one of these two solutions is valid on an interval much larger than $-\sqrt{5} < x < \sqrt{5}$; in actual fact this solution is valid on $(-\infty, \infty)$ because it can be shown that one of the two power series solutions about 0 reduces to a polynomial. Therefore we also say that $\sqrt{5}$ is the lower bound for the radius of convergence of series solutions of the differential equation about 0.

If we seek solutions of the given DE about a different ordinary point, say, $x = -1$, then each series $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x + 1)^n$ converges at least for $|x| < 2\sqrt{2}$ because the distance from $-1$ to either $1 + 2i$ or $1 - 2i$ is $R = \sqrt{8} = 2\sqrt{2}$. ∎

**NOTE** In the examples that follow, as well as in Exercises 6.1, we shall, for the sake of simplicity, find power series solutions only about the ordinary point $x = 0$. If it is necessary to find a power series solution of a linear DE about an ordinary point $x_0 \neq 0$, we can simply make the change of variable $t = x - x_0$ in the equation (this translates $x = x_0$ to $t = 0$), find solutions of the new equation of the form $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n t^n$, and then resubstitute $t = x - x_0$.

**FINDING A POWER SERIES SOLUTION** The actual determination of a power series solution of a homogeneous linear second-order DE is quite analogous to what we did in Section 4.4 in finding particular solutions of nonhomogeneous DEs by the method of undetermined coefficients. Indeed, the power series method of solving a linear DE with variable coefficients is often described as "the method of undetermined *series* coefficients." In brief, here is the idea: We substitute $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ into the differential equation, combine series as we did in Example 1, and then equate all coefficients to the right-hand side of the equation to determine the coefficients $c_n$. But because the right-hand side is zero, the last step requires, by the identity property in the preceding bulleted list, that all coefficients of $x$ must be equated to zero. No, this does *not* mean that all coefficients *are* zero; this would not make sense—after all, Theorem 6.1.1 guarantees that we can find two solutions. Example 3 illustrates how the single assumption that $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + \cdots$ leads to two sets of coefficients, so we have two distinct power series $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$, both expanded about the ordinary point $x = 0$. The general solution of the differential equation is $y = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x)$; indeed, it can be shown that $C_1 = c_0$ and $C_2 = c_1$.

---

### EXAMPLE 3 Power Series Solutions

Solve $y'' + xy = 0$.

**SOLUTION** Since there are no finite singular points, Theorem 6.1.1 guarantees two power series solutions centered at 0, convergent for $|x| < \infty$. Substituting

$y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ and the second derivative $y'' = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n - 1)c_n x^{n-2}$ (see (1)) into the differential equation gives

$$y'' + xy = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} c_n n(n - 1)x^{n-2} + x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} c_n n(n - 1)x^{n-2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+1}. \quad (7)$$

In Example 1 we already added the last two series on the right-hand side of the equality in (7) by shifting the summation index. From the result given in (4),

$$y'' + xy = 2c_2 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [(k + 1)(k + 2)c_{k+2} + c_{k-1}]x^k = 0. \quad (8)$$

At this point we invoke the identity property. Since (8) is identically zero, it is necessary that the coefficient of each power of $x$ be set equal to zero—that is, $2c_2 = 0$ (it is the coefficient of $x^0$), and

$$(k + 1)(k + 2)c_{k+2} + c_{k-1} = 0, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots. \quad (9)$$

Now $2c_2 = 0$ obviously dictates that $c_2 = 0$. But the expression in (9), called a **recurrence relation,** determines the $c_k$ in such a manner that we can choose a certain subset of the set of coefficients to be *nonzero.* Since $(k + 1)(k + 2) \neq 0$ for all values of $k$, we can solve (9) for $c_{k+2}$ in terms of $c_{k-1}$:

$$c_{k+2} = -\frac{c_{k-1}}{(k + 1)(k + 2)}, \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots. \quad (10)$$

This relation generates consecutive coefficients of the assumed solution one at a time as we let $k$ take on the successive integers indicated in (10):

$k = 1, \quad c_3 = -\dfrac{c_0}{2 \cdot 3}$

$k = 2, \quad c_4 = -\dfrac{c_1}{3 \cdot 4}$

$k = 3, \quad c_5 = -\dfrac{c_2}{4 \cdot 5} = 0 \qquad\qquad \leftarrow c_2$ is zero

$k = 4, \quad c_6 = -\dfrac{c_3}{5 \cdot 6} = \dfrac{1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 6} c_0$

$k = 5, \quad c_7 = -\dfrac{c_4}{6 \cdot 7} = \dfrac{1}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7} c_1$

$k = 6, \quad c_8 = -\dfrac{c_5}{7 \cdot 8} = 0 \qquad\qquad \leftarrow c_5$ is zero

$k = 7, \quad c_9 = -\dfrac{c_6}{8 \cdot 9} = \dfrac{1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot 8 \cdot 9} c_0$

$k = 8, \quad c_{10} = -\dfrac{c_7}{9 \cdot 10} = \dfrac{1}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7 \cdot 9 \cdot 10} c_1$

$k = 9, \quad c_{11} = -\dfrac{c_8}{10 \cdot 11} = 0 \qquad\qquad \leftarrow c_8$ is zero

and so on. Now substituting the coefficients just obtained into the original assumption

$$y = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + c_3 x^3 + c_4 x^4 + c_5 x^5 + c_6 x^6 + c_7 x^7 + c_8 x^8 + c_9 x^9 + c_{10} x^{10} + c_{11} x^{11} + \cdots,$$

we get

$$y = c_0 + c_1 x + 0 - \frac{c_0}{2 \cdot 3} x^3 - \frac{c_1}{3 \cdot 4} x^4 + 0 + \frac{c_0}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 6} x^6$$

$$+ \frac{c_1}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7} x^7 + 0 - \frac{c_0}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot 8 \cdot 9} x^9 - \frac{c_1}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7 \cdot 9 \cdot 10} x^{10} + 0 + \cdots .$$

After grouping the terms containing $c_0$ and the terms containing $c_1$, we obtain $y = c_0 y_1(x) + c_1 y_2(x)$, where

$$y_1(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3} x^3 + \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 6} x^6 - \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot 8 \cdot 9} x^9 + \cdots = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{2 \cdot 3 \cdots (3k-1)(3k)} x^{3k}$$

$$y_2(x) = x - \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4} x^4 + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7} x^7 - \frac{1}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7 \cdot 9 \cdot 10} x^{10} + \cdots = x + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{3 \cdot 4 \cdots (3k)(3k+1)} x^{3k+1}.$$

Because the recursive use of (10) leaves $c_0$ and $c_1$ completely undetermined, they can be chosen arbitrarily. As was mentioned prior to this example, the linear combination $y = c_0 y_1(x) + c_1 y_2(x)$ actually represents the general solution of the differential equation. Although we know from Theorem 6.1.1 that each series solution converges for $|x| < \infty$, this fact can also be verified by the ratio test. ■

The differential equation in Example 3 is called **Airy's equation** and is encountered in the study of diffraction of light, diffraction of radio waves around the surface of the Earth, aerodynamics, and the deflection of a uniform thin vertical column that bends under its own weight. Other common forms of Airy's equation are $y'' - xy = 0$ and $y'' + \alpha^2 xy = 0$. See Problem 41 in Exercises 6.3 for an application of the last equation.

**EXAMPLE 4** **Power Series Solution**

Solve $(x^2 + 1)y'' + xy' - y = 0$.

**SOLUTION** As we have already seen on page 223, the given differential equation has singular points at $x = \pm i$, and so a power series solution centered at 0 will converge at least for $|x| < 1$, where 1 is the distance in the complex plane from 0 to either $i$ or $-i$. The assumption $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ and its first two derivatives (see (1)) lead to

$$(x^2 + 1) \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)c_n x^{n-2} + x \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nc_n x^{n-1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$$

$$= \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)c_n x^n + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)c_n x^{n-2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nc_n x^n - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$$

$$= 2c_2 x^0 - c_0 x^0 + 6c_3 x + c_1 x - c_1 x + \underbrace{\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)c_n x^n}_{k=n}$$

$$+ \underbrace{\sum_{n=4}^{\infty} n(n-1)c_n x^{n-2}}_{k=n-2} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} nc_n x^n}_{k=n} - \underbrace{\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} c_n x^n}_{k=n}$$

$$= 2c_2 - c_0 + 6c_3 x + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [k(k-1)c_k + (k+2)(k+1)c_{k+2} + kc_k - c_k] x^k$$

$$= 2c_2 - c_0 + 6c_3 x + \sum_{k=2}^{\infty} [(k+1)(k-1)c_k + (k+2)(k+1)c_{k+2}] x^k = 0.$$

From this identity we conclude that $2c_2 - c_0 = 0$, $6c_3 = 0$, and

$$(k + 1)(k - 1)c_k + (k + 2)(k + 1)c_{k+2} = 0.$$

Thus
$$c_2 = \frac{1}{2}c_0$$

$$c_3 = 0$$

$$c_{k+2} = \frac{1 - k}{k + 2}c_k, \qquad k = 2, 3, 4, \ldots.$$

Substituting $k = 2, 3, 4, \ldots$ into the last formula gives

$$c_4 = -\frac{1}{4}c_2 = -\frac{1}{2 \cdot 4}c_0 = -\frac{1}{2^2 2!}c_0$$

$$c_5 = -\frac{2}{5}c_3 = 0 \qquad \leftarrow c_3 \text{ is zero}$$

$$c_6 = -\frac{3}{6}c_4 = \frac{3}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6}c_0 = \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2^3 3!}c_0$$

$$c_7 = -\frac{4}{7}c_5 = 0 \qquad \leftarrow c_5 \text{ is zero}$$

$$c_8 = -\frac{5}{8}c_6 = -\frac{3 \cdot 5}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 8}c_0 = -\frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}{2^4 4!}c_0$$

$$c_9 = -\frac{6}{9}c_7 = 0, \qquad \leftarrow c_7 \text{ is zero}$$

$$c_{10} = -\frac{7}{10}c_8 = \frac{3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 8 \cdot 10}c_0 = \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7}{2^5 5!}c_0,$$

and so on. Therefore

$$y = c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + c_3 x^3 + c_4 x^4 + c_5 x^5 + c_6 x^6 + c_7 x^7 + c_8 x^8 + c_9 x^9 + c_{10} x^{10} + \cdots$$

$$= c_0 \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{2^2 2!}x^4 + \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2^3 3!}x^6 - \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}{2^4 4!}x^8 + \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7}{2^5 5!}x^{10} - \cdots \right] + c_1 x$$

$$= c_0 y_1(x) + c_1 y_2(x).$$

The solutions are the polynomial $y_2(x) = x$ and the power series

$$y_1(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n - 3)}{2^n n!} x^{2n}, \qquad |x| < 1. \quad \blacksquare$$

## EXAMPLE 5  Three-Term Recurrence Relation

If we seek a power series solution $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ for the differential equation

$$y'' - (1 + x)y = 0,$$

we obtain $c_2 = \frac{1}{2}c_0$ and the three-term recurrence relation

$$c_{k+2} = \frac{c_k + c_{k-1}}{(k + 1)(k + 2)}, \qquad k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots.$$

It follows from these two results that all coefficients $c_n$, for $n \geq 3$, are expressed in terms of *both* $c_0$ and $c_1$. To simplify life, we can first choose $c_0 \neq 0$, $c_1 = 0$; this

yields coefficients for one solution expressed entirely in terms of $c_0$. Next, if we choose $c_0 = 0$, $c_1 \neq 0$, then coefficients for the other solution are expressed in terms of $c_1$. Using $c_2 = \frac{1}{2}c_0$ in both cases, the recurrence relation for $k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ gives

| $c_0 \neq 0, c_1 = 0$ | $c_0 = 0, c_1 \neq 0$ |
|---|---|
| $c_2 = \dfrac{1}{2}c_0$ | $c_2 = \dfrac{1}{2}c_0 = 0$ |
| $c_3 = \dfrac{c_1 + c_0}{2 \cdot 3} = \dfrac{c_0}{2 \cdot 3} = \dfrac{c_0}{6}$ | $c_3 = \dfrac{c_1 + c_0}{2 \cdot 3} = \dfrac{c_1}{2 \cdot 3} = \dfrac{c_1}{6}$ |
| $c_4 = \dfrac{c_2 + c_1}{3 \cdot 4} = \dfrac{c_0}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4} = \dfrac{c_0}{24}$ | $c_4 = \dfrac{c_2 + c_1}{3 \cdot 4} = \dfrac{c_1}{3 \cdot 4} = \dfrac{c_1}{12}$ |
| $c_5 = \dfrac{c_3 + c_2}{4 \cdot 5} = \dfrac{c_0}{4 \cdot 5}\left[\dfrac{1}{6} + \dfrac{1}{2}\right] = \dfrac{c_0}{30}$ | $c_5 = \dfrac{c_3 + c_2}{4 \cdot 5} = \dfrac{c_1}{4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6} = \dfrac{c_1}{120}$ |

and so on. Finally, we see that the general solution of the equation is $y = c_0 y_1(x) + c_1 y_2(x)$, where

$$y_1(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{24}x^4 + \frac{1}{30}x^5 + \cdots$$

and

$$y_2(x) = x + \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{12}x^4 + \frac{1}{120}x^5 + \cdots .$$

Each series converges for all finite values of $x$. ∎

**NONPOLYNOMIAL COEFFICIENTS** The next example illustrates how to find a power series solution about the ordinary point $x_0 = 0$ of a differential equation when its coefficients are not polynomials. In this example we see an application of the multiplication of two power series.

## EXAMPLE 6  DE with Nonpolynomial Coefficients

Solve $y'' + (\cos x)y = 0$.

**SOLUTION** We see that $x = 0$ is an ordinary point of the equation because, as we have already seen, $\cos x$ is analytic at that point. Using the Maclaurin series for $\cos x$ given in (2), along with the usual assumption $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ and the results in (1), we find

$$y'' + (\cos x)y = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)c_n x^{n-2} + \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \frac{x^6}{6!} + \cdots\right)\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$$

$$= 2c_2 + 6c_3 x + 12c_4 x^2 + 20c_5 x^3 + \cdots + \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^4}{4!} + \cdots\right)(c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + c_3 x^3 + \cdots)$$

$$= 2c_2 + c_0 + (6c_3 + c_1)x + \left(12c_4 + c_2 - \frac{1}{2}c_0\right)x^2 + \left(20c_5 + c_3 - \frac{1}{2}c_1\right)x^3 + \cdots = 0.$$

It follows that

$$2c_2 + c_0 = 0, \qquad 6c_3 + c_1 = 0, \qquad 12c_4 + c_2 - \frac{1}{2}c_0 = 0, \qquad 20c_5 + c_3 - \frac{1}{2}c_1 = 0,$$

and so on. This gives $c_2 = -\frac{1}{2}c_0$, $c_3 = -\frac{1}{6}c_1$, $c_4 = \frac{1}{12}c_0$, $c_5 = \frac{1}{30}c_1$, .... By grouping terms, we arrive at the general solution $y = c_0 y_1(x) + c_1 y_2(x)$, where

$$y_1(x) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{12}x^4 - \cdots \quad \text{and} \quad y_2(x) = x - \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{30}x^5 - \cdots.$$

Because the differential equation has no finite singular points, both power series converge for $|x| < \infty$. ∎

**SOLUTION CURVES** The approximate graph of a power series solution $y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ can be obtained in several ways. We can always resort to graphing the terms in the sequence of partial sums of the series—in other words, the graphs of the polynomials $S_N(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N} c_n x^n$. For large values of $N$, $S_N(x)$ should give us an indication of the behavior of $y(x)$ near the ordinary point $x = 0$. We can also obtain an approximate or numerical solution curve by using a solver as we did in Section 4.9. For example, if you carefully scrutinize the series solutions of Airy's equation in Example 3, you should see that $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ are, in turn, the solutions of the initial-value problems

$$y'' + xy = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 0,$$
$$y'' + xy = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1. \tag{11}$$

The specified initial conditions "pick out" the solutions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ from $y = c_0 y_1(x) + c_1 y_2(x)$, since it should be apparent from our basic series assumption $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ that $y(0) = c_0$ and $y'(0) = c_1$. Now if your numerical solver requires a system of equations, the substitution $y' = u$ in $y'' + xy = 0$ gives $y'' = u' = -xy$, and so a system of two first-order equations equivalent to Airy's equation is

$$y' = u$$
$$u' = -xy. \tag{12}$$

Initial conditions for the system in (12) are the two sets of initial conditions in (11) rewritten as $y(0) = 1$, $u(0) = 0$, and $y(0) = 0$, $u(0) = 1$. The graphs of $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ shown in Figure 6.1.2 were obtained with the aid of a numerical solver. The fact that the numerical solution curves appear to be oscillatory is consistent with the fact that Airy's equation appeared in Section 5.1 (page 186) in the form $mx'' + ktx = 0$ as a model of a spring whose "spring constant" $K(t) = kt$ increases with time.



**(a)** plot of $y_1(x)$ vs. $x$



**(b)** plot of $y_2(x)$ vs. $x$

**FIGURE 6.1.2** Numerical solution curves for Airy's DE

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### REMARKS

(*i*) In the problems that follow, do not expect to be able to write a solution in terms of summation notation in each case. Even though we can generate as many terms as desired in a series solution $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ either through the use of a recurrence relation or, as in Example 6, by multiplication, it might not be possible to deduce any general term for the coefficients $c_n$. We might have to settle, as we did in Examples 5 and 6, for just writing out the first few terms of the series.

(*ii*) A point $x_0$ is an ordinary point of a *nonhomogeneous* linear second-order DE $y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = f(x)$ if $P(x)$, $Q(x)$, and $f(x)$ are analytic at $x_0$. Moreover, Theorem 6.1.1 extends to such DEs; in other words, we can find power series solutions $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n(x - x_0)^n$ of nonhomogeneous linear DEs in the same manner as in Examples 3–6. See Problem 36 in Exercises 6.1.

## EXERCISES 6.1

### 6.1.1 REVIEW OF POWER SERIES

In Problems 1–4 find the radius of convergence and interval of convergence for the given power series.

**1.** $\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^n}{n} x^n$      **2.** $\displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(100)^n}{n!}(x + 7)^n$

**3.** $\displaystyle\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{10^k}(x - 5)^k$      **4.** $\displaystyle\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} k!(x - 1)^k$

In Problems 5 and 6 the given function is analytic at $x = 0$. Find the first four terms of a power series in $x$. Perform the multiplication by hand or use a CAS, as instructed.

**5.** $\sin x \cos x$      **6.** $e^{-x} \cos x$

In Problems 7 and 8 the given function is analytic at $x = 0$. Find the first four terms of a power series in $x$. Perform the long division by hand or use a CAS, as instructed. Give the open interval of convergence.

**7.** $\dfrac{1}{\cos x}$      **8.** $\dfrac{1 - x}{2 + x}$

In Problems 9 and 10 rewrite the given power series so that its general term involves $x^k$.

**9.** $\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nc_n x^{n+2}$      **10.** $\displaystyle\sum_{n=3}^{\infty} (2n - 1)c_n x^{n-3}$

In Problems 11 and 12 rewrite the given expression as a single power series whose general term involves $x^k$.

**11.** $\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2nc_n x^{n-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 6c_n x^{n+1}$

**12.** $\displaystyle\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n - 1)c_n x^n + 2\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n - 1)c_n x^{n-2} + 3\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nc_n x^n$

In Problems 13 and 14 verify by direct substitution that the given power series is a particular solution of the indicated differential equation.

**13.** $y = \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} x^n$,   $(x + 1)y'' + y' = 0$

**14.** $y = \displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n}(n!)^2} x^{2n}$,   $xy'' + y' + xy = 0$

### 6.1.2 POWER SERIES SOLUTIONS

In Problems 15 and 16 without actually solving the given differential equation, find a lower bound for the radius of convergence of power series solutions about the ordinary point $x = 0$. About the ordinary point $x = 1$.

**15.** $(x^2 - 25)y'' + 2xy' + y = 0$

**16.** $(x^2 - 2x + 10)y'' + xy' - 4y = 0$

In Problems 17–28 find two power series solutions of the given differential equation about the ordinary point $x = 0$.

**17.** $y'' - xy = 0$      **18.** $y'' + x^2 y = 0$

**19.** $y'' - 2xy' + y = 0$      **20.** $y'' - xy' + 2y = 0$

**21.** $y'' + x^2 y' + xy = 0$      **22.** $y'' + 2xy' + 2y = 0$

**23.** $(x - 1)y'' + y' = 0$      **24.** $(x + 2)y'' + xy' - y = 0$

**25.** $y'' - (x + 1)y' - y = 0$

**26.** $(x^2 + 1)y'' - 6y = 0$

**27.** $(x^2 + 2)y'' + 3xy' - y = 0$

**28.** $(x^2 - 1)y'' + xy' - y = 0$

In Problems 29–32 use the power series method to solve the given initial-value problem.

**29.** $(x - 1)y'' - xy' + y = 0$,   $y(0) = -2, \ y'(0) = 6$

**30.** $(x + 1)y'' - (2 - x)y' + y = 0$,   $y(0) = 2, \ y'(0) = -1$

**31.** $y'' - 2xy' + 8y = 0$,   $y(0) = 3, \ y'(0) = 0$

**32.** $(x^2 + 1)y'' + 2xy' = 0$,   $y(0) = 0, \ y'(0) = 1$

In Problems 33 and 34 use the procedure in Example 6 to find two power series solutions of the given differential equation about the ordinary point $x = 0$.

**33.** $y'' + (\sin x)y = 0$      **34.** $y'' + e^x y' - y = 0$

### Discussion Problems

**35.** Without actually solving the differential equation $(\cos x)y'' + y' + 5y = 0$, find a lower bound for the radius of convergence of power series solutions about $x = 0$. About $x = 1$.

**36.** How can the method described in this section be used to find a power series solution of the *nonhomogeneous* equation $y'' - xy = 1$ about the ordinary point $x = 0$? Of $y'' - 4xy' - 4y = e^x$? Carry out your ideas by solving both DEs.

**37.** Is $x = 0$ an ordinary or a singular point of the differential equation $xy'' + (\sin x)y = 0$? Defend your answer with sound mathematics.

**38.** For purposes of this problem, ignore the graphs given in Figure 6.1.2. If Airy's DE is written as $y'' = -xy$, what can we say about the shape of a solution curve if $x > 0$ and $y > 0$? If $x > 0$ and $y < 0$?

### Computer Lab Assignments

**39.** (a) Find two power series solutions for $y'' + xy' + y = 0$ and express the solutions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ in terms of summation notation.

**(b)** Use a CAS to graph the partial sums $S_N(x)$ for $y_1(x)$. Use $N = 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10$. Repeat using the partial sums $S_N(x)$ for $y_2(x)$.

**(c)** Compare the graphs obtained in part (b) with the curve obtained by using a numerical solver. Use the initial-conditions $y_1(0) = 1$, $y_1'(0) = 0$, and $y_2(0) = 0$, $y_2'(0) = 1$.

**(d)** Reexamine the solution $y_1(x)$ in part (a). Express this series as an elementary function. Then use (5) of Section 4.2 to find a second solution of the equation. Verify that this second solution is the same as the power series solution $y_2(x)$.

**40. (a)** Find one more nonzero term for each of the solutions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ in Example 6.

**(b)** Find a series solution $y(x)$ of the initial-value problem $y'' + (\cos x)y = 0$, $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 1$.

**(c)** Use a CAS to graph the partial sums $S_N(x)$ for the solution $y(x)$ in part (b). Use $N = 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7$.

**(d)** Compare the graphs obtained in part (c) with the curve obtained using a numerical solver for the initial-value problem in part (b).

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## 6.2 SOLUTIONS ABOUT SINGULAR POINTS

### REVIEW MATERIAL
● Section 4.2 (especially (5) of that section)

**INTRODUCTION** The two differential equations

$$y'' + xy = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad xy'' + y = 0$$

are similar only in that they are both examples of simple linear second-order DEs with variable coefficients. That is all they have in common. Since $x = 0$ is an *ordinary point* of $y'' + xy = 0$, we saw in Section 6.1 that there was no problem in finding two distinct power series solutions centered at that point. In contrast, because $x = 0$ is a *singular point* of $xy'' + y = 0$, finding two infinite series—notice that we did not say *power series*—solutions of the equation about that point becomes a more difficult task.

The solution method that is discussed in this section does not always yield two infinite series solutions. When only one solution is found, we can use the formula given in (5) of Section 4.2 to find a second solution.

**A DEFINITION** A singular point $x_0$ of a linear differential equation

$$a_2(x)y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = 0 \tag{1}$$

is further classified as either regular or irregular. The classification again depends on the functions $P$ and $Q$ in the standard form

$$y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0. \tag{2}$$

---

**DEFINITION 6.2.1    Regular and Irregular Singular Points**

A singular point $x_0$ is said to be a **regular singular point** of the differential equation (1) if the functions $p(x) = (x - x_0) P(x)$ and $q(x) = (x - x_0)^2 Q(x)$ are both analytic at $x_0$. A singular point that is not regular is said to be an **irregular singular point** of the equation.

---

The second sentence in Definition 6.2.1 indicates that if one or both of the functions $p(x) = (x - x_0) P(x)$ and $q(x) = (x - x_0)^2 Q(x)$ fail to be analytic at $x_0$, then $x_0$ is an irregular singular point.

**POLYNOMIAL COEFFICIENTS** As in Section 6.1, we are mainly interested in linear equations (1) where the coefficients $a_2(x)$, $a_1(x)$, and $a_0(x)$ are polynomials with no common factors. We have already seen that if $a_2(x_0) = 0$, then $x = x_0$ is a singular point of (1), since at least one of the rational functions $P(x) = a_1(x)/a_2(x)$ and $Q(x) = a_0(x)/a_2(x)$ in the standard form (2) fails to be analytic at that point. But since $a_2(x)$ is a polynomial and $x_0$ is one of its zeros, it follows from the Factor Theorem of algebra that $x - x_0$ is a factor of $a_2(x)$. This means that after $a_1(x)/a_2(x)$ and $a_0(x)/a_2(x)$ are reduced to lowest terms, the factor $x - x_0$ must remain, to some positive integer power, in one or both denominators. Now suppose that $x = x_0$ is a singular point of (1) but both the functions defined by the products $p(x) = (x - x_0)P(x)$ and $q(x) = (x - x_0)^2 Q(x)$ are analytic at $x_0$. We are led to the conclusion that multiplying $P(x)$ by $x - x_0$ and $Q(x)$ by $(x - x_0)^2$ has the effect (through cancellation) that $x - x_0$ no longer appears in either denominator. We can now determine whether $x_0$ is regular by a quick visual check of denominators:

> If $x - x_0$ appears *at most* to the first power in the denominator of $P(x)$ and *at most* to the second power in the denominator of $Q(x)$, then $x = x_0$ is a regular singular point.

Moreover, observe that if $x = x_0$ is a regular singular point and we multiply (2) by $(x - x_0)^2$, then the original DE can be put into the form

$$(x - x_0)^2 y'' + (x - x_0)p(x)y' + q(x)y = 0, \qquad (3)$$

where $p$ and $q$ are analytic at $x = x_0$.

---

### EXAMPLE 1 Classification of Singular Points

It should be clear that $x = 2$ and $x = -2$ are singular points of

$$(x^2 - 4)^2 y'' + 3(x - 2)y' + 5y = 0.$$

After dividing the equation by $(x^2 - 4)^2 = (x - 2)^2(x + 2)^2$ and reducing the coefficients to lowest terms, we find that

$$P(x) = \frac{3}{(x - 2)(x + 2)^2} \quad \text{and} \quad Q(x) = \frac{5}{(x - 2)^2(x + 2)^2}.$$

We now test $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ at each singular point.

For $x = 2$ to be a regular singular point, the factor $x - 2$ can appear at most to the first power in the denominator of $P(x)$ and at most to the second power in the denominator of $Q(x)$. A check of the denominators of $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$ shows that both these conditions are satisfied, so $x = 2$ is a regular singular point. Alternatively, we are led to the same conclusion by noting that both rational functions

$$p(x) = (x - 2)P(x) = \frac{3}{(x + 2)^2} \quad \text{and} \quad q(x) = (x - 2)^2 Q(x) = \frac{5}{(x + 2)^2}$$

are analytic at $x = 2$.

Now since the factor $x - (-2) = x + 2$ appears to the second power in the denominator of $P(x)$, we can conclude immediately that $x = -2$ is an irregular singular point of the equation. This also follows from the fact that

$$p(x) = (x + 2)P(x) = \frac{3}{(x - 2)(x + 2)}$$

is not analytic at $x = -2$. ∎

In Example 1, notice that since $x = 2$ is a regular singular point, the original equation can be written as

$$
\underset{\downarrow \text{at } x=2}{\overset{p(x) \text{ analytic}}{}} \quad \underset{\downarrow \text{at } x=2}{\overset{q(x) \text{ analytic}}{}}
$$

$$
(x - 2)^2 y'' + (x - 2)\,\frac{3}{(x + 2)^2} y' + \frac{5}{(x + 2)^2} y = 0.
$$

As another example, we can see that $x = 0$ is an irregular singular point of $x^3 y'' - 2xy' + 8y = 0$ by inspection of the denominators of $P(x) = -2/x^2$ and $Q(x) = 8/x^3$. On the other hand, $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of $xy'' - 2xy' + 8y = 0$, since $x - 0$ and $(x - 0)^2$ do not even appear in the respective denominators of $P(x) = -2$ and $Q(x) = 8/x$. For a singular point $x = x_0$ any nonnegative power of $x - x_0$ less than one (namely, zero) and any nonnegative power less than two (namely, zero and one) in the denominators of $P(x)$ and $Q(x)$, respectively, imply that $x_0$ is a regular singular point. A singular point can be a complex number. You should verify that $x = 3i$ and $x = -3i$ are two regular singular points of $(x^2 + 9)y'' - 3xy' + (1 - x)y = 0$.

Any second-order Cauchy-Euler equation $ax^2 y'' + bxy' + cy = 0$, where $a$, $b$, and $c$ are real constants, has a regular singular point at $x = 0$. You should verify that two solutions of the Cauchy-Euler equation $x^2 y'' - 3xy' + 4y = 0$ on the interval $(0, \infty)$ are $y_1 = x^2$ and $y_2 = x^2 \ln x$. If we attempted to find a power series solution about the regular singular point $x = 0$ (namely, $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$), we would succeed in obtaining only the polynomial solution $y_1 = x^2$. The fact that we would not obtain the second solution is not surprising because $\ln x$ (and consequently $y_2 = x^2 \ln x$) is not analytic at $x = 0$—that is, $y_2$ does not possess a Taylor series expansion centered at $x = 0$.

**METHOD OF FROBENIUS**    To solve a differential equation (1) about a regular singular point, we employ the following theorem due to Frobenius.

---

**THEOREM 6.2.1**    **Frobenius' Theorem**

If $x = x_0$ is a regular singular point of the differential equation (1), then there exists at least one solution of the form

$$
y = (x - x_0)^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x - x_0)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x - x_0)^{n+r}, \tag{4}
$$

where the number $r$ is a constant to be determined. The series will converge at least on some interval $0 < x - x_0 < R$.

---

Notice the words *at least* in the first sentence of Theorem 6.2.1. This means that in contrast to Theorem 6.1.1, Theorem 6.2.1 gives us no assurance that *two* series solutions of the type indicated in (4) can be found. The **method of Frobenius,** finding series solutions about a regular singular point $x_0$, is similar to the method of undetermined series coefficients of the preceding section in that we substitute $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x - x_0)^{n+r}$ into the given differential equation and determine the unknown coefficients $c_n$ by a recurrence relation. However, we have an additional task in this procedure: Before determining the coefficients, we must find the unknown exponent $r$. If $r$ is found to be a number that is not a nonnegative integer, then the corresponding solution $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x - x_0)^{n+r}$ is not a power series.

As we did in the discussion of solutions about ordinary points, we shall always assume, for the sake of simplicity in solving differential equations, that the regular singular point is $x = 0$.

## EXAMPLE 2 Two Series Solutions

Because $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of the differential equation

$$3xy'' + y' - y = 0, \tag{5}$$

we try to find a solution of the form $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$. Now

$$y' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r)c_n x^{n+r-1} \qquad \text{and} \qquad y'' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r)(n + r - 1)c_n x^{n+r-2},$$

so

$$3xy'' + y' - y = 3\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r)(n + r - 1)c_n x^{n+r-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r)c_n x^{n+r-1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r)(3n + 3r - 2)c_n x^{n+r-1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$$

$$= x^r \left[ r(3r - 2)c_0 x^{-1} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n + r)(3n + 3r - 2)c_n x^{n-1}}_{k = n-1} - \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n}_{k = n} \right]$$

$$= x^r \left[ r(3r - 2)c_0 x^{-1} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [(k + r + 1)(3k + 3r + 1)c_{k+1} - c_k]x^k \right] = 0,$$

which implies that $\qquad\qquad r(3r - 2)c_0 = 0$

and $\qquad (k + r + 1)(3k + 3r + 1)c_{k+1} - c_k = 0, \qquad k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$.

Because nothing is gained by taking $c_0 = 0$, we must then have

$$r(3r - 2) = 0 \tag{6}$$

and $\qquad c_{k+1} = \dfrac{c_k}{(k + r + 1)(3k + 3r + 1)}, \qquad k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots \tag{7}$

When substituted in (7), the two values of $r$ that satisfy the quadratic equation (6), $r_1 = \frac{2}{3}$ and $r_2 = 0$, give two different recurrence relations:

$$r_1 = \tfrac{2}{3}, \qquad c_{k+1} = \frac{c_k}{(3k + 5)(k + 1)}, \qquad k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots \tag{8}$$

$$r_2 = 0, \qquad c_{k+1} = \frac{c_k}{(k + 1)(3k + 1)}, \qquad k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots \tag{9}$$

From (8) we find

$$c_1 = \frac{c_0}{5 \cdot 1}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{c_1}{8 \cdot 2} = \frac{c_0}{2!5 \cdot 8}$$

$$c_3 = \frac{c_2}{11 \cdot 3} = \frac{c_0}{3!5 \cdot 8 \cdot 11}$$

$$c_4 = \frac{c_3}{14 \cdot 4} = \frac{c_0}{4!5 \cdot 8 \cdot 11 \cdot 14}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$c_n = \frac{c_0}{n!5 \cdot 8 \cdot 11 \cdots (3n + 2)}.$$

From (9) we find

$$c_1 = \frac{c_0}{1 \cdot 1}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{c_1}{2 \cdot 4} = \frac{c_0}{2!1 \cdot 4}$$

$$c_3 = \frac{c_2}{3 \cdot 7} = \frac{c_0}{3!1 \cdot 4 \cdot 7}$$

$$c_4 = \frac{c_3}{4 \cdot 10} = \frac{c_0}{4!1 \cdot 4 \cdot 7 \cdot 10}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$c_n = \frac{c_0}{n!1 \cdot 4 \cdot 7 \cdots (3n - 2)}.$$

Here we encounter something that did not happen when we obtained solutions about an ordinary point; we have what looks to be two different sets of coefficients, but each set contains the *same* multiple $c_0$. If we omit this term, the series solutions are

$$y_1(x) = x^{2/3}\left[1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!5 \cdot 8 \cdot 11 \cdots (3n + 2)} x^n\right] \qquad (10)$$

$$y_2(x) = x^0\left[1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!1 \cdot 4 \cdot 7 \cdots (3n - 2)} x^n\right]. \qquad (11)$$

By the ratio test it can be demonstrated that both (10) and (11) converge for all values of $x$—that is, $|x| < \infty$. Also, it should be apparent from the form of these solutions that neither series is a constant multiple of the other, and therefore $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ are linearly independent on the entire $x$-axis. Hence by the superposition principle, $y = C_1y_1(x) + C_2y_2(x)$ is another solution of (5). On any interval that does not contain the origin, such as $(0, \infty)$, this linear combination represents the general solution of the differential equation. ■

**INDICIAL EQUATION** Equation (6) is called the **indicial equation** of the problem, and the values $r_1 = \frac{2}{3}$ and $r_2 = 0$ are called the **indicial roots,** or **exponents,** of the singularity $x = 0$. In general, after substituting $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$ into the given differential equation and simplifying, the indicial equation is a quadratic equation in $r$ that results from equating the *total coefficient of the lowest power of x to zero.* We solve for the two values of $r$ and substitute these values into a recurrence relation such as (7). Theorem 6.2.1 guarantees that at least one solution of the assumed series form can be found.

It is possible to obtain the indicial equation in advance of substituting $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$ into the differential equation. If $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of (1), then by Definition 6.2.1 both functions $p(x) = xP(x)$ and $q(x) = x^2Q(x)$, where $P$ and $Q$ are defined by the standard form (2), are analytic at $x = 0$; that is, the power series expansions

$$p(x) = xP(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots \qquad \text{and} \qquad q(x) = x^2Q(x) = b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2 + \cdots \qquad (12)$$

are valid on intervals that have a positive radius of convergence. By multiplying (2) by $x^2$, we get the form given in (3):

$$x^2y'' + x[xP(x)]y' + [x^2Q(x)]y = 0. \qquad (13)$$

After substituting $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$ and the two series in (12) into (13) and carrying out the multiplication of series, we find the general indicial equation to be

$$r(r - 1) + a_0r + b_0 = 0, \qquad (14)$$

where $a_0$ and $b_0$ are as defined in (12). See Problems 13 and 14 in Exercises 6.2.

---

### EXAMPLE 3 Two Series Solutions

Solve $2xy'' + (1 + x)y' + y = 0$.

**SOLUTION** Substituting $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$ gives

$$2xy'' + (1 + x)y' + y = 2\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r)(n + r - 1)c_n x^{n+r-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r)c_n x^{n+r-1}$$

$$+ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r)c_n x^{n+r} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r)(2n + 2r - 1)c_n x^{n+r-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r + 1)c_n x^{n+r}$$

$$= x^r \left[ r(2r - 1)c_0 x^{-1} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n + r)(2n + 2r - 1)c_n x^{n-1}}_{k=n-1} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n + r + 1)c_n x^{n}}_{k=n} \right]$$

$$= x^r \left[ r(2r - 1)c_0 x^{-1} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [(k + r + 1)(2k + 2r + 1)c_{k+1} + (k + r + 1)c_k]x^k \right],$$

which implies that $\qquad\qquad\qquad r(2r - 1) = 0 \qquad\qquad\qquad$ (15)

and $\qquad\qquad (k + r + 1)(2k + 2r + 1)c_{k+1} + (k + r + 1)c_k = 0,$ (16)

$k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ . From (15) we see that the indicial roots are $r_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ and $r_2 = 0$.
For $r_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ we can divide by $k + \frac{3}{2}$ in (16) to obtain

$$c_{k+1} = \frac{-c_k}{2(k + 1)}, \qquad k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, \tag{17}$$

whereas for $r_2 = 0$, (16) becomes

$$c_{k+1} = \frac{-c_k}{2k + 1}, \qquad k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots. \tag{18}$$

From (17) we find

$$c_1 = \frac{-c_0}{2 \cdot 1}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{-c_1}{2 \cdot 2} = \frac{c_0}{2^2 \cdot 2!}$$

$$c_3 = \frac{-c_2}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{-c_0}{2^3 \cdot 3!}$$

$$c_4 = \frac{-c_3}{2 \cdot 4} = \frac{c_0}{2^4 \cdot 4!}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$c_n = \frac{(-1)^n c_0}{2^n n!}.$$

From (18) we find

$$c_1 = \frac{-c_0}{1}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{-c_1}{3} = \frac{c_0}{1 \cdot 3}$$

$$c_3 = \frac{-c_2}{5} = \frac{-c_0}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}$$

$$c_4 = \frac{-c_3}{7} = \frac{c_0}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$c_n = \frac{(-1)^n c_0}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdots (2n - 1)}.$$

Thus for the indicial root $r_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ we obtain the solution

$$y_1(x) = x^{1/2}\left[1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n n!}x^n\right] = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n n!}x^{n+1/2},$$

where we have again omitted $c_0$. The series converges for $x \geq 0$; as given, the series is not defined for negative values of $x$ because of the presence of $x^{1/2}$. For $r_2 = 0$ a second solution is

$$y_2(x) = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdots (2n - 1)}x^n, \qquad |x| < \infty.$$

On the interval $(0, \infty)$ the general solution is $y = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x)$. ∎

> **EXAMPLE 4** **Only One Series Solution**

Solve $xy'' + y = 0$.

**SOLUTION** From $xP(x) = 0$, $x^2Q(x) = x$ and the fact that 0 and $x$ are their own power series centered at 0 we conclude that $a_0 = 0$ and $b_0 = 0$, so from (14) the indicial equation is $r(r - 1) = 0$. You should verify that the two recurrence relations corresponding to the indicial roots $r_1 = 1$ and $r_2 = 0$ yield exactly the same set of coefficients. In other words, in this case the method of Frobenius produces only a single series solution

$$y_1(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!(n+1)!} x^{n+1} = x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{12}x^3 - \frac{1}{144}x^4 + \cdots.$$ ∎

**THREE CASES** For the sake of discussion let us again suppose that $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of equation (1) and that the indicial roots $r_1$ and $r_2$ of the singularity are real. When using the method of Frobenius, we distinguish three cases corresponding to the nature of the indicial roots $r_1$ and $r_2$. In the first two cases the symbol $r_1$ denotes the largest of two distinct roots, that is, $r_1 > r_2$. In the last case $r_1 = r_2$.

**CASE I:** If $r_1$ and $r_2$ are distinct and the difference $r_1 - r_2$ is not a positive integer, then there exist two linearly independent solutions of equation (1) of the form

$$y_1(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r_1}, \quad c_0 \neq 0, \qquad y_2(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^{n+r_2}, \quad b_0 \neq 0.$$

This is the case illustrated in Examples 2 and 3.

Next we assume that the difference of the roots is $N$, where $N$ is a positive integer. In this case the second solution *may* contain a logarithm.

**CASE II:** If $r_1$ and $r_2$ are distinct and the difference $r_1 - r_2$ is a positive integer, then there exist two linearly independent solutions of equation (1) of the form

$$y_1(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r_1}, \qquad c_0 \neq 0, \tag{19}$$

$$y_2(x) = Cy_1(x) \ln x + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^{n+r_2}, \qquad b_0 \neq 0, \tag{20}$$

where $C$ is a constant that could be zero.

Finally, in the last case, the case when $r_1 = r_2$, a second solution will *always* contain a logarithm. The situation is analogous to the solution of a Cauchy-Euler equation when the roots of the auxiliary equation are equal.

**CASE III:** If $r_1$ and $r_2$ are equal, then there always exist two linearly independent solutions of equation (1) of the form

$$y_1(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r_1}, \qquad c_0 \neq 0, \tag{21}$$

$$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \ln x + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n x^{n+r_1}. \tag{22}$$

**FINDING A SECOND SOLUTION** When the difference $r_1 - r_2$ is a positive integer (Case II), we *may* or *may not* be able to find two solutions having the form $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$. This is something that we do not know in advance but is

determined after we have found the indicial roots and have carefully examined the recurrence relation that defines the coefficients $c_n$. We just may be lucky enough to find two solutions that involve only powers of $x$, that is, $y_1(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r_1}$ (equation (19)) and $y_2(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^{n+r_2}$ (equation (20) with $C = 0$). See Problem 31 in Exercises 6.2. On the other hand, in Example 4 we see that the difference of the indicial roots is a positive integer ($r_1 - r_2 = 1$) and the method of Frobenius failed to give a second series solution. In this situation equation (20), with $C \neq 0$, indicates what the second solution looks like. Finally, when the difference $r_1 - r_2$ is a zero (Case III), the method of Frobenius fails to give a second series solution; the second solution (22) always contains a logarithm and can be shown to be equivalent to (20) with $C = 1$. One way to obtain the second solution with the logarithmic term is to use the fact that

$$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \int \frac{e^{-\int P(x)dx}}{y_1^2(x)}\, dx \qquad (23)$$

is also a solution of $y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0$ whenever $y_1(x)$ is a known solution. We illustrate how to use (23) in the next example.

---

### EXAMPLE 5    Example 4 Revisited Using a CAS

Find the general solution of $xy'' + y = 0$.

**SOLUTION**    From the known solution given in Example 4,

$$y_1(x) = x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{12}x^3 - \frac{1}{144}x^4 + \cdots,$$

we can construct a second solution $y_2(x)$ using formula (23). Those with the time, energy, and patience can carry out the drudgery of squaring a series, long division, and integration of the quotient by hand. But all these operations can be done with relative ease with the help of a CAS. We give the results:

$$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \int \frac{e^{-\int 0 dx}}{[y_1(x)]^2}\, dx = y_1(x) \int \frac{dx}{\left[x - \dfrac{1}{2}x^2 + \dfrac{1}{12}x^3 - \dfrac{1}{144}x^4 + \cdots\right]^2}$$

$$= y_1(x) \int \frac{dx}{\left[x^2 - x^3 + \dfrac{5}{12}x^4 - \dfrac{7}{72}x^5 + \cdots\right]} \qquad \leftarrow \text{after squaring}$$

$$= y_1(x) \int \left[\frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x} + \frac{7}{12} + \frac{19}{72}x + \cdots\right] dx \qquad \leftarrow \text{after long division}$$

$$= y_1(x) \left[-\frac{1}{x} + \ln x + \frac{7}{12}x + \frac{19}{144}x^2 + \cdots\right] \qquad \leftarrow \text{after integrating}$$

$$= y_1(x) \ln x + y_1(x) \left[-\frac{1}{x} + \frac{7}{12}x + \frac{19}{144}x^2 + \cdots\right],$$

or    $$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \ln x + \left[-1 - \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \cdots\right]. \qquad \leftarrow \text{after multiplying out}$$

On the interval $(0, \infty)$ the general solution is $y = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x)$. ∎

Note that the final form of $y_2$ in Example 5 matches (20) with $C = 1$; the series in the brackets corresponds to the summation in (20) with $r_2 = 0$.

## REMARKS

(*i*) The three different forms of a linear second-order differential equation in (1), (2), and (3) were used to discuss various theoretical concepts. But on a practical level, when it comes to actually solving a differential equation using the method of Frobenius, it is advisable to work with the form of the DE given in (1).

(*ii*) When the difference of indicial roots $r_1 - r_2$ is a positive integer $(r_1 > r_2)$, it sometimes pays to iterate the recurrence relation using the smaller root $r_2$ first. See Problems 31 and 32 in Exercises 6.2.

(*iii*) Because an indicial root $r$ is a solution of a quadratic equation, it could be complex. We shall not, however, investigate this case.

(*iv*) If $x = 0$ is an irregular singular point, then we might not be able to find *any* solution of the DE of form $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$.

---

## EXERCISES 6.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-9.*

In Problems 1–10 determine the singular points of the given differential equation. Classify each singular point as regular or irregular.

**1.** $x^3 y'' + 4x^2 y' + 3y = 0$

**2.** $x(x + 3)^2 y'' - y = 0$

**3.** $(x^2 - 9)^2 y'' + (x + 3)y' + 2y = 0$

**4.** $y'' - \dfrac{1}{x} y' + \dfrac{1}{(x - 1)^3} y = 0$

**5.** $(x^3 + 4x)y'' - 2xy' + 6y = 0$

**6.** $x^2(x - 5)^2 y'' + 4xy' + (x^2 - 25)y = 0$

**7.** $(x^2 + x - 6)y'' + (x + 3)y' + (x - 2)y = 0$

**8.** $x(x^2 + 1)^2 y'' + y = 0$

**9.** $x^3(x^2 - 25)(x - 2)^2 y'' + 3x(x - 2)y' + 7(x + 5)y = 0$

**10.** $(x^3 - 2x^2 + 3x)^2 y'' + x(x - 3)^2 y' - (x + 1)y = 0$

In Problems 11 and 12 put the given differential equation into form (3) for each regular singular point of the equation. Identify the functions $p(x)$ and $q(x)$.

**11.** $(x^2 - 1)y'' + 5(x + 1)y' + (x^2 - x)y = 0$

**12.** $xy'' + (x + 3)y' + 7x^2 y = 0$

In Problems 13 and 14, $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of the given differential equation. Use the general form of the indicial equation in (14) to find the indicial roots of the singularity. Without solving, discuss the number of series solutions you would expect to find using the method of Frobenius.

**13.** $x^2 y'' + \left(\frac{5}{3} x + x^2\right) y' - \frac{1}{3} y = 0$

**14.** $xy'' + y' + 10y = 0$

In Problems 15–24, $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of the given differential equation. Show that the indicial roots of the singularity do not differ by an integer. Use the method of Frobenius to obtain two linearly independent series solutions about $x = 0$. Form the general solution on $(0, \infty)$.

**15.** $2xy'' - y' + 2y = 0$

**16.** $2xy'' + 5y' + xy = 0$

**17.** $4xy'' + \frac{1}{2} y' + y = 0$

**18.** $2x^2 y'' - xy' + (x^2 + 1)y = 0$

**19.** $3xy'' + (2 - x)y' - y = 0$

**20.** $x^2 y'' - \left(x - \frac{2}{9}\right)y = 0$

**21.** $2xy'' - (3 + 2x)y' + y = 0$

**22.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + \left(x^2 - \frac{4}{9}\right)y = 0$

**23.** $9x^2 y'' + 9x^2 y' + 2y = 0$

**24.** $2x^2 y'' + 3xy' + (2x - 1)y = 0$

In Problems 25–30, $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of the given differential equation. Show that the indicial roots of the singularity differ by an integer. Use the method

of Frobenius to obtain at least one series solution about $x = 0$. Use (23) where necessary and a CAS, if instructed, to find a second solution. Form the general solution on $(0, \infty)$.

**25.** $xy'' + 2y' - xy = 0$

**26.** $x^2y'' + xy' + \left(x^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right)y = 0$

**27.** $xy'' - xy' + y = 0$      **28.** $y'' + \frac{3}{x}y' - 2y = 0$

**29.** $xy'' + (1 - x)y' - y = 0$    **30.** $xy'' + y' + y = 0$

In Problems 31 and 32, $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of the given differential equation. Show that the indicial roots of the singularity differ by an integer. Use the recurrence relation found by the method of Frobenius first with the larger root $r_1$. How many solutions did you find? Next use the recurrence relation with the smaller root $r_2$. How many solutions did you find?

**31.** $xy'' + (x - 6)y' - 3y = 0$

**32.** $x(x - 1)y'' + 3y' - 2y = 0$

**33. (a)** The differential equation $x^4y'' + \lambda y = 0$ has an irregular singular point at $x = 0$. Show that the substitution $t = 1/x$ yields the DE

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + \frac{2}{t}\frac{dy}{dt} + \lambda y = 0,$$

which now has a regular singular point at $t = 0$.

**(b)** Use the method of this section to find two series solutions of the second equation in part (a) about the regular singular point $t = 0$.

**(c)** Express each series solution of the original equation in terms of elementary functions.

## Mathematical Model

**34. Buckling of a Tapered Column** In Example 3 of Section 5.2 we saw that when a constant vertical compressive force or load $P$ was applied to a thin column of uniform cross section, the deflection $y(x)$ was a solution of the boundary-value problem

$$EI\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + Py = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0. \quad (24)$$

The assumption here is that the column is hinged at both ends. The column will buckle or deflect only when the compressive force is a critical load $P_n$.

**(a)** In this problem let us assume that the column is of length $L$, is hinged at both ends, has circular cross sections, and is tapered as shown in Figure 6.2.1(a). If the column, a truncated cone, has a linear taper

$y = cx$ as shown in cross section in Figure 6.2.1(b), the moment of inertia of a cross section with respect to an axis perpendicular to the $xy$-plane is $I = \frac{1}{4}\pi r^4$, where $r = y$ and $y = cx$. Hence we can write $I(x) = I_0(x/b)^4$, where $I_0 = I(b) = \frac{1}{4}\pi(cb)^4$. Substituting $I(x)$ into the differential equation in (24), we see that the deflection in this case is determined from the BVP

$$x^4\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(a) = 0, \quad y(b) = 0,$$

where $\lambda = Pb^4/EI_0$. Use the results of Problem 33 to find the critical loads $P_n$ for the tapered column. Use an appropriate identity to express the buckling modes $y_n(x)$ as a single function.

**(b)** Use a CAS to plot the graph of the first buckling mode $y_1(x)$ corresponding to the Euler load $P_1$ when $b = 11$ and $a = 1$.
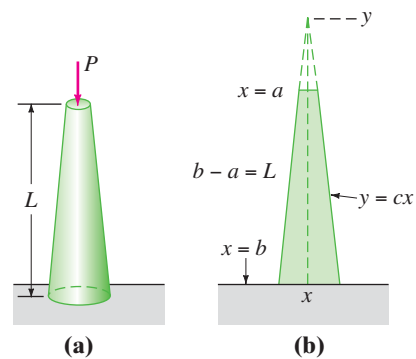


**FIGURE 6.2.1** Tapered column in Problem 34

## Discussion Problems

**35.** Discuss how you would define a regular singular point for the linear third-order differential equation

$$a_3(x)y''' + a_2(x)y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = 0.$$

**36.** Each of the differential equations

$$x^3y'' + y = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad x^2y'' + (3x - 1)y' + y = 0$$

has an irregular singular point at $x = 0$. Determine whether the method of Frobenius yields a series solution of each differential equation about $x = 0$. Discuss and explain your findings.

**37.** We have seen that $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of any Cauchy-Euler equation $ax^2y'' + bxy' + cy = 0$. Are the indicial equation (14) for a Cauchy-Euler equation and its auxiliary equation related? Discuss.

## 6.3 SPECIAL FUNCTIONS

**REVIEW MATERIAL**

• Sections 6.1 and 6.2

**INTRODUCTION** The two differential equations

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - \nu^2)y = 0 \tag{1}$$

$$(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + n(n + 1)y = 0 \tag{2}$$

occur in advanced studies in applied mathematics, physics, and engineering. They are called **Bessel's equation of order** $\nu$ and **Legendre's equation of order** $n$, respectively. When we solve (1) we shall assume that $\nu \geq 0$, whereas in (2) we shall consider only the case when $n$ is a nonnegative integer.

### 6.3.1 BESSEL'S EQUATION

**THE SOLUTION** Because $x = 0$ is a regular singular point of Bessel's equation, we know that there exists at least one solution of the form $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$. Substituting the last expression into (1) gives

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - \nu^2)y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (n + r)(n + r - 1)x^{n+r} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (n + r)x^{n+r} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r+2} - \nu^2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$$

$$= c_0 (r^2 - r + r - \nu^2)x^r + x^r \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n [(n + r)(n + r - 1) + (n + r) - \nu^2]x^n + x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+2}$$

$$= c_0 (r^2 - \nu^2)x^r + x^r \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n [(n + r)^2 - \nu^2]x^n + x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+2}. \tag{3}$$

From (3) we see that the indicial equation is $r^2 - \nu^2 = 0$, so the indicial roots are $r_1 = \nu$ and $r_2 = -\nu$. When $r_1 = \nu$, (3) becomes

$$x^\nu \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n n(n + 2\nu)x^n + x^\nu \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+2}$$

$$= x^\nu \left[ (1 + 2\nu)c_1 x + \underbrace{\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} c_n n(n + 2\nu)x^n}_{k = n - 2} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+2}}_{k = n} \right]$$

$$= x^\nu \left[ (1 + 2\nu)c_1 x + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [(k + 2)(k + 2 + 2\nu)c_{k+2} + c_k]x^{k+2} \right] = 0.$$

Therefore by the usual argument we can write $(1 + 2\nu)c_1 = 0$ and

$$(k + 2)(k + 2 + 2\nu)c_{k+2} + c_k = 0$$

or

$$c_{k+2} = \frac{-c_k}{(k + 2)(k + 2 + 2\nu)}, \qquad k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots. \tag{4}$$

The choice $c_1 = 0$ in (4) implies that $c_3 = c_5 = c_7 = \cdots = 0$, so for $k = 0, 2, 4, \ldots$ we find, after letting $k + 2 = 2n$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, that

$$c_{2n} = -\frac{c_{2n-2}}{2^2 n(n + \nu)}. \tag{5}$$

Thus $\quad c_2 = -\dfrac{c_0}{2^2 \cdot 1 \cdot (1 + \nu)}$

$$c_4 = -\frac{c_2}{2^2 \cdot 2(2 + \nu)} = \frac{c_0}{2^4 \cdot 1 \cdot 2(1 + \nu)(2 + \nu)}$$

$$c_6 = -\frac{c_4}{2^2 \cdot 3(3 + \nu)} = -\frac{c_0}{2^6 \cdot 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3(1 + \nu)(2 + \nu)(3 + \nu)}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$c_{2n} = \frac{(-1)^n c_0}{2^{2n} n!(1 + \nu)(2 + \nu) \cdots (n + \nu)}, \qquad n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots. \tag{6}$$

It is standard practice to choose $c_0$ to be a specific value, namely,

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{2^\nu \Gamma(1 + \nu)},$$

where $\Gamma(1 + \nu)$ is the gamma function. See Appendix I. Since this latter function possesses the convenient property $\Gamma(1 + \alpha) = \alpha \Gamma(\alpha)$, we can reduce the indicated product in the denominator of (6) to one term. For example,

$$\Gamma(1 + \nu + 1) = (1 + \nu)\Gamma(1 + \nu)$$

$$\Gamma(1 + \nu + 2) = (2 + \nu)\Gamma(2 + \nu) = (2 + \nu)(1 + \nu)\Gamma(1 + \nu).$$

Hence we can write (6) as

$$c_{2n} = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n+\nu} n!(1 + \nu)(2 + \nu) \cdots (n + \nu)\Gamma(1 + \nu)} = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n+\nu} n!\Gamma(1 + \nu + n)}$$

for $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots.$

**BESSEL FUNCTIONS OF THE FIRST KIND** Using the coefficients $c_{2n}$ just obtained and $r = \nu$, a series solution of (1) is $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_{2n} x^{2n+\nu}$. This solution is usually denoted by $J_\nu(x)$:

$$J_\nu(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!\Gamma(1 + \nu + n)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+\nu}. \tag{7}$$

If $\nu \geq 0$, the series converges at least on the interval $[0, \infty)$. Also, for the second exponent $r_2 = -\nu$ we obtain, in exactly the same manner,

$$J_{-\nu}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!\Gamma(1 - \nu + n)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n-\nu}. \tag{8}$$

The functions $J_\nu(x)$ and $J_{-\nu}(x)$ are called **Bessel functions of the first kind** of order $\nu$ and $-\nu$, respectively. Depending on the value of $\nu$, (8) may contain negative powers of $x$ and hence converges on $(0, \infty)$.[*]

Now some care must be taken in writing the general solution of (1). When $\nu = 0$, it is apparent that (7) and (8) are the same. If $\nu > 0$ and $r_1 - r_2 = \nu - (-\nu) = 2\nu$ is not a positive integer, it follows from Case I of Section 6.2 that $J_\nu(x)$ and $J_{-\nu}(x)$ are linearly independent solutions of (1) on $(0, \infty)$, and so the general solution on the interval is $y = c_1 J_\nu(x) + c_2 J_{-\nu}(x)$. But we also know from Case II of Section 6.2 that when $r_1 - r_2 = 2\nu$ is a positive integer, a second series solution of (1) *may* exist. In this second case we distinguish two possibilities. When $\nu = m =$ positive integer, $J_{-m}(x)$ defined by (8) and $J_m(x)$ are not linearly independent solutions. It can be shown that $J_{-m}$ is a constant multiple of $J_m$ (see Property (*i*) on page 245). In addition, $r_1 - r_2 = 2\nu$ can be a positive integer when $\nu$ is half an odd positive integer. It can be shown in this

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[*]When we replace $x$ by $|x|$, the series given in (7) and (8) converge for $0 < |x| < \infty$.
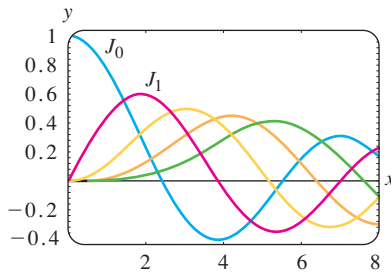
FIGURE 6.3.1 Bessel functions of the first kind for $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$

latter event that $J_\nu(x)$ and $J_{-\nu}(x)$ are linearly independent. In other words, the general solution of (1) on $(0, \infty)$ is

$$y = c_1 J_\nu(x) + c_2 J_{-\nu}(x), \qquad \nu \neq \text{integer}. \tag{9}$$

The graphs of $y = J_0(x)$ and $y = J_1(x)$ are given in Figure 6.3.1.

## EXAMPLE 1 Bessel's Equation of Order $\frac{1}{2}$

By identifying $\nu^2 = \frac{1}{4}$ and $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$, we can see from (9) that the general solution of the equation $x^2 y'' + xy' + \left(x^2 - \frac{1}{4}\right)y = 0$ on $(0, \infty)$ is $y = c_1 J_{1/2}(x) + c_2 J_{-1/2}(x)$. ∎

**BESSEL FUNCTIONS OF THE SECOND KIND** If $\nu \neq$ integer, the function defined by the linear combination

$$Y_\nu(x) = \frac{\cos \nu\pi J_\nu(x) - J_{-\nu}(x)}{\sin \nu\pi} \tag{10}$$



FIGURE 6.3.2 Bessel functions of the second kind for $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$

and the function $J_\nu(x)$ are linearly independent solutions of (1). Thus another form of the general solution of (1) is $y = c_1 J_\nu(x) + c_2 Y_\nu(x)$, provided that $\nu \neq$ integer. As $\nu \to m$, $m$ an integer, (10) has the indeterminate form $0/0$. However, it can be shown by L'Hôpital's Rule that $\lim_{\nu \to m} Y_\nu(x)$ exists. Moreover, the function

$$Y_m(x) = \lim_{\nu \to m} Y_\nu(x)$$

and $J_m(x)$ are linearly independent solutions of $x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - m^2)y = 0$. Hence for *any* value of $\nu$ the general solution of (1) on $(0, \infty)$ can be written as

$$y = c_1 J_\nu(x) + c_2 Y_\nu(x). \tag{11}$$

$Y_\nu(x)$ is called the **Bessel function of the second kind** of order $\nu$. Figure 6.3.2 shows the graphs of $Y_0(x)$ and $Y_1(x)$.

## EXAMPLE 2 Bessel's Equation of Order 3

By identifying $\nu^2 = 9$ and $\nu = 3$, we see from (11) that the general solution of the equation $x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - 9)y = 0$ on $(0, \infty)$ is $y = c_1 J_3(x) + c_2 Y_3(x)$. ∎

**DEs SOLVABLE IN TERMS OF BESSEL FUNCTIONS** Sometimes it is possible to transform a differential equation into equation (1) by means of a change of variable. We can then express the solution of the original equation in terms of Bessel functions. For example, if we let $t = \alpha x$, $\alpha > 0$, in

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + (\alpha^2 x^2 - \nu^2)y = 0, \tag{12}$$

then by the Chain Rule,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dt}\frac{dt}{dx} = \alpha\frac{dy}{dt} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dt}\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)\frac{dt}{dx} = \alpha^2\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2}.$$

Accordingly, (12) becomes

$$\left(\frac{t}{\alpha}\right)^2 \alpha^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + \left(\frac{t}{\alpha}\right)\alpha\frac{dy}{dt} + (t^2 - \nu^2)y = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad t^2\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + t\frac{dy}{dt} + (t^2 - \nu^2)y = 0.$$

The last equation is Bessel's equation of order $\nu$ with solution $y = c_1 J_\nu(t) + c_2 Y_\nu(t)$. By resubstituting $t = \alpha x$ in the last expression, we find that the general solution of (12) is

$$y = c_1 J_\nu(\alpha x) + c_2 Y_\nu(\alpha x). \tag{13}$$

Equation (12), called the **parametric Bessel equation of order $\nu$,** and its general solution (13) are very important in the study of certain boundary-value problems involving partial differential equations that are expressed in cylindrical coordinates.

Another equation that bears a resemblance to (1) is the **modified Bessel equation of order $\nu$,**

$$x^2 y'' + xy' - (x^2 + \nu^2)y = 0. \tag{14}$$

This DE can be solved in the manner just illustrated for (12). This time if we let $t = ix$, where $i^2 = -1$, then (14) becomes

$$t^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + t \frac{dy}{dt} + (t^2 - \nu^2)y = 0.$$

Because solutions of the last DE are $J_\nu(t)$ and $Y_\nu(t)$, *complex-valued* solutions of (14) are $J_\nu(ix)$ and $Y_\nu(ix)$. A real-valued solution, called the **modified Bessel function of the first kind** of order $\nu$, is defined in terms of $J_\nu(ix)$:

$$I_\nu(x) = i^{-\nu} J_\nu(ix). \tag{15}$$

See Problem 21 in Exercises 6.3. Analogous to (10), the **modified Bessel function of the second kind** of order $\nu \neq$ integer is defined to be

$$K_\nu(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{I_{-\nu}(x) - I_\nu(x)}{\sin \nu\pi}, \tag{16}$$

and for integer $\nu = n$,

$$K_n(x) = \lim_{\nu \to n} K_\nu(x).$$

Because $I_\nu$ and $K_\nu$ are linearly independent on the interval $(0, \infty)$ for any value of $\nu$, the general solution of (14) is

$$y = c_1 I_\nu(x) + c_2 K_\nu(x). \tag{17}$$

Yet another equation, important because many DEs fit into its form by appropriate choices of the parameters, is

$$y'' + \frac{1 - 2a}{x} y' + \left( b^2 c^2 x^{2c-2} + \frac{a^2 - p^2 c^2}{x^2} \right) y = 0, \qquad p \geq 0. \tag{18}$$

Although we shall not supply the details, the general solution of (18),

$$y = x^a \left[ c_1 J_p(bx^c) + c_2 Y_p(bx^c) \right], \tag{19}$$

can be found by means of a change in both the independent and the dependent variables: $z = bx^c$, $y(x) = \left( \frac{z}{b} \right)^{a/c} w(z)$. If $p$ is not an integer, then $Y_p$ in (19) can be replaced by $J_{-p}$.

---

### EXAMPLE 3  Using (18)

Find the general solution of $xy'' + 3y' + 9y = 0$ on $(0, \infty)$.

**SOLUTION**  By writing the given DE as

$$y'' + \frac{3}{x} y' + \frac{9}{x} y = 0,$$

we can make the following identifications with (18):

$$1 - 2a = 3, \qquad b^2 c^2 = 9, \qquad 2c - 2 = -1, \qquad \text{and} \qquad a^2 - p^2 c^2 = 0.$$

The first and third equations imply that $a = -1$ and $c = \frac{1}{2}$. With these values the second and fourth equations are satisfied by taking $b = 6$ and $p = 2$. From (19)

we find that the general solution of the given DE on the interval $(0, \infty)$ is $y = x^{-1}[c_1J_2(6x^{1/2}) + c_2Y_2(6x^{1/2})]$. ∎

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## EXAMPLE 4  The Aging Spring Revisited

Recall that in Section 5.1 we saw that one mathematical model for the free undamped motion of a mass on an aging spring is given by $mx'' + ke^{-\alpha t}x = 0$, $\alpha > 0$. We are now in a position to find the general solution of the equation. It is left as a problem to show that the change of variables $s = \dfrac{2}{\alpha}\sqrt{\dfrac{k}{m}}\,e^{-\alpha t/2}$ transforms the differential equation of the aging spring into

$$s^2\frac{d^2x}{ds^2} + s\frac{dx}{ds} + s^2x = 0.$$

The last equation is recognized as (1) with $\nu = 0$ and where the symbols $x$ and $s$ play the roles of $y$ and $x$, respectively. The general solution of the new equation is $x = c_1J_0(s) + c_2Y_0(s)$. If we resubstitute $s$, then the general solution of $mx'' + ke^{-\alpha t}x = 0$ is seen to be

$$x(t) = c_1J_0\left(\frac{2}{\alpha}\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}\,e^{-\alpha t/2}\right) + c_2Y_0\left(\frac{2}{\alpha}\sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}\,e^{-\alpha t/2}\right).$$

See Problems 33 and 39 in Exercises 6.3. ∎

The other model that was discussed in Section 5.1 of a spring whose characteristics change with time was $mx'' + ktx = 0$. By dividing through by $m$, we see that the equation $x'' + \dfrac{k}{m}tx = 0$ is Airy's equation $y'' + \alpha^2xy = 0$. See Example 3 in Section 6.1. The general solution of Airy's differential equation can also be written in terms of Bessel functions. See Problems 34, 35, and 40 in Exercises 6.3.

**PROPERTIES**  We list below a few of the more useful properties of Bessel functions of order $m$, $m = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$:

(i) $J_{-m}(x) = (-1)^mJ_m(x),$        (ii) $J_m(-x) = (-1)^mJ_m(x),$

(iii) $J_m(0) = \begin{cases} 0, & m > 0 \\ 1, & m = 0, \end{cases}$        (iv) $\lim_{x \to 0^+} Y_m(x) = -\infty.$

Note that Property (ii) indicates that $J_m(x)$ is an even function if $m$ is an even integer and an odd function if $m$ is an odd integer. The graphs of $Y_0(x)$ and $Y_1(x)$ in Figure 6.3.2 illustrate Property (iv), namely, $Y_m(x)$ is unbounded at the origin. This last fact is not obvious from (10). The solutions of the Bessel equation of order 0 can be obtained by using the solutions $y_1(x)$ in (21) and $y_2(x)$ in (22) of Section 6.2. It can be shown that (21) of Section 6.2 is $y_1(x) = J_0(x)$, whereas (22) of that section is

$$y_2(x) = J_0(x)\ln x - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty}\frac{(-1)^k}{(k!)^2}\left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{k}\right)\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2k}.$$

The Bessel function of the second kind of order 0, $Y_0(x)$, is then defined to be the linear combination $Y_0(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}(\gamma - \ln 2)y_1(x) + \dfrac{2}{\pi}y_2(x)$ for $x > 0$. That is,

$$Y_0(x) = \frac{2}{\pi}J_0(x)\left[\gamma + \ln\frac{x}{2}\right] - \frac{2}{\pi}\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}\frac{(-1)^k}{(k!)^2}\left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{k}\right)\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2k},$$

where $\gamma = 0.57721566\ldots$ is **Euler's constant.** Because of the presence of the logarithmic term, it is apparent that $Y_0(x)$ is discontinuous at $x = 0$.

**TABLE 6.1** Zeros of $J_0$, $J_1$, $Y_0$, and $Y_1$

| $J_0(x)$ | $J_1(x)$ | $Y_0(x)$ | $Y_1(x)$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 2.4048 | 0.0000 | 0.8936 | 2.1971 |
| 5.5201 | 3.8317 | 3.9577 | 5.4297 |
| 8.6537 | 7.0156 | 7.0861 | 8.5960 |
| 11.7915 | 10.1735 | 10.2223 | 11.7492 |
| 14.9309 | 13.3237 | 13.3611 | 14.8974 |

**TABLE 6.2** Numerical Values of $J_0$, $J_1$, $Y_0$, and $Y_1$

| $x$ | $J_0(x)$ | $J_1(x)$ | $Y_0(x)$ | $Y_1(x)$ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | — | — |
| 1 | 0.7652 | 0.4401 | 0.0883 | −0.7812 |
| 2 | 0.2239 | 0.5767 | 0.5104 | −0.1070 |
| 3 | −0.2601 | 0.3391 | 0.3769 | 0.3247 |
| 4 | −0.3971 | −0.0660 | −0.0169 | 0.3979 |
| 5 | −0.1776 | −0.3276 | −0.3085 | 0.1479 |
| 6 | 0.1506 | −0.2767 | −0.2882 | −0.1750 |
| 7 | 0.3001 | −0.0047 | −0.0259 | −0.3027 |
| 8 | 0.1717 | 0.2346 | 0.2235 | −0.1581 |
| 9 | −0.0903 | 0.2453 | 0.2499 | 0.1043 |
| 10 | −0.2459 | 0.0435 | 0.0557 | 0.2490 |
| 11 | −0.1712 | −0.1768 | −0.1688 | 0.1637 |
| 12 | 0.0477 | −0.2234 | −0.2252 | −0.0571 |
| 13 | 0.2069 | −0.0703 | −0.0782 | −0.2101 |
| 14 | 0.1711 | 0.1334 | 0.1272 | −0.1666 |
| 15 | −0.0142 | 0.2051 | 0.2055 | 0.0211 |

**DIFFERENTIAL RECURRENCE RELATION** Recurrence formulas that relate Bessel functions of different orders are important in theory and in applications. In the next example we derive a **differential recurrence relation.**

**EXAMPLE 5** **Derivation Using the Series Definition**

Derive the formula $xJ'_\nu(x) = \nu J_\nu(x) - xJ_{\nu+1}(x)$.

**SOLUTION** It follows from (7) that

$$xJ'_\nu(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n(2n + \nu)}{n!\Gamma(1 + \nu + n)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+\nu}$$

$$= \nu \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!\Gamma(1 + \nu + n)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+\nu} + 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n n}{n!\Gamma(1 + \nu + n)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+\nu}$$

$$= \nu J_\nu(x) + x \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(n - 1)!\,\Gamma(1 + \nu + n)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+\nu-1}}_{k = n - 1}$$

$$= \nu J_\nu(x) - x \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k!\Gamma(2 + \nu + k)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2k+\nu+1} = \nu J_\nu(x) - xJ_{\nu+1}(x).$$

The result in Example 5 can be written in an alternative form. Dividing $xJ'_\nu(x) - \nu J_\nu(x) = -xJ_{\nu+1}(x)$ by $x$ gives

$$J'_\nu(x) - \frac{\nu}{x}J_\nu(x) = -J_{\nu+1}(x).$$

This last expression is recognized as a linear first-order differential equation in $J_\nu(x)$. Multiplying both sides of the equality by the integrating factor $x^{-\nu}$ then yields

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x^{-\nu}J_\nu(x)] = -x^{-\nu}J_{\nu+1}(x). \tag{20}$$

It can be shown in a similar manner that

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x^\nu J_\nu(x)] = x^\nu J_{\nu-1}(x). \tag{21}$$

See Problem 27 in Exercises 6.3. The differential recurrence relations (20) and (21) are also valid for the Bessel function of the second kind $Y_\nu(x)$. Observe that when $\nu = 0$, it follows from (20) that

$$J_0'(x) = -J_1(x) \qquad \text{and} \qquad Y_0'(x) = -Y_1(x). \tag{22}$$

An application of these results is given in Problem 39 of Exercises 6.3.

**SPHERICAL BESSEL FUNCTIONS** When the order $\nu$ is half an odd integer, that is, $\pm\frac{1}{2}, \pm\frac{3}{2}, \pm\frac{5}{2}, \dots$, the Bessel functions of the first kind $J_\nu(x)$ can be expressed in terms of the elementary functions $\sin x$, $\cos x$, and powers of $x$. Such Bessel functions are called **spherical Bessel functions.** Let's consider the case when $\nu = \frac{1}{2}$. From (7),

$$J_{1/2}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + n\right)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+1/2}.$$

In view of the property $\Gamma(1 + \alpha) = \alpha\Gamma(\alpha)$ and the fact that $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$ the values of $\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + n\right)$ for $n = 0, n = 1, n = 2,$ and $n = 3$ are, respectively,

$$\Gamma\left(\tfrac{3}{2}\right) = \Gamma\left(1 + \tfrac{1}{2}\right) = \tfrac{1}{2}\Gamma\left(\tfrac{1}{2}\right) = \tfrac{1}{2}\sqrt{\pi}$$

$$\Gamma\left(\tfrac{5}{2}\right) = \Gamma\left(1 + \tfrac{3}{2}\right) = \tfrac{3}{2}\Gamma\left(\tfrac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{3}{2^2}\sqrt{\pi}$$

$$\Gamma\left(\tfrac{7}{2}\right) = \Gamma\left(1 + \tfrac{5}{2}\right) = \tfrac{5}{2}\Gamma\left(\tfrac{5}{2}\right) = \frac{5 \cdot 3}{2^3}\sqrt{\pi} = \frac{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}{2^3 4 \cdot 2}\sqrt{\pi} = \frac{5!}{2^5 2!}\sqrt{\pi}$$

$$\Gamma\left(\tfrac{9}{2}\right) = \Gamma\left(1 + \tfrac{7}{2}\right) = \tfrac{7}{2}\Gamma\left(\tfrac{7}{2}\right) = \frac{7 \cdot 5}{2^6 \cdot 2!}\sqrt{\pi} = \frac{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5!}{2^6 \cdot 6 \cdot 2!}\sqrt{\pi} = \frac{7!}{2^7 3!}\sqrt{\pi}.$$

In general, 
$$\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{2} + n\right) = \frac{(2n + 1)!}{2^{2n+1}n!}\sqrt{\pi}.$$

Hence 
$$J_{1/2}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!\dfrac{(2n + 1)!}{2^{2n+1}n!}\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+1/2} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n + 1)!}x^{2n+1}.$$

Since the infinite series in the last line is the Maclaurin series for $\sin x$, we have shown that

$$J_{1/2}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}}\sin x. \tag{23}$$

It is left as an exercise to show that

$$J_{-1/2}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}}\cos x. \tag{24}$$

See Problems 31 and 32 in Exercises 6.3.

## 6.3.2 LEGENDRE'S EQUATION

**THE SOLUTION** Since $x = 0$ is an ordinary point of Legendre's equation (2), we substitute the series $y = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k x^k$, shift summation indices, and combine series to get

$$(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + n(n + 1)y = [n(n + 1)c_0 + 2c_2] + [(n - 1)(n + 2)c_1 + 6c_3]x$$

$$+ \sum_{j=2}^{\infty} [(j + 2)(j + 1)c_{j+2} + (n - j)(n + j + 1)c_j]x^j = 0$$

which implies that
$$n(n + 1)c_0 + 2c_2 = 0$$
$$(n - 1)(n + 2)c_1 + 6c_3 = 0$$
$$(j + 2)(j + 1)c_{j+2} + (n - j)(n + j + 1)c_j = 0$$

or
$$c_2 = -\frac{n(n + 1)}{2!}c_0$$

$$c_3 = -\frac{(n - 1)(n + 2)}{3!}c_1$$

$$c_{j+2} = -\frac{(n - j)(n + j + 1)}{(j + 2)(j + 1)}c_j, \qquad j = 2, 3, 4, \ldots. \tag{25}$$

If we let $j$ take on the values $2, 3, 4, \ldots$, the recurrence relation (25) yields

$$c_4 = -\frac{(n - 2)(n + 3)}{4 \cdot 3}c_2 = \frac{(n - 2)n(n + 1)(n + 3)}{4!}c_0$$

$$c_5 = -\frac{(n - 3)(n + 4)}{5 \cdot 4}c_3 = \frac{(n - 3)(n - 1)(n + 2)(n + 4)}{5!}c_1$$

$$c_6 = -\frac{(n - 4)(n + 5)}{6 \cdot 5}c_4 = -\frac{(n - 4)(n - 2)n(n + 1)(n + 3)(n + 5)}{6!}c_0$$

$$c_7 = -\frac{(n - 5)(n + 6)}{7 \cdot 6}c_5 = -\frac{(n - 5)(n - 3)(n - 1)(n + 2)(n + 4)(n + 6)}{7!}c_1$$

and so on. Thus for at least $|x| < 1$ we obtain two linearly independent power series solutions:

$$y_1(x) = c_0\left[1 - \frac{n(n + 1)}{2!}x^2 + \frac{(n - 2)n(n + 1)(n + 3)}{4!}x^4\right.$$

$$\left. - \frac{(n - 4)(n - 2)n(n + 1)(n + 3)(n + 5)}{6!}x^6 + \cdots\right]$$

$$y_2(x) = c_1\left[x - \frac{(n - 1)(n + 2)}{3!}x^3 + \frac{(n - 3)(n - 1)(n + 2)(n + 4)}{5!}x^5\right. \tag{26}$$

$$\left. - \frac{(n - 5)(n - 3)(n - 1)(n + 2)(n + 4)(n + 6)}{7!}x^7 + \cdots\right].$$

Notice that if $n$ is an even integer, the first series terminates, whereas $y_2(x)$ is an infinite series. For example, if $n = 4$, then

$$y_1(x) = c_0\left[1 - \frac{4 \cdot 5}{2!}x^2 + \frac{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 7}{4!}x^4\right] = c_0\left[1 - 10x^2 + \frac{35}{3}x^4\right].$$

Similarly, when $n$ is an odd integer, the series for $y_2(x)$ terminates with $x^n$; that is, *when $n$ is a nonnegative integer, we obtain an nth-degree polynomial solution* of Legendre's equation.

Because we know that a constant multiple of a solution of Legendre's equation is also a solution, it is traditional to choose specific values for $c_0$ or $c_1$, depending on whether $n$ is an even or odd positive integer, respectively. For $n = 0$ we choose $c_0 = 1$, and for $n = 2, 4, 6, \ldots$

$$c_0 = (-1)^{n/2} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdots (n-1)}{2 \cdot 4 \cdots n},$$

whereas for $n = 1$ we choose $c_1 = 1$, and for $n = 3, 5, 7, \ldots$

$$c_1 = (-1)^{(n-1)/2} \frac{1 \cdot 3 \cdots n}{2 \cdot 4 \cdots (n-1)}.$$

For example, when $n = 4$, we have

$$y_1(x) = (-1)^{4/2} \frac{1 \cdot 3}{2 \cdot 4} \left[ 1 - 10x^2 + \frac{35}{3} x^4 \right] = \frac{1}{8} (35x^4 - 30x^2 + 3).$$

**LEGENDRE POLYNOMIALS** These specific $n$th-degree polynomial solutions are called **Legendre polynomials** and are denoted by $P_n(x)$. From the series for $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ and from the above choices of $c_0$ and $c_1$ we find that the first several Legendre polynomials are

$$P_0(x) = 1, \qquad\qquad P_1(x) = x,$$
$$P_2(x) = \frac{1}{2} (3x^2 - 1), \qquad\qquad P_3(x) = \frac{1}{2} (5x^3 - 3x), \qquad (27)$$
$$P_4(x) = \frac{1}{8} (35x^4 - 30x^2 + 3), \qquad P_5(x) = \frac{1}{8} (63x^5 - 70x^3 + 15x).$$

Remember, $P_0(x)$, $P_1(x)$, $P_2(x)$, $P_3(x)$, ... are, in turn, particular solutions of the differential equations

$$
\begin{aligned}
n = 0: &\quad (1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' = 0, \\
n = 1: &\quad (1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + 2y = 0, \\
n = 2: &\quad (1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + 6y = 0, \\
n = 3: &\quad (1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + 12y = 0, \\
&\quad \vdots \qquad\qquad \vdots
\end{aligned}
\qquad (28)
$$



**FIGURE 6.3.3** Legendre polynomials for $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$

The graphs, on the interval $[-1, 1]$, of the six Legendre polynomials in (27) are given in Figure 6.3.3.

**PROPERTIES** You are encouraged to verify the following properties using the Legendre polynomials in (27).

$$(i)\ P_n(-x) = (-1)^n P_n(x)$$

$$(ii)\ P_n(1) = 1 \qquad\qquad (iii)\ P_n(-1) = (-1)^n$$

$$(iv)\ P_n(0) = 0, \quad n \text{ odd} \qquad (v)\ P_n'(0) = 0, \quad n \text{ even}$$

Property $(i)$ indicates, as is apparent in Figure 6.3.3, that $P_n(x)$ is an even or odd function according to whether $n$ is even or odd.

**RECURRENCE RELATION** Recurrence relations that relate Legendre polynomials of different degrees are also important in some aspects of their applications. We state, without proof, the three-term recurrence relation

$$(k + 1)P_{k+1}(x) - (2k + 1)xP_k(x) + kP_{k-1}(x) = 0, \qquad (29)$$

which is valid for $k = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. In (27) we listed the first six Legendre polynomials. If, say, we wish to find $P_6(x)$, we can use (29) with $k = 5$. This relation expresses $P_6(x)$ in terms of the known $P_4(x)$ and $P_5(x)$. See Problem 45 in Exercises 6.3.

Another formula, although not a recurrence relation, can generate the Legendre polynomials by differentiation. **Rodrigues' formula** for these polynomials is

$$P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (x^2 - 1)^n, \qquad n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots . \tag{30}$$

See Problem 48 in Exercises 6.3.

---

## REMARKS

(*i*) Although we have assumed that the parameter $n$ in Legendre's differential equation $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + n(n + 1)y = 0$, represented a nonnegative integer, in a more general setting $n$ can represent any real number. Any solution of Legendre's equation is called a **Legendre function.** If $n$ is *not* a nonnegative integer, then both Legendre functions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ given in (26) are infinite series convergent on the open interval $(-1, 1)$ and divergent (unbounded) at $x = \pm 1$. If $n$ is a nonnegative integer, then as we have just seen one of the Legendre functions in (26) is a polynomial and the other is an infinite series convergent for $-1 < x < 1$. You should be aware of the fact that Legendre's equation possesses solutions that are bounded on the *closed* interval $[-1, 1]$ only in the case when $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ . More to the point, the only Legendre functions that are bounded on the closed interval $[-1, 1]$ are the Legendre polynomials $P_n(x)$ or constant multiples of these polynomials. See Problem 47 in Exercises 6.3 and Problem 24 in Chapter 6 in Review.

(*ii*) In the *Remarks* at the end of Section 2.3 we mentioned the branch of mathematics called **special functions.** Perhaps a better appellation for this field of applied mathematics might be *named functions,* since many of the functions studied bear proper names: Bessel functions, Legendre functions, Airy functions, Chebyshev polynomials, Gauss's hypergeometric function, Hermite polynomials, Jacobi polynomials, Laguerre polynomials, Mathieu functions, Weber functions, and so on. Historically, special functions were the by-product of necessity; someone needed a solution of a very specialized differential equation that arose from an attempt to solve a physical problem.

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## EXERCISES 6.3                   *Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-10.*

### 6.3.1 BESSEL'S EQUATION

In Problems 1–6 use (1) to find the general solution of the given differential equation on $(0, \infty)$.

**1.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - \frac{1}{9})y = 0$

**2.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - 1)y = 0$

**3.** $4x^2 y'' + 4xy' + (4x^2 - 25)y = 0$

**4.** $16x^2 y'' + 16xy' + (16x^2 - 1)y = 0$

**5.** $xy'' + y' + xy = 0$

**6.** $\frac{d}{dx}[xy'] + \left(x - \frac{4}{x}\right)y = 0$

In Problems 7–10 use (12) to find the general solution of the given differential equation on $(0, \infty)$.

**7.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + (9x^2 - 4)y = 0$

**8.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + (36x^2 - \frac{1}{4})y = 0$

**9.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + (25x^2 - \frac{4}{9})y = 0$

**10.** $x^2 y'' + xy' + (2x^2 - 64)y = 0$

In Problems 11 and 12 use the indicated change of variable to find the general solution of the given differential equation on $(0, \infty)$.

**11.** $x^2 y'' + 2xy' + \alpha^2 x^2 y = 0; \quad y = x^{-1/2} v(x)$

**12.** $x^2 y'' + (\alpha^2 x^2 - v^2 + \frac{1}{4})y = 0; \quad y = \sqrt{x}\, v(x)$

In Problems 13–20 use (18) to find the general solution of the given differential equation on $(0, \infty)$.

**13.** $xy'' + 2y' + 4y = 0$  **14.** $xy'' + 3y' + xy = 0$

**15.** $xy'' - y' + xy = 0$  **16.** $xy'' - 5y' + xy = 0$

**17.** $x^2y'' + (x^2 - 2)y = 0$

**18.** $4x^2y'' + (16x^2 + 1)y = 0$

**19.** $xy'' + 3y' + x^3y = 0$

**20.** $9x^2y'' + 9xy' + (x^6 - 36)y = 0$

**21.** Use the series in (7) to verify that $I_\nu(x) = i^{-\nu}J_\nu(ix)$ is a real function.

**22.** Assume that $b$ in equation (18) can be pure imaginary, that is, $b = \beta i, \beta > 0, i^2 = -1$. Use this assumption to express the general solution of the given differential equation in terms the modified Bessel functions $I_n$ and $K_n$.

(a) $y'' - x^2y = 0$  (b) $xy'' + y' - 7x^3y = 0$

In Problems 23–26 first use (18) to express the general solution of the given differential equation in terms of Bessel functions. Then use (23) and (24) to express the general solution in terms of elementary functions.

**23.** $y'' + y = 0$

**24.** $x^2y'' + 4xy' + (x^2 + 2)y = 0$

**25.** $16x^2y'' + 32xy' + (x^4 - 12)y = 0$

**26.** $4x^2y'' - 4xy' + (16x^2 + 3)y = 0$

**27.** (a) Proceed as in Example 5 to show that

$$xJ'_\nu(x) = -\nu J_\nu(x) + xJ_{\nu-1}(x).$$

[*Hint*: Write $2n + \nu = 2(n + \nu) - \nu$.]

(b) Use the result in part (a) to derive (21).

**28.** Use the formula obtained in Example 5 along with part (a) of Problem 27 to derive the recurrence relation

$$2\nu J_\nu(x) = xJ_{\nu+1}(x) + xJ_{\nu-1}(x).$$

In Problems 29 and 30 use (20) or (21) to obtain the given result.

**29.** $\int_0^x rJ_0(r)\,dr = xJ_1(x)$  **30.** $J'_0(x) = J_{-1}(x) = -J_1(x)$

**31.** Proceed as on page 247 to derive the elementary form of $J_{-1/2}(x)$ given in (24).

**32.** (a) Use the recurrence relation in Problem 28 along with (23) and (24) to express $J_{3/2}(x)$, $J_{-3/2}(x)$, and $J_{5/2}(x)$ in terms of $\sin x$, $\cos x$, and powers of $x$.

(b) Use a graphing utility to graph $J_{1/2}(x)$, $J_{-1/2}(x)$, $J_{3/2}(x)$, $J_{-3/2}(x)$, and $J_{5/2}(x)$.

**33.** Use the change of variables $s = \dfrac{2}{\alpha}\sqrt{\dfrac{k}{m}}\,e^{-\alpha t/2}$ to show that the differential equation of the aging spring $mx'' + ke^{-\alpha t}x = 0, \alpha > 0$, becomes

$$s^2\frac{d^2x}{ds^2} + s\frac{dx}{ds} + s^2x = 0.$$

**34.** Show that $y = x^{1/2}w\left(\frac{2}{3}\alpha x^{3/2}\right)$ is a solution of Airy's differential equation $y'' + \alpha^2xy = 0, x > 0$, whenever $w$ is a solution of Bessel's equation of order $\frac{1}{3}$, that is, $t^2w'' + tw' + \left(t^2 - \frac{1}{9}\right)w = 0, t > 0$. [*Hint*: After differentiating, substituting, and simplifying, then let $t = \frac{2}{3}\alpha x^{3/2}$.]

**35.** (a) Use the result of Problem 34 to express the general solution of Airy's differential equation for $x > 0$ in terms of Bessel functions.

(b) Verify the results in part (a) using (18).

**36.** Use the Table 6.1 to find the first three positive eigenvalues and corresponding eigenfunctions of the boundary-value problem

$$xy'' + y' + \lambda xy = 0,$$

$$y(x), y'(x) \text{ bounded as } x \to 0^+, \quad y(2) = 0.$$

[*Hint*: By identifying $\lambda = \alpha^2$, the DE is the parametric Bessel equation of order zero.]

**37.** (a) Use (18) to show that the general solution of the differential equation $xy'' + \lambda y = 0$ on the interval $(0, \infty)$ is

$$y = c_1\sqrt{x}J_1\left(2\sqrt{\lambda x}\right) + c_2\sqrt{x}Y_1\left(2\sqrt{\lambda x}\right).$$

(b) Verify by direct substitution that $y = \sqrt{x}J_1(2\sqrt{x})$ is a particular solution of the DE in the case $\lambda = 1$.

## Computer Lab Assignments

**38.** Use a CAS to graph the modified Bessel functions $I_0(x)$, $I_1(x)$, $I_2(x)$ and $K_0(x)$, $K_1(x)$, $K_2(x)$. Compare these graphs with those shown in Figures 6.3.1 and 6.3.2. What major difference is apparent between Bessel functions and the modified Bessel functions?

**39.** (a) Use the general solution given in Example 4 to solve the IVP

$$4x'' + e^{-0.1t}x = 0, \quad x(0) = 1, \quad x'(0) = -\tfrac{1}{2}.$$

Also use $J'_0(x) = -J_1(x)$ and $Y'_0(x) = -Y_1(x)$ along with Table 6.1 or a CAS to evaluate coefficients.

(b) Use a CAS to graph the solution obtained in part (a) for $0 \le t \le \infty$.

**40. (a)** Use the general solution obtained in Problem 35 to solve the IVP

$$4x'' + tx = 0, \quad x(0.1) = 1, \quad x'(0.1) = -\tfrac{1}{2}.$$

Use a CAS to evaluate coefficients.

**(b)** Use a CAS to graph the solution obtained in part (a) for $0 \le t \le 200$.

**41. Column Bending Under Its Own Weight** A uniform thin column of length $L$, positioned vertically with one end embedded in the ground, will deflect, or bend away, from the vertical under the influence of its own weight when its length or height exceeds a certain critical value. It can be shown that the angular deflection $\theta(x)$ of the column from the vertical at a point $P(x)$ is a solution of the boundary-value problem:

$$EI \frac{d^2\theta}{dx^2} + \delta g(L - x)\theta = 0, \quad \theta(0) = 0, \quad \theta'(L) = 0,$$

where $E$ is Young's modulus, $I$ is the cross-sectional moment of inertia, $\delta$ is the constant linear density, and $x$ is the distance along the column measured from its base. See Figure 6.3.4. The column will bend only for those values of $L$ for which the boundary-value problem has a nontrivial solution.

**(a)** Restate the boundary-value problem by making the change of variables $t = L - x$. Then use the results of a problem earlier in this exercise set to express the general solution of the differential equation in terms of Bessel functions.

**(b)** Use the general solution found in part (a) to find a solution of the BVP and an equation which defines the critical length $L$, that is, the smallest value of $L$ for which the column will start to bend.

**(c)** With the aid of a CAS, find the critical length $L$ of a solid steel rod of radius $r = 0.05$ in., $\delta g = 0.28\,A$ lb/in., $E = 2.6 \times 10^7$ lb/in.$^2$, $A = \pi r^2$, and $I = \tfrac{1}{4}\pi r^4$.
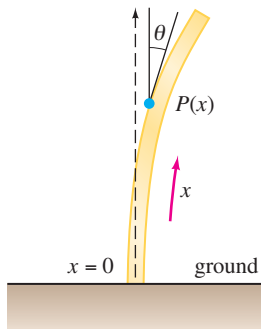


**FIGURE 6.3.4** Beam in Problem 41

**42. Buckling of a Thin Vertical Column** In Example 3 of Section 5.2 we saw that when a constant vertical compressive force, or load, $P$ was applied to a thin

column of uniform cross section and hinged at both ends, the deflection $y(x)$ is a solution of the BVP:

$$EI \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + Py = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0.$$

**(a)** If the bending stiffness factor $EI$ is proportional to $x$, then $EI(x) = kx$, where $k$ is a constant of proportionality. If $EI(L) = kL = M$ is the maximum stiffness factor, then $k = M/L$ and so $EI(x) = Mx/L$. Use the information in Problem 37 to find a solution of

$$M\frac{x}{L}\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + Py = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0$$

if it is known that $\sqrt{x}\,Y_1(2\sqrt{\lambda x})$ is *not* zero at $x = 0$.

**(b)** Use Table 6.1 to find the Euler load $P_1$ for the column.

**(c)** Use a CAS to graph the first buckling mode $y_1(x)$ corresponding to the Euler load $P_1$. For simplicity assume that $c_1 = 1$ and $L = 1$.

**43. Pendulum of Varying Length** For the simple pendulum described on page 209 of Section 5.3, suppose that the rod holding the mass $m$ at one end is replaced by a flexible wire or string and that the wire is strung over a pulley at the point of support $O$ in Figure 5.3.3. In this manner, while it is in motion in a vertical plane, the mass $m$ can be raised or lowered. In other words, the length $l(t)$ of the pendulum varies with time. Under the same assumptions leading to equation (6) in Section 5.3, it can be shown[*] that the differential equation for the displacement angle $\theta$ is now

$$l\theta'' + 2l'\theta' + g\sin\theta = 0.$$

**(a)** If $l$ increases at constant rate $v$ and if $l(0) = l_0$, show that a linearization of the foregoing DE is

$$(l_0 + vt)\theta'' + 2v\theta' + g\theta = 0. \tag{31}$$

**(b)** Make the change of variables $x = (l_0 + vt)/v$ and show that (31) becomes

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dx^2} + \frac{2}{x}\frac{d\theta}{dx} + \frac{g}{vx}\theta = 0.$$

**(c)** Use part (b) and (18) to express the general solution of equation (31) in terms of Bessel functions.

**(d)** Use the general solution obtained in part (c) to solve the initial-value problem consisting of equation (31) and the initial conditions $\theta(0) = \theta_0$, $\theta'(0) = 0$. [*Hints*: To simplify calculations, use a further change of variable $u = \dfrac{2}{v}\sqrt{g(l_0 + vt)} = 2\sqrt{\dfrac{g}{v}}\,x^{1/2}.$

Also, recall that (20) holds for both $J_1(u)$ and $Y_1(u)$. Finally, the identity

$$J_1(u)Y_2(u) - J_2(u)Y_1(u) = -\frac{2}{\pi u} \text{ will be helpful.}]$$

**(e)** Use a CAS to graph the solution $\theta(t)$ of the IVP in part (d) when $l_0 = 1$ ft, $\theta_0 = \frac{1}{10}$ radian, and $v = \frac{1}{60}$ ft/s. Experiment with the graph using different time intervals such as [0, 10], [0, 30], and so on.

**(f)** What do the graphs indicate about the displacement angle $\theta(t)$ as the length $l$ of the wire increases with time?

### 6.3.2 LEGENDRE'S EQUATION

**44. (a)** Use the explicit solutions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ of Legendre's equation given in (26) and the appropriate choice of $c_0$ and $c_1$ to find the Legendre polynomials $P_6(x)$ and $P_7(x)$.

**(b)** Write the differential equations for which $P_6(x)$ and $P_7(x)$ are particular solutions.

**45.** Use the recurrence relation (29) and $P_0(x) = 1$, $P_1(x) = x$, to generate the next six Legendre polynomials.

**46.** Show that the differential equation

$$\sin\theta \frac{d^2y}{d\theta^2} + \cos\theta \frac{dy}{d\theta} + n(n+1)(\sin\theta)y = 0$$

can be transformed into Legendre's equation by means of the substitution $x = \cos\theta$.

**47.** Find the first three positive values of $\lambda$ for which the problem

$$(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + \lambda y = 0,$$

$$y(0) = 0, \quad y(x), y'(x) \text{ bounded on } [-1,1]$$

has nontrivial solutions.

### Computer Lab Assignments

**48.** For purposes of this problem ignore the list of Legendre polynomials given on page 249 and the graphs given in Figure 6.3.3. Use Rodrigues' formula (30) to generate the Legendre polynomials $P_1(x)$, $P_2(x)$, ..., $P_7(x)$. Use a CAS to carry out the differentiations and simplifications.

**49.** Use a CAS to graph $P_1(x)$, $P_2(x)$, ..., $P_7(x)$ on the interval $[-1, 1]$.

**50.** Use a root-finding application to find the zeros of $P_1(x)$, $P_2(x)$, ..., $P_7(x)$. If the Legendre polynomials are built-in functions of your CAS, find zeros of Legendre polynomials of higher degree. Form a conjecture about the location of the zeros of any Legendre polynomial $P_n(x)$, and then investigate to see whether it is true.

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# CHAPTER 6 IN REVIEW
*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-10.*

In Problems 1 and 2 answer true or false without referring back to the text.

**1.** The general solution of $x^2y'' + xy' + (x^2 - 1)y = 0$ is $y = c_1J_1(x) + c_2J_{-1}(x)$. _____

**2.** Because $x = 0$ is an irregular singular point of $x^3y'' - xy' + y = 0$, the DE possesses no solution that is analytic at $x = 0$. _____

**3.** Both power series solutions of $y'' + \ln(x + 1)y' + y = 0$ centered at the ordinary point $x = 0$ are guaranteed to converge for all $x$ in which *one* of the following intervals?

**(a)** $(-\infty, \infty)$ **(b)** $(-1, \infty)$
**(c)** $[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$ **(d)** $[-1, 1]$

**4.** $x = 0$ is an ordinary point of a certain linear differential equation. After the assumed solution $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ is

substituted into the DE, the following algebraic system is obtained by equating the coefficients of $x^0$, $x^1$, $x^2$, and $x^3$ to zero:

$$2c_2 + 2c_1 + c_0 = 0$$

$$6c_3 + 4c_2 + c_1 = 0$$

$$12c_4 + 6c_3 + c_2 - \tfrac{1}{3}c_1 = 0$$

$$20c_5 + 8c_4 + c_3 - \tfrac{2}{3}c_2 = 0.$$

Bearing in mind that $c_0$ and $c_1$ are arbitrary, write down the first five terms of two power series solutions of the differential equation.

**5.** Suppose the power series $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k(x - 4)^k$ is known to converge at $-2$ and diverge at 13. Discuss whether the series converges at $-7$, 0, 7, 10, and 11. Possible answers are *does, does not, might.*

**6.** Use the Maclaurin series for $\sin x$ and $\cos x$ along with long division to find the first three nonzero terms of a power series in $x$ for the function $f(x) = \dfrac{\sin x}{\cos x}$.

In Problems 7 and 8 construct a linear second-order differential equation that has the given properties.

**7.** A regular singular point at $x = 1$ and an irregular singular point at $x = 0$

**8.** Regular singular points at $x = 1$ and at $x = -3$

In Problems 9–14 use an appropriate infinite series method about $x = 0$ to find two solutions of the given differential equation.

**9.** $2xy'' + y' + y = 0$

**10.** $y'' - xy' - y = 0$

**11.** $(x - 1)y'' + 3y = 0$

**12.** $y'' - x^2 y' + xy = 0$

**13.** $xy'' - (x + 2)y' + 2y = 0$

**14.** $(\cos x)y'' + y = 0$

In Problems 15 and 16 solve the given initial-value problem.

**15.** $y'' + xy' + 2y = 0$, $y(0) = 3$, $y'(0) = -2$

**16.** $(x + 2)y'' + 3y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 1$

**17.** Without actually solving the differential equation $(1 - 2\sin x)y'' + xy = 0$, find a lower bound for the radius of convergence of power series solutions about the ordinary point $x = 0$.

**18.** Even though $x = 0$ is an ordinary point of the differential equation, explain why it is not a good idea to try to find a solution of the IVP

$$y'' + xy' + y = 0, \quad y(1) = -6, \quad y'(1) = 3$$

of the form $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$. Using power series, find a better way to solve the problem.

In Problems 19 and 20 investigate whether $x = 0$ is an ordinary point, singular point, or irregular singular point of the given differential equation. [*Hint*: Recall the Maclaurin series for $\cos x$ and $e^x$.]

**19.** $xy'' + (1 - \cos x)y' + x^2 y = 0$

**20.** $(e^x - 1 - x)y'' + xy = 0$

**21.** Note that $x = 0$ is an ordinary point of the differential equation $y'' + x^2 y' + 2xy = 5 - 2x + 10x^3$. Use the assumption $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n$ to find the general solution $y = y_c + y_p$ that consists of three power series centered at $x = 0$.

**22.** The first-order differential equation $dy/dx = x^2 + y^2$ cannot be solved in terms of elementary functions. However, a solution can be expressed in terms of Bessel functions.

(a) Show that the substitution $y = -\dfrac{1}{u}\dfrac{du}{dx}$ leads to the equation $u'' + x^2 u = 0$.

(b) Use (18) in Section 6.3 to find the general solution of $u'' + x^2 u = 0$.

(c) Use (20) and (21) in Section 6.3 in the forms

$$J_\nu'(x) = \frac{\nu}{x}J_\nu(x) - J_{\nu+1}(x)$$

and $\quad J_\nu'(x) = -\dfrac{\nu}{x}J_\nu(x) + J_{\nu-1}(x)$

as an aid to show that a one-parameter family of solutions of $dy/dx = x^2 + y^2$ is given by

$$y = x\,\frac{J_{3/4}\left(\frac{1}{2}x^2\right) - cJ_{-3/4}\left(\frac{1}{2}x^2\right)}{cJ_{1/4}\left(\frac{1}{2}x^2\right) + J_{-1/4}\left(\frac{1}{2}x^2\right)}.$$

**23.** (a) Use (23) and (24) of Section 6.3 to show that

$$Y_{1/2}(x) = -\sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}}\cos x.$$

(b) Use (15) of Section 6.3 to show that

$$I_{1/2}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}}\sinh x \quad \text{and} \quad I_{-1/2}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}}\cosh x.$$

(c) Use part (b) to show that

$$K_{1/2}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2x}}\,e^{-x}.$$

**24.** (a) From (27) and (28) of Section 6.3 we know that when $n = 0$, Legendre's differential equation $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' = 0$ has the polynomial solution $y = P_0(x) = 1$. Use (5) of Section 4.2 to show that a second Legendre function satisfying the DE for $-1 < x < 1$ is

$$y = \frac{1}{2}\ln\left(\frac{1 + x}{1 - x}\right).$$

(b) We also know from (27) and (28) of Section 6.3 that when $n = 1$, Legendre's differential equation $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + 2y = 0$ possesses the polynomial solution $y = P_1(x) = x$. Use (5) of Section 4.2 to show that a second Legendre function satisfying the DE for $-1 < x < 1$ is

$$y = \frac{x}{2}\ln\left(\frac{1 + x}{1 - x}\right) - 1.$$

(c) Use a graphing utility to graph the logarithmic Legendre functions given in parts (a) and (b).

**25.** (a) Use binomial series to formally show that

$$(1 - 2xt + t^2)^{-1/2} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(x)t^n.$$

(b) Use the result obtained in part (a) to show that $P_n(1) = 1$ and $P_n(-1) = (-1)^n$. See Properties (*ii*) and (*iii*) on page 249.

# 7 THE LAPLACE TRANSFORM
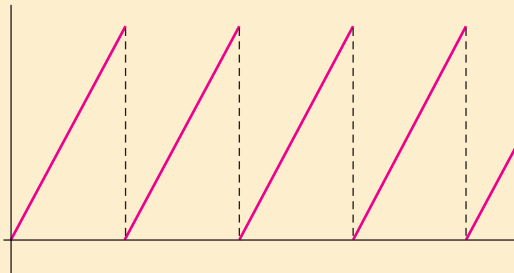
In the linear mathematical models for a physical system such as a spring/mass system or a series electrical circuit, the right-hand member, or input, of the differential equations

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \beta\frac{dx}{dt} + kx = f(t) \qquad \text{or} \qquad L\frac{d^2q}{dt^2} + R\frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{1}{C}q = E(t)$$

is a driving function and represents either an external force $f(t)$ or an impressed voltage $E(t)$. In Section 5.1 we considered problems in which the functions $f$ and $E$ were continuous. However, discontinuous driving functions are not uncommon. For example, the impressed voltage on a circuit could be piecewise continuous and periodic such as the "sawtooth" function shown above. Solving the differential equation of the circuit in this case is difficult using the techniques of Chapter 4. The Laplace transform studied in this chapter is an invaluable tool that simplifies the solution of problems such as these.

| 7.1 | DEFINITION OF THE LAPLACE TRANSFORM |
|---|---|

**REVIEW MATERIAL**
- Improper integrals with infinite limits of integration
- Partial fraction decomposition

**INTRODUCTION** In elementary calculus you learned that differentiation and integration are *transforms*; this means, roughly speaking, that these operations transform a function into another function. For example, the function $f(x) = x^2$ is transformed, in turn, into a linear function and a family of cubic polynomial functions by the operations of differentiation and integration:

$$\frac{d}{dx}x^2 = 2x \qquad \text{and} \qquad \int x^2\, dx = \frac{1}{3}x^3 + c.$$

Moreover, these two transforms possess the **linearity property** that the transform of a linear combination of functions is a linear combination of the transforms. For $\alpha$ and $\beta$ constants

$$\frac{d}{dx}[\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x)] = \alpha f'(x) + \beta g'(x)$$

and

$$\int [\alpha f(x) + \beta g(x)]\, dx = \alpha \int f(x)\, dx + \beta \int g(x)\, dx$$

provided that each derivative and integral exists. In this section we will examine a special type of integral transform called the **Laplace transform.** In addition to possessing the linearity property the Laplace transform has many other interesting properties that make it very useful in solving linear initial-value problems.

**INTEGRAL TRANSFORM** If $f(x, y)$ is a function of two variables, then a definite integral of $f$ with respect to one of the variables leads to a function of the other variable. For example, by holding $y$ constant, we see that $\int_1^2 2xy^2\, dx = 3y^2$. Similarly, a definite integral such as $\int_a^b K(s, t) f(t)\, dt$ transforms a function $f$ of the variable $t$ into a function $F$ of the variable $s$. We are particularly interested in an **integral transform,** where the interval of integration is the unbounded interval $[0, \infty)$. If $f(t)$ is defined for $t \geq 0$, then the improper integral $\int_0^\infty K(s, t) f(t)\, dt$ is defined as a limit:

$$\int_0^\infty K(s, t) f(t)\, dt = \lim_{b \to \infty} \int_0^b K(s, t) f(t)\, dt. \tag{1}$$

If the limit in (1) exists, then we say that the integral exists or is **convergent;** if the limit does not exist, the integral does not exist and is **divergent.** The limit in (1) will, in general, exist for only certain values of the variable $s$.

**A DEFINITION** The function $K(s, t)$ in (1) is called the **kernel** of the transform. The choice $K(s, t) = e^{-st}$ as the kernel gives us an especially important integral transform.

> **DEFINITION 7.1.1** **Laplace Transform**
>
> Let $f$ be a function defined for $t \geq 0$. Then the integral
>
> $$\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t)\, dt \tag{2}$$
>
> is said to be the **Laplace transform** of $f$, provided that the integral converges.

When the defining integral (2) converges, the result is a function of $s$. In general discussion we shall use a lowercase letter to denote the function being transformed and the corresponding capital letter to denote its Laplace transform—for example,

$$\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s), \qquad \mathscr{L}\{g(t)\} = G(s), \qquad \mathscr{L}\{y(t)\} = Y(s).$$

---

### EXAMPLE 1   Applying Definition 7.1.1

---

Evaluate $\mathscr{L}\{1\}$.

**SOLUTION**   From (2),

$$\mathscr{L}\{1\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}(1)\, dt = \lim_{b\to\infty} \int_0^b e^{-st}\, dt$$

$$= \lim_{b\to\infty} \frac{-e^{-st}}{s}\bigg|_0^b = \lim_{b\to\infty} \frac{-e^{-sb}+1}{s} = \frac{1}{s}$$

provided that $s > 0$. In other words, when $s > 0$, the exponent $-sb$ is negative, and $e^{-sb} \to 0$ as $b \to \infty$. The integral diverges for $s < 0$. ∎

The use of the limit sign becomes somewhat tedious, so we shall adopt the notation $\big|_0^\infty$ as a shorthand for writing $\lim_{b\to\infty} (\;)\big|_0^b$. For example,

$$\mathscr{L}\{1\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}(1)\, dt = \frac{-e^{-st}}{s}\bigg|_0^\infty = \frac{1}{s}, \qquad s > 0.$$

At the upper limit, it is understood that we mean $e^{-st} \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$ for $s > 0$.

---

### EXAMPLE 2   Applying Definition 7.1.1

---

Evaluate $\mathscr{L}\{t\}$.

**SOLUTION**   From Definition 7.1.1 we have $\mathscr{L}\{t\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} t\, dt$. Integrating by parts and using $\lim_{t\to\infty} te^{-st} = 0$, $s > 0$, along with the result from Example 1, we obtain

$$\mathscr{L}\{t\} = \frac{-te^{-st}}{s}\bigg|_0^\infty + \frac{1}{s}\int_0^\infty e^{-st}\, dt = \frac{1}{s}\mathscr{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}\left(\frac{1}{s}\right) = \frac{1}{s^2}. \qquad ∎$$

---

### EXAMPLE 3   Applying Definition 7.1.1

---

Evaluate $\mathscr{L}\{e^{-3t}\}$.

**SOLUTION**   From Definition 7.1.1 we have

$$\mathscr{L}\{e^{-3t}\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} e^{-3t}\, dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-(s+3)t}\, dt$$

$$= \frac{-e^{-(s+3)t}}{s+3}\bigg|_0^\infty$$

$$= \frac{1}{s+3}, \qquad s > -3.$$

The result follows from the fact that $\lim_{t\to\infty} e^{-(s+3)t} = 0$ for $s + 3 > 0$ or $s > -3$. ∎

**EXAMPLE 4** Applying Definition 7.1.1

Evaluate $\mathscr{L}\{\sin 2t\}$.

**SOLUTION** From Definition 7.1.1 and integration by parts we have

$$\mathscr{L}\{\sin 2t\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \sin 2t \, dt = \frac{-e^{-st} \sin 2t}{s} \Big|_0^\infty + \frac{2}{s} \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cos 2t \, dt$$

$$= \frac{2}{s} \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \cos 2t \, dt, \qquad s > 0$$

$$\lim_{t \to \infty} e^{-st} \cos 2t = 0, \ s > 0 \qquad\qquad \text{Laplace transform of } \sin 2t$$
$$\downarrow \qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad \downarrow$$
$$= \frac{2}{s} \left[ \frac{-e^{-st} \cos 2t}{s} \Big|_0^\infty - \frac{2}{s} \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \sin 2t \, dt \right]$$

$$= \frac{2}{s^2} - \frac{4}{s^2} \mathscr{L}\{\sin 2t\}.$$

At this point we have an equation with $\mathscr{L}\{\sin 2t\}$ on both sides of the equality. Solving for that quantity yields the result

$$\mathscr{L}\{\sin 2t\} = \frac{2}{s^2 + 4}, \qquad s > 0. \qquad\blacksquare$$

**$\mathscr{L}$ IS A LINEAR TRANSFORM** For a linear combination of functions we can write

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-st}[\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)] \, dt = \alpha \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t) \, dt + \beta \int_0^\infty e^{-st} g(t) \, dt$$

whenever both integrals converge for $s > c$. Hence it follows that

$$\mathscr{L}\{\alpha f(t) + \beta g(t)\} = \alpha \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} + \beta \mathscr{L}\{g(t)\} = \alpha F(s) + \beta G(s). \qquad (3)$$

Because of the property given in (3), $\mathscr{L}$ is said to be a **linear transform.** For example, from Examples 1 and 2

$$\mathscr{L}\{1 + 5t\} = \mathscr{L}\{1\} + 5\mathscr{L}\{t\} = \frac{1}{s} + \frac{5}{s^2},$$

and from Examples 3 and 4

$$\mathscr{L}\{4e^{-3t} - 10 \sin 2t\} = 4\mathscr{L}\{e^{-3t}\} - 10\mathscr{L}\{\sin 2t\} = \frac{4}{s + 3} - \frac{20}{s^2 + 4}.$$

We state the generalization of some of the preceding examples by means of the next theorem. From this point on we shall also refrain from stating any restrictions on $s$; it is understood that $s$ is sufficiently restricted to guarantee the convergence of the appropriate Laplace transform.

---

**THEOREM 7.1.1** Transforms of Some Basic Functions

$$\textbf{(a)} \ \mathscr{L}\{1\} = \frac{1}{s}$$

$$\textbf{(b)} \ \mathscr{L}\{t^n\} = \frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots \qquad \textbf{(c)} \ \mathscr{L}\{e^{at}\} = \frac{1}{s - a}$$

$$\textbf{(d)} \ \mathscr{L}\{\sin kt\} = \frac{k}{s^2 + k^2} \qquad\qquad \textbf{(e)} \ \mathscr{L}\{\cos kt\} = \frac{s}{s^2 + k^2}$$

$$\textbf{(f)} \ \mathscr{L}\{\sinh kt\} = \frac{k}{s^2 - k^2} \qquad\qquad \textbf{(g)} \ \mathscr{L}\{\cosh kt\} = \frac{s}{s^2 - k^2}$$
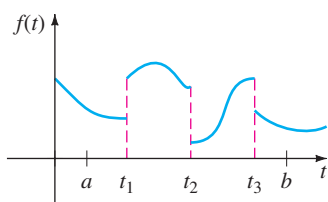
**FIGURE 7.1.1**   Piecewise continuous function

**SUFFICIENT CONDITIONS FOR EXISTENCE OF $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$**   The integral that defines the Laplace transform does not have to converge. For example, neither $\mathscr{L}\{1/t\}$ nor $\mathscr{L}\{e^{t^2}\}$ exists. Sufficient conditions guaranteeing the existence of $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ are that $f$ be piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$ and that $f$ be of exponential order for $t > T$. Recall that a function $f$ is **piecewise continuous** on $[0, \infty)$ if, in any interval $0 \le a \le t \le b$, there are at most a finite number of points $t_k$, $k = 1, 2, \ldots$, $n$ $(t_{k-1} < t_k)$ at which $f$ has finite discontinuities and is continuous on each open interval $(t_{k-1}, t_k)$. See Figure 7.1.1. The concept of **exponential order** is defined in the following manner.

---

**DEFINITION 7.1.2**   Exponential Order

A function $f$ is said to be of **exponential order** $c$ if there exist constants $c, M > 0$, and $T > 0$ such that $|f(t)| \le Me^{ct}$ for all $t > T$.

---
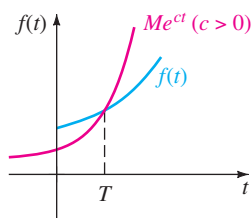


**FIGURE 7.1.2**   $f$ is of exponential order $c$.

If $f$ is an *increasing* function, then the condition $|f(t)| \le Me^{ct}$, $t > T$, simply states that the graph of $f$ on the interval $(T, \infty)$ does not grow faster than the graph of the exponential function $Me^{ct}$, where $c$ is a positive constant. See Figure 7.1.2. The functions $f(t) = t$, $f(t) = e^{-t}$, and $f(t) = 2 \cos t$ are all of exponential order $c = 1$ for $t > 0$, since we have, respectively,

$$|t| \le e^t, \quad |e^{-t}| \le e^t, \quad \text{and} \quad |2 \cos t| \le 2e^t.$$

A comparison of the graphs on the interval $(0, \infty)$ is given in Figure 7.1.3.



**(a)**　　　　　　　　**(b)**　　　　　　　　**(c)**
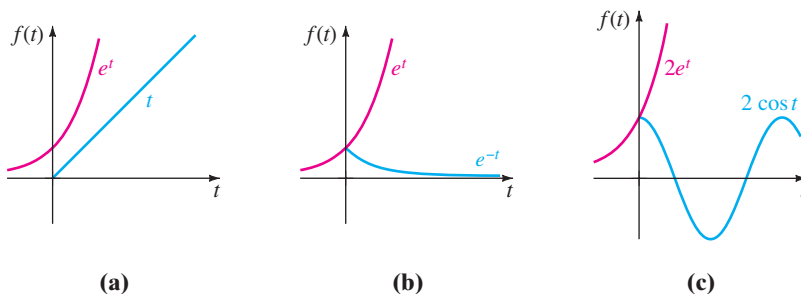
**FIGURE 7.1.3**   Three functions of exponential order $c = 1$
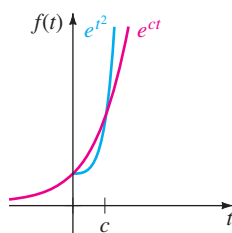


**FIGURE 7.1.4**   $e^{t^2}$ is not of exponential order

A function such as $f(t) = e^{t^2}$ is not of exponential order, since, as shown in Figure 7.1.4, its graph grows faster than any positive linear power of $e$ for $t > c > 0$.

A positive integral power of $t$ is always of exponential order, since, for $c > 0$,

$$|t^n| \le Me^{ct} \quad \text{or} \quad \left|\frac{t^n}{e^{ct}}\right| \le M \quad \text{for } t > T$$

is equivalent to showing that $\lim_{t \to \infty} t^n/e^{ct}$ is finite for $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. The result follows by $n$ applications of L'Hôpital's Rule.

---

**THEOREM 7.1.2**   Sufficient Conditions for Existence

If $f$ is piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$ and of exponential order $c$, then $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ exists for $s > c$.

---

**PROOF** By the additive interval property of definite integrals we can write

$$\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^T e^{-st} f(t)\, dt + \int_T^\infty e^{-st} f(t)\, dt = I_1 + I_2.$$

The integral $I_1$ exists because it can be written as a sum of integrals over intervals on which $e^{-st} f(t)$ is continuous. Now since $f$ is of exponential order, there exist constants $c$, $M > 0$, $T > 0$ so that $|f(t)| \le Me^{ct}$ for $t > T$. We can then write

$$|I_2| \le \int_T^\infty |e^{-st} f(t)|\, dt \le M \int_T^\infty e^{-st} e^{ct}\, dt = M \int_T^\infty e^{-(s-c)t}\, dt = M\frac{e^{-(s-c)T}}{s - c}$$

for $s > c$. Since $\int_T^\infty Me^{-(s-c)t}\, dt$ converges, the integral $\int_T^\infty |e^{-st} f(t)|\, dt$ converges by the comparison test for improper integrals. This, in turn, implies that $I_2$ exists for $s > c$. The existence of $I_1$ and $I_2$ implies that $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t)\, dt$ exists for $s > c$. ■

---

**EXAMPLE 5**   **Transform of a Piecewise Continuous Function**

Evaluate $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ where $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < 3 \\ 2, & t \ge 3. \end{cases}$

**SOLUTION** The function $f$, shown in Figure 7.1.5, is piecewise continuous and of exponential order for $t > 0$. Since $f$ is defined in two pieces, $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ is expressed as the sum of two integrals:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} &= \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t)\, dt = \int_0^3 e^{-st}(0)\, dt + \int_3^\infty e^{-st}(2)\, dt \\ &= 0 + \left.\frac{2e^{-st}}{-s}\right|_3^\infty \\ &= \frac{2e^{-3s}}{s}, \qquad s > 0. \quad ■ \end{aligned}$$
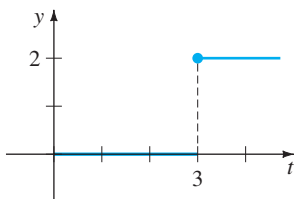


**FIGURE 7.1.5** Piecewise continuous function

We conclude this section with an additional bit of theory related to the types of functions of $s$ that we will, generally, be working with. The next theorem indicates that not every arbitrary function of $s$ is a Laplace transform of a piecewise continuous function of exponential order.

---

**THEOREM 7.1.3**   **Behavior of $F(s)$ as $s \to \infty$**

If $f$ is piecewise continuous on $(0, \infty)$ and of exponential order and $F(s) = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$, then $\displaystyle\lim_{s \to \infty} F(s) = 0$.

---

**PROOF** Since $f$ is of exponential order, there exist constants $\gamma$, $M_1 > 0$, and $T > 0$ so that $|f(t)| \le M_1 e^{\gamma t}$ for $t > T$. Also, since $f$ is piecewise continuous for $0 \le t \le T$, it is necessarily bounded on the interval; that is, $|f(t)| \le M_2 = M_2 e^{0t}$. If $M$ denotes the maximum of the set $\{M_1, M_2\}$ and $c$ denotes the maximum of $\{0, \gamma\}$, then

$$|F(s)| \le \int_0^\infty e^{-st} |f(t)|\, dt \le M \int_0^\infty e^{-st} e^{ct}\, dt = M \int_0^\infty e^{-(s-c)t}\, dt = \frac{M}{s - c}$$

for $s > c$. As $s \to \infty$, we have $|F(s)| \to 0$, and so $F(s) = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} \to 0$. ■

> **REMARKS**
>
> (*i*) Throughout this chapter we shall be concerned primarily with functions that are both piecewise continuous and of exponential order. We note, however, that these two conditions are sufficient but not necessary for the existence of a Laplace transform. The function $f(t) = t^{-1/2}$ is not piecewise continuous on the interval $[0, \infty)$, but its Laplace transform exists. See Problem 42 in Exercises 7.1.
>
> (*ii*) As a consequence of Theorem 7.1.3 we can say that functions of $s$ such as $F_1(s) = 1$ and $F_2(s) = s/(s + 1)$ are not the Laplace transforms of piecewise continuous functions of exponential order, since $F_1(s) \nrightarrow 0$ and $F_2(s) \nrightarrow 0$ as $s \to \infty$. But you should not conclude from this that $F_1(s)$ and $F_2(s)$ are *not* Laplace transforms. There are other kinds of functions.

# EXERCISES 7.1

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-10.*

In Problems 1–18 use Definition 7.1.1 to find $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$.

**1.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} -1, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ 1, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}$

**2.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} 4, & 0 \le t < 2 \\ 0, & t \ge 2 \end{cases}$

**3.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} t, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ 1, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}$

**4.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} 2t + 1, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ 0, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}$

**5.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} \sin t, & 0 \le t < \pi \\ 0, & t \ge \pi \end{cases}$

**6.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < \pi/2 \\ \cos t, & t \ge \pi/2 \end{cases}$

**7.**
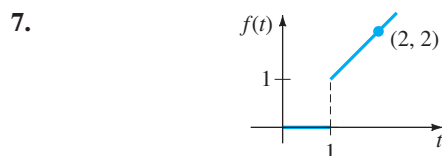


**FIGURE 7.1.6** Graph for Problem 7

**8.**
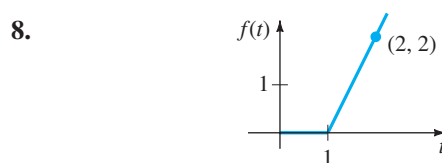


**FIGURE 7.1.7** Graph for Problem 8

**9.**
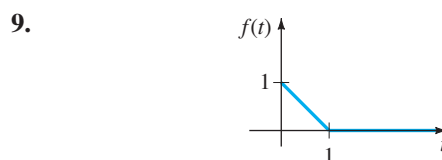


**FIGURE 7.1.8** Graph for Problem 9

**10.**
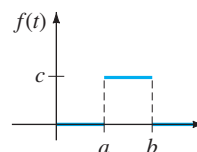


**FIGURE 7.1.9** Graph for Problem 10

**11.** $f(t) = e^{t+7}$

**12.** $f(t) = e^{-2t-5}$

**13.** $f(t) = te^{4t}$

**14.** $f(t) = t^2 e^{-2t}$

**15.** $f(t) = e^{-t} \sin t$

**16.** $f(t) = e^t \cos t$

**17.** $f(t) = t \cos t$

**18.** $f(t) = t \sin t$

In Problems 19–36 use Theorem 7.1.1 to find $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$.

**19.** $f(t) = 2t^4$

**20.** $f(t) = t^5$

**21.** $f(t) = 4t - 10$

**22.** $f(t) = 7t + 3$

**23.** $f(t) = t^2 + 6t - 3$

**24.** $f(t) = -4t^2 + 16t + 9$

**25.** $f(t) = (t + 1)^3$

**26.** $f(t) = (2t - 1)^3$

**27.** $f(t) = 1 + e^{4t}$

**28.** $f(t) = t^2 - e^{-9t} + 5$

**29.** $f(t) = (1 + e^{2t})^2$

**30.** $f(t) = (e^t - e^{-t})^2$

**31.** $f(t) = 4t^2 - 5 \sin 3t$

**32.** $f(t) = \cos 5t + \sin 2t$

**33.** $f(t) = \sinh kt$

**34.** $f(t) = \cosh kt$

**35.** $f(t) = e^t \sinh t$

**36.** $f(t) = e^{-t} \cosh t$

In Problems 37–40 find $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ by first using a trigonometric identity.

**37.** $f(t) = \sin 2t \cos 2t$

**38.** $f(t) = \cos^2 t$

**39.** $f(t) = \sin(4t + 5)$

**40.** $f(t) = 10 \cos\left(t - \dfrac{\pi}{6}\right)$

**41.** One definition of the **gamma function** is given by the improper integral $\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty t^{\alpha-1} e^{-t} \, dt$, $\alpha > 0$.

**(a)** Show that $\Gamma(\alpha + 1) = \alpha\Gamma(\alpha)$.

**(b)** Show that $\mathscr{L}\{t^\alpha\} = \dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{s^{\alpha+1}}$, $\alpha > -1$.

**42.** Use the fact that $\Gamma\!\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$ and Problem 41 to find the Laplace transform of

**(a)** $f(t) = t^{-1/2}$ **(b)** $f(t) = t^{1/2}$ **(c)** $f(t) = t^{3/2}$.

### Discussion Problems

**43.** Make up a function $F(t)$ that is of exponential order but where $f(t) = F'(t)$ is not of exponential order. Make up a function $f$ that is not of exponential order but whose Laplace transform exists.

**44.** Suppose that $\mathscr{L}\{f_1(t)\} = F_1(s)$ for $s > c_1$ and that $\mathscr{L}\{f_2(t)\} = F_2(s)$ for $s > c_2$. When does

$$\mathscr{L}\{f_1(t) + f_2(t)\} = F_1(s) + F_2(s)?$$

**45.** Figure 7.1.4 suggests, but does not prove, that the function $f(t) = e^{t^2}$ is not of exponential order. How does the observation that $t^2 > \ln M + ct$, for $M > 0$ and $t$ sufficiently large, show that $e^{t^2} > Me^{ct}$ for any $c$?

**46.** Use part (c) of Theorem 7.1.1 to show that

$$\mathscr{L}\{e^{(a+ib)t}\} = \frac{s - a + ib}{(s - a)^2 + b^2},$$ where $a$ and $b$ are real

and $i^2 = -1$. Show how Euler's formula (page 134) can then be used to deduce the results

$$\mathscr{L}\{e^{at} \cos bt\} = \frac{s - a}{(s - a)^2 + b^2}$$

$$\mathscr{L}\{e^{at} \sin bt\} = \frac{b}{(s - a)^2 + b^2}.$$

**47.** Under what conditions is a linear function $f(x) = mx + b$, $m \neq 0$, a linear transform?

**48.** The proof of part (b) of Theorem 7.1.1 requires the use of mathematical induction. Show that if $\mathscr{L}\{t^{n-1}\} = (n - 1)!/s^n$ is *assumed* to be true, then $\mathscr{L}\{t^n\} = n!/s^{n+1}$ follows.

## 7.2 INVERSE TRANSFORMS AND TRANSFORMS OF DERIVATIVES

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Partial fraction decomposition
- See the *Student Resource and Solutions Manual*

**INTRODUCTION** In this section we take a few small steps into an investigation of how the Laplace transform can be used to solve certain types of equations for an unknown function. We begin the discussion with the concept of the inverse Laplace transform or, more precisely, the inverse of a Laplace transform $F(s)$. After some important preliminary background material on the Laplace transform of derivatives $f'(t)$, $f''(t)$, . . . , we then illustrate how both the Laplace transform and the inverse Laplace transform come into play in solving some simple ordinary differential equations.

### 7.2.1 INVERSE TRANSFORMS

**THE INVERSE PROBLEM** If $F(s)$ represents the Laplace transform of a function $f(t)$, that is, $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$, we then say $f(t)$ is the **inverse Laplace transform** of $F(s)$ and write $f(t) = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$. For example, from Examples 1, 2, and 3 of Section 7.1 we have, respectively,

| **Transform** | **Inverse Transform** |
|---|---|
| $\mathscr{L}\{1\} = \dfrac{1}{s}$ | $1 = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\!\left\{\dfrac{1}{s}\right\}$ |
| $\mathscr{L}\{t\} = \dfrac{1}{s^2}$ | $t = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\!\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2}\right\}$ |
| $\mathscr{L}\{e^{-3t}\} = \dfrac{1}{s + 3}$ | $e^{-3t} = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\!\left\{\dfrac{1}{s + 3}\right\}$ |

We shall see shortly that in the application of the Laplace transform to equations we are not able to determine an unknown function $f(t)$ directly; rather, we are able to solve for the Laplace transform $F(s)$ of $f(t)$; but from that knowledge we ascertain $f$ by computing $f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$. The idea is simply this: Suppose

$$F(s) = \frac{-2s + 6}{s^2 + 4} \text{ is a Laplace transform; find a function } f(t) \text{ such that } \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s).$$

We shall show how to solve this last problem in Example 2.

For future reference the analogue of Theorem 7.1.1 for the inverse transform is presented as our next theorem.

---

**THEOREM 7.2.1**    **Some Inverse Transforms**

$$\textbf{(a) } 1 = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\}$$

$$\textbf{(b) } t^n = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}\right\}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots \qquad \textbf{(c) } e^{at} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s - a}\right\}$$

$$\textbf{(d) } \sin kt = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{k}{s^2 + k^2}\right\} \qquad\qquad \textbf{(e) } \cos kt = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s}{s^2 + k^2}\right\}$$

$$\textbf{(f) } \sinh kt = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{k}{s^2 - k^2}\right\} \qquad\qquad \textbf{(g) } \cosh kt = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s}{s^2 - k^2}\right\}$$

---

In evaluating inverse transforms, it often happens that a function of $s$ under consideration does not match *exactly* the form of a Laplace transform $F(s)$ given in a table. It may be necessary to "fix up" the function of $s$ by multiplying and dividing by an appropriate constant.

---

**EXAMPLE 1**    **Applying Theorem 7.2.1**

Evaluate      **(a)** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^5}\right\}$      **(b)** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2 + 7}\right\}$.

**SOLUTION**    **(a)** To match the form given in part (b) of Theorem 7.2.1, we identify $n + 1 = 5$ or $n = 4$ and then multiply and divide by 4!:

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^5}\right\} = \frac{1}{4!} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{4!}{s^5}\right\} = \frac{1}{24} t^4.$$

**(b)** To match the form given in part (d) of Theorem 7.2.1, we identify $k^2 = 7$, so $k = \sqrt{7}$. We fix up the expression by multiplying and dividing by $\sqrt{7}$:

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2 + 7}\right\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\sqrt{7}}{s^2 + 7}\right\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{7}} \sin\sqrt{7}t. \qquad \blacksquare$$

$\mathcal{L}^{-1}$ **IS A LINEAR TRANSFORM**    The inverse Laplace transform is also a linear transform; that is, for constants $\alpha$ and $\beta$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{\alpha F(s) + \beta G(s)\} = \alpha \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} + \beta \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{G(s)\}, \qquad (1)$$

where $F$ and $G$ are the transforms of some functions $f$ and $g$. Like (2) of Section 7.1, (1) extends to any finite linear combination of Laplace transforms.

> ## EXAMPLE 2 Termwise Division and Linearity

Evaluate $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{-2s + 6}{s^2 + 4}\right\}$.

**SOLUTION** We first rewrite the given function of $s$ as two expressions by means of termwise division and then use (1):

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{-2s + 6}{s^2 + 4}\right\} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\underset{\underset{\text{division}}{\text{termwise}}\downarrow}{\frac{-2s}{s^2 + 4}} + \frac{6}{s^2 + 4}\right\} = -2\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\underset{\underset{\text{up constants}}{\text{linearity and fixing}}\downarrow}{\frac{s}{s^2 + 4}}\right\} + \frac{6}{2}\,\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{2}{s^2 + 4}\right\} \quad (2)$$

$$= -2\cos 2t + 3\sin 2t. \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l}\text{parts (e) and (d)} \\ \text{of Theorem 7.2.1 with } k = 2\end{array}$$ ∎

**PARTIAL FRACTIONS** Partial fractions play an important role in finding inverse Laplace transforms. The decomposition of a rational expression into component fractions can be done quickly by means of a single command on most computer algebra systems. Indeed, some CASs have packages that implement Laplace transform and inverse Laplace transform commands. But for those of you without access to such software, we will review in this and subsequent sections some of the basic algebra in the important cases in which the denominator of a Laplace transform $F(s)$ contains distinct linear factors, repeated linear factors, and quadratic polynomials with no real factors. Although we shall examine each of these cases as this chapter develops, it still might be a good idea for you to consult either a calculus text or a current precalculus text for a more comprehensive review of this theory.

The following example illustrates partial fraction decomposition in the case when the denominator of $F(s)$ is factorable into *distinct linear factors*.

> ## EXAMPLE 3 Partial Fractions: Distinct Linear Factors

Evaluate $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{(s - 1)(s - 2)(s + 4)}\right\}$.

**SOLUTION** There exist unique real constants $A$, $B$, and $C$ so that

$$\frac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{(s - 1)(s - 2)(s + 4)} = \frac{A}{s - 1} + \frac{B}{s - 2} + \frac{C}{s + 4}$$

$$= \frac{A(s - 2)(s + 4) + B(s - 1)(s + 4) + C(s - 1)(s - 2)}{(s - 1)(s - 2)(s + 4)}.$$

Since the denominators are identical, the numerators are identical:

$$s^2 + 6s + 9 = A(s - 2)(s + 4) + B(s - 1)(s + 4) + C(s - 1)(s - 2). \quad (3)$$

By comparing coefficients of powers of $s$ on both sides of the equality, we know that (3) is equivalent to a system of three equations in the three unknowns $A$, $B$, and $C$. However, there is a shortcut for determining these unknowns. If we set $s = 1$, $s = 2$, and $s = -4$ in (3), we obtain, respectively,

$$16 = A(-1)(5), \qquad 25 = B(1)(6), \qquad \text{and} \qquad 1 = C(-5)(-6),$$

and so $A = -\frac{16}{5}$, $B = \frac{25}{6}$, and $C = \frac{1}{30}$. Hence the partial fraction decomposition is

$$\frac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{(s - 1)(s - 2)(s + 4)} = -\frac{16/5}{s - 1} + \frac{25/6}{s - 2} + \frac{1/30}{s + 4}, \quad (4)$$

and thus, from the linearity of $\mathscr{L}^{-1}$ and part (c) of Theorem 7.2.1,

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{(s-1)(s-2)(s+4)}\right\} = -\frac{16}{5}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-1}\right\} + \frac{25}{6}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-2}\right\} + \frac{1}{30}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s+4}\right\}$$

$$= -\frac{16}{5}e^t + \frac{25}{6}e^{2t} + \frac{1}{30}e^{-4t}. \tag{5} \blacksquare$$

## 7.2.2 TRANSFORMS OF DERIVATIVES

**TRANSFORM A DERIVATIVE** As was pointed out in the introduction to this chapter, our immediate goal is to use the Laplace transform to solve differential equations. To that end we need to evaluate quantities such as $\mathscr{L}\{dy/dt\}$ and $\mathscr{L}\{d^2y/dt^2\}$. For example, if $f'$ is continuous for $t \geq 0$, then integration by parts gives

$$\mathscr{L}\{f'(t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}f'(t)\,dt = e^{-st}f(t)\Big|_0^\infty + s\int_0^\infty e^{-st}f(t)\,dt$$

$$= -f(0) + s\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$$

or $\qquad \mathscr{L}\{f'(t)\} = sF(s) - f(0). \tag{6}$

Here we have assumed that $e^{-st}f(t) \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$. Similarly, with the aid of (6),

$$\mathscr{L}\{f''(t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}f''(t)\,dt = e^{-st}f'(t)\Big|_0^\infty + s\int_0^\infty e^{-st}f'(t)\,dt$$

$$= -f'(0) + s\mathscr{L}\{f'(t)\}$$

$$= s[sF(s) - f(0)] - f'(0) \quad \leftarrow \text{from (6)}$$

or $\qquad \mathscr{L}\{f''(t)\} = s^2F(s) - sf(0) - f'(0). \tag{7}$

In like manner it can be shown that

$$\mathscr{L}\{f'''(t)\} = s^3F(s) - s^2f(0) - sf'(0) - f''(0). \tag{8}$$

The recursive nature of the Laplace transform of the derivatives of a function $f$ should be apparent from the results in (6), (7), and (8). The next theorem gives the Laplace transform of the $n$th derivative of $f$. The proof is omitted.

---

**THEOREM 7.2.2** **Transform of a Derivative**

If $f, f', \ldots, f^{(n-1)}$ are continuous on $[0, \infty)$ and are of exponential order and if $f^{(n)}(t)$ is piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$, then

$$\mathscr{L}\{f^{(n)}(t)\} = s^nF(s) - s^{n-1}f(0) - s^{n-2}f'(0) - \cdots - f^{(n-1)}(0),$$

where $F(s) = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$.

---

**SOLVING LINEAR ODEs** It is apparent from the general result given in Theorem 7.2.2 that $\mathscr{L}\{d^ny/dt^n\}$ depends on $Y(s) = \mathscr{L}\{y(t)\}$ and the $n - 1$ derivatives of $y(t)$ evaluated at $t = 0$. This property makes the Laplace transform ideally suited for solving linear initial-value problems in which the differential equation has *constant coefficients*. Such a differential equation is simply a linear combination of terms $y, y', y'', \ldots, y^{(n)}$:

$$a_n\frac{d^ny}{dt^n} + a_{n-1}\frac{d^{n-1}y}{dt^{n-1}} + \cdots + a_0y = g(t),$$

$$y(0) = y_0, \; y'(0) = y_1, \ldots, y^{(n-1)}(0) = y_{n-1},$$

where the $a_i$, $i = 0, 1, \ldots, n$ and $y_0, y_1, \ldots, y_{n-1}$ are constants. By the linearity property the Laplace transform of this linear combination is a linear combination of Laplace transforms:

$$a_n \mathscr{L}\left\{\frac{d^n y}{dt^n}\right\} + a_{n-1} \mathscr{L}\left\{\frac{d^{n-1} y}{dt^{n-1}}\right\} + \cdots + a_0 \mathscr{L}\{y\} = \mathscr{L}\{g(t)\}. \tag{9}$$

From Theorem 7.2.2, (9) becomes

$$a_n[s^n Y(s) - s^{n-1} y(0) - \cdots - y^{(n-1)}(0)]$$
$$+ a_{n-1}[s^{n-1} Y(s) - s^{n-2} y(0) - \cdots - y^{(n-2)}(0)] + \cdots + a_0 Y(s) = G(s), \tag{10}$$

where $\mathscr{L}\{y(t)\} = Y(s)$ and $\mathscr{L}\{g(t)\} = G(s)$. In other words, *the Laplace transform of a linear differential equation with constant coefficients becomes an algebraic equation in $Y(s)$.* If we solve the general transformed equation (10) for the symbol $Y(s)$, we first obtain $P(s)Y(s) = Q(s) + G(s)$ and then write

$$Y(s) = \frac{Q(s)}{P(s)} + \frac{G(s)}{P(s)}, \tag{11}$$

where $P(s) = a_n s^n + a_{n-1} s^{n-1} + \cdots + a_0$, $Q(s)$ is a polynomial in $s$ of degree less than or equal to $n - 1$ consisting of the various products of the coefficients $a_i$, $i = 1, \ldots, n$ and the prescribed initial conditions $y_0, y_1, \ldots, y_{n-1}$, and $G(s)$ is the Laplace transform of $g(t)$.[*] Typically, we put the two terms in (11) over the least common denominator and then decompose the expression into two or more partial fractions. Finally, the solution $y(t)$ of the original initial-value problem is $y(t) = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\}$, where the inverse transform is done term by term.

The procedure is summarized in the following diagram.
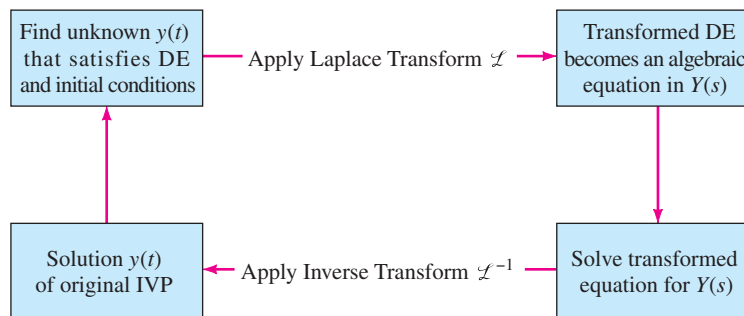


The next example illustrates the foregoing method of solving DEs, as well as partial fraction decomposition in the case when the denominator of $Y(s)$ contains a *quadratic polynomial with no real factors.*

### EXAMPLE 4  Solving a First-Order IVP

Use the Laplace transform to solve the initial-value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + 3y = 13 \sin 2t, \quad y(0) = 6.$$

**SOLUTION** We first take the transform of each member of the differential equation:

$$\mathscr{L}\left\{\frac{dy}{dt}\right\} + 3\mathscr{L}\{y\} = 13\mathscr{L}\{\sin 2t\}. \tag{12}$$

---

[*]The polynomial $P(s)$ is the same as the $n$th-degree auxiliary polynomial in (12) in Section 4.3 with the usual symbol $m$ replaced by $s$.

From (6), $\mathcal{L}\{dy/dt\} = sY(s) - y(0) = sY(s) - 6$, and from part (d) of Theorem 7.1.1, $\mathcal{L}\{\sin 2t\} = 2/(s^2 + 4)$, so (12) is the same as

$$sY(s) - 6 + 3Y(s) = \frac{26}{s^2 + 4} \quad \text{or} \quad (s + 3)Y(s) = 6 + \frac{26}{s^2 + 4}.$$

Solving the last equation for $Y(s)$, we get

$$Y(s) = \frac{6}{s + 3} + \frac{26}{(s + 3)(s^2 + 4)} = \frac{6s^2 + 50}{(s + 3)(s^2 + 4)}. \tag{13}$$

Since the quadratic polynomial $s^2 + 4$ does not factor using real numbers, its assumed numerator in the partial fraction decomposition is a linear polynomial in $s$:

$$\frac{6s^2 + 50}{(s + 3)(s^2 + 4)} = \frac{A}{s + 3} + \frac{Bs + C}{s^2 + 4}.$$

Putting the right-hand side of the equality over a common denominator and equating numerators gives $6s^2 + 50 = A(s^2 + 4) + (Bs + C)(s + 3)$. Setting $s = -3$ then immediately yields $A = 8$. Since the denominator has no more real zeros, we equate the coefficients of $s^2$ and $s$: $6 = A + B$ and $0 = 3B + C$. Using the value of $A$ in the first equation gives $B = -2$, and then using this last value in the second equation gives $C = 6$. Thus

$$Y(s) = \frac{6s^2 + 50}{(s + 3)(s^2 + 4)} = \frac{8}{s + 3} + \frac{-2s + 6}{s^2 + 4}.$$

We are not quite finished because the last rational expression still has to be written as two fractions. This was done by termwise division in Example 2. From (2) of that example,

$$y(t) = 8\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s + 3}\right\} - 2\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s}{s^2 + 4}\right\} + 3\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{2}{s^2 + 4}\right\}.$$

It follows from parts (c), (d), and (e) of Theorem 7.2.1 that the solution of the initial-value problem is $y(t) = 8e^{-3t} - 2\cos 2t + 3\sin 2t$. ■

---

**EXAMPLE 5**  Solving a Second-Order IVP

Solve $y'' - 3y' + 2y = e^{-4t}$, $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 5$.

**SOLUTION**  Proceeding as in Example 4, we transform the DE. We take the sum of the transforms of each term, use (6) and (7), use the given initial conditions, use (c) of Theorem 7.2.1, and then solve for $Y(s)$:

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{d^2y}{dt^2}\right\} - 3\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{dy}{dt}\right\} + 2\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \mathcal{L}\{e^{-4t}\}$$

$$s^2Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) - 3[sY(s) - y(0)] + 2Y(s) = \frac{1}{s + 4}$$

$$(s^2 - 3s + 2)Y(s) = s + 2 + \frac{1}{s + 4}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{s + 2}{s^2 - 3s + 2} + \frac{1}{(s^2 - 3s + 2)(s + 4)} = \frac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{(s - 1)(s - 2)(s + 4)}. \tag{14}$$

The details of the partial fraction decomposition of $Y(s)$ have already been carried out in Example 3. In view of the results in (4) and (5) we have the solution of the initial-value problem

$$y(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\} = -\frac{16}{5}e^t + \frac{25}{6}e^{2t} + \frac{1}{30}e^{-4t}. \quad ■$$

Examples 4 and 5 illustrate the basic procedure for using the Laplace transform to solve a linear initial-value problem, but these examples may appear to demonstrate a method that is not much better than the approach to such problems outlined in Sections 2.3 and 4.3–4.6. Don't draw any negative conclusions from only two examples. Yes, there is a lot of algebra inherent in the use of the Laplace transform, *but* observe that we do not have to use variation of parameters or worry about the cases and algebra in the method of undetermined coefficients. Moreover, since the method incorporates the prescribed initial conditions directly into the solution, there is no need for the separate operation of applying the initial conditions to the general solution $y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + \cdots + c_n y_n + y_p$ of the DE to find specific constants in a particular solution of the IVP.

The Laplace transform has many operational properties. In the sections that follow we will examine some of these properties and see how they enable us to solve problems of greater complexity.

### REMARKS

(*i*) The inverse Laplace transform of a function $F(s)$ may not be unique; in other words, it is possible that $\mathscr{L}\{f_1(t)\} = \mathscr{L}\{f_2(t)\}$ and yet $f_1 \neq f_2$. For our purposes this is not anything to be concerned about. If $f_1$ and $f_2$ are piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$ and of exponential order, then $f_1$ and $f_2$ are *essentially* the same. See Problem 44 in Exercises 7.2. However, if $f_1$ and $f_2$ are continuous on $[0, \infty)$ and $\mathscr{L}\{f_1(t)\} = \mathscr{L}\{f_2(t)\}$, then $f_1 = f_2$ on the interval.

(*ii*) This remark is for those of you who will be required to do partial fraction decompositions by hand. There is another way of determining the coefficients in a partial fraction decomposition in the special case when $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ is a rational function of $s$ and the denominator of $F$ is a product of *distinct* linear factors. Let us illustrate by reexamining Example 3. Suppose we multiply both sides of the assumed decomposition

$$\frac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{(s - 1)(s - 2)(s + 4)} = \frac{A}{s - 1} + \frac{B}{s - 2} + \frac{C}{s + 4} \tag{15}$$

by, say, $s - 1$, simplify, and then set $s = 1$. Since the coefficients of $B$ and $C$ on the right-hand side of the equality are zero, we get

$$\left.\frac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{(s - 2)(s + 4)}\right|_{s=1} = A \quad \text{or} \quad A = -\frac{16}{5}.$$

Written another way,

$$\left.\frac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{\boxed{(s - 1)}(s - 2)(s + 4)}\right|_{s=1} = -\frac{16}{5} = A,$$

where we have shaded, or *covered up*, the factor that canceled when the left-hand side was multiplied by $s - 1$. Now to obtain $B$ and $C$, we simply evaluate the left-hand side of (15) while covering up, in turn, $s - 2$ and $s + 4$:

$$\left.\frac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{(s - 1)\boxed{(s - 2)}(s + 4)}\right|_{s=2} = \frac{25}{6} = B$$

and

$$\left.\frac{s^2 + 6s + 9}{(s - 1)(s - 2)\boxed{(s + 4)}}\right|_{s=-4} = \frac{1}{30} = C.$$

The desired decomposition (15) is given in (4). This special technique for determining coefficients is naturally known as the **cover-up method.**

(*iii*) In this remark we continue our introduction to the terminology of dynamical systems. Because of (9) and (10) the Laplace transform is well adapted to *linear* dynamical systems. The polynomial $P(s) = a_n s^n + a_{n-1}s^{n-1} + \cdots + a_0$ in (11) is the total coefficient of $Y(s)$ in (10) and is simply the left-hand side of the DE with the derivatives $d^k y/dt^k$ replaced by powers $s^k$, $k = 0, 1, \ldots, n$. It is usual practice to call the reciprocal of $P(s)$—namely, $W(s) = 1/P(s)$—the **transfer function** of the system and write (11) as

$$Y(s) = W(s)Q(s) + W(s)G(s). \tag{16}$$

In this manner we have separated, in an additive sense, the effects on the response that are due to the initial conditions (that is, $W(s)Q(s)$) from those due to the input function $g$ (that is, $W(s)G(s)$). See (13) and (14). Hence the response $y(t)$ of the system is a superposition of two responses:

$$y(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{W(s)Q(s)\} + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{W(s)G(s)\} = y_0(t) + y_1(t).$$

If the input is $g(t) = 0$, then the solution of the problem is $y_0(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{W(s)Q(s)\}$. This solution is called the **zero-input response** of the system. On the other hand, the function $y_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{W(s)G(s)\}$ is the output due to the input $g(t)$. Now if the initial state of the system is the zero state (all the initial conditions are zero), then $Q(s) = 0$, and so the only solution of the initial-value problem is $y_1(t)$. The latter solution is called the **zero-state response** of the system. Both $y_0(t)$ and $y_1(t)$ are particular solutions: $y_0(t)$ is a solution of the IVP consisting of the associated homogeneous equation with the given initial conditions, and $y_1(t)$ is a solution of the IVP consisting of the nonhomogeneous equation with zero initial conditions. In Example 5 we see from (14) that the transfer function is $W(s) = 1/(s^2 - 3s + 2)$, the zero-input response is

$$y_0(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s + 2}{(s - 1)(s - 2)}\right\} = -3e^t + 4e^{2t},$$

and the zero-state response is

$$y_1(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s - 1)(s - 2)(s + 4)}\right\} = -\frac{1}{5}e^t + \frac{1}{6}e^{2t} + \frac{1}{30}e^{-4t}.$$

Verify that the sum of $y_0(t)$ and $y_1(t)$ is the solution $y(t)$ in Example 5 and that $y_0(0) = 1$, $y_0'(0) = 5$, whereas $y_1(0) = 0$, $y_1'(0) = 0$.

# EXERCISES 7.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-10.*

## 7.2.1  INVERSE TRANSFORMS

In Problems 1–30 use appropriate algebra and Theorem 7.2.1 to find the given inverse Laplace transform.

**1.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^3}\right\}$

**2.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^4}\right\}$

**3.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2} - \dfrac{48}{s^5}\right\}$

**4.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\left(\dfrac{2}{s} - \dfrac{1}{s^3}\right)^2\right\}$

**5.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{(s + 1)^3}{s^4}\right\}$

**6.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{(s + 2)^2}{s^3}\right\}$

**7.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2} - \dfrac{1}{s} + \dfrac{1}{s - 2}\right\}$

**8.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{4}{s} + \dfrac{6}{s^5} - \dfrac{1}{s + 8}\right\}$

**9.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{4s + 1}\right\}$

**10.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{5s - 2}\right\}$

**11.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{5}{s^2 + 49}\right\}$

**12.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{10s}{s^2 + 16}\right\}$

**13.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{4s}{4s^2 + 1}\right\}$

**14.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{4s^2 + 1}\right\}$

**15.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{2s - 6}{s^2 + 9}\right\}$

**16.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s + 1}{s^2 + 2}\right\}$

**17.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2 + 3s}\right\}$

**18.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s + 1}{s^2 - 4s}\right\}$

**19.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s}{s^2 + 2s - 3}\right\}$

**20.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2 + s - 20}\right\}$

**21.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{0.9s}{(s - 0.1)(s + 0.2)}\right\}$

**22.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s - 3}{(s - \sqrt{3})(s + \sqrt{3})}\right\}$

**23.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s}{(s - 2)(s - 3)(s - 6)}\right\}$

**24.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s^2 + 1}{s(s - 1)(s + 1)(s - 2)}\right\}$

**25.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^3 + 5s}\right\}$

**26.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s}{(s + 2)(s^2 + 4)}\right\}$

**27.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{2s - 4}{(s^2 + s)(s^2 + 1)}\right\}$

**28.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^4 - 9}\right\}$

**29.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{(s^2 + 1)(s^2 + 4)}\right\}$

**30.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{6s + 3}{s^4 + 5s^2 + 4}\right\}$

### 7.2.2 TRANSFORMS OF DERIVATIVES

In Problems 31–40 use the Laplace transform to solve the given initial-value problem.

**31.** $\dfrac{dy}{dt} - y = 1, \quad y(0) = 0$

**32.** $2\dfrac{dy}{dt} + y = 0, \quad y(0) = -3$

**33.** $y' + 6y = e^{4t}, \quad y(0) = 2$

**34.** $y' - y = 2\cos 5t, \quad y(0) = 0$

**35.** $y'' + 5y' + 4y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 0$

**36.** $y'' - 4y' = 6e^{3t} - 3e^{-t}, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = -1$

**37.** $y'' + y = \sqrt{2}\sin\sqrt{2}t, \quad y(0) = 10, \quad y'(0) = 0$

**38.** $y'' + 9y = e^t, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$

**39.** $2y''' + 3y'' - 3y' - 2y = e^{-t}, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0, \quad y''(0) = 1$

**40.** $y''' + 2y'' - y' - 2y = \sin 3t, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0, \quad y''(0) = 1$

The inverse forms of the results in Problem 46 in Exercises 7.1 are

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s - a}{(s - a)^2 + b^2}\right\} = e^{at}\cos bt$$

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{b}{(s - a)^2 + b^2}\right\} = e^{at}\sin bt.$$

In Problems 41 and 42 use the Laplace transform and these inverses to solve the given initial-value problem.

**41.** $y' + y = e^{-3t}\cos 2t, \quad y(0) = 0$

**42.** $y'' - 2y' + 5y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 3$

### Discussion Problems

**43. (a)** With a slight change in notation the transform in (6) is the same as

$$\mathscr{L}\{f'(t)\} = s\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} - f(0).$$

With $f(t) = te^{at}$, discuss how this result in conjunction with (c) of Theorem 7.1.1 can be used to evaluate $\mathscr{L}\{te^{at}\}$.

**(b)** Proceed as in part (a), but this time discuss how to use (7) with $f(t) = t\sin kt$ in conjunction with (d) and (e) of Theorem 7.1.1 to evaluate $\mathscr{L}\{t\sin kt\}$.

**44.** Make up two functions $f_1$ and $f_2$ that have the same Laplace transform. Do not think profound thoughts.

**45.** Reread *Remark* (*iii*) on page 269. Find the zero-input and the zero-state response for the IVP in Problem 36.

**46.** Suppose $f(t)$ is a function for which $f'(t)$ is piecewise continuous and of exponential order $c$. Use results in this section and Section 7.1 to justify

$$f(0) = \lim_{s \to \infty} sF(s),$$

where $F(s) = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$. Verify this result with $f(t) = \cos kt$.

---

| **7.3** | OPERATIONAL PROPERTIES I |
|---|---|

#### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Keep practicing partial fraction decomposition
- Completion of the square

**INTRODUCTION**   It is not convenient to use Definition 7.1.1 each time we wish to find the Laplace transform of a function $f(t)$. For example, the integration by parts involved in evaluating, say, $\mathscr{L}\{e^t t^2 \sin 3t\}$ is formidable, to say the least. In this section and the next we present several labor-saving operational properties of the Laplace transform that enable us to build up a more extensive list of transforms (see the table in Appendix III) without having to resort to the basic definition and integration.

## 7.3.1   TRANSLATION ON THE $s$-AXIS

**A TRANSLATION**   Evaluating transforms such as $\mathscr{L}\{e^{5t}t^3\}$ and $\mathscr{L}\{e^{-2t}\cos 4t\}$ is straightforward provided that we know (and we do) $\mathscr{L}\{t^3\}$ and $\mathscr{L}\{\cos 4t\}$. In general, if we know the Laplace transform of a function $f$, $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$, it is possible to compute the Laplace transform of an exponential multiple of $f$, that is, $\mathscr{L}\{e^{at}f(t)\}$, with no additional effort other than *translating*, or *shifting*, the transform $F(s)$ to $F(s - a)$. This result is known as the **first translation theorem** or **first shifting theorem.**

---

**THEOREM 7.3.1**   **First Translation Theorem**

If $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ and $a$ is any real number, then

$$\mathscr{L}\{e^{at}f(t)\} = F(s - a).$$

---

**PROOF**   The proof is immediate, since by Definition 7.1.1

$$\mathscr{L}\{e^{at}f(t)\} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-st}e^{at}f(t)\,dt = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(s-a)t}f(t)\,dt = F(s - a). \qquad \blacksquare$$

If we consider $s$ a real variable, then the graph of $F(s - a)$ is the graph of $F(s)$ shifted on the $s$-axis by the amount $|a|$. If $a > 0$, the graph of $F(s)$ is shifted $a$ units to the right, whereas if $a < 0$, the graph is shifted $|a|$ units to the left. See Figure 7.3.1.
For emphasis it is sometimes useful to use the symbolism

$$\mathscr{L}\{e^{at}f(t)\} = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}\big|_{s \to s-a},$$

where $s \to s - a$ means that in the Laplace transform $F(s)$ of $f(t)$ we replace the symbol $s$ wherever it appears by $s - a$.
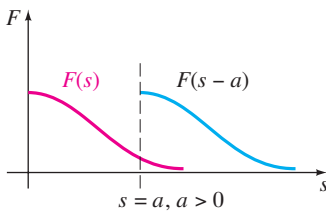


**FIGURE 7.3.1**   Shift on $s$-axis

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**EXAMPLE 1**   **Using the First Translation Theorem**

Evaluate   **(a)** $\mathscr{L}\{e^{5t}t^3\}$     **(b)** $\mathscr{L}\{e^{-2t}\cos 4t\}$.

**SOLUTION**   The results follow from Theorems 7.1.1 and 7.3.1.

**(a)** $\mathscr{L}\{e^{5t}t^3\} = \mathscr{L}\{t^3\}\big|_{s \to s-5} = \dfrac{3!}{s^4}\bigg|_{s \to s-5} = \dfrac{6}{(s - 5)^4}$

**(b)** $\mathscr{L}\{e^{-2t}\cos 4t\} = \mathscr{L}\{\cos 4t\}\big|_{s \to s-(-2)} = \dfrac{s}{s^2 + 16}\bigg|_{s \to s+2} = \dfrac{s + 2}{(s + 2)^2 + 16}$ $\blacksquare$

**INVERSE FORM OF THEOREM 7.3.1**   To compute the inverse of $F(s - a)$, we must recognize $F(s)$, find $f(t)$ by taking the inverse Laplace transform of $F(s)$, and then multiply $f(t)$ by the exponential function $e^{at}$. This procedure can be summarized symbolically in the following manner:

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\{F(s - a)\} = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\big|_{s \to s-a}\} = e^{at}f(t), \qquad (1)$$

where $f(t) = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$.
     The first part of the next example illustrates partial fraction decomposition in the case when the denominator of $Y(s)$ contains *repeated linear factors.*

> **EXAMPLE 2**  **Partial Fractions: Repeated Linear Factors**

Evaluate  **(a)** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{2s + 5}{(s - 3)^2}\right\}$  **(b)** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s/2 + 5/3}{s^2 + 4s + 6}\right\}$.

**SOLUTION**  **(a)** A repeated linear factor is a term $(s - a)^n$, where $a$ is a real number and $n$ is a positive integer $\geq 2$. Recall that if $(s - a)^n$ appears in the denominator of a rational expression, then the assumed decomposition contains $n$ partial fractions with constant numerators and denominators $s - a, (s - a)^2, \ldots, (s - a)^n$. Hence with $a = 3$ and $n = 2$ we write

$$\frac{2s + 5}{(s - 3)^2} = \frac{A}{s - 3} + \frac{B}{(s - 3)^2}.$$

By putting the two terms on the right-hand side over a common denominator, we obtain the numerator $2s + 5 = A(s - 3) + B$, and this identity yields $A = 2$ and $B = 11$. Therefore

$$\frac{2s + 5}{(s - 3)^2} = \frac{2}{s - 3} + \frac{11}{(s - 3)^2} \tag{2}$$

and $\qquad \mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{2s + 5}{(s - 3)^2}\right\} = 2\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s - 3}\right\} + 11\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{(s - 3)^2}\right\}. \tag{3}$

Now $1/(s - 3)^2$ is $F(s) = 1/s^2$ shifted three units to the right. Since $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\{1/s^2\} = t$, it follows from (1) that

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s - 3)^2}\right\} = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2}\bigg|_{s \to s - 3}\right\} = e^{3t}t.$$

Finally, (3) is $\qquad \mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{2s + 5}{(s - 3)^2}\right\} = 2e^{3t} + 11e^{3t}t. \tag{4}$

**(b)** To start, observe that the quadratic polynomial $s^2 + 4s + 6$ has no real zeros and so has no real linear factors. In this situation we *complete the square*:

$$\frac{s/2 + 5/3}{s^2 + 4s + 6} = \frac{s/2 + 5/3}{(s + 2)^2 + 2}. \tag{5}$$

Our goal here is to recognize the expression on the right-hand side as some Laplace transform $F(s)$ in which $s$ has been replaced throughout by $s + 2$. What we are trying to do is analogous to working part (b) of Example 1 backwards. The denominator in (5) is already in the correct form—that is, $s^2 + 2$ with $s$ replaced by $s + 2$. However, we must fix up the numerator by manipulating the constants: $\frac{1}{2}s + \frac{5}{3} = \frac{1}{2}(s + 2) + \frac{5}{3} - \frac{2}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(s + 2) + \frac{2}{3}$.

Now by termwise division, the linearity of $\mathscr{L}^{-1}$, parts (e) and (d) of Theorem 7.2.1, and finally (1),

$$\frac{s/2 + 5/3}{(s + 2)^2 + 2} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(s + 2) + \frac{2}{3}}{(s + 2)^2 + 2} = \frac{1}{2}\frac{s + 2}{(s + 2)^2 + 2} + \frac{2}{3}\frac{1}{(s + 2)^2 + 2}$$

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s/2 + 5/3}{s^2 + 4s + 6}\right\} = \frac{1}{2}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s + 2}{(s + 2)^2 + 2}\right\} + \frac{2}{3}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s + 2)^2 + 2}\right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s}{s^2 + 2}\bigg|_{s \to s + 2}\right\} + \frac{2}{3\sqrt{2}}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{s^2 + 2}\bigg|_{s \to s + 2}\right\} \tag{6}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}e^{-2t}\cos\sqrt{2}t + \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}e^{-2t}\sin\sqrt{2}t. \tag{7} \ \blacksquare$$

## EXAMPLE 3 An Initial-Value Problem

Solve $y'' - 6y' + 9y = t^2 e^{3t}$, $y(0) = 2$, $y'(0) = 17$.

**SOLUTION** Before transforming the DE, note that its right-hand side is similar to the function in part (a) of Example 1. After using linearity, Theorem 7.3.1, and the initial conditions, we simplify and then solve for $Y(s) = \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$:

$$\mathcal{L}\{y''\} - 6\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + 9\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \mathcal{L}\{t^2 e^{3t}\}$$

$$s^2 Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) - 6[sY(s) - y(0)] + 9Y(s) = \frac{2}{(s-3)^3}$$

$$(s^2 - 6s + 9)Y(s) = 2s + 5 + \frac{2}{(s-3)^3}$$

$$(s - 3)^2 Y(s) = 2s + 5 + \frac{2}{(s-3)^3}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{2s+5}{(s-3)^2} + \frac{2}{(s-3)^5}.$$

The first term on the right-hand side was already decomposed into individual partial fractions in (2) in part (a) of Example 2:

$$Y(s) = \frac{2}{s-3} + \frac{11}{(s-3)^2} + \frac{2}{(s-3)^5}.$$

Thus $\quad y(t) = 2\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s-3}\right\} + 11\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s-3)^2}\right\} + \frac{2}{4!}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{4!}{(s-3)^5}\right\}. \quad (8)$

From the inverse form (1) of Theorem 7.3.1, the last two terms in (8) are

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2}\Big|_{s\to s-3}\right\} = te^{3t} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{4!}{s^5}\Big|_{s\to s-3}\right\} = t^4 e^{3t}.$$

Thus (8) is $y(t) = 2e^{3t} + 11te^{3t} + \frac{1}{12}t^4 e^{3t}$. ∎

## EXAMPLE 4 An Initial-Value Problem

Solve $y'' + 4y' + 6y = 1 + e^{-t}$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$.

**SOLUTION** $\qquad\qquad \mathcal{L}\{y''\} + 4\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + 6\mathcal{L}\{y\} = \mathcal{L}\{1\} + \mathcal{L}\{e^{-t}\}$

$$s^2 Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) + 4[sY(s) - y(0)] + 6Y(s) = \frac{1}{s} + \frac{1}{s+1}$$

$$(s^2 + 4s + 6)Y(s) = \frac{2s+1}{s(s+1)}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{2s+1}{s(s+1)(s^2+4s+6)}$$

Since the quadratic term in the denominator does not factor into real linear factors, the partial fraction decomposition for $Y(s)$ is found to be

$$Y(s) = \frac{1/6}{s} + \frac{1/3}{s+1} - \frac{s/2 + 5/3}{s^2 + 4s + 6}.$$

Moreover, in preparation for taking the inverse transform we already manipulated the last term into the necessary form in part (b) of Example 2. So in view of the results in (6) and (7) we have the solution

$$y(t) = \frac{1}{6}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} + \frac{1}{3}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s+1}\right\} - \frac{1}{2}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s+2}{(s+2)^2+2}\right\} - \frac{2}{3\sqrt{2}}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{(s+2)^2+2}\right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{3}e^{-t} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-2t}\cos\sqrt{2}t - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}e^{-2t}\sin\sqrt{2}t. \qquad \blacksquare$$

## 7.3.2 TRANSLATION ON THE *t*-AXIS

**UNIT STEP FUNCTION** In engineering, one frequently encounters functions that are either "off" or "on." For example, an external force acting on a mechanical system or a voltage impressed on a circuit can be turned off after a period of time. It is convenient, then, to define a special function that is the number 0 (off) up to a certain time $t = a$ and then the number 1 (on) after that time. This function is called the **unit step function** or the **Heaviside function.**

---

**DEFINITION 7.3.1    Unit Step Function**

The **unit step function** $\mathscr{U}(t - a)$ is defined to be

$$\mathscr{U}(t - a) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \leq t < a \\ 1, & t \geq a. \end{cases}$$

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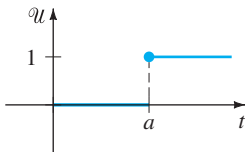


**FIGURE 7.3.2** Graph of unit step function

Notice that we define $\mathscr{U}(t - a)$ only on the nonnegative *t*-axis, since this is all that we are concerned with in the study of the Laplace transform. In a broader sense $\mathscr{U}(t - a) = 0$ for $t < a$. The graph of $\mathscr{U}(t - a)$ is given in Figure 7.3.2.

When a function $f$ defined for $t \geq 0$ is multiplied by $\mathscr{U}(t - a)$, the unit step function "turns off" a portion of the graph of that function. For example, consider the function $f(t) = 2t - 3$. To "turn off" the portion of the graph of $f$ for $0 \leq t < 1$, we simply form the product $(2t - 3)\,\mathscr{U}(t - 1)$. See Figure 7.3.3. In general, the graph of $f(t)\,\mathscr{U}(t - a)$ is 0 (off) for $0 \leq t < a$ and is the portion of the graph of $f$ (on) for $t \geq a$.

The unit step function can also be used to write piecewise-defined functions in a compact form. For example, if we consider $0 \leq t < 2$, $2 \leq t < 3$, and $t \geq 3$ and the corresponding values of $\mathscr{U}(t - 2)$ and $\mathscr{U}(t - 3)$, it should be apparent that the piecewise-defined function shown in Figure 7.3.4 is the same as $f(t) = 2 - 3\,\mathscr{U}(t - 2) + \mathscr{U}(t - 3)$. Also, a general piecewise-defined function of the type



**FIGURE 7.3.3** Function is $f(t) = (2t - 3)\,\mathscr{U}(t - 1)$

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} g(t), & 0 \leq t < a \\ h(t), & t \geq a \end{cases} \qquad (9)$$

is the same as

$$f(t) = g(t) - g(t)\,\mathscr{U}(t - a) + h(t)\,\mathscr{U}(t - a). \qquad (10)$$

Similarly, a function of the type

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \leq t < a \\ g(t), & a \leq t < b \\ 0, & t \geq b \end{cases} \qquad (11)$$

can be written
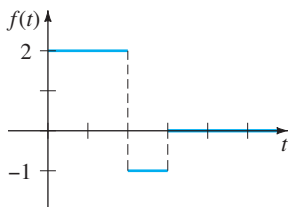


**FIGURE 7.3.4** Function is $f(t) = 2 - 3\,\mathscr{U}(t - 2) + \mathscr{U}(t - 3)$

$$f(t) = g(t)[\mathscr{U}(t - a) - \mathscr{U}(t - b)]. \qquad (12)$$
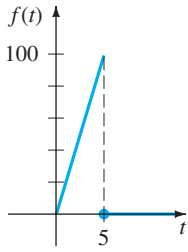
**FIGURE 7.3.5** Function is $f(t) = 20t - 20t\,\mathcal{U}(t-5)$



**(a)** $f(t)$, $t \geq 0$



**(b)** $f(t-a)\,\mathcal{U}(t-a)$

**FIGURE 7.3.6** Shift on $t$-axis

**EXAMPLE 5** A Piecewise-Defined Function

Express $f(t) = \begin{cases} 20t, & 0 \leq t < 5 \\ 0, & t \geq 5 \end{cases}$ in terms of unit step functions. Graph.

**SOLUTION** The graph of $f$ is given in Figure 7.3.5. Now from (9) and (10) with $a = 5$, $g(t) = 20t$, and $h(t) = 0$ we get $f(t) = 20t - 20t\,\mathcal{U}(t-5)$. ∎

Consider a general function $y = f(t)$ defined for $t \geq 0$. The piecewise-defined function

$$f(t-a)\,\mathcal{U}(t-a) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \leq t < a \\ f(t-a), & t \geq a \end{cases} \tag{13}$$

plays a significant role in the discussion that follows. As shown in Figure 7.3.6, for $a > 0$ the graph of the function $y = f(t-a)\,\mathcal{U}(t-a)$ coincides with the graph of $y = f(t-a)$ for $t \geq a$ (which is the *entire* graph of $y = f(t)$, $t \geq 0$ shifted $a$ units to the right on the $t$-axis), but is identically zero for $0 \leq t < a$.

We saw in Theorem 7.3.1 that an exponential multiple of $f(t)$ results in a translation of the transform $F(s)$ on the $s$-axis. As a consequence of the next theorem we see that whenever $F(s)$ is multiplied by an exponential function $e^{-as}$, $a > 0$, the inverse transform of the product $e^{-as} F(s)$ is the function $f$ shifted along the $t$-axis in the manner illustrated in Figure 7.3.6(b). This result, presented next in its direct transform version, is called the **second translation theorem** or **second shifting theorem.**

---

**THEOREM 7.3.2** Second Translation Theorem

If $F(s) = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ and $a > 0$, then

$$\mathscr{L}\{f(t-a)\,\mathcal{U}(t-a)\} = e^{-as}F(s).$$

---

**PROOF** By the additive interval property of integrals,

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t-a)\,\mathcal{U}(t-a)\,dt$$

can be written as two integrals:

$$\mathscr{L}\{f(t-a)\,\mathcal{U}(t-a)\} = \underbrace{\int_0^a e^{-st} f(t-a)\,\mathcal{U}(t-a)\,dt}_{\substack{\text{zero for} \\ 0 \leq t < a}} + \underbrace{\int_a^\infty e^{-st} f(t-a)\,\mathcal{U}(t-a)\,dt}_{\substack{\text{one for} \\ t \geq a}} = \int_a^\infty e^{-st} f(t-a)\,dt.$$

Now if we let $v = t - a$, $dv = dt$ in the last integral, then

$$\mathscr{L}\{f(t-a)\,\mathcal{U}(t-a)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-s(v+a)} f(v)\,dv = e^{-as}\int_0^\infty e^{-sv} f(v)\,dv = e^{-as}\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}. \ \blacksquare$$

We often wish to find the Laplace transform of just a unit step function. This can be from either Definition 7.1.1 or Theorem 7.3.2. If we identify $f(t) = 1$ in Theorem 7.3.2, then $f(t-a) = 1$, $F(s) = \mathscr{L}\{1\} = 1/s$, and so

$$\mathscr{L}\{\mathcal{U}(t-a)\} = \frac{e^{-as}}{s}. \tag{14}$$

For example, by using (14), the Laplace transform of the function in Figure 7.3.4 is

$$\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = 2\mathscr{L}\{1\} - 3\mathscr{L}\{\mathcal{U}(t-2)\} + \mathscr{L}\{\mathcal{U}(t-3)\}$$

$$= 2\frac{1}{s} - 3\frac{e^{-2s}}{s} + \frac{e^{-3s}}{s}.$$

**INVERSE FORM OF THEOREM 7.3.2** If $f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$, the inverse form of Theorem 7.3.2, $a > 0$, is

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{e^{-as}F(s)\} = f(t - a)\,\mathcal{U}(t - a). \tag{15}$$

---

**EXAMPLE 6** Using Formula (15)

Evaluate **(a)** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s - 4}e^{-2s}\right\}$ **(b)** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s}{s^2 + 9}e^{-\pi s/2}\right\}$.

**SOLUTION** **(a)** With the identifications $a = 2$, $F(s) = 1/(s - 4)$, and $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} = e^{4t}$, we have from (15)

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s - 4}e^{-2s}\right\} = e^{4(t-2)}\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2).$$

**(b)** With $a = \pi/2$, $F(s) = s/(s^2 + 9)$, and $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} = \cos 3t$, (15) yields

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{s}{s^2 + 9}e^{-\pi s/2}\right\} = \cos 3\left(t - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\mathcal{U}\left(t - \frac{\pi}{2}\right).$$

The last expression can be simplified somewhat by using the addition formula for the cosine. Verify that the result is the same as $-\sin 3t\,\mathcal{U}\left(t - \dfrac{\pi}{2}\right)$. ∎

**ALTERNATIVE FORM OF THEOREM 7.3.2** We are frequently confronted with the problem of finding the Laplace transform of a product of a function $g$ and a unit step function $\mathcal{U}(t - a)$ where the function $g$ lacks the precise shifted form $f(t - a)$ in Theorem 7.3.2. To find the Laplace transform of $g(t)\mathcal{U}(t - a)$, it is possible to fix up $g(t)$ into the required form $f(t - a)$ by algebraic manipulations. For example, if we wanted to use Theorem 7.3.2 to find the Laplace transform of $t^2\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2)$, we would have to force $g(t) = t^2$ into the form $f(t - 2)$. You should work through the details and verify that $t^2 = (t - 2)^2 + 4(t - 2) + 4$ is an identity. Therefore

$$\mathcal{L}\{t^2\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2)\} = \mathcal{L}\{(t - 2)^2\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2) + 4(t - 2)\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2) + 4\mathcal{U}(t - 2)\},$$

where each term on the right-hand side can now be evaluated by Theorem 7.3.2. But since these manipulations are time consuming and often not obvious, it is simpler to devise an alternative version of Theorem 7.3.2. Using Definition 7.1.1, the definition of $\mathcal{U}(t - a)$, and the substitution $u = t - a$, we obtain

$$\mathcal{L}\{g(t)\,\mathcal{U}(t - a)\} = \int_a^\infty e^{-st}g(t)\,dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-s(u+a)}g(u + a)\,du.$$

That is, $\qquad\qquad \mathcal{L}\{g(t)\mathcal{U}(t - a)\} = e^{-as}\mathcal{L}\{g(t + a)\}. \tag{16}$

---

**EXAMPLE 7** Second Translation Theorem—Alternative Form

Evaluate $\mathcal{L}\{\cos t\,\mathcal{U}(t - \pi)\}$.

**SOLUTION** With $g(t) = \cos t$ and $a = \pi$, then $g(t + \pi) = \cos(t + \pi) = -\cos t$ by the addition formula for the cosine function. Hence by (16),

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos t\,\mathcal{U}(t - \pi)\} = -e^{-\pi s}\mathcal{L}\{\cos t\} = -\frac{s}{s^2 + 1}e^{-\pi s}.$$ ∎

## EXAMPLE 8  An Initial-Value Problem

Solve $y' + y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 5$, where $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < \pi \\ 3 \cos t, & t \ge \pi. \end{cases}$

**SOLUTION**  The function $f$ can be written as $f(t) = 3 \cos t\, \mathcal{U}(t - \pi)$, so by linearity, the results of Example 7, and the usual partial fractions, we have

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'\} + \mathcal{L}\{y\} = 3\mathcal{L}\{\cos t\, \mathcal{U}(t - \pi)\}$$

$$sY(s) - y(0) + Y(s) = -3\frac{s}{s^2 + 1}e^{-\pi s}$$

$$(s + 1)Y(s) = 5 - \frac{3s}{s^2 + 1}e^{-\pi s}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{5}{s + 1} - \frac{3}{2}\left[ -\frac{1}{s + 1}e^{-\pi s} + \frac{1}{s^2 + 1}e^{-\pi s} + \frac{s}{s^2 + 1}e^{-\pi s} \right]. \quad (17)$$

Now proceeding as we did in Example 6, it follows from (15) with $a = \pi$ that the inverses of the terms inside the brackets are

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{ \frac{1}{s + 1}e^{-\pi s} \right\} = e^{-(t - \pi)}\mathcal{U}(t - \pi), \qquad \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{ \frac{1}{s^2 + 1}e^{-\pi s} \right\} = \sin(t - \pi)\mathcal{U}(t - \pi),$$

and

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{ \frac{s}{s^2 + 1}e^{-\pi s} \right\} = \cos(t - \pi)\mathcal{U}(t - \pi).$$

Thus the inverse of (17) is

$$y(t) = 5e^{-t} + \frac{3}{2}e^{-(t - \pi)}\mathcal{U}(t - \pi) - \frac{3}{2}\sin(t - \pi)\mathcal{U}(t - \pi) - \frac{3}{2}\cos(t - \pi)\mathcal{U}(t - \pi)$$

$$= 5e^{-t} + \frac{3}{2}[e^{-(t - \pi)} + \sin t + \cos t]\,\mathcal{U}(t - \pi) \qquad \leftarrow \text{trigonometric identities}$$

$$= \begin{cases} 5e^{-t}, & 0 \le t < \pi \\ 5e^{-t} + \frac{3}{2}e^{-(t - \pi)} + \frac{3}{2}\sin t + \frac{3}{2}\cos t, & t \ge \pi. \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

We obtained the graph of (18) shown in Figure 7.3.7 by using a graphing utility. ∎



**FIGURE 7.3.7**  Graph of function in (18)

**BEAMS**  In Section 5.2 we saw that the static deflection $y(x)$ of a uniform beam of length $L$ carrying load $w(x)$ per unit length is found from the linear fourth-order differential equation

$$EI\frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = w(x), \quad (19)$$

where $E$ is Young's modulus of elasticity and $I$ is a moment of inertia of a cross section of the beam. The Laplace transform is particularly useful in solving (19) when $w(x)$ is piecewise-defined. However, to use the Laplace transform, we must tacitly assume that $y(x)$ and $w(x)$ are defined on $(0, \infty)$ rather than on $(0, L)$. Note, too, that the next example is a boundary-value problem rather than an initial-value problem.

## EXAMPLE 9  A Boundary-Value Problem

A beam of length $L$ is embedded at both ends, as shown in Figure 7.3.8. Find the deflection of the beam when the load is given by

$$w(x) = \begin{cases} w_0\left(1 - \frac{2}{L}x\right), & 0 < x < L/2 \\ 0, & L/2 < x < L. \end{cases}$$



**FIGURE 7.3.8**  Embedded beam with variable load

**SOLUTION**   Recall that because the beam is embedded at both ends, the boundary conditions are $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y(L) = 0$, $y'(L) = 0$. Now by (10) we can express $w(x)$ in terms of the unit step function:

$$w(x) = w_0\left(1 - \frac{2}{L}x\right) - w_0\left(1 - \frac{2}{L}x\right)\mathcal{U}\left(x - \frac{L}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{2w_0}{L}\left[\frac{L}{2} - x + \left(x - \frac{L}{2}\right)\mathcal{U}\left(x - \frac{L}{2}\right)\right].$$

Transforming (19) with respect to the variable $x$ gives

$$EI\left(s^4Y(s) - s^3y(0) - s^2y'(0) - sy''(0) - y'''(0)\right) = \frac{2w_0}{L}\left[\frac{L/2}{s} - \frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{1}{s^2}e^{-Ls/2}\right]$$

or

$$s^4Y(s) - sy''(0) - y'''(0) = \frac{2w_0}{EIL}\left[\frac{L/2}{s} - \frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{1}{s^2}e^{-Ls/2}\right].$$

If we let $c_1 = y''(0)$ and $c_2 = y'''(0)$, then

$$Y(s) = \frac{c_1}{s^3} + \frac{c_2}{s^4} + \frac{2w_0}{EIL}\left[\frac{L/2}{s^5} - \frac{1}{s^6} + \frac{1}{s^6}e^{-Ls/2}\right],$$

and consequently

$$y(x) = \frac{c_1}{2!}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{2!}{s^3}\right\} + \frac{c_2}{3!}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{3!}{s^4}\right\} + \frac{2w_0}{EIL}\left[\frac{L/2}{4!}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{4!}{s^5}\right\} - \frac{1}{5!}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{5!}{s^6}\right\} + \frac{1}{5!}\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{5!}{s^6}e^{-Ls/2}\right\}\right]$$

$$= \frac{c_1}{2}x^2 + \frac{c_2}{6}x^3 + \frac{w_0}{60\,EIL}\left[\frac{5L}{2}x^4 - x^5 + \left(x - \frac{L}{2}\right)^5\mathcal{U}\left(x - \frac{L}{2}\right)\right].$$

Applying the conditions $y(L) = 0$ and $y'(L) = 0$ to the last result yields a system of equations for $c_1$ and $c_2$:

$$c_1\frac{L^2}{2} + c_2\frac{L^3}{6} + \frac{49w_0L^4}{1920EI} = 0$$

$$c_1 L + c_2\frac{L^2}{2} + \frac{85w_0L^3}{960EI} = 0.$$

Solving, we find $c_1 = 23w_0L^2/(960EI)$ and $c_2 = -9w_0L/(40EI)$. Thus the deflection is given by

$$y(x) = \frac{23w_0L^2}{1920EI}x^2 - \frac{3w_0L}{80EI}x^3 + \frac{w_0}{60EIL}\left[\frac{5L}{2}x^4 - x^5 + \left(x - \frac{L}{2}\right)^5\mathcal{U}\left(x - \frac{L}{2}\right)\right]. \quad \blacksquare$$

---

## EXERCISES 7.3

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-11.*

### 7.3.1   TRANSLATION ON THE s-AXIS

In Problems 1–20 find either $F(s)$ or $f(t)$, as indicated.

**1.** $\mathscr{L}\{te^{10t}\}$

**2.** $\mathscr{L}\{te^{-6t}\}$

**3.** $\mathscr{L}\{t^3e^{-2t}\}$

**4.** $\mathscr{L}\{t^{10}e^{-7t}\}$

**5.** $\mathscr{L}\{t(e^t + e^{2t})^2\}$

**6.** $\mathscr{L}\{e^{2t}(t - 1)^2\}$

**7.** $\mathscr{L}\{e^t\sin 3t\}$

**8.** $\mathscr{L}\{e^{-2t}\cos 4t\}$

**9.** $\mathscr{L}\{(1 - e^t + 3e^{-4t})\cos 5t\}$

**10.** $\mathscr{L}\left\{e^{3t}\left(9 - 4t + 10\sin\frac{t}{2}\right)\right\}$

**11.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{(s + 2)^3}\right\}$

**12.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{(s - 1)^4}\right\}$

**13.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2 - 6s + 10}\right\}$

**14.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2 + 2s + 5}\right\}$

**15.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s}{s^2 + 4s + 5}\right\}$

**16.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{2s + 5}{s^2 + 6s + 34}\right\}$

**17.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s}{(s + 1)^2}\right\}$

**18.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{5s}{(s - 2)^2}\right\}$

**19.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{2s - 1}{s^2(s + 1)^3}\right\}$

**20.** $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{(s + 1)^2}{(s + 2)^4}\right\}$

In Problems 21–30 use the Laplace transform to solve the given initial-value problem.

**21.** $y' + 4y = e^{-4t}, \quad y(0) = 2$

**22.** $y' - y = 1 + te^t, \quad y(0) = 0$

**23.** $y'' + 2y' + y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 1$

**24.** $y'' - 4y' + 4y = t^3 e^{2t}, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**25.** $y'' - 6y' + 9y = t, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 1$

**26.** $y'' - 4y' + 4y = t^3, \quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 0$

**27.** $y'' - 6y' + 13y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = -3$

**28.** $2y'' + 20y' + 51y = 0, \quad y(0) = 2, y'(0) = 0$

**29.** $y'' - y' = e^t \cos t, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**30.** $y'' - 2y' + 5y = 1 + t, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 4$

In Problems 31 and 32 use the Laplace transform and the procedure outlined in Example 9 to solve the given boundary-value problem.

**31.** $y'' + 2y' + y = 0, \quad y'(0) = 2, y(1) = 2$

**32.** $y'' + 8y' + 20y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, y'(\pi) = 0$

**33.** A 4-pound weight stretches a spring 2 feet. The weight is released from rest 18 inches above the equilibrium position, and the resulting motion takes place in a medium offering a damping force numerically equal to $\frac{7}{8}$ times the instantaneous velocity. Use the Laplace transform to find the equation of motion $x(t)$.

**34.** Recall that the differential equation for the instantaneous charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor in an *LRC* series circuit is given by

$$L\frac{d^2q}{dt^2} + R\frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{1}{C}q = E(t). \quad (20)$$

See Section 5.1. Use the Laplace transform to find $q(t)$ when $L = 1$ h, $R = 20$ Ω, $C = 0.005$ f, $E(t) = 150$ V, $t > 0$, $q(0) = 0$, and $i(0) = 0$. What is the current $i(t)$?

**35.** Consider a battery of constant voltage $E_0$ that charges the capacitor shown in Figure 7.3.9. Divide equation (20) by $L$ and define $2\lambda = R/L$ and $\omega^2 = 1/LC$. Use the Laplace transform to show that the solution $q(t)$ of $q'' + 2\lambda q' + \omega^2 q = E_0/L$ subject to $q(0) = 0$, $i(0) = 0$ is

$$q(t) = \begin{cases} E_0 C \left[ 1 - e^{-\lambda t}\left(\cosh \sqrt{\lambda^2 - \omega^2}\,t \right. \right. \\ \qquad \left. \left. + \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda^2 - \omega^2}} \sinh \sqrt{\lambda^2 - \omega^2}\,t\right)\right], & \lambda > \omega, \\ E_0 C[1 - e^{-\lambda t}(1 + \lambda t)], & \lambda = \omega, \\ E_0 C \left[ 1 - e^{-\lambda t}\left(\cos \sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\,t \right. \right. \\ \qquad \left. \left. + \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}} \sin \sqrt{\omega^2 - \lambda^2}\,t\right)\right], & \lambda < \omega. \end{cases}$$
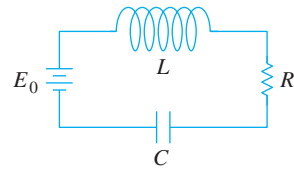


**FIGURE 7.3.9** Series circuit in Problem 35

**36.** Use the Laplace transform to find the charge $q(t)$ in an *RC* series circuit when $q(0) = 0$ and $E(t) = E_0 e^{-kt}, k > 0$. Consider two cases: $k \neq 1/RC$ and $k = 1/RC$.

### 7.3.2 TRANSLATION ON THE *t*-AXIS

In Problems 37–48 find either $F(s)$ or $f(t)$, as indicated.

**37.** $\mathcal{L}\{(t - 1)\,\mathcal{U}(t - 1)\}$

**38.** $\mathcal{L}\{e^{2-t}\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2)\}$

**39.** $\mathcal{L}\{t\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2)\}$

**40.** $\mathcal{L}\{(3t + 1)\,\mathcal{U}(t - 1)\}$

**41.** $\mathcal{L}\{\cos 2t\,\mathcal{U}(t - \pi)\}$

**42.** $\mathcal{L}\left\{\sin t\,\mathcal{U}\left(t - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)\right\}$

**43.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{e^{-2s}}{s^3}\right\}$

**44.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{(1 + e^{-2s})^2}{s + 2}\right\}$

**45.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{e^{-\pi s}}{s^2 + 1}\right\}$

**46.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{se^{-\pi s/2}}{s^2 + 4}\right\}$

**47.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{e^{-s}}{s(s + 1)}\right\}$

**48.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{e^{-2s}}{s^2(s - 1)}\right\}$

In Problems 49–54 match the given graph with one of the functions in (a)–(f). The graph of $f(t)$ is given in Figure 7.3.10.

(a) $f(t) - f(t)\,\mathcal{U}(t - a)$

(b) $f(t - b)\,\mathcal{U}(t - b)$

(c) $f(t)\,\mathcal{U}(t - a)$

(d) $f(t) - f(t)\,\mathcal{U}(t - b)$

(e) $f(t)\,\mathcal{U}(t - a) - f(t)\,\mathcal{U}(t - b)$

(f) $f(t - a)\,\mathcal{U}(t - a) - f(t - a)\,\mathcal{U}(t - b)$
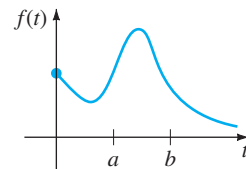


**FIGURE 7.3.10** Graph for Problems 49–54

**49.**
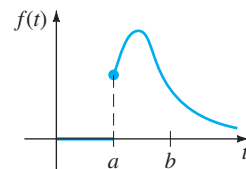


**FIGURE 7.3.11** Graph for Problem 49

**50.**
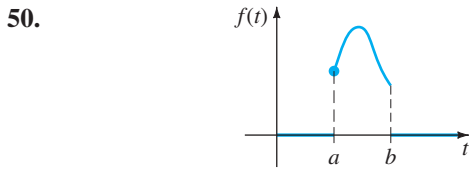


**FIGURE 7.3.12** Graph for Problem 50

**51.**
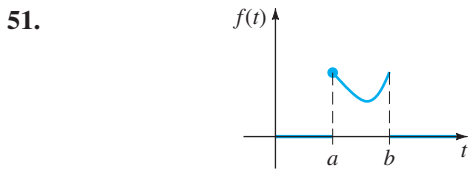


**FIGURE 7.3.13** Graph for Problem 51

**52.**
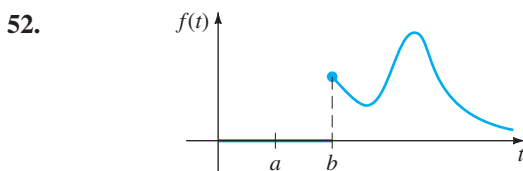


**FIGURE 7.3.14** Graph for Problem 52

**53.**
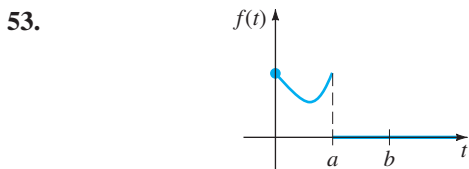


**FIGURE 7.3.15** Graph for Problem 53

**54.**
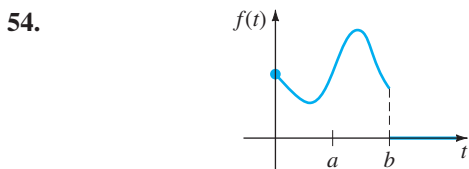


**FIGURE 7.3.16** Graph for Problem 54

In Problems 55–62 write each function in terms of unit step functions. Find the Laplace transform of the given function.

**55.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} 2, & 0 \le t < 3 \\ -2, & t \ge 3 \end{cases}$

**56.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \le t < 4 \\ 0, & 4 \le t < 5 \\ 1, & t \ge 5 \end{cases}$

**57.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ t^2, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}$

**58.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < 3\pi/2 \\ \sin t, & t \ge 3\pi/2 \end{cases}$

**59.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} t, & 0 \le t < 2 \\ 0, & t \ge 2 \end{cases}$

**60.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} \sin t, & 0 \le t < 2\pi \\ 0, & t \ge 2\pi \end{cases}$

**61.**



rectangular pulse
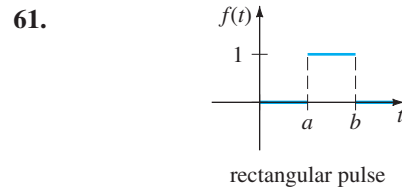
**FIGURE 7.3.17** Graph for Problem 61

**62.**



staircase function
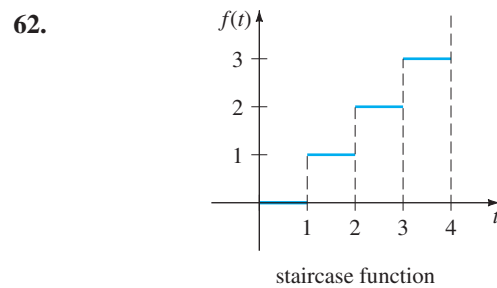
**FIGURE 7.3.18** Graph for Problem 62

In Problems 63–70 use the Laplace transform to solve the given initial-value problem.

**63.** $y' + y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 0$, where $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ 5, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}$

**64.** $y' + y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 0$, where
$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ -1, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

**65.** $y' + 2y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 0$, where
$$f(t) = \begin{cases} t, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ 0, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

**66.** $y'' + 4y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 0, y'(0) = -1$, where
$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ 0, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}$$

**67.** $y'' + 4y = \sin t \, \mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi)$, $y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 0$

**68.** $y'' - 5y' + 6y = \mathcal{U}(t - 1)$, $y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 1$

**69.** $y'' + y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 1$, where
$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < \pi \\ 1, & \pi \le t < 2\pi \\ 0, & t \ge 2\pi \end{cases}$$

**70.** $y'' + 4y' + 3y = 1 - \mathcal{U}(t - 2) - \mathcal{U}(t - 4) + \mathcal{U}(t - 6)$, $y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**71.** Suppose a 32-pound weight stretches a spring 2 feet. If the weight is released from rest at the equilibrium position, find the equation of motion $x(t)$ if an impressed force $f(t) = 20t$ acts on the system for $0 \le t < 5$ and is then removed (see Example 5). Ignore any damping forces. Use a graphing utility to graph $x(t)$ on the interval $[0, 10]$.

**72.** Solve Problem 71 if the impressed force $f(t) = \sin t$ acts on the system for $0 \le t < 2\pi$ and is then removed.

In Problems 73 and 74 use the Laplace transform to find the charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor in an *RC* series circuit subject to the given conditions.

**73.** $q(0) = 0$, $R = 2.5\ \Omega$, $C = 0.08$ f, $E(t)$ given in Figure 7.3.19
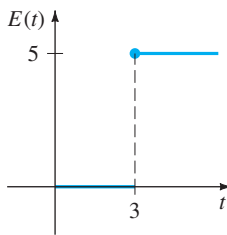


**FIGURE 7.3.19** $E(t)$ in Problem 73

**74.** $q(0) = q_0$, $R = 10\ \Omega$, $C = 0.1$ f, $E(t)$ given in Figure 7.3.20
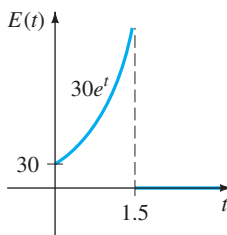


**FIGURE 7.3.20** $E(t)$ in Problem 74

**75. (a)** Use the Laplace transform to find the current $i(t)$ in a single-loop *LR* series circuit when $i(0) = 0$, $L = 1$ h, $R = 10\ \Omega$, and $E(t)$ is as given in Figure 7.3.21.

**(b)** Use a computer graphing program to graph $i(t)$ for $0 \le t \le 6$. Use the graph to estimate $i_{max}$ and $i_{min}$, the maximum and minimum values of the current.
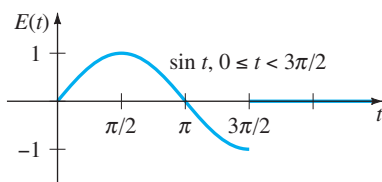


**FIGURE 7.3.21** $E(t)$ in Problem 75

**76. (a)** Use the Laplace transform to find the charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor in an *RC* series circuit when $q(0) = 0$, $R = 50\ \Omega$, $C = 0.01$ f, and $E(t)$ is as given in Figure 7.3.22.

**(b)** Assume that $E_0 = 100$ V. Use a computer graphing program to graph $q(t)$ for $0 \le t \le 6$. Use the graph to estimate $q_{max}$, the maximum value of the charge.
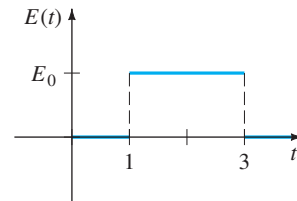


**FIGURE 7.3.22** $E(t)$ in Problem 76

**77.** A cantilever beam is embedded at its left end and free at its right end. Use the Laplace transform to find the deflection $y(x)$ when the load is given by

$$w(x) = \begin{cases} w_0, & 0 < x < L/2 \\ 0, & L/2 \le x < L. \end{cases}$$

**78.** Solve Problem 77 when the load is given by

$$w(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 < x < L/3 \\ w_0, & L/3 < x < 2L/3 \\ 0, & 2L/3 < x < L. \end{cases}$$

**79.** Find the deflection $y(x)$ of a cantilever beam embedded at its left end and free at its right end when the load is as given in Example 9.

**80.** A beam is embedded at its left end and simply supported at its right end. Find the deflection $y(x)$ when the load is as given in Problem 77.

## Mathematical Model

**81. Cake Inside an Oven** Reread Example 4 in Section 3.1 on the cooling of a cake that is taken out of an oven.

**(a)** Devise a mathematical model for the temperature of a cake while it is *inside* the oven based on the following assumptions: At $t = 0$ the cake mixture is at the room temperature of 70°; the oven is not preheated, so at $t = 0$, when the cake mixture is placed into the oven, the temperature inside the oven is also 70°; the temperature of the oven increases linearly until $t = 4$ minutes, when the desired temperature of 300° is attained; the oven temperature is a constant 300° for $t \ge 4$.

**(b)** Use the Laplace transform to solve the initial-value problem in part (a).

## Discussion Problems

**82.** Discuss how you would fix up each of the following functions so that Theorem 7.3.2 could be used directly to find the given Laplace transform. Check your answers using (16) of this section.

(a) $\mathscr{L}\{(2t + 1)\mathscr{U}(t - 1)\}$    (b) $\mathscr{L}\{e^t\mathscr{U}(t - 5)\}$

(c) $\mathscr{L}\{\cos t\,\mathscr{U}(t - \pi)\}$       (d) $\mathscr{L}\{(t^2 - 3t)\mathscr{U}(t - 2)\}$

**83.** (a) Assume that Theorem 7.3.1 holds when the symbol $a$ is replaced by $ki$, where $k$ is a real number

and $i^2 = -1$. Show that $\mathscr{L}\{te^{kti}\}$ can be used to deduce

$$\mathscr{L}\{t \cos kt\} = \frac{s^2 - k^2}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$$

$$\mathscr{L}\{t \sin kt\} = \frac{2ks}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}.$$

(b) Now use the Laplace transform to solve the initial-value problem $x'' + \omega^2 x = \cos \omega t$, $x(0) = 0$, $x'(0) = 0$.

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| 7.4 | OPERATIONAL PROPERTIES II |
|---|---|

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Definition 7.1.1
- Theorems 7.3.1 and 7.3.2

**INTRODUCTION**    In this section we develop several more operational properties of the Laplace transform. Specifically, we shall see how to find the transform of a function $f(t)$ that is multiplied by a monomial $t^n$, the transform of a special type of integral, and the transform of a periodic function. The last two transform properties allow us to solve some equations that we have not encountered up to this point: Volterra integral equations, integrodifferential equations, and ordinary differential equations in which the input function is a periodic piecewise-defined function.

## 7.4.1 DERIVATIVES OF A TRANSFORM

**MULTIPLYING A FUNCTION BY $t^n$**    The Laplace transform of the product of a function $f(t)$ with $t$ can be found by differentiating the Laplace transform of $f(t)$. To motivate this result, let us assume that $F(s) = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ exists and that it is possible to interchange the order of differentiation and integration. Then

$$\frac{d}{ds}F(s) = \frac{d}{ds}\int_0^\infty e^{-st}f(t)\,dt = \int_0^\infty \frac{\partial}{\partial s}[e^{-st}f(t)]\,dt = -\int_0^\infty e^{-st}tf(t)\,dt = -\mathscr{L}\{tf(t)\};$$

that is, $$\mathscr{L}\{tf(t)\} = -\frac{d}{ds}\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}.$$

We can use the last result to find the Laplace transform of $t^2 f(t)$:

$$\mathscr{L}\{t^2f(t)\} = \mathscr{L}\{t \cdot tf(t)\} = -\frac{d}{ds}\mathscr{L}\{tf(t)\} = -\frac{d}{ds}\left(-\frac{d}{ds}\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}\right) = \frac{d^2}{ds^2}\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}.$$

The preceding two cases suggest the general result for $\mathscr{L}\{t^n f(t)\}$.

---

**THEOREM 7.4.1    Derivatives of Transforms**

If $F(s) = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ and $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, then

$$\mathscr{L}\{t^n f(t)\} = (-1)^n \frac{d^n}{ds^n} F(s).$$

**Using Theorem 7.4.1**

Evaluate $\mathscr{L}\{t \sin kt\}$.

**SOLUTION** With $f(t) = \sin kt$, $F(s) = k/(s^2 + k^2)$, and $n = 1$, Theorem 7.4.1 gives

$$\mathscr{L}\{t \sin kt\} = -\frac{d}{ds}\mathscr{L}\{\sin kt\} = -\frac{d}{ds}\left(\frac{k}{s^2 + k^2}\right) = \frac{2ks}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

If we want to evaluate $\mathscr{L}\{t^2 \sin kt\}$ and $\mathscr{L}\{t^3 \sin kt\}$, all we need do, in turn, is take the negative of the derivative with respect to $s$ of the result in Example 1 and then take the negative of the derivative with respect to $s$ of $\mathscr{L}\{t^2 \sin kt\}$.

**NOTE** To find transforms of functions $t^n e^{at}$ we can use either Theorem 7.3.1 or Theorem 7.4.1. For example,

Theorem 7.3.1: $\mathscr{L}\{te^{3t}\} = \mathscr{L}\{t\}_{s \to s-3} = \dfrac{1}{s^2}\bigg|_{s \to s-3} = \dfrac{1}{(s-3)^2}.$

Theorem 7.4.1: $\mathscr{L}\{te^{3t}\} = -\dfrac{d}{ds}\mathscr{L}\{e^{3t}\} = -\dfrac{d}{ds}\dfrac{1}{s-3} = (s-3)^{-2} = \dfrac{1}{(s-3)^2}.$

**An Initial-Value Problem**

Solve $x'' + 16x = \cos 4t, \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 1$.

**SOLUTION** The initial-value problem could describe the forced, undamped, and resonant motion of a mass on a spring. The mass starts with an initial velocity of 1 ft/s in the downward direction from the equilibrium position.

Transforming the differential equation gives

$$(s^2 + 16)X(s) = 1 + \frac{s}{s^2 + 16} \qquad \text{or} \qquad X(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + 16} + \frac{s}{(s^2 + 16)^2}.$$

Now we just saw in Example 1 that

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{2ks}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}\right\} = t \sin kt, \qquad (1)$$

and so with the identification $k = 4$ in (1) and in part (d) of Theorem 7.2.1, we obtain

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{4}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{4}{s^2 + 16}\right\} + \frac{1}{8}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{8s}{(s^2 + 16)^2}\right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}\sin 4t + \frac{1}{8}t \sin 4t. \qquad \blacksquare$$

## 7.4.2 TRANSFORMS OF INTEGRALS

**CONVOLUTION** If functions $f$ and $g$ are piecewise continuous on the interval $[0, \infty)$, then a special product, denoted by $f * g$, is defined by the integral

$$f * g = \int_0^t f(\tau)\, g(t - \tau)\, d\tau \qquad (2)$$

and is called the **convolution** of $f$ and $g$. The convolution $f * g$ is a function of $t$. For example,

$$e^t * \sin t = \int_0^t e^\tau \sin(t - \tau)\, d\tau = \frac{1}{2}(-\sin t - \cos t + e^t). \qquad (3)$$

It is left as an exercise to show that

$$\int_0^t f(\tau) \, g(t - \tau) \, d\tau = \int_0^t f(t - \tau) \, g(\tau) \, d\tau;$$

that is, $f * g = g * f$. This means that the convolution of two functions is commutative. It is *not* true that the integral of a product of functions is the product of the integrals. However, it *is* true that the Laplace transform of the special product (2) is the product of the Laplace transform of $f$ and $g$. This means that it is possible to find the Laplace transform of the convolution of two functions without actually evaluating the integral as we did in (3). The result that follows is known as the **convolution theorem.**

---

**THEOREM 7.4.2   Convolution Theorem**

If $f(t)$ and $g(t)$ are piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$ and of exponential order, then

$$\mathscr{L}\{f * g\} = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} \, \mathscr{L}\{g(t)\} = F(s)G(s).$$

---

**PROOF**   Let

$$F(s) = \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-s\tau} f(\tau) \, d\tau$$

and

$$G(s) = \mathscr{L}\{g(t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-s\beta} g(\beta) \, d\beta.$$

Proceeding formally, we have

$$F(s)G(s) = \left( \int_0^\infty e^{-s\tau} f(\tau) \, d\tau \right) \left( \int_0^\infty e^{-s\beta} g(\beta) \, d\beta \right)$$

$$= \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-s(\tau+\beta)} f(\tau) g(\beta) \, d\tau \, d\beta$$

$$= \int_0^\infty f(\tau) \, d\tau \int_0^\infty e^{-s(\tau+\beta)} g(\beta) \, d\beta.$$

Holding $\tau$ fixed, we let $t = \tau + \beta$, $dt = d\beta$, so that

$$F(s)G(s) = \int_0^\infty f(\tau) \, d\tau \int_\tau^\infty e^{-st} g(t - \tau) \, dt.$$
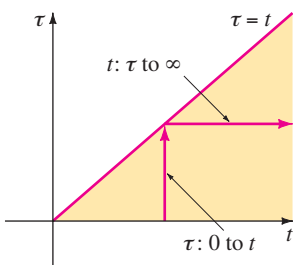


**FIGURE 7.4.1** Changing order of integration from $t$ first to $\tau$ first

In the $t\tau$-plane we are integrating over the shaded region in Figure 7.4.1. Since $f$ and $g$ are piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$ and of exponential order, it is possible to interchange the order of integration:

$$F(s)\,G(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \, dt \int_0^t f(\tau) g(t - \tau) \, d\tau = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} \left\{ \int_0^t f(\tau) \, g(t - \tau) \, d\tau \right\} dt = \mathscr{L}\{f * g\}. \quad \blacksquare$$

---

**EXAMPLE 3   Transform of a Convolution**

Evaluate $\mathscr{L}\left\{ \int_0^t e^\tau \sin(t - \tau) \, d\tau \right\}$.

**SOLUTION**   With $f(t) = e^t$ and $g(t) = \sin t$, the convolution theorem states that the Laplace transform of the convolution of $f$ and $g$ is the product of their Laplace transforms:

$$\mathscr{L}\left\{ \int_0^t e^\tau \sin(t - \tau) \, d\tau \right\} = \mathscr{L}\{e^t\} \cdot \mathscr{L}\{\sin t\} = \frac{1}{s - 1} \cdot \frac{1}{s^2 + 1} = \frac{1}{(s - 1)(s^2 + 1)}. \quad \blacksquare$$

**INVERSE FORM OF THEOREM 7.4.2**   The convolution theorem is sometimes useful in finding the inverse Laplace transform of the product of two Laplace transforms. From Theorem 7.4.2 we have

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\{F(s)G(s)\} = f * g. \tag{4}$$

Many of the results in the table of Laplace transforms in Appendix III can be derived using (4). For example, in the next example we obtain entry 25 of the table:

$$\mathscr{L}\{\sin kt - kt \cos kt\} = \frac{2k^3}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}. \tag{5}$$

---

**EXAMPLE 4**   **Inverse Transform as a Convolution**

Evaluate $\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}\right\}$.

**SOLUTION**   Let $F(s) = G(s) = \dfrac{1}{s^2 + k^2}$ so that

$$f(t) = g(t) = \frac{1}{k}\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{k}{s^2 + k^2}\right\} = \frac{1}{k}\sin kt.$$

In this case (4) gives

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}\right\} = \frac{1}{k^2}\int_0^t \sin k\tau \sin k(t - \tau)\, d\tau. \tag{6}$$

With the aid of the trigonometric identity

$$\sin A \cos B = \frac{1}{2}[\cos(A - B) - \cos(A + B)]$$

and the substitutions $A = k\tau$ and $B = k(t - \tau)$ we can carry out the integration in (6):

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}\right\} = \frac{1}{2k^2}\int_0^t [\cos k(2\tau - t) - \cos kt]\, d\tau$$

$$= \frac{1}{2k^2}\left[\frac{1}{2k}\sin k(2\tau - t) - \tau\cos kt\right]_0^t$$

$$= \frac{\sin kt - kt\cos kt}{2k^3}.$$

Multiplying both sides by $2k^3$ gives the inverse form of (5).  ∎

**TRANSFORM OF AN INTEGRAL**   When $g(t) = 1$ and $\mathscr{L}\{g(t)\} = G(s) = 1/s$, the convolution theorem implies that the Laplace transform of the integral of $f$ is

$$\mathscr{L}\left\{\int_0^t f(\tau)\, d\tau\right\} = \frac{F(s)}{s}. \tag{7}$$

The inverse form of (7),

$$\int_0^t f(\tau)\, d\tau = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{F(s)}{s}\right\}, \tag{8}$$

can be used in lieu of partial fractions when $s^n$ is a factor of the denominator and $f(t) = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$ is easy to integrate. For example, we know for $f(t) = \sin t$ that $F(s) = 1/(s^2 + 1)$, and so by (8)

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s(s^2 + 1)}\right\} = \int_0^t \sin \tau\, d\tau = 1 - \cos t$$

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2(s^2 + 1)}\right\} = \int_0^t (1 - \cos \tau)\, d\tau = t - \sin t$$

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^3(s^2 + 1)}\right\} = \int_0^t (\tau - \sin \tau)\, d\tau = \frac{1}{2}t^2 - 1 + \cos t$$

and so on.

**VOLTERRA INTEGRAL EQUATION**   The convolution theorem and the result in (7) are useful in solving other types of equations in which an unknown function appears under an integral sign. In the next example we solve a **Volterra integral equation** for $f(t)$,

$$f(t) = g(t) + \int_0^t f(\tau)\, h(t - \tau)\, d\tau. \tag{9}$$

The functions $g(t)$ and $h(t)$ are known. Notice that the integral in (9) has the convolution form (2) with the symbol $h$ playing the part of $g$.

---

### EXAMPLE 5   An Integral Equation

Solve $f(t) = 3t^2 - e^{-t} - \displaystyle\int_0^t f(\tau)\, e^{t-\tau} d\tau$ for $f(t)$.

**SOLUTION**   In the integral we identify $h(t - \tau) = e^{t-\tau}$ so that $h(t) = e^t$. We take the Laplace transform of each term; in particular, by Theorem 7.4.2 the transform of the integral is the product of $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ and $\mathcal{L}\{e^t\} = 1/(s - 1)$:

$$F(s) = 3 \cdot \frac{2}{s^3} - \frac{1}{s + 1} - F(s) \cdot \frac{1}{s - 1}.$$

After solving the last equation for $F(s)$ and carrying out the partial fraction decomposition, we find

$$F(s) = \frac{6}{s^3} - \frac{6}{s^4} + \frac{1}{s} - \frac{2}{s + 1}.$$

The inverse transform then gives

$$f(t) = 3\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{2!}{s^3}\right\} - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{3!}{s^4}\right\} + \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s}\right\} - 2\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s + 1}\right\}$$

$$= 3t^2 - t^3 + 1 - 2e^{-t}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

**SERIES CIRCUITS**   In a single-loop or series circuit, Kirchhoff's second law states that the sum of the voltage drops across an inductor, resistor, and capacitor is equal to the impressed voltage $E(t)$. Now it is known that the voltage drops across an inductor, resistor, and capacitor are, respectively,

$$L\frac{di}{dt}, \qquad Ri(t), \qquad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{C}\int_0^t i(\tau)\, d\tau,$$

where $i(t)$ is the current and $L$, $R$, and $C$ are constants. It follows that the current in a circuit, such as that shown in Figure 7.4.2, is governed by the **integrodifferential equation**

$$L\frac{di}{dt} + Ri(t) + \frac{1}{C}\int_0^t i(\tau)\, d\tau = E(t). \tag{10}$$
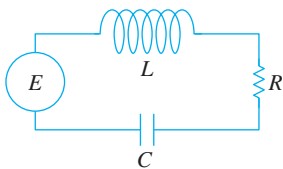


**FIGURE 7.4.2**   *LRC* series circuit

> **EXAMPLE 6** An Integrodifferential Equation

Determine the current $i(t)$ in a single-loop *LRC* circuit when $L = 0.1$ h, $R = 2\ \Omega$, $C = 0.1$ f, $i(0) = 0$, and the impressed voltage is

$$E(t) = 120t - 120t\ \mathcal{U}(t-1).$$

**SOLUTION** With the given data equation (10) becomes

$$0.1\frac{di}{dt} + 2i + 10\int_0^t i(\tau)\,d\tau = 120t - 120t\ \mathcal{U}(t-1).$$

Now by (7), $\mathcal{L}\{\int_0^t i(\tau)\,d\tau\} = I(s)/s$, where $I(s) = \mathcal{L}\{i(t)\}$. Thus the Laplace transform of the integrodifferential equation is

$$0.1sI(s) + 2I(s) + 10\frac{I(s)}{s} = 120\left[\frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s^2}e^{-s} - \frac{1}{s}e^{-s}\right]. \quad \leftarrow \text{by (16) of Section 7.3}$$

Multiplying this equation by $10s$, using $s^2 + 20s + 100 = (s+10)^2$, and then solving for $I(s)$ gives

$$I(s) = 1200\left[\frac{1}{s(s+10)^2} - \frac{1}{s(s+10)^2}e^{-s} - \frac{1}{(s+10)^2}e^{-s}\right].$$

By partial fractions,

$$I(s) = 1200\left[\frac{1/100}{s} - \frac{1/100}{s+10} - \frac{1/10}{(s+10)^2} - \frac{1/100}{s}e^{-s}\right.$$
$$\left. + \frac{1/100}{s+10}e^{-s} + \frac{1/10}{(s+10)^2}e^{-s} - \frac{1}{(s+10)^2}e^{-s}\right].$$

From the inverse form of the second translation theorem, (15) of Section 7.3, we finally obtain

$$i(t) = 12[1 - \mathcal{U}(t-1)] - 12[e^{-10t} - e^{-10(t-1)}\mathcal{U}(t-1)]$$
$$- 120te^{-10t} - 1080(t-1)e^{-10(t-1)}\mathcal{U}(t-1).$$

Written as a piecewise-defined function, the current is

$$i(t) = \begin{cases} 12 - 12e^{-10t} - 120te^{-10t}, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ -12e^{-10t} + 12e^{-10(t-1)} - 120te^{-10t} - 1080(t-1)e^{-10(t-1)}, & t \ge 1. \end{cases}$$

Using this last expression and a CAS, we graph $i(t)$ on each of the two intervals and then combine the graphs. Note in Figure 7.4.3 that even though the input $E(t)$ is discontinuous, the output or response $i(t)$ is a continuous function. ∎
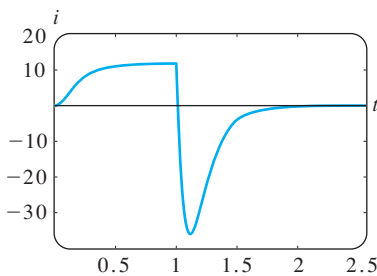


**FIGURE 7.4.3** Graph of current $i(t)$ in Example 6

## 7.4.3 TRANSFORM OF A PERIODIC FUNCTION

**PERIODIC FUNCTION** If a periodic function has period $T$, $T > 0$, then $f(t+T) = f(t)$. The next theorem shows that the Laplace transform of a periodic function can be obtained by integration over one period.

> **THEOREM 7.4.3** Transform of a Periodic Function
>
> If $f(t)$ is piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$, of exponential order, and periodic with period $T$, then
>
> $$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-sT}}\int_0^T e^{-st}f(t)\,dt.$$

**PROOF** Write the Laplace transform of $f$ as two integrals:

$$\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^T e^{-st} f(t)\, dt + \int_T^\infty e^{-st} f(t)\, dt.$$

When we let $t = u + T$, the last integral becomes

$$\int_T^\infty e^{-st} f(t)\, dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-s(u+T)} f(u + T)\, du = e^{-sT} \int_0^\infty e^{-su} f(u)\, du = e^{-sT} \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}.$$

Therefore $$\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^T e^{-st} f(t)\, dt + e^{-sT} \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}.$$

Solving the equation in the last line for $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ proves the theorem. ■

---

### EXAMPLE 7    Transform of a Periodic Function

Find the Laplace transform of the periodic function shown in Figure 7.4.4.



**FIGURE 7.4.4**    Square wave

**SOLUTION**    The function $E(t)$ is called a square wave and has period $T = 2$. For $0 \le t < 2$, $E(t)$ can be defined by

$$E(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ 0, & 1 \le t < 2 \end{cases}$$

and outside the interval by $f(t + 2) = f(t)$. Now from Theorem 7.4.3

$$\mathscr{L}\{E(t)\} = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-2s}} \int_0^2 e^{-st} E(t)\, dt = \frac{1}{1 - e^{-2s}} \left[ \int_0^1 e^{-st} \cdot 1\, dt + \int_1^2 e^{-st} \cdot 0\, dt \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - e^{-2s}} \frac{1 - e^{-s}}{s} \qquad \leftarrow 1 - e^{-2s} = (1 + e^{-s})(1 - e^{-s})$$

$$= \frac{1}{s(1 + e^{-s})}. \tag{11} ■$$

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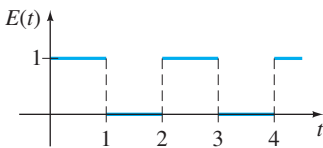
### EXAMPLE 8    A Periodic Impressed Voltage

The differential equation for the current $i(t)$ in a single-loop $LR$ series circuit is

$$L \frac{di}{dt} + Ri = E(t). \tag{12}$$

Determine the current $i(t)$ when $i(0) = 0$ and $E(t)$ is the square wave function shown in Figure 7.4.4.

**SOLUTION**    If we use the result in (11) of the preceding example, the Laplace transform of the DE is

$$LsI(s) + RI(s) = \frac{1}{s(1 + e^{-s})} \qquad \text{or} \qquad I(s) = \frac{1/L}{s(s + R/L)} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + e^{-s}}. \tag{13}$$

To find the inverse Laplace transform of the last function, we first make use of geometric series. With the identification $x = e^{-s}$, $s > 0$, the geometric series

$$\frac{1}{1 + x} = 1 - x + x^2 - x^3 + \cdots \qquad \text{becomes} \qquad \frac{1}{1 + e^{-s}} = 1 - e^{-s} + e^{-2s} - e^{-3s} + \cdots.$$

From
$$\frac{1}{s(s + R/L)} = \frac{L/R}{s} - \frac{L/R}{s + R/L}$$

we can then rewrite (13) as

$$I(s) = \frac{1}{R}\left(\frac{1}{s} - \frac{1}{s + R/L}\right)(1 - e^{-s} + e^{-2s} - e^{-3s} + \cdots)$$

$$= \frac{1}{R}\left(\frac{1}{s} - \frac{e^{-s}}{s} + \frac{e^{-2s}}{s} - \frac{e^{-3s}}{s} + \cdots\right) - \frac{1}{R}\left(\frac{1}{s + R/L} - \frac{1}{s + R/L}e^{-s} + \frac{e^{-2s}}{s + R/L} - \frac{e^{-3s}}{s + R/L} + \cdots\right).$$

By applying the form of the second translation theorem to each term of both series, we obtain

$$i(t) = \frac{1}{R}(1 - \mathcal{U}(t - 1) + \mathcal{U}(t - 2) - \mathcal{U}(t - 3) + \cdots)$$

$$- \frac{1}{R}(e^{-Rt/L} - e^{-R(t-1)/L}\,\mathcal{U}(t - 1) + e^{-R(t-2)/L}\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2) - e^{-R(t-3)/L}\,\mathcal{U}(t - 3) + \cdots)$$

or, equivalently,

$$i(t) = \frac{1}{R}(1 - e^{-Rt/L}) + \frac{1}{R}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}(-1)^n(1 - e^{-R(t-n)/L})\,\mathcal{U}(t - n).$$

To interpret the solution, let us assume for the sake of illustration that $R = 1, L = 1$, and $0 \le t < 4$. In this case

$$i(t) = 1 - e^{-t} - (1 - e^{t-1})\,\mathcal{U}(t - 1) + (1 - e^{-(t-2)})\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2) - (1 - e^{-(t-3)})\,\mathcal{U}(t - 3);$$
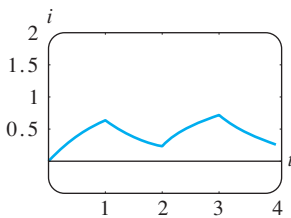
in other words,

$$i(t) = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-t}, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ -e^{-t} + e^{-(t-1)}, & 1 \le t < 2 \\ 1 - e^{-t} + e^{-(t-1)} - e^{-(t-2)}, & 2 \le t < 3 \\ -e^{-t} + e^{-(t-1)} - e^{-(t-2)} + e^{-(t-3)}, & 3 \le t < 4. \end{cases}$$



**FIGURE 7.4.5** Graph of current $i(t)$ in Example 8

The graph of $i(t)$ for $0 \le t < 4$, given in Figure 7.4.5, was obtained with the help of a CAS. ∎

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## EXERCISES 7.4

### 7.4.1 DERIVATIVES OF A TRANSFORM

In Problems 1–8 use Theorem 7.4.1 to evaluate the given Laplace transform.

1. $\mathcal{L}\{te^{-10t}\}$

2. $\mathcal{L}\{t^3 e^t\}$

3. $\mathcal{L}\{t \cos 2t\}$

4. $\mathcal{L}\{t \sinh 3t\}$

5. $\mathcal{L}\{t^2 \sinh t\}$

6. $\mathcal{L}\{t^2 \cos t\}$

7. $\mathcal{L}\{te^{2t} \sin 6t\}$

8. $\mathcal{L}\{te^{-3t} \cos 3t\}$

In Problems 9–14 use the Laplace transform to solve the given initial-value problem. Use the table of Laplace transforms in Appendix III as needed.

9. $y' + y = t \sin t$, $y(0) = 0$

10. $y' - y = te^t \sin t$, $y(0) = 0$

11. $y'' + 9y = \cos 3t$, $y(0) = 2$, $y'(0) = 5$

12. $y'' + y = \sin t$, $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = -1$

13. $y'' + 16y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 1$, where

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} \cos 4t, & 0 \le t < \pi \\ 0, & t \ge \pi \end{cases}$$

14. $y'' + y = f(t)$, $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 0$, where

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \le t < \pi/2 \\ \sin t, & t \ge \pi/2 \end{cases}$$

In Problems 15 and 16 use a graphing utility to graph the indicated solution.

15. $y(t)$ of Problem 13 for $0 \le t < 2\pi$

16. $y(t)$ of Problem 14 for $0 \le t < 3\pi$

In some instances the Laplace transform can be used to solve linear differential equations with variable monomial coefficients. In Problems 17 and 18 use Theorem 7.4.1 to reduce the given differential equation to a linear first-order DE in the transformed function $Y(s) = \mathcal{L}\{y(t)\}$. Solve the first-order DE for $Y(s)$ and then find $y(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{Y(s)\}$.

**17.** $ty'' - y' = 2t^2, \quad y(0) = 0$

**18.** $2y'' + ty' - 2y = 10, \quad y(0) = y'(0) = 0$

### 7.4.2 TRANSFORMS OF INTEGRALS

In Problems 19–30 use Theorem 7.4.2 to evaluate the given Laplace transform. Do not evaluate the integral before transforming.

**19.** $\mathcal{L}\{1 * t^3\}$

**20.** $\mathcal{L}\{t^2 * te^t\}$

**21.** $\mathcal{L}\{e^{-t} * e^t \cos t\}$

**22.** $\mathcal{L}\{e^{2t} * \sin t\}$

**23.** $\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t e^\tau \, d\tau\right\}$

**24.** $\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t \cos \tau \, d\tau\right\}$

**25.** $\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t e^{-\tau} \cos \tau \, d\tau\right\}$

**26.** $\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t \tau \sin \tau \, d\tau\right\}$

**27.** $\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t \tau e^{t-\tau} \, d\tau\right\}$

**28.** $\mathcal{L}\left\{\int_0^t \sin \tau \cos (t - \tau) \, d\tau\right\}$

**29.** $\mathcal{L}\left\{t \int_0^t \sin\tau \, d\tau\right\}$

**30.** $\mathcal{L}\left\{t \int_0^t \tau e^{-\tau} \, d\tau\right\}$

In Problems 31–34 use (8) to evaluate the given inverse transform.

**31.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s(s-1)}\right\}$

**32.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2(s-1)}\right\}$

**33.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^3(s-1)}\right\}$

**34.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s(s-a)^2}\right\}$

**35.** The table in Appendix III does not contain an entry for

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{8k^3 s}{(s^2 + k^2)^3}\right\}.$$

(a) Use (4) along with the results in (5) to evaluate this inverse transform. Use a CAS as an aid in evaluating the convolution integral.

(b) Reexamine your answer to part (a). Could you have obtained the result in a different manner?

**36.** Use the Laplace transform and the results of Problem 35 to solve the initial-value problem

$$y'' + y = \sin t + t \sin t, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0.$$

Use a graphing utility to graph the solution.

In Problems 37–46 use the Laplace transform to solve the given integral equation or integrodifferential equation.

**37.** $f(t) + \displaystyle\int_0^t (t - \tau) f(\tau) \, d\tau = t$

**38.** $f(t) = 2t - 4 \displaystyle\int_0^t \sin \tau f(t - \tau) \, d\tau$

**39.** $f(t) = te^t + \displaystyle\int_0^t \tau f(t - \tau) \, d\tau$

**40.** $f(t) + 2 \displaystyle\int_0^t f(\tau) \cos (t - \tau) \, d\tau = 4e^{-t} + \sin t$

**41.** $f(t) + \displaystyle\int_0^t f(\tau) \, d\tau = 1$

**42.** $f(t) = \cos t + \displaystyle\int_0^t e^{-\tau} f(t - \tau) \, d\tau$

**43.** $f(t) = 1 + t - \dfrac{8}{3} \displaystyle\int_0^t (\tau - t)^3 f(\tau) \, d\tau$

**44.** $t - 2f(t) = \displaystyle\int_0^t (e^\tau - e^{-\tau}) f(t - \tau) \, d\tau$

**45.** $y'(t) = 1 - \sin t - \displaystyle\int_0^t y(\tau) \, d\tau, \quad y(0) = 0$

**46.** $\dfrac{dy}{dt} + 6y(t) + 9 \displaystyle\int_0^t y(\tau) \, d\tau = 1, \quad y(0) = 0$

In Problems 47 and 48 solve equation (10) subject to $i(0) = 0$ with $L, R, C$, and $E(t)$ as given. Use a graphing utility to graph the solution for $0 \leq t \leq 3$.

**47.** $L = 0.1$ h, $R = 3 \ \Omega$, $C = 0.05$ f,
$E(t) = 100[\mathcal{U}(t - 1) - \mathcal{U}(t - 2)]$

**48.** $L = 0.005$ h, $R = 1 \ \Omega$, $C = 0.02$ f,
$E(t) = 100[t - (t - 1)\mathcal{U}(t - 1)]$

### 7.4.3 TRANSFORM OF A PERIODIC FUNCTION

In Problems 49–54 use Theorem 7.4.3 to find the Laplace transform of the given periodic function.

**49.**



meander function
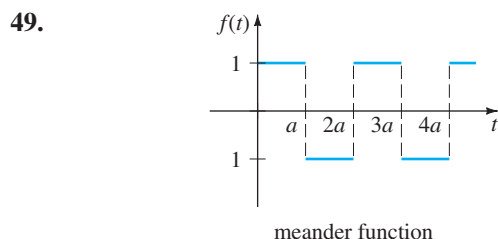
**FIGURE 7.4.6** Graph for Problem 49

**50.**



square wave
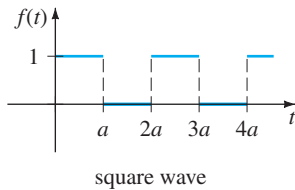
**FIGURE 7.4.7** Graph for Problem 50

**51.**



sawtooth function
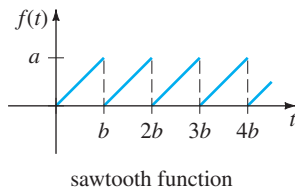
**FIGURE 7.4.8** Graph for Problem 51

**52.**



triangular wave
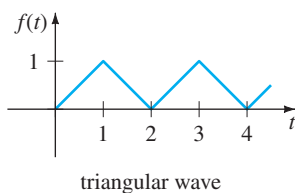
**FIGURE 7.4.9** Graph for Problem 52

**53.**



full-wave rectification of sin t
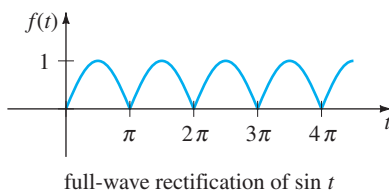
**FIGURE 7.4.10** Graph for Problem 53

**54.**



half-wave rectification of sin t
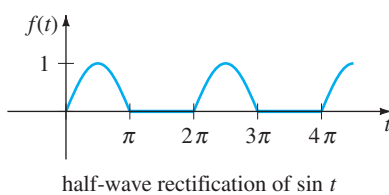
**FIGURE 7.4.11** Graph for Problem 54

In Problems 55 and 56 solve equation (12) subject to $i(0) = 0$ with $E(t)$ as given. Use a graphing utility to graph the solution for $0 \leq t < 4$ in the case when $L = 1$ and $R = 1$.

**55.** $E(t)$ is the meander function in Problem 49 with amplitude 1 and $a = 1$.

**56.** $E(t)$ is the sawtooth function in Problem 51 with amplitude 1 and $b = 1$.

In Problems 57 and 58 solve the model for a driven spring/mass system with damping

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \beta\frac{dx}{dt} + kx = f(t), \quad x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 0,$$

where the driving function $f$ is as specified. Use a graphing utility to graph $x(t)$ for the indicated values of $t$.

**57.** $m = \frac{1}{2}$, $\beta = 1$, $k = 5$, $f$ is the meander function in Problem 49 with amplitude 10, and $a = \pi, 0 \leq t < 2\pi$.

**58.** $m = 1$, $\beta = 2$, $k = 1$, $f$ is the square wave in Problem 50 with amplitude 5, and $a = \pi, 0 \leq t < 4\pi$.

## Discussion Problems

**59.** Discuss how Theorem 7.4.1 can be used to find

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\ln\frac{s-3}{s+1}\right\}.$$

**60.** In Section 6.3 we saw that $ty'' + y' + ty = 0$ is Bessel's equation of order $\nu = 0$. In view of (22) of that section and Table 6.1 a solution of the initial-value problem $ty'' + y' + ty = 0$, $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 0$, is $y = J_0(t)$. Use this result and the procedure outlined in the instructions to Problems 17 and 18 to show that

$$\mathscr{L}\{J_0(t)\} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s^2+1}}.$$

[*Hint*: You might need to use Problem 46 in Exercises 7.2.]

**61. (a) Laguerre's differential equation**

$$ty'' + (1-t)y' + ny = 0$$

is known to possess polynomial solutions when $n$ is a nonnegative integer. These solutions are naturally called **Laguerre polynomials** and are denoted by $L_n(t)$. Find $y = L_n(t)$, for $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ if it is known that $L_n(0) = 1$.

**(b)** Show that

$$\mathscr{L}\left\{\frac{e^t}{n!}\frac{d^n}{dt^n}t^ne^{-t}\right\} = Y(s),$$

where $Y(s) = \mathscr{L}\{y\}$ and $y = L_n(t)$ is a polynomial solution of the DE in part (a). Conclude that

$$L_n(t) = \frac{e^t}{n!}\frac{d^n}{dt^n}t^ne^{-t}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots.$$

This last relation for generating the Laguerre polynomials is the analogue of Rodrigues' formula for the Legendre polynomials. See (30) in Section 6.3.

## Computer Lab Assignments

**62.** In this problem you are led through the commands in *Mathematica* that enable you to obtain the symbolic Laplace transform of a differential equation and the solution of the initial-value problem by finding the inverse transform. In *Mathematica* the Laplace transform of a function $y(t)$ is obtained using **LaplaceTransform [y[t], t, s].** In line two of the syntax we replace **LaplaceTransform [y[t], t, s]** by the symbol **Y.** (*If you do not have* Mathematica, *then adapt the given procedure by finding the corresponding syntax for the CAS you have on hand.*)

Consider the initial-value problem

$$y'' + 6y' + 9y = t \sin t, \quad y(0) = 2, \quad y'(0) = -1.$$

Load the Laplace transform package. Precisely reproduce and then, in turn, execute each line in the following sequence of commands. Either copy the output by hand or print out the results.

**diffequat = y″[t] + 6y′[t] + 9y[t] == t Sin[t]**
**transformdeq = LaplaceTransform [diffequat, t, s] /.**
 **{y[0] − > 2, y′[0] − > −1,**
  **LaplaceTransform [y[t], t, s] − > Y}**
**soln = Solve[transformdeq, Y]//Flatten**
**Y = Y/.soln**
**InverseLaplaceTransform[ Y, s, t]**

**63.** Appropriately modify the procedure of Problem 62 to find a solution of

$$y''' + 3y' - 4y = 0,$$
$$y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0, \quad y''(0) = 1.$$

**64.** The charge $q(t)$ on a capacitor in an $LC$ series circuit is given by

$$\frac{d^2q}{dt^2} + q = 1 - 4\,\mathcal{U}(t - \pi) + 6\,\mathcal{U}(t - 3\pi),$$
$$q(0) = 0, \quad q'(0) = 0.$$

Appropriately modify the procedure of Problem 62 to find $q(t)$. Graph your solution.

## 7.5 THE DIRAC DELTA FUNCTION

**INTRODUCTION** In the last paragraph on page 261, we indicated that as an immediate consequence of Theorem 7.1.3, $F(s) = 1$ cannot be the Laplace transform of a function $f$ that is piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$ and of exponential order. In the discussion that follows we are going to introduce a function that is very different from the kinds that you have studied in previous courses. We shall see that there does indeed exist a function—or, more precisely, a *generalized function*—whose Laplace transform is $F(s) = 1$.

**UNIT IMPULSE** Mechanical systems are often acted on by an external force (or electromotive force in an electrical circuit) of large magnitude that acts only for a very short period of time. For example, a vibrating airplane wing could be struck by lightning, a mass on a spring could be given a sharp blow by a ball peen hammer, and a ball (baseball, golf ball, tennis ball) could be sent soaring when struck violently by some kind of club (baseball bat, golf club, tennis racket). See Figure 7.5.1. The graph of the piecewise-defined function

$$\delta_a(t - t_0) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < t_0 - a \\ \dfrac{1}{2a}, & t_0 - a \le t < t_0 + a \\ 0, & t \ge t_0 + a, \end{cases} \tag{1}$$

$a > 0$, $t_0 > 0$, shown in Figure 7.5.2(a), could serve as a model for such a force. For a small value of $a$, $\delta_a (t - t_0)$ is essentially a constant function of large magnitude that is "on" for just a very short period of time, around $t_0$. The behavior of $\delta_a(t - t_0)$ as $a \to 0$ is illustrated in Figure 7.5.2(b). The function $\delta_a(t - t_0)$ is called a **unit impulse,** because it possesses the integration property $\int_0^\infty \delta_a(t - t_0)\, dt = 1$.



**FIGURE 7.5.1** A golf club applies a force of large magnitude on the ball for a very short period of time

**DIRAC DELTA FUNCTION** In practice it is convenient to work with another type of unit impulse, a "function" that approximates $\delta_a(t - t_0)$ and is defined by the limit

$$\delta(t - t_0) = \lim_{a \to 0} \delta_a(t - t_0). \tag{2}$$
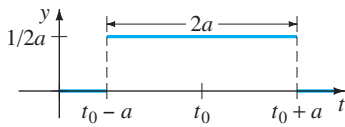
**(a)** graph of $\delta_a(t - t_0)$
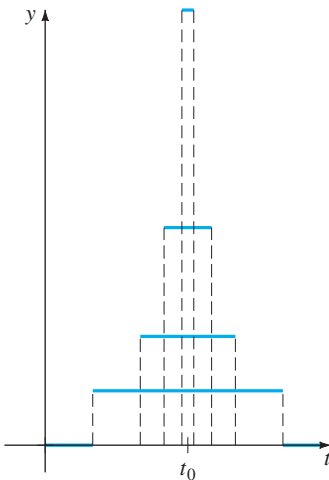


**(b)** behavior of $\delta_a$ as $a \to 0$

**FIGURE 7.5.2**   Unit impulse

The latter expression, which is not a function at all, can be characterized by the two properties

$$(i)\ \delta(t - t_0) = \begin{cases} \infty, & t = t_0 \\ 0, & t \neq t_0 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \int_0^\infty \delta(t - t_0)\, dt = 1.$$

The unit impulse $\delta(t - t_0)$ is called the **Dirac delta function.**

It is possible to obtain the Laplace transform of the Dirac delta function by the formal assumption that $\mathscr{L}\{\delta(t - t_0)\} = \lim_{a \to 0} \mathscr{L}\{\delta_a(t - t_0)\}$.

---

**THEOREM 7.5.1   Transform of the Dirac Delta Function**

For $t_0 > 0$, $\qquad\qquad \mathscr{L}\{\delta(t - t_0)\} = e^{-st_0}.$ $\qquad\qquad$ (3)

---

**PROOF**   To begin, we can write $\delta_a(t - t_0)$ in terms of the unit step function by virtue of (11) and (12) of Section 7.3:

$$\delta_a(t - t_0) = \frac{1}{2a}[\mathscr{U}(t - (t_0 - a)) - \mathscr{U}(t - (t_0 + a))].$$

By linearity and (14) of Section 7.3 the Laplace transform of this last expression is

$$\mathscr{L}\{\delta_a(t - t_0)\} = \frac{1}{2a}\left[\frac{e^{-s(t_0-a)}}{s} - \frac{e^{-s(t_0+a)}}{s}\right] = e^{-st_0}\left(\frac{e^{sa} - e^{-sa}}{2sa}\right). \qquad (4)$$

Since (4) has the indeterminate form $0/0$ as $a \to 0$, we apply L'Hôpital's Rule:

$$\mathscr{L}\{\delta(t - t_0)\} = \lim_{a \to 0} \mathscr{L}\{\delta_a(t - t_0)\} = e^{-st_0}\lim_{a \to 0}\left(\frac{e^{sa} - e^{-sa}}{2sa}\right) = e^{-st_0}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

Now when $t_0 = 0$, it seems plausible to conclude from (3) that

$$\mathscr{L}\{\delta(t)\} = 1.$$

The last result emphasizes the fact that $\delta(t)$ is not the usual type of function that we have been considering, since we expect from Theorem 7.1.3 that $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} \to 0$ as $s \to \infty$.

---

**EXAMPLE 1   Two Initial-Value Problems**

Solve $y'' + y = 4\delta(t - 2\pi)$ subject to

**(a)** $y(0) = 1,\quad y'(0) = 0$   **(b)** $y(0) = 0,\quad y'(0) = 0.$

The two initial-value problems could serve as models for describing the motion of a mass on a spring moving in a medium in which damping is negligible. At $t = 2\pi$ the mass is given a sharp blow. In (a) the mass is released from rest 1 unit below the equilibrium position. In (b) the mass is at rest in the equilibrium position.

**SOLUTION**   **(a)** From (3) the Laplace transform of the differential equation is

$$s^2Y(s) - s + Y(s) = 4e^{-2\pi s} \quad \text{or} \quad Y(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} + \frac{4e^{-2\pi s}}{s^2 + 1}.$$

Using the inverse form of the second translation theorem, we find

$$y(t) = \cos t + 4\sin(t - 2\pi)\,\mathscr{U}(t - 2\pi).$$

Since $\sin(t - 2\pi) = \sin t$, the foregoing solution can be written as

$$y(t) = \begin{cases} \cos t, & 0 \leq t < 2\pi \\ \cos t + 4\sin t, & t \geq 2\pi. \end{cases} \qquad (5)$$
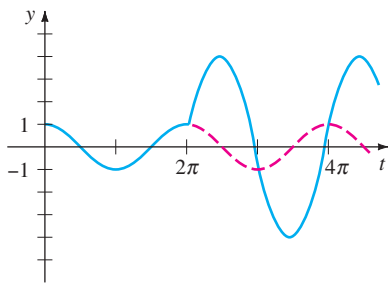
**FIGURE 7.5.3** Mass is struck at $t = 2\pi$
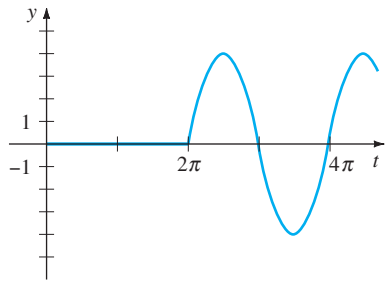


**FIGURE 7.5.4** No motion until mass is struck at $t = 2\pi$

In Figure 7.5.3 we see from the graph of (5) that the mass is exhibiting simple harmonic motion until it is struck at $t = 2\pi$. The influence of the unit impulse is to increase the amplitude of vibration to $\sqrt{17}$ for $t > 2\pi$.

**(b)** In this case the transform of the equation is simply

$$Y(s) = \frac{4e^{-2\pi s}}{s^2 + 1},$$

and so

$$y(t) = 4 \sin (t - 2\pi)\, \mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < 2\pi \\ 4 \sin t, & t \ge 2\pi. \end{cases} \tag{6}$$

The graph of (6) in Figure 7.5.4 shows, as we would expect from the initial conditions that the mass exhibits no motion until it is struck at $t = 2\pi$. ∎

## REMARKS

(*i*) If $\delta(t - t_0)$ were a function in the usual sense, then property (*i*) on page 293 would imply $\int_0^\infty \delta(t - t_0)\, dt = 0$ rather than $\int_0^\infty \delta(t - t_0)\, dt = 1$. Because the Dirac delta function did not "behave" like an ordinary function, even though its users produced correct results, it was met initially with great scorn by mathematicians. However, in the 1940s Dirac's controversial function was put on a rigorous footing by the French mathematician Laurent Schwartz in his book *La Théorie de distribution*, and this, in turn, led to an entirely new branch of mathematics known as the **theory of distributions** or **generalized functions.** In this theory (2) is not an accepted definition of $\delta(t - t_0)$, nor does one speak of a function whose values are either $\infty$ or 0. Although we shall not pursue this topic any further, suffice it to say that the Dirac delta function is best characterized by its effect on other functions. If $f$ is a continuous function, then

$$\int_0^\infty f(t)\, \delta(t - t_0)\, dt = f(t_0) \tag{7}$$

can be taken as the *definition* of $\delta(t - t_0)$. This result is known as the **sifting property,** since $\delta(t - t_0)$ has the effect of sifting the value $f(t_0)$ out of the set of values of $f$ on $[0, \infty)$. Note that property (*ii*) (with $f(t) = 1$) and (3) (with $f(t) = e^{-st}$) are consistent with (7).

(*ii*) The *Remarks* in Section 7.2 indicated that the transfer function of a general linear $n$th-order differential equation with constant coefficients is $W(s) = 1/P(s)$, where $P(s) = a_n s^n + a_{n-1}s^{n-1} + \cdots + a_0$. The transfer function is the Laplace transform of function $w(t)$, called the **weight function** of a linear system. But $w(t)$ can also be characterized in terms of the discussion at hand. For simplicity let us consider a second-order linear system in which the input is a unit impulse at $t = 0$:

$$a_2 y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = \delta(t), \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0.$$

Applying the Laplace transform and using $\mathcal{L}\{\delta(t)\} = 1$ shows that the transform of the response $y$ in this case is the transfer function

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{a_2 s^2 + a_1 s + a_0} = \frac{1}{P(s)} = W(s) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{so} \quad y = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{P(s)}\right\} = w(t).$$

From this we can see, in general, that the weight function $y = w(t)$ of an $n$th-order linear system is the zero-state response of the system to a unit impulse. For this reason $w(t)$ is also called the **impulse response** of the system.

In Problems 1–12 use the Laplace transform to solve the given initial-value problem.

**1.** $y' - 3y = \delta(t - 2)$, $\quad y(0) = 0$

**2.** $y' + y = \delta(t - 1)$, $\quad y(0) = 2$

**3.** $y'' + y = \delta(t - 2\pi)$, $\quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 1$

**4.** $y'' + 16y = \delta(t - 2\pi)$, $\quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**5.** $y'' + y = \delta\left(t - \frac{1}{2}\pi\right) + \delta\left(t - \frac{3}{2}\pi\right)$,
$\quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**6.** $y'' + y = \delta(t - 2\pi) + \delta(t - 4\pi)$, $\quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 0$

**7.** $y'' + 2y' = \delta(t - 1)$, $\quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 1$

**8.** $y'' - 2y' = 1 + \delta(t - 2)$, $\quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 1$

**9.** $y'' + 4y' + 5y = \delta(t - 2\pi)$, $\quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**10.** $y'' + 2y' + y = \delta(t - 1)$, $\quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**11.** $y'' + 4y' + 13y = \delta(t - \pi) + \delta(t - 3\pi)$,
$\quad y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 0$

**12.** $y'' - 7y' + 6y = e^t + \delta(t - 2) + \delta(t - 4)$,
$\quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 0$

**13.** A uniform beam of length $L$ carries a concentrated load $w_0$ at $x = \frac{1}{2}L$. The beam is embedded at its left end and

is free at its right end. Use the Laplace transform to determine the deflection $y(x)$ from

$$EI\frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = w_0\delta\left(x - \tfrac{1}{2}L\right),$$

where $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y''(L) = 0$, and $y'''(L) = 0$.

**14.** Solve the differential equation in Problem 13 subject to $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y(L) = 0$, $y'(L) = 0$. In this case the beam is embedded at both ends. See Figure 7.5.5.
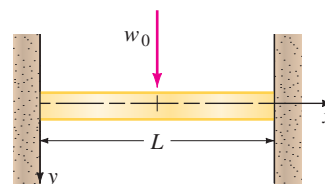


**FIGURE 7.5.5** Beam in Problem 14

**Discussion Problems**

**15.** Someone tells you that the solutions of the two IVPs

$$y'' + 2y' + 10y = 0, \qquad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1$$
$$y'' + 2y' + 10y = \delta(t), \qquad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$$

are exactly the same. Do you agree or disagree? Defend your answer.

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## 7.6 SYSTEMS OF LINEAR DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

### REVIEW MATERIAL
● Solving systems of two equations in two unknowns

**INTRODUCTION** When initial conditions are specified, the Laplace transform of each equation in a system of linear differential equations with constant coefficients reduces the system of DEs to a set of simultaneous algebraic equations in the transformed functions. We solve the system of algebraic equations for each of the transformed functions and then find the inverse Laplace transforms in the usual manner.

**COUPLED SPRINGS** Two masses $m_1$ and $m_2$ are connected to two springs $A$ and $B$ of negligible mass having spring constants $k_1$ and $k_2$, respectively. In turn the two springs are attached as shown in Figure 7.6.1. Let $x_1(t)$ and $x_2(t)$ denote the vertical displacements of the masses from their equilibrium positions. When the system is in motion, spring $B$ is subject to both an elongation and a compression; hence its net elongation is $x_2 - x_1$. Therefore it follows from Hooke's law that springs $A$ and $B$ exert forces $-k_1x_1$ and $k_2(x_2 - x_1)$, respectively, on $m_1$. If no external force is impressed on the system and if no damping force is present, then the net force on $m_1$ is $-k_1x_1 + k_2(x_2 - x_1)$. By Newton's second law we can write

$$m_1\frac{d^2x_1}{dt^2} = -k_1x_1 + k_2(x_2 - x_1).$$
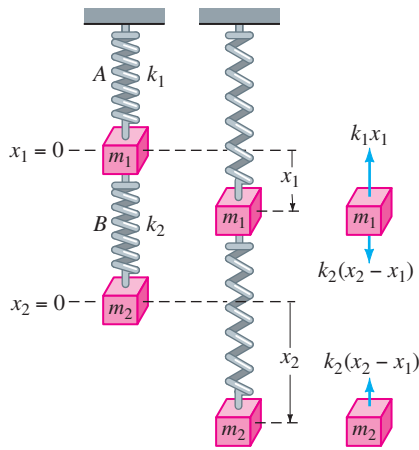
**(a)** equilibrium  **(b)** motion  **(c)** forces

**FIGURE 7.6.1** Coupled spring/mass system

Similarly, the net force exerted on mass $m_2$ is due solely to the net elongation of $B$; that is, $-k_2(x_2 - x_1)$. Hence we have

$$m_2 \frac{d^2 x_2}{dt^2} = -k_2(x_2 - x_1).$$

In other words, the motion of the coupled system is represented by the system of simultaneous second-order differential equations

$$\begin{aligned} m_1 x_1'' &= -k_1 x_1 + k_2(x_2 - x_1) \\ m_2 x_2'' &= -k_2(x_2 - x_1). \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

In the next example we solve (1) under the assumptions that $k_1 = 6$, $k_2 = 4$, $m_1 = 1$, $m_2 = 1$, and that the masses start from their equilibrium positions with opposite unit velocities.

---

**EXAMPLE 1**  **Coupled Springs**

Solve
$$\begin{aligned} x_1'' + 10x_1 \quad\;\; - 4x_2 &= 0 \\ -4x_1 + x_2'' + 4x_2 &= 0 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

subject to $x_1(0) = 0$, $x_1'(0) = 1$, $x_2(0) = 0$, $x_2'(0) = -1$.

**SOLUTION**  The Laplace transform of each equation is

$$s^2 X_1(s) - s x_1(0) - x_1'(0) + 10 X_1(s) - 4 X_2(s) = 0$$
$$-4 X_1(s) + s^2 X_2(s) - s x_2(0) - x_2'(0) + 4 X_2(s) = 0,$$

where $X_1(s) = \mathcal{L}\{x_1(t)\}$ and $X_2(s) = \mathcal{L}\{x_2(t)\}$. The preceding system is the same as

$$\begin{aligned} (s^2 + 10) X_1(s) \quad\;\; - 4 X_2(s) &= 1 \\ -4 X_1(s) + (s^2 + 4) X_2(s) &= -1. \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Solving (3) for $X_1(s)$ and using partial fractions on the result yields

$$X_1(s) = \frac{s^2}{(s^2 + 2)(s^2 + 12)} = -\frac{1/5}{s^2 + 2} + \frac{6/5}{s^2 + 12},$$

and therefore

$$\begin{aligned} x_1(t) &= -\frac{1}{5\sqrt{2}} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{s^2 + 2}\right\} + \frac{6}{5\sqrt{12}} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\sqrt{12}}{s^2 + 12}\right\} \\ &= -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{10} \sin \sqrt{2}t + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{5} \sin 2\sqrt{3}t. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting the expression for $X_1(s)$ into the first equation of (3) gives

$$X_2(s) = -\frac{s^2 + 6}{(s^2 + 2)(s^2 + 12)} = -\frac{2/5}{s^2 + 2} - \frac{3/5}{s^2 + 12}$$

and
$$\begin{aligned} x_2(t) &= -\frac{2}{5\sqrt{2}} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\sqrt{2}}{s^2 + 2}\right\} - \frac{3}{5\sqrt{12}} \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\sqrt{12}}{s^2 + 12}\right\} \\ &= -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{5} \sin \sqrt{2}t - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{10} \sin 2\sqrt{3}t. \end{aligned}$$
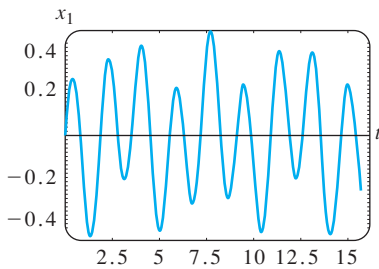


**(a)** plot of $x_1(t)$ vs. $t$
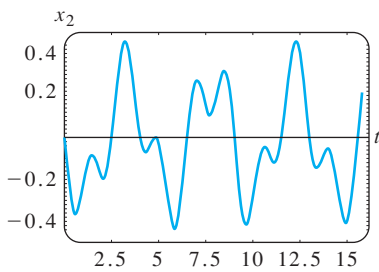


**(b)** plot of $x_2(t)$ vs. $t$

**FIGURE 7.6.2** Displacements of the two masses

Finally, the solution to the given system (2) is

$$x_1(t) = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{10} \sin \sqrt{2}t + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{5} \sin 2\sqrt{3}t$$

$$x_2(t) = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{5} \sin \sqrt{2}t - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{10} \sin 2\sqrt{3}t. \tag{4}$$

The graphs of $x_1$ and $x_2$ in Figure 7.6.2 reveal the complicated oscillatory motion of each mass. ∎

**NETWORKS** In (18) of Section 3.3 we saw the currents $i_1(t)$ and $i_2(t)$ in the network shown in Figure 7.6.3, containing an inductor, a resistor, and a capacitor, were governed by the system of first-order differential equations

$$L\frac{di_1}{dt} + Ri_2 = E(t)$$

$$RC\frac{di_2}{dt} + i_2 - i_1 = 0. \tag{5}$$
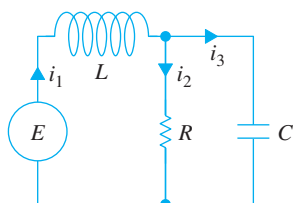
**FIGURE 7.6.3** Electrical network

We solve this system by the Laplace transform in the next example.

---

**EXAMPLE 2** An Electrical Network

---

Solve the system in (5) under the conditions $E(t) = 60$ V, $L = 1$ h, $R = 50$ Ω, $C = 10^{-4}$ f, and the currents $i_1$ and $i_2$ are initially zero.

**SOLUTION** We must solve

$$\frac{di_1}{dt} + 50i_2 = 60$$

$$50(10^{-4})\frac{di_2}{dt} + i_2 - i_1 = 0$$

subject to $i_1(0) = 0$, $i_2(0) = 0$.

Applying the Laplace transform to each equation of the system and simplifying gives

$$sI_1(s) + 50I_2(s) = \frac{60}{s}$$

$$-200I_1(s) + (s + 200)I_2(s) = 0,$$

where $I_1(s) = \mathscr{L}\{i_1(t)\}$ and $I_2(s) = \mathscr{L}\{i_2(t)\}$. Solving the system for $I_1$ and $I_2$ and decomposing the results into partial fractions gives

$$I_1(s) = \frac{60s + 12,000}{s(s + 100)^2} = \frac{6/5}{s} - \frac{6/5}{s + 100} - \frac{60}{(s + 100)^2}$$

$$I_2(s) = \frac{12,000}{s(s + 100)^2} = \frac{6/5}{s} - \frac{6/5}{s + 100} - \frac{120}{(s + 100)^2}.$$

Taking the inverse Laplace transform, we find the currents to be

$$i_1(t) = \frac{6}{5} - \frac{6}{5}e^{-100t} - 60te^{-100t}$$

$$i_2(t) = \frac{6}{5} - \frac{6}{5}e^{-100t} - 120te^{-100t}. \qquad ∎$$

Note that both $i_1(t)$ and $i_2(t)$ in Example 2 tend toward the value $E/R = \frac{6}{5}$ as $t \to \infty$. Furthermore, since the current through the capacitor is $i_3(t) = i_1(t) - i_2(t) = 60te^{-100t}$, we observe that $i_3(t) \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$.
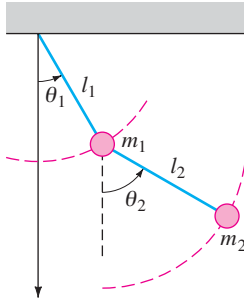


FIGURE 7.6.4 Double pendulum

**DOUBLE PENDULUM** Consider the double-pendulum system consisting of a pendulum attached to a pendulum shown in Figure 7.6.4. We assume that the system oscillates in a vertical plane under the influence of gravity, that the mass of each rod is negligible, and that no damping forces act on the system. Figure 7.6.4 also shows that the displacement angle $\theta_1$ is measured (in radians) from a vertical line extending downward from the pivot of the system and that $\theta_2$ is measured from a vertical line extending downward from the center of mass $m_1$. The positive direction is to the right; the negative direction is to the left. As we might expect from the analysis leading to equation (6) of Section 5.3, the system of differential equations describing the motion is nonlinear:

$$(m_1 + m_2)l_1^2\theta_1'' + m_2l_1l_2\theta_2'' \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + m_2l_1l_2(\theta_2')^2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + (m_1 + m_2)l_1g \sin\theta_1 = 0$$

$$m_2l_2^2\theta_2'' + m_2l_1l_2\theta_1'' \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) - m_2l_1l_2(\theta_1')^2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + m_2l_2g \sin\theta_2 = 0. \tag{6}$$

But if the displacements $\theta_1(t)$ and $\theta_2(t)$ are assumed to be small, then the approximations $\cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \approx 1$, $\sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) \approx 0$, $\sin\theta_1 \approx \theta_1$, $\sin\theta_2 \approx \theta_2$ enable us to replace system (6) by the linearization

$$(m_1 + m_2)l_1^2\theta_1'' + m_2l_1l_2\theta_2'' + (m_1 + m_2)l_1g\theta_1 = 0$$

$$m_2l_2^2\theta_2'' + m_2l_1l_2\theta_1'' + m_2l_2g\theta_2 = 0. \tag{7}$$

---

### EXAMPLE 3   Double Pendulum

It is left as an exercise to fill in the details of using the Laplace transform to solve system (7) when $m_1 = 3$, $m_2 = 1$, $l_1 = l_2 = 16$, $\theta_1(0) = 1$, $\theta_2(0) = -1$, $\theta_1'(0) = 0$, and $\theta_2'(0) = 0$. You should find that

$$\theta_1(t) = \frac{1}{4}\cos\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}t + \frac{3}{4}\cos 2t$$

$$\theta_2(t) = \frac{1}{2}\cos\frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}t - \frac{3}{2}\cos 2t. \tag{8}$$

With the aid of a CAS the positions of the two masses at $t = 0$ and at subsequent times are shown in Figure 7.6.5. See Problem 21 in Exercises 7.6.



(a) $t = 0$          (b) $t = 1.4$          (c) $t = 2.5$          (d) $t = 8.5$
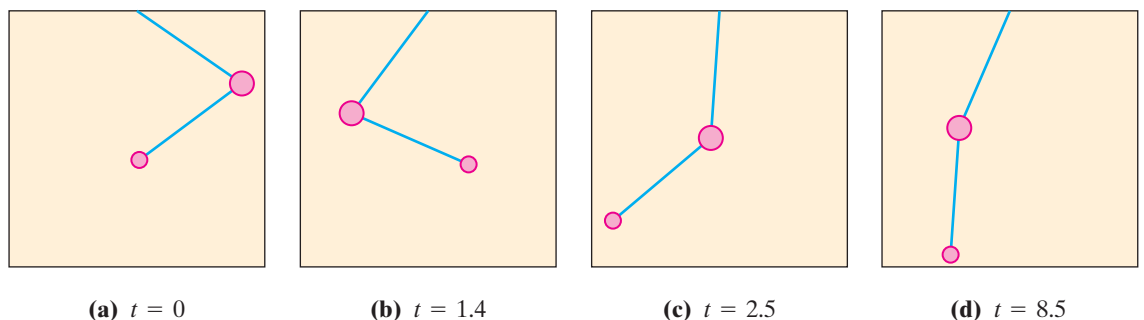
FIGURE 7.6.5   Positions of masses on double pendulum at various times

## EXERCISES 7.6

In Problems 1–12 use the Laplace transform to solve the given system of differential equations.

**1.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -x + y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 2x$

$x(0) = 0, \quad y(0) = 1$

**2.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 2y + e^t$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 8x - t$

$x(0) = 1, \quad y(0) = 1$

**3.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = x - 2y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 5x - y$

$x(0) = -1, \quad y(0) = 2$

**4.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} + 3x + \dfrac{dy}{dt} = 1$

$\dfrac{dx}{dt} - x + \dfrac{dy}{dt} - y = e^t$

$x(0) = 0, \quad y(0) = 0$

**5.** $2\dfrac{dx}{dt} + \dfrac{dy}{dt} - 2x = 1$

$\dfrac{dx}{dt} + \dfrac{dy}{dt} - 3x - 3y = 2$

$x(0) = 0, \quad y(0) = 0$

**6.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} + x - \dfrac{dy}{dt} + y = 0$

$\dfrac{dx}{dt} + \dfrac{dy}{dt} + 2y = 0$

$x(0) = 0, \quad y(0) = 1$

**7.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + x - y = 0$

$\dfrac{d^2y}{dt^2} + y - x = 0$

$x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = -2,$

$y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1$

**8.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \dfrac{dx}{dt} + \dfrac{dy}{dt} = 0$

$\dfrac{d^2y}{dt^2} + \dfrac{dy}{dt} - 4\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 0$

$x(0) = 1, \quad x'(0) = 0,$

$y(0) = -1, \quad y'(0) = 5$

**9.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + \dfrac{d^2y}{dt^2} = t^2$

$\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} - \dfrac{d^2y}{dt^2} = 4t$

$x(0) = 8, \quad x'(0) = 0,$

$y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0$

**10.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} - 4x + \dfrac{d^3y}{dt^3} = 6 \sin t$

$\dfrac{dx}{dt} + 2x - 2\dfrac{d^3y}{dt^3} = 0$

$x(0) = 0, \quad y(0) = 0,$

$y'(0) = 0, \quad y''(0) = 0$

**11.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 3\dfrac{dy}{dt} + 3y = 0$

$\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 3y = te^{-t}$

$x(0) = 0, \quad x'(0) = 2, \quad y(0) = 0$

**12.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 4x - 2y + 2\mathcal{U}(t - 1)$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 3x - y + \mathcal{U}(t - 1)$

$x(0) = 0, \quad y(0) = \tfrac{1}{2}$

**13.** Solve system (1) when $k_1 = 3$, $k_2 = 2$, $m_1 = 1$, $m_2 = 1$ and $x_1(0) = 0$, $x_1'(0) = 1$, $x_2(0) = 1$, $x_2'(0) = 0$.

**14.** Derive the system of differential equations describing the straight-line vertical motion of the coupled springs shown in Figure 7.6.6. Use the Laplace transform to solve the system when $k_1 = 1$, $k_2 = 1$, $k_3 = 1$, $m_1 = 1$, $m_2 = 1$ and $x_1(0) = 0$, $x_1'(0) = -1$, $x_2(0) = 0$, $x_2'(0) = 1$.
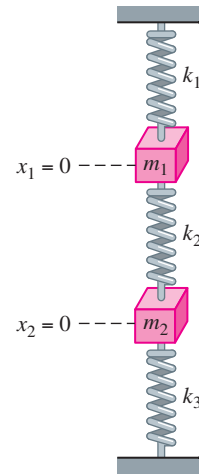


**FIGURE 7.6.6** Coupled springs in Problem 14

**15. (a)** Show that the system of differential equations for the currents $i_2(t)$ and $i_3(t)$ in the electrical network shown in Figure 7.6.7 is

$$L_1\dfrac{di_2}{dt} + Ri_2 + Ri_3 = E(t)$$

$$L_2\dfrac{di_3}{dt} + Ri_2 + Ri_3 = E(t).$$

**(b)** Solve the system in part (a) if $R = 5\ \Omega$, $L_1 = 0.01$ h, $L_2 = 0.0125$ h, $E = 100$ V, $i_2(0) = 0$, and $i_3(0) = 0$.

**(c)** Determine the current $i_1(t)$.
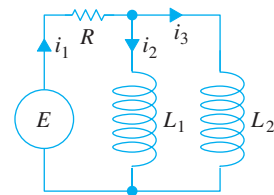


**FIGURE 7.6.7** Network in Problem 15

**16. (a)** In Problem 12 in Exercises 3.3 you were asked to show that the currents $i_2(t)$ and $i_3(t)$ in the electrical network shown in Figure 7.6.8 satisfy

$$L\dfrac{di_2}{dt} + L\dfrac{di_3}{dt} + R_1 i_2 = E(t)$$

$$-R_1\dfrac{di_2}{dt} + R_2\dfrac{di_3}{dt} + \dfrac{1}{C}i_3 = 0.$$

Solve the system if $R_1 = 10\ \Omega$, $R_2 = 5\ \Omega$, $L = 1$ h, $C = 0.2$ f,

$$E(t) = \begin{cases} 120, & 0 \le t < 2 \\ 0, & t \ge 2, \end{cases}$$

$i_2(0) = 0$, and $i_3(0) = 0$.

**(b)** Determine the current $i_1(t)$.
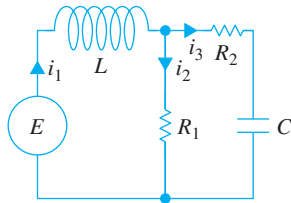
**FIGURE 7.6.8** Network in Problem 16

**17.** Solve the system given in (17) of Section 3.3 when $R_1 = 6\ \Omega$, $R_2 = 5\ \Omega$, $L_1 = 1$ h, $L_2 = 1$ h, $E(t) = 50 \sin t$ V, $i_2(0) = 0$, and $i_3(0) = 0$.

**18.** Solve (5) when $E = 60$ V, $L = \frac{1}{2}$ h, $R = 50\ \Omega$, $C = 10^{-4}$ f, $i_1(0) = 0$, and $i_2(0) = 0$.

**19.** Solve (5) when $E = 60$ V, $L = 2$ h, $R = 50\ \Omega$, $C = 10^{-4}$ f, $i_1(0) = 0$, and $i_2(0) = 0$.

**20. (a)** Show that the system of differential equations for the charge on the capacitor $q(t)$ and the current $i_3(t)$ in the electrical network shown in Figure 7.6.9 is

$$R_1 \frac{dq}{dt} + \frac{1}{C} q + R_1 i_3 = E(t)$$

$$L \frac{di_3}{dt} + R_2 i_3 - \frac{1}{C} q = 0.$$

**(b)** Find the charge on the capacitor when $L = 1$ h, $R_1 = 1\ \Omega$, $R_2 = 1\ \Omega$, $C = 1$ f,

$$E(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 < t < 1 \\ 50e^{-t}, & t \ge 1, \end{cases}$$

$i_3(0) = 0$, and $q(0) = 0$.
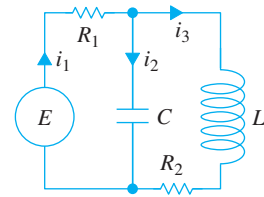
**FIGURE 7.6.9** Network in Problem 20

## Computer Lab Assignments

**21. (a)** Use the Laplace transform and the information given in Example 3 to obtain the solution (8) of the system given in (7).

**(b)** Use a graphing utility to graph $\theta_1(t)$ and $\theta_2(t)$ in the $t\theta$-plane. Which mass has extreme displacements of greater magnitude? Use the graphs to estimate the first time that each mass passes through its equilibrium position. Discuss whether the motion of the pendulums is periodic.

**(c)** Graph $\theta_1(t)$ and $\theta_2(t)$ in the $\theta_1\theta_2$-plane as parametric equations. The curve defined by these parametric equations is called a **Lissajous curve.**

**(d)** The positions of the masses at $t = 0$ are given in Figure 7.6.5(a). Note that we have used 1 radian $\approx 57.3°$. Use a calculator or a table application in a CAS to construct a table of values of the angles $\theta_1$ and $\theta_2$ for $t = 1, 2, \dots, 10$ s. Then plot the positions of the two masses at these times.

**(e)** Use a CAS to find the first time that $\theta_1(t) = \theta_2(t)$ and compute the corresponding angular value. Plot the positions of the two masses at these times.

**(f)** Utilize the CAS to draw appropriate lines to simulate the pendulum rods, as in Figure 7.6.5. Use the animation capability of your CAS to make a "movie" of the motion of the double pendulum from $t = 0$ to $t = 10$ using a time increment of 0.1. [*Hint*: Express the coordinates $(x_1(t), y_1(t))$ and $(x_2(t), y_2(t))$ of the masses $m_1$ and $m_2$, respectively, in terms of $\theta_1(t)$ and $\theta_2(t)$.]

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# CHAPTER 7 IN REVIEW

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-12.*

In Problems 1 and 2 use the definition of the Laplace transform to find $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$.

**1.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} t, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ 2 - t, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}$

**2.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \le t < 2 \\ 1, & 2 \le t < 4 \\ 0, & t \ge 4 \end{cases}$

In Problems 3–24 fill in the blanks or answer true or false.

**3.** If $f$ is not piecewise continuous on $[0, \infty)$, then $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\}$ will not exist. _____

**4.** The function $f(t) = (e^t)^{10}$ is not of exponential order. _____

**5.** $F(s) = s^2/(s^2 + 4)$ is not the Laplace transform of a function that is piecewise continuous and of exponential order. _____

**6.** If $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ and $\mathcal{L}\{g(t)\} = G(s)$, then
$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)G(s)\} = f(t)g(t).$ _____

**7.** $\mathcal{L}\{e^{-7t}\} = $ _____      **8.** $\mathcal{L}\{te^{-7t}\} = $ _____

**9.** $\mathcal{L}\{\sin 2t\} = $ _____    **10.** $\mathcal{L}\{e^{-3t}\sin 2t\} = $ _____

**11.** $\mathcal{L}\{t\sin 2t\} = $ _____

**12.** $\mathcal{L}\{\sin 2t\,\mathcal{U}(t - \pi)\} = $ _____

**13.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{20}{s^6}\right\} = $ _____

**14.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{3s - 1}\right\} = $ _____

**15.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{(s - 5)^3}\right\} = $ _____

**16.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{s^2 - 5}\right\} = $ _____

**17.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s}{s^2 - 10s + 29}\right\} = $ _____

**18.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{e^{-5s}}{s^2}\right\} = $ _____

**19.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{s + \pi}{s^2 + \pi^2}\,e^{-s}\right\} = $ _____

**20.** $\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{1}{L^2s^2 + n^2\pi^2}\right\} = $ _____

**21.** $\mathcal{L}\{e^{-5t}\}$ exists for $s > $ _____.

**22.** If $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$, then $\mathcal{L}\{te^{8t}f(t)\} = $ _____.

**23.** If $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ and $k > 0$, then
$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}f(t - k)\mathcal{U}(t - k)\} = $ _____.

**24.** $\mathcal{L}\{\int_0^t e^{a\tau}f(\tau)\,d\tau\} = $ _____ whereas
$\mathcal{L}\{e^{at}\int_0^t f(\tau)\,d\tau\} = $ _____.

In Problems 25–28 use the unit step function to find an equation for each graph in terms of the function $y = f(t)$, whose graph is given in Figure 7.R.1.
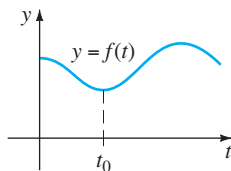


**FIGURE 7.R.1** Graph for Problems 25–28

**25.**
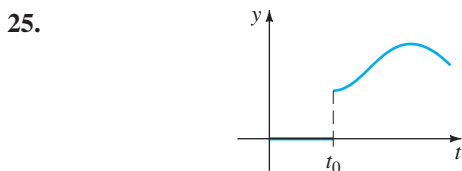


**FIGURE 7.R.2** Graph for Problem 25

**26.**
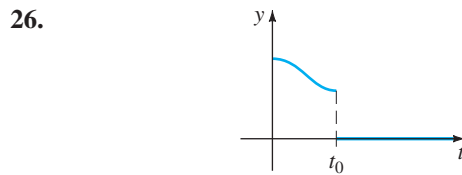


**FIGURE 7.R.3** Graph for Problem 26

**27.**
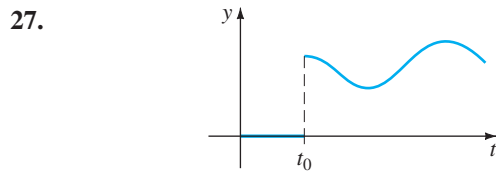


**FIGURE 7.R.4** Graph for Problem 27

**28.**
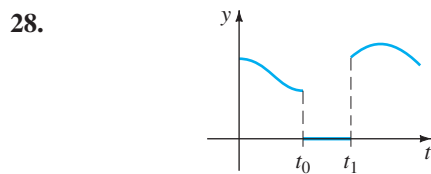


**FIGURE 7.R.5** Graph for Problem 28

In Problems 29–32 express $f$ in terms of unit step functions. Find $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\}$ and $\mathcal{L}\{e^t f(t)\}$.

**29.**
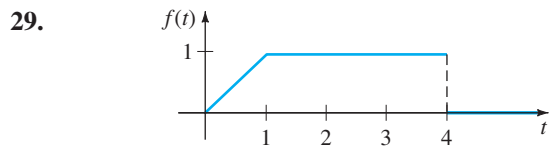


**FIGURE 7.R.6** Graph for Problem 29

**30.**
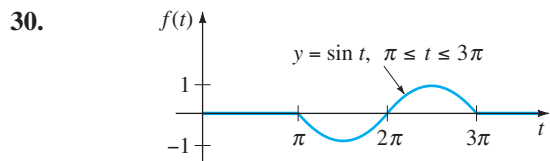


**FIGURE 7.R.7** Graph for Problem 30

**31.**
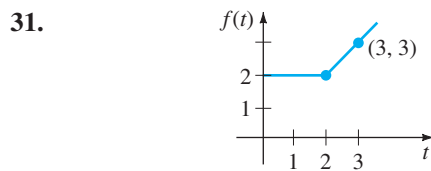


**FIGURE 7.R.8** Graph for Problem 31

**32.**
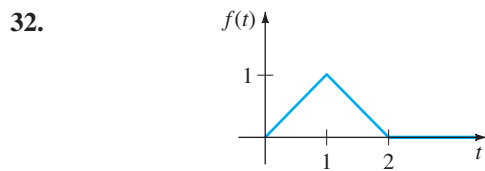


**FIGURE 7.R.9** Graph for Problem 32

In Problems 33–38 use the Laplace transform to solve the given equation.

**33.** $y'' - 2y' + y = e^t$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 5$

**34.** $y'' - 8y' + 20y = te^t$, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$

**35.** $y'' + 6y' + 5y = t - t\,\mathcal{U}(t - 2)$, $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 0$

**36.** $y' - 5y = f(t)$, where

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} t^2, & 0 \le t < 1 \\ 0, & t \ge 1 \end{cases}, \quad y(0) = 1$$

**37.** $y'(t) = \cos t + \int_0^t y(\tau) \cos(t - \tau)\, d\tau$, $y(0) = 1$

**38.** $\int_0^t f(\tau) f(t - \tau)\, d\tau = 6t^3$

In Problems 39 and 40 use the Laplace transform to solve each system.

**39.** $x' + y = t$
$4x + y' = 0$
$x(0) = 1$, $y(0) = 2$

**40.** $x'' + y'' = e^{2t}$
$2x' + y'' = -e^{2t}$
$x(0) = 0$, $y(0) = 0$,
$x'(0) = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$

**41.** The current $i(t)$ in an $RC$ series circuit can be determined from the integral equation

$$Ri + \frac{1}{C} \int_0^t i(\tau)\, d\tau = E(t),$$

where $E(t)$ is the impressed voltage. Determine $i(t)$ when $R = 10\ \Omega$, $C = 0.5$ f, and $E(t) = 2(t^2 + t)$.

**42.** A series circuit contains an inductor, a resistor, and a capacitor for which $L = \frac{1}{2}$ h, $R = 10\ \Omega$, and $C = 0.01$ f, respectively. The voltage

$$E(t) = \begin{cases} 10, & 0 \le t < 5 \\ 0, & t \ge 5 \end{cases}$$

is applied to the circuit. Determine the instantaneous charge $q(t)$ on the capacitor for $t > 0$ if $q(0) = 0$ and $q'(0) = 0$.

**43.** A uniform cantilever beam of length $L$ is embedded at its left end ($x = 0$) and free at its right end. Find the deflection $y(x)$ if the load per unit length is given by

$$w(x) = \frac{2w_0}{L} \left[ \frac{L}{2} - x + \left( x - \frac{L}{2} \right) \mathcal{U}\left( x - \frac{L}{2} \right) \right].$$

**44.** When a uniform beam is supported by an elastic foundation, the differential equation for its deflection $y(x)$ is

$$EI\frac{d^4y}{dx^4} + ky = w(x),$$

where $k$ is the modulus of the foundation and $-ky$ is the restoring force of the foundation that acts in the direction opposite to that of the load $w(x)$. See Figure 7.R.10. For

algebraic convenience suppose that the differential equation is written as

$$\frac{d^4y}{dx^4} + 4a^4y = \frac{w(x)}{EI},$$

where $a = (k/4EI)^{1/4}$. Assume $L = \pi$ and $a = 1$. Find the deflection $y(x)$ of a beam that is supported on an elastic foundation when

(a) the beam is simply supported at both ends and a constant load $w_0$ is uniformly distributed along its length,

(b) the beam is embedded at both ends and $w(x)$ is a concentrated load $w_0$ applied at $x = \pi/2$.

[*Hint:* In both parts of this problem use entries 35 and 36 in the table of Laplace transforms in Appendix III.]
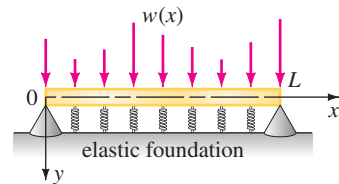


**FIGURE 7.R.10** Beam on elastic foundation in Problem 44

**45. (a)** Suppose two identical pendulums are coupled by means of a spring with constant $k$. See Figure 7.R.11. Under the same assumptions made in the discussion preceding Example 3 in Section 7.6, it can be shown that when the displacement angles $\theta_1(t)$ and $\theta_2(t)$ are small, the system of linear differential equations describing the motion is

$$\theta_1'' + \frac{g}{l}\theta_1 = -\frac{k}{m}(\theta_1 - \theta_2)$$

$$\theta_2'' + \frac{g}{l}\theta_2 = \frac{k}{m}(\theta_1 - \theta_2).$$

Use the Laplace transform to solve the system when $\theta_1(0) = \theta_0$, $\theta_1'(0) = 0$, $\theta_2(0) = \psi_0$, $\theta_2'(0) = 0$, where $\theta_0$ and $\psi_0$ constants. For convenience let $\omega^2 = g/l$, $K = k/m$.

**(b)** Use the solution in part (a) to discuss the motion of the coupled pendulums in the special case when the initial conditions are $\theta_1(0) = \theta_0$, $\theta_1'(0) = 0$, $\theta_2(0) = \theta_0$, $\theta_2'(0) = 0$. When the initial conditions are $\theta_1(0) = \theta_0$, $\theta_1'(0) = 0$, $\theta_2(0) = -\theta_0$, $\theta_2'(0) = 0$.
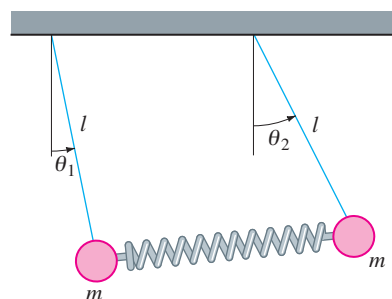


**FIGURE 7.R.11** Coupled pendulums in Problem 45

# 8 SYSTEMS OF LINEAR FIRST-ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

We encountered systems of differential equations in Sections 3.3, 4.8, and 7.6 and were able to solve some of these systems by means of either systematic elimination or the Laplace transform. In this chapter we are going to concentrate only on *systems of linear first-order differential equations.* Although most of the systems that are considered could be solved using elimination or the Laplace transform, we are going to develop a general theory for these kinds of systems and, in the case of systems with constant coefficients, a method of solution that utilizes some basic concepts from the algebra of matrices. We will see that this general theory and solution procedure is similar to that of linear high-order differential equations considered in Chapter 4. This material is fundamental to the analysis of nonlinear first-order equations.

## 8.1 PRELIMINARY THEORY—LINEAR SYSTEMS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

● Matrix notation and properties are used extensively throughout this chapter. It is imperative that you review either Appendix II or a linear algebra text if you unfamiliar with these concepts.

**INTRODUCTION**  Recall that in Section 4.8 we illustrated how to solve systems of $n$ linear differential equations in $n$ unknowns of the form

$$
\begin{aligned}
P_{11}(D)x_1 + P_{12}(D)x_2 + \cdots + P_{1n}(D)x_n &= b_1(t) \\
P_{21}(D)x_1 + P_{22}(D)x_2 + \cdots + P_{2n}(D)x_n &= b_2(t) \\
&\vdots \\
P_{n1}(D)x_1 + P_{n2}(D)x_2 + \cdots + P_{nn}(D)x_n &= b_n(t),
\end{aligned}
\tag{1}
$$

where the $P_{ij}$ were polynomials of various degrees in the differential operator $D$. In this chapter we confine our study to systems of first-order DEs that are special cases of systems that have the normal form

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{dx_1}{dt} &= g_1(t,x_1,x_2, \ldots ,x_n) \\
\frac{dx_2}{dt} &= g_2(t,x_1,x_2, \ldots ,x_n) \\
&\vdots \\
\frac{dx_n}{dt} &= g_n(t,x_1,x_2, \ldots ,x_n).
\end{aligned}
\tag{2}
$$

A system such as (2) of $n$ first-order equations is called a **first-order system.**

**LINEAR SYSTEMS**  When each of the functions $g_1, g_2, \ldots, g_n$ in (2) is linear in the dependent variables $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n$, we get the **normal form** of a first-order system of linear equations:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{dx_1}{dt} &= a_{11}(t)x_1 + a_{12}(t)x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}(t)x_n + f_1(t) \\
\frac{dx_2}{dt} &= a_{21}(t)x_1 + a_{22}(t)x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}(t)x_n + f_2(t) \\
&\vdots \\
\frac{dx_n}{dt} &= a_{n1}(t)x_1 + a_{n2}(t)x_2 + \cdots + a_{nn}(t)x_n + f_n(t).
\end{aligned}
\tag{3}
$$

We refer to a system of the form given in (3) simply as a **linear system.** We assume that the coefficients $a_{ij}$ as well as the functions $f_i$ are continuous on a common interval $I$. When $f_i(t) = 0$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, the linear system (3) is said to be **homogeneous;** otherwise, it is **nonhomogeneous.**

**MATRIX FORM OF A LINEAR SYSTEM**  If $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{A}(t)$, and $\mathbf{F}(t)$ denote the respective matrices

$$
\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ x_n(t) \end{pmatrix}, \qquad
\mathbf{A}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}(t) & a_{12}(t) & \cdots & a_{1n}(t) \\ a_{21}(t) & a_{22}(t) & \cdots & a_{2n}(t) \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{n1}(t) & a_{n2}(t) & \cdots & a_{nn}(t) \end{pmatrix}, \qquad
\mathbf{F}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(t) \\ f_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ f_n(t) \end{pmatrix},
$$

then the system of linear first-order differential equations (3) can be written as

$$\frac{d}{dt}\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}(t) & a_{12}(t) & \cdots & a_{1n}(t) \\ a_{21}(t) & a_{22}(t) & \cdots & a_{2n}(t) \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{n1}(t) & a_{n2}(t) & \cdots & a_{nn}(t) \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} f_1(t) \\ f_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ f_n(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

or simply
$$\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{F}. \tag{4}$$

If the system is homogeneous, its matrix form is then

$$\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}. \tag{5}$$

---

**EXAMPLE 1**    **Systems Written in Matrix Notation**

**(a)** If $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$, then the matrix form of the homogeneous system

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= 3x + 4y \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= 5x - 7y \end{aligned} \quad \text{is} \quad \mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 5 & -7 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}.$$

**(b)** If $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$, then the matrix form of the nonhomogeneous system

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= 6x + y + z + t \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= 8x + 7y - z + 10t \quad \text{is} \quad \mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 1 & 1 \\ 8 & 7 & -1 \\ 2 & 9 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} t \\ 10t \\ 6t \end{pmatrix}. \\ \frac{dz}{dt} &= 2x + 9y - z + 6t \end{aligned}$$

∎

---

**DEFINITION 8.1.1**    **Solution Vector**

A **solution vector** on an interval $I$ is any column matrix

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ x_n(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

whose entries are differentiable functions satisfying the system (4) on the interval.

---

A solution vector of (4) is, of course, equivalent to $n$ scalar equations $x_1 = \phi_1(t)$, $x_2 = \phi_2(t)$, ..., $x_n = \phi_n(t)$ and can be interpreted geometrically as a set of parametric equations of a space curve. In the important case $n = 2$ the equations $x_1 = \phi_1(t)$, $x_2 = \phi_2(t)$ represent a curve in the $x_1 x_2$-plane. It is common practice to call a curve in the plane a **trajectory** and to call the $x_1 x_2$-plane the **phase plane.** We will come back to these concepts and illustrate them in the next section.

**EXAMPLE 2**   **Verification of Solutions**

Verify that on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} \\ -e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} e^{6t} = \begin{pmatrix} 3e^{6t} \\ 5e^{6t} \end{pmatrix}$$

are solutions of $\qquad\qquad\qquad \mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}.$  (6)

**SOLUTION**   From $\mathbf{X}_1' = \begin{pmatrix} -2e^{-2t} \\ 2e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{X}_2' = \begin{pmatrix} 18e^{6t} \\ 30e^{6t} \end{pmatrix}$ we see that

$$\mathbf{AX}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} \\ -e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} - 3e^{-2t} \\ 5e^{-2t} - 3e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2e^{-2t} \\ 2e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{X}_1',$$

and $\qquad \mathbf{AX}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3e^{6t} \\ 5e^{6t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3e^{6t} + 15e^{6t} \\ 15e^{6t} + 15e^{6t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 18e^{6t} \\ 30e^{6t} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{X}_2'.$   ∎

Much of the theory of systems of $n$ linear first-order differential equations is similar to that of linear $n$th-order differential equations.

**INITIAL-VALUE PROBLEM**   Let $t_0$ denote a point on an interval $I$ and

$$\mathbf{X}(t_0) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t_0) \\ x_2(t_0) \\ \vdots \\ x_n(t_0) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{X}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 \\ \vdots \\ \gamma_n \end{pmatrix},$$

where the $\gamma_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ are given constants. Then the problem

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{Solve:} &\qquad \mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}(t)\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{F}(t) \\ \textit{Subject to:} &\qquad \mathbf{X}(t_0) = \mathbf{X}_0 \end{aligned}$$  (7)

is an **initial-value problem** on the interval.

---

**THEOREM 8.1.1**   **Existence of a Unique Solution**

Let the entries of the matrices $\mathbf{A}(t)$ and $\mathbf{F}(t)$ be functions continuous on a common interval $I$ that contains the point $t_0$. Then there exists a unique solution of the initial-value problem (7) on the interval.

---

**HOMOGENEOUS SYSTEMS**   In the next several definitions and theorems we are concerned only with homogeneous systems. Without stating it, we shall always assume that the $a_{ij}$ and the $f_i$ are continuous functions of $t$ on some common interval $I$.

**SUPERPOSITION PRINCIPLE**   The following result is a **superposition principle** for solutions of linear systems.

---

**THEOREM 8.1.2**   **Superposition Principle**

Let $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_k$ be a set of solution vectors of the homogeneous system (5) on an interval $I$. Then the linear combination

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1\mathbf{X}_1 + c_2\mathbf{X}_2 + \cdots + c_k\mathbf{X}_k,$$

where the $c_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$ are arbitrary constants, is also a solution on the interval.

---

It follows from Theorem 8.1.2 that a constant multiple of any solution vector of a homogeneous system of linear first-order differential equations is also a solution.

---

### EXAMPLE 3   Using the Superposition Principle

You should practice by verifying that the two vectors

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\frac{1}{2}\cos t + \frac{1}{2}\sin t \\ -\cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ e^t \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

are solutions of the system

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}. \tag{8}$$

By the superposition principle the linear combination

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1\mathbf{X}_1 + c_2\mathbf{X}_2 = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\frac{1}{2}\cos t + \frac{1}{2}\sin t \\ -\cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ e^t \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

is yet another solution of the system. ■

**LINEAR DEPENDENCE AND LINEAR INDEPENDENCE**   We are primarily interested in linearly independent solutions of the homogeneous system (5).

---

**DEFINITION 8.1.2   Linear Dependence/Independence**

Let $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_k$ be a set of solution vectors of the homogeneous system (5) on an interval $I$. We say that the set is **linearly dependent** on the interval if there exist constants $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k$, not all zero, such that

$$c_1\mathbf{X}_1 + c_2\mathbf{X}_2 + \cdots + c_k\mathbf{X}_k = \mathbf{0}$$

for every $t$ in the interval. If the set of vectors is not linearly dependent on the interval, it is said to be **linearly independent.**

---

The case when $k = 2$ should be clear; two solution vectors $\mathbf{X}_1$ and $\mathbf{X}_2$ are linearly dependent if one is a constant multiple of the other, and conversely. For $k > 2$ a set of solution vectors is linearly dependent if we can express at least one solution vector as a linear combination of the remaining vectors.

**WRONSKIAN**   As in our earlier consideration of the theory of a single ordinary differential equation, we can introduce the concept of the **Wronskian** determinant as a test for linear independence. We state the following theorem without proof.

---

**THEOREM 8.1.3   Criterion for Linearly Independent Solutions**

Let $\quad \mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} \\ x_{21} \\ \vdots \\ x_{n1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_{12} \\ x_{22} \\ \vdots \\ x_{n2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \ldots, \quad \mathbf{X}_n = \begin{pmatrix} x_{1n} \\ x_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ x_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$

be $n$ solution vectors of the homogeneous system (5) on an interval $I$. Then the set of solution vectors is linearly independent on $I$ if and only if the **Wronskian**

$$W(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_n) = \begin{vmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{1n} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \cdots & x_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & x_{n2} & \cdots & x_{nn} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0 \qquad (9)$$

for every $t$ in the interval.

It can be shown that if $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_n$ are solution vectors of (5), then for every $t$ in $I$ either $W(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_n) \neq 0$ or $W(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_n) = 0$. Thus if we can show that $W \neq 0$ for some $t_0$ in $I$, then $W \neq 0$ for every $t$, and hence the solutions are linearly independent on the interval.

Notice that, unlike our definition of the Wronskian in Section 4.1, here the definition of the determinant (9) does not involve differentiation.

### EXAMPLE 4    Linearly Independent Solutions

In Example 2 we saw that $\mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t}$ and $\mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} e^{6t}$ are solutions of system (6). Clearly, $\mathbf{X}_1$ and $\mathbf{X}_2$ are linearly independent on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, since neither vector is a constant multiple of the other. In addition, we have

$$W(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2) = \begin{vmatrix} e^{-2t} & 3e^{6t} \\ -e^{-2t} & 5e^{6t} \end{vmatrix} = 8e^{4t} \neq 0$$

for all real values of $t$. ∎

---

**DEFINITION 8.1.3    Fundamental Set of Solutions**

Any set $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_n$ of $n$ linearly independent solution vectors of the homogeneous system (5) on an interval $I$ is said to be a **fundamental set of solutions** on the interval.

---

**THEOREM 8.1.4    Existence of a Fundamental Set**

There exists a fundamental set of solutions for the homogeneous system (5) on an interval $I$.

---

The next two theorems are the linear system equivalents of Theorems 4.1.5 and 4.1.6.

---

**THEOREM 8.1.5    General Solution—Homogeneous Systems**

Let $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_n$ be a fundamental set of solutions of the homogeneous system (5) on an interval $I$. Then the **general solution** of the system on the interval is

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1\mathbf{X}_1 + c_2\mathbf{X}_2 + \cdots + c_n\mathbf{X}_n,$$

where the $c_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ are arbitrary constants.

> **EXAMPLE 5**  General Solution of System (6)

From Example 2 we know that $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t}$ and $X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} e^{6t}$ are linearly independent solutions of (6) on $(-\infty, \infty)$. Hence $X_1$ and $X_2$ form a fundamental set of solutions on the interval. The general solution of the system on the interval is then

$$X = c_1 X_1 + c_2 X_2 = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} e^{6t}. \qquad (10) \quad \blacksquare$$

> **EXAMPLE 6**  General Solution of System (8)

The vectors

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\frac{1}{2}\cos t + \frac{1}{2}\sin t \\ -\cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix}, \qquad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^t, \qquad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\frac{1}{2}\sin t - \frac{1}{2}\cos t \\ -\sin t + \cos t \end{pmatrix}$$

are solutions of the system (8) in Example 3 (see Problem 16 in Exercises 8.1). Now

$$W(X_1, X_2, X_3) = \begin{vmatrix} \cos t & 0 & \sin t \\ -\frac{1}{2}\cos t + \frac{1}{2}\sin t & e^t & -\frac{1}{2}\sin t - \frac{1}{2}\cos t \\ -\cos t - \sin t & 0 & -\sin t + \cos t \end{vmatrix} = e^t \neq 0$$

for all real values of $t$. We conclude that $X_1$, $X_2$, and $X_3$ form a fundamental set of solutions on $(-\infty, \infty)$. Thus the general solution of the system on the interval is the linear combination $X = c_1 X_1 + c_2 X_2 + c_3 X_3$; that is,

$$X = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\frac{1}{2}\cos t + \frac{1}{2}\sin t \\ -\cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^t + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\frac{1}{2}\sin t - \frac{1}{2}\cos t \\ -\sin t + \cos t \end{pmatrix}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

**NONHOMOGENEOUS SYSTEMS**   For nonhomogeneous systems a **particular solution** $X_p$ on an interval $I$ is any vector, free of arbitrary parameters, whose entries are functions that satisfy the system (4).

---

> **THEOREM 8.1.6**   General Solution—Nonhomogeneous Systems
>
> Let $X_p$ be a given solution of the nonhomogeneous system (4) on an interval $I$ and let
>
> $$X_c = c_1 X_1 + c_2 X_2 + \cdots + c_n X_n$$
>
> denote the general solution on the same interval of the associated homogeneous system (5). Then the **general solution** of the nonhomogeneous system on the interval is
>
> $$X = X_c + X_p.$$
>
> The general solution $X_c$ of the associated homogeneous system (5) is called the **complementary function** of the nonhomogeneous system (4).

**EXAMPLE 7  General Solution — Nonhomogeneous System**

The vector $\mathbf{X}_p = \begin{pmatrix} 3t - 4 \\ -5t + 6 \end{pmatrix}$ is a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous system

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 12t - 11 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{11}$$

on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$. (Verify this.) The complementary function of (11) on the same interval, or the general solution of $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$, was seen in (10) of

Example 5 to be $\mathbf{X}_c = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} e^{6t}$. Hence by Theorem 8.1.6

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_c + \mathbf{X}_p = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} e^{6t} + \begin{pmatrix} 3t - 4 \\ -5t + 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

is the general solution of (11) on $(-\infty, \infty)$. ∎

## EXERCISES 8.1

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-13.*

In Problems 1–6 write the linear system in matrix form.

**1.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 3x - 5y$
$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 4x + 8y$

**2.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 4x - 7y$
$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 5x$

**3.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -3x + 4y - 9z$
$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 6x - y$
$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = 10x + 4y + 3z$

**4.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = x - y$
$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = x + 2z$
$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = -x + z$

**5.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = x - y + z + t - 1$
$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 2x + y - z - 3t^2$
$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = x + y + z + t^2 - t + 2$

**6.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -3x + 4y + e^{-t} \sin 2t$
$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 5x + 9z + 4e^{-t} \cos 2t$
$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = y + 6z - e^{-t}$

In Problems 7–10 write the given system without the use of matrices.

**7.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^t$

**8.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 5 & -9 \\ 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{5t} - \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t}$

**9.** $\dfrac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & -4 & 1 \\ -2 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} - \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} t$

**10.** $\dfrac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -7 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} \sin t + \begin{pmatrix} t - 4 \\ 2t + 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t}$

In Problems 11–16 verify that the vector $\mathbf{X}$ is a solution of the given system.

**11.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 3x - 4y$
$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 4x - 7y;$  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{-5t}$

**12.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -2x + 5y$
$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -2x + 4y;$  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \cos t \\ 3 \cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix} e^t$

**13.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \frac{1}{4} \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X};$  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t/2}$

**14.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X};$  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} e^t + \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} te^t$

**15.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 6 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} X; \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ -13 \end{pmatrix}$

**16.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} X; \quad X = \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\frac{1}{2}\sin t - \frac{1}{2}\cos t \\ -\sin t + \cos t \end{pmatrix}$

In Problems 17–20 the given vectors are solutions of a system $X' = AX$. Determine whether the vectors form a fundamental set on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**17.** $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t}, \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-6t}$

**18.** $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^t, \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} e^t + \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ -8 \end{pmatrix} te^t$

**19.** $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix},$

$X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -6 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$

**20.** $X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ -13 \end{pmatrix}, \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-4t}, \quad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} e^{3t}$

In Problems 21–24 verify that the vector $X_p$ is a particular solution of the given system.

**21.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = x + 4y + 2t - 7$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 3x + 2y - 4t - 18; \quad X_p = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**22.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} X + \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}; \quad X_p = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

**23.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} X - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} e^t; \quad X_p = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^t + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} te^t$

**24.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -4 & 2 & 0 \\ -6 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} X + \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \sin 3t; \quad X_p = \begin{pmatrix} \sin 3t \\ 0 \\ \cos 3t \end{pmatrix}$

**25.** Prove that the general solution of

$$X' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} X$$

on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ is

$$X = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -1 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{3t}.$$

**26.** Prove that the general solution of

$$X' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} t^2 + \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ is

$$X = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 - \sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} e^{\sqrt{2}t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 + \sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix} e^{-\sqrt{2}t}$$

$$+ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} t^2 + \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## 8.2 HOMOGENEOUS LINEAR SYSTEMS

**REVIEW MATERIAL**
- Section II.3 of Appendix II
- Also the *Student Resource and Solutions Manual*

**INTRODUCTION** We saw in Example 5 of Section 8.1 that the general solution of the homogeneous system $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix} X$ is

$$X = c_1 X_1 + c_2 X_2 = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} e^{6t}.$$

Because the solution vectors $X_1$ and $X_2$ have the form

$$X_i = \begin{pmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda_i t}, \qquad i = 1, 2,$$

where $k_1$, $k_2$, $\lambda_1$, and $\lambda_2$ are constants, we are prompted to ask whether we can always find a solution of the form

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ k_n \end{pmatrix} e^{\lambda t} = \mathbf{K}e^{\lambda t} \tag{1}$$

for the general homogeneous linear first-order system

$$\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}, \tag{2}$$

where $\mathbf{A}$ is an $n \times n$ matrix of constants.

**EIGENVALUES AND EIGENVECTORS** If (1) is to be a solution vector of the homogeneous linear system (2), then $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{K}\lambda e^{\lambda t}$, so the system becomes $\mathbf{K}\lambda e^{\lambda t} = \mathbf{AK}e^{\lambda t}$. After dividing out $e^{\lambda t}$ and rearranging, we obtain $\mathbf{AK} = \lambda\mathbf{K}$ or $\mathbf{AK} - \lambda\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{0}$. Since $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{IK}$, the last equation is the same as

$$(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{0}. \tag{3}$$

The matrix equation (3) is equivalent to the simultaneous algebraic equations

$$\begin{aligned} (a_{11} - \lambda)k_1 + \quad a_{12}k_2 + \cdots + \quad a_{1n}k_n &= 0 \\ a_{21}k_1 + (a_{22} - \lambda)k_2 + \cdots + \quad a_{2n}k_n &= 0 \\ \vdots \qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad\qquad &\quad\vdots \\ a_{n1}k_1 + \quad a_{n2}k_2 + \cdots + (a_{nn} - \lambda)k_n &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus to find a nontrivial solution $\mathbf{X}$ of (2), we must first find a nontrivial solution of the foregoing system; in other words, we must find a nontrivial vector $\mathbf{K}$ that satisfies (3). But for (3) to have solutions other than the obvious solution $k_1 = k_2 = \cdots = k_n = 0$, we must have

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = 0.$$

This polynomial equation in $\lambda$ is called the **characteristic equation** of the matrix $\mathbf{A}$; its solutions are the **eigenvalues** of $\mathbf{A}$. A solution $\mathbf{K} \neq \mathbf{0}$ of (3) corresponding to an eigenvalue $\lambda$ is called an **eigenvector** of $\mathbf{A}$. A solution of the homogeneous system (2) is then $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{K}e^{\lambda t}$.

In the discussion that follows we examine three cases: real and distinct eigenvalues (that is, no eigenvalues are equal), repeated eigenvalues, and, finally, complex eigenvalues.

## 8.2.1 DISTINCT REAL EIGENVALUES

When the $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}$ possesses $n$ distinct real eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_n$, then a set of $n$ linearly independent eigenvectors $\mathbf{K}_1, \mathbf{K}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{K}_n$ can always be found, and

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t}, \qquad \mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{K}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t}, \qquad \ldots, \qquad \mathbf{X}_n = \mathbf{K}_n e^{\lambda_n t}$$

is a fundamental set of solutions of (2) on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

---

**THEOREM 8.2.1  General Solution—Homogeneous Systems**

Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_n$ be $n$ distinct real eigenvalues of the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$ of the homogeneous system (2) and let $\mathbf{K}_1, \mathbf{K}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{K}_n$ be the corresponding eigenvectors. Then the **general solution** of (2) on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ is given by

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1\mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2\mathbf{K}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} + \cdots + c_n\mathbf{K}_n e^{\lambda_n t}.$$

## EXAMPLE 1 Distinct Eigenvalues

Solve
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 2x + 3y$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2x + y.$$

(4)

**SOLUTION** We first find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrix of coefficients.

From the characteristic equation

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 3 \\ 2 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 4 = (\lambda + 1)(\lambda - 4) = 0$$

we see that the eigenvalues are $\lambda_1 = -1$ and $\lambda_2 = 4$.

Now for $\lambda_1 = -1$, (3) is equivalent to

$$3k_1 + 3k_2 = 0$$

$$2k_1 + 2k_2 = 0.$$

Thus $k_1 = -k_2$. When $k_2 = -1$, the related eigenvector is

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For $\lambda_2 = 4$ we have
$$-2k_1 + 3k_2 = 0$$

$$2k_1 - 3k_2 = 0$$

so $k_1 = \frac{3}{2}k_2$; therefore with $k_2 = 2$ the corresponding eigenvector is

$$\mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since the matrix of coefficients $\mathbf{A}$ is a $2 \times 2$ matrix and since we have found two linearly independent solutions of (4),

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t},$$

we conclude that the general solution of the system is

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1\mathbf{X}_1 + c_2\mathbf{X}_2 = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t}. \qquad (5) \quad ■$$

**PHASE PORTRAIT** You should keep firmly in mind that writing a solution of a system of linear first-order differential equations in terms of matrices is simply an alternative to the method that we employed in Section 4.8, that is, listing the individual functions and the relationship between the constants. If we add the vectors on the right-hand side of (5) and then equate the entries with the corresponding entries in the vector on the left-hand side, we obtain the more familiar statement

$$x = c_1 e^{-t} + 3c_2 e^{4t}, \qquad y = -c_1 e^{-t} + 2c_2 e^{4t}.$$

As was pointed out in Section 8.1, we can interpret these equations as parametric equations of curves in the $xy$-plane or **phase plane.** Each curve, corresponding to specific choices for $c_1$ and $c_2$, is called a **trajectory.** For the choice of constants $c_1 = c_2 = 1$ in the solution (5) we see in Figure 8.2.1 the graph of $x(t)$ in the $tx$-plane, the graph of $y(t)$ in the $ty$-plane, and the trajectory consisting of the points
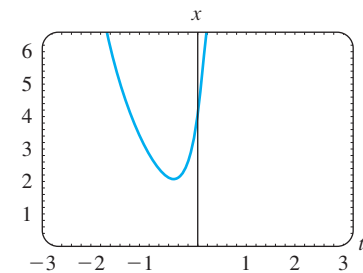
**(a)** graph of $x = e^{-t} + 3e^{4t}$
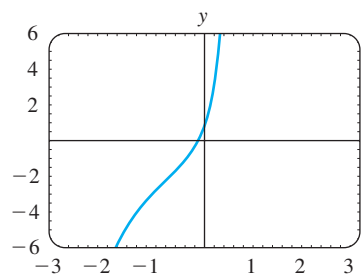
**(b)** graph of $y = -e^{-t} + 2e^{4t}$
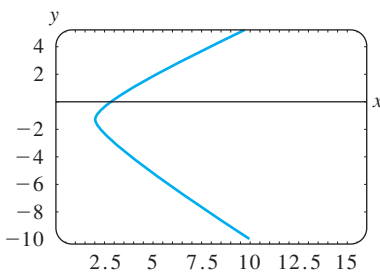
**(c)** trajectory defined by $x = e^{-t} + 3e^{4t}$, $y = -e^{-t} + 2e^{4t}$ in the phase plane

**FIGURE 8.2.1** A particular solution from (5) yields three different curves in three different planes
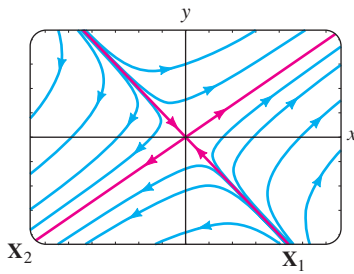
**FIGURE 8.2.2** A phase portrait of system (4)

$(x(t), y(t))$ in the phase plane. A collection of representative trajectories in the phase plane, as shown in Figure 8.2.2, is said to be a **phase portrait** of the given linear system. What appears to be *two* red lines in Figure 8.2.2 are actually *four* red half-lines defined parametrically in the first, second, third, and fourth quadrants by the solutions $\mathbf{X}_2$, $-\mathbf{X}_1$, $-\mathbf{X}_2$, and $\mathbf{X}_1$, respectively. For example, the Cartesian equations $y = \frac{2}{3}x$, $x > 0$, and $y = -x$, $x > 0$, of the half-lines in the first and fourth quadrants were obtained by eliminating the parameter $t$ in the solutions $x = 3e^{4t}$, $y = 2e^{4t}$, and $x = e^{-t}$, $y = -e^{-t}$, respectively. Moreover, each eigenvector can be visualized as a two-dimensional vector lying along one of these half-lines. The eigenvector $\mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ lies along $y = \frac{2}{3}x$ in the first quadrant, and $\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ lies along $y = -x$ in the fourth quadrant. Each vector starts at the origin; $\mathbf{K}_2$ terminates at the point $(2, 3)$, and $\mathbf{K}_1$ terminates at $(1, -1)$.

The origin is not only a constant solution $x = 0$, $y = 0$ of every $2 \times 2$ homogeneous linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$, but also an important point in the qualitative study of such systems. If we think in physical terms, the arrowheads on each trajectory in Figure 8.2.2 indicate the direction that a particle with coordinates $(x(t), y(t))$ on that trajectory at time $t$ moves as time increases. Observe that the arrowheads, with the exception of only those on the half-lines in the second and fourth quadrants, indicate that a particle moves away from the origin as time $t$ increases. If we imagine time ranging from $-\infty$ to $\infty$, then inspection of the solution $x = c_1 e^{-t} + 3c_2 e^{4t}$, $y = -c_1 e^{-t} + 2c_2 e^{4t}$, $c_1 \neq 0$, $c_2 \neq 0$ shows that a trajectory, or moving particle, "starts" asymptotic to one of the half-lines defined by $\mathbf{X}_1$ or $-\mathbf{X}_1$ (since $e^{4t}$ is negligible for $t \to -\infty$) and "finishes" asymptotic to one of the half-lines defined by $\mathbf{X}_2$ and $-\mathbf{X}_2$ (since $e^{-t}$ is negligible for $t \to \infty$).

We note in passing that Figure 8.2.2 represents a phase portrait that is typical of *all* $2 \times 2$ homogeneous linear systems $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ with real eigenvalues of opposite signs. See Problem 17 in Exercises 8.2. Moreover, phase portraits in the two cases when distinct real eigenvalues have the same algebraic sign are typical of all such $2 \times 2$ linear systems; the only difference is that the arrowheads indicate that a particle moves away from the origin on any trajectory as $t \to \infty$ when both $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$ are positive and moves toward the origin on any trajectory when both $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$ are negative. Consequently, we call the origin a **repeller** in the case $\lambda_1 > 0$, $\lambda_2 > 0$ and an **attractor** in the case $\lambda_1 < 0$, $\lambda_2 < 0$. See Problem 18 in Exercises 8.2. The origin in Figure 8.2.2 is neither a repeller nor an attractor. Investigation of the remaining case when $\lambda = 0$ is an eigenvalue of a $2 \times 2$ homogeneous linear system is left as an exercise. See Problem 49 in Exercises 8.2.

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**EXAMPLE 2** Distinct Eigenvalues

Solve
$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -4x + y + z$$
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = x + 5y - z \tag{6}$$
$$\frac{dz}{dt} = y - 3z.$$

**SOLUTION** Using the cofactors of the third row, we find

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} -4-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 5-\lambda & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = -(\lambda+3)(\lambda+4)(\lambda-5) = 0,$$

and so the eigenvalues are $\lambda_1 = -3$, $\lambda_2 = -4$, and $\lambda_3 = 5$.

For $\lambda_1 = -3$ Gauss-Jordan elimination gives

$$(\mathbf{A} + 3\mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 8 & -1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{operations}]{\text{row}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore $k_1 = k_3$ and $k_2 = 0$. The choice $k_3 = 1$ gives an eigenvector and corresponding solution vector

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t}. \tag{7}$$

Similarly, for $\lambda_2 = -4$

$$(\mathbf{A} + 4\mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 9 & -1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{operations}]{\text{row}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -10 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

implies that $k_1 = 10k_3$ and $k_2 = -k_3$. Choosing $k_3 = 1$, we get a second eigenvector and solution vector

$$\mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-4t}. \tag{8}$$

Finally, when $\lambda_3 = 5$, the augmented matrices

$$(\mathbf{A} + 5\mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} -9 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -8 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{operations}]{\text{row}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -8 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

yield

$$\mathbf{K}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{X}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{5t}. \tag{9}$$

The general solution of (6) is a linear combination of the solution vectors in (7), (8), and (9):

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-4t} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{5t}. \qquad ∎$$

**USE OF COMPUTERS** Software packages such as MATLAB, *Mathematica, Maple,* and DERIVE can be real time savers in finding eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a matrix $\mathbf{A}$.

## 8.2.2 REPEATED EIGENVALUES

Of course, not all of the $n$ eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_n$ of an $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}$ need be distinct; that is, some of the eigenvalues may be repeated. For example, the characteristic equation of the coefficient matrix in the system

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -18 \\ 2 & -9 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X} \tag{10}$$

is readily shown to be $(\lambda + 3)^2 = 0$, and therefore $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = -3$ is a root of *multiplicity two*. For this value we find the single eigenvector

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \text{so} \qquad \mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t} \tag{11}$$

is one solution of (10). But since we are obviously interested in forming the general solution of the system, we need to pursue the question of finding a second solution.

In general, if $m$ is a positive integer and $(\lambda - \lambda_1)^m$ is a factor of the characteristic equation while $(\lambda - \lambda_1)^{m+1}$ is not a factor, then $\lambda_1$ is said to be an **eigenvalue of multiplicity $m$.** The next three examples illustrate the following cases:

(*i*)   For some $n \times n$ matrices $\mathbf{A}$ it may be possible to find $m$ linearly independent eigenvectors $\mathbf{K}_1, \mathbf{K}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{K}_m$ corresponding to an eigenvalue $\lambda_1$ of multiplicity $m \leq n$. In this case the general solution of the system contains the linear combination

$$c_1\mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2\mathbf{K}_2 e^{\lambda_1 t} + \cdots + c_m\mathbf{K}_m e^{\lambda_1 t}.$$

(*ii*)   If there is only one eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue $\lambda_1$ of multiplicity $m$, then $m$ linearly independent solutions of the form

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{K}_{11} e^{\lambda_1 t}$$
$$\mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{K}_{21} t e^{\lambda_1 t} + \mathbf{K}_{22} e^{\lambda_1 t}$$
$$\vdots$$
$$\mathbf{X}_m = \mathbf{K}_{m1} \frac{t^{m-1}}{(m-1)!} e^{\lambda_1 t} + \mathbf{K}_{m2} \frac{t^{m-2}}{(m-2)!} e^{\lambda_1 t} + \cdots + \mathbf{K}_{mm} e^{\lambda_1 t},$$

where $\mathbf{K}_{ij}$ are column vectors, can always be found.

**EIGENVALUE OF MULTIPLICITY TWO** We begin by considering eigenvalues of multiplicity two. In the first example we illustrate a matrix for which we can find two distinct eigenvectors corresponding to a double eigenvalue.

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### EXAMPLE 3    Repeated Eigenvalues

Solve $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$.

**SOLUTION** Expanding the determinant in the characteristic equation

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 - \lambda & -2 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

yields $-(\lambda + 1)^2(\lambda - 5) = 0$. We see that $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = -1$ and $\lambda_3 = 5$.

For $\lambda_1 = -1$ Gauss-Jordan elimination immediately gives

$$(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 2 & | & 0 \\ -2 & 2 & -2 & | & 0 \\ 2 & -2 & 2 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{operations}]{\text{row}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The first row of the last matrix means $k_1 - k_2 + k_3 = 0$ or $k_1 = k_2 - k_3$. The choices $k_2 = 1$, $k_3 = 0$ and $k_2 = 1$, $k_3 = 1$ yield, in turn, $k_1 = 1$ and $k_1 = 0$. Thus two eigenvectors corresponding to $\lambda_1 = -1$ are

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since neither eigenvector is a constant multiple of the other, we have found two linearly independent solutions,

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t},$$

corresponding to the same eigenvalue. Last, for $\lambda_3 = 5$ the reduction

$$(\mathbf{A} + 5\mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & -2 & 2 & | & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & -2 & | & 0 \\ 2 & -2 & -4 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{operations}]{\text{row}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

implies that $k_1 = k_3$ and $k_2 = -k_3$. Picking $k_3 = 1$ gives $k_1 = 1$, $k_2 = -1$; thus a third eigenvector is

$$\mathbf{K}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We conclude that the general solution of the system is

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{5t}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

The matrix of coefficients $\mathbf{A}$ in Example 3 is a special kind of matrix known as a symmetric matrix. An $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}$ is said to be **symmetric** if its transpose $\mathbf{A}^T$ (where the rows and columns are interchanged) is the same as $\mathbf{A}$ — that is, if $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}$. It can be proved that if the matrix $\mathbf{A}$ in the system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$ is symmetric and has real entries, then we can always find $n$ linearly independent eigenvectors $\mathbf{K}_1, \mathbf{K}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{K}_n$, and the general solution of such a system is as given in Theorem 8.2.1. As illustrated in Example 3, this result holds even when some of the eigenvalues are repeated.

**SECOND SOLUTION** Now suppose that $\lambda_1$ is an eigenvalue of multiplicity two and that there is only one eigenvector associated with this value. A second solution can be found of the form

$$\mathbf{X}_2 = \mathbf{K}te^{\lambda_1 t} + \mathbf{P}e^{\lambda_1 t}, \qquad (12)$$

where

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ \vdots \\ k_n \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ \vdots \\ p_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

To see this, we substitute (12) into the system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ and simplify:

$$(\mathbf{AK} - \lambda_1\mathbf{K})te^{\lambda_1 t} + (\mathbf{AP} - \lambda_1\mathbf{P} - \mathbf{K})e^{\lambda_1 t} = \mathbf{0}.$$

Since this last equation is to hold for all values of $t$, we must have

$$(\mathbf{A} - \lambda_1\mathbf{I})\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{0} \tag{13}$$

and

$$(\mathbf{A} - \lambda_1\mathbf{I})\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{K}. \tag{14}$$

Equation (13) simply states that $\mathbf{K}$ must be an eigenvector of $\mathbf{A}$ associated with $\lambda_1$. By solving (13), we find one solution $\mathbf{X}_1 = \mathbf{K}e^{\lambda_1 t}$. To find the second solution $\mathbf{X}_2$, we need only solve the additional system (14) for the vector $\mathbf{P}$.

---

### EXAMPLE 4    Repeated Eigenvalues

Find the general solution of the system given in (10).

**SOLUTION** From (11) we know that $\lambda_1 = -3$ and that one solution is $\mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-3t}$. Identifying $\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \end{pmatrix}$, we find from (14) that we must now solve

$$(\mathbf{A} + 3\mathbf{I})\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{K} \qquad \text{or} \qquad \begin{aligned} 6p_1 - 18p_2 &= 3 \\ 2p_1 - 6p_2 &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Since this system is obviously equivalent to one equation, we have an infinite number of choices for $p_1$ and $p_2$. For example, by choosing $p_1 = 1$, we find $p_2 = \frac{1}{6}$. However, for simplicity we shall choose $p_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ so that $p_2 = 0$. Hence $\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

Thus from (12) we find $\mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}te^{-3t} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^{-3t}$. The general solution of (10) is then $\mathbf{X} = c_1\mathbf{X}_1 + c_2\mathbf{X}_2$ or

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-3t} + c_2\left[\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}te^{-3t} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^{-3t}\right]. \qquad ■$$
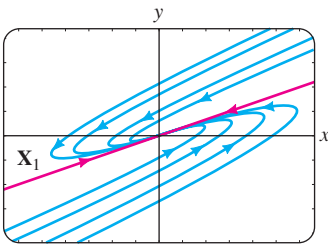


**FIGURE 8.2.3**    A phase portrait of system (10)

By assigning various values to $c_1$ and $c_2$ in the solution in Example 4, we can plot trajectories of the system in (10). A phase portrait of (10) is given in Figure 8.2.3. The solutions $\mathbf{X}_1$ and $-\mathbf{X}_1$ determine two half-lines $y = \frac{1}{3}x, x > 0$ and $y = \frac{1}{3}x, x < 0$, respectively, shown in red in the figure. Because the single eigenvalue is negative and $e^{-3t} \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$ on *every* trajectory, we have $(x(t), y(t)) \to (0, 0)$ as $t \to \infty$. This is why the arrowheads in Figure 8.2.3 indicate that a particle on any trajectory moves toward the origin as time increases and why the origin is an attractor in this case. Moreover, a moving particle or trajectory $x = 3c_1e^{-3t} + c_2(3te^{-3t} + \frac{1}{2}e^{-3t})$, $y = c_1e^{-3t} + c_2te^{-3t}$, $c_2 \neq 0$, approaches $(0, 0)$ tangentially to one of the half-lines as $t \to \infty$. In contrast, when the repeated eigenvalue is positive, the situation is reversed and the origin is a repeller. See Problem 21 in Exercises 8.2. Analogous to Figure 8.2.2, Figure 8.2.3 is typical of *all* $2 \times 2$ homogeneous linear systems $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ that have two repeated negative eigenvalues. See Problem 32 in Exercises 8.2.

**EIGENVALUE OF MULTIPLICITY THREE**    When the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$ has only one eigenvector associated with an eigenvalue $\lambda_1$ of multiplicity three, we can

find a second solution of the form (12) and a third solution of the form

$$\mathbf{X}_3 = \mathbf{K}\frac{t^2}{2}e^{\lambda_1 t} + \mathbf{P}te^{\lambda_1 t} + \mathbf{Q}e^{\lambda_1 t}, \tag{15}$$

where $\qquad \mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ \vdots \\ k_n \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ p_2 \\ \vdots \\ p_n \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ \vdots \\ q_n \end{pmatrix}.$

By substituting (15) into the system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$, we find that the column vectors $\mathbf{K}$, $\mathbf{P}$, and $\mathbf{Q}$ must satisfy

$$(\mathbf{A} - \lambda_1\mathbf{I})\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{0} \tag{16}$$

$$(\mathbf{A} - \lambda_1\mathbf{I})\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{K} \tag{17}$$

and $\qquad\qquad (\mathbf{A} - \lambda_1\mathbf{I})\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{P}. \tag{18}$

Of course, the solutions of (16) and (17) can be used in forming the solutions $\mathbf{X}_1$ and $\mathbf{X}_2$.

## EXAMPLE 5  Repeated Eigenvalues

Solve $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}.$

**SOLUTION**  The characteristic equation $(\lambda - 2)^3 = 0$ shows that $\lambda_1 = 2$ is an eigenvalue of multiplicity three. By solving $(\mathbf{A} - 2\mathbf{I})\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{0}$, we find the single eigenvector

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We next solve the systems $(\mathbf{A} - 2\mathbf{I})\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{K}$ and $(\mathbf{A} - 2\mathbf{I})\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{P}$ in succession and find that

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -\frac{6}{5} \\ \frac{1}{5} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using (12) and (15), we see that the general solution of the system is

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + c_2\left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}te^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t}\right] + c_3\left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}\frac{t^2}{2}e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}te^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -\frac{6}{5} \\ \frac{1}{5} \end{pmatrix}e^{2t}\right]. \qquad ■$$

## REMARKS

When an eigenvalue $\lambda_1$ has multiplicity $m$, either we can find $m$ linearly independent eigenvectors or the number of corresponding eigenvectors is less than $m$. Hence the two cases listed on page 316 are not all the possibilities under which a repeated eigenvalue can occur. It can happen, say, that a $5 \times 5$ matrix has an eigenvalue of multiplicity five and there exist three corresponding linearly independent eigenvectors. See Problems 31 and 50 in Exercises 8.2.

## 8.2.3 COMPLEX EIGENVALUES

If $\lambda_1 = \alpha + \beta i$ and $\lambda_2 = \alpha - \beta i$, $\beta > 0$, $i^2 = -1$ are complex eigenvalues of the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$, we can then certainly expect their corresponding eigenvectors to also have complex entries.[*]

For example, the characteristic equation of the system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 6x - y$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 5x + 4y$$

(19)

is

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} 6 - \lambda & -1 \\ 5 & 4 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 - 10\lambda + 29 = 0.$$

From the quadratic formula we find $\lambda_1 = 5 + 2i$, $\lambda_2 = 5 - 2i$.

Now for $\lambda_1 = 5 + 2i$ we must solve

$$(1 - 2i)k_1 - k_2 = 0$$

$$5k_1 - (1 + 2i)k_2 = 0.$$

Since $k_2 = (1 - 2i)k_1$,[†] the choice $k_1 = 1$ gives the following eigenvector and corresponding solution vector:

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 - 2i \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 - 2i \end{pmatrix} e^{(5+2i)t}.$$

In like manner, for $\lambda_2 = 5 - 2i$ we find

$$\mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 + 2i \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 + 2i \end{pmatrix} e^{(5-2i)t}.$$

We can verify by means of the Wronskian that these solution vectors are linearly independent, and so the general solution of (19) is

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 - 2i \end{pmatrix} e^{(5+2i)t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 + 2i \end{pmatrix} e^{(5-2i)t}.$$

(20)

Note that the entries in $\mathbf{K}_2$ corresponding to $\lambda_2$ are the conjugates of the entries in $\mathbf{K}_1$ corresponding to $\lambda_1$. The conjugate of $\lambda_1$ is, of course, $\lambda_2$. We write this as $\lambda_2 = \overline{\lambda}_1$ and $\mathbf{K}_2 = \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1$. We have illustrated the following general result.

---

**THEOREM 8.2.2** **Solutions Corresponding to a Complex Eigenvalue**

Let $\mathbf{A}$ be the coefficient matrix having real entries of the homogeneous system (2), and let $\mathbf{K}_1$ be an eigenvector corresponding to the complex eigenvalue $\lambda_1 = \alpha + i\beta$, $\alpha$ and $\beta$ real. Then

$$\mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1 e^{\overline{\lambda}_1 t}$$

are solutions of (2).

---

[*]When the characteristic equation has real coefficients, complex eigenvalues always appear in conjugate pairs.
[†]Note that the second equation is simply $(1 + 2i)$ times the first.

It is desirable and relatively easy to rewrite a solution such as (20) in terms of real functions. To this end we first use Euler's formula to write

$$e^{(5+2i)t} = e^{5t}e^{2ti} = e^{5t}(\cos 2t + i \sin 2t)$$

$$e^{(5-2i)t} = e^{5t}e^{-2ti} = e^{5t}(\cos 2t - i \sin 2t).$$

Then, after we multiply complex numbers, collect terms, and replace $c_1 + c_2$ by $C_1$ and $(c_1 - c_2)i$ by $C_2$, (20) becomes

$$\mathbf{X} = C_1\mathbf{X}_1 + C_2\mathbf{X}_2, \tag{21}$$

where

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cos 2t - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \sin 2t \right] e^{5t}$$

and

$$\mathbf{X}_2 = \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \cos 2t + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \sin 2t \right] e^{5t}.$$

It is now important to realize that the vectors $\mathbf{X}_1$ and $\mathbf{X}_2$ in (21) constitute a linearly independent set of *real* solutions of the original system. Consequently, we are justified in ignoring the relationship between $C_1$, $C_2$ and $c_1$, $c_2$, and we can regard $C_1$ and $C_2$ as completely arbitrary and real. In other words, the linear combination (21) is an alternative general solution of (19). Moreover, with the real form given in (21) we are able to obtain a phase portrait of the system in (19). From (21) we find $x(t)$ and $y(t)$ to be

$$x = C_1 e^{5t} \cos 2t + C_2 e^{5t} \sin 2t$$

$$y = (C_1 - 2C_2)e^{5t} \cos 2t + (2C_1 + C_2)e^{5t} \sin 2t.$$

By plotting the trajectories $(x(t), y(t))$ for various values of $C_1$ and $C_2$, we obtain the phase portrait of (19) shown in Figure 8.2.4. Because the real part of $\lambda_1$ is $5 > 0$, $e^{5t} \to \infty$ as $t \to \infty$. This is why the arrowheads in Figure 8.2.4 point away from the origin; a particle on any trajectory spirals away from the origin as $t \to \infty$. The origin is a repeller.

The process by which we obtained the real solutions in (21) can be generalized. Let $\mathbf{K}_1$ be an eigenvector of the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$ (with real entries) corresponding to the complex eigenvalue $\lambda_1 = \alpha + i\beta$. Then the solution vectors in Theorem 8.2.2 can be written as

$$\mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} = \mathbf{K}_1 e^{\alpha t} e^{i\beta t} = \mathbf{K}_1 e^{\alpha t}(\cos \beta t + i \sin \beta t)$$

$$\overline{\mathbf{K}}_1 e^{\overline{\lambda}_1 t} = \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1 e^{\alpha t} e^{-i\beta t} = \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1 e^{\alpha t}(\cos \beta t - i \sin \beta t).$$

By the superposition principle, Theorem 8.1.2, the following vectors are also solutions:

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1 e^{\overline{\lambda}_1 t}) = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{K}_1 + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1)e^{\alpha t} \cos \beta t - \frac{i}{2}(-\mathbf{K}_1 + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1)e^{\alpha t} \sin \beta t$$

$$\mathbf{X}_2 = \frac{i}{2}(-\mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1 e^{\overline{\lambda}_1 t}) = \frac{i}{2}(-\mathbf{K}_1 + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1)e^{\alpha t} \cos \beta t + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{K}_1 + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1)e^{\alpha t} \sin \beta t.$$

Both $\frac{1}{2}(z + \overline{z}) = a$ and $\frac{1}{2}i(-z + \overline{z}) = b$ are *real* numbers for *any* complex number $z = a + ib$. Therefore, the entries in the column vectors $\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{K}_1 + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1)$ and $\frac{1}{2}i(-\mathbf{K}_1 + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1)$ are real numbers. By defining

$$\mathbf{B}_1 = \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{K}_1 + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1) \qquad \text{and} \qquad \mathbf{B}_2 = \frac{i}{2}(-\mathbf{K}_1 + \overline{\mathbf{K}}_1), \tag{22}$$

we are led to the following theorem.
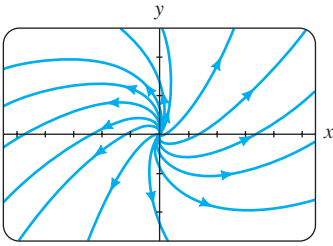


**FIGURE 8.2.4** A phase portrait of system (19)

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**THEOREM 8.2.3**  **Real Solutions Corresponding to a Complex Eigenvalue**

Let $\lambda_1 = \alpha + i\beta$ be a complex eigenvalue of the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$ in the homogeneous system (2) and let $\mathbf{B}_1$ and $\mathbf{B}_2$ denote the column vectors defined in (22). Then

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = [\mathbf{B}_1 \cos \beta t - \mathbf{B}_2 \sin \beta t]e^{\alpha t}$$

$$\mathbf{X}_2 = [\mathbf{B}_2 \cos \beta t + \mathbf{B}_1 \sin \beta t]e^{\alpha t}$$

$(23)$

are linearly independent solutions of (2) on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

---

The matrices $\mathbf{B}_1$ and $\mathbf{B}_2$ in (22) are often denoted by

$$\mathbf{B}_1 = \text{Re}(\mathbf{K}_1) \qquad \text{and} \qquad \mathbf{B}_2 = \text{Im}(\mathbf{K}_1) \qquad (24)$$

since these vectors are, respectively, the *real* and *imaginary* parts of the eigenvector $\mathbf{K}_1$. For example, (21) follows from (23) with

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 - 2i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + i\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{B}_1 = \text{Re}(\mathbf{K}_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \mathbf{B}_2 = \text{Im}(\mathbf{K}_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

---

**EXAMPLE 6**  **Complex Eigenvalues**

Solve the initial-value problem

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 8 \\ -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}, \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}. \qquad (25)$$

**SOLUTION**  First we obtain the eigenvalues from

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 8 \\ -1 & -2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + 4 = 0.$$

The eigenvalues are $\lambda_1 = 2i$ and $\lambda_2 = \overline{\lambda_1} = -2i$. For $\lambda_1$ the system

$$(2 - 2i)k_1 + \qquad\qquad 8k_2 = 0$$

$$-k_1 + (-2 - 2i)k_2 = 0$$

gives $k_1 = -(2 + 2i)k_2$. By choosing $k_2 = -1$, we get

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 + 2i \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + i\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now from (24) we form

$$\mathbf{B}_1 = \text{Re}(\mathbf{K}_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \mathbf{B}_2 = \text{Im}(\mathbf{K}_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since $\alpha = 0$, it follows from (23) that the general solution of the system is

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1\left[\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}\cos 2t - \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}\sin 2t\right] + c_2\left[\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}\cos 2t + \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}\sin 2t\right]$$

$$= c_1\begin{pmatrix} 2\cos 2t - 2\sin 2t \\ -\cos 2t \end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 2\cos 2t + 2\sin 2t \\ -\sin 2t \end{pmatrix}. \qquad (26)$$
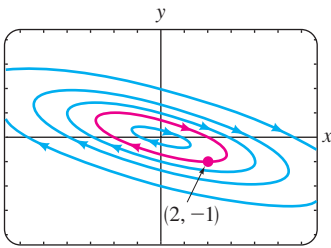
**FIGURE 8.2.5** A phase portrait of system (25)

Some graphs of the curves or trajectories defined by solution (26) of the system are illustrated in the phase portrait in Figure 8.2.5. Now the initial condition $\mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ or, equivalently, $x(0) = 2$ and $y(0) = -1$ yields the algebraic system $2c_1 + 2c_2 = 2$, $-c_1 = -1$, whose solution is $c_1 = 1$, $c_2 = 0$. Thus the solution to the problem is $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cos 2t - 2 \sin 2t \\ -\cos 2t \end{pmatrix}$. The specific trajectory defined parametrically by the particular solution $x = 2 \cos 2t - 2 \sin 2t$, $y = -\cos 2t$ is the red curve in Figure 8.2.5. Note that this curve passes through $(2, -1)$. ■

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## REMARKS

In this section we have examined exclusively homogeneous first-order systems of linear equations in normal form $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$. But often the mathematical model of a dynamical physical system is a homogeneous second-order system whose normal form is $\mathbf{X}'' = \mathbf{AX}$. For example, the model for the coupled springs in (1) of Section 7.6,

$$m_1 x_1'' = -k_1 x_1 + k_2(x_2 - x_1)$$
$$m_2 x_2'' = -k_2(x_2 - x_1), \tag{27}$$

can be written as $\qquad\qquad \mathbf{MX}'' = \mathbf{KX},$
where

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & 0 \\ 0 & m_2 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} -k_1 - k_2 & k_2 \\ k_2 & -k_2 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since $\mathbf{M}$ is nonsingular, we can solve for $\mathbf{X}''$ as $\mathbf{X}'' = \mathbf{AX}$, where $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{M}^{-1}\mathbf{K}$. Thus (27) is equivalent to

$$\mathbf{X}'' = \begin{pmatrix} -\dfrac{k_1}{m_1} - \dfrac{k_2}{m_1} & \dfrac{k_2}{m_1} \\ \dfrac{k_2}{m_2} & -\dfrac{k_2}{m_2} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}. \tag{28}$$

The methods of this section can be used to solve such a system in two ways:

- First, the original system (27) can be transformed into a first-order system by means of substitutions. If we let $x_1' = x_3$ and $x_2' = x_4$, then $x_3' = x_1''$ and $x_4' = x_2''$ and so (27) is equivalent to a system of *four* linear first-order DEs:

$$
\begin{aligned}
x_1' &= x_3 \\
x_2' &= x_4 \\
x_3' &= -\left(\dfrac{k_1}{m_1} + \dfrac{k_2}{m_1}\right)x_1 + \dfrac{k_2}{m_1}x_2 \\
x_4' &= \dfrac{k_2}{m_2}x_1 - \dfrac{k_2}{m_2}x_2
\end{aligned}
\quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -\dfrac{k_1}{m_1} - \dfrac{k_2}{m_1} & \dfrac{k_2}{m_1} & 0 & 0 \\ \dfrac{k_2}{m_2} & -\dfrac{k_2}{m_2} & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}. \tag{29}
$$

By finding the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$ in (29), we see that the solution of this first-order system gives the complete state of the physical system—the positions of the masses relative to the equilibrium positions ($x_1$ and $x_2$) as well as the velocities of the masses ($x_3$ and $x_4$) at time $t$. See Problem 48(a) in Exercises 8.2.

- Second, because (27) describes free undamped motion, it can be argued that real-valued solutions of the second-order system (28) will have the form

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{V} \cos \omega t \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{V} \sin \omega t, \quad (30)$$

where $\mathbf{V}$ is a column matrix of constants. Substituting either of the functions in (30) into $\mathbf{X}'' = \mathbf{AX}$ yields $(\mathbf{A} + \omega^2 \mathbf{I})\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{0}$. (Verify.) By identification with (3) of this section we conclude that $\lambda = -\omega^2$ represents an eigenvalue and $\mathbf{V}$ a corresponding eigenvector of $\mathbf{A}$. It can be shown that the eigenvalues $\lambda_i = -\omega_i^2$, $i = 1, 2$ of $\mathbf{A}$ are negative, and so $\omega_i = \sqrt{-\lambda_i}$ is a real number and represents a (circular) frequency of vibration (see (4) of Section 7.6). By superposition of solutions the general solution of (28) is then

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1\mathbf{V}_1 \cos \omega_1 t + c_2\mathbf{V}_1 \sin \omega_1 t + c_3\mathbf{V}_2 \cos \omega_2 t + c_4\mathbf{V}_2 \sin \omega_2 t$$
$$= (c_1 \cos \omega_1 t + c_2 \sin \omega_1 t)\mathbf{V}_1 + (c_3 \cos \omega_2 t + c_4 \sin \omega_2 t)\mathbf{V}_2, \quad (31)$$

where $\mathbf{V}_1$ and $\mathbf{V}_2$ are, in turn, real eigenvectors of $\mathbf{A}$ corresponding to $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$.

The result given in (31) generalizes. If $-\omega_1^2, -\omega_2^2, \ldots, -\omega_n^2$ are distinct negative eigenvalues and $\mathbf{V}_1, \mathbf{V}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{V}_n$ are corresponding real eigenvectors of the $n \times n$ coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$, then the homogeneous second-order system $\mathbf{X}'' = \mathbf{AX}$ has the general solution

$$\mathbf{X} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (a_i \cos \omega_i t + b_i \sin \omega_i t)\mathbf{V}_i, \quad (32)$$

where $a_i$ and $b_i$ represent arbitrary constants. See Problem 48(b) in Exercises 8.2.

## EXERCISES 8.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-13.*

### 8.2.1 DISTINCT REAL EIGENVALUES

In Problems 1–12 find the general solution of the given system.

**1.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = x + 2y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 4x + 3y$

**2.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 2x + 2y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = x + 3y$

**3.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -4x + 2y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -\dfrac{5}{2}x + 2y$

**4.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -\dfrac{5}{2}x + 2y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = \dfrac{3}{4}x - 2y$

**5.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & -5 \\ 8 & -12 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

**6.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -6 & 2 \\ -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

**7.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = x + y - z$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 2y$

$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = y - z$

**8.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 2x - 7y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 5x + 10y + 4z$

$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = 5y + 2z$

**9.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

**10.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

**11.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & 0 \\ \frac{3}{4} & -\frac{3}{2} & 3 \\ \frac{1}{8} & \frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

**12.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 4 & 2 \\ 4 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

In Problems 13 and 14 solve the given initial-value problem.

**13.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}, \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

**14.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}, \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

## Computer Lab Assignments

In Problems 15 and 16 use a CAS or linear algebra software as an aid in finding the general solution of the given system.

**15.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0.9 & 2.1 & 3.2 \\ 0.7 & 6.5 & 4.2 \\ 1.1 & 1.7 & 3.4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**16.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & -1.8 & 0 \\ 0 & 5.1 & 0 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & -3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3.1 & 4 & 0 \\ -2.8 & 0 & 0 & 1.5 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**17. (a)** Use computer software to obtain the phase portrait of the system in Problem 5. If possible, include arrowheads as in Figure 8.2.2. Also include four half-lines in your phase portrait.

**(b)** Obtain the Cartesian equations of each of the four half-lines in part (a).

**(c)** Draw the eigenvectors on your phase portrait of the system.

**18.** Find phase portraits for the systems in Problems 2 and 4. For each system find any half-line trajectories and include these lines in your phase portrait.

## 8.2.2 REPEATED EIGENVALUES

In Problems 19–28 find the general solution of the given system.

**19.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 3x - y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 9x - 3y$

**20.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -6x + 5y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -5x + 4y$

**21.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**22.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & -9 \\ 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**23.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 3x - y - z$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = x + y - z$

$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = x - y + z$

**24.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 3x + 2y + 4z$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 2x + 2z$

$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = 4x + 2y + 3z$

**25.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -4 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**26.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**27.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**28.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

In Problems 29 and 30 solve the given initial-value problem.

**29.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}, \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$

**30.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}, \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

**31.** Show that the $5 \times 5$ matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

has an eigenvalue $\lambda_1$ of multiplicity 5. Show that three linearly independent eigenvectors corresponding to $\lambda_1$ can be found.

## Computer Lab Assignments

**32.** Find phase portraits for the systems in Problems 20 and 21. For each system find any half-line trajectories and include these lines in your phase portrait.

## 8.2.3 COMPLEX EIGENVALUES

In Problems 33–44 find the general solution of the given system.

**33.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 6x - y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 5x + 2y$

**34.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = x + y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -2x - y$

**35.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 5x + y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -2x + 3y$

**36.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 4x + 5y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -2x + 6y$

**37.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -5 \\ 5 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**38.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -8 \\ 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**39.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = z$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -z$

$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = y$

**40.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 2x + y + 2z$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 3x + 6z$

$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = -4x - 3z$

**41.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**42.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ -4 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

**43.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 & 1 \\ -5 & -6 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$  **44.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 & 4 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

In Problems 45 and 46 solve the given initial-value problem.

**45.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -12 & -14 \\ 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}, \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 6 \\ -7 \end{pmatrix}$

**46.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & -1 \\ 5 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}, \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$

## Computer Lab Assignments

**47.** Find phase portraits for the systems in Problems 36, 37, and 38.

**48. (a)** Solve (2) of Section 7.6 using the first method outlined in the *Remarks* (page 323)—that is, express (2) of Section 7.6 as a first-order system of four linear equations. Use a CAS or linear algebra software as an aid in finding eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a 4 × 4 matrix. Then apply the initial conditions to your general solution to obtain (4) of Section 7.6.

**(b)** Solve (2) of Section 7.6 using the second method outlined in the *Remarks*—that is, express (2) of Section 7.6 as a second-order system of two linear equations. Assume solutions of the form $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{V} \sin \omega t$ and $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{V} \cos \omega t$. Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a 2 × 2 matrix. As in part (a), obtain (4) of Section 7.6.

## Discussion Problems

**49.** Solve each of the following linear systems.

**(a)** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$    **(b)** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{X}$

Find a phase portrait of each system. What is the geometric significance of the line $y = -x$ in each portrait?

**50.** Consider the 5 × 5 matrix given in Problem 31. Solve the system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$ without the aid of matrix methods, but write the general solution using matrix notation. Use the general solution as a basis for a discussion of how the system can be solved using the matrix methods of this section. Carry out your ideas.

**51.** Obtain a Cartesian equation of the curve defined parametrically by the solution of the linear system in Example 6. Identify the curve passing through $(2, -1)$ in Figure 8.2.5 [*Hint*: Compute $x^2$, $y^2$, and $xy$.]

**52.** Examine your phase portraits in Problem 47. Under what conditions will the phase portrait of a 2 × 2 homogeneous linear system with complex eigenvalues consist of a family of closed curves? consist of a family of spirals? Under what conditions is the origin $(0, 0)$ a repeller? An attractor?

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## 8.3 NONHOMOGENEOUS LINEAR SYSTEMS

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Section 4.4 (Undetermined Coefficients)
- Section 4.6 (Variation of Parameters)

**INTRODUCTION** In Section 8.1 we saw that the general solution of a nonhomogeneous linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{F}(t)$ on an interval $I$ is $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_c + \mathbf{X}_p$, where $\mathbf{X}_c = c_1\mathbf{X}_1 + c_2\mathbf{X}_2 + \cdots + c_n\mathbf{X}_n$ is the **complementary function** or general solution of the associated homogeneous linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{X}_p$ is any **particular solution** of the nonhomogeneous system. In Section 8.2 we saw how to obtain $\mathbf{X}_c$ when the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$ was an $n \times n$ matrix of constants. In the present section we consider two methods for obtaining $\mathbf{X}_p$.

The methods of **undetermined coefficients** and **variation of parameters** used in Chapter 4 to find particular solutions of nonhomogeneous linear ODEs can both be adapted to the solution of nonhomogeneous linear systems $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{F}(t)$. Of the two methods, variation of parameters is the more powerful technique. However, there are instances when the method of undetermined coefficients provides a quick means of finding a particular solution.

### 8.3.1 UNDETERMINED COEFFICIENTS

**THE ASSUMPTIONS** As in Section 4.4, the method of undetermined coefficients consists of making an educated guess about the form of a particular solution vector $\mathbf{X}_p$; the guess is motivated by the types of functions that make up the entries of the

column matrix $\mathbf{F}(t)$. Not surprisingly, the matrix version of undetermined coefficients is applicable to $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{F}(t)$ only when the entries of $\mathbf{A}$ are constants and the entries of $\mathbf{F}(t)$ are constants, polynomials, exponential functions, sines and cosines, or finite sums and products of these functions.

### EXAMPLE 1 Undetermined Coefficients

Solve the system $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} -8 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**SOLUTION** We first solve the associated homogeneous system

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}.$$

The characteristic equation of the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$,

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} -1 - \lambda & 2 \\ -1 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + 1 = 0,$$

yields the complex eigenvalues $\lambda_1 = i$ and $\lambda_2 = \overline{\lambda_1} = -i$. By the procedures of Section 8.2 we find

$$\mathbf{X}_c = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t + \sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t - \sin t \\ -\sin t \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now since $\mathbf{F}(t)$ is a constant vector, we assume a constant particular solution vector $\mathbf{X}_p = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix}$. Substituting this latter assumption into the original system and equating entries leads to

$$0 = -a_1 + 2b_1 - 8$$
$$0 = -a_1 + b_1 + 3.$$

Solving this algebraic system gives $a_1 = 14$ and $b_1 = 11$, and so a particular solution is $\mathbf{X}_p = \begin{pmatrix} 14 \\ 11 \end{pmatrix}$. The general solution of the original system of DEs on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ is then $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_c + \mathbf{X}_p$ or

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t + \sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t - \sin t \\ -\sin t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 14 \\ 11 \end{pmatrix}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

### EXAMPLE 2 Undetermined Coefficients

Solve the system $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 6t \\ -10t + 4 \end{pmatrix}$ on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**SOLUTION** The eigenvalues and corresponding eigenvectors of the associated homogeneous system $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$ are found to be $\lambda_1 = 2$, $\lambda_2 = 7$, $\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Hence the complementary function is

$$\mathbf{X}_c = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{7t}.$$

Now because $\mathbf{F}(t)$ can be written $\mathbf{F}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$, we shall try to find a particular solution of the system that possesses the *same* form:

$$\mathbf{X}_p = \begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Substituting this last assumption into the given system yields

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \left[ \begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix} \right] + \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

or
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (6a_2 + b_2 + 6)t + 6a_1 + b_1 - a_2 \\ (4a_2 + 3b_2 - 10)t + 4a_1 + 3b_1 - b_2 + 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

From the last identity we obtain four algebraic equations in four unknowns

$$\begin{array}{ll} 6a_2 + b_2 + 6 = 0 \\ 4a_2 + 3b_2 - 10 = 0 \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{ll} 6a_1 + b_1 - a_2 = 0 \\ 4a_1 + 3b_1 - b_2 + 4 = 0. \end{array}$$

Solving the first two equations simultaneously yields $a_2 = -2$ and $b_2 = 6$. We then substitute these values into the last two equations and solve for $a_1$ and $b_1$. The results are $a_1 = -\frac{4}{7}$, $b_1 = \frac{10}{7}$. It follows, therefore, that a particular solution vector is

$$\mathbf{X}_p = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{4}{7} \\ \frac{10}{7} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The general solution of the system on $(-\infty, \infty)$ is $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_c + \mathbf{X}_p$ or

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{7t} + \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{4}{7} \\ \frac{10}{7} \end{pmatrix}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

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**EXAMPLE 3** **Form of $\mathbf{X}_p$**

Determine the form of a particular solution vector $\mathbf{X}_p$ for the system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 5x + 3y - 2e^{-t} + 1$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -x + y + e^{-t} - 5t + 7.$$

**SOLUTION** Because $\mathbf{F}(t)$ can be written in matrix terms as

$$\mathbf{F}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

a natural assumption for a particular solution would be

$$\mathbf{X}_p = \begin{pmatrix} a_3 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} + \begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

### REMARKS

The method of undetermined coefficients for linear systems is not as straightforward as the last three examples would seem to indicate. In Section 4.4 the form of a particular solution $y_p$ was predicated on prior knowledge of the complementary function $y_c$. The same is true for the formation of $\mathbf{X}_p$. But there are further difficulties: The special rules governing the form of $y_p$ in Section 4.4 do not *quite* carry to the formation of $\mathbf{X}_p$. For example, if $\mathbf{F}(t)$ is a constant vector, as in Example 1, and $\lambda = 0$ is an eigenvalue of multiplicity one, then $\mathbf{X}_c$ contains a constant vector. Under the Multiplication Rule on page 146 we would ordinarily try a particular solution of the form $\mathbf{X}_p = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix} t$. This is not the proper assumption for linear systems; it should be $\mathbf{X}_p = \begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix}$.

Similarly, in Example 3, if we replace $e^{-t}$ in $\mathbf{F}(t)$ by $e^{2t}$ ($\lambda = 2$ is an eigenvalue), then the correct form of the particular solution vector is

$$\mathbf{X}_p = \begin{pmatrix} a_4 \\ b_4 \end{pmatrix} t e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} a_3 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Rather than delving into these difficulties, we turn instead to the method of variation of parameters.

## 8.3.2  VARIATION OF PARAMETERS

**A FUNDAMENTAL MATRIX**  If $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_n$ is a fundamental set of solutions of the homogeneous system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ on an interval $I$, then its general solution on the interval is the linear combination $\mathbf{X} = c_1 \mathbf{X}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{X}_2 + \cdots + c_n \mathbf{X}_n$ or

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} \\ x_{21} \\ \vdots \\ x_{n1} \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} x_{12} \\ x_{22} \\ \vdots \\ x_{n2} \end{pmatrix} + \ldots + c_n \begin{pmatrix} x_{1n} \\ x_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ x_{nn} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 x_{11} + c_2 x_{12} + \cdots + c_n x_{1n} \\ c_1 x_{21} + c_2 x_{22} + \cdots + c_n x_{2n} \\ \vdots \\ c_1 x_{n1} + c_2 x_{n2} + \cdots + c_n x_{nn} \end{pmatrix}. \quad (1)$$

The last matrix in (1) is recognized as the product of an $n \times n$ matrix with an $n \times 1$ matrix. In other words, the general solution (1) can be written as the product

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{C}, \quad (2)$$

where $\mathbf{C}$ is an $n \times 1$ column vector of arbitrary constants $c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_n$ and the $n \times n$ matrix, whose columns consist of the entries of the solution vectors of the system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$,

$$\mathbf{\Phi}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{1n} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \cdots & x_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & x_{n2} & \cdots & x_{nn} \end{pmatrix},$$

is called a **fundamental matrix** of the system on the interval.

In the discussion that follows we need to use two properties of a fundamental matrix:

- A fundamental matrix $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)$ is nonsingular.
- If $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)$ is a fundamental matrix of the system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$, then

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}'(t) = \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t). \tag{3}$$

A reexamination of (9) of Theorem 8.1.3 shows that det $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)$ is the same as the Wronskian $W(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{X}_n)$. Hence the linear independence of the columns of $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)$ on the interval $I$ guarantees that det $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t) \neq 0$ for every $t$ in the interval. Since $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)$ is nonsingular, the multiplicative inverse $\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t)$ exists for every $t$ in the interval. The result given in (3) follows immediately from the fact that every column of $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)$ is a solution vector of $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$.

**VARIATION OF PARAMETERS** Analogous to the procedure in Section 4.6 we ask whether it is possible to replace the matrix of constants $\mathbf{C}$ in (2) by a column matrix of functions

$$\mathbf{U}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} u_1(t) \\ u_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ u_n(t) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{so} \quad \mathbf{X}_p = \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{U}(t) \tag{4}$$

is a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous system

$$\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{F}(t). \tag{5}$$

By the Product Rule the derivative of the last expression in (4) is

$$\mathbf{X}'_p = \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{U}'(t) + \boldsymbol{\Phi}'(t)\mathbf{U}(t). \tag{6}$$

Note that the order of the products in (6) is very important. Since $\mathbf{U}(t)$ is a column matrix, the products $\mathbf{U}'(t)\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)$ and $\mathbf{U}(t)\boldsymbol{\Phi}'(t)$ are not defined. Substituting (4) and (6) into (5) gives

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{U}'(t) + \boldsymbol{\Phi}'(t)\mathbf{U}(t) = \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{U}(t) + \mathbf{F}(t). \tag{7}$$

Now if we use (3) to replace $\boldsymbol{\Phi}'(t)$, (7) becomes

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{U}'(t) + \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{U}(t) = \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{U}(t) + \mathbf{F}(t)$$

or

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{U}'(t) = \mathbf{F}(t). \tag{8}$$

Multiplying both sides of equation (8) by $\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t)$ gives

$$\mathbf{U}'(t) = \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t) \quad \text{and so} \quad \mathbf{U}(t) = \int \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)\, dt.$$

Since $\mathbf{X}_p = \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{U}(t)$, we conclude that a particular solution of (5) is

$$\mathbf{X}_p = \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\int \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)\, dt. \tag{9}$$

To calculate the indefinite integral of the column matrix $\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)$ in (9), we integrate each entry. Thus the general solution of the system (5) is $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_c + \mathbf{X}_p$ or

$$\mathbf{X} = \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{C} + \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\int \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)\, dt. \tag{10}$$

Note that it is not necessary to use a constant of integration in the evaluation of $\int \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)\, dt$ for the same reasons stated in the discussion of variation of parameters in Section 4.6.

## EXAMPLE 4  Variation of Parameters

Solve the system

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 1 \\ 2 & -4 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 3t \\ e^{-t} \end{pmatrix} \tag{11}$$

on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**SOLUTION**  We first solve the associated homogeneous system

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 1 \\ 2 & -4 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}. \tag{12}$$

The characteristic equation of the coefficient matrix is

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} -3 - \lambda & 1 \\ 2 & -4 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda + 2)(\lambda + 5) = 0,$$

so the eigenvalues are $\lambda_1 = -2$ and $\lambda_2 = -5$. By the usual method we find that the eigenvectors corresponding to $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$ are, respectively, $\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$. The solution vectors of the system (11) are then

$$\mathbf{X}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-2t} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} \\ e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{X}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}e^{-5t} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-5t} \\ -2e^{-5t} \end{pmatrix}.$$

The entries in $\mathbf{X}_1$ form the first column of $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)$, and the entries in $\mathbf{X}_2$ form the second column of $\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)$. Hence

$$\boldsymbol{\Phi}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} & e^{-5t} \\ e^{-2t} & -2e^{-5t} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3}e^{2t} & \frac{1}{3}e^{2t} \\ \frac{1}{3}e^{5t} & -\frac{1}{3}e^{5t} \end{pmatrix}.$$

From (9) we obtain

$$\mathbf{X}_p = \boldsymbol{\Phi}(t)\int \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)\, dt = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} & e^{-5t} \\ e^{-2t} & -2e^{-5t} \end{pmatrix} \int \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3}e^{2t} & \frac{1}{3}e^{2t} \\ \frac{1}{3}e^{5t} & -\frac{1}{3}e^{5t} \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} 3t \\ e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}\, dt$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} & e^{-5t} \\ e^{-2t} & -2e^{-5t} \end{pmatrix} \int \begin{pmatrix} 2te^{2t} + \frac{1}{3}e^{t} \\ te^{5t} - \frac{1}{3}e^{4t} \end{pmatrix}\, dt$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} & e^{-5t} \\ e^{-2t} & -2e^{-5t} \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} te^{2t} - \frac{1}{2}e^{2t} + \frac{1}{3}e^{t} \\ \frac{1}{5}te^{5t} - \frac{1}{25}e^{5t} - \frac{1}{12}e^{4t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{6}{5}t - \frac{27}{50} + \frac{1}{4}e^{-t} \\ \frac{3}{5}t - \frac{21}{50} + \frac{1}{2}e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence from (10) the general solution of (11) on the interval is

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-2t} & e^{-5t} \\ e^{-2t} & -2e^{-5t} \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{6}{5}t - \frac{27}{50} + \frac{1}{4}e^{-t} \\ \frac{3}{5}t - \frac{21}{50} + \frac{1}{2}e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-2t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}e^{-5t} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{6}{5} \\ \frac{3}{5} \end{pmatrix}t - \begin{pmatrix} \frac{27}{50} \\ \frac{21}{50} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}e^{-t}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

**INITIAL-VALUE PROBLEM** The general solution of (5) on an interval can be written in the alternative manner

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{C} + \mathbf{\Phi}(t) \int_{t_0}^{t} \mathbf{\Phi}^{-1}(s)\mathbf{F}(s)\,ds, \tag{13}$$

where $t$ and $t_0$ are points in the interval. This last form is useful in solving (5) subject to an initial condition $\mathbf{X}(t_0) = \mathbf{X}_0$, because the limits of integration are chosen so that the particular solution vanishes at $t = t_0$. Substituting $t = t_0$ into (13) yields $\mathbf{X}_0 = \mathbf{\Phi}(t_0)\mathbf{C}$ from which we get $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{\Phi}^{-1}(t_0)\mathbf{X}_0$. Substituting this last result into (13) gives the following solution of the initial-value problem:

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{\Phi}^{-1}(t_0)\mathbf{X}_0 + \mathbf{\Phi}(t) \int_{t_0}^{t} \mathbf{\Phi}^{-1}(s)\mathbf{F}(s)\,ds. \tag{14}$$

---

## EXERCISES 8.3                     *Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-14.*

### 8.3.1  UNDETERMINED COEFFICIENTS

In Problems 1–8 use the method of undetermined coefficients to solve the given system.

**1.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 2x + 3y - 7$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -x - 2y + 5$

**2.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 5x + 9y + 2$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -x + 11y + 6$

**3.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} -2t^2 \\ t + 5 \end{pmatrix}$

**4.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 4t + 9e^{6t} \\ -t + e^{6t} \end{pmatrix}$

**5.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 9 & 6 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}e^{t}$

**6.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 5 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -2\cos t \end{pmatrix}$

**7.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}e^{4t}$

**8.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -10 \\ 40 \end{pmatrix}$

**9.** Solve $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ subject to

$\mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}.$

**10. (a)** The system of differential equations for the currents $i_2(t)$ and $i_3(t)$ in the electrical network shown in Figure 8.3.1 is

$$\frac{d}{dt}\begin{pmatrix} i_2 \\ i_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -R_1/L_1 & -R_1/L_1 \\ -R_1/L_2 & -(R_1 + R_2)/L_2 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} i_2 \\ i_3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} E/L_1 \\ E/L_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Use the method of undetermined coefficients to solve the system if $R_1 = 2\ \Omega$, $R_2 = 3\ \Omega$, $L_1 = 1$ h, $L_2 = 1$ h, $E = 60$ V, $i_2(0) = 0$, and $i_3(0) = 0$.

**(b)** Determine the current $i_1(t)$.
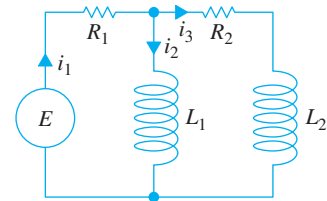


**FIGURE 8.3.1**  Network in Problem 10

### 8.3.2  VARIATION OF PARAMETERS

In Problems 11–30 use variation of parameters to solve the given system.

**11.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 3x - 3y + 4$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 2x - 2y - 1$

**12.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 2x - y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 3x - 2y + 4t$

**13.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -5 \\ \frac{3}{4} & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}e^{t/2}$

**14.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} \sin 2t \\ 2\cos 2t \end{pmatrix}e^{2t}$

**15.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}e^{t}$

**16.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ e^{-3t} \end{pmatrix}$

**17.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 8 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 12 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix}t$

**18.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 8 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} e^{-t} \\ te^{t} \end{pmatrix}$

**19.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 2e^{-t} \\ e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$

**20.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**21.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} \sec t \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

**22.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}e^{t}$

**23.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ \sin t \end{pmatrix}e^{t}$

**24.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ 8 & -6 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}\dfrac{e^{-2t}}{t}$

**25.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \sec t \tan t \end{pmatrix}$

**26.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \cot t \end{pmatrix}$

**27.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} \csc t \\ \sec t \end{pmatrix}e^{t}$

**28.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} \tan t \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**29.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} e^{t} \\ e^{2t} \\ te^{3t} \end{pmatrix}$

**30.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ t \\ 2e^{t} \end{pmatrix}$

In Problems 31 and 32 use (14) to solve the given initial-value problem.

**31.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 4e^{2t} \\ 4e^{4t} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**32.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 1/t \\ 1/t \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{X}(1) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

**33.** The system of differential equations for the currents $i_1(t)$ and $i_2(t)$ in the electrical network shown in Figure 8.3.2 is

$$\frac{d}{dt}\begin{pmatrix} i_1 \\ i_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -(R_1 + R_2)/L_2 & R_2/L_2 \\ R_2/L_1 & -R_2/L_1 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} i_1 \\ i_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} E/L_2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Use variation of parameters to solve the system if $R_1 = 8\ \Omega$, $R_2 = 3\ \Omega$, $L_1 = 1$ h, $L_2 = 1$ h, $E(t) = 100 \sin t$ V, $i_1(0) = 0$, and $i_2(0) = 0$.
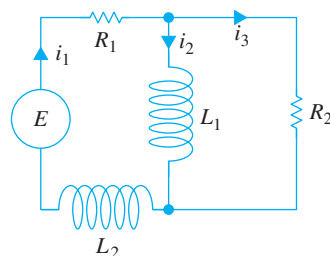


**FIGURE 8.3.2** Network in Problem 33

## Discussion Problems

**34.** If $y_1$ and $y_2$ are linearly independent solutions of the associated homogeneous DE for $y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = f(x)$, show in the case of a nonhomogeneous linear second-order DE that (9) reduces to the form of variation of parameters discussed in Section 4.6

## Computer Lab Assignments

**35.** Solving a nonhomogeneous linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{F}(t)$ by variation of parameters when $\mathbf{A}$ is a $3 \times 3$ (or larger) matrix is almost an impossible task to do by hand. Consider the system

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} te^{t} \\ e^{-t} \\ e^{2t} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(a) Use a CAS or linear algebra software to find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the coefficient matrix.

(b) Form a fundamental matrix $\mathbf{\Phi}(t)$ and use the computer to find $\mathbf{\Phi}^{-1}(t)$.

(c) Use the computer to carry out the computations of: $\mathbf{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)$, $\int \mathbf{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)\,dt$, $\mathbf{\Phi}(t)\int \mathbf{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)\,dt$, $\mathbf{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{C}$, and $\mathbf{\Phi}(t)\mathbf{C} + \int \mathbf{\Phi}^{-1}(t)\mathbf{F}(t)\,dt$, where $\mathbf{C}$ is a column matrix of constants $c_1$, $c_2$, $c_3$, and $c_4$.

(d) Rewrite the computer output for the general solution of the system in the form $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_c + \mathbf{X}_p$, where $\mathbf{X}_c = c_1\mathbf{X}_1 + c_2\mathbf{X}_2 + c_3\mathbf{X}_3 + c_4\mathbf{X}_4$.

## 8.4 MATRIX EXPONENTIAL

### REVIEW MATERIAL

● Appendix II.1 (Definitions II.10 and II.11)

**INTRODUCTION** Matrices can be used in an entirely different manner to solve a system of linear first-order differential equations. Recall that the simple linear first-order differential equation $x' = ax$, where $a$ is constant, has the general solution $x = ce^{at}$, where $c$ is a constant. It seems natural then to ask whether we can define a matrix exponential function $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$, where $\mathbf{A}$ is a matrix of constants, so that a solution of the linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$ is $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$.

**HOMOGENEOUS SYSTEMS** We shall now see that it is possible to define a matrix exponential $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ so that

$$\mathbf{X} = e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{C} \tag{1}$$

is a solution of the homogeneous system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$. Here $\mathbf{A}$ is an $n \times n$ matrix of constants, and $\mathbf{C}$ is an $n \times 1$ column matrix of arbitrary constants. Note in (1) that the matrix $\mathbf{C}$ post multiplies $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ because we want $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ to be an $n \times n$ matrix. While the complete development of the meaning and theory of the matrix exponential would require a thorough knowledge of matrix algebra, one way of defining $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ is inspired by the power series representation of the scalar exponential function $e^{at}$:

$$e^{at} = 1 + at + a^2\frac{t^2}{2!} + \cdots + a^k\frac{t^k}{k!} + \cdots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k\frac{t^k}{k!}. \tag{2}$$

The series in (2) converges for all $t$. Using this series, with 1 replaced by the identity $\mathbf{I}$ and the constant $a$ replaced by an $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}$ of constants, we arrive at a definition for the $n \times n$ matrix $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$.

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**DEFINITION 8.4.1** **Matrix Exponential**

For any $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}$,

$$e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{A}t + \mathbf{A}^2\frac{t^2}{2!} + \cdots + \mathbf{A}^k\frac{t^k}{k!} + \cdots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{A}^k\frac{t^k}{k!}. \tag{3}$$

---

It can be shown that the series given in (3) converges to an $n \times n$ matrix for every value of $t$. Also, $\mathbf{A}^2 = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}$, $\mathbf{A}^3 = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{A}^2)$, and so on.

**DERIVATIVE OF $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$** The derivative of the matrix exponential is analogous to the differentiation property of the scalar exponential $\dfrac{d}{dt} e^{at} = ae^{at}$. To justify

$$\frac{d}{dt} e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \mathbf{A}e^{\mathbf{A}t}, \tag{4}$$

we differentiate (3) term by term:

$$\frac{d}{dt} e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \frac{d}{dt}\left[\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{A}t + \mathbf{A}^2\frac{t^2}{2!} + \cdots + \mathbf{A}^k\frac{t^k}{k!} + \cdots\right] = \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^2 t + \frac{1}{2!}\mathbf{A}^3 t^2 + \cdots$$

$$= \mathbf{A}\left[\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{A}t + \mathbf{A}^2\frac{t^2}{2!} + \cdots\right] = \mathbf{A}e^{\mathbf{A}t}.$$

Because of (4), we can now prove that (1) is a solution of $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ for every $n \times 1$ vector $\mathbf{C}$ of constants:

$$\mathbf{X}' = \frac{d}{dt} e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A}e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A}(e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{AX}.$$

**$e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ IS A FUNDAMENTAL MATRIX** If we denote the matrix exponential $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ by the symbol $\boldsymbol{\Psi}(t)$, then (4) is equivalent to the matrix differential equation $\boldsymbol{\Psi}'(t) = \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Psi}(t)$ (see (3) of Section 8.3). In addition, it follows immediately from Definition 8.4.1 that $\boldsymbol{\Psi}(0) = e^{\mathbf{A}0} = \mathbf{I}$, and so det $\boldsymbol{\Psi}(0) \neq 0$. It turns out that these two properties are sufficient for us to conclude that $\boldsymbol{\Psi}(t)$ is a fundamental matrix of the system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$.

**NONHOMOGENEOUS SYSTEMS** We saw in (4) of Section 2.4 that the general solution of the single linear first-order differential equation $x' = ax + f(t)$, where $a$ is a constant, can be expressed as

$$x = x_c + x_p = ce^{at} + e^{at}\int_{t_0}^{t} e^{-as}f(s)\ ds.$$

For a nonhomogeneous system of linear first-order differential equations it can be shown that the general solution of $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{F}(t)$, where $\mathbf{A}$ is an $n \times n$ matrix of constants, is

$$\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_c + \mathbf{X}_p = e^{\mathbf{A}t}\mathbf{C} + e^{\mathbf{A}t}\int_{t_0}^{t} e^{-\mathbf{A}s}\mathbf{F}(s)\ ds. \tag{5}$$

Since the matrix exponential $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ is a fundamental matrix, it is always nonsingular and $e^{-\mathbf{A}s} = (e^{\mathbf{A}s})^{-1}$. In practice, $e^{-\mathbf{A}s}$ can be obtained from $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ by simply replacing $t$ by $-s$.

**COMPUTATION OF $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$** The definition of $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ given in (3) can, of course, always be used to compute $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$. However, the practical utility of (3) is limited by the fact that the entries in $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ are power series in $t$. With a natural desire to work with simple and familiar things, we then try to recognize whether these series define a closed-form function. See Problems 1–4 in Exercises 8.4. Fortunately, there are many alternative ways of computing $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$; the following discussion shows how the Laplace transform can be used.

**USE OF THE LAPLACE TRANSFORM** We saw in (5) that $\mathbf{X} = e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ is a solution of $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$. Indeed, since $e^{\mathbf{A}0} = \mathbf{I}$, $\mathbf{X} = e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ is a solution of the initial-value problem

$$\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}, \quad \mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{I}. \tag{6}$$

If $\mathbf{x}(s) = \mathcal{L}\{\mathbf{X}(t)\} = \mathcal{L}\{e^{\mathbf{A}t}\}$, then the Laplace transform of (6) is

$$s\mathbf{x}(s) - \mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}(s) \quad \text{or} \quad (s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})\mathbf{x}(s) = \mathbf{I}.$$

Multiplying the last equation by $(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}$ implies that $\mathbf{x}(s) = (s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\mathbf{I} = (s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}$. In other words, $\mathcal{L}\{e^{\mathbf{A}t}\} = (s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}$ or

$$e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1}\}. \tag{7}$$

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### EXAMPLE 1    Matrix Exponential

Use the Laplace transform to compute $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ for $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$.

**SOLUTION** First we compute the matrix $s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}$ and find its inverse:

$$s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} s-1 & 1 \\ -2 & s+2 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} s-1 & 1 \\ -2 & s+2 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \dfrac{s+2}{s(s+1)} & \dfrac{-1}{s(s+1)} \\ \dfrac{2}{s(s+1)} & \dfrac{s-1}{s(s+1)} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then we decompose the entries of the last matrix into partial fractions:

$$(s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \dfrac{2}{s} - \dfrac{1}{s+1} & -\dfrac{1}{s} + \dfrac{1}{s+1} \\ \dfrac{2}{s} - \dfrac{2}{s+1} & -\dfrac{1}{s} + \dfrac{2}{s+1} \end{pmatrix}. \tag{8}$$

It follows from (7) that the inverse Laplace transform of (8) gives the desired result,

$$e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 - e^{-t} & -1 + e^{-t} \\ 2 - 2e^{-t} & -1 + 2e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

**USE OF COMPUTERS** For those who are willing to momentarily trade under-standing for speed of solution, $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ can be computed with the aid of computer software. See Problems 27 and 28 in Exercises 8.4.

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## EXERCISES 8.4

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-14.*

In Problems 1 and 2 use (3) to compute $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ and $e^{-\mathbf{A}t}$.

**1.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ **2.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

In Problems 3 and 4 use (3) to compute $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$.

**3.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$ **4.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

In Problems 5–8 use (1) to find the general solution of the given system.

**5.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$ **6.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

**7.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$ **8.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

In Problems 9–12 use (5) to find the general solution of the given system.

**9.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

**10.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} t \\ e^{4t} \end{pmatrix}$

**11.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**12.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} \cosh t \\ \sinh t \end{pmatrix}$

**13.** Solve the system in Problem 7 subject to the initial condition

$$\mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**14.** Solve the system in Problem 9 subject to the initial condition

$$\mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In Problems 15–18 use the method of Example 1 to compute $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ for the coefficient matrix. Use (1) to find the general solution of the given system.

**15.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -4 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$ **16.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

**17.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -9 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$ **18.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

Let **P** denote a matrix whose columns are eigenvectors $K_1$, $K_2$, ..., $K_n$ corresponding to distinct eigenvalues $\lambda_1$, $\lambda_2$, ..., $\lambda_n$ of an $n \times n$ matrix **A**. Then it can be shown that $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{PDP}^{-1}$, where **D** is defined by

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}. \qquad (9)$$

In Problems 19 and 20 verify the foregoing result for the given matrix.

**19.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$      **20.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

**21.** Suppose $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{PDP}^{-1}$, where **D** is defined as in (9). Use (3) to show that $e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \mathbf{P}e^{\mathbf{D}t}\mathbf{P}^{-1}$.

**22.** Use (3) to show that

$$e^{\mathbf{D}t} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{\lambda_1 t} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\lambda_2 t} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & e^{\lambda_n t} \end{pmatrix},$$

where **D** is defined as in (9).

In Problems 23 and 24 use the results of Problems 19–22 to solve the given system.

**23.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -3 & 6 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$      **24.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$

### Discussion Problems

**25.** Reread the discussion leading to the result given in (7). Does the matrix $s\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}$ always have an inverse? Discuss.

**26.** A matrix **A** is said to be **nilpotent** if there exists some integer $m$ such that $\mathbf{A}^m = \mathbf{0}$. Verify that

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$ is nilpotent. Discuss why it is

relatively easy to compute $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ when **A** is nilpotent. Compute $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$ and then use (1) to solve the system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}$.

### Computer Lab Assignments

**27. (a)** Use (1) to find the general solution of $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$. Use a CAS to find $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$. Then use the computer to find eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and form the general solution in the manner of Section 8.2. Finally, reconcile the two forms of the general solution of the system.

**(b)** Use (1) to find the general solution of $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$. Use a CAS to find $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$. In the case of complex output, utilize the software to do the simplification; for example, in *Mathematica,* if **m = MatrixExp[A t]** has complex entries, then try the command **Simplify[ComplexExpand[m]]**.

**28.** Use (1) to find the general solution of

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & -5 & 0 & -4 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}.$$

Use MATLAB or a CAS to find $e^{\mathbf{A}t}$.

---

## CHAPTER 8 IN REVIEW

In Problems 1 and 2 fill in the blanks.

**1.** The vector $\mathbf{X} = k\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$ is a solution of

$$\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} - \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

for $k =$ _____.

**2.** The vector $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-9t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}e^{7t}$ is solution of the initial-value problem $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 10 \\ 6 & -3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$, $\mathbf{X}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

for $c_1 =$ _____ and $c_2 =$ _____.

**3.** Consider the linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 6 & 6 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \\ -1 & -4 & -3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}$.

Without attempting to solve the system, determine which one of the vectors

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{K}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{K}_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 2 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$$

is an eigenvector of the coefficient matrix. What is the solution of the system corresponding to this eigenvector?

**4.** Consider the linear system $X' = AX$ of two differential equations, where $A$ is a real coefficient matrix. What is the general solution of the system if it is known that $\lambda_1 = 1 + 2i$ is an eigenvalue and $K_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$ is a corresponding eigenvector?

In Problems 5–14 solve the given linear system.

**5.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 2x + y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -x$

**6.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -4x + 2y$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 2x - 4y$

**7.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X$

**8.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 5 \\ -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} X$

**9.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X$

**10.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} X$

**11.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 8 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} X + \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 16t \end{pmatrix}$

**12.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -\frac{1}{2} & 1 \end{pmatrix} X + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ e^t \tan t \end{pmatrix}$

**13.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \cot t \end{pmatrix}$

**14.** $X' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X + \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t}$

**15. (a)** Consider the linear system $X' = AX$ of three first-order differential equations, where the coefficient matrix is

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 5 & 3 \\ -5 & -5 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

and $\lambda = 2$ is known to be an eigenvalue of multiplicity two. Find two different solutions of the system corresponding to this eigenvalue without using a special formula (such as (12) of Section 8.2).

**(b)** Use the procedure of part (a) to solve

$$X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X.$$

**16.** Verify that $X = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} e^t$ is a solution of the linear system

$$X' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} X$$

for arbitrary constants $c_1$ and $c_2$. By hand, draw a phase portrait of the system.

# 9 NUMERICAL SOLUTIONS OF ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

Even if it can be shown that a solution of a differential equation exists, we might not be able to exhibit it in explicit or implicit form. In many instances we have to be content with an approximation of the solution. If a solution exists, it represents a set of points in the Cartesian plane. In this chapter we continue to explore the basic idea of Section 2.6, that is, utilizing the differential equation to construct an algorithm to approximate the $y$-coordinates of points on the actual solution curve. Our concentration in this chapter is primarily on first-order IVPs $dy/dx = f(x, y)$, $y(x_0) = y_0$. We saw in Section 4.9 that numerical procedures developed for first-order DEs extend in a natural way to systems of first-order equations, and so we can approximate solutions of a higher-order equation by recasting it as a system of first-order DEs. Chapter 9 concludes with a method for approximating solutions of linear second-order boundary-value problems.

| 9.1 | EULER METHODS AND ERROR ANALYSIS |

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Section 2.6

**INTRODUCTION** In Chapter 2 we examined one of the simplest numerical methods for approximating solutions of first-order initial-value problems $y' = f(x, y)$, $y(x_0) = y_0$. Recall that the backbone of **Euler's method** is the formula

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(x_n, y_n), \qquad (1)$$

where $f$ is the function obtained from the differential equation $y' = f(x, y)$. The recursive use of (1) for $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ yields the $y$-coordinates $y_1, y_2, y_3, \ldots$ of points on successive "tangent lines" to the solution curve at $x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots$ or $x_n = x_0 + nh$, where $h$ is a constant and is the size of the step between $x_n$ and $x_{n+1}$. The values $y_1, y_2, y_3, \ldots$ approximate the values of a solution $y(x)$ of the IVP at $x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots$. But whatever advantage (1) has in its simplicity is lost in the crudeness of its approximations.

**A COMPARISON** In Problem 4 in Exercises 2.6 you were asked to use Euler's method to obtain the approximate value of $y(1.5)$ for the solution of the initial-value problem $y' = 2xy$, $y(1) = 1$. You should have obtained the analytic solution $y = e^{x^2-1}$ and results similar to those given in Tables 9.1 and 9.2.

**TABLE 9.1** Euler's Method with $h = 0.1$

| $x_n$ | $y_n$ | Actual value | Abs. error | % Rel. error |
|-------|-------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 1.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.10 | 1.2000 | 1.2337 | 0.0337 | 2.73 |
| 1.20 | 1.4640 | 1.5527 | 0.0887 | 5.71 |
| 1.30 | 1.8154 | 1.9937 | 0.1784 | 8.95 |
| 1.40 | 2.2874 | 2.6117 | 0.3244 | 12.42 |
| 1.50 | 2.9278 | 3.4903 | 0.5625 | 16.12 |

**TABLE 9.2** Euler's Method with $h = 0.05$

| $x_n$ | $y_n$ | Actual value | Abs. error | % Rel. error |
|-------|-------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 1.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.05 | 1.1000 | 1.1079 | 0.0079 | 0.72 |
| 1.10 | 1.2155 | 1.2337 | 0.0182 | 1.47 |
| 1.15 | 1.3492 | 1.3806 | 0.0314 | 2.27 |
| 1.20 | 1.5044 | 1.5527 | 0.0483 | 3.11 |
| 1.25 | 1.6849 | 1.7551 | 0.0702 | 4.00 |
| 1.30 | 1.8955 | 1.9937 | 0.0982 | 4.93 |
| 1.35 | 2.1419 | 2.2762 | 0.1343 | 5.90 |
| 1.40 | 2.4311 | 2.6117 | 0.1806 | 6.92 |
| 1.45 | 2.7714 | 3.0117 | 0.2403 | 7.98 |
| 1.50 | 3.1733 | 3.4903 | 0.3171 | 9.08 |

In this case, with a step size $h = 0.1$ a 16% relative error in the calculation of the approximation to $y(1.5)$ is totally unacceptable. At the expense of doubling the number of calculations, some improvement in accuracy is obtained by halving the step size to $h = 0.05$.

**ERRORS IN NUMERICAL METHODS** In choosing and using a numerical method for the solution of an initial-value problem, we must be aware of the various sources of errors. For some kinds of computation the accumulation of errors might reduce the accuracy of an approximation to the point of making the computation useless. On the other hand, depending on the use to which a numerical solution may be put, extreme accuracy might not be worth the added expense and complication.

One source of error that is always present in calculations is **round-off error.** This error results from the fact that any calculator or computer can represent numbers using only a finite number of digits. Suppose, for the sake of illustration, that we have

a calculator that uses base 10 arithmetic and carries four digits, so that $\frac{1}{3}$ is represented in the calculator as 0.3333 and $\frac{1}{9}$ is represented as 0.1111. If we use this calculator to compute $\left(x^2 - \frac{1}{9}\right)/\left(x - \frac{1}{3}\right)$ for $x = 0.3334$, we obtain

$$\frac{(0.3334)^2 - 0.1111}{0.3334 - 0.3333} = \frac{0.1112 - 0.1111}{0.3334 - 0.3333} = 1.$$

With the help of a little algebra, however, we see that

$$\frac{x^2 - \frac{1}{9}}{x - \frac{1}{3}} = \frac{\left(x - \frac{1}{3}\right)\left(x + \frac{1}{3}\right)}{x - \frac{1}{3}} = x + \frac{1}{3},$$

so when $x = 0.3334$, $\left(x^2 - \frac{1}{9}\right)/\left(x - \frac{1}{3}\right) \approx 0.3334 + 0.3333 = 0.6667$. This example shows that the effects of round-off error can be quite serious unless some care is taken. One way to reduce the effect of round-off error is to minimize the number of calculations. Another technique on a computer is to use double-precision arithmetic to check the results. In general, round-off error is unpredictable and difficult to analyze, and we will neglect it in the error analysis that follows. We will concentrate on investigating the error introduced by using a formula or algorithm to approximate the values of the solution.

**TRUNCATION ERRORS FOR EULER'S METHOD**   In the sequence of values $y_1, y_2, y_3, \ldots$ generated from (1), usually the value of $y_1$ will not agree with the actual solution at $x_1$—namely, $y(x_1)$—because the algorithm gives only a straight-line approximation to the solution. See Figure 2.6.2. The error is called the **local truncation error, formula error,** or **discretization error.** It occurs at each step; that is, if we assume that $y_n$ is accurate, then $y_{n+1}$ will contain local truncation error.

To derive a formula for the local truncation error for Euler's method, we use Taylor's formula with remainder. If a function $y(x)$ possesses $k + 1$ derivatives that are continuous on an open interval containing $a$ and $x$, then

$$y(x) = y(a) + y'(a)\frac{x - a}{1!} + \cdots + y^{(k)}(a)\frac{(x - a)^k}{k!} + y^{(k+1)}(c)\frac{(x - a)^{k+1}}{(k + 1)!},$$

where $c$ is some point between $a$ and $x$. Setting $k = 1$, $a = x_n$, and $x = x_{n+1} = x_n + h$, we get

$$y(x_{n+1}) = y(x_n) + y'(x_n)\frac{h}{1!} + y''(c)\frac{h^2}{2!}$$

or
$$y(x_{n+1}) = \underbrace{y_n + hf(x_n, y_n)}_{y_{n+1}} + y''(c)\frac{h^2}{2!}.$$

Euler's method (1) is the last formula without the last term; hence the local truncation error in $y_{n+1}$ is

$$y''(c)\frac{h^2}{2!}, \qquad \text{where} \quad x_n < c < x_{n+1}.$$

The value of $c$ is usually unknown (it exists theoretically), so the *exact* error cannot be calculated, but an upper bound on the absolute value of the error is $Mh^2/2!$, where $M = \max_{x_n < x < x_{n+1}} |y''(x)|$.

In discussing errors that arise from the use of numerical methods, it is helpful to use the notation $O(h^n)$. To define this concept, we let $e(h)$ denote the error in a numerical calculation depending on $h$. Then $e(h)$ is said to be of order $h^n$, denoted by $O(h^n)$, if there exist a constant $C$ and a positive integer $n$ such that $|e(h)| \leq Ch^n$ for $h$ sufficiently small. Thus the local truncation error for Euler's method is $O(h^2)$. We note that, in general, if $e(h)$ in a numerical method is of order $h^n$ and $h$ is halved, the new error is approximately $C(h/2)^n = Ch^n/2^n$; that is, the error is reduced by a factor of $1/2^n$.

> ### EXAMPLE 1    Bound for Local Truncation Errors
>
> Find a bound for the local truncation errors for Euler's method applied to $y' = 2xy$, $y(1) = 1$.
>
> **SOLUTION**   From the solution $y = e^{x^2-1}$ we get $y'' = (2 + 4x^2)e^{x^2-1}$, so the local truncation error is
>
> $$y''(c) \frac{h^2}{2} = (2 + 4c^2)e^{(c^2-1)} \frac{h^2}{2},$$
>
> where $c$ is between $x_n$ and $x_n + h$. In particular, for $h = 0.1$ we can get an upper bound on the local truncation error for $y_1$ by replacing $c$ by 1.1:
>
> $$[2 + (4)(1.1)^2]e^{((1.1)^2-1)}\frac{(0.1)^2}{2} = 0.0422.$$
>
> From Table 9.1 we see that the error after the first step is 0.0337, less than the value given by the bound.
>
> Similarly, we can get a bound for the local truncation error for any of the five steps given in Table 9.1 by replacing $c$ by 1.5 (this value of $c$ gives the largest value of $y''(c)$ for any of the steps and may be too generous for the first few steps). Doing this gives
>
> $$[2 + (4)(1.5)^2]e^{((1.5)^2-1)}\frac{(0.1)^2}{2} = 0.1920 \qquad (2)$$
>
> as an upper bound for the local truncation error in each step. ∎

Note that if $h$ is halved to 0.05 in Example 1, then the error bound is 0.0480, about one-fourth as much as shown in (2). This is expected because the local truncation error for Euler's method is $O(h^2)$.

In the above analysis we assumed that the value of $y_n$ was exact in the calculation of $y_{n+1}$, but it is not because it contains local truncation errors from previous steps. The total error in $y_{n+1}$ is an accumulation of the errors in each of the previous steps. This total error is called the **global truncation error.** A complete analysis of the global truncation error is beyond the scope of this text, but it can be shown that the global truncation error for Euler's method is $O(h)$.

We expect that, for Euler's method, if the step size is halved the error will be approximately halved as well. This is borne out in Tables 9.1 and 9.2 where the absolute error at $x = 1.50$ with $h = 0.1$ is 0.5625 and with $h = 0.05$ is 0.3171, approximately half as large.

In general it can be shown that if a method for the numerical solution of a differential equation has local truncation error $O(h^{\alpha+1})$, then the global truncation error is $O(h^{\alpha})$.

For the remainder of this section and in the subsequent sections we study methods that give significantly greater accuracy than does Euler's method.

**IMPROVED EULER'S METHOD**   The numerical method defined by the formula

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h\frac{f(x_n, y_n) + f(x_{n+1}, y^*_{n+1})}{2}, \qquad (3)$$

where

$$y^*_{n+1} = y_n + hf(x_n, y_n), \qquad (4)$$

is commonly known as the **improved Euler's method.** To compute $y_{n+1}$ for $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ from (3), we must, at each step, first use Euler's method (4) to obtain an initial estimate $y^*_{n+1}$. For example, with $n = 0$, (4) gives $y^*_1 = y_0 + hf(x_0, y_0)$, and then, knowing this value, we use (3) to get $y_1 = y_0 + h\dfrac{f(x_0, y_0) + f(x_1, y^*_1)}{2}$, where
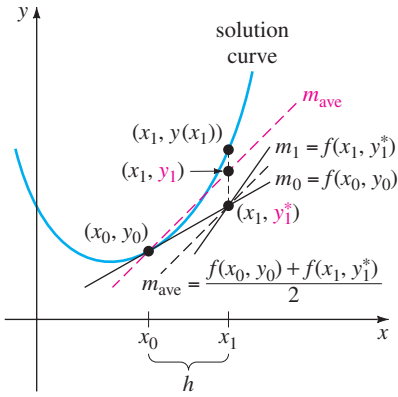
**FIGURE 9.1.1**   Slope of red dashed line is the average of $m_0$ and $m_1$

$x_1 = x_0 + h$. These equations can be readily visualized. In Figure 9.1.1 observe that $m_0 = f(x_0, y_0)$ and $m_1 = f(x_1, y_1^*)$ are slopes of the solid straight lines shown passing through the points $(x_0, y_0)$ and $(x_1, y_1^*)$, respectively. By taking an average of these slopes, that is, $m_{ave} = \dfrac{f(x_0, y_0) + f(x_1, y_1^*)}{2}$, we obtain the slope of the parallel dashed skew lines. With the first step, rather than advancing along the line through $(x_0, y_0)$ with slope $f(x_0, y_0)$ to the point with $y$-coordinate $y_1^*$ obtained by Euler's method, we advance instead along the red dashed line through $(x_0, y_0)$ with slope $m_{ave}$ until we reach $x_1$. It seems plausible from inspection of the figure that $y_1$ is an improvement over $y_1^*$.

In general, the improved Euler's method is an example of a **predictor-corrector method.** The value of $y_{n+1}^*$ given by (4) predicts a value of $y(x_n)$, whereas the value of $y_{n+1}$ defined by formula (3) corrects this estimate.

## EXAMPLE 2   Improved Euler's Method

Use the improved Euler's method to obtain the approximate value of $y(1.5)$ for the solution of the initial-value problem $y' = 2xy$, $y(1) = 1$. Compare the results for $h = 0.1$ and $h = 0.05$.

**SOLUTION**   With $x_0 = 1$, $y_0 = 1$, $f(x_n, y_n) = 2x_n y_n$, $n = 0$, and $h = 0.1$, we first compute (4):

$$y_1^* = y_0 + (0.1)(2x_0 y_0) = 1 + (0.1)2(1)(1) = 1.2.$$

We use this last value in (3) along with $x_1 = 1 + h = 1 + 0.1 = 1.1$:

$$y_1 = y_0 + (0.1)\frac{2x_0 y_0 + 2x_1 y_1^*}{2} = 1 + (0.1)\frac{2(1)(1) + 2(1.1)(1.2)}{2} = 1.232.$$

The comparative values of the calculations for $h = 0.1$ and $h = 0.05$ are given in Tables 9.3 and 9.4, respectively.

**TABLE 9.3**   Improved Euler's Method with $h = 0.1$

| $x_n$ | $y_n$ | Actual value | Abs. error | % Rel. error |
|-------|-------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 1.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.10 | 1.2320 | 1.2337 | 0.0017 | 0.14 |
| 1.20 | 1.5479 | 1.5527 | 0.0048 | 0.31 |
| 1.30 | 1.9832 | 1.9937 | 0.0106 | 0.53 |
| 1.40 | 2.5908 | 2.6117 | 0.0209 | 0.80 |
| 1.50 | 3.4509 | 3.4904 | 0.0394 | 1.13 |

**TABLE 9.4**   Improved Euler's Method with $h = 0.05$

| $x_n$ | $y_n$ | Actual value | Abs. error | % Rel. error |
|-------|-------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 1.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.05 | 1.1077 | 1.1079 | 0.0002 | 0.02 |
| 1.10 | 1.2332 | 1.2337 | 0.0004 | 0.04 |
| 1.15 | 1.3798 | 1.3806 | 0.0008 | 0.06 |
| 1.20 | 1.5514 | 1.5527 | 0.0013 | 0.08 |
| 1.25 | 1.7531 | 1.7551 | 0.0020 | 0.11 |
| 1.30 | 1.9909 | 1.9937 | 0.0029 | 0.14 |
| 1.35 | 2.2721 | 2.2762 | 0.0041 | 0.18 |
| 1.40 | 2.6060 | 2.6117 | 0.0057 | 0.22 |
| 1.45 | 3.0038 | 3.0117 | 0.0079 | 0.26 |
| 1.50 | 3.4795 | 3.4904 | 0.0108 | 0.31 |

A brief word of caution is in order here. We cannot compute all the values of $y_n^*$ first and then substitute these values into formula (3). In other words, we cannot use the data in Table 9.1 to help construct the values in Table 9.3. Why not?

**TRUNCATION ERRORS FOR THE IMPROVED EULER'S METHOD**   The local truncation error for the improved Euler's method is $O(h^3)$. The derivation of this result is similar to the derivation of the local truncation error for Euler's method.

Since the local truncation error for the improved Euler's method is $O(h^3)$, the global truncation error is $O(h^2)$. This can be seen in Example 2; when the step size is halved from $h = 0.1$ to $h = 0.05$, the absolute error at $x = 1.50$ is reduced from 0.0394 to 0.0108, a reduction of approximately $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = \frac{1}{4}$.

## EXERCISES 9.1

In Problems 1–10 use the improved Euler's method to obtain a four-decimal approximation of the indicated value. First use $h = 0.1$ and then use $h = 0.05$.

**1.** $y' = 2x - 3y + 1$, $y(1) = 5$;  $y(1.5)$

**2.** $y' = 4x - 2y$, $y(0) = 2$;  $y(0.5)$

**3.** $y' = 1 + y^2$, $y(0) = 0$;  $y(0.5)$

**4.** $y' = x^2 + y^2$, $y(0) = 1$;  $y(0.5)$

**5.** $y' = e^{-y}$, $y(0) = 0$;  $y(0.5)$

**6.** $y' = x + y^2$, $y(0) = 0$;  $y(0.5)$

**7.** $y' = (x - y)^2$, $y(0) = 0.5$;  $y(0.5)$

**8.** $y' = xy + \sqrt{y}$, $y(0) = 1$;  $y(0.5)$

**9.** $y' = xy^2 - \dfrac{y}{x}$, $y(1) = 1$;  $y(1.5)$

**10.** $y' = y - y^2$, $y(0) = 0.5$;  $y(0.5)$

**11.** Consider the initial-value problem $y' = (x + y - 1)^2$, $y(0) = 2$. Use the improved Euler's method with $h = 0.1$ and $h = 0.05$ to obtain approximate values of the solution at $x = 0.5$. At each step compare the approximate value with the actual value of the analytic solution.

**12.** Although it might not be obvious from the differential equation, its solution could "behave badly" near a point $x$ at which we wish to approximate $y(x)$. Numerical procedures may give widely differing results near this point. Let $y(x)$ be the solution of the initial-value problem $y' = x^2 + y^3$, $y(1) = 1$.

  **(a)** Use a numerical solver to graph the solution on the interval $[1, 1.4]$.

  **(b)** Using the step size $h = 0.1$, compare the results obtained from Euler's method with the results from the improved Euler's method in the approximation of $y(1.4)$.

**13.** Consider the initial-value problem $y' = 2y$, $y(0) = 1$. The analytic solution is $y = e^{2x}$.

  **(a)** Approximate $y(0.1)$ using one step and Euler's method.

  **(b)** Find a bound for the local truncation error in $y_1$.

  **(c)** Compare the error in $y_1$ with your error bound.

  **(d)** Approximate $y(0.1)$ using two steps and Euler's method.

  **(e)** Verify that the global truncation error for Euler's method is $O(h)$ by comparing the errors in parts (a) and (d).

**14.** Repeat Problem 13 using the improved Euler's method. Its global truncation error is $O(h^2)$.

**15.** Repeat Problem 13 using the initial-value problem $y' = x - 2y$, $y(0) = 1$. The analytic solution is

$$y = \tfrac{1}{2}x - \tfrac{1}{4} + \tfrac{5}{4}e^{-2x}.$$

**16.** Repeat Problem 15 using the improved Euler's method. Its global truncation error is $O(h^2)$.

**17.** Consider the initial-value problem $y' = 2x - 3y + 1$, $y(1) = 5$. The analytic solution is

$$y(x) = \tfrac{1}{9} + \tfrac{2}{3}x + \tfrac{38}{9}e^{-3(x-1)}.$$

  **(a)** Find a formula involving $c$ and $h$ for the local truncation error in the $n$th step if Euler's method is used.

  **(b)** Find a bound for the local truncation error in each step if $h = 0.1$ is used to approximate $y(1.5)$.

  **(c)** Approximate $y(1.5)$ using $h = 0.1$ and $h = 0.05$ with Euler's method. See Problem 1 in Exercises 2.6.

  **(d)** Calculate the errors in part (c) and verify that the global truncation error of Euler's method is $O(h)$.

**18.** Repeat Problem 17 using the improved Euler's method, which has a global truncation error $O(h^2)$. See Problem 1. You might need to keep more than four decimal places to see the effect of reducing the order of the error.

**19.** Repeat Problem 17 for the initial-value problem $y' = e^{-y}$, $y(0) = 0$. The analytic solution is $y(x) = \ln(x + 1)$. Approximate $y(0.5)$. See Problem 5 in Exercises 2.6.

**20.** Repeat Problem 19 using the improved Euler's method, which has global truncation error $O(h^2)$. See Problem 5. You might need to keep more than four decimal places to see the effect of reducing the order of error.

## Discussion Problems

**21.** Answer the question "Why not?" that follows the three sentences after Example 2 on page 343.

# 9.2 RUNGE-KUTTA METHODS

## REVIEW MATERIAL

• Section 2.8 (see page 78)

**INTRODUCTION** Probably one of the more popular as well as most accurate numerical procedures used in obtaining approximate solutions to a first-order initial-value problem $y' = f(x, y)$, $y(x_0) = y_0$ is the **fourth-order Runge-Kutta method.** As the name suggests, there are Runge-Kutta methods of different orders.

**RUNGE-KUTTA METHODS** Fundamentally, all Runge-Kutta methods are generalizations of the basic Euler formula (1) of Section 9.1 in that the slope function $f$ is replaced by a weighted average of slopes over the interval $x_n \leq x \leq x_{n+1}$. That is,

weighted average

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h \overbrace{(w_1 k_1 + w_2 k_2 + \cdots + w_m k_m)}. \tag{1}$$

Here the weights $w_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$, are constants that generally satisfy $w_1 + w_2 + \cdots + w_m = 1$, and each $k_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, m$, is the function $f$ evaluated at a selected point $(x, y)$ for which $x_n \leq x \leq x_{n+1}$. We shall see that the $k_i$ are defined recursively. The number $m$ is called the **order** of the method. Observe that by taking $m = 1$, $w_1 = 1$, and $k_1 = f(x_n, y_n)$, we get the familiar Euler formula $y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(x_n, y_n)$. Hence Euler's method is said to be a **first-order Runge-Kutta method.**

The average in (1) is not formed willy-nilly, but parameters are chosen so that (1) agrees with a Taylor polynomial of degree $m$. As we saw in the preceding section, if a function $y(x)$ possesses $k + 1$ derivatives that are continuous on an open interval containing $a$ and $x$, then we can write

$$y(x) = y(a) + y'(a) \frac{x - a}{1!} + y''(a) \frac{(x - a)^2}{2!} + \cdots + y^{(k+1)}(c) \frac{(x - a)^{k+1}}{(k + 1)!},$$

where $c$ is some number between $a$ and $x$. If we replace $a$ by $x_n$ and $x$ by $x_{n+1} = x_n + h$, then the foregoing formula becomes

$$y(x_{n+1}) = y(x_n + h) = y(x_n) + hy'(x_n) + \frac{h^2}{2!} y''(x_n) + \cdots + \frac{h^{k+1}}{(k + 1)!} y^{(k+1)}(c),$$

where $c$ is now some number between $x_n$ and $x_{n+1}$. When $y(x)$ is a solution of $y' = f(x, y)$ in the case $k = 1$ and the remainder $\frac{1}{2} h^2 y''(c)$ is small, we see that a Taylor polynomial $y(x_{n+1}) = y(x_n) + hy'(x_n)$ of degree one agrees with the approximation formula of Euler's method

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hy'_n = y_n + hf(x_n, y_n).$$

**A SECOND-ORDER RUNGE-KUTTA METHOD** To further illustrate (1), we consider now a **second-order Runge-Kutta procedure.** This consists of finding constants or parameters $w_1$, $w_2$, $\alpha$, and $\beta$ so that the formula

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h(w_1 k_1 + w_2 k_2), \tag{2}$$

where
$$k_1 = f(x_n, y_n)$$
$$k_2 = f(x_n + \alpha h, y_n + \beta h k_1),$$

agrees with a Taylor polynomial of degree two. For our purposes it suffices to say that this can be done whenever the constants satisfy

$$w_1 + w_2 = 1, \qquad w_2 \alpha = \frac{1}{2}, \qquad \text{and} \qquad w_2 \beta = \frac{1}{2}. \tag{3}$$

This is an algebraic system of three equations in four unknowns and has infinitely many solutions:

$$w_1 = 1 - w_2, \qquad \alpha = \frac{1}{2w_2}, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \beta = \frac{1}{2w_2}, \tag{4}$$

where $w_2 \neq 0$. For example, the choice $w_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ yields $w_1 = \frac{1}{2}$, $\alpha = 1$, and $\beta = 1$, and so (2) becomes

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{2}(k_1 + k_2),$$

where $\qquad k_1 = f(x_n, y_n) \qquad$ and $\qquad k_2 = f(x_n + h, y_n + hk_1).$

Since $x_n + h = x_{n+1}$ and $y_n + hk_1 = y_n + hf(x_n, y_n)$, the foregoing result is recognized to be the improved Euler's method that is summarized in (3) and (4) of Section 9.1.

In view of the fact that $w_2 \neq 0$ can be chosen arbitrarily in (4), there are many possible second-order Runge-Kutta methods. See Problem 2 in Exercises 9.2.

We shall skip any discussion of third-order methods in order to come to the principal point of discussion in this section.

**A FOURTH-ORDER RUNGE-KUTTA METHOD** A **fourth-order Runge-Kutta procedure** consists of finding parameters so that the formula

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h(w_1 k_1 + w_2 k_2 + w_3 k_3 + w_4 k_4), \tag{5}$$

where $\qquad k_1 = f(x_n, y_n)$

$$k_2 = f(x_n + \alpha_1 h, y_n + \beta_1 h k_1)$$

$$k_3 = f(x_n + \alpha_2 h, y_n + \beta_2 h k_1 + \beta_3 h k_2)$$

$$k_4 = f(x_n + \alpha_3 h, y_n + \beta_4 h k_1 + \beta_5 h k_2 + \beta_6 h k_3),$$

agrees with a Taylor polynomial of degree four. This results in a system of 11 equations in 13 unknowns. The most commonly used set of values for the parameters yields the following result:

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4),$$

$$k_1 = f(x_n, y_n)$$

$$k_2 = f\left(x_n + \tfrac{1}{2}h, y_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_1\right) \tag{6}$$

$$k_3 = f\left(x_n + \tfrac{1}{2}h, y_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_2\right)$$

$$k_4 = f(x_n + h, y_n + hk_3).$$

While other fourth-order formulas are easily derived, the algorithm summarized in (6) is so widely used and recognized as a valuable computational tool it is often referred to as *the* fourth-order Runge-Kutta method or *the classical* Runge-Kutta method. It is (6) that we have in mind, hereafter, when we use the abbreviation *the RK4 method.*

You are advised to look carefully at the formulas in (6); note that $k_2$ depends on $k_1$, $k_3$ depends on $k_2$, and $k_4$ depends on $k_3$. Also, $k_2$ and $k_3$ involve approximations to the slope at the midpoint $x_n + \tfrac{1}{2}h$ of the interval defined by $x_n \leq x \leq x_{n+1}$.

## EXAMPLE 1  RK4 Method

Use the RK4 method with $h = 0.1$ to obtain an approximation to $y(1.5)$ for the solution of $y' = 2xy$, $y(1) = 1$.

**SOLUTION**  For the sake of illustration let us compute the case when $n = 0$. From (6) we find

$$k_1 = f(x_0, y_0) = 2x_0y_0 = 2$$
$$k_2 = f\left(x_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}(0.1), y_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}(0.1)2\right)$$
$$= 2\left(x_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}(0.1)\right)\left(y_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}(0.2)\right) = 2.31$$
$$k_3 = f\left(x_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}(0.1), y_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}(0.1)2.31\right)$$
$$= 2\left(x_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}(0.1)\right)\left(y_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}(0.231)\right) = 2.34255$$
$$k_4 = f(x_0 + (0.1), y_0 + (0.1)2.34255)$$
$$= 2(x_0 + 0.1)(y_0 + 0.234255) = 2.715361$$

and therefore

$$y_1 = y_0 + \frac{0.1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$$

$$= 1 + \frac{0.1}{6}(2 + 2(2.31) + 2(2.34255) + 2.715361) = 1.23367435.$$

The remaining calculations are summarized in Table 9.5, whose entries are rounded to four decimal places. ■

**TABLE 9.5**  RK4 Method with $h = 0.1$

| $x_n$ | $y_n$ | Actual value | Abs. error | % Rel. error |
|-------|--------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| 1.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.10 | 1.2337 | 1.2337 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.20 | 1.5527 | 1.5527 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.30 | 1.9937 | 1.9937 | 0.0000 | 0.00 |
| 1.40 | 2.6116 | 2.6117 | 0.0001 | 0.00 |
| 1.50 | 3.4902 | 3.4904 | 0.0001 | 0.00 |

Inspection of Table 9.5 shows why the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method is so popular. If four-decimal-place accuracy is all that we desire, there is no need to use a smaller step size. Table 9.6 compares the results of applying Euler's, the improved Euler's, and the fourth-order Runge-Kutta methods to the initial-value problem $y' = 2xy$, $y(1) = 1$. (See Tables 9.1 and 9.3.)

**TABLE 9.6**  $y' = 2xy$, $y(1) = 1$

| | Comparison of numerical methods with $h = 0.1$ | | | | | Comparison of numerical methods with $h = 0.05$ | | | |
|-------|--------|------------------|--------|--------------|-------|--------|------------------|--------|--------------|
| $x_n$ | Euler | Improved Euler | RK4 | Actual value | $x_n$ | Euler | Improved Euler | RK4 | Actual value |
| 1.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 |
| 1.10 | 1.2000 | 1.2320 | 1.2337 | 1.2337 | 1.05 | 1.1000 | 1.1077 | 1.1079 | 1.1079 |
| 1.20 | 1.4640 | 1.5479 | 1.5527 | 1.5527 | 1.10 | 1.2155 | 1.2332 | 1.2337 | 1.2337 |
| 1.30 | 1.8154 | 1.9832 | 1.9937 | 1.9937 | 1.15 | 1.3492 | 1.3798 | 1.3806 | 1.3806 |
| 1.40 | 2.2874 | 2.5908 | 2.6116 | 2.6117 | 1.20 | 1.5044 | 1.5514 | 1.5527 | 1.5527 |
| 1.50 | 2.9278 | 3.4509 | 3.4902 | 3.4904 | 1.25 | 1.6849 | 1.7531 | 1.7551 | 1.7551 |
| | | | | | 1.30 | 1.8955 | 1.9909 | 1.9937 | 1.9937 |
| | | | | | 1.35 | 2.1419 | 2.2721 | 2.2762 | 2.2762 |
| | | | | | 1.40 | 2.4311 | 2.6060 | 2.6117 | 2.6117 |
| | | | | | 1.45 | 2.7714 | 3.0038 | 3.0117 | 3.0117 |
| | | | | | 1.50 | 3.1733 | 3.4795 | 3.4903 | 3.4904 |

**TRUNCATION ERRORS FOR THE RK4 METHOD**  In Section 9.1 we saw that global truncation errors for Euler's method and for the improved Euler's method are, respectively, $O(h)$ and $O(h^2)$. Because the first equation in (6) agrees with a Taylor polynomial of degree four, the local truncation error for this method is $y^{(5)}(c) \, h^5/5!$ or $O(h^5)$, and the global truncation error is thus $O(h^4)$. It is now obvious why Euler's method, the improved Euler's method, and (6) are *first-, second-,* and *fourth-order* Runge-Kutta methods, respectively.

## EXAMPLE 2 Bound for Local Truncation Errors

Find a bound for the local truncation errors for the RK4 method applied to $y' = 2xy$, $y(1) = 1$.

**SOLUTION** By computing the fifth derivative of the known solution $y(x) = e^{x^2-1}$, we get

$$y^{(5)}(c)\frac{h^5}{5!} = (120c + 160c^3 + 32c^5)e^{c^2-1}\frac{h^5}{5!}. \tag{7}$$

Thus with $c = 1.5$, (7) yields a bound of 0.00028 on the local truncation error for each of the five steps when $h = 0.1$. Note that in Table 9.5 the error in $y_1$ is much less than this bound.

Table 9.7 gives the approximations to the solution of the initial-value problem at $x = 1.5$ that are obtained from the RK4 method. By computing the value of the analytic solution at $x = 1.5$, we can find the error in these approximations. Because the method is so accurate, many decimal places must be used in the numerical solution to see the effect of halving the step size. Note that when $h$ is halved, from $h = 0.1$ to $h = 0.05$, the error is divided by a factor of about $2^4 = 16$, as expected. ■

**TABLE 9.7** RK4 Method

| $h$ | Approx. | Error |
|-----|---------|-------|
| 0.1 | 3.49021064 | $1.32321089 \times 10^{-4}$ |
| 0.05 | 3.49033382 | $9.13776090 \times 10^{-6}$ |

**ADAPTIVE METHODS** We have seen that the accuracy of a numerical method for approximating solutions of differential equations can be improved by decreasing the step size $h$. Of course, this enhanced accuracy is usually obtained at a cost—namely, increased computation time and greater possibility of round-off error. In general, over the interval of approximation there may be subintervals where a relatively large step size suffices and other subintervals where a smaller step is necessary to keep the truncation error within a desired limit. Numerical methods that use a variable step size are called **adaptive methods.** One of the more popular of the adaptive routines is the **Runge-Kutta-Fehlberg method.** Because Fehlberg employed two Runge-Kutta methods of differing orders, a fourth- and a fifth-order method, this algorithm is frequently denoted as the **RKF45 method.***

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*The Runge-Kutta method of order four used in RKF45 is *not* the same as that given in (6).

## EXERCISES 9.2

1. Use the RK4 method with $h = 0.1$ to approximate $y(0.5)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the initial-value problem $y' = (x + y - 1)^2$, $y(0) = 2$. Compare this approximate value with the actual value obtained in Problem 11 in Exercises 9.1.

2. Assume that $w_2 = \frac{3}{4}$ in (4). Use the resulting second-order Runge-Kutta method to approximate $y(0.5)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the initial-value problem in Problem 1. Compare this approximate value with the approximate value obtained in Problem 11 in Exercises 9.1.

In Problems 3–12 use the RK4 method with $h = 0.1$ to obtain a four-decimal approximation of the indicated value.

3. $y' = 2x - 3y + 1$, $y(1) = 5$; $y(1.5)$

4. $y' = 4x - 2y$, $y(0) = 2$; $y(0.5)$

5. $y' = 1 + y^2$, $y(0) = 0$; $y(0.5)$

6. $y' = x^2 + y^2$, $y(0) = 1$; $y(0.5)$

7. $y' = e^{-y}$, $y(0) = 0$; $y(0.5)$

8. $y' = x + y^2$, $y(0) = 0$; $y(0.5)$

9. $y' = (x - y)^2$, $y(0) = 0.5$; $y(0.5)$

10. $y' = xy + \sqrt{y}$, $y(0) = 1$; $y(0.5)$

11. $y' = xy^2 - \dfrac{y}{x}$, $y(1) = 1$; $y(1.5)$

12. $y' = y - y^2$, $y(0) = 0.5$; $y(0.5)$

13. If air resistance is proportional to the square of the instantaneous velocity, then the velocity $v$ of a mass $m$ dropped from a given height is determined from

$$m\frac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv^2, \qquad k > 0.$$

Let $v(0) = 0$, $k = 0.125$, $m = 5$ slugs, and $g = 32$ ft/s$^2$.

**(a)** Use the RK4 method with $h = 1$ to approximate the velocity $v(5)$.

**(b)** Use a numerical solver to graph the solution of the IVP on the interval $[0, 6]$.

**(c)** Use separation of variables to solve the IVP and then find the actual value $v(5)$.

**14.** A mathematical model for the area $A$ (in cm$^2$) that a colony of bacteria (*B. dendroides*) occupies is given by

$$\frac{dA}{dt} = A(2.128 - 0.0432A).*$$

Suppose that the initial area is $0.24$ cm$^2$.

**(a)** Use the RK4 method with $h = 0.5$ to complete the following table:

| $t$ (days) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $A$ (observed) | 2.78 | 13.53 | 36.30 | 47.50 | 49.40 |
| $A$ (approximated) | | | | | |

**(b)** Use a numerical solver to graph the solution of the initial-value problem. Estimate the values $A(1)$, $A(2)$, $A(3)$, $A(4)$, and $A(5)$ from the graph.

**(c)** Use separation of variables to solve the initial-value problem and compute the actual values $A(1)$, $A(2)$, $A(3)$, $A(4)$, and $A(5)$.

**15.** Consider the initial-value problem $y' = x^2 + y^3$, $y(1) = 1$. See Problem 12 in Exercises 9.1.

**(a)** Compare the results obtained from using the RK4 method over the interval $[1, 1.4]$ with step sizes $h = 0.1$ and $h = 0.05$.

**(b)** Use a numerical solver to graph the solution of the initial-value problem on the interval $[1, 1.4]$.

**16.** Consider the initial-value problem $y' = 2y$, $y(0) = 1$. The analytic solution is $y(x) = e^{2x}$.

**(a)** Approximate $y(0.1)$ using one step and the RK4 method.

**(b)** Find a bound for the local truncation error in $y_1$.

**(c)** Compare the error in $y_1$ with your error bound.

**(d)** Approximate $y(0.1)$ using two steps and the RK4 method.

**(e)** Verify that the global truncation error for the RK4 method is $O(h^4)$ by comparing the errors in parts (a) and (d).

**17.** Repeat Problem 16 using the initial-value problem $y' = -2y + x$, $y(0) = 1$. The analytic solution is

$$y(x) = \tfrac{1}{2}x - \tfrac{1}{4} + \tfrac{5}{4}e^{-2x}.$$

*See V. A. Kostitzin, *Mathematical Biology* (London: Harrap, 1939).

**18.** Consider the initial-value problem $y' = 2x - 3y + 1$, $y(1) = 5$. The analytic solution is

$$y(x) = \tfrac{1}{9} + \tfrac{2}{3}x + \tfrac{38}{9} e^{-3(x-1)}.$$

**(a)** Find a formula involving $c$ and $h$ for the local truncation error in the $n$th step if the RK4 method is used.

**(b)** Find a bound for the local truncation error in each step if $h = 0.1$ is used to approximate $y(1.5)$.

**(c)** Approximate $y(1.5)$ using the RK4 method with $h = 0.1$ and $h = 0.05$. See Problem 3. You will need to carry more than six decimal places to see the effect of reducing the step size.

**19.** Repeat Problem 18 for the initial-value problem $y' = e^{-y}$, $y(0) = 0$. The analytic solution is $y(x) = \ln(x + 1)$. Approximate $y(0.5)$. See Problem 7.

## Discussion Problems

**20.** A count of the number of evaluations of the function $f$ used in solving the initial-value problem $y' = f(x, y)$, $y(x_0) = y_0$ is used as a measure of the computational complexity of a numerical method. Determine the number of evaluations of $f$ required for each step of Euler's, the improved Euler's, and the RK4 methods. By considering some specific examples, compare the accuracy of these methods when used with comparable computational complexities.

## Computer Lab Assignments

**21.** The RK4 method for solving an initial-value problem over an interval $[a, b]$ results in a finite set of points that are supposed to approximate points on the graph of the exact solution. To expand this set of discrete points to an approximate solution defined at all points on the interval $[a, b]$, we can use an **interpolating function.** This is a function, supported by most computer algebra systems, that agrees with the given data exactly and assumes a smooth transition between data points. These interpolating functions may be polynomials or sets of polynomials joined together smoothly. In *Mathematica* the command **y=Interpolation[data]** can be used to obtain an interpolating function through the points **data** $= \{\{x_0, y_0\}, \{x_1, y_1\}, \dots, \{x_n, y_n\}\}$. The interpolating function **y[x]** can now be treated like any other function built into the computer algebra system.

**(a)** Find the analytic solution of the initial-value problem $y' = -y + 10 \sin 3x$; $y(0) = 0$ on the interval $[0, 2]$. Graph this solution and find its positive roots.

**(b)** Use the RK4 method with $h = 0.1$ to approximate a solution of the initial-value problem in part (a). Obtain an interpolating function and graph it. Find the positive roots of the interpolating function of the interval $[0, 2]$.

**Contributed Problem**

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22. **An Energy Approach to Spring/Mass Systems**
    Consider a system consisting of a mass $M$ connected to a spring of elastic constant $k$. We neglect any effects due to friction, and we assume that a constant force $F$ acts on the mass. If the spring is elongated by an amount $x(t)$, then the spring's *elastic energy* is $E_{elas} = \frac{1}{2}x^2$. This elastic energy may be converted to *kinetic energy* $E_{kin} = \frac{1}{2}M(dx/dt)^2$. The *potential energy* is $E_{pot} = Fx$. The conservation of energy principle implies that $E_{elas} + E_{kin} + E_{pot} = $ constant, namely,

$$\frac{1}{2}M\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2}kx^2 + Fx = C,$$

where $C$ is a constant denoting the total energy in the system. See Figure 9.2.2.

(a) Consider the case of free motion, that is, set $F = 0$. Show that the motion of the spring/mass system, for which the initial position of the mass is $x = 0$, is described by the following first-order initial-value problem (IVP):

$$\left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right)^2 + \omega^2 x^2 = C, \quad x(0) = 0,$$

where $\omega = \sqrt{k/M}$.

(b) If we take the constant in part (a) to be $C = 1$, show that if you consider the positive square root, the IVP reduces to

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \omega\sqrt{1 - y^2}, \quad y(0) = 0, \qquad (8)$$

where $y = \omega x$.

(c) Solve the IVP in part (b) by using either Euler's method or the RK4 method. Use the numerical values $M = 3$ kg for the mass and $k = 48$ N/m for the spring constant.

(d) Notice that no matter how small you make your step size $h$, the solution starts at the point $(0, 0)$ and increases almost linearly to the constant solution $(x, 1)$. Show that the numerical solution is described by

$$y(t) = \begin{cases} \sin t, & \text{if } 0 \le t \le \pi/8, \\ 1, & \text{if } t > \pi/8. \end{cases}$$

Does this solution realistically depict the motion of the mass?

(e) The differential equation (8) is separable. Separate the variables and integrate to obtain an analytic solution. Does the analytic solution realistically depict the spring's motion?

(f) Here is another way to approach the problem numerically. By differentiating both sides of (8) with respect to $t$, show that you obtain the second-order IVP with constant coefficients

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + \omega^2 y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1.$$

(g) Solve the IVP in part (f) numerically using the RK4 method and compare with the analytic solution.

(h) Redo the above analysis for the case of forced motion. Take $F = 10$ N.
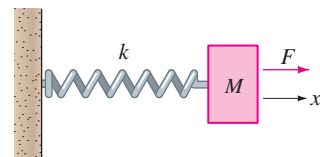


**FIGURE 9.2.2** Spring/mass system

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## 9.3 MULTISTEP METHODS

**REVIEW MATERIAL**

● Sections 9.1 and 9.2

**INTRODUCTION** Euler's method, the improved Euler's method, and the Runge-Kutta methods are examples of **single-step** or **starting methods.** In these methods each successive value $y_{n+1}$ is computed based only on information about the immediately preceding value $y_n$. On the other hand, **multistep** or **continuing methods** use the values from several computed steps to obtain the value of $y_{n+1}$. There are a large number of multistep method formulas for approximating solutions of DEs, but since it is not our intention to survey the vast field of numerical procedures, we will consider only one such method here.

**ADAMS-BASHFORTH-MOULTON METHOD** The multistep method that is discussed in this section is called the fourth-order **Adams-Bashforth-Moulton method.** Like the improved Euler's method it is a predictor-corrector method—that is, one formula is used to predict a value $y^*_{n+1}$, which in turn is used to obtain a corrected value $y_{n+1}$. The predictor in this method is the Adams-Bashforth formula

$$y^*_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{24}(55y'_n - 59y'_{n-1} + 37y'_{n-2} - 9y'_{n-3}),$$ (1)

$$y'_n = f(x_n, y_n)$$
$$y'_{n-1} = f(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1})$$
$$y'_{n-2} = f(x_{n-2}, y_{n-2})$$
$$y'_{n-3} = f(x_{n-3}, y_{n-3})$$

for $n \geq 3$. The value of $y^*_{n+1}$ is then substituted into the Adams-Moulton corrector

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{24}(9y'_{n+1} + 19y'_n - 5y'_{n-1} + y'_{n-2})$$

$$y'_{n+1} = f(x_{n+1}, y^*_{n+1}).$$ (2)

Notice that formula (1) requires that we know the values of $y_0$, $y_1$, $y_2$, and $y_3$ to obtain $y_4$. The value of $y_0$ is, of course, the given initial condition. The local truncation error of the Adams-Bashforth-Moulton method is $O(h^5)$, the values of $y_1$, $y_2$, and $y_3$ are generally computed by a method with the same error property, such as the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method.

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### EXAMPLE 1   Adams-Bashforth-Moulton Method

Use the Adams-Bashforth-Moulton method with $h = 0.2$ to obtain an approximation to $y(0.8)$ for the solution of

$$y' = x + y - 1, \quad y(0) = 1.$$

**SOLUTION** With a step size of $h = 0.2$, $y(0.8)$ will be approximated by $y_4$. To get started, we use the RK4 method with $x_0 = 0$, $y_0 = 1$, and $h = 0.2$ to obtain

$$y_1 = 1.02140000, \quad y_2 = 1.09181796, \quad y_3 = 1.22210646.$$

Now with the identifications $x_0 = 0$, $x_1 = 0.2$, $x_2 = 0.4$, $x_3 = 0.6$, and $f(x, y) = x + y - 1$, we find

$$y'_0 = f(x_0, y_0) = (0) + (1) - 1 = 0$$
$$y'_1 = f(x_1, y_1) = (0.2) + (1.02140000) - 1 = 0.22140000$$
$$y'_2 = f(x_2, y_2) = (0.4) + (1.09181796) - 1 = 0.49181796$$
$$y'_3 = f(x_3, y_3) = (0.6) + (1.22210646) - 1 = 0.82210646.$$

With the foregoing values the predictor (1) then gives

$$y^*_4 = y_3 + \frac{0.2}{24}(55y'_3 - 59y'_2 + 37y'_1 - 9y'_0) = 1.42535975.$$

To use the corrector (2), we first need

$$y'_4 = f(x_4, y^*_4) = 0.8 + 1.42535975 - 1 = 1.22535975.$$

Finally, (2) yields

$$y_4 = y_3 + \frac{0.2}{24}(9y_4' + 19y_3' - 5y_2' + y_1') = 1.42552788.$$ ■

You should verify that the actual value of $y(0.8)$ in Example 1 is $y(0.8) = 1.42554093$. See Problem 1 in Exercises 9.3.

**STABILITY OF NUMERICAL METHODS** An important consideration in using numerical methods to approximate the solution of an initial-value problem is the stability of the method. Simply stated, a numerical method is **stable** if small changes in the initial condition result in only small changes in the computed solution. A numerical method is said to be **unstable** if it is not stable. The reason that stability considerations are important is that in each step after the first step of a numerical technique we are essentially starting over again with a new initial-value problem, where the initial condition is the approximate solution value computed in the preceding step. Because of the presence of round-off error, this value will almost certainly vary at least slightly from the true value of the solution. Besides round-off error, another common source of error occurs in the initial condition itself; in physical applications the data are often obtained by imprecise measurements.

One possible method for detecting instability in the numerical solution of a specific initial-value problem is to compare the approximate solutions obtained when decreasing step sizes are used. If the numerical method is unstable, the error may actually increase with smaller step sizes. Another way of checking stability is to observe what happens to solutions when the initial condition is slightly perturbed (for example, change $y(0) = 1$ to $y(0) = 0.999$).

For a more detailed and precise discussion of stability, consult a numerical analysis text. In general, all of the methods that we have discussed in this chapter have good stability characteristics.

**ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF MULTISTEP METHODS** Many considerations enter into the choice of a method to solve a differential equation numerically. Single-step methods, particularly the RK4 method, are often chosen because of their accuracy and the fact that they are easy to program. However, a major drawback is that the right-hand side of the differential equation must be evaluated many times at each step. For instance, the RK4 method requires four function evaluations for each step. On the other hand, if the function evaluations in the previous step have been calculated and stored, a multistep method requires only one new function evaluation for each step. This can lead to great savings in time and expense.

As an example, solving $y' = f(x, y)$, $y(x_0) = y_0$ numerically using $n$ steps by the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method requires $4n$ function evaluations. The Adams-Bashforth multistep method requires 16 function evaluations for the Runge-Kutta fourth-order starter and $n - 4$ for the $n$ Adams-Bashforth steps, giving a total of $n + 12$ function evaluations for this method. In general the Adams-Bashforth multistep method requires slightly more than a quarter of the number of function evaluations required for the RK4 method. If the evaluation of $f(x, y)$ is complicated, the multistep method will be more efficient.

Another issue that is involved with multistep methods is how many times the Adams-Moulton corrector formula should be repeated in each step. Each time the corrector is used, another function evaluation is done, and so the accuracy is increased at the expense of losing an advantage of the multistep method. In practice, the corrector is calculated once, and if the value of $y_{n+1}$ is changed by a large amount, the entire problem is restarted using a smaller step size. This is often the basis of the variable step size methods, whose discussion is beyond the scope of this text.

## EXERCISES 9.3

1. Find the analytic solution of the initial-value problem in Example 1. Compare the actual values of $y(0.2)$, $y(0.4)$, $y(0.6)$, and $y(0.8)$ with the approximations $y_1$, $y_2$, $y_3$, and $y_4$.

2. Write a computer program to implement the Adams-Bashforth-Moulton method.

In Problems 3 and 4 use the Adams-Bashforth-Moulton method to approximate $y(0.8)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the given initial-value problem. Use $h = 0.2$ and the RK4 method to compute $y_1$, $y_2$, and $y_3$.

3. $y' = 2x - 3y + 1$, $y(0) = 1$

4. $y' = 4x - 2y$, $y(0) = 2$

In Problems 5–8 use the Adams-Bashforth-Moulton method to approximate $y(1.0)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the given initial-value problem. First use $h = 0.2$ and then use $h = 0.1$. Use the RK4 method to compute $y_1$, $y_2$, and $y_3$.

5. $y' = 1 + y^2$, $y(0) = 0$

6. $y' = y + \cos x$, $y(0) = 1$

7. $y' = (x - y)^2$, $y(0) = 0$

8. $y' = xy + \sqrt{y}$, $y(0) = 1$

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## 9.4 HIGHER-ORDER EQUATIONS AND SYSTEMS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Section 1.1 (normal form of a second-order DE)
- Section 4.9 (second-order DE written as a system of first-order DEs)

**INTRODUCTION** So far, we have focused on numerical techniques that can be used to approximate the solution of a first-order initial-value problem $y' = f(x, y)$, $y(x_0) = y_0$. In order to approximate the solution of a second-order initial-value problem, we must express a second-order DE as a system of two first-order DEs. To do this, we begin by writing the second-order DE in normal form by solving for $y''$ in terms of $x$, $y$, and $y'$.

**SECOND-ORDER IVPs** A second-order initial-value problem

$$y'' = f(x, y, y'), \quad y(x_0) = y_0, \quad y'(x_0) = u_0 \tag{1}$$

can be expressed as an initial-value problem for a system of first-order differential equations. If we let $y' = u$, the differential equation in (1) becomes the system

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= u \\ u' &= f(x, y, u). \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Since $y'(x_0) = u(x_0)$, the corresponding initial conditions for (2) are then $y(x_0) = y_0$, $u(x_0) = u_0$. The system (2) can now be solved numerically by simply applying a particular numerical method to each first-order differential equation in the system. For example, **Euler's method** applied to the system (2) would be

$$\begin{aligned} y_{n+1} &= y_n + hu_n \\ u_{n+1} &= u_n + hf(x_n, y_n, u_n), \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

whereas the **fourth-order Runge-Kutta method,** or **RK4 method,** would be

$$\begin{aligned} y_{n+1} &= y_n + \frac{h}{6}(m_1 + 2m_2 + 2m_3 + m_4) \\ u_{n+1} &= u_n + \frac{h}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4) \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

where

$$m_1 = u_n \qquad\qquad k_1 = f(x_n, y_n, u_n)$$

$$m_2 = u_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_1 \qquad k_2 = f\left(x_n + \tfrac{1}{2}h, y_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_1, u_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_1\right)$$

$$m_3 = u_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_2 \qquad k_3 = f\left(x_n + \tfrac{1}{2}h, y_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_2, u_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_2\right)$$

$$m_4 = u_n + hk_3 \qquad\;\; k_4 = f(x_n + h, y_n + hm_3, u_n + hk_3).$$

In general, we can express every $n$th-order differential equation $y^{(n)} = f(x, y, y', \ldots, y^{(n-1)})$ as a system of $n$ first-order equations using the substitutions $y = u_1$, $y' = u_2$, $y'' = u_3$, $\ldots$, $y^{(n-1)} = u_n$.

## EXAMPLE 1   Euler's Method

Use Euler's method to obtain the approximate value of $y(0.2)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the initial-value problem

$$y'' + xy' + y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 2. \tag{5}$$

**SOLUTION** In terms of the substitution $y' = u$, the equation is equivalent to the system

$$y' = u$$
$$u' = -xu - y.$$

Thus from (3) we obtain

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hu_n$$
$$u_{n+1} = u_n + h[-x_n u_n - y_n].$$

Using the step size $h = 0.1$ and $y_0 = 1$, $u_0 = 2$, we find

$$y_1 = y_0 + (0.1)u_0 = 1 + (0.1)2 = 1.2$$

$$u_1 = u_0 + (0.1)\,[-x_0 u_0 - y_0] = 2 + (0.1)[-(0)(2) - 1] = 1.9$$

$$y_2 = y_1 + (0.1)u_1 = 1.2 + (0.1)(1.9) = 1.39$$

$$u_2 = u_1 + (0.1)[-x_1 u_1 - y_1] = 1.9 + (0.1)[-(0.1)(1.9) - 1.2] = 1.761.$$

In other words, $y(0.2) \approx 1.39$ and $y'(0.2) \approx 1.761$. ■

With the aid of the graphing feature of a numerical solver, in Figure 9.4.1(a) we compare the solution curve of (5) generated by Euler's method ($h = 0.1$) on the interval $[0, 3]$ with the solution curve generated by the RK4 method ($h = 0.1$). From Figure 9.4.1(b) it appears that the solution $y(x)$ of (4) has the property that $y(x) \to 0$ and $x \to \infty$.

If desired, we can use the method of Section 6.1 to obtain two power series solutions of the differential equation in (5). But unless this method reveals that the DE possesses an elementary solution, we will still only be able to approximate $y(0.2)$ using a partial sum. Reinspection of the infinite series solutions of Airy's differential equation $y'' + xy = 0$, given on page 226, does not reveal the oscillatory behavior of the solutions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ exhibited in the graphs in Figure 6.1.2. Those graphs were obtained from a numerical solver using the RK4 method with a step size of $h = 0.1$.

**SYSTEMS REDUCED TO FIRST-ORDER SYSTEMS** Using a procedure similar to that just discussed for second-order equations, we can often reduce a system of higher-order differential equations to a system of first-order equations by first solving for the highest-order derivative of each dependent variable and then making appropriate substitutions for the lower-order derivatives.
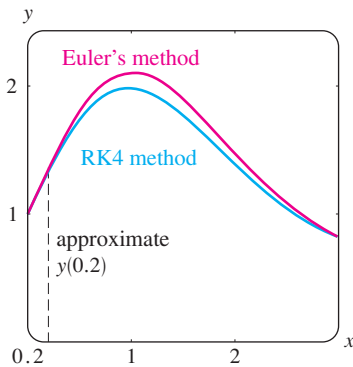
**(a)** Euler's method (red) and the RK4 method (blue)
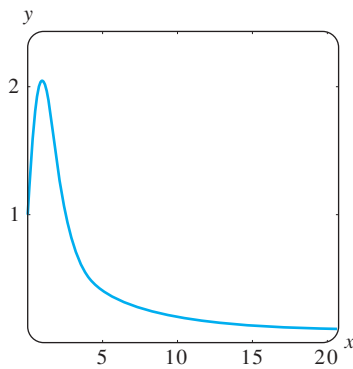
**(b)** RK4 method

**FIGURE 9.4.1** Numerical solution curves generated by different methods

> **EXAMPLE 2** A System Rewritten as a First-Order System

Write
$$x'' - x' + 5x + 2y'' = e^t$$
$$-2x + y'' + 2y = 3t^2$$

as a system of first-order differential equations.

**SOLUTION** Write the system as

$$x'' + 2y'' = e^t - 5x + x'$$
$$y'' = 3t^2 + 2x - 2y$$

and then eliminate $y''$ by multiplying the second equation by 2 and subtracting. This gives

$$x'' = -9x + 4y + x' + e^t - 6t^2.$$

Since the second equation of the system already expresses the highest-order derivative of $y$ in terms of the remaining functions, we are now in a position to introduce new variables. If we let $x' = u$ and $y' = v$, the expressions for $x''$ and $y''$ become, respectively,

$$u' = x'' = -9x + 4y + u + e^t - 6t^2$$
$$v' = y'' = 2x - 2y + 3t^2.$$

The original system can then be written in the form

$$x' = u$$
$$y' = v$$
$$u' = -9x + 4y + u + e^t - 6t^2$$
$$v' = 2x - 2y + 3t^2.$$ ∎

It might not always be possible to carry out the reductions illustrated in Example 2.

**NUMERICAL SOLUTION OF A SYSTEM** The solution of a system of the form

$$\frac{dx_1}{dt} = f_1(t, x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)$$

$$\frac{dx_2}{dt} = f_2(t, x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)$$

$$\vdots \qquad\qquad \vdots$$

$$\frac{dx_n}{dt} = f_n(t, x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)$$

can be approximated by a version of Euler's, the Runge-Kutta, or the Adams-Bashforth-Moulton method adapted to the system. For instance, the RK4 method applied to the system

$$x' = f(t, x, y)$$
$$y' = g(t, x, y) \tag{6}$$
$$x(t_0) = x_0, \qquad y(t_0) = y_0,$$

looks like this:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + \frac{h}{6}(m_1 + 2m_2 + 2m_3 + m_4)$$
$$\tag{7}$$
$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4),$$

where

$$m_1 = f(t_n, x_n, y_n)$$

$$m_2 = f\left(t_n + \tfrac{1}{2}h, x_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_1, y_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_1\right)$$

$$m_3 = f\left(t_n + \tfrac{1}{2}h, x_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_2, y_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_2\right)$$

$$m_4 = f(t_n + h, x_n + hm_3, y_n + hk_3)$$

$$k_1 = g(t_n, x_n, y_n)$$

$$k_2 = g\left(t_n + \tfrac{1}{2}h, x_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_1, y_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_1\right)$$

$$k_3 = g\left(t_n + \tfrac{1}{2}h, x_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_2, y_n + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_2\right)$$

$$k_4 = g(t_n + h, x_n + hm_3, y_n + hk_3).$$

(8)

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> ### EXAMPLE 3    RK4 Method

Consider the initial-value problem

$$x' = 2x + 4y$$

$$y' = -x + 6y$$

$$x(0) = -1, \qquad y(0) = 6.$$

Use the RK4 method to approximate $x(0.6)$ and $y(0.6)$. Compare the results for $h = 0.2$ and $h = 0.1$.

**SOLUTION**    We illustrate the computations of $x_1$ and $y_1$ with step size $h = 0.2$. With the identifications $f(t, x, y) = 2x + 4y$, $g(t, x, y) = -x + 6y$, $t_0 = 0$, $x_0 = -1$, and $y_0 = 6$ we see from (8) that

$$m_1 = f(t_0, x_0, y_0) = f(0, -1, 6) = 2(-1) + 4(6) = 22$$

$$k_1 = g(t_0, x_0, y_0) = g(0, -1, 6) = -1(-1) + 6(6) = 37$$

$$m_2 = f\left(t_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}h, x_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_1, y_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_1\right) = f(0.1, 1.2, 9.7) = 41.2$$

$$k_2 = g\left(t_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}h, x_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_1, y_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_1\right) = g(0.1, 1.2, 9.7) = 57$$

$$m_3 = f\left(t_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}h, x_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_2, y_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_2\right) = f(0.1, 3.12, 11.7) = 53.04$$

$$k_3 = g\left(t_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}h, x_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}hm_2, y_0 + \tfrac{1}{2}hk_2\right) = g(0.1, 3.12, 11.7) = 67.08$$

$$m_4 = f(t_0 + h, x_0 + hm_3, y_0 + hk_3) = f(0.2, 9.608, 19.416) = 96.88$$

$$k_4 = g(t_0 + h, x_0 + hm_3, y_0 + hk_3) = g(0.2, 9.608, 19.416) = 106.888.$$

Therefore from (7) we get

$$x_1 = x_0 + \frac{0.2}{6}(m_1 + 2m_2 + 2m_3 + m_4)$$

$$= -1 + \frac{0.2}{6}(22 + 2(41.2) + 2(53.04) + 96.88) = 9.2453$$

$$y_1 = y_0 + \frac{0.2}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$$

$$= 6 + \frac{0.2}{6}(37 + 2(57) + 2(67.08) + 106.888) = 19.0683,$$

**TABLE 9.8**    $h = 0.2$

| $t_n$ | $x_n$ | $y_n$ |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 0.00  | −1.0000 | 6.0000 |
| 0.20  | 9.2453  | 19.0683 |
| 0.40  | 46.0327 | 55.1203 |
| 0.60  | 158.9430 | 150.8192 |

**TABLE 9.9**    $h = 0.1$

| $t_n$ | $x_n$ | $y_n$ |
|-------|-------|-------|
| 0.00  | −1.0000 | 6.0000 |
| 0.10  | 2.3840  | 10.8883 |
| 0.20  | 9.3379  | 19.1332 |
| 0.30  | 22.5541 | 32.8539 |
| 0.40  | 46.5103 | 55.4420 |
| 0.50  | 88.5729 | 93.3006 |
| 0.60  | 160.7563 | 152.0025 |
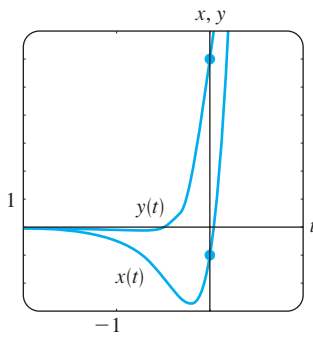
FIGURE 9.4.2 Numerical solution curves for IVP in Example 3

where, as usual, the computed values of $x_1$ and $y_1$ are rounded to four decimal places. These numbers give us the approximation $x_1 \approx x(0.2)$ and $y_1 \approx y(0.2)$. The subsequent values, obtained with the aid of a computer, are summarized in Tables 9.8 and 9.9.  ■

You should verify that the solution of the initial-value problem in Example 3 is given by $x(t) = (26t - 1)e^{4t}$, $y(t) = (13t + 6)e^{4t}$. From these equations we see that the actual values $x(0.6) = 160.9384$ and $y(0.6) = 152.1198$ compare favorably with the entries in the last line of Table 9.9. The graph of the solution in a neighborhood of $t = 0$ is shown in Figure 9.4.2; the graph was obtained from a numerical solver using the RK4 method with $h = 0.1$.

In conclusion, we state Euler's method for the general system (6):

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + hf(t_n, x_n, y_n)$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hg(t_n, x_n, y_n).$$

## EXERCISES 9.4

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-16.*

**1.** Use Euler's method to approximate $y(0.2)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the initial-value problem

$$y'' - 4y' + 4y = 0, \quad y(0) = -2, \quad y'(0) = 1.$$

Use $h = 0.1$. Find the analytic solution of the problem, and compare the actual value of $y(0.2)$ with $y_2$.

**2.** Use Euler's method to approximate $y(1.2)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the initial-value problem

$$x^2 y'' - 2xy' + 2y = 0, \quad y(1) = 4, \quad y'(1) = 9,$$

where $x > 0$. Use $h = 0.1$. Find the analytic solution of the problem, and compare the actual value of $y(1.2)$ with $y_2$.

In Problems 3 and 4 repeat the indicated problem using the RK4 method. First use $h = 0.2$ and then use $h = 0.1$.

**3.** Problem 1

**4.** Problem 2

**5.** Use the RK4 method to approximate $y(0.2)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the initial-value problem

$$y'' - 2y' + 2y = e^t \cos t, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 2.$$

First use $h = 0.2$ and then use $h = 0.1$.

**6.** When $E = 100$ V, $R = 10\ \Omega$, and $L = 1$ h, the system of differential equations for the currents $i_1(t)$ and $i_3(t)$ in the electrical network given in Figure 9.4.3 is

$$\frac{di_1}{dt} = -20i_1 + 10i_3 + 100$$

$$\frac{di_3}{dt} = 10i_1 - 20i_3,$$

where $i_1(0) = 0$ and $i_3(0) = 0$. Use the RK4 method to approximate $i_1(t)$ and $i_3(t)$ at $t = 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4$, and 0.5. Use $h = 0.1$. Use a numerical solver to graph the solution for $0 \le t \le 5$. Use the graphs to predict the behavior of $i_1(t)$ and $i_3(t)$ as $t \to \infty$.
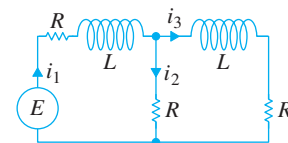


FIGURE 9.4.3 Network in Problem 6

In Problems 7–12 use the Runge-Kutta method to approximate $x(0.2)$ and $y(0.2)$. First use $h = 0.2$ and then use $h = 0.1$. Use a numerical solver and $h = 0.1$ to graph the solution in a neighborhood of $t = 0$.

**7.** $x' = 2x - y$
  $y' = x$
  $x(0) = 6, \quad y(0) = 2$

**8.** $x' = x + 2y$
  $y' = 4x + 3y$
  $x(0) = 1, \quad y(0) = 1$

**9.** $x' = -y + t$
  $y' = x - t$
  $x(0) = -3, \quad y(0) = 5$

**10.** $x' = 6x + y + 6t$
  $y' = 4x + 3y - 10t + 4$
  $x(0) = 0.5, \quad y(0) = 0.2$

**11.** $x' + 4x - y' = 7t$
  $x' + y' - 2y = 3t$
  $x(0) = 1, \quad y(0) = -2$

**12.** $x' + y' = 4t$
  $-x' + y' + y = 6t^2 + 10$
  $x(0) = 3, \quad y(0) = -1$

## 9.5 SECOND-ORDER BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Section 4.1 (page 119)
- Exercises 4.3 (Problems 37–40)
- Exercises 4.4 (Problems 37–40)
- Section 5.2

**INTRODUCTION**   We just saw in Section 9.4 how to approximate the solution of a *second-order initial-value problem*

$$y'' = f(x, y, y'), \quad y(x_0) = y_0, \quad y'(x_0) = u_0.$$

In this section we are going to examine two methods for approximating a solution of a *second-order boundary-value problem*

$$y'' = f(x, y, y'), \quad y(a) = \alpha, \quad y(b) = \beta.$$

Unlike the procedures that are used with second-order initial-value problems, the methods of second-order boundary-value problems do not require writing the second-order DE as a system of first-order DEs.

**FINITE DIFFERENCE APPROXIMATIONS**   The Taylor series expansion, centered at a point $a$, of a function $y(x)$ is

$$y(x) = y(a) + y'(a)\frac{x-a}{1!} + y''(a)\frac{(x-a)^2}{2!} + y'''(a)\frac{(x-a)^3}{3!} + \cdots.$$

If we set $h = x - a$, then the preceding line is the same as

$$y(x) = y(a) + y'(a)\frac{h}{1!} + y''(a)\frac{h^2}{2!} + y'''(a)\frac{h^3}{3!} + \cdots.$$

For the subsequent discussion it is convenient then to rewrite this last expression in two alternative forms:

$$y(x + h) = y(x) + y'(x)h + y''(x)\frac{h^2}{2} + y'''(x)\frac{h^3}{6} + \cdots \tag{1}$$

and

$$y(x - h) = y(x) - y'(x)h + y''(x)\frac{h^2}{2} - y'''(x)\frac{h^3}{6} + \cdots. \tag{2}$$

If $h$ is small, we can ignore terms involving $h^4$, $h^5$, ... since these values are negligible. Indeed, if we ignore all terms involving $h^2$ and higher, then solving (1) and (2), in turn, for $y'(x)$ yields the following approximations for the first derivative:

$$y'(x) \approx \frac{1}{h}[y(x + h) - y(x)] \tag{3}$$

$$y'(x) \approx \frac{1}{h}[y(x) - y(x - h)]. \tag{4}$$

Subtracting (1) and (2) also gives

$$y'(x) \approx \frac{1}{2h}[y(x + h) - y(x - h)]. \tag{5}$$

On the other hand, if we ignore terms involving $h^3$ and higher, then by adding (1) and (2), we obtain an approximation for the second derivative $y''(x)$:

$$y''(x) \approx \frac{1}{h^2}[y(x + h) - 2y(x) + y(x - h)]. \tag{6}$$

The right-hand sides of (3), (4), (5), and (6) are called **difference quotients.** The expressions

$$y(x + h) - y(x), \quad y(x) - y(x - h), \quad y(x + h) - y(x - h),$$

and
$$y(x + h) - 2y(x) + y(x - h)$$

are called **finite differences.** Specifically, $y(x + h) - y(x)$ is called a **forward difference,** $y(x) - y(x - h)$ is a **backward difference,** and both $y(x + h) - y(x - h)$ and $y(x + h) - 2y(x) + y(x - h)$ are called **central differences.** The results given in (5) and (6) are referred to as **central difference approximations** for the derivatives $y'$ and $y''$.

**FINITE DIFFERENCE METHOD** Consider now a linear second-order boundary-value problem

$$y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = f(x), \qquad y(a) = \alpha, \quad y(b) = \beta. \tag{7}$$

Suppose $a = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_{n-1} < x_n = b$ represents a regular partition of the interval $[a, b]$, that is, $x_i = a + ih$, where $i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n$ and $h = (b - a)/n$. The points

$$x_1 = a + h, \qquad x_2 = a + 2h, \ldots, \qquad x_{n-1} = a + (n - 1)h$$

are called **interior mesh points** of the interval $[a, b]$. If we let

$$y_i = y(x_i), \qquad P_i = P(x_i), \qquad Q_i = Q(x_i), \qquad \text{and} \qquad f_i = f(x_i)$$

and if $y''$ and $y'$ in (7) are replaced by the central difference approximations (5) and (6), we get

$$\frac{y_{i+1} - 2y_i + y_{i-1}}{h^2} + P_i \frac{y_{i+1} - y_{i-1}}{2h} + Q_i y_i = f_i$$

or, after simplifying,

$$\left(1 + \frac{h}{2} P_i\right) y_{i+1} + (-2 + h^2 Q_i) y_i + \left(1 - \frac{h}{2} P_i\right) y_{i-1} = h^2 f_i. \tag{8}$$

The last equation, known as a **finite difference equation,** is an approximation to the differential equation. It enables us to approximate the solution $y(x)$ of (7) at the interior mesh points $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{n-1}$ of the interval $[a, b]$. By letting $i$ take on the values $1, 2, \ldots, n - 1$ in (8), we obtain $n - 1$ equations in the $n - 1$ unknowns $y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_{n-1}$. Bear in mind that we know $y_0$ and $y_n$, since these are the prescribed boundary conditions $y_0 = y(x_0) = y(a) = \alpha$ and $y_n = y(x_n) = y(b) = \beta$.

In Example 1 we consider a boundary-value problem for which we can compare the approximate values that we find with the actual values of an explicit solution.

---

**EXAMPLE 1**    Using the Finite Difference Method

Use the difference equation (8) with $n = 4$ to approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem $y'' - 4y = 0$, $y(0) = 0$, $y(1) = 5$.

**SOLUTION** To use (8), we identify $P(x) = 0$, $Q(x) = -4$, $f(x) = 0$, and $h = (1 - 0)/4 = \frac{1}{4}$. Hence the difference equation is

$$y_{i+1} - 2.25y_i + y_{i-1} = 0. \tag{9}$$

Now the interior points are $x_1 = 0 + \frac{1}{4}$, $x_2 = 0 + \frac{2}{4}$, $x_3 = 0 + \frac{3}{4}$, so for $i = 1$, 2, and 3, (9) yields the following system for the corresponding $y_1$, $y_2$, and $y_3$:

$$y_2 - 2.25y_1 + y_0 = 0$$
$$y_3 - 2.25y_2 + y_1 = 0$$
$$y_4 - 2.25y_3 + y_2 = 0.$$

With the boundary conditions $y_0 = 0$ and $y_4 = 5$ the foregoing system becomes

$$-2.25y_1 + \quad y_2 \qquad\qquad = 0$$
$$y_1 - 2.25y_2 + \quad y_3 = 0$$
$$y_2 - 2.25y_3 = -5.$$

Solving the system gives $y_1 = 0.7256$, $y_2 = 1.6327$, and $y_3 = 2.9479$.

Now the general solution of the given differential equation is $y = c_1 \cosh 2x + c_2 \sinh 2x$. The condition $y(0) = 0$ implies that $c_1 = 0$. The other boundary condition gives $c_2$. In this way we see that a solution of the boundary-value problem is $y(x) = (5 \sinh 2x)/\sinh 2$. Thus the actual values (rounded to four decimal places) of this solution at the interior points are as follows: $y(0.25) = 0.7184$, $y(0.5) = 1.6201$, and $y(0.75) = 2.9354$. ∎

The accuracy of the approximations in Example 1 can be improved by using a smaller value of $h$. Of course, the trade-off here is that a smaller value of $h$ necessitates solving a larger system of equations. It is left as an exercise to show that with $h = \frac{1}{8}$, approximations to $y(0.25)$, $y(0.5)$, and $y(0.75)$ are 0.7202, 1.6233, and 2.9386, respectively. See Problem 11 in Exercises 9.5.

---

### EXAMPLE 2 Using the Finite Difference Method

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Use the difference equation (8) with $n = 10$ to approximate the solution of

$$y'' + 3y' + 2y = 4x^2, \qquad y(1) = 1, \quad y(2) = 6.$$

**SOLUTION** In this case we identify $P(x) = 3$, $Q(x) = 2$, $f(x) = 4x^2$, and $h = (2 - 1)/10 = 0.1$, and so (8) becomes

$$1.15y_{i+1} - 1.98y_i + 0.85y_{i-1} = 0.04x_i^2. \tag{10}$$

Now the interior points are $x_1 = 1.1$, $x_2 = 1.2$, $x_3 = 1.3$, $x_4 = 1.4$, $x_5 = 1.5$, $x_6 = 1.6$, $x_7 = 1.7$, $x_8 = 1.8$, and $x_9 = 1.9$. For $i = 1, 2, \ldots, 9$ and $y_0 = 1$, $y_{10} = 6$, (10) gives a system of nine equations and nine unknowns:

$$1.15y_2 - 1.98y_1 \qquad\qquad = -0.8016$$
$$1.15y_3 - 1.98y_2 + 0.85y_1 = 0.0576$$
$$1.15y_4 - 1.98y_3 + 0.85y_2 = 0.0676$$
$$1.15y_5 - 1.98y_4 + 0.85y_3 = 0.0784$$
$$1.15y_6 - 1.98y_5 + 0.85y_4 = 0.0900$$
$$1.15y_7 - 1.98y_6 + 0.85y_5 = 0.1024$$

$$1.15 y_8 - 1.98 y_7 + 0.85 y_6 = 0.1156$$

$$1.15 y_9 - 1.98 y_8 + 0.85 y_7 = 0.1296$$

$$- 1.98 y_9 + 0.85 y_8 = -6.7556.$$

We can solve this large system using Gaussian elimination or, with relative ease, by means of a computer algebra system. The result is found to be $y_1 = 2.4047$, $y_2 = 3.4432$, $y_3 = 4.2010$, $y_4 = 4.7469$, $y_5 = 5.1359$, $y_6 = 5.4124$, $y_7 = 5.6117$, $y_8 = 5.7620$, and $y_9 = 5.8855$. ∎

**SHOOTING METHOD**   Another way of approximating a solution of a boundary-value problem $y'' = f(x, y, y')$, $y(a) = \alpha$, $y(b) = \beta$ is called the **shooting method.** The starting point in this method is the replacement of the boundary-value problem by an initial-value problem

$$y'' = f(x, y, y'), \quad y(a) = \alpha, \quad y'(a) = m_1. \tag{11}$$

The number $m_1$ in (11) is simply a guess for the unknown slope of the solution curve at the known point $(a, y(a))$. We then apply one of the step-by-step numerical techniques to the second-order equation in (11) to find an approximation $\beta_1$ for the value of $y(b)$. If $\beta_1$ agrees with the given value $y(b) = \beta$ to some preassigned tolerance, we stop; otherwise, the calculations are repeated, starting with a different guess $y'(a) = m_2$ to obtain a second approximation $\beta_2$ for $y(b)$. This method can be continued in a trial-and-error manner, or the subsequent slopes $m_3, m_4, \ldots$ can be adjusted in some systematic way; linear interpolation is particularly successful when the differential equation in (11) is linear. The procedure is analogous to shooting (the "aim" is the choice of the initial slope) at a target until the bull's-eye $y(b)$ is hit. See Problem 14 in Exercises 9.5.

Of course, underlying the use of these numerical methods is the assumption, which we know is not always warranted, that a solution of the boundary-value problem exists.

**REMARKS**

The approximation method using finite differences can be extended to boundary-value problems in which the first derivative is specified at a boundary—for example, a problem such as $y'' = f(x, y, y')$, $y'(a) = \alpha$, $y(b) = \beta$. See Problem 13 in Exercises 9.5.

## EXERCISES 9.5

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-16.*

In Problems 1–10 use the finite difference method and the indicated value of $n$ to approximate the solution of the given boundary-value problem.

1. $y'' + 9y = 0$, $y(0) = 4$, $y(2) = 1$;   $n = 4$

2. $y'' - y = x^2$,   $y(0) = 0$, $y(1) = 0$;   $n = 4$

3. $y'' + 2y' + y = 5x$,   $y(0) = 0$, $y(1) = 0$;   $n = 5$

4. $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 1$,   $y(0) = 1$, $y(1) = 0$;   $n = 5$

5. $y'' - 4y' + 4y = (x + 1)e^{2x}$,
   $y(0) = 3$, $y(1) = 0$;   $n = 6$

6. $y'' + 5y' = 4\sqrt{x}$,   $y(1) = 1$,   $y(2) = -1$;   $n = 6$

7. $x^2 y'' + 3xy' + 3y = 0$,   $y(1) = 5$, $y(2) = 0$;   $n = 8$

8. $x^2 y'' - xy' + y = \ln x$,   $y(1) = 0$, $y(2) = -2$;   $n = 8$

9. $y'' + (1 - x)y' + xy = x$,   $y(0) = 0$, $y(1) = 2$;   $n = 10$

10. $y'' + xy' + y = x$,   $y(0) = 1$, $y(1) = 0$;   $n = 10$

11. Rework Example 1 using $n = 8$.

12. The electrostatic potential $u$ between two concentric spheres of radius $r = 1$ and $r = 4$ is determined from

$$\frac{d^2 u}{dr^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{du}{dr} = 0, \quad u(1) = 50, \quad u(4) = 100.$$

Use the method of this section with $n = 6$ to approximate the solution of this boundary-value problem.

**13.** Consider the boundary-value problem $y'' + xy = 0$, $y'(0) = 1$, $y(1) = -1$.

**(a)** Find the difference equation corresponding to the differential equation. Show that for $i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots,$ $n - 1$ the difference equation yields $n$ equations in $n + 1$ unknowns $y_{-1}, y_0, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_{n-1}$. Here $y_{-1}$ and $y_0$ are unknowns, since $y_{-1}$ represents an approximation to $y$ at the exterior point $x = -h$ and $y_0$ is not specified at $x = 0$.

**(b)** Use the central difference approximation (5) to show that $y_1 - y_{-1} = 2h$. Use this equation to eliminate $y_{-1}$ from the system in part (a).

**(c)** Use $n = 5$ and the system of equations found in parts (a) and (b) to approximate the solution of the original boundary-value problem.

## Computer Lab Assignments

**14.** Consider the boundary-value problem $y'' = y' - \sin(xy)$, $y(0) = 1$, $y(1) = 1.5$. Use the shooting method to approximate the solution of this problem. (The approximation can be obtained using a numerical technique—say, the RK4 method with $h = 0.1$; or, even better, if you have access to a CAS such as *Mathematica* or *Maple*, the **NDSolve** function can be used.)

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## CHAPTER 9 IN REVIEW
*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-16.*

In Problems 1–4 construct a table comparing the indicated values of $y(x)$ using Euler's method, the improved Euler's method, and the RK4 method. Compute to four rounded decimal places. First use $h = 0.1$ and then use $h = 0.05$.

**1.** $y' = 2 \ln xy$, $y(1) = 2$;
$y(1.1), y(1.2), y(1.3), y(1.4), y(1.5)$

**2.** $y' = \sin x^2 + \cos y^2$, $y(0) = 0$;
$y(0.1), y(0.2), y(0.3), y(0.4), y(0.5)$

**3.** $y' = \sqrt{x + y}$, $y(0.5) = 0.5$;
$y(0.6), y(0.7), y(0.8), y(0.9), y(1.0)$

**4.** $y' = xy + y^2$, $y(1) = 1$;
$y(1.1), y(1.2), y(1.3), y(1.4), y(1.5)$

**5.** Use Euler's method to approximate $y(0.2)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the initial-value problem $y'' - (2x + 1)y = 1$, $y(0) = 3$, $y'(0) = 1$. First use one step with $h = 0.2$ and then repeat the calculations using two steps with $h = 0.1$.

**6.** Use the Adams-Bashforth-Moulton method to approximate $y(0.4)$, where $y(x)$ is the solution of the initial-value problem $y' = 4x - 2y$, $y(0) = 2$. Use $h = 0.1$ and the RK4 method to compute $y_1$, $y_2$, and $y_3$.

**7.** Use Euler's method with $h = 0.1$ to approximate $x(0.2)$ and $y(0.2)$, where $x(t)$, $y(t)$ is the solution of the initial-value problem

$$x' = x + y$$
$$y' = x - y$$
$$x(0) = 1, \qquad y(0) = 2.$$

**8.** Use the finite difference method with $n = 10$ to approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem $y'' + 6.55(1 + x)y = 1$, $y(0) = 0$, $y(1) = 0$.

# 10 PLANE AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS
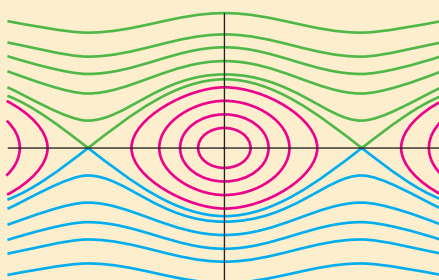
In Chapter 8 we used matrix techniques to solve systems of linear first-order differential equations of the form $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{F}(t)$. When a system of differential equations is not linear, it is usually not possible to find solutions in terms of elementary functions. In this chapter we will demonstrate that valuable information on the geometric nature of the solutions of systems can be obtained by first analyzing special constant solutions, obtained from critical points of the system, and by searching for periodic solutions. The important concepts of stability will be introduced and illustrated with mathematical models from physics and ecology.

## 10.1 AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- A rereading of pages 37–41 in Section 2.1 is highly recommended.

**INTRODUCTION** We introduced the notions of autonomous first-order DEs, critical points of an autonomous DE, and the stability of a critical point in Section 2.1. This earlier consideration of stability was purposely kept at a fairly intuitive level; it is now time to give the precise definition of this concept. To do this, we need to examine autonomous *systems* of first-order DEs. In this section we define critical points of autonomous systems of two first-order DEs; the autonomous systems can be linear or nonlinear.

**AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS** A system of first-order differential equations is said to be **autonomous** when the system can be written in the form

$$
\begin{aligned}
\frac{dx_1}{dt} &= g_1(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) \\
\frac{dx_2}{dt} &= g_2(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) \\
&\;\;\vdots \qquad\qquad \vdots \\
\frac{dx_n}{dt} &= g_n(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n).
\end{aligned}
\tag{1}
$$

Observe that the independent variable $t$ does not appear explicitly on the right-hand side of each differential equation. Compare (1) with the general system given in (2) of Section 8.1.

---

### EXAMPLE 1   A Nonautonomous System

The system of nonlinear first-order differential equations

$$
\frac{dx_1}{dt} = x_1 - 3x_2 + t^2 \qquad \overset{t\text{ dependence}}{\longleftarrow}
$$

$$
\frac{dx_2}{dt} = tx_1 \sin x_2 \qquad \underset{t\text{ dependence}}{\longleftarrow}
$$

is *not* autonomous because of the presence of $t$ on the right-hand sides of both DEs. ∎

---

**NOTE** When $n = 1$ in (1), a single first-order differential equation takes on the form $dx/dt = g(x)$. This last equation is equivalent to (1) of Section 2.1 with the symbols $x$ and $t$ playing the parts of $y$ and $x$, respectively. Explicit solutions can be constructed, since the differential equation $dx/dt = g(x)$ is separable, and we will make use of this fact to give illustrations of the concepts in this chapter.

**SECOND-ORDER DE AS A SYSTEM** Any second-order differential equation $x'' = g(x, x')$ can be written as an autonomous system. As we did in Section 4.9, if we let $y = x'$, then $x'' = g(x, x')$ becomes $y' = g(x, y)$. Thus the second-order differential equation becomes the system of two first-order equations

$$
\begin{aligned}
x' &= y \\
y' &= g(x, y).
\end{aligned}
$$

### EXAMPLE 2    The Pendulum DE as an Autonomous System

In (6) of Section 5.3 we showed that the displacement angle $\theta$ for a pendulum satisfies the nonlinear second-order differential equation

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \frac{g}{l}\sin\theta = 0.$$

If we let $x = \theta$ and $y = \theta'$, this second-order differential equation can be rewritten as the autonomous system

$$x' = y$$
$$y' = -\frac{g}{l}\sin x.$$ ∎

**NOTATION**    If $\mathbf{X}(t)$ and $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$ denote the respective column vectors

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ \vdots \\ x_n(t) \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{pmatrix} g_1(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) \\ g_2(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) \\ \vdots \\ g_n(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) \end{pmatrix},$$

then the autonomous system (1) may be written in the compact **column vector form** $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$. The homogeneous linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ studied in Section 8.2 is an important special case.

In this chapter it is also convenient to write (1) using row vectors. If we let $\mathbf{X}(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), \ldots, x_n(t))$ and

$$\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X}) = (g_1(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n), g_2(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n), \ldots, g_n(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)),$$

then the autonomous system (1) may also be written in the compact **row vector form** $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$. *It should be clear from the context whether we are using column or row vector form; therefore we will not distinguish between* $\mathbf{X}$ *and* $\mathbf{X}^T$, *the transpose of* $\mathbf{X}$. In particular, when $n = 2$, it is convenient to use row vector form and write an initial condition as $\mathbf{X}(0) = (x_0, y_0)$.

When the variable $t$ is interpreted as time, we can refer to the system of differential equations in (1) as a **dynamical system** and a solution $\mathbf{X}(t)$ as the **state of the system** or the **response of the system** at time $t$. With this terminology a dynamical system is autonomous when the rate $\mathbf{X}'(t)$ at which the system changes depends only on the system's present state $\mathbf{X}(t)$. The linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{F}(t)$ studied in Chapter 8 is then autonomous when $\mathbf{F}(t)$ is constant. In the case $n = 2$ or 3 we can call a solution a **path** or **trajectory,** since we may think of $x = x_1(t)$, $y = x_2(t)$, and $z = x_3(t)$ as the parametric equations of a curve.

**VECTOR FIELD INTERPRETATION**    When $n = 2$, the system in (1) is called a **plane autonomous system,** and we write the system as

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = P(x, y)$$
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = Q(x, y).$$ (2)

The vector $\mathbf{V}(x, y) = (P(x, y), Q(x, y))$ defines a **vector field** in a region of the plane, and a solution to the system may be interpreted as the resulting path of a particle as it moves through the region. To be more specific, let $\mathbf{V}(x, y) = (P(x, y), Q(x, y))$ denote the velocity of a stream at position $(x, y)$, and suppose that a small particle (such as a cork) is released at a position $(x_0, y_0)$ in the stream. If $\mathbf{X}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$ denotes the position of the particle at time $t$, then

$\mathbf{X}'(t) = (x'(t), y'(t))$ is the velocity vector $\mathbf{V}$. When external forces are not present and frictional forces are neglected, the velocity of the particle at time $t$ is the velocity of the stream at position $\mathbf{X}(t)$:

$$\mathbf{X}'(t) = \mathbf{V}(x(t), y(t)) \qquad \text{or} \qquad \begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} &= P(x(t), y(t)) \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= Q(x(t), y(t)). \end{aligned}$$

Thus the path of the particle is a solution to the system that satisfies the initial condition $\mathbf{X}(0) = (x_0, y_0)$. We will frequently call on this simple interpretation of a plane autonomous system to illustrate new concepts.

---

### EXAMPLE 3    Plane Autonomous System of a Vector Field

A vector field for the steady-state flow of a fluid around a cylinder of radius 1 is given by

$$\mathbf{V}(x, y) = V_0\left(1 - \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}, \frac{-2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}\right),$$

where $V_0$ is the speed of the fluid far from the cylinder. If a small cork is released at $(-3, 1)$, the path $\mathbf{X}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$ of the cork satisfies the plane autonomous system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = V_0\left(1 - \frac{x^2 - y^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}\right)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = V_0 \frac{-2xy}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}$$

subject to the initial condition $\mathbf{X}(0) = (-3, 1)$. See Figure 10.1.1 and Problem 46 in Exercises 2.4. ■
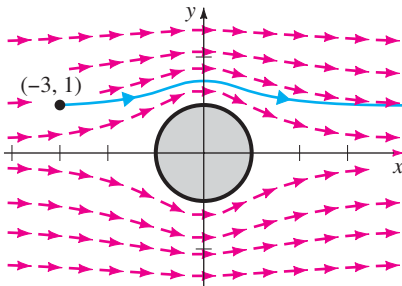


**FIGURE 10.1.1**  Vector field of a fluid flow around a circular cylinder

**TYPES OF SOLUTIONS**  If $P(x, y)$, $Q(x, y)$, and the first-order partial derivatives $\partial P/\partial x$, $\partial P/\partial y$, $\partial Q/\partial x$, and $\partial Q/\partial y$ are continuous in a region $R$ of the plane, then a solution of the plane autonomous system (2) that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$ is unique and of one of three basic types:
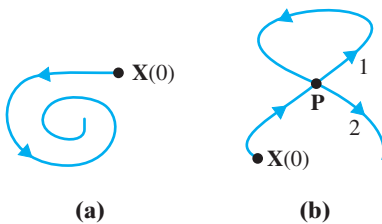


**FIGURE 10.1.2**  Curve in (a) is called an arc.

(i)   A **constant solution** $x(t) = x_0$, $y(t) = y_0$ (or $\mathbf{X}(t) = \mathbf{X}_0$ for all $t$). A constant solution is called a **critical** or **stationary point.** When the particle is placed at a critical point $\mathbf{X}_0$ (that is, $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$), it remains there indefinitely. For this reason a constant solution is also called an **equilibrium solution.** Note that because $\mathbf{X}'(t) = \mathbf{0}$, a critical point is a solution of the system of algebraic equations

$$P(x, y) = 0$$

$$Q(x, y) = 0.$$

(ii)  A solution $x = x(t)$, $y = y(t)$ that defines an **arc**—a plane curve that does *not* cross itself. Thus the curve in Figure 10.1.2(a) can be a solution to a plane autonomous system, whereas the curve in Figure 10.1.2(b) cannot be a solution. There would be *two solutions* that start from the point $\mathbf{P}$ of intersection.

(iii) A **periodic solution** $x = x(t)$, $y = y(t)$. A periodic solution is called a **cycle.** If $p$ is the period of the solution, then $\mathbf{X}(t + p) = \mathbf{X}(t)$ and a particle placed on the curve at $\mathbf{X}_0$ will cycle around the curve and return to $\mathbf{X}_0$ in $p$ units of time. See Figure 10.1.3.
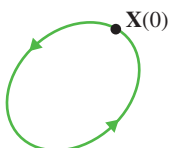


**FIGURE 10.1.3**  Periodic solution or cycle

## EXAMPLE 4 Finding Critical Points

Find all critical points of each of the following plane autonomous systems:

(a) $x' = -x + y$ 　(b) $x' = x^2 + y^2 - 6$ 　(c) $x' = 0.01x(100 - x - y)$
　$y' = x - y$ 　　　$y' = x^2 - y$ 　　　　$y' = 0.05y(60 - y - 0.2x)$

**SOLUTION** We find the critical points by setting the right-hand sides of the differential equations equal to zero.

(a) The solution to the system

$$-x + y = 0$$
$$x - y = 0$$

consists of all points on the line $y = x$. Thus there are infinitely many critical points.

(b) To solve the system

$$x^2 + y^2 - 6 = 0$$
$$x^2 - y = 0$$

we substitute the second equation, $x^2 = y$, into the first equation to obtain $y^2 + y - 6 = (y + 3)(y - 2) = 0$. If $y = -3$, then $x^2 = -3$, so there are no real solutions. If $y = 2$, then $x = \pm\sqrt{2}$, so the critical points are $(\sqrt{2}, 2)$ and $(-\sqrt{2}, 2)$.

(c) Finding the critical points in part (c) requires a careful consideration of cases. The equation $0.01x(100 - x - y) = 0$ implies that $x = 0$ or $x + y = 100$.
　　If $x = 0$, then by substituting in $0.05y(60 - y - 0.2x) = 0$, we have $y(60 - y) = 0$. Thus $y = 0$ or $60$, so $(0, 0)$ and $(0, 60)$ are critical points.
　　If $x + y = 100$, then $0 = y(60 - y - 0.2(100 - y)) = y(40 - 0.8y)$. It follows that $y = 0$ or $50$, so $(100, 0)$ and $(50, 50)$ are critical points. ∎

When a plane autonomous system is linear, we can use the methods in Chapter 8 to investigate solutions.

## EXAMPLE 5 Discovering Periodic Solutions

Determine whether the given linear system possesses a periodic solution:

(a) $x' = 2x + 8y$ 　(b) $x' = x + 2y$
　$y' = -x - 2y$ 　　　$y' = -\frac{1}{2}x + y$

In each case sketch the graph of the solution that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = (2, 0)$.

**SOLUTION** (a) In Example 6 of Section 8.2 we used the eigenvalue-eigenvector method to show that

$$x = c_1(2 \cos 2t - 2 \sin 2t) + c_2(2 \cos 2t + 2 \sin 2t)$$

$$y = -c_1 \cos 2t - c_2 \sin 2t.$$

Thus every solution is periodic with period $p = \pi$. The solution satisfying $\mathbf{X}(0) = (2, 0)$ is $x = 2 \cos 2t + 2 \sin 2t$, $y = -\sin 2t$. This solution generates the ellipse shown in Figure 10.1.4(a).

(a) Periodic solution

(b) Nonperiodic solution

**FIGURE 10.1.4** Solution curves for Example 5

**(b)** Using the eigenvalue-eigenvector method, we can show that

$$x = 2c_1e^t \cos t + 2c_2e^t \sin t, \quad y = -c_1e^t \sin t + c_2e^t \cos t.$$

Because of the presence of $e^t$ in the general solution, there are no periodic solutions (that is, cycles). The solution satisfying $\mathbf{X}(0) = (2, 0)$ is $x = 2e^t \cos t, y = -e^t \sin t$, and the resulting curve is shown in Figure 10.1.4(b). ∎

**CHANGING TO POLAR COORDINATES** Except for the case of constant solutions, it is usually not possible to find explicit expressions for the solutions of a *nonlinear* autonomous system. We can solve some nonlinear systems, however, by changing to polar coordinates. From the formulas $r^2 = x^2 + y^2$ and $\theta = \tan^{-1}(y/x)$ we obtain

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{1}{r}\left(x\frac{dx}{dt} + y\frac{dy}{dt}\right), \qquad \frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{1}{r^2}\left(-y\frac{dx}{dt} + x\frac{dy}{dt}\right). \tag{3}$$

We can sometimes use (3) to convert a plane autonomous system in rectangular coordinates to a simpler system in polar coordinates.

---

**EXAMPLE 6**    **Changing to Polar Coordinates**

Find the solution of the nonlinear plane autonomous system

$$x' = -y - x\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$
$$y' = x - y\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

satisfying the initial condition $\mathbf{X}(0) = (3, 3)$.

**SOLUTION** Substituting for $dx/dt$ and $dy/dt$ in the expressions for $dr/dt$ and $d\theta/dt$ in (3), we obtain

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{1}{r}[x(-y - xr) + y(x - yr)] = -r^2$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = \frac{1}{r^2}[-y(-y - xr) + x(x - yr)] = 1.$$

Since $(3, 3)$ is $(3\sqrt{2}, \pi/4)$ in polar coordinates, the initial condition $\mathbf{X}(0) = (3, 3)$ becomes $r(0) = 3\sqrt{2}$ and $\theta(0) = \pi/4$. Using separation of variables, we see that the solution of the system is

$$r = \frac{1}{t + c_1}, \quad \theta = t + c_2$$

for $r \neq 0$. (Check this!) Applying the initial condition then gives

$$r = \frac{1}{t + \sqrt{2}/6}, \quad \theta = t + \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

The spiral $r = \dfrac{1}{\theta + \sqrt{2}/6 - \pi/4}$ is sketched in Figure 10.1.5. ∎
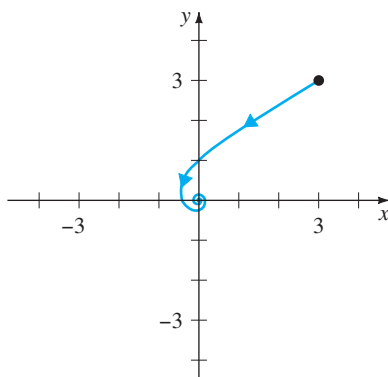


**FIGURE 10.1.5** Solution curve for Example 6

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**EXAMPLE 7**    **Solutions in Polar Coordinates**

When expressed in polar coordinates, a plane autonomous system takes the form

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = 0.5(3 - r)$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = 1.$$

Find and sketch the solutions satisfying $\mathbf{X}(0) = (0, 1)$ and $\mathbf{X}(0) = (3, 0)$ in rectangular coordinates.

**SOLUTION** Applying separation of variables to $dr/dt = 0.5(3 - r)$ and integrating $d\theta/dt$ leads to the solution $r = 3 + c_1 e^{-0.5t}$, $\theta = t + c_2$.

If $\mathbf{X}(0) = (0, 1)$, then $r(0) = 1$ and $\theta(0) = \pi/2$, and so $c_1 = -2$ and $c_2 = \pi/2$. The solution curve is the spiral $r = 3 - 2e^{-0.5(\theta - \pi/2)}$. Note that as $t \to \infty$, $\theta$ increases without bound and $r$ approaches 3.

If $\mathbf{X}(0) = (3, 0)$, then $r(0) = 3$ and $\theta(0) = 0$. It follows that $c_1 = c_2 = 0$, so $r = 3$ and $\theta = t$. Hence $x = r \cos \theta = 3 \cos t$ and $y = r \sin \theta = 3 \sin t$, so the solution is periodic. The solution generates a circle of radius 3 about $(0, 0)$. Both solutions are shown in Figure 10.1.6. ■

**FIGURE 10.1.6** Curve in green is a periodic solution

---

## EXERCISES 10.1

In Problems 1–6 write the given nonlinear second-order differential equation as a plane autonomous system. Find all critical points of the resulting system.

**1.** $x'' + 9 \sin x = 0$

**2.** $x'' + (x')^2 + 2x = 0$

**3.** $x'' + x'(1 - x^3) - x^2 = 0$

**4.** $x'' + 4\dfrac{x}{1 + x^2} + 2x' = 0$

**5.** $x'' + x = \epsilon x^3$ for $\epsilon > 0$

**6.** $x'' + x - \epsilon x|x| = 0$ for $\epsilon > 0$

In Problems 7–16 find all critical points of the given plane autonomous system.

**7.** $x' = x + xy$
$y' = -y - xy$

**8.** $x' = y^2 - x$
$y' = x^2 - y$

**9.** $x' = 3x^2 - 4y$
$y' = x - y$

**10.** $x' = x^3 - y$
$y' = x - y^3$

**11.** $x' = x\left(10 - x - \frac{1}{2}y\right)$
$y' = y(16 - y - x)$

**12.** $x' = -2x + y + 10$
$y' = 2x - y - 15\dfrac{y}{y + 5}$

**13.** $x' = x^2 e^y$
$y' = y(e^x - 1)$

**14.** $x' = \sin y$
$y' = e^{x-y} - 1$

**15.** $x' = x(1 - x^2 - 3y^2)$
$y' = y(3 - x^2 - 3y^2)$

**16.** $x' = -x(4 - y^2)$
$y' = 4y(1 - x^2)$

In Problems 17–22 the given linear system is taken from Exercises 8.2.

**(a)** Find the general solution and determine whether there are periodic solutions.

**(b)** Find the solution satisfying the given initial condition.

**(c)** With the aid of a calculator or a CAS graph the solution in part (b) and indicate the direction in which the curve is traversed.

**17.** $x' = x + 2y$
$y' = 4x + 3y$, $\mathbf{X}(0) = (-2, 2)$
(Problem 1, Exercises 8.2)

**18.** $x' = -6x + 2y$
$y' = -3x + y$, $\mathbf{X}(0) = (3, 4)$
(Problem 6, Exercises 8.2)

**19.** $x' = 4x - 5y$
$y' = 5x - 4y$, $\mathbf{X}(0) = (4, 5)$
(Problem 37, Exercises 8.2)

**20.** $x' = x + y$
$y' = -2x - y$, $\mathbf{X}(0) = (-2, 2)$
(Problem 34, Exercises 8.2)

**21.** $x' = 5x + y$
$y' = -2x + 3y$, $\mathbf{X}(0) = (-1, 2)$
(Problem 35, Exercises 8.2)

**22.** $x' = x - 8y$
$y' = x - 3y$, $\mathbf{X}(0) = (2, 1)$
(Problem 38, Exercises 8.2)

In Problems 23–26 solve the given nonlinear plane autonomous system by changing to polar coordinates. Describe the geometric behavior of the solution that satisfies the given initial condition(s).

**23.** $x' = -y - x(x^2 + y^2)^2$
$y' = x - y(x^2 + y^2)^2$, $\mathbf{X}(0) = (4, 0)$

**24.** $x' = y + x(x^2 + y^2)$
$y' = -x + y(x^2 + y^2)$, $\mathbf{X}(0) = (4, 0)$

**25.** $x' = -y + x(1 - x^2 - y^2)$
   $y' = x + y(1 - x^2 - y^2)$,   $\mathbf{X}(0) = (1, 0), \mathbf{X}(0) = (2, 0)$
   [*Hint*: The resulting differential equation for $r$ is a Bernoulli differential equation. See Section 2.5.]

**26.** $x' = y - \dfrac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}(4 - x^2 - y^2)$

   $y' = -x - \dfrac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}(4 - x^2 - y^2),$

   $\mathbf{X}(0) = (1, 0), \mathbf{X}(0) = (2, 0)$

If a plane autonomous system has a periodic solution, then there must be at least one critical point inside the curve generated by the solution. In Problems 27–30 use this fact together with a numerical solver to investigate the possibility of periodic solutions.

**27.** $x' = -x + 6y$
   $y' = xy + 12$

**28.** $x' = -x + 6xy$
   $y' = -8xy + 2y$

**29.** $x' = y$
   $y' = y(1 - 3x^2 - 2y^2) - x$

**30.** $x' = xy$
   $y' = -1 - x^2 - y^2$

---

## 10.2 STABILITY OF LINEAR SYSTEMS

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Section 10.1, especially Examples 3 and 4

**INTRODUCTION**  We have seen that a plane autonomous system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = P(x, y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = Q(x, y)$$

gives rise to a vector field $\mathbf{V}(x, y) = (P(x, y), Q(x, y))$, and a solution $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ of the system may be interpreted as the resulting path of a particle that is initially placed at position $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$. If $\mathbf{X}_0$ is a critical point of the system, then the particle remains stationary. In this section we examine the behavior of solutions when $\mathbf{X}_0$ is chosen *close* to a critical point of the system.

**SOME FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS**  Suppose that $\mathbf{X}_1$ is a critical point of a plane autonomous system and $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ is a solution of the system that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$. If the solution is interpreted as a path of a moving particle, we are interested in the answers to the following questions when $\mathbf{X}_0$ is placed near $\mathbf{X}_1$:

   (*i*)   Will the particle return to the critical point? More precisely, does $\lim_{t \to \infty} \mathbf{X}(t) = \mathbf{X}_1$?

   (*ii*)   If the particle does *not* return to the critical point, does it remain close to the critical point or move away from the critical point? It is conceivable, for example, that the particle may simply circle the critical point, or it may even return to a different critical point or to no critical point at all. See Figure 10.2.1.

If in some neighborhood of the critical point case (a) or (b) in Figure 10.2.1 *always* occurs, we call the critical point **locally stable.** If, however, an initial value $\mathbf{X}_0$ that results in behavior similar to (c) can be found in *any* given neighborhood, we call the critical point **unstable.** These concepts will be made more precise in Section 10.3, where questions (*i*) and (*ii*) will be investigated for nonlinear systems.

**STABILITY ANALYSIS**  We will first investigate these two stability questions for linear plane autonomous systems and lay the foundation for Section 10.3. The solution methods of Chapter 8 enable us to give a careful geometric analysis of the solutions to

$$\begin{aligned} x' &= ax + by \\ y' &= cx + dy \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$



**(a)** Locally stable



**(b)** Locally stable
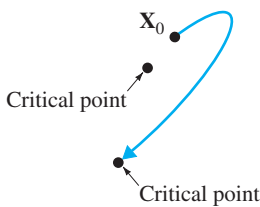


**(c)** Unstable

**FIGURE 10.2.1**   Critical points

in terms of the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the coefficient matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}.$$

To ensure that $\mathbf{X}_0 = (0, 0)$ is the only critical point, we will assume that the determinant $\Delta = ad - bc \neq 0$. If $\tau = a + d$ is the trace[*] of matrix $\mathbf{A}$, then the characteristic equation $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = 0$ may be rewritten as

$$\lambda^2 - \tau\lambda + \Delta = 0.$$

Therefore the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A}$ are $\lambda = \left(\tau \pm \sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\Delta}\right)/2$, and the usual three cases for these roots occur according to whether $\tau^2 - 4\Delta$ is positive, negative, or zero. In the next example we use a numerical solver to discover the nature of the solutions corresponding to these cases.

---

### EXAMPLE 1   Eigenvalues and the Shape of Solutions

Find the eigenvalues of the linear system

$$x' = -x + y$$
$$y' = cx - y$$

in terms of $c$, and use a numerical solver to discover the shapes of solutions corresponding to the cases $c = \frac{1}{4}, 4, 0,$ and $-9$.

**SOLUTION**   The coefficient matrix $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ c & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ has trace $\tau = -2$ and determinant $\Delta = 1 - c$, and so the eigenvalues are

$$\lambda = \frac{\tau \pm \sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\Delta}}{2} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 4(1 - c)}}{2} = -1 \pm \sqrt{c}.$$

The nature of the eigenvalues is therefore determined by the sign of $c$.

If $c = \frac{1}{4}$, then the eigenvalues are negative and distinct, $\lambda = -\frac{1}{2}$ and $-\frac{3}{2}$. In Figure 10.2.2(a) we have used a numerical solver to generate solution curves, or trajectories, that correspond to various initial conditions. Note that except for the trajectories drawn in red in the figure, the trajectories all appear to approach $\mathbf{0}$ from a fixed direction. Recall from Chapter 8 that a collection of trajectories in the $xy$-plane, or **phase plane,** is called a **phase portrait** of the system.

When $c = 4$, the eigenvalues have opposite signs, $\lambda = 1$ and $-3$, and an interesting phenomenon occurs. All trajectories move away from the origin in a fixed direction except for solutions that start along the single line drawn in red in Figure 10.2.2(b). We have already seen behavior like this in the phase portrait given in Figure 8.2.2. Experiment with your numerical solver and verify these observations.

The selection $c = 0$ leads to a single real eigenvalue $\lambda = -1$. This case is very similar to the case $c = \frac{1}{4}$ with one notable exception. All solution curves in Figure 10.2.2(c) appear to approach $\mathbf{0}$ from a fixed direction as $t$ increases.

Finally, when $c = -9$, $\lambda = -1 \pm \sqrt{-9} = -1 \pm 3i$. Thus the eigenvalues are conjugate complex numbers with negative real part $-1$. Figure 10.2.2(d) shows that solution curves spiral in toward the origin $\mathbf{0}$ as $t$ increases.   ■

The behaviors of the trajectories that are observed in the four phase portraits in Figure 10.2.2 in Example 1 can be explained by using the eigenvalue-eigenvector solution results from Chapter 8.

---

[*]In general, if $\mathbf{A}$ is an $n \times n$ matrix, the **trace** of $\mathbf{A}$ is the sum of the main diagonal entries.

**(a)** $c = \frac{1}{4}$



**(b)** $c = 4$



**(c)** $c = 0$



**(d)** $c = -9$
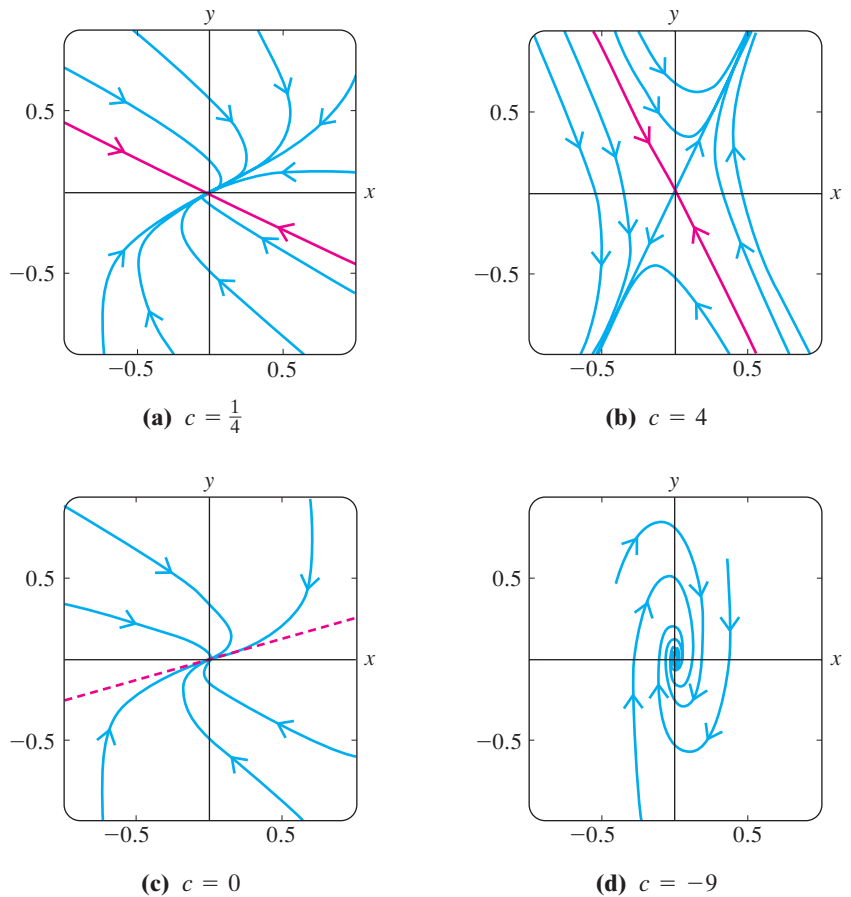
**FIGURE 10.2.2** Phase portraits of linear system in Example 1 for various values of $c$

**CASE I: REAL DISTINCT EIGENVALUES** $(\tau^2 - 4\Delta > 0)$ According to Theorem 8.2.1 in Section 8.2, the general solution of (1) is given by

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = c_1 \mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2 \mathbf{K}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t}, \tag{2}$$

where $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$ are the eigenvalues and $\mathbf{K}_1$ and $\mathbf{K}_2$ are the corresponding eigenvectors. Note that $\mathbf{X}(t)$ can also be written as

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = e^{\lambda_1 t}[c_1 \mathbf{K}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{K}_2 e^{(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)t}]. \tag{3}$$



**FIGURE 10.2.3** Stable node

(a) **Both eigenvalues negative** $(\tau^2 - 4\Delta > 0, \tau < 0,$ and $\Delta > 0)$
**Stable node** $(\lambda_2 < \lambda_1 < 0)$: Since both eigenvalues are negative, it follows from (2) that $\lim_{t \to \infty} \mathbf{X}(t) = \mathbf{0}$. If we assume that $\lambda_2 < \lambda_1$, then $\lambda_2 - \lambda_1 < 0$, and so $e^{(\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)t}$ is an exponential decay function. We may therefore conclude from (3) that $\mathbf{X}(t) \approx c_1 \mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t}$ for large values of $t$. When $c_1 \ne 0$, $\mathbf{X}(t)$ will approach $\mathbf{0}$ from one of the two directions determined by the eigenvector $\mathbf{K}_1$ corresponding to $\lambda_1$. If $c_1 = 0$, $\mathbf{X}(t) = c_2 \mathbf{K}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t}$ and $\mathbf{X}(t)$ approaches $\mathbf{0}$ along the line determined by the eigenvector $\mathbf{K}_2$. Figure 10.2.3 shows a collection of solution curves around the origin. A critical point is called a **stable node** when both eigenvalues are negative.



**FIGURE 10.2.4** Unstable node

(b) **Both eigenvalues positive** $(\tau^2 - 4\Delta > 0, \tau > 0,$ and $\Delta > 0)$
**Unstable node** $(0 < \lambda_2 < \lambda_1)$: The analysis for this case is similar to (a). Again from (2), $\mathbf{X}(t)$ becomes unbounded as $t$ increases. Moreover, again assuming that $\lambda_2 < \lambda_1$ and using (3), we see that $\mathbf{X}(t)$ becomes unbounded in one of the directions determined by the eigenvector $\mathbf{K}_1$ (when $c_1 \ne 0$) or along the line determined by the eigenvector $\mathbf{K}_2$ (when $c_1 = 0$). Figure 10.2.4 shows a typical collection of solution

**FIGURE 10.2.5** Saddle point
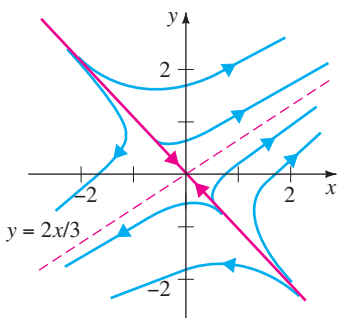


**FIGURE 10.2.6** Saddle point
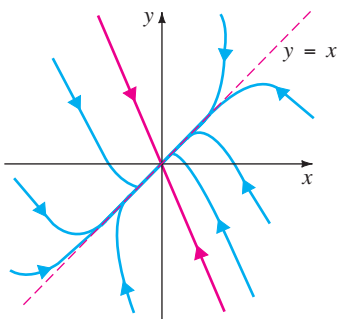


**FIGURE 10.2.7** Stable node

curves. This type of critical point, corresponding to the case when both eigenvalues are positive, is called an **unstable node.**

(c) **Eigenvalues have opposite signs** ($\tau^2 - 4\Delta > 0$ and $\Delta < 0$)
**Saddle point** ($\lambda_2 < 0 < \lambda_1$): The analysis of the solutions is identical to (b) with one exception. When $c_1 = 0$, $\mathbf{X}(t) = c_2\mathbf{K}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t}$, and since $\lambda_2 < 0$, $\mathbf{X}(t)$ will approach $\mathbf{0}$ along the line determined by the eigenvector $\mathbf{K}_2$. If $\mathbf{X}(0)$ does not lie on the line determined by $\mathbf{K}_2$, the line determined by $\mathbf{K}_1$ serves as an asymptote for $\mathbf{X}(t)$. Thus the critical point is unstable even though some solutions approach $\mathbf{0}$ as $t$ increases. This unstable critical point is called a **saddle point.** See Figure 10.2.5.

> ## EXAMPLE 2 Real Distinct Eigenvalues

Classify the critical point $(0, 0)$ of each of the following linear systems $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ as either a stable node, an unstable node, or a saddle point.

(a) $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$      (b) $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -10 & 6 \\ 15 & -19 \end{pmatrix}$

In each case discuss the nature of the solutions in a neighborhood of $(0, 0)$.

**SOLUTION** (a) Since the trace $\tau = 3$ and the determinant $\Delta = -4$, the eigenvalues are

$$\lambda = \frac{\tau \pm \sqrt{\tau^2 - 4\Delta}}{2} = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{3^2 - 4(-4)}}{2} = \frac{3 \pm 5}{2} = 4, -1.$$

The eigenvalues have opposite signs, so $(0, 0)$ is a saddle point. It is not hard to show (see Example 1, Section 8.2) that eigenvectors corresponding to $\lambda_1 = 4$ and $\lambda_2 = -1$ are

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

respectively. If $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$ lies on the line $y = -x$, then $\mathbf{X}(t)$ approaches $\mathbf{0}$. For any other initial condition, $\mathbf{X}(t)$ will become unbounded in the directions determined by $\mathbf{K}_1$. In other words, the line $y = \frac{2}{3}x$ serves as an asymptote for all these solution curves. See Figure 10.2.6.

(b) From $\tau = -29$ and $\Delta = 100$ it follows that the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A}$ are $\lambda_1 = -4$ and $\lambda_2 = -25$. Both eigenvalues are negative, so $(0, 0)$ is in this case a stable node. Since eigenvectors corresponding to $\lambda_1 = -4$ and $\lambda_2 = -25$ are

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix},$$

respectively, it follows that all solutions approach $\mathbf{0}$ from the direction defined by $\mathbf{K}_1$ except those solutions for which $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$ lies on the line $y = -\frac{5}{2}x$ determined by $\mathbf{K}_2$. These solutions approach $\mathbf{0}$ along $y = -\frac{5}{2}x$. See Figure 10.2.7. ∎

## CASE II: A REPEATED REAL EIGENVALUE ($\tau^2 - 4\Delta = 0$)

**DEGENERATE NODES:** Recall from Section 8.2 that the general solution takes on one of two different forms depending on whether one or two linearly independent eigenvectors can be found for the repeated eigenvalue $\lambda_1$.

(a) **Two linearly independent eigenvectors**
If $\mathbf{K}_1$ and $\mathbf{K}_2$ are two linearly independent eigenvectors corresponding to $\lambda_1$, then the general solution is given by

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = c_1\mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2\mathbf{K}_2 e^{\lambda_1 t} = (c_1\mathbf{K}_1 + c_2\mathbf{K}_2)e^{\lambda_1 t}.$$

If $\lambda_1 < 0$, then $\mathbf{X}(t)$ approaches $\mathbf{0}$ along the line determined by the vector $c_1\mathbf{K}_1 + c_2\mathbf{K}_2$ and the critical point is called a **degenerate stable node** (see Figure 10.2.8(a)). The arrows in Figure 10.2.8(a) are reversed when $\lambda_1 > 0$, and we have a **degenerate unstable node.**
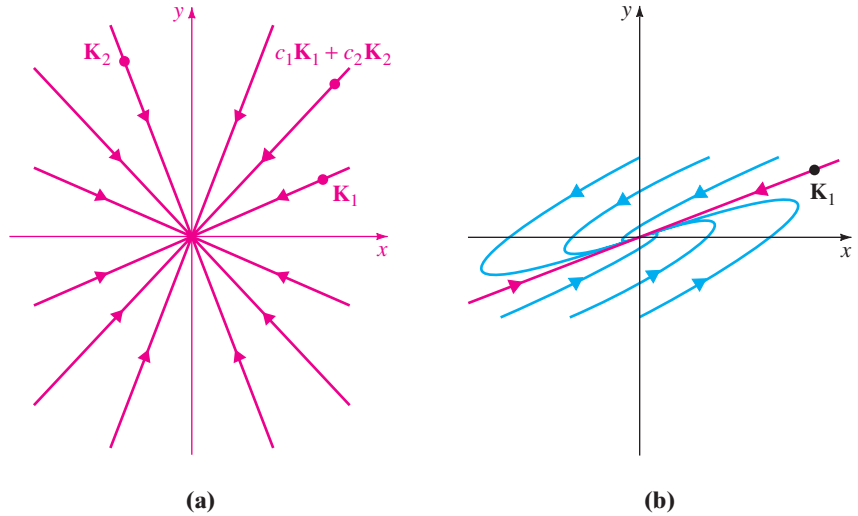


**FIGURE 10.2.8**   Degenerate stable nodes

(b)   **A single linearly independent eigenvector**
When only a single linearly independent eigenvector $\mathbf{K}_1$ exists, the general solution is given by

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = c_1\mathbf{K}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2(\mathbf{K}_1 t e^{\lambda_1 t} + \mathbf{P}e^{\lambda_1 t}),$$

where $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda_1\mathbf{I})\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{K}_1$ (see Section 8.2, (12)–(14)), and the solution may be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = te^{\lambda_1 t}\left[c_2\mathbf{K}_1 + \frac{c_1}{t}\mathbf{K}_1 + \frac{c_2}{t}\mathbf{P}\right].$$

If $\lambda_1 < 0$, then $\lim_{t \to \infty} te^{\lambda_1 t} = 0$, and it follows that $\mathbf{X}(t)$ approaches $\mathbf{0}$ in one of the directions determined by the vector $\mathbf{K}_1$ (see Figure 10.2.8(b)). The critical point is again called a **degenerate stable node.** When $\lambda_1 > 0$, the solutions look like those in Figure 10.2.8(b) with the arrows reversed. The line determined by $\mathbf{K}_1$ is an asymptote for *all* solutions. The critical point is again called a **degenerate unstable node.**

**CASE III: COMPLEX EIGENVALUES ($\tau^2 - 4\Delta < 0$)**   If $\lambda_1 = \alpha + i\beta$ and $\lambda_1 = \alpha - i\beta$ are the complex eigenvalues and $\mathbf{K}_1 = \mathbf{B}_1 + i\mathbf{B}_2$ is a complex eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda_1$, the general solution can be written as $\mathbf{X}(t) = c_1\mathbf{X}_1(t) + c_2\mathbf{X}_2(t)$, where

$$\mathbf{X}_1(t) = (\mathbf{B}_1 \cos \beta t - \mathbf{B}_2 \sin \beta t)e^{\alpha t}, \qquad \mathbf{X}_2(t) = (\mathbf{B}_2 \cos \beta t + \mathbf{B}_1 \sin \beta t)e^{\alpha t}.$$

See (23) and (24) in Section 8.2. A solution can therefore be written in the form

$$x(t) = e^{\alpha t}(c_{11}\cos \beta t + c_{12}\sin \beta t), \qquad y(t) = e^{\alpha t}(c_{21}\cos \beta t + c_{22}\sin \beta t), \quad (4)$$
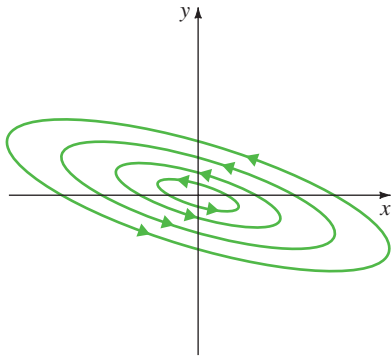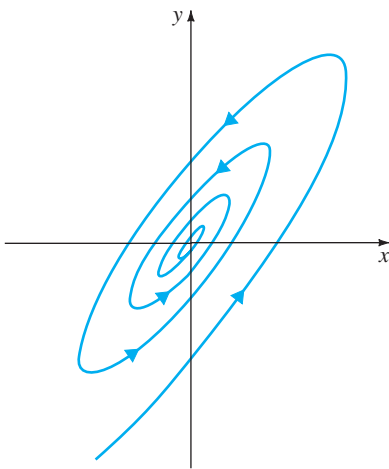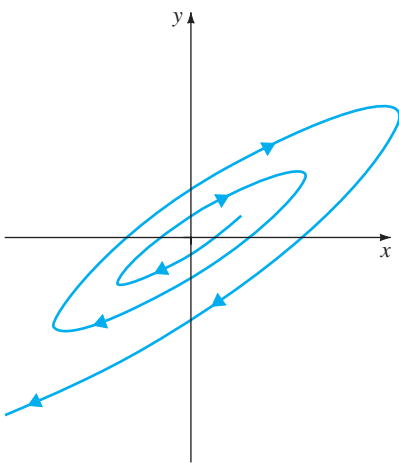
and when $\alpha = 0$, we have

$$x(t) = c_{11} \cos \beta t + c_{12} \sin \beta t, \qquad y(t) = c_{21} \cos \beta t + c_{22} \sin \beta t. \qquad (5)$$

**(a)  Pure imaginary roots** $(\tau^2 - 4\Delta < 0, \tau = 0)$

**Center:** When $\alpha = 0$, the eigenvalues are pure imaginary, and from (5) all solutions are periodic with period $p = 2\pi/\beta$. Notice that if both $c_{12}$ and $c_{21}$ happened to be 0, then (5) would reduce to

$$x(t) = c_{11} \cos \beta t, \qquad y(t) = c_{22} \sin \beta t,$$

which is a standard parametric representation for the ellipse $x^2/c_{11}^2 + y^2/c_{22}^2 = 1$. By solving the system of equations in (4) for $\cos \beta t$ and $\sin \beta t$ and using the identity $\sin^2\beta t + \cos^2\beta t = 1$, it is possible to show that *all solutions are ellipses* with center at the origin. The critical point (0, 0) is called a **center,** and Figure 10.2.9 shows a typical collection of solution curves. The ellipses are either *all* traversed in the clockwise direction or *all* traversed in the counterclockwise direction.



**FIGURE 10.2.9**  Center

**(b)  Nonzero real part** $(\tau^2 - 4\Delta < 0, \tau \neq 0)$

**Spiral points:** When $\alpha \neq 0$, the effect of the term $e^{\alpha t}$ in (4) is similar to the effect of the exponential term in the analysis of damped motion given in Section 5.1. When $\alpha < 0$, $e^{\alpha t} \to 0$, and the elliptical-like solution spirals closer and closer to the origin. The critical point is called a **stable spiral point.** When $\alpha > 0$, the effect is the opposite. An elliptical-like solution is driven farther and farther from the origin, and the critical point is now called an **unstable spiral point.** See Figure 10.2.10.

---

### EXAMPLE 3  Repeated and Complex Eigenvalues

Classify the critical point (0, 0) of each of the following linear systems $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$:

**(a)** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -18 \\ 2 & -9 \end{pmatrix}$ **(b)** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

In each case discuss the nature of the solution that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = (1, 0)$. Determine parametric equations for each solution.



**(a)** Stable spiral point

**SOLUTION (a)** Since $\tau = -6$ and $\Delta = 9$, the characteristic polynomial is $\lambda^2 + 6\lambda + 9 = (\lambda + 3)^2$, so (0, 0) is a degenerate stable node. For the repeated eigenvalue $\lambda = -3$ we find a single eigenvector $\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, so the solution $\mathbf{X}(t)$ that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = (1, 0)$ approaches (0, 0) from the direction specified by the line $y = x/3$.

**(b)** Since $\tau = 0$ and $\Delta = 1$, the eigenvalues are $\lambda = \pm i$, so (0, 0) is a center. The solution $\mathbf{X}(t)$ that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = (1, 0)$ is an ellipse that circles the origin every $2\pi$ units of time.

From Example 4 of Section 8.2 the general solution of the system in (a) is

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t} + c_2 \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} t e^{-3t} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t} \right].$$



**(b)** Unstable spiral point

**FIGURE 10.2.10**  Spiral points

The initial condition gives $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = 2$, and so $x = (6t + 1)e^{-3t}$, $y = 2te^{-3t}$ are parametric equations for the solution.

The general solution of the system in (b) is

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t + \sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t - \sin t \\ -\sin t \end{pmatrix}.$$
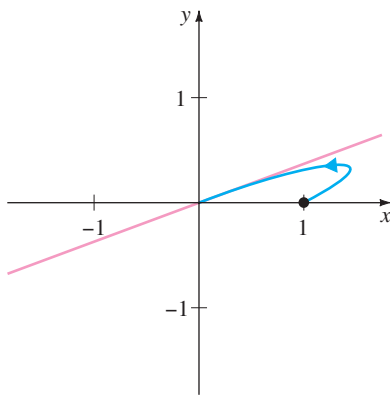
**(a)** Degenerate stable node
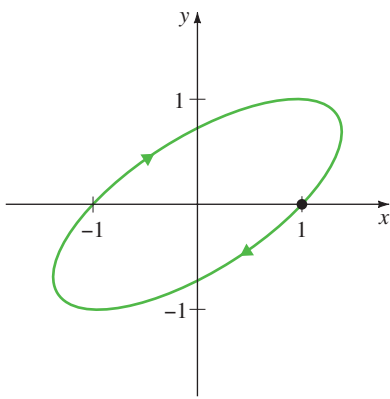


**(b)** Center

**FIGURE 10.2.11** Critical points in Example 3

The initial condition gives $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = 1$, so $x = \cos t - \sin t$, $y = -\sin t$ are parametric equations for the ellipse. Note that $y < 0$ for small positive values of $t$, and therefore the ellipse is traversed in the clockwise direction.

The solutions of (a) and (b) are shown in Figures 10.2.11(a) and 10.2.11(b), respectively. ∎

Figure 10.2.12 conveniently summarizes the results of this section. The general geometric nature of the solutions can be determined by computing the trace and determinant of **A**. In practice, graphs of the solutions are most easily obtained *not* by constructing explicit eigenvalue-eigenvector solutions but rather by generating the solutions using a numerical solver and the Runge-Kutta method for first-order systems.
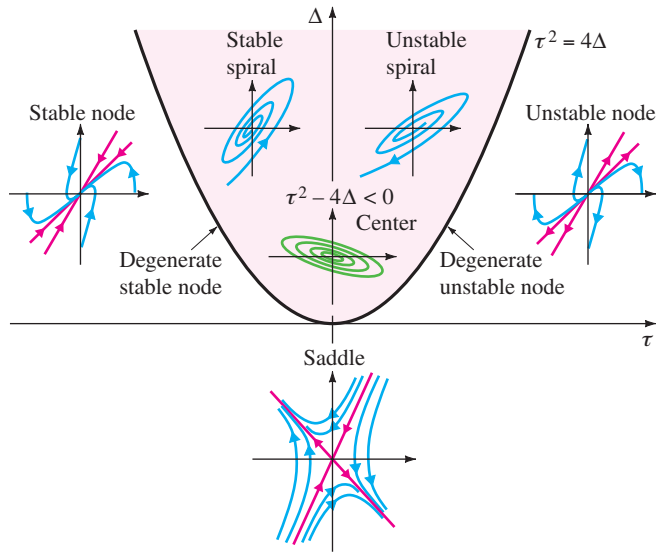


**FIGURE 10.2.12** Geometric summary of Cases I, II, and III

---

## EXAMPLE 4 Classifying Critical Points

Classify the critical point $(0, 0)$ of each of the following linear systems $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$:

**(a)** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.01 & 3.10 \\ -1.10 & -1.02 \end{pmatrix}$ 

**(b)** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -a\hat{x} & -ab\hat{x} \\ -cd\hat{y} & -d\hat{y} \end{pmatrix}$

for positive constants $a$, $b$, $c$, $d$, $\hat{x}$, and $\hat{y}$.

**SOLUTION** **(a)** For this matrix $\tau = -0.01$, $\Delta = 2.3798$, so $\tau^2 - 4\Delta < 0$. Using Figure 10.2.12, we see that $(0, 0)$ is a stable spiral point.

**(b)** This matrix arises from the Lotka-Volterra competition model, which we will study in Section 10.4. Since $\tau = -(a\hat{x} + d\hat{y})$ and all constants in the matrix are positive, $\tau < 0$. The determinant may be written as $\Delta = ad\hat{x}\hat{y}(1 - bc)$. If $bc > 1$, then $\Delta < 0$ and the critical point is a saddle point. If $bc < 1$, $\Delta > 0$ and the critical point is either a stable node, a degenerate stable node, or a stable spiral point. In all three cases $\lim_{t \to \infty} \mathbf{X}(t) = \mathbf{0}$. ∎

The answers to the questions posed at the beginning of this section for the linear plane autonomous system (1) with $ad - bc \neq 0$ are summarized in the next theorem.

> **THEOREM 10.2.1**  **Stability Criteria for Linear Systems**
>
> For a linear plane autonomous system $X' = AX$ with det $A \neq 0$, let $X = X(t)$ denote the solution that satisfies the initial condition $X(0) = X_0$, where $X_0 \neq 0$.
>
> **(a)** $\lim_{t\to\infty} X(t) = 0$ if and only if the eigenvalues of $A$ have negative real parts. This will occur when $\Delta > 0$ and $\tau < 0$.
>
> **(b)** $X(t)$ is periodic if and only if the eigenvalues of $A$ are pure imaginary. This will occur when $\Delta > 0$ and $\tau = 0$.
>
> **(c)** In all other cases, given any neighborhood of the origin, there is at least one $X_0$ in the neighborhood for which $X(t)$ becomes unbounded as $t$ increases.

## REMARKS

The terminology that is used to describe the types of critical points varies from text to text. The following table lists many of the alternative terms that you may encounter in your reading.

| Term | Alternative Terms |
|---|---|
| critical point | equilibrium point, singular point, stationary point, rest point |
| spiral point | focus, focal point, vortex point |
| stable node or spiral point | attractor, sink |
| unstable node or spiral point | repeller, source |

## EXERCISES 10.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-17.*

In Problems 1–8 the general solution of the linear system $X' = AX$ is given.

**(a)** In each case discuss the nature of the solutions in a neighborhood of $(0, 0)$.

**(b)** With the aid of a calculator or a CAS graph the solution that satisfies $X(0) = (1, 1)$.

**1.** $A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -2 \\ -2 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$,  $X(t) = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}e^{-6t}$

**2.** $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$,  $X(t) = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}e^{t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t}$

**3.** $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$,  $X(t) = e^{t}\left[ c_1\begin{pmatrix} -\sin t \\ \cos t \end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ \sin t \end{pmatrix} \right]$

**4.** $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -4 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$,

$X(t) = e^{-t}\left[ c_1\begin{pmatrix} 2\cos 2t \\ \sin 2t \end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} -2\sin 2t \\ \cos 2t \end{pmatrix} \right]$

**5.** $A = \begin{pmatrix} -6 & 5 \\ -5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$,

$X(t) = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-t} + c_2\left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}te^{-t} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{5} \end{pmatrix}e^{-t} \right]$

**6.** $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$,

$X(t) = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{4t} + c_2\left[ \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}te^{4t} + \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{4t} \right]$

**7.** $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 3 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$,  $X(t) = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}e^{-t}$

**8.** $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 5 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$,

$X(t) = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 5\cos 2t \\ \cos 2t - 2\sin 2t \end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 5\sin 2t \\ 2\cos 2t + \sin 2t \end{pmatrix}$

In Problems 9–16 classify the critical point (0, 0) of the given linear system by computing the trace $\tau$ and determinant $\Delta$ and using Figure 10.2.12.

**9.** $x' = -5x + 3y$
$\quad y' = \phantom{-}2x + 7y$

**10.** $x' = -5x + 3y$
$\quad\ y' = \phantom{-}2x - 7y$

**11.** $x' = -5x + 3y$
$\quad\ y' = -2x + 5y$

**12.** $x' = -5x + 3y$
$\quad\ y' = -7x + 4y$

**13.** $x' = -\frac{3}{2}x + \frac{1}{4}y$
$\quad\ y' = -x - \frac{1}{2}y$

**14.** $x' = \frac{3}{2}x + \frac{1}{4}y$
$\quad\ y' = -x + \frac{1}{2}y$

**15.** $x' = 0.02x - 0.11y$
$\quad\ y' = 0.10x - 0.05y$

**16.** $x' = \phantom{-}0.03x + 0.01y$
$\quad\ y' = -0.01x + 0.05y$

**17.** Determine conditions on the real constant $\mu$ so that (0, 0) is a center for the linear system

$$x' = -\mu x + y$$
$$y' = -x + \mu y.$$

**18.** Determine a condition on the real constant $\mu$ so that (0, 0) is a stable spiral point of the linear system

$$x' = y$$
$$y' = -x + \mu y.$$

**19.** Show that (0, 0) is always an unstable critical point of the linear system

$$x' = \mu x + y$$
$$y' = -x + y,$$

where $\mu$ is a real constant and $\mu \neq -1$. When is (0, 0) an unstable saddle point? When is (0, 0) an unstable spiral point?

**20.** Let $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ be the response of the linear dynamical system

$$x' = \alpha x - \beta y$$
$$y' = \beta x + \alpha y$$

that satisfies the initial condition $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$. Determine conditions on the real constants $\alpha$ and $\beta$ that will ensure $\lim_{t\to\infty} \mathbf{X}(t) = (0, 0)$. Can (0, 0) be a node or saddle point?

**21.** Show that the nonhomogeneous linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{F}$ has a unique critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$ when $\Delta = \det \mathbf{A} \neq 0$. Conclude that if $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ is a solution to the nonhomogeneous system, $\tau < 0$ and $\Delta > 0$, then $\lim_{t\to\infty} \mathbf{X}(t) = \mathbf{X}_1$. [*Hint*: $\mathbf{X}(t) = \mathbf{X}_c(t) + \mathbf{X}_1$.]

**22.** In Example 4(b) show that (0, 0) is a stable node when $bc < 1$.

In Problems 23–26 a nonhomogeneous linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{F}$ is given.

**(a)** In each case determine the unique critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$.

**(b)** Use a numerical solver to determine the nature of the critical point in (a).

**(c)** Investigate the relationship between $\mathbf{X}_1$ and the critical point (0, 0) of the homogeneous linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$.

**23.** $x' = 2x + 3y - 6$
$\quad\ y' = -x - 2y + 5$

**24.** $x' = -5x + 9y + 13$
$\quad\ y' = -x - 11y - 23$

**25.** $x' = 0.1x - 0.2y + 0.35$
$\quad\ y' = 0.1x + 0.1y - 0.25$

**26.** $x' = 3x - 2y - 1$
$\quad\ y' = 5x - 3y - 2$

---

## 10.3 LINEARIZATION AND LOCAL STABILITY

### REVIEW MATERIAL
● The concept of linearization was first introduced in Section 2.6.

**INTRODUCTION** The key idea in this section is that of linearization. A **linearization** of a differentiable function $f$ at a point $(x_1, f(x_1))$ is the equation of the tangent line to the graph of $f$ at the point: $y = f(x_1) + f'(x_1)(x - x_1)$. For $x$ close to $x_1$ the points on the graph of $f$ are close to the points on the tangent line, so values of $y(x)$ obtained from its equation can be used to approximate the corresponding values of $f(x)$. In this section we will use linearization as a means of analyzing nonlinear DEs and nonlinear systems; the idea is to replace them by linear DEs and linear systems.

**SLIDING BEAD** We start this section by refining the stability concepts introduced in Section 10.2 in such a way that they will apply to nonlinear autonomous systems as well. Although the linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ had only one critical point when $\det \mathbf{A} \neq 0$, we saw in Section 10.1 that a nonlinear system may have many critical points. We therefore cannot expect that a particle placed initially at a point $\mathbf{X}_0$ will

remain near a given critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$ unless $\mathbf{X}_0$ has been placed sufficiently close to $\mathbf{X}_1$ to begin with. The particle might well be driven to a second critical point. To emphasize this idea, consider the physical system shown in Figure 10.3.1, in which a bead slides along the curve $z = f(x)$ under the influence of gravity alone. We will show in Section 10.4 that the $x$-coordinate of the bead satisfies a nonlinear second-order differential equation $x'' = g(x, x')$; therefore letting $y = x'$ satisfies the nonlinear autonomous system

$$x' = y$$
$$y' = g(x, y).$$



**FIGURE 10.3.1** Bead sliding on graph of $z = f(x)$

If the bead is positioned at $P = (x, f(x))$ and given zero initial velocity, the bead will remain at $P$ provided that $f'(x) = 0$. If the bead is placed near the critical point located at $x = x_1$, it will remain near $x = x_1$ only if its initial velocity does not drive it over the "hump" at $x = x_2$ toward the critical point located at $x = x_3$. Therefore $\mathbf{X}(0) = (x(0), x'(0))$ must be near $(x_1, 0)$.

In the next definition we will denote the distance between two points $\mathbf{X}$ and $\mathbf{Y}$ by $|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}|$. Recall that if $\mathbf{X} = (x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_n)$ and $\mathbf{Y} = (y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_n)$, then

$$|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}| = \sqrt{(x_1 - y_1)^2 + (x_2 - y_2)^2 + \cdots + (x_n - y_n)^2}.$$

---

**DEFINITION 10.3.1  Stable Critical Points**

Let $\mathbf{X}_1$ be a critical point of an autonomous system and let $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ denote the solution that satisfies the initial condition $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$, where $\mathbf{X}_0 \neq \mathbf{X}_1$. We say that $\mathbf{X}_1$ is a **stable critical point** when, given any radius $\rho > 0$, there is a corresponding radius $r > 0$ such that if the initial position $\mathbf{X}_0$ satisfies $|\mathbf{X}_0 - \mathbf{X}_1| < r$, then the corresponding solution $\mathbf{X}(t)$ satisfies $|\mathbf{X}(t) - \mathbf{X}_1| < \rho$ for all $t > 0$. If, in addition, $\lim_{t \to \infty} \mathbf{X}(t) = \mathbf{X}_1$ whenever $|\mathbf{X}_0 - \mathbf{X}_1| < r$, we call $\mathbf{X}_1$ an **asymptotically stable critical point.**

---

This definition is illustrated in Figure 10.3.2(a). Given any disk of radius $\rho$ about the critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$, a solution will remain inside this disk provided that $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$ is selected sufficiently close to $\mathbf{X}_1$. It is *not* necessary that a solution approach the critical point in order for $\mathbf{X}_1$ to be stable. Stable nodes, stable spiral points, and centers are all examples of stable critical points for linear systems. To emphasize that $\mathbf{X}_0$ must be selected close to $\mathbf{X}_1$, the terminology **locally stable critical point** is also used.

By negating Definition 10.3.1, we obtain the definition of an unstable critical point.



**(a)** Stable

---

**DEFINITION 10.3.2  Unstable Critical Point**

Let $\mathbf{X}_1$ be a critical point of an autonomous system and let $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ denote the solution that satisfies the initial condition $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$, where $\mathbf{X}_0 \neq \mathbf{X}_1$. We say that $\mathbf{X}_1$ is an **unstable critical point** if there is a disk of radius $\rho > 0$ with the property that for any $r > 0$ there is at least one initial position $\mathbf{X}_0$ that satisfies $|\mathbf{X}_0 - \mathbf{X}_1| < r$, yet the corresponding solution $\mathbf{X}(t)$ satisfies $|\mathbf{X}(t) - \mathbf{X}_1| \geq \rho$ for at least one $t > 0$.

---



**(b)** Unstable

**FIGURE 10.3.2** Critical points

If a critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$ is unstable, no matter how small the neighborhood about $\mathbf{X}_1$, an initial position $\mathbf{X}_0$ can always be found that results in the solution leaving some disk of radius $\rho$ at some future time $t$. See Figure 10.3.2(b). Therefore unstable nodes, unstable spiral points, and saddle points are all examples of unstable critical points for linear systems. In Figure 10.3.1 the critical point $(x_2, 0)$ is unstable. The slightest displacement or initial velocity results in the bead sliding away from the point $(x_2, f(x_2))$.

## EXAMPLE 1 A Stable Critical Point

Show that (0, 0) is a stable critical point of the nonlinear plane autonomous system

$$x' = -y - x\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$
$$y' = x - y\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$$

considered in Example 6 of Section 10.1.

**SOLUTION** In Example 6 of Section 10.1 we showed that in polar coordinates $r = 1/(t + c_1)$, $\theta = t + c_2$ is the solution of the system. If $\mathbf{X}(0) = (r_0, \theta_0)$ is the initial condition in polar coordinates, then

$$r = \frac{r_0}{r_0 t + 1}, \qquad \theta = t + \theta_0.$$

Note that $r \leq r_0$ for $t \geq 0$, and $r$ approaches (0, 0) as $t$ increases. Therefore, given $\rho > 0$, a solution that starts less than $\rho$ units from (0, 0) remains within $\rho$ units of the origin for all $t \geq 0$. Hence the critical point (0, 0) is stable and is in fact asymptotically stable. A typical solution is shown in Figure 10.3.3.

**FIGURE 10.3.3** Asymptotically stable critical point

## EXAMPLE 2 An Unstable Critical Point

When expressed in polar coordinates, a plane autonomous system takes the form

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = 0.05r(3 - r)$$

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -1.$$

Show that $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ is an unstable critical point.

**SOLUTION** Since $x = r \cos\theta$ and $y = r \sin\theta$, we have

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -r\sin\theta\frac{d\theta}{dt} + \frac{dr}{dt}\cos\theta$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = r\cos\theta\frac{d\theta}{dt} + \frac{dr}{dt}\sin\theta.$$

From $dr/dt = 0.05r(3 - r)$ we see that $dr/dt = 0$ when $r = 0$ and can conclude that $(x, y) = (0, 0)$ is a critical point by substituting $r = 0$ into the new system.

The differential equation $dr/dt = 0.05r(3 - r)$ is a logistic equation that can be solved by using either separation of variables or equation (5) in Section 3.2. If $r(0) = r_0$ and $r_0 \neq 0$, then

$$r = \frac{3}{1 + c_0 e^{-0.15t}},$$

where $c_0 = (3 - r_0)/r_0$. Since $\lim_{t \to \infty} \dfrac{3}{1 + c_0 e^{-0.15t}} = 3$, it follows that no matter how close to (0, 0) a solution starts, the solution will leave a disk of radius 1 about the origin. Therefore (0, 0) is an unstable critical point. A typical solution that starts near (0, 0) is shown in Figure 10.3.4.
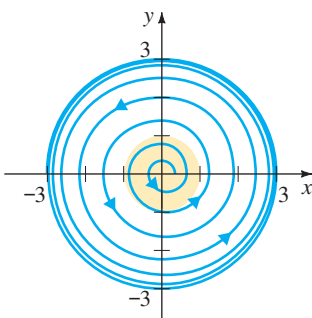
**FIGURE 10.3.4** Unstable critical point

**LINEARIZATION** It is rarely possible to determine the stability of a critical point of a nonlinear system by finding explicit solutions, as in Examples 1 and 2. Instead, we replace the term $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$ in the original autonomous system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$ by a linear

term $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_1)$ that most closely approximates $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$ in a neighborhood of $\mathbf{X}_1$. This replacement process, called **linearization,** will be illustrated first for the first-order differential equation $x' = g(x)$.

An equation of the tangent line to the curve $y = g(x)$ at $x = x_1$ is $y = g(x_1) + g'(x_1)(x - x_1)$, and if $x_1$ is a critical point of $x' = g(x)$, we have $x' = g(x) \approx g'(x_1)(x - x_1)$. The general solution to the linear differential equation $x' = g'(x_1)(x - x_1)$ is $x = x_1 + ce^{\lambda_1 t}$, where $\lambda_1 = g'(x_1)$. Thus if $g'(x_1) < 0$, then $x(t)$ approaches $x_1$. Theorem 10.3.1 asserts that the same behavior occurs in the original differential equation, provided that $x(0) = x_0$ is selected close enough to $x_1$.

---

**THEOREM 10.3.1**   **Stability Criteria for $x' = g(x)$**

Let $x_1$ be a critical point of the autonomous differential equation $x' = g(x)$, where $g$ is differentiable at $x_1$.

**(a)**  If $g'(x_1) < 0$, then $x_1$ is an asymptotically stable critical point.

**(b)**  If $g'(x_1) > 0$, then $x_1$ is an unstable critical point.

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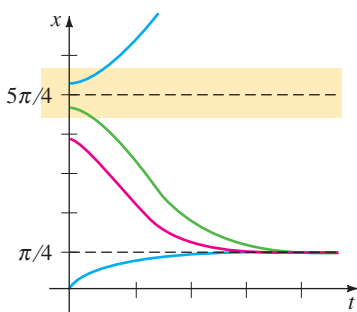


**FIGURE 10.3.5**   $\pi/4$ is asymptotically stable and $5\pi/4$ is unstable

**EXAMPLE 3**   **Stability in a Nonlinear First-Order DE**

Both $x = \pi/4$ and $x = 5\pi/4$ are critical points of the autonomous differential equation $x' = \cos x - \sin x$. This differential equation is difficult to solve explicitly, but we can use Theorem 10.2 to predict the behavior of solutions near these two critical points.

Since $g'(x) = -\sin x - \cos x$, $g'(\pi/4) = -\sqrt{2} < 0$ and $g'(5\pi/4) = \sqrt{2} > 0$. Therefore $x = \pi/4$ is an asymptotically stable critical point, but $x = 5\pi/4$ is unstable. In Figure 10.3.5 we used a numerical solver to investigate solutions that start near $(0, \pi/4)$ and $(0, 5\pi/4)$. Observe that solution curves that start close to $(0, 5\pi/4)$ quickly move away from the line $x = 5\pi/4$, as predicted. ∎

**EXAMPLE 4**   **Stability Analysis of the Logistic DE**

Without solving explicitly, analyze the critical points of the logistic differential equation (see Section 3.2) $x' = \dfrac{r}{K} x(K - x)$, where $r$ and $K$ are positive constants.

**SOLUTION**   The two critical points are $x = 0$ and $x = K$, so from $g'(x) = r(K - 2x)/K$ we get $g'(0) = r$ and $g'(K) = -r$. By Theorem 10.3.1 we conclude that $x = 0$ is an unstable critical point and $x = K$ is an asymptotically stable critical point. ∎

**JACOBIAN MATRIX**   A similar analysis may be carried out for a plane autonomous system. An equation of the tangent plane to the surface $z = g(x, y)$ at $\mathbf{X}_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ is

$$z = g(x_1, y_1) + \frac{\partial g}{\partial x}\bigg|_{(x_1, y_1)} (x - x_1) + \frac{\partial g}{\partial y}\bigg|_{(x_1, y_1)} (y - y_1),$$

and $g(x, y)$ can be approximated by its tangent plane in a neighborhood of $\mathbf{X}_1$.

When $\mathbf{X}_1$ is a critical point of a plane autonomous system, $P(x_1, y_1) = Q(x_1, y_1) = 0$, and we have

$$x' = P(x, y) \approx \frac{\partial P}{\partial x}\bigg|_{(x_1, y_1)} (x - x_1) + \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\bigg|_{(x_1, y_1)} (y - y_1)$$

$$y' = Q(x, y) \approx \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}\bigg|_{(x_1, y_1)} (x - x_1) + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial y}\bigg|_{(x_1, y_1)} (y - y_1).$$

The original system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$ may be approximated in a neighborhood of the critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$ by the linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_1)$, where

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \dfrac{\partial P}{\partial x}\Big|_{(x_1, y_1)} & \dfrac{\partial P}{\partial y}\Big|_{(x_1, y_1)} \\ \dfrac{\partial Q}{\partial x}\Big|_{(x_1, y_1)} & \dfrac{\partial Q}{\partial y}\Big|_{(x_1, y_1)} \end{pmatrix}.$$

This matrix is called the **Jacobian matrix** at $\mathbf{X}_1$ and is denoted by $\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}_1)$. If we let $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_1$, then the linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_1)$ becomes $\mathbf{H}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{H}$, which is the form of the linear system that we analyzed in Section 10.2. The critical point $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}_1$ for $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{X}_1)$ now corresponds to the critical point $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{0}$ for $\mathbf{H}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{H}$. If the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A}$ have negative real parts, then by Theorem 10.2.1, $\mathbf{0}$ is an asymptotically stable critical point for $\mathbf{H}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{H}$. If there is an eigenvalue with positive real part, $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{0}$ is an unstable critical point. Theorem 10.3.2 asserts that the same conclusions can be made for the critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$ of the original system.

---

**THEOREM 10.3.2  Stability Criteria for Plane Autonomous Systems**

Let $\mathbf{X}_1$ be a critical point of the plane autonomous system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{X})$, where $P(x, y)$ and $Q(x, y)$ have continuous first partials in a neighborhood of $\mathbf{X}_1$.

(a) If the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}_1)$ have negative real part, then $\mathbf{X}_1$ is an asymptotically stable critical point.

(b) If $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}_1)$ has an eigenvalue with positive real part, then $\mathbf{X}_1$ is an unstable critical point.

---

**EXAMPLE 5  Stability Analysis of Nonlinear Systems**

Classify (if possible) the critical points of each of the following plane autonomous systems as stable or unstable:

(a) $x' = x^2 + y^2 - 6$ 　　　(b) $x' = 0.01x(100 - x - y)$
　　$y' = x^2 - y$ 　　　　　　　　$y' = 0.05y(60 - y - 0.2x)$

**SOLUTION**  The critical points of each system were determined in Example 4 of Section 10.1.

(a) The critical points are $(\sqrt{2}, 2)$ and $(-\sqrt{2}, 2)$, the Jacobian matrix is

$$\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{pmatrix} 2x & 2y \\ 2x & -1 \end{pmatrix},$$

and so

$$\mathbf{A}_1 = \mathbf{g}'\big((\sqrt{2}, 2)\big) = \begin{pmatrix} 2\sqrt{2} & 4 \\ 2\sqrt{2} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{A}_2 = \mathbf{g}'\big((-\sqrt{2}, 2)\big) = \begin{pmatrix} -2\sqrt{2} & 4 \\ -2\sqrt{2} & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since the determinant of $\mathbf{A}_1$ is negative, $\mathbf{A}_1$ has a positive real eigenvalue. Therefore $(\sqrt{2}, 2)$ is an unstable critical point. Matrix $\mathbf{A}_2$ has a positive determinant and a negative trace, so both eigenvalues have negative real parts. It follows that $(-\sqrt{2}, 2)$ is a stable critical point.

(b) The critical points are $(0, 0)$, $(0, 60)$, $(100, 0)$, and $(50, 50)$, the Jacobian matrix is

$$\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.01(100 - 2x - y) & -0.01x \\ -0.01y & 0.05(60 - 2y - 0.2x) \end{pmatrix},$$

and so

$$\mathbf{A}_1 = \mathbf{g}'((0, 0)) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{A}_2 = \mathbf{g}'((0, 60)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.4 & 0 \\ -0.6 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_3 = \mathbf{g}'((100, 0)) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{A}_4 = \mathbf{g}'((50, 50)) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.5 & -0.5 \\ -0.5 & -2.5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since the matrix $\mathbf{A}_1$ has a positive determinant and a positive trace, both eigenvalues have positive real parts. Therefore $(0, 0)$ is an unstable critical point. The determinants of matrices $\mathbf{A}_2$ and $\mathbf{A}_3$ are negative, so in each case, one of the eigenvalues is positive. Therefore both $(0, 60)$ and $(100, 0)$ are unstable critical points. Since the matrix $\mathbf{A}_4$ has a positive determinant and a negative trace, $(50, 50)$ is a stable critical point. ■
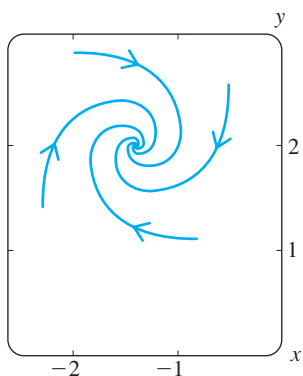


**FIGURE 10.3.6** $(-\sqrt{2}, 2)$ appears to be a stable spiral point

In Example 5 we did not compute $\tau^2 - 4\Delta$ (as in Section 10.2) and attempt to further classify the critical points as stable nodes, stable spiral points, saddle points, and so on. For example, for $\mathbf{X}_1 = (-\sqrt{2}, 2)$ in Example 5(a), $\tau^2 - 4\Delta < 0$, and if the system were linear, we would be able to conclude that $\mathbf{X}_1$ was a stable spiral point. Figure 10.3.6 shows several solution curves near $\mathbf{X}_1$ that were obtained with a numerical solver, and each solution does *appear* to spiral in toward the critical point.

**CLASSIFYING CRITICAL POINTS** It is natural to ask whether we can infer more geometric information about the solutions near a critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$ of a nonlinear autonomous system from an analysis of the critical point of the corresponding linear system. The answer is summarized in Figure 10.3.7, but you should note the following comments.

(*i*) In five separate cases (stable node, stable spiral point, unstable spiral point, unstable node, and saddle) the critical point may be categorized like the critical point in the corresponding linear system. The solutions have the same general geometric features as the solutions to the linear system, and the smaller the neighborhood about $\mathbf{X}_1$, the closer the resemblance.

(*ii*) If $\tau^2 = 4\Delta$ and $\tau > 0$, the critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$ is unstable, but in this borderline case *we are not yet able to decide whether $\mathbf{X}_1$ is an unstable spiral, unstable node, or degenerate unstable node.* Likewise, if $\tau^2 = 4\Delta$
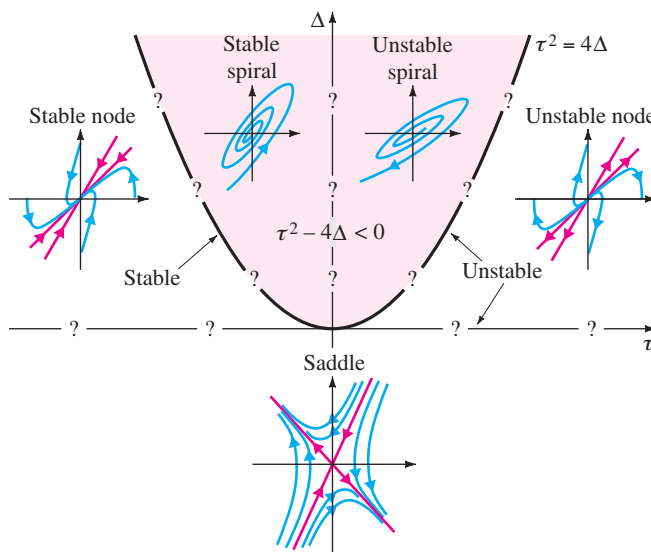


**FIGURE 10.3.7** Geometric summary of some conclusions (see (*i*)) and some unanswered questions (see (*ii*) and (*iii*)) about nonlinear autonomous systems

and $\tau < 0$, the critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$ is stable but may be either a stable spiral, a stable node, or a degenerate stable node.

(*iii*) If $\tau = 0$ and $\Delta > 0$, the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X})$ are pure imaginary and in this borderline case $\mathbf{X}_1$ may be either a stable spiral, an unstable spiral, or a center. *It is therefore not yet possible to determine whether* $\mathbf{X}_1$ *is stable or unstable.*

---

| **EXAMPLE 6** | **Classifying Critical Points of a Nonlinear System** |

Classify each critical point of the plane autonomous system in Example 5(b) as a stable node, a stable spiral point, an unstable spiral point, an unstable node, or a saddle point.

**SOLUTION** For the matrix $\mathbf{A}_1$ corresponding to $(0, 0)$, $\Delta = 3$, $\tau = 4$, so $\tau^2 - 4\Delta = 4$. Therefore $(0, 0)$ is an unstable node. The critical points $(0, 60)$ and $(100, 0)$ are saddles, since $\Delta < 0$ in both cases. For matrix $\mathbf{A}_4$, $\Delta > 0$, $\tau < 0$, and $\tau^2 - 4\Delta > 0$. It follows that $(50, 50)$ is a stable node. Experiment with a numerical solver to verify these conclusions. ∎

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| **EXAMPLE 7** | **Stability Analysis for a Soft Spring** |

Recall from Section 5.3 that the second-order differential equation $mx'' + kx + k_1 x^3 = 0$, for $k > 0$, represents a general model for the free, undamped oscillations of a mass $m$ attached to a nonlinear spring. If $k = 1$ and $k_1 = -1$, the spring is called *soft,* and the plane autonomous system corresponding to the nonlinear second-order differential equation $x'' + x - x^3 = 0$ is

$$x' = y$$
$$y' = x^3 - x.$$

Find and classify (if possible) the critical points.

**SOLUTION** Since $x^3 - x = x(x^2 - 1)$, the critical points are $(0, 0)$, $(1, 0)$, and $(-1, 0)$. The corresponding Jacobian matrices are

$$\mathbf{A}_1 = \mathbf{g}'((0, 0)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{A}_2 = \mathbf{g}'((1, 0)) = \mathbf{g}'((-1, 0)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Since $\det \mathbf{A}_2 < 0$, critical points $(1, 0)$ and $(-1, 0)$ are both saddle points. The eigenvalues of matrix $\mathbf{A}_1$ are $\pm i$, and according to comment (*iii*), the status of the critical point at $(0, 0)$ remains in doubt. It may be either a stable spiral, an unstable spiral, or a center. ∎

**THE PHASE-PLANE METHOD** The linearization method, when successful, can provide useful information on the local behavior of solutions near critical points. It is of little help if we are interested in solutions whose initial position $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$ is not close to a critical point or if we wish to obtain a global view of the family of solution curves. The **phase-plane method** is based on the fact that

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{Q(x, y)}{P(x, y)}$$

and attempts to find $y$ as a function of $x$ using one of the methods available for solving first-order differential equations (Chapter 2). As we show in Examples 8 and 9, the method can sometimes be used to decide whether a critical point such as $(0, 0)$ in Example 7 is a stable spiral, an unstable spiral, or a center.

## EXAMPLE 8  Phase-Plane Method

Use the phase-plane method to classify the sole critical point (0, 0) of the plane autonomous system

$$x' = y^2$$
$$y' = x^2.$$

**SOLUTION**  The determinant of the Jacobian matrix

$$\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2y \\ 2x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

is 0 at (0, 0), so the nature of the critical point (0, 0) remains in doubt. Using the phase-plane method, we obtain the first-order differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{x^2}{y^2},$$

which can be easily solved by separation of variables:

$$\int y^2 \, dy = \int x^2 \, dx \qquad \text{or} \qquad y^3 = x^3 + c.$$

If $\mathbf{X}(0) = (0, y_0)$, it follows that $y^3 = x^3 + y_0^3$ or $y = \sqrt[3]{x^3 + y_0^3}$. Figure 10.3.8 shows a collection of solution curves corresponding to various choices for $y_0$. The nature of the critical point is clear from this phase portrait: No matter how close to (0, 0) the solution starts, $\mathbf{X}(t)$ moves away from the origin as $t$ increases. The critical point at (0, 0) is therefore unstable. ∎
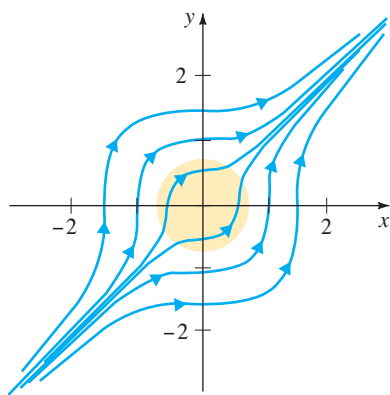


**FIGURE 10.3.8**  Phase portrait of nonlinear system in Example 8

## EXAMPLE 9  Phase-Plane Analysis of a Soft Spring

Use the phase-plane method to determine the nature of the solutions to $x'' + x - x^3 = 0$ in a neighborhood of (0, 0).

**SOLUTION**  If we let $dx/dt = y$, then $dy/dt = x^3 - x$. From this we obtain the first-order differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{x^3 - x}{y},$$

which can be solved by separation of variables. Integrating

$$\int y \, dy = \int (x^3 - x) \, dx \qquad \text{gives} \qquad \frac{y^2}{2} = \frac{x^4}{4} - \frac{x^2}{2} + c.$$

After completing the square, we can write the solution as $y^2 = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - 1)^2 + c_0$. If $\mathbf{X}(0) = (x_0, 0)$, where $0 < x_0 < 1$, then $c_0 = -\frac{1}{2}(x_0^2 - 1)^2$, and so

$$y^2 = \frac{(x^2 - 1)^2}{2} - \frac{(x_0^2 - 1)^2}{2} = \frac{(2 - x^2 - x_0^2)(x_0^2 - x^2)}{2}.$$

Note that $y = 0$ when $x = -x_0$. In addition, the right-hand side is positive when $-x_0 < x < x_0$, so each $x$ has *two* corresponding values of $y$. The solution $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = (x_0, 0)$ is therefore periodic, so (0, 0) is a center.

Figure 10.3.9 shows a family of solution curves, or phase portrait, of the original system. We used the original plane autonomous system to determine the directions indicated on each trajectory. ∎
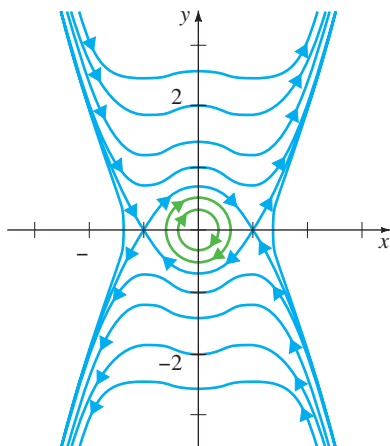


**FIGURE 10.3.9**  Phase portrait of nonlinear system in Example 9

## EXERCISES 10.3

**1.** Show that $(0, 0)$ is an asymptotically stable critical point of the nonlinear autonomous system

$$x' = \alpha x - \beta y + y^2$$
$$y' = \beta x + \alpha y - xy$$

when $\alpha < 0$ and an unstable critical point when $\alpha > 0$. [*Hint*: Switch to polar coordinates.]

**2.** When expressed in polar coordinates, a plane autonomous system takes the form

$$\frac{dr}{dt} = \alpha r(5 - r)$$
$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -1.$$

Show that $(0, 0)$ is an asymptotically stable critical point if and only if $\alpha < 0$.

In Problems 3–10, without solving explicitly, classify the critical points of the given first-order autonomous differential equation as either asymptotically stable or unstable. All constants are assumed to be positive.

**3.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = kx(n + 1 - x)$

**4.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = -kx \ln \dfrac{x}{K}, \quad x > 0$

**5.** $\dfrac{dT}{dt} = k(T - T_0)$

**6.** $m\dfrac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv$

**7.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = k(\alpha - x)(\beta - x), \quad \alpha > \beta$

**8.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = k(\alpha - x)(\beta - x)(\gamma - x), \quad \alpha > \beta > \gamma$

**9.** $\dfrac{dP}{dt} = P(a - bP)(1 - cP^{-1}), \quad P > 0, a < bc$

**10.** $\dfrac{dA}{dt} = k\sqrt{A}\,(K - \sqrt{A}), \quad A > 0$

In Problems 11–20 classify (if possible) each critical point of the given plane autonomous system as a stable node, a stable spiral point, an unstable spiral point, an unstable node, or a saddle point.

**11.** $x' = 1 - 2xy$
$\phantom{11.\ }y' = 2xy - y$

**12.** $x' = x^2 - y^2 - 1$
$\phantom{12.\ }y' = 2y$

**13.** $x' = y - x^2 + 2$
$\phantom{13.\ }y' = x^2 - xy$

**14.** $x' = 2x - y^2$
$\phantom{14.\ }y' = -y + xy$

**15.** $x' = -3x + y^2 + 2$
$\phantom{15.\ }y' = x^2 - y^2$

**16.** $x' = xy - 3y - 4$
$\phantom{16.\ }y' = y^2 - x^2$

**17.** $x' = -2xy$
$\phantom{17.\ }y' = y - x + xy - y^3$

**18.** $x' = x(1 - x^2 - 3y^2)$
$\phantom{18.\ }y' = y(3 - x^2 - 3y^2)$

**19.** $x' = x\left(10 - x - \tfrac{1}{2}y\right)$
$\phantom{19.\ }y' = y(16 - y - x)$

**20.** $x' = -2x + y + 10$
$\phantom{20.\ }y' = 2x - y - 15\,\dfrac{y}{y + 5}$

In Problems 21–26 classify (if possible) each critical point of the given second-order differential equation as a stable node, a stable spiral point, an unstable spiral point, an unstable node, or a saddle point.

**21.** $\theta'' = (\cos \theta - 0.5) \sin \theta, \quad |\theta| < \pi$

**22.** $x'' + x = \left(\tfrac{1}{2} - 3(x')^2\right)x' - x^2$

**23.** $x'' + x'(1 - x^3) - x^2 = 0$

**24.** $x'' + 4\,\dfrac{x}{1 + x^2} + 2x' = 0$

**25.** $x'' + x = \epsilon x^3$ for $\epsilon > 0$

**26.** $x'' + x - \epsilon x|x| = 0$ for $\epsilon > 0$ $\left[\text{Hint: } \dfrac{d}{dx}x\,|x| = 2|x|.\right]$

**27.** Show that the nonlinear second-order differential equation

$$(1 + \alpha^2 x^2)x'' + (\beta + \alpha^2(x')^2)x = 0$$

has a saddle point at $(0, 0)$ when $\beta < 0$.

**28.** Show that the dynamical system

$$x' = -\alpha x + xy$$
$$y' = 1 - \beta y - x^2$$

has a unique critical point when $\alpha\beta > 1$ and that this critical point is stable when $\beta > 0$.

**29.** **(a)** Show that the plane autonomous system

$$x' = -x + y - x^3$$
$$y' = -x - y + y^2$$

has two critical points by sketching the graphs of $-x + y - x^3 = 0$ and $-x - y + y^2 = 0$. Classify the critical point at $(0, 0)$.

**(b)** Show that the second critical point $X_1 = (0.88054, 1.56327)$ is a saddle point.

**30.** **(a)** Show that $(0, 0)$ is the only critical point of the **Raleigh differential equation**

$$x'' + \epsilon\left(\tfrac{1}{3}(x')^3 - x'\right) + x = 0.$$

**(b)** Show that $(0, 0)$ is unstable when $\epsilon > 0$. When is $(0, 0)$ an unstable spiral point?

**(c)** Show that $(0, 0)$ is stable when $\epsilon < 0$. When is $(0, 0)$ a stable spiral point?

**(d)** Show that $(0, 0)$ is a center when $\epsilon = 0$.

**31.** Use the phase-plane method to show that $(0, 0)$ is a center of the nonlinear second-order differential equation $x'' + 2x^3 = 0$.

**32.** Use the phase-plane method to show that the solution to the nonlinear second-order differential equation $x'' + 2x - x^2 = 0$ that satisfies $x(0) = 1$ and $x'(0) = 0$ is periodic.

**33. (a)** Find the critical points of the plane autonomous system

$$x' = 2xy$$
$$y' = 1 - x^2 + y^2,$$

and show that linearization gives no information about the nature of these critical points.

**(b)** Use the phase-plane method to show that the critical points in (a) are both centers.
[*Hint*: Let $u = y^2/x$ and show that $(x - c)^2 + y^2 = c^2 - 1$.]

**34.** The origin is the only critical point of the nonlinear second-order differential equation $x'' + (x')^2 + x = 0$.

**(a)** Show that the phase-plane method leads to the Bernoulli differential equation $dy/dx = -y - xy^{-1}$.

**(b)** Show that the solution satisfying $x(0) = \frac{1}{2}$ and $x'(0) = 0$ is not periodic.

**35.** A solution of the nonlinear second-order differential equation $x'' + x - x^3 = 0$ satisfies $x(0) = 0$ and $x'(0) = v_0$. Use the phase-plane method to determine when the resulting solution is periodic. [*Hint*: See Example 9.]

**36.** The nonlinear differential equation $x'' + x = 1 + \epsilon x^2$ arises in the analysis of planetary motion using relativity theory. Classify (if possible) all critical points of the corresponding plane autonomous system.

**37.** When a nonlinear capacitor is present in an *LRC* circuit, the voltage drop is no longer given by $q/C$ but is more accurately described by $\alpha q + \beta q^3$, where $\alpha$ and $\beta$ are constants and $\alpha > 0$. Differential equation (34) of Section 5.1 for the free circuit is then replaced by

$$L\frac{d^2q}{dt^2} + R\frac{dq}{dt} + \alpha q + \beta q^3 = 0.$$

Find and classify all critical points of this nonlinear differential equation. [*Hint*: Divide into the two cases $\beta > 0$ and $\beta < 0$.]

**38.** The nonlinear equation $mx'' + kx + k_1 x^3 = 0$, for $k > 0$, represents a general model for the free, undamped oscillations of a mass $m$ attached to a spring. If $k_1 > 0$, the spring is called *hard* (see Example 1 in Section 5.3). Determine the nature of the solutions to $x'' + x + x^3 = 0$ in a neighborhood of $(0, 0)$.

**39.** The nonlinear equation $\theta'' + \sin \theta = \frac{1}{2}$ can be interpreted as a model for a certain pendulum with a constant driving function.

**(a)** Show that $(\pi/6, 0)$ and $(5\pi/6, 0)$ are critical points of the corresponding plane autonomous system.

**(b)** Classify the critical point $(5\pi/6, 0)$ using linearization.

**(c)** Use the phase-plane method to classify the critical point $(\pi/6, 0)$.

## Discussion Problems

**40. (a)** Show that $(0, 0)$ is an isolated critical point of the plane autonomous system

$$x' = x^4 - 2xy^3$$
$$y' = 2x^3 y - y^4$$

but that linearization gives no useful information about the nature of this critical point.

**(b)** Use the phase-plane method to show that $x^3 + y^3 = 3cxy$. This classic curve is called a **folium of Descartes.** Parametric equations for a folium are

$$x = \frac{3ct}{1 + t^3}, \qquad y = \frac{3ct^2}{1 + t^3}.$$

[*Hint*: The differential equation in $x$ and $y$ is homogeneous.]

**(c)** Use graphing software or a numerical solver to graph solution curves. Based on your graphs, would you classify the critical point as stable or unstable? Would you classify the critical point as a node, saddle point, center, or spiral point? Explain.

## 10.4 AUTONOMOUS SYSTEMS AS MATHEMATICAL MODELS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Sections 1.3, 3.3, and 10.3

**INTRODUCTION** Many applications from physics give rise to nonlinear autonomous second-order differential equations—that is, DEs of the form $x'' = g(x, x')$. For example, in the analysis of free, damped motion of Section 5.1 we assumed that the damping force was proportional to the velocity $x'$, and the resulting model $mx'' = -\beta x' - kx$ is a linear differential equation. But if the magnitude of the damping force is proportional to the square of the velocity, the new differential equation $mx'' = -\beta x'|x'| - kx$ is nonlinear. The corresponding plane autonomous system is nonlinear:

$$x' = y$$
$$y' = -\frac{\beta}{m}y|y| - \frac{k}{m}x.$$

In this section we will also analyze the nonlinear pendulum, motion of a bead on a curve, the Lotka-Voterra predator-prey models, and the Lotka-Volterra competition model. Additional models are presented in this exercises.

**NONLINEAR PENDULUM** In (6) of Section 5.3 we showed that the displacement angle $\theta$ for a simple pendulum satisfies the nonlinear second-order differential equation

$$\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \frac{g}{l}\sin\theta = 0.$$

When we let $x = \theta$ and $y = \theta'$, this second-order differential equation may be rewritten as the dynamical system

$$x' = y$$
$$y' = -\frac{g}{l}\sin x.$$

The critical points are $(\pm k\pi, 0)$, and the Jacobian matrix is easily shown to be

$$\mathbf{g}'((\pm k\pi, 0)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ (-1)^{k+1}\dfrac{g}{l} & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$



**(a)** $\theta = 0, \theta' = 0$  **(b)** $\theta = \pi, \theta' = 0$

**FIGURE 10.4.1** $(0, 0)$ is stable and $(\pi, 0)$ is unstable

If $k = 2n + 1$, then $\Delta < 0$, and so all critical points $(\pm(2n + 1)\pi, 0)$ are saddle points. In particular, the critical point at $(\pi, 0)$ is unstable as expected. See Figure 10.4.1. When $k = 2n$, the eigenvalues are pure imaginary, and so the nature of these critical points remains in doubt. Since we have assumed that there are no damping forces acting on the pendulum, we expect that all of the critical points $(\pm 2n\pi, 0)$ are centers. This can be verified by using the phase-plane method. From

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = -\frac{g}{l}\frac{\sin x}{y}$$



**FIGURE 10.4.2** Phase portrait of pendulum; wavy curves indicate that the pendulum is whirling about its pivot

it follows that $y^2 = (2g/l)\cos x + c$. If $\mathbf{X}(0) = (x_0, 0)$, then $y^2 = (2g/l)(\cos x - \cos x_0)$. Note that $y = 0$ when $x = -x_0$ and that $(2g/l)(\cos x - \cos x_0) > 0$ for $|x| < |x_0| < \pi$. Thus each such $x$ has two corresponding values of $y$, so the solution $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = (x_0, 0)$ is periodic. We may conclude that $(0, 0)$ is a center. Observe that $x = \theta$ increases for solutions that correspond to large initial velocities, such as the one drawn in red in Figure 10.4.2. In this case the pendulum spins or whirls in complete circles about its pivot.

> **EXAMPLE 1** Periodic Solutions of the Pendulum DE

A pendulum in an equilibrium position with $\theta = 0$ is given an initial angular veloc-
ity of $\omega_0$ rad/s. Determine the conditions under which the resulting motion is
periodic.

**SOLUTION** We are asked to examine the solution of the plane autonomous system
that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = (0, \omega_0)$. From $y^2 = (2g/l) \cos x + c$ it follows that

$$y^2 = \frac{2g}{l} \left( \cos x - 1 + \frac{l}{2g} \omega_0^2 \right).$$

To establish that the solution $\mathbf{X}(t)$ is periodic, it is sufficient to show that there are two
$x$-intercepts $x = \pm x_0$ between $-\pi$ and $\pi$ and that the right-hand side is positive for
$|x| < |x_0|$. Each such $x$ then has two corresponding values of $y$.

If $y = 0$, $\cos x = 1 - (l/2g)\omega_0^2$, and this equation has two solutions
$x = \pm x_0$ between $-\pi$ and $\pi$, provided that $1 - (l/2g)\omega_0^2 > -1$. Note that
$(2g/l)(\cos x - \cos x_0)$ is then positive for $|x| < |x_0|$. This restriction on the initial
angular velocity may be written as $|\omega_0| < 2\sqrt{g/l}$. ∎

**NONLINEAR OSCILLATIONS: THE SLIDING BEAD** Suppose, as shown in
Figure 10.4.3, that a bead with mass $m$ slides along a thin wire whose shape is de-
scribed by the function $z = f(x)$. A wide variety of nonlinear oscillations can be ob-
tained by changing the shape of the wire and by making different assumptions about
the forces acting on the bead.

The tangential force $\mathbf{F}$ due to the weight $W = mg$ has magnitude $mg \sin \theta$, and
therefore the $x$-component of $\mathbf{F}$ is $F_x = -mg \sin \theta \cos \theta$. Since $\tan \theta = f'(x)$, we
may use the identities $1 + \tan^2\theta = \sec^2\theta$ and $\sin^2\theta = 1 - \cos^2\theta$ to conclude that

$$F_x = -mg \sin \theta \cos \theta = -mg \frac{f'(x)}{1 + [f'(x)]^2}.$$

**FIGURE 10.4.3** Some forces acting
on sliding bead

We assume (as in Section 5.1) that a damping force $\mathbf{D}$, acting in the direction opposite
to the motion, is a constant multiple of the velocity of the bead. The $x$-component of $\mathbf{D}$
is therefore $D_x = -\beta x'$. If we ignore the frictional force between the wire and the bead
and assume that no other external forces are impressed on the system, it follows from
Newton's second law that

$$mx'' = -mg \frac{f'(x)}{1 + [f'(x)]^2} - \beta x',$$

and the corresponding plane autonomous system is

$$x' = y$$

$$y' = -g \frac{f'(x)}{1 + [f'(x)]^2} - \frac{\beta}{m} y.$$

If $\mathbf{X}_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ is a critical point of the system, $y_1 = 0$, and therefore $f'(x_1) = 0$. The
bead must therefore be at rest at a point on the wire where the tangent line is horizon-
tal. When $f$ is twice differentiable, the Jacobian matrix at $\mathbf{X}_1$ is

$$\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -gf''(x_1) & -\beta/m \end{pmatrix},$$

so $\tau = -\beta/m$, $\Delta = gf''(x_1)$, and $\tau^2 - 4\Delta = \beta^2/m^2 - 4gf''(x_1)$. Using the results of
Section 10.3, we can make the following conclusions:

(i) $f''(x_1) < 0$:
A relative maximum therefore occurs at $x = x_1$, and since $\Delta < 0$, an
*unstable saddle point* occurs at $\mathbf{X}_1 = (x_1, 0)$.

(ii)   $f''(x_1) > 0$ and $\beta > 0$:
A relative minimum therefore occurs at $x = x_1$, and since $\tau < 0$ and $\Delta > 0$, $\mathbf{X}_1 = (x_1, 0)$ is a *stable critical point*. If $\beta^2 > 4gm^2 f''(x_1)$, the system is **overdamped,** and the critical point is a *stable node.* If $\beta^2 < 4gm^2 f''(x_1)$, the system is **underdamped,** and the critical point is a *stable spiral point.* The exact nature of the stable critical point is still in doubt if $\beta^2 = 4gm^2 f''(x_1)$.

(iii)  $f''(x_1) > 0$ and the system is undamped ($\beta = 0$):
In this case the eigenvalues are pure imaginary, but the phase-plane method can be used to show that the critical point is a *center.* Therefore solutions with $\mathbf{X}(0) = (x(0), x'(0))$ near $\mathbf{X}_1 = (x_1, 0)$ are periodic.
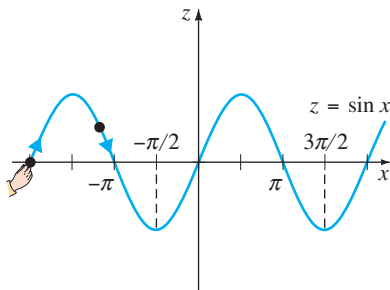


FIGURE 10.4.4   $-\pi/2$ and $3\pi/2$ are stable.
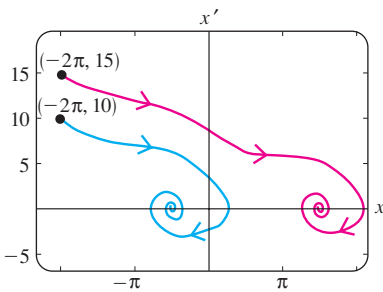


FIGURE 10.4.5   $\beta = 0.01$
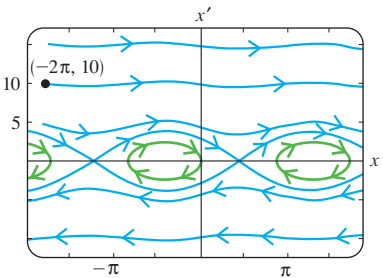


FIGURE 10.4.6   $\beta = 0$

| EXAMPLE 2 | Bead Sliding Along a Sine Wave |

A 10-gram bead slides along the graph of $z = \sin x$. According to conclusion (ii), the relative minima at $x_1 = -\pi/2$ and $3\pi/2$ give rise to stable critical points (see Figure 10.4.4). Since $f''(-\pi/2) = f''(3\pi/2) = 1$, the system will be underdamped provided that $\beta^2 < 4gm^2$. If we use SI units, $m = 0.01$ kg and $g = 9.8$ m/s$^2$, then the condition for an underdamped system becomes $\beta^2 < 3.92 \times 10^{-3}$.

If $\beta = 0.01$ is the damping constant, then both of these critical points are stable spiral points. The two solutions corresponding to initial conditions $\mathbf{X}(0) = (x(0), x'(0)) = (-2\pi, 10)$ and $\mathbf{X}(0) = (-2\pi, 15)$, respectively, were obtained by using a numerical solver and are shown in Figure 10.4.5. When $x'(0) = 10$, the bead has enough momentum to make it over the hill at $x = -3\pi/2$ but not over the hill at $x = \pi/2$. The bead then approaches the relative minimum based at $x = -\pi/2$. If $x'(0) = 15$, the bead has the momentum to make it over both hills, but then it rocks back and forth in the valley based at $x = 3\pi/2$ and approaches the point $(3\pi/2, -1)$ on the wire. Experiment with other initial conditions using your numerical solver.

Figure 10.4.6 shows a collection of solution curves obtained from a numerical solver for the undamped case. Since $\beta = 0$, the critical points corresponding to $x_1 = -\pi/2$ and $3\pi/2$ are now centers. When $\mathbf{X}(0) = (-2\pi, 10)$, the bead has sufficient momentum to move over *all* hills. The figure also indicates that when the bead is released from rest at a position on the wire between $x = -3\pi/2$ and $x = \pi/2$, the resulting motion is periodic. ∎

**LOTKA-VOLTERRA PREDATOR-PREY MODEL**   A **predator-prey interaction** between two species occurs when one species (the predator) feeds on a second species (the prey). For example, the snowy owl feeds almost exclusively on a common arctic rodent called a lemming, while a lemming uses arctic tundra plants as its food supply. Interest in using mathematics to help explain predator-prey interactions has been stimulated by the observation of population cycles in many arctic mammals. In the MacKenzie River district of Canada, for example, the principal prey of the lynx is the snowshoe hare, and both populations cycle with a period of about 10 years.

There are many predator-prey models that lead to plane autonomous systems with at least one periodic solution. The first such model was constructed independently by pioneer biomathematicians A. Lotka (1925) and V. Volterra (1926). If $x$ denotes the number of predators and $y$ denotes the number of prey, then the Lotka-Volterra model takes the form

$$x' = -ax + bxy = x(-a + by)$$
$$y' = -cxy + dy = y(-cx + d),$$

where $a$, $b$, $c$, and $d$ are positive constants.
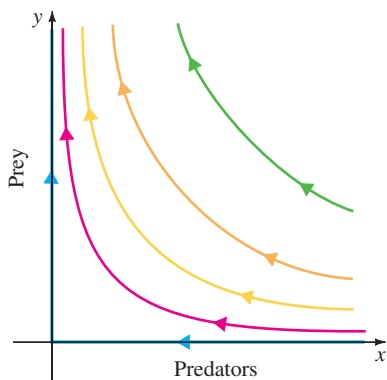
**FIGURE 10.4.7** Solutions near (0, 0)



**(a)** Maximum of F at x = d/c



**(b)** Maximum of G at y = a/b

**FIGURE 10.4.8** Graphs of F and G help to establish properties (1)–(3)



**FIGURE 10.4.9** Periodic solution of the Lotka-Volterra model

Note that in the absence of predators ($x = 0$), $y' = dy$, and so the number of prey grows exponentially. In the absence of prey, $x' = -ax$, and so the predator population becomes extinct. The term $-cxy$ represents the death rate due to predation. The model therefore assumes that this death rate is directly proportional to the number of possible encounters $xy$ between predator and prey at a particular time $t$, and the term $bxy$ represents the resulting positive contribution to the predator population.

The critical points of this plane autonomous system are (0, 0) and ($d/c$, $a/b$), and the corresponding Jacobian matrices are

$$\mathbf{A}_1 = \mathbf{g}'((0, 0)) = \begin{pmatrix} -a & 0 \\ 0 & d \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{A}_2 = \mathbf{g}'((d/c, a/b)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & bd/c \\ -ac/b & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The critical point at (0, 0) is a saddle point, and Figure 10.4.7 shows a typical profile of solutions that are in the first quadrant and near (0, 0).

Because the matrix $\mathbf{A}_2$ has pure imaginary eigenvalues $\lambda = \pm \sqrt{ad}\, i$, the critical point ($d/c$, $a/b$) *may* be a center. This possibility can be investigated by using the phase-plane method. Since

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y(-cx + d)}{x(-a + by)},$$

we separate variables and obtain

$$\int \frac{-a + by}{y}\, dy = \int \frac{-cx + d}{x}\, dx$$

$$-a \ln y + by = -cx + d \ln x + c_1 \quad \text{or} \quad (x^d e^{-cx})(y^a e^{-by}) = c_0.$$

The following argument establishes that all solution curves that originate in the first quadrant are periodic.

Typical graphs of the nonnegative functions $F(x) = x^d e^{-cx}$ and $G(y) = y^a e^{-by}$ are shown in Figure 10.4.8. It is not hard to show that $F(x)$ has an absolute maximum at $x = d/c$, whereas $G(y)$ has an absolute maximum at $y = a/b$. Note that with the exception of 0 and the absolute maximum, $F$ and $G$ each take on all values in their range precisely twice.

These graphs can be used to establish the following properties of a solution curve that originates at a noncritical point ($x_0$, $y_0$) in the first quadrant:

(*i*) If $y = a/b$, the equation $F(x)G(y) = c_0$ has exactly two solutions $x_m$ and $x_M$ that satisfy $x_m < d/c < x_M$.

(*ii*) If $x_m < x_1 < x_M$ and $x = x_1$, then $F(x)G(y) = c_0$ has exactly two solutions $y_1$ and $y_2$ that satisfy $y_1 < a/b < y_2$.

(*iii*) If $x$ is outside the interval $[x_m, x_M]$, then $F(x)G(y) = c_0$ has no solutions.

We will give the demonstration of (*i*) and outline parts (*ii*) and (*iii*) in the exercises. Since ($x_0$, $y_0$) ≠ ($d/c$, $a/b$), $F(x_0)G(y_0) < F(d/c)G(a/b)$. If $y = a/b$, then

$$0 < \frac{c_0}{G(a/b)} = \frac{F(x_0)G(y_0)}{G(a/b)} < \frac{F(d/c)G(a/b)}{G(a/b)} = F(d/c).$$

Therefore $F(x) = c_0/G(a/b)$ has precisely two solutions $x_m$ and $x_M$ that satisfy $x_m < d/c < x_M$. The graph of a typical periodic solution is shown in Figure 10.4.9.
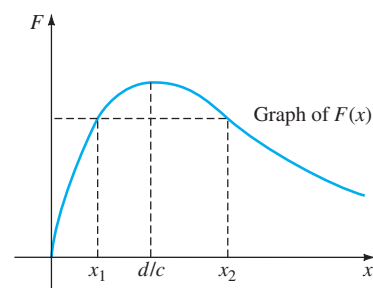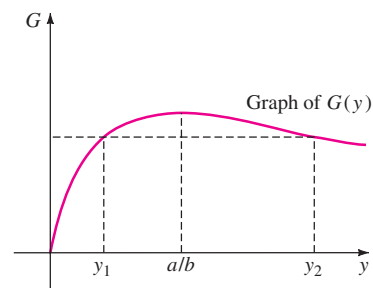
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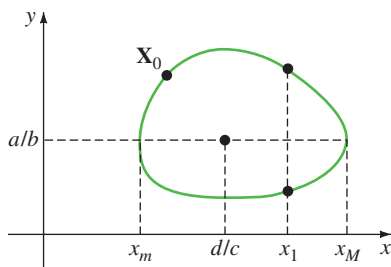
**EXAMPLE 3** Predator-Prey Population Cycles

If we let $a = 0.1$, $b = 0.002$, $c = 0.0025$, and $d = 0.2$ in the Lotka-Volterra predator-prey model, the critical point in the first quadrant is ($d/c$, $a/b$) = (80, 50), and we know that this critical point is a center. See Figure 10.4.10, in which we have used a numerical solver to generate these cycles. The closer the initial condition $\mathbf{X}_0$ is
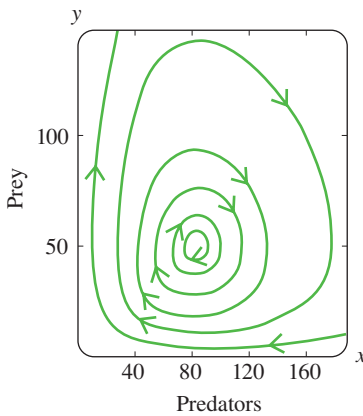
**FIGURE 10.4.10** Phase portrait of the Lotka-Volterra model near critical the point (80, 50)

to (80, 50), the more the periodic solutions resemble the elliptical solutions to the corresponding linear system. The eigenvalues of $\mathbf{g}'((80, 50))$ are $\lambda = \pm\sqrt{ad}\, i = \pm\sqrt{2}/10\, i$, and so the solutions near the critical point have period $p \approx 10\sqrt{2}\,\pi$, or about 44.4. ∎

**LOTKA-VOLTERRA COMPETITION MODEL** A **competitive interaction** occurs when two or more species compete for the food, water, light, and space resources of an ecosystem. The use of one of these resources by one population therefore inhibits the ability of another population to survive and grow. Under what conditions can two competing species coexist? A number of mathematical models have been constructed that offer insights into conditions that permit coexistence. If $x$ denotes the number in species I and $y$ denotes the number in species II, then the Lotka-Volterra model takes the form

$$x' = \frac{r_1}{K_1}x(K_1 - x - \alpha_{12}y)$$

$$y' = \frac{r_2}{K_2}y(K_2 - y - \alpha_{21}x). \tag{1}$$

Note that in the absence of species II ($y = 0$), $x' = (r_1/K_1)x(K_1 - x)$, and so the first population grows logistically and approaches the steady-state population $K_1$ (see Section 3.3 and Example 4 in Section 10.3). A similar statement holds for species II growing in the absence of species I. The term $-\alpha_{21}xy$ in the second equation stems from the competitive effect of species I on species II. The model therefore assumes that this rate of inhibition is directly proportional to the number of possible competitive pairs $xy$ at a particular time $t$.

This plane autonomous system has critical points at $(0, 0)$, $(K_1, 0)$, and $(0, K_2)$. When $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} \neq 0$, the lines $K_1 - x - \alpha_{12}y = 0$ and $K_2 - y - \alpha_{21}x = 0$ intersect to produce a fourth critical point $\hat{\mathbf{X}} = (\hat{x}, \hat{y})$. Figure 10.4.11 shows the two conditions under which $(\hat{x}, \hat{y})$ is in the first quadrant. The trace and determinant of the Jacobian matrix at $(\hat{x}, \hat{y})$ are, respectively,

$$\tau = -\hat{x}\frac{r_1}{K_1} - \hat{y}\frac{r_2}{K_2} \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta = (1 - \alpha_{12}\alpha_{21})\hat{x}\hat{y}\frac{r_1 r_2}{K_1 K_2}.$$

In case (a) of Figure 10.4.11, $K_1/\alpha_{12} > K_2$ and $K_2/\alpha_{21} > K_1$. It follows that $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} < 1$, $\tau < 0$, and $\Delta > 0$. Since

$$\tau^2 - 4\Delta = \left(\hat{x}\frac{r_1}{K_1} + \hat{y}\frac{r_2}{K_2}\right)^2 + 4(\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} - 1)\hat{x}\hat{y}\frac{r_1 r_2}{K_1 K_2}$$

$$= \left(\hat{x}\frac{r_1}{K_1} - \hat{y}\frac{r_2}{K_2}\right)^2 + 4\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21}\hat{x}\hat{y}\frac{r_1 r_2}{K_1 K_2},$$

$\tau^2 - 4\Delta > 0$, and so $(\hat{x}, \hat{y})$ is a stable node. Therefore if $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$ is sufficiently close to $\hat{\mathbf{X}} = (\hat{x}, \hat{y})$, $\lim_{t\to\infty} \mathbf{X}(t) = \hat{\mathbf{X}}$, and we may conclude that coexistence is possible. The demonstration that case (b) leads to a saddle point and the investigation of the nature of critical points at $(0, 0)$, $(K_1, 0)$, and $(0, K_2)$ are left to the exercises.

When the competitive interactions between two species are weak, both of the coefficients $\alpha_{12}$ and $\alpha_{21}$ will be small, so the conditions $K_1/\alpha_{12} > K_2$ and $K_2/\alpha_{21} > K_1$ may be satisfied. This might occur when there is a small overlap in the ranges of two predator species that hunt for a common prey.



**(a)** $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} < 1$



**(b)** $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} > 1$

**FIGURE 10.4.11** Two conditions when critical point $(\hat{x}, \hat{y})$ is in the first quadrant

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### EXAMPLE 4 A Lotka-Volterra Competition Model

A competitive interaction is described by the Lotka-Volterra competition model

$$x' = 0.004x(50 - x - 0.75y)$$
$$y' = 0.001y(100 - y - 3.0x).$$

Classify all critical points of the system.

**SOLUTION** You should verify that critical points occur at $(0, 0)$, $(50, 0)$, $(0, 100)$ and at $(20, 40)$. Since $\alpha_{12}\alpha_{21} = 2.25 > 1$, we have case (b) in Figure 10.4.11, so the critical point at $(20, 40)$ is a saddle point. The Jacobian matrix is

$$\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 - 0.008x - 0.003y & -0.003x \\ -0.003y & 0.1 - 0.002y - 0.003x \end{pmatrix},$$

and we obtain

$$\mathbf{g}'((0, 0)) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{g}'((50, 0)) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.2 & -0.15 \\ 0 & -0.05 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{g}'((0, 100)) = \begin{pmatrix} -0.1 & 0 \\ -0.3 & -0.1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore $(0, 0)$ is an unstable node, whereas both $(50, 0)$ and $(0, 100)$ are stable nodes. (Check this!) ∎

Coexistence can also occur in the Lotka-Volterra competition model if there is at least one periodic solution that lies entirely in the first quadrant. It is possible to show, however, that this model has no periodic solutions.

# EXERCISES 10.4

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-17.*

## Nonlinear Pendulum

**1.** A pendulum is released at $\theta = \pi/3$ and is given an initial angular velocity of $\omega_0$ rad/s. Determine the conditions under which the resulting motion is periodic.

**2. (a)** If a pendulum is released from rest at $\theta = \theta_0$, show that the angular velocity is again 0 when $\theta = -\theta_0$.
  **(b)** The period $T$ of the pendulum is the amount of time needed for $\theta$ to change from $\theta_0$ to $-\theta_0$ and back to $\theta_0$. Show that

$$T = \sqrt{\frac{2L}{g}} \int_{-\theta_0}^{\theta_0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\cos \theta - \cos \theta_0}} \, d\theta.$$

## Sliding Bead

**3.** A bead with mass $m$ slides along a thin wire whose shape is described by the function $z = f(x)$. If $\mathbf{X}_1 = (x_1, y_1)$ is a critical point of the plane autonomous system associated with the sliding bead, verify that the Jacobian matrix at $\mathbf{X}_1$ is

$$\mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -gf''(x_1) & -\beta/m \end{pmatrix}.$$

**4.** A bead with mass $m$ slides along a thin wire whose shape is described by the function $z = f(x)$. When $f'(x_1) = 0$, $f''(x_1) > 0$, and the system is undamped, the critical point $\mathbf{X}_1 = (x_1, 0)$ is a center. Estimate the period of the bead when $x(0)$ is near $x_1$ and $x'(0) = 0$.

**5.** A bead is released from the position $x(0) = x_0$ on the curve $z = x^2/2$ with initial velocity $x'(0) = v_0$ cm/s.
  **(a)** Use the phase-plane method to show that the resulting solution is periodic when the system is undamped.

**(b)** Show that the maximum height $z_{max}$ to which the bead rises is given by $z_{max} = \frac{1}{2}[e^{v_0^2/g}(1 + x_0^2) - 1]$.

**6.** Rework Problem 5 with $z = \cosh x$.

## Predator-Prey Models

**7.** (Refer to Figure 10.4.9.) If $x_m < x_1 < x_M$ and $x = x_1$, show that $F(x)G(y) = c_0$ has exactly two solutions $y_1$ and $y_2$ that satisfy $y_1 < a/b < y_2$. [*Hint*: First show that $G(y) = c_0/F(x_1) < G(a/b)$.]

**8.** From (*i*) and (*iii*) on page 391, conclude that the maximum number of predators occurs when $y = a/b$.

**9.** In many fishery science models, the rate at which a species is caught is assumed to be directly proportional to its abundance. If both predator and prey are being exploited in this manner, the Lotka-Volterra differential equations take the form

$$x' = -ax + bxy - \epsilon_1 x$$
$$y' = -cxy + dy - \epsilon_2 y,$$

where $\epsilon_1$ and $\epsilon_2$ are positive constants.
  **(a)** When $\epsilon_2 < d$, show that there is a new critical point in the first quadrant that is a center.
  **(b)** **Volterra's principle** states that a moderate amount of exploitation increases the average number of prey and decreases the average number of predators. Is this fisheries model consistent with Volterra's principle?

**10.** A predator-prey interaction is described by the Lotka-Volterra model

$$x' = -0.1x + 0.02xy$$
$$y' = 0.2y - 0.025xy.$$

(a) Find the critical point in the first quadrant, and use a numerical solver to sketch some population cycles.

(b) Estimate the period of the periodic solutions that are close to the critical point in part (a).

## Competition Models

11. A competitive interaction is described by the Lotka-Volterra competition model

$$x' = 0.08x(20 - 0.4x - 0.3y)$$

$$y' = 0.06y(10 - 0.1y - 0.3x).$$

Find and classify all critical points of the system.

12. In (1) show that $(0, 0)$ is always an unstable node.

13. In (1) show that $(K_1, 0)$ is a stable node when $K_1 > K_2/\alpha_{21}$ and a saddle point when $K_1 < K_2/\alpha_{21}$.

14. Use Problems 12 and 13 to establish that $(0, 0)$, $(K_1, 0)$, and $(0, K_2)$ are unstable when $\hat{\mathbf{X}} = (\hat{x}, \hat{y})$ is a stable node.

15. In (1) show that $\hat{\mathbf{X}} = (\hat{x}, \hat{y})$ is a saddle point when $K_1/\alpha_{12} < K_2$ and $K_2/\alpha_{21} < K_1$.

## Miscellaneous Mathematical Models

16. **Damped Pendulum** If we assume that a damping force acts in the direction opposite to the motion of a pendulum and with a magnitude directly proportional to the angular velocity $d\theta/dt$, the displacement angle $\theta$ for the pendulum satisfies the nonlinear second-order differential equation

$$ml\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} = -mg \sin \theta - \beta\frac{d\theta}{dt}.$$

(a) Write the second-order differential equation as a plane autonomous system. Find all critical points of the system.

(b) Find a condition on $m$, $l$, and $\beta$ that will make $(0, 0)$ a stable spiral point.

17. **Nonlinear Damping** In the analysis of free, damped motion in Section 5.1 we assumed that the damping force was proportional to the velocity $x'$. Frequently, the magnitude of this damping force is proportional to the square of the velocity, and the new differential equation becomes

$$x'' = -\frac{\beta}{m}x'|x'| - \frac{k}{m}x.$$

(a) Write the second-order differential equation as a plane autonomous system, and find all critical points.

(b) The system is called *overdamped* when $(0, 0)$ is a stable node and is called *underdamped* when $(0, 0)$

is a stable spiral point. Physical considerations suggest that $(0, 0)$ must be an asymptotically stable critical point. Show that the system is necessarily underdamped. $\left[ \textit{Hint}: \dfrac{d}{dy}(y|y|) = 2|y|. \right]$

## Discussion Problems

18. A bead with mass $m$ slides along a thin wire whose shape may be described by the function $z = f(x)$. Small stretches of the wire act like an inclined plane, and in mechanics it is assumed that the magnitude of the frictional force between the bead and wire is directly proportional to $mg \cos \theta$ (see Figure 10.4.3).

(a) Explain why the new differential equation for the $x$-coordinate of the bead is

$$x'' = g\frac{\mu - f'(x)}{1 + [f'(x)]^2} - \frac{\beta}{m}x'$$

for some positive constant $\mu$.

(b) Investigate the critical points of the corresponding plane autonomous system. Under what conditions is a critical point a saddle point? A stable spiral point?

19. An undamped oscillation satisfies a nonlinear second-order differential equation of the form $x'' + f(x) = 0$, where $f(0) = 0$ and $xf(x) > 0$ for $x \neq 0$ and $-d < x < d$. Use the phase-plane method to investigate whether it is possible for the critical point $(0, 0)$ to be a stable spiral point. [*Hint*: Let $F(x) = \int_0^x f(u)\, du$ and show that $y^2 + 2F(x) = c$.]

20. The Lotka-Volterra predator-prey model assumes that in the absence of predators the number of prey grows exponentially. If we make the alternative assumption that the prey population grows logistically, the new system is

$$x' = -ax + bxy$$

$$y' = -cxy + \frac{r}{K}y(K - y),$$

where $a$, $b$, $c$, $r$, and $K$ are positive and $K > a/b$.

(a) Show that the system has critical points at $(0, 0)$, $(0, K)$, and $(\hat{x}, \hat{y})$, where $\hat{y} = a/b$ and $c\hat{x} = \dfrac{r}{K}(K - \hat{y})$.

(b) Show that the critical points at $(0, 0)$ and $(0, K)$ are saddle points, whereas the critical point at $(\hat{x}, \hat{y})$ is either a stable node or a stable spiral point.

(c) Show that $(\hat{x}, \hat{y})$ is a stable spiral point if $\hat{y} < \dfrac{4bK^2}{r + 4bK}$. Explain why this case will occur when the carrying capacity $K$ of the prey is large.

**21.** The dynamical system

$$x' = \alpha \frac{y}{1 + y} x - x$$

$$y' = -\frac{y}{1 + y} x - y + \beta$$

arises in a model for the growth of microorganisms in a chemostat, a simple laboratory device in which a nutrient from a supply source flows into a growth chamber. In the system, $x$ denotes the concentration of the microorganisms in the growth chamber, $y$ denotes

the concentration of nutrients, and $\alpha > 1$ and $\beta > 0$ are constants that can be adjusted by the experimenter. Find conditions on $\alpha$ and $\beta$ that ensure that the system has a single critical point $(\hat{x}, \hat{y})$ in the first quadrant, and investigate the stability of this critical point.

**22.** Use the methods of this chapter together with a numerical solver to investigate stability in the nonlinear spring/mass system modeled by

$$x'' + 8x - 6x^3 + x^5 = 0.$$

See Problem 8 in Exercises 5.3.

---

# CHAPTER 10 IN REVIEW

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-18.*

Answer Problems 1–10 without referring back to the text. Fill in the blank, or answer true or false.

**1.** The second-order differential equation $x'' + f(x') + g(x) = 0$ can be written as a plane autonomous system. _____

**2.** If $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ is a solution to a plane autonomous system and $\mathbf{X}(t_1) = \mathbf{X}(t_2)$ for $t_1 \neq t_2$, then $\mathbf{X}(t)$ is a periodic solution. _____

**3.** If the trace of the matrix $\mathbf{A}$ is 0 and det $\mathbf{A} \neq 0$, then the critical point $(0, 0)$ of the linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ may be classified as _____.

**4.** If the critical point $(0, 0)$ of the linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ is a stable spiral point, then the eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A}$ are _____.

**5.** If the critical point $(0, 0)$ of the linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ is a saddle point and $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{X}(t)$ is a solution, then $\lim_{t \to \infty} \mathbf{X}(t)$ does not exist. _____

**6.** If the Jacobian matrix $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{g}'(\mathbf{X}_1)$ at a critical point of a plane autonomous system has positive trace and determinant, then the critical point $\mathbf{X}_1$ is unstable. _____

**7.** It is possible to show, using linearization, that a nonlinear plane autonomous system has periodic solutions. _____

**8.** All solutions to the pendulum equation $\dfrac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \dfrac{g}{l} \sin \theta = 0$ are periodic. _____

**9.** For what value(s) of $\alpha$ does the plane autonomous system

$$x' = \alpha x - 2y$$

$$y' = -\alpha x + y$$

possess periodic solutions? _____

**10.** For what values of $n$ is $x = n\pi$ an asymptotically stable critical point of the autonomous first-order differential equation $x' = \sin x$? _____

**11.** Solve the nonlinear plane autonomous system

$$x' = -y - x\left(\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}\right)^3$$

$$y' = x - y\left(\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}\right)^3.$$

by switching to polar coordinates. Describe the geometric behavior of the solution that satisfies the initial condition $\mathbf{X}(0) = (1, 0)$.

**12.** Discuss the geometric nature of the solutions to the linear system $\mathbf{X}' = \mathbf{AX}$ given that the general solution is

(a) $\mathbf{X}(t) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t}$

(b) $\mathbf{X}(t) = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t}$

**13.** Classify the critical point $(0, 0)$ of the given linear system by computing the trace $\tau$ and determinant $\Delta$.

(a) $x' = -3x + 4y$      (b) $x' = -3x + 2y$
    $y' = -5x + 3y$          $y' = -2x + y$

**14.** Find and classify (if possible) the critical points of the plane autonomous system

$$x' = x + xy - 3x^2$$

$$y' = 4y - 2xy - y^2.$$

**15.** Determine the value(s) of $\alpha$ for which $(0, 0)$ is a stable critical point for the plane autonomous system (in polar coordinates)

$$r' = \alpha r$$

$$\theta' = 1.$$

**16.** Classify the critical point $(0, 0)$ of the plane autonomous system corresponding to the nonlinear second-order differential equation

$$x'' + \mu(x^2 - 1)\, x' + x = 0,$$

where $\mu$ is a real constant.

**17.** Without solving explicitly, classify (if possible) the critical points of the autonomous first-order differential equation $x' = (x^2 - 1)e^{-x/2}$ as asymptotically stable or unstable.

**18.** Use the phase-plane method to show that the solutions to the nonlinear second-order differential equation $x'' = -2x\sqrt{(x')^2 + 1}$ that satisfy $x(0) = x_0$ and $x'(0) = 0$ are periodic.

**19.** In Section 5.1 we assumed that the restoring force $F$ of the spring satisfied Hooke's law $F = ks$, where $s$ is the elongation of the spring and $k$ is a positive constant of proportionality. If we replace this assumption with the nonlinear law $F = ks^3$, the new differential equation for damped motion of the hard spring becomes

$$mx'' = -\beta x' - k(s + x)^3 + mg,$$

where $ks^3 = mg$. The system is called overdamped when $(0, 0)$ is a stable node and is called underdamped when $(0, 0)$ is a stable spiral point. Find new conditions on $m$, $k$, and $\beta$ that will lead to overdamping and underdamping.

**20.** The rod of a pendulum is attached to a movable joint at a point $P$ and rotates at an angular speed of $\omega$ (rad/s) in the plane perpendicular to the rod. See Figure 10.R.1. As a result the bob of the rotating pendulum experiences an additional centripetal force, and the new differential equation for $\theta$ becomes

$$ml\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} = \omega^2 ml \sin\theta \cos\theta - mg\sin\theta - \beta\frac{d\theta}{dt}.$$

**(a)** If $\omega^2 < g/l$, show that $(0, 0)$ is a stable critical point and is the only critical point in the domain $-\pi < \theta < \pi$. Describe what occurs physically when $\theta(0) = \theta_0$, $\theta'(0) = 0$, and $\theta_0$ is small.

**(b)** If $\omega^2 > g/l$, show that $(0, 0)$ is unstable and there are two additional stable critical points $(\pm\hat{\theta}, 0)$ in the domain $-\pi < \theta < \pi$. Describe what occurs physically when $\theta(0) = \theta_0$, $\theta'(0) = 0$, and $\theta_0$ is small.
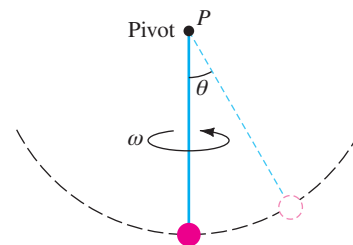


**FIGURE 10.R.1** Rotating pendulum in Problem 20

# 11 ORTHOGONAL FUNCTIONS AND FOURIER SERIES
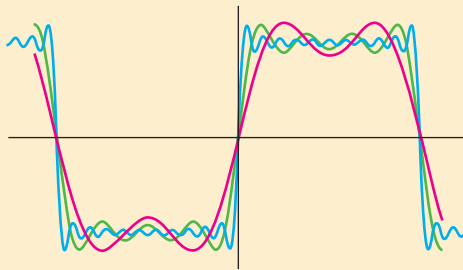
In calculus you saw that two nonzero vectors are orthogonal when their inner (dot) product is zero. Beyond calculus the notions of vectors, orthogonality, and inner product often lose their geometric interpretation. These concepts have been generalized; it is perfectly common in mathematics to think of a function as a vector. We can then say that two different functions are orthogonal when their inner product is zero. We will see in this chapter that the inner product of these vectors (functions) is actually a definite integral.

The concepts of orthogonal functions and the expansion of a given function $f$ in terms of an infinite set of orthogonal functions is fundamental to the material that is covered in Chapters 12 and 13.

## 11.1 ORTHOGONAL FUNCTIONS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

● The notions of generalized vectors and vector spaces can be found in any linear algebra text.

**INTRODUCTION** The concepts of geometric vectors in two and three dimensions, orthogonal or perpendicular vectors, and the inner product of two vectors have been generalized. It is perfectly routine in mathematics to think of a function as a vector. In this section we will examine an inner product that is different from the one you studied in calculus. Using this new inner product, we define orthogonal functions and sets of orthogonal functions. Another topic in a standard calculus course is the expansion of a function $f$ in a power series. In this section we will also see how to expand a suitable function $f$ in terms of an infinite set of orthogonal functions.

**INNER PRODUCT** Recall that if $\mathbf{u}$ and $\mathbf{v}$ are two vectors in 3-space, then the inner product $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$ (in calculus this is written as $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}$) possesses the following properties:

    *(i)*    $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = (\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u})$,

    *(ii)*    $(k\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = k(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v})$, $k$ a scalar,

    *(iii)*    $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}) = 0$ if $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$ and $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}) > 0$ if $\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$,

    *(iv)*    $(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{w}) + (\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w})$.

We expect that any generalization of the inner product concept should have these same properties.

Suppose that $f_1$ and $f_2$ are functions defined on an interval $[a, b]$.[*] Since a *definite integral* on $[a, b]$ of the product $f_1(x)f_2(x)$ possesses the foregoing properties *(i)*–*(iv)* whenever the integral exists, we are prompted to make the following definition.

---

**DEFINITION 11.1.1** **Inner Product of Functions**

The **inner product** of two functions $f_1$ and $f_2$ on an interval $[a, b]$ is the number

$$(f_1, f_2) = \int_a^b f_1(x)f_2(x)\,dx.$$

---

**ORTHOGONAL FUNCTIONS** Motivated by the fact that two geometric vectors $\mathbf{u}$ and $\mathbf{v}$ are orthogonal whenever their inner product is zero, we define **orthogonal functions** in a similar manner.

---

**DEFINITION 11.1.2** **Orthogonal Functions**

Two functions $f_1$ and $f_2$ are **orthogonal** on an interval $[a, b]$ if

$$(f_1, f_2) = \int_a^b f_1(x)f_2(x)\,dx = 0. \tag{1}$$

---

[*]The interval could also be $(-\infty, \infty)$, $[0, \infty)$, and so on.

For example, the functions $f_1(x) = x^2$ and $f_2(x) = x^3$ are orthogonal on the interval $[-1, 1]$, since

$$(f_1, f_2) = \int_{-1}^{1} x^2 \cdot x^3 \, dx = \frac{1}{6} x^6 \Big|_{-1}^{1} = 0.$$

Unlike in vector analysis, in which the word *orthogonal* is a synonym for *perpendicular*, in this present context the term *orthogonal* and condition (1) have no geometric significance.

**ORTHOGONAL SETS**  We are primarily interested in infinite sets of orthogonal functions.

---

**DEFINITION 11.1.3  Orthogonal Set**

A set of real-valued functions $\{\phi_0(x), \phi_1(x), \phi_2(x), \dots\}$ is said to be **orthogonal** on an interval $[a, b]$ if

$$(\phi_m, \phi_n) = \int_{a}^{b} \phi_m(x) \phi_n(x) \, dx = 0, \quad m \neq n. \tag{2}$$

---

**ORTHONORMAL SETS**  The norm, or length $\|\mathbf{u}\|$, of a vector $\mathbf{u}$ can be expressed in terms of the inner product. The expression $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u}) = \|\mathbf{u}\|^2$ is called the square norm, and so the norm is $\|\mathbf{u}\| = \sqrt{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{u})}$. Similarly, the **square norm** of a function $\phi_n$ is $\|\phi_n(x)\|^2 = (\phi_n, \phi_n)$, and so the **norm,** or its generalized length, is $\|\phi_n(x)\| = \sqrt{(\phi_n, \phi_n)}$. In other words, the square norm and norm of a function $\phi_n$ in an orthogonal set $\{\phi_n(x)\}$ are, respectively,

$$\|\phi_n(x)\|^2 = \int_{a}^{b} \phi_n^2(x) \, dx \quad \text{and} \quad \|\phi_n(x)\| = \sqrt{\int_{a}^{b} \phi_n^2(x) \, dx}. \tag{3}$$

If $\{\phi_n(x)\}$ is an orthogonal set of functions on the interval $[a, b]$ with the property that $\|\phi_n(x)\| = 1$ for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, then $\{\phi_n(x)\}$ is said to be an **orthonormal set** on the interval.

---

**EXAMPLE 1    Orthogonal Set of Functions**

Show that the set $\{1, \cos x, \cos 2x, \dots\}$ is orthogonal on the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$.

**SOLUTION**  If we make the identification $\phi_0(x) = 1$ and $\phi_n(x) = \cos nx$, we must then show that $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \phi_0(x) \phi_n(x) \, dx = 0, n \neq 0$, and $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \phi_m(x) \phi_n(x) \, dx = 0, m \neq n$. We have, in the first case,

$$(\phi_0, \phi_n) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \phi_0(x) \phi_n(x) \, dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \, dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sin nx \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{1}{n} [\sin n\pi - \sin(-n\pi)] = 0, \quad n \neq 0,$$

and, in the second,

$$
(\phi_m, \phi_n) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \phi_m(x)\phi_n(x)\, dx
$$

$$
= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos mx \cos nx\, dx
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} [\cos(m+n)x + \cos(m-n)x]\, dx \qquad \leftarrow \text{trig identity}
$$

$$
= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{\sin(m+n)x}{m+n} + \frac{\sin(m-n)x}{m-n} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = 0, \qquad m \neq n. \qquad \blacksquare
$$

---

### EXAMPLE 2    Norms

---

Find the norm of each function in the orthogonal set given in Example 1.

**SOLUTION**   For $\phi_0(x) = 1$ we have, from (3),

$$
\|\phi_0(x)\|^2 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} dx = 2\pi,
$$

so $\|\phi_0(x)\| = \sqrt{2\pi}$. For $\phi_n(x) = \cos nx$, $n > 0$, it follows that

$$
\|\phi_n(x)\|^2 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos^2 nx\, dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} [1 + \cos 2nx]\, dx = \pi.
$$

Thus for $n > 0$, $\|\phi_n(x)\| = \sqrt{\pi}$.      $\blacksquare$

     Any orthogonal set of nonzero functions $\{\phi_n(x)\}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$ can be *normalized*—that is, made into an orthonormal set—by dividing each function by its norm. It follows from Examples 1 and 2 that the set

$$
\left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{\cos x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{\cos 2x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \ldots \right\}
$$

is orthonormal on the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$.

     We shall make one more analogy between vectors and functions. Suppose $\mathbf{v}_1$, $\mathbf{v}_2$, and $\mathbf{v}_3$ are three mutually orthogonal nonzero vectors in 3-space. Such an orthogonal set can be used as a basis for 3-space; that is, any three-dimensional vector can be written as a linear combination

$$
\mathbf{u} = c_1\mathbf{v}_1 + c_2\mathbf{v}_2 + c_3\mathbf{v}_3, \tag{4}
$$

where the $c_i$, $i = 1, 2, 3$, are scalars called the components of the vector. Each component $c_i$ can be expressed in terms of $\mathbf{u}$ and the corresponding vector $\mathbf{v}_i$. To see this, we take the inner product of (4) with $\mathbf{v}_1$:

$$
(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}_1) = c_1(\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_1) + c_2(\mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_1) + c_3(\mathbf{v}_3, \mathbf{v}_1) = c_1\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2 + c_2 \cdot 0 + c_3 \cdot 0.
$$

Hence
$$
c_1 = \frac{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}_1)}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2}.
$$

In like manner we find that the components $c_2$ and $c_3$ are given by

$$
c_2 = \frac{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}_2)}{\|\mathbf{v}_2\|^2} \qquad \text{and} \qquad c_3 = \frac{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}_3)}{\|\mathbf{v}_3\|^2}.
$$

Hence (4) can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{u} = \frac{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}_1)}{\|\mathbf{v}_1\|^2} \mathbf{v}_1 + \frac{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}_2)}{\|\mathbf{v}_2\|^2} \mathbf{v}_2 + \frac{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}_3)}{\|\mathbf{v}_3\|^2} \mathbf{v}_3 = \sum_{n=1}^{3} \frac{(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}_n)}{\|\mathbf{v}_n\|^2} \mathbf{v}_n. \tag{5}$$

**ORTHOGONAL SERIES EXPANSION** Suppose $\{\phi_n(x)\}$ is an infinite orthogonal set of functions on an interval $[a, b]$. We ask: If $y = f(x)$ is a function defined on the interval $[a, b]$, is it possible to determine a set of coefficients $c_n$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$, for which

$$f(x) = c_0\phi_0(x) + c_1\phi_1(x) + \cdots + c_n\phi_n(x) + \cdots ? \tag{6}$$

As in the foregoing discussion on finding components of a vector we can find the coefficients $c_n$ by utilizing the inner product. Multiplying (6) by $\phi_m(x)$ and integrating over the interval $[a, b]$ gives

$$\int_a^b f(x)\phi_m(x)\, dx = c_0 \int_a^b \phi_0(x)\phi_m(x)\, dx + c_1 \int_a^b \phi_1(x)\phi_m(x)\, dx + \cdots + c_n \int_a^b \phi_n(x)\phi_m(x)\, dx + \cdots$$

$$= c_0(\phi_0, \phi_m) + c_1(\phi_1, \phi_m) + \cdots + c_n(\phi_n, \phi_m) + \cdots.$$

By orthogonality each term on the right-hand side of the last equation is zero *except* when $m = n$. In this case we have

$$\int_a^b f(x)\,\phi_n(x)\, dx = c_n \int_a^b \phi_n^2(x)\, dx.$$

It follows that the required coefficients are

$$c_n = \frac{\int_a^b f(x)\,\phi_n(x)\, dx}{\int_a^b \phi_n^2(x)\, dx}, \qquad n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots.$$

In other words,

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n\phi_n(x), \tag{7}$$

where

$$c_n = \frac{\int_a^b f(x)\,\phi_n(x)\, dx}{\|\phi_n(x)\|^2}. \tag{8}$$

With inner product notation, (7) becomes

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(f, \phi_n)}{\|\phi_n(x)\|^2}\,\phi_n(x). \tag{9}$$

Thus (9) is seen to be the function analogue of the vector result given in (5).

---

**DEFINITION 11.1.4   Orthogonal Set/Weight Function**

A set of real-valued functions $\{\phi_0(x),\ \phi_1(x),\ \phi_2(x),\ldots\}$ is said to be **orthogonal with respect to a weight function** $w(x)$ on an interval $[a, b]$ if

$$\int_a^b w(x)\,\phi_m(x)\phi_n(x)\, dx = 0, \qquad m \neq n.$$

---

The usual assumption is that $w(x) > 0$ on the interval of orthogonality $[a, b]$. The set $\{1, \cos x, \cos 2x, \ldots\}$ in Example 1 is orthogonal with respect to the weight function $w(x) = 1$ on the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$.

If $\{\phi_n(x)\}$ is orthogonal with respect to a weight function $w(x)$ on the interval $[a, b]$, then multiplying (6) by $w(x)\phi_n(x)$ and integrating yields

$$c_n = \frac{\int_a^b f(x)\,w(x)\,\phi_n(x)\, dx}{\|\phi_n(x)\|^2}, \tag{10}$$

where 
$$\|\phi_n(x)\|^2 = \int_a^b w(x)\,\phi_n^2(x)\,dx. \qquad (11)$$

The series (7) with coefficients given by either (8) or (10) is said to be an **orthogonal series expansion** of $f$ or a **generalized Fourier series.**

**COMPLETE SETS** The procedure outlined for determining the coefficients $c_n$ was *formal;* that is, basic questions about whether or not an orthogonal series expansion such as (7) is actually possible were ignored. Also, to expand $f$ in a series of orthogonal functions, it is certainly necessary that $f$ not be orthogonal to each $\phi_n$ of the orthogonal set $\{\phi_n(x)\}$. (If $f$ were orthogonal to every $\phi_n$, then $c_n = 0$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$.) To avoid the latter problem, we shall assume, for the remainder of the discussion, that an orthogonal set is **complete.** This means that the only function that is orthogonal to each member of the set is the zero function.

# EXERCISES 11.1

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-18.*

In Problems 1–6 show that the given functions are orthogonal on the indicated interval.

**1.** $f_1(x) = x, f_2(x) = x^2$; $[-2, 2]$

**2.** $f_1(x) = x^3, f_2(x) = x^2 + 1$; $[-1, 1]$

**3.** $f_1(x) = e^x, f_2(x) = xe^{-x} - e^{-x}$; $[0, 2]$

**4.** $f_1(x) = \cos x, f_2(x) = \sin^2 x$; $[0, \pi]$

**5.** $f_1(x) = x, f_2(x) = \cos 2x$; $[-\pi/2, \pi/2]$

**6.** $f_1(x) = e^x, f_2(x) = \sin x$; $[\pi/4, 5\pi/4]$

In Problems 7–12 show that the given set of functions is orthogonal on the indicated interval. Find the norm of each function in the set.

**7.** $\{\sin x, \sin 3x, \sin 5x, \ldots\}$; $[0, \pi/2]$

**8.** $\{\cos x, \cos 3x, \cos 5x, \ldots\}$; $[0, \pi/2]$

**9.** $\{\sin nx\}, n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$; $[0, \pi]$

**10.** $\left\{\sin \dfrac{n\pi}{p}x\right\}, n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$; $[0, p]$

**11.** $\left\{1, \cos \dfrac{n\pi}{p}x\right\}, n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$; $[0, p]$

**12.** $\left\{1, \cos \dfrac{n\pi}{p}x, \sin \dfrac{m\pi}{p}x\right\}, n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots,$

$m = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$; $[-p, p]$

In Problems 13 and 14 verify by direct integration that the functions are orthogonal with respect to the indicated weight function on the given interval.

**13.** $H_0(x) = 1, H_1(x) = 2x, H_2(x) = 4x^2 - 2$;
$w(x) = e^{-x^2}, (-\infty, \infty)$

**14.** $L_0(x) = 1, L_1(x) = -x + 1, L_2(x) = \frac{1}{2}x^2 - 2x + 1$;
$w(x) = e^{-x}, [0, \infty)$

**15.** Let $\{\phi_n(x)\}$ be an orthogonal set of functions on $[a, b]$ such that $\phi_0(x) = 1$. Show that $\int_a^b \phi_n(x)\,dx = 0$ for $n = 1, 2, \ldots$.

**16.** Let $\{\phi_n(x)\}$ be an orthogonal set of functions on $[a, b]$ such that $\phi_0(x) = 1$ and $\phi_1(x) = x$. Show that $\int_a^b (\alpha x + \beta)\phi_n(x)\,dx = 0$ for $n = 2, 3, \ldots$ and any constants $\alpha$ and $\beta$.

**17.** Let $\{\phi_n(x)\}$ be an orthogonal set of functions on $[a, b]$. Show that $\|\phi_m(x) + \phi_n(x)\|^2 = \|\phi_m(x)\|^2 + \|\phi_n(x)\|^2$, $m \neq n$.

**18.** From Problem 1 we know that $f_1(x) = x$ and $f_2(x) = x^2$ are orthogonal on the interval $[-2, 2]$. Find constants $c_1$ and $c_2$ such that $f_3(x) = x + c_1 x^2 + c_2 x^3$ is orthogonal to both $f_1$ and $f_2$ on the same interval.

**19.** The set of functions $\{\sin nx\}, n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, is orthogonal on the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$. Show that the set is not complete.

**20.** Suppose $f_1, f_2,$ and $f_3$ are functions continuous on the interval $[a, b]$. Show that $(f_1 + f_2, f_3) = (f_1, f_3) + (f_2, f_3)$.

## Discussion Problems

**21.** A real-valued function $f$ is said to be **periodic** with period $T$ if $f(x + T) = f(x)$. For example, $4\pi$ is a period of $\sin x$, since $\sin(x + 4\pi) = \sin x$. The smallest value of $T$ for which $f(x + T) = f(x)$ holds is called the **fundamental period** of $f$. For example, the fundamental period of $f(x) = \sin x$ is $T = 2\pi$. What is the fundamental period of each of the following functions?

**(a)** $f(x) = \cos 2\pi x$      **(b)** $f(x) = \sin \dfrac{4}{L}x$

**(c)** $f(x) = \sin x + \sin 2x$    **(d)** $f(x) = \sin 2x + \cos 4x$

**(e)** $f(x) = \sin 3x + \cos 2x$

**(f)** $f(x) = A_0 + \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left(A_n \cos \dfrac{n\pi}{p}x + B_n \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{p}x\right)$,
$A_n$ and $B_n$ depend only on $n$

## 11.2 FOURIER SERIES

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Reread—or, better, rework—Problem 12 in Exercises 11.1.

**INTRODUCTION** We have just seen that if $\{\phi_0(x), \phi_1(x), \phi_2(x), \ldots\}$ is an orthogonal set on an interval $[a, b]$ and if $f$ is a function defined on the same interval, then we can formally expand $f$ in an orthogonal series

$$c_0 \phi_0(x) + c_1 \phi_1(x) + c_2 \phi_2(x) + \cdots,$$

where the coefficients $c_n$ are determined by using the inner product concept. The orthogonal set of trigonometric functions

$$\left\{ 1, \ \cos \frac{\pi}{p} x, \cos \frac{2\pi}{p} x, \cos \frac{3\pi}{p} x, \ldots, \sin \frac{\pi}{p} x, \sin \frac{2\pi}{p} x, \ \sin \frac{3\pi}{p} x, \ldots \right\} \tag{1}$$

will be of particular importance later on in the solution of certain kinds of boundary-value problems involving linear partial differential equations. The set (1) is orthogonal on the interval $[-p, p]$.

**A TRIGONOMETRIC SERIES** Suppose that $f$ is a function defined on the interval $[-p, p]$ and can be expanded in an orthogonal series consisting of the trigonometric functions in the orthogonal set (1); that is,

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( a_n \cos \frac{n\pi}{p} x + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{p} x \right). \tag{2}$$

The coefficients $a_0, a_1, a_2, \ldots, b_1, b_2, \ldots$ can be determined in exactly the same manner as in the general discussion of orthogonal series expansions on page 401. Before proceeding, note that we have chosen to write the coefficient of 1 in the set (1) as $\frac{1}{2} a_0$ rather than $a_0$. This is for convenience only; the formula of $a_n$ will then reduce to $a_0$ for $n = 0$.

Now integrating both sides of (2) from $-p$ to $p$ gives

$$\int_{-p}^{p} f(x) \, dx = \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{-p}^{p} dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( a_n \int_{-p}^{p} \cos \frac{n\pi}{p} x \, dx + b_n \int_{-p}^{p} \sin \frac{n\pi}{p} x \, dx \right). \tag{3}$$

Since $\cos(n\pi x/p)$ and $\sin(n\pi x/p)$, $n \geq 1$ are orthogonal to 1 on the interval, the right side of (3) reduces to a single term:

$$\int_{-p}^{p} f(x) \, dx = \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{-p}^{p} dx = \frac{a_0}{2} x \Big|_{-p}^{p} = p a_0.$$

Solving for $a_0$ yields

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{p} \int_{-p}^{p} f(x) \, dx. \tag{4}$$

Now we multiply (2) by $\cos(m\pi x/p)$ and integrate:

$$\int_{-p}^{p} f(x) \cos \frac{m\pi}{p} x \, dx = \frac{a_0}{2} \int_{-p}^{p} \cos \frac{m\pi}{p} x \, dx$$

$$+ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( a_n \int_{-p}^{p} \cos \frac{m\pi}{p} x \cos \frac{n\pi}{p} x \, dx + b_n \int_{-p}^{p} \cos \frac{m\pi}{p} x \sin \frac{n\pi}{p} x \, dx \right). \tag{5}$$

By orthogonality we have

$$\int_{-p}^{p} \cos\frac{m\pi}{p}x\,dx = 0, \quad m > 0, \qquad \int_{-p}^{p} \cos\frac{m\pi}{p}x\,\sin\frac{n\pi}{p}x\,dx = 0,$$

and

$$\int_{-p}^{p} \cos\frac{m\pi}{p}x\,\cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x\,dx = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n \\ p, & m = n. \end{cases}$$

Thus (5) reduces to

$$\int_{-p}^{p} f(x)\cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x\,dx = a_n p,$$

and so

$$a_n = \frac{1}{p}\int_{-p}^{p} f(x)\cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x\,dx. \tag{6}$$

Finally, if we multiply (2) by $\sin(m\pi x/p)$, integrate, and make use of the results

$$\int_{-p}^{p} \sin\frac{m\pi}{p}x\,dx = 0, \quad m > 0, \qquad \int_{-p}^{p} \sin\frac{m\pi}{p}x\,\cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x\,dx = 0,$$

and

$$\int_{-p}^{p} \sin\frac{m\pi}{p}x\,\sin\frac{n\pi}{p}x\,dx = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n \\ p, & m = n, \end{cases}$$

we find that

$$b_n = \frac{1}{p}\int_{-p}^{p} f(x)\sin\frac{n\pi}{p}x\,dx. \tag{7}$$

The trigonometric series (2) with coefficients $a_0$, $a_n$, and $b_n$ defined by (4), (6), and (7), respectively, is said to be the **Fourier series** of the function $f$. The coefficients obtained from (4), (6), and (7) are referred to as **Fourier coefficients** of $f$.

In finding the coefficients $a_0$, $a_n$, and $b_n$, we assumed that $f$ was integrable on the interval and that (2), as well as the series obtained by multiplying (2) by $\cos(m\pi x/p)$, converged in such a manner as to permit term-by-term integration. Until (2) is shown to be convergent for a given function $f$, the equality sign is not to be taken in a strict or literal sense. Some texts use the symbol $\sim$ in place of $=$. In view of the fact that most functions in applications are of a type that guarantees convergence of the series, we shall use the equality symbol. We summarize the results:

---

**DEFINITION 11.2.1**   **Fourier Series**

The **Fourier series** of a function $f$ defined on the interval $(-p, p)$ is given by

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left(a_n\cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x + b_n\sin\frac{n\pi}{p}x\right), \tag{8}$$

where

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{p}\int_{-p}^{p} f(x)\,dx \tag{9}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{p}\int_{-p}^{p} f(x)\cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x\,dx \tag{10}$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{p}\int_{-p}^{p} f(x)\sin\frac{n\pi}{p}x\,dx. \tag{11}$$

**EXAMPLE 1**   **Expansion in a Fourier Series**

Expand $$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ \pi - x, & 0 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$$ (12)

in a Fourier series.
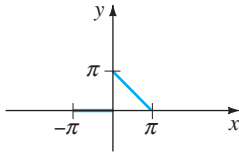
**FIGURE 11.2.1** Piecewise-continuous function in Example 1

**SOLUTION**   The graph of $f$ is given in Figure 11.2.1. With $p = \pi$ we have from (9) and (10) that

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi}\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)\,dx = \frac{1}{\pi}\left[\int_{-\pi}^{0} 0\,dx + \int_{0}^{\pi}(\pi - x)\,dx\right] = \frac{1}{\pi}\left[\pi x - \frac{x^2}{2}\right]_0^{\pi} = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi}\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)\cos nx\,dx = \frac{1}{\pi}\left[\int_{-\pi}^{0} 0\,dx + \int_{0}^{\pi}(\pi - x)\cos nx\,dx\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi}\left[(\pi - x)\frac{\sin nx}{n}\Big|_0^{\pi} + \frac{1}{n}\int_0^{\pi}\sin nx\,dx\right]$$

$$= -\frac{1}{n\pi}\frac{\cos nx}{n}\Big|_0^{\pi} = \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{n^2\pi},$$

where we have used $\cos n\pi = (-1)^n$. In like manner we find from (11) that

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi}\int_0^{\pi}(\pi - x)\sin nx\,dx = \frac{1}{n}.$$

Therefore $$f(x) = \frac{\pi}{4} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\frac{1 - (-1)^n}{n^2\pi}\cos nx + \frac{1}{n}\sin nx\right\}.$$ (13) ∎

Note that $a_n$ defined by (10) reduces to $a_0$ given by (9) when we set $n = 0$. But as Example 1 shows, this might not be the case *after* the integral for $a_n$ is evaluated.

**CONVERGENCE OF A FOURIER SERIES**   The following theorem gives sufficient conditions for convergence of a Fourier series at a point.

**THEOREM 11.2.1**   **Conditions for Convergence**

Let $f$ and $f'$ be piecewise continuous on the interval $(-p, p)$; that is, let $f$ and $f'$ be continuous except at a finite number of points in the interval and have only finite discontinuities at these points. Then the Fourier series of $f$ on the interval converges to $f(x)$ at a point of continuity. At a point of discontinuity the Fourier series converges to the average

$$\frac{f(x+) + f(x-)}{2},$$

where $f(x+)$ and $f(x-)$ denote the limit of $f$ at $x$ from the right and from the left, respectively.*

For a proof of this theorem you are referred to the classic text by Churchill and Brown.[†]

*In other words, for $x$ a point in the interval and $h > 0$,

$$f(x+) = \lim_{h \to 0} f(x + h), \quad f(x-) = \lim_{h \to 0} f(x - h).$$

[†]Ruel V. Churchill and James Ward Brown, *Fourier Series and Boundary Value Problems* (New York: McGraw-Hill).

**EXAMPLE 2**  **Convergence of a Point of Discontinuity**

The function (12) in Example 1 satisfies the conditions of Theorem 11.2.1. Thus for every $x$ in the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$, except at $x = 0$, the series (13) will converge to $f(x)$. At $x = 0$ the function is discontinuous, so the series (13) will converge to

$$\frac{f(0+) + f(0-)}{2} = \frac{\pi + 0}{2} = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$ ∎

**PERIODIC EXTENSION**  Observe that each of the functions in the basic set (1) has a different fundamental period*—namely, $2p/n$, $n \geq 1$—but since a positive integer multiple of a period is also a period, we see that all of the functions have in common the period $2p$. (Verify.) Hence the right-hand side of (2) is $2p$-periodic; indeed, $2p$ is the **fundamental period** of the sum. We conclude that a Fourier series not only represents the function on the interval $(-p, p)$, but also gives the **periodic extension** of $f$ outside this interval. We can now apply Theorem 11.2.1 to the periodic extension of $f$, or we may assume from the outset that the given function is periodic with period $2p$; that is, $f(x + 2p) = f(x)$. When $f$ is piecewise continuous and the right- and left-hand derivatives exist at $x = -p$ and $x = p$, respectively, then the series (8) converges to the average

$$\frac{f(p-) + f(-p+)}{2}$$

at these endpoints and to this value extended periodically to $\pm 3p$, $\pm 5p$, $\pm 7p$, and so on.

   The Fourier series in (13) converges to the periodic extension of (12) on the entire $x$-axis. At $0$, $\pm 2\pi$, $\pm 4\pi$, . . . and at $\pm \pi$, $\pm 3\pi$, $\pm 5\pi$, . . . the series converges to the values

$$\frac{f(0+) + f(0-)}{2} = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{f(\pi-) + f(-\pi+)}{2} = 0,$$

respectively. The solid dots in Figure 11.2.2 represent the value $\pi/2$.
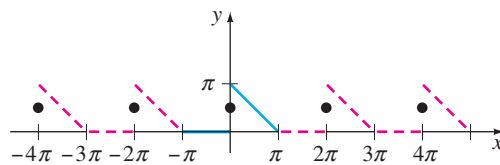


**FIGURE 11.2.2**  Periodic extension of function shown in Figure 11.2.1

**SEQUENCE OF PARTIAL SUMS**  It is interesting to see how the sequence of partial sums $\{S_N(x)\}$ of a Fourier series approximates a function. For example, the first three partial sums of (13) are

$$S_1(x) = \frac{\pi}{4}, \qquad S_2(x) = \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi} \cos x + \sin x, \qquad \text{and} \qquad S_3(x) = \frac{\pi}{4} + \frac{2}{\pi} \cos x + \sin x + \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x.$$

In Figure 11.2.3 we have used a CAS to graph the partial sums $S_3(x)$, $S_8(x)$, and $S_{15}(x)$ of (13) on the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$. Figure 11.2.3(d) shows the periodic extension using $S_{15}(x)$ on $(-4\pi, 4\pi)$.

---

*See Problem 21 in Exercises 11.1.

(a) $S_3(x)$



(b) $S_8(x)$



(c) $S_{15}(x)$



(d) $S_{15}(x)$
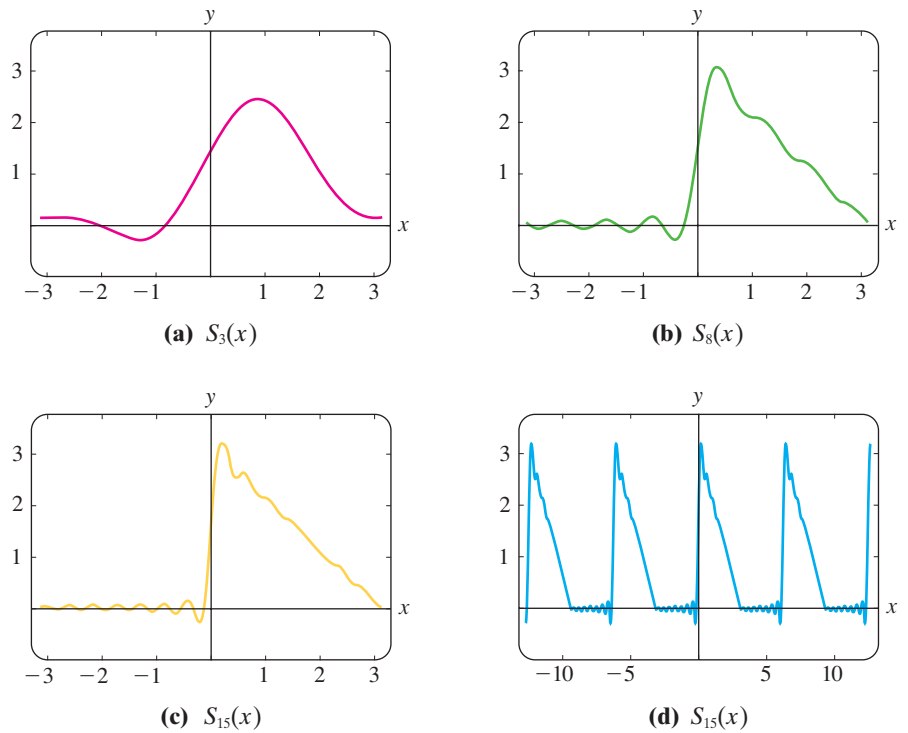
**FIGURE 11.2.3** Partial sums of a Fourier series

# EXERCISES 11.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-18.*

In Problems 1–16 find the Fourier series of $f$ on the given interval.

**1.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ 1, & 0 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$

**2.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ 2, & 0 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$

**3.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & -1 < x < 0 \\ x, & 0 \le x < 1 \end{cases}$

**4.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -1 < x < 0 \\ x, & 0 \le x < 1 \end{cases}$

**5.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ x^2, & 0 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$

**6.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} \pi^2, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ \pi^2 - x^2, & 0 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$

**7.** $f(x) = x + \pi, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$

**8.** $f(x) = 3 - 2x, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$

**9.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ \sin x, & 0 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$

**10.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi/2 < x < 0 \\ \cos x, & 0 \le x < \pi/2 \end{cases}$

**11.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -2 < x < -1 \\ -2, & -1 \le x < 0 \\ 1, & 0 \le x < 1 \\ 0, & 1 \le x < 2 \end{cases}$

**12.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -2 < x < 0 \\ x, & 0 \le x < 1 \\ 1, & 1 \le x < 2 \end{cases}$

**13.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & -5 < x < 0 \\ 1 + x, & 0 \le x < 5 \end{cases}$

**14.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 2 + x, & -2 < x < 0 \\ 2, & 0 \le x < 2 \end{cases}$

**15.** $f(x) = e^x, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$

**16.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ e^x - 1, & 0 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$

**17.** Use the result of Problem 5 to show that

$$\frac{\pi^2}{6} = 1 + \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{4^2} + \cdots$$

and

$$\frac{\pi^2}{12} = 1 - \frac{1}{2^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} - \frac{1}{4^2} + \cdots.$$

**18.** Use Problem 17 to find a series that gives the numerical value of $\pi^2/8$.

**19.** Use the result of Problem 7 to show that

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = 1 - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{7} + \cdots.$$

**20.** Use the result of Problem 9 to show that

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{1 \cdot 3} - \frac{1}{3 \cdot 5} + \frac{1}{5 \cdot 7} - \frac{1}{7 \cdot 9} + \cdots.$$

**21. (a)** Use the complex exponential form of the cosine and sine,

$$\cos \frac{n\pi}{p} x = \frac{e^{in\pi x/p} + e^{-in\pi x/p}}{2}$$

$$\sin \frac{n\pi}{p} x = \frac{e^{in\pi x/p} - e^{-in\pi x/p}}{2i},$$

to show that (8) can be written in the **complex form**

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{in\pi x/p},$$

where

$$c_0 = \frac{a_0}{2}, \quad c_n = \frac{(a_n - ib_n)}{2}, \quad \text{and} \quad c_{-n} = \frac{(a_n + ib_n)}{2},$$

where $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots.$

**(b)** Show that $c_0$, $c_n$, and $c_{-n}$ of part (a) can be written as one integral

$$c_n = \frac{1}{2p} \int_{-p}^{p} f(x) e^{-in\pi x/p} \, dx, \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots.$$

**22.** Use the results of Problem 21 to find the complex form of the Fourier series of $f(x) = e^{-x}$ on the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$.

## 11.3 FOURIER COSINE AND SINE SERIES

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Sections 11.1 and 11.2

**INTRODUCTION** The effort that is expended in evaluation of the definite integrals that define the coefficients the $a_0$, $a_n$, and $b_n$ in the expansion of a function $f$ in a Fourier series is reduced significantly when $f$ is either an even or an odd function. Recall that a function $f$ is said to be

**even if** $f(-x) = f(x)$ **and** **odd if** $f(-x) = -f(x)$.

On a symmetric interval such as $(-p, p)$ the graph of an even function possesses symmetry with respect to the $y$-axis, whereas the graph of an odd function possesses symmetry with respect to the origin.
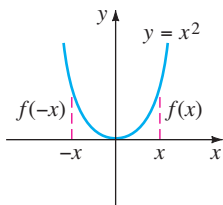


**FIGURE 11.3.1** Even function; graph symmetric with respect to $y$-axis

**EVEN AND ODD FUNCTIONS** It is likely that the origin of the terms *even* and *odd* derives from the fact that the graphs of polynomial functions that consist of all even powers of $x$ are symmetric with respect to the $y$-axis, whereas graphs of polynomials that consist of all odd powers of $x$ are symmetric with respect to origin. For example,

$$\overset{\downarrow \text{even integer}}{f(x) = x^2} \text{ is even} \quad \text{since } f(-x) = (-x)^2 = x^2 = f(x)$$

$$\overset{\downarrow \text{odd integer}}{f(x) = x^3} \text{ is odd} \quad \text{since } f(-x) = (-x)^3 = -x^3 = -f(x).$$

See Figures 11.3.1 and 11.3.2. The trigonometric cosine and sine functions are even and odd functions, respectively, since $\cos(-x) = \cos x$ and $\sin(-x) = -\sin x$. The exponential functions $f(x) = e^x$ and $f(x) = e^{-x}$ are neither odd nor even.



**FIGURE 11.3.2** Odd function; graph symmetric with respect to origin

**PROPERTIES** The following theorem lists some properties of even and odd functions.

---

**THEOREM 11.3.1**  **Properties of Even/Odd Functions**

(a) The product of two even functions is even.
(b) The product of two odd functions is even.
(c) The product of an even function and an odd function is odd.
(d) The sum (difference) of two even functions is even.
(e) The sum (difference) of two odd functions is odd.
(f) If $f$ is even, then $\int_{-a}^{a} f(x)\, dx = 2\int_{0}^{a} f(x)\, dx$.
(g) If $f$ is odd, then $\int_{-a}^{a} f(x)\, dx = 0$.

---

**PROOF OF (b)**  Let us suppose that $f$ and $g$ are odd functions. Then we have $f(-x) = -f(x)$ and $g(-x) = -g(x)$. If we define the product of $f$ and $g$ as $F(x) = f(x)g(x)$, then

$$F(-x) = f(-x)\,g(-x) = (-f(x))(-g(x)) = f(x)\,g(x) = F(x).$$

This shows that the product $F$ of two odd functions is an even function. The proofs of the remaining properties are left as exercises. See Problem 48 in Exercises 11.3.  ∎

**COSINE AND SINE SERIES**  If $f$ is an even function on $(-p, p)$, then in view of the foregoing properties the coefficients (9), (10), and (11) of Section 11.2 become

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{p}\int_{-p}^{p} f(x)\, dx = \frac{2}{p}\int_{0}^{p} f(x)\, dx$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{p}\int_{-p}^{p} \underbrace{f(x)\cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x}_{\text{even}}\, dx = \frac{2}{p}\int_{0}^{p} f(x)\cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x\, dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{p}\int_{-p}^{p} \underbrace{f(x)\sin\frac{n\pi}{p}x}_{\text{odd}}\, dx = 0$$

Similarly, when $f$ is odd on the interval $(-p, p)$,

$$a_n = 0, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, \qquad b_n = \frac{2}{p}\int_{0}^{p} f(x)\sin\frac{n\pi}{p}x\, dx.$$

We summarize the results in the following definition.

---

**DEFINITION 11.3.1**  **Fourier Cosine and Sine Series**

(i) The Fourier series of an even function on the interval $(-p, p)$ is the **cosine series**

$$f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x, \tag{1}$$

where

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{p}\int_{0}^{p} f(x)\, dx \tag{2}$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{p}\int_{0}^{p} f(x)\cos\frac{n\pi}{p}x\, dx. \tag{3}$$

---

(*ii*) The Fourier series of an odd function on the interval $(-p, p)$ is the **sine series**

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{p} x, \tag{4}$$

where

$$b_n = \frac{2}{p} \int_0^p f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{p} x \, dx. \tag{5}$$

---

### ▌ EXAMPLE 1  Expansion in a Sine Series

Expand $f(x) = x$, $-2 < x < 2$ in a Fourier series.

**SOLUTION**  Inspection of Figure 11.3.3 shows that the given function is odd on the interval $(-2, 2)$, and so we expand $f$ in a sine series. With the identification $2p = 4$ we have $p = 2$. Thus (5), after integration by parts, is

$$b_n = \int_0^2 x \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} x \, dx = \frac{4(-1)^{n+1}}{n\pi}.$$
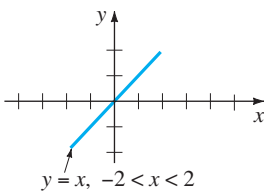


FIGURE 11.3.3  Odd function in Example 1

Therefore

$$f(x) = \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} x. \tag{6} \ \blacksquare$$

The function in Example 1 satisfies the conditions of Theorem 11.2.1. Hence the series (6) converges to the function on $(-2, 2)$ and the periodic extension (of period 4) given in Figure 11.3.4.
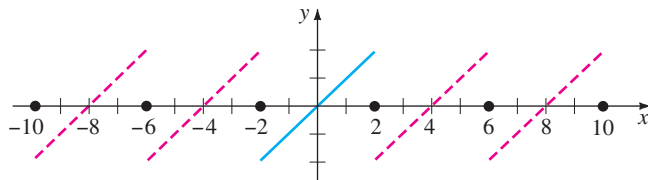


FIGURE 11.3.4  Periodic extension of function shown in Figure 11.3.3

---

### ▌ EXAMPLE 2  Expansion in a Sine Series

The function $f(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ 1, & 0 \le x < \pi, \end{cases}$ shown in Figure 11.3.5 is odd on the interval $(-\pi, \pi)$. With $p = \pi$ we have, from (5),

$$b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi (1) \sin nx \, dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{n},$$

and so
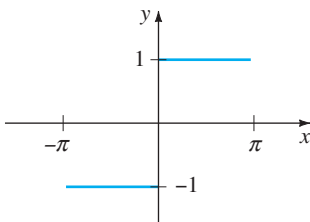
$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{n} \sin nx. \tag{7} \ \blacksquare$$



FIGURE 11.3.5  Odd function in Example 2

**GIBBS PHENOMENON**  With the aid of a CAS we have plotted the graphs $S_1(x)$, $S_2(x)$, $S_3(x)$, and $S_{15}(x)$ of the partial sums of nonzero terms of (7) in Figure 11.3.6. As seen in Figure 11.3.6(d), the graph of $S_{15}(x)$ has pronounced spikes near the discontinuities at $x = 0$, $x = \pi$, $x = -\pi$, and so on. This "overshooting" by the partial sums $S_N$ from the functional values near a point of discontinuity does not smooth out but remains fairly constant, even when the value $N$ is taken to be large. This behavior of a Fourier series near a point at which $f$ is discontinuous is known as the **Gibbs phenomenon.**

The periodic extension of $f$ in Example 2 onto the entire $x$-axis is a meander function (see page 290).



(a) $S_1(x)$



(b) $S_2(x)$



(c) $S_3(x)$



(d) $S_{15}(x)$
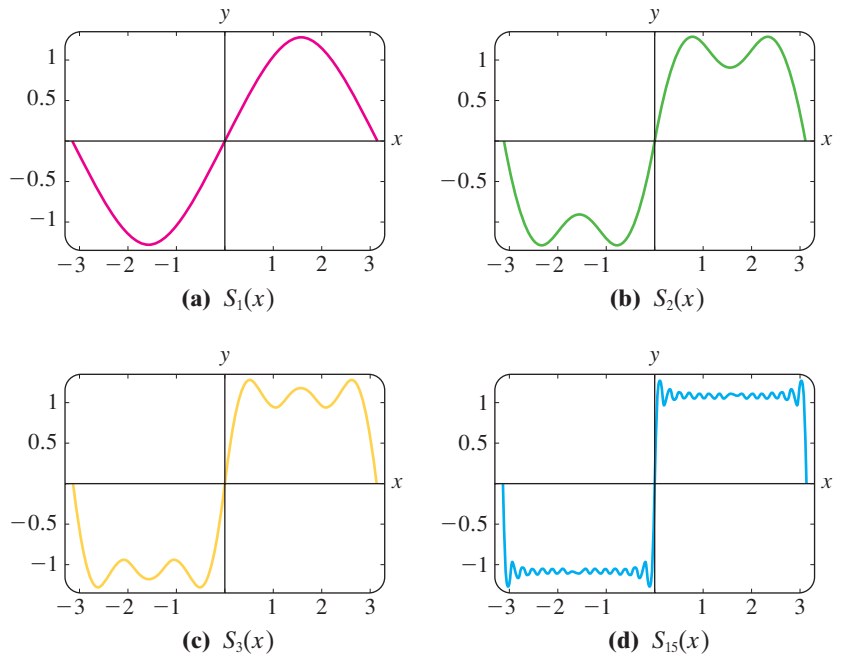
**FIGURE 11.3.6**   Partial sums of sine series (7)
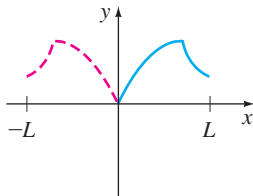


**FIGURE 11.3.7**   Even reflection
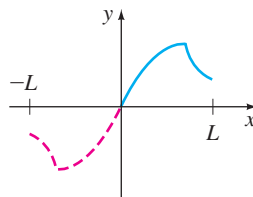


**FIGURE 11.3.8**   Odd reflection



$f(x) = f(x + L)$
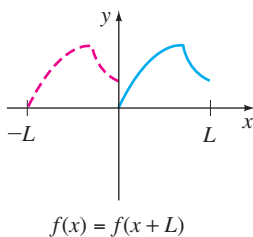
**FIGURE 11.3.9**   Identity reflection

**HALF-RANGE EXPANSIONS**   Throughout the preceding discussion it was understood that a function $f$ was defined on an interval with the origin as its midpoint—that is, $(-p, p)$. However, in many instances we are interested in representing a function that is defined only for $0 < x < L$ by a trigonometric series. This can be done in many different ways by supplying an arbitrary *definition* of $f(x)$ for $-L < x < 0$. For brevity we consider the three most important cases. If $y = f(x)$ is defined on the interval $(0, L)$, then

(*i*)   reflect the graph of $f$ about the $y$-axis onto $(-L, 0)$; the function is now even on $(-L, L)$ (see Figure 11.3.7); or

(*ii*)   reflect the graph of $f$ through the origin onto $(-L, 0)$; the function is now odd on $(-L, L)$ (see Figure 11.3.8); or

(*iii*)   define $f$ on $(-L, 0)$ by $y = f(x + L)$ (see Figure 11.3.9).

Note that the coefficients of the series (1) and (4) utilize only the definition of the function on $(0, p)$ (that is, half of the interval $(-p, p)$). Hence in practice there is no actual need to make the reflections described in (*i*) and (*ii*). If $f$ is defined for $0 < x < L$, we simply identify the half-period as the length of the interval $p = L$. The coefficient formulas (2), (3), and (5) and the corresponding series yield either an even or an odd periodic extension of period $2L$ of the original function. The cosine and sine series that are obtained in this manner are known as **half-range expansions.** Finally, in case (*iii*) we are defining the function values on the interval $(-L, 0)$ to be same as the values on $(0, L)$. As in the previous two cases there is no real need to do this. It can be shown that the set of functions in (1) of Section 11.2 is orthogonal on the interval $[a, a + 2p]$ for any real number $a$. Choosing $a = -p$, we obtain the limits of integration in (9), (10), and (11) of that section. But for $a = 0$ the limits of integration are from $x = 0$ to $x = 2p$. Thus if $f$ is defined on the interval $(0, L)$, we identify $2p = L$ or $p = L/2$. The resulting Fourier series will give the periodic extension of $f$ with period $L$. In this manner the values to which the series converges will be the same on $(-L, 0)$ as on $(0, L)$.

## EXAMPLE 3 Expansion in Three Series

Expand $f(x) = x^2$, $0 < x < L$,
(a) in a cosine series  (b) in a sine series  (c) in a Fourier series.

**SOLUTION** The graph of the function is given in Figure 11.3.10.

(a) We have

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{L}\int_0^L x^2\,dx = \frac{2}{3}L^2, \qquad a_n = \frac{2}{L}\int_0^L x^2 \cos\frac{n\pi}{L}x\,dx = \frac{4L^2(-1)^n}{n^2\pi^2},$$

where integration by parts was used twice in the evaluation of $a_n$.

Thus

$$f(x) = \frac{L^2}{3} + \frac{4L^2}{\pi^2}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\frac{(-1)^n}{n^2}\cos\frac{n\pi}{L}x. \tag{8}$$

(b) In this case we must again integrate by parts twice:

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L}\int_0^L x^2 \sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x\,dx = \frac{2L^2(-1)^{n+1}}{n\pi} + \frac{4L^2}{n^3\pi^3}[(-1)^n - 1].$$

Hence

$$f(x) = \frac{2L^2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n} + \frac{2}{n^3\pi^2}[(-1)^n - 1]\right\}\sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x. \tag{9}$$

(c) With $p = L/2$, $1/p = 2/L$, and $n\pi/p = 2n\pi/L$ we have

$$a_0 = \frac{2}{L}\int_0^L x^2\,dx = \frac{2}{3}L^2, \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L}\int_0^L x^2\cos\frac{2n\pi}{L}x\,dx = \frac{L^2}{n^2\pi^2},$$

and

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L}\int_0^L x^2\sin\frac{2n\pi}{L}x\,dx = -\frac{L^2}{n\pi}.$$

Therefore

$$f(x) = \frac{L^2}{3} + \frac{L^2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\frac{1}{n^2\pi}\cos\frac{2n\pi}{L}x - \frac{1}{n}\sin\frac{2n\pi}{L}x\right\}. \tag{10}$$

The series (8), (9), and (10) converge to the $2L$-periodic even extension of $f$, the $2L$-periodic odd extension of $f$, and the $L$-periodic extension of $f$, respectively. The graphs of these periodic extensions are shown in Figure 11.3.11.
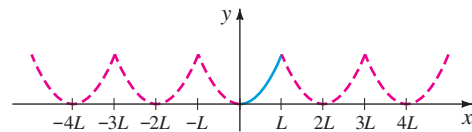


(a) Cosine series
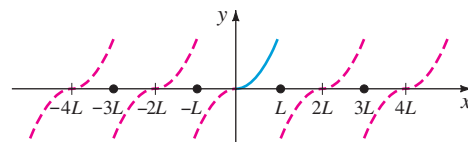


(b) Sine series
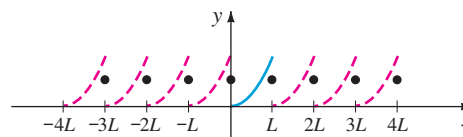


(c) Fourier series

**FIGURE 11.3.11** Same function on $(0, L)$ but different periodic extensions



$y = x^2$, $0 < x < L$

**FIGURE 11.3.10** Function is neither odd nor even.

**PERIODIC DRIVING FORCE** Fourier series are sometimes useful in determining a particular solution of a differential equation describing a physical system in which the input or driving force $f(t)$ is periodic. In the next example we find a particular solution of the differential equation

$$m\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + kx = f(t) \tag{11}$$

by first representing $f$ by a half-range sine expansion and then assuming a particular solution of the form

$$x_p(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin\frac{n\pi}{p}t. \tag{12}$$

---

| **EXAMPLE 4** | **Particular Solution of a DE** |



FIGURE 11.3.12 Periodic forcing function for spring/mass system

An undamped spring/mass system, in which the mass $m = \frac{1}{16}$ slug and the spring constant $k = 4$ lb/ft, is driven by the 2-periodic external force $f(t)$ shown in Figure 11.3.12. Although the force $f(t)$ acts on the system for $t > 0$, note that if we extend the graph of the function in a 2-periodic manner to the negative $t$-axis, we obtain an odd function. In practical terms this means that we need only find the half-range sine expansion of $f(t) = \pi t$, $0 < t < 1$. With $p = 1$ it follows from (5) and integration by parts that

$$b_n = 2\int_0^1 \pi t \sin n\pi t\, dt = \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{n}.$$

From (11) the differential equation of motion is seen to be

$$\frac{1}{16}\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 4x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \sin n\pi t. \tag{13}$$

To find a particular solution $x_p(t)$ of (13), we substitute (12) into the equation and equate coefficients of $\sin n\pi t$. This yields

$$\left(-\frac{1}{16}n^2\pi^2 + 4\right)B_n = \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \qquad \text{or} \qquad B_n = \frac{32(-1)^{n+1}}{n(64 - n^2\pi^2)}.$$

Thus
$$x_p(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{32(-1)^{n+1}}{n(64 - n^2\pi^2)} \sin n\pi t. \tag{14} \ \blacksquare$$

Observe in the solution (14) that there is no integer $n \geq 1$ for which the denominator $64 - n^2\pi^2$ of $B_n$ is zero. In general, if there *is* a value of $n$, say $N$, for which $N\pi/p = \omega$, where $\omega = \sqrt{k/m}$, then the system described by (11) is in a state of pure resonance. In other words, we have pure resonance if the Fourier series expansion of the driving force $f(t)$ contains a term $\sin(N\pi/L)t$ (or $\cos(N\pi/L)t$) that has the same frequency as the free vibrations.

Of course, if the $2p$-periodic extension of the driving force $f$ onto the negative $t$-axis yields an even function, then we expand $f$ in a cosine series.

## EXERCISES 11.3

In Problems 1–10 determine whether the function is even, odd, or neither.

**1.** $f(x) = \sin 3x$

**2.** $f(x) = x \cos x$

**3.** $f(x) = x^2 + x$

**4.** $f(x) = x^3 - 4x$

**5.** $f(x) = e^{|x|}$

**6.** $f(x) = e^x - e^{-x}$

**7.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2, & -1 < x < 0 \\ -x^2, & 0 \le x < 1 \end{cases}$

**8.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} x + 5, & -2 < x < 0 \\ -x + 5, & 0 \le x < 2 \end{cases}$

**9.** $f(x) = x^3, \quad 0 \le x \le 2$

**10.** $f(x) = |x^5|$

In Problems 11–24 expand the given function in an appropriate cosine or sine series.

**11.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ 1, & 0 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$

**12.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & -2 < x < -1 \\ 0, & -1 < x < 1 \\ 1, & 1 < x < 2 \end{cases}$

**13.** $f(x) = |x|, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$

**14.** $f(x) = x, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$

**15.** $f(x) = x^2, \quad -1 < x < 1$

**16.** $f(x) = x|x|, \quad -1 < x < 1$

**17.** $f(x) = \pi^2 - x^2, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$

**18.** $f(x) = x^3, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$

**19.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} x - 1, & -\pi < x < 0 \\ x + 1, & 0 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$

**20.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} x + 1, & -1 < x < 0 \\ x - 1, & 0 \le x < 1 \end{cases}$

**21.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & -2 < x < -1 \\ -x, & -1 \le x < 0 \\ x, & 0 \le x < 1 \\ 1, & 1 \le x < 2 \end{cases}$

**22.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} -\pi, & -2\pi < x < -\pi \\ x, & -\pi \le x < \pi \\ \pi, & \pi \le x < 2\pi \end{cases}$

**23.** $f(x) = |\sin x|, \quad -\pi < x < \pi$

**24.** $f(x) = \cos x, \quad -\pi/2 < x < \pi/2$

In Problems 25–34 find the half-range cosine and sine expansions of the given function.

**25.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < x < \frac{1}{2} \\ 0, & \frac{1}{2} \le x < 1 \end{cases}$

**26.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 < x < \frac{1}{2} \\ 1, & \frac{1}{2} \le x < 1 \end{cases}$

**27.** $f(x) = \cos x, \quad 0 < x < \pi/2$

**28.** $f(x) = \sin x, \quad 0 < x < \pi$

**29.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < \pi/2 \\ \pi - x, & \pi/2 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$

**30.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 < x < \pi \\ x - \pi, & \pi \le x < 2\pi \end{cases}$

**31.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 1, & 1 \le x < 2 \end{cases}$

**32.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 2 - x, & 1 \le x < 2 \end{cases}$

**33.** $f(x) = x^2 + x, \quad 0 < x < 1$

**34.** $f(x) = x(2 - x), \quad 0 < x < 2$

In Problems 35–38 expand the given function in a Fourier series.

**35.** $f(x) = x^2, \quad 0 < x < 2\pi$

**36.** $f(x) = x, \quad 0 < x < \pi$

**37.** $f(x) = x + 1, \quad 0 < x < 1$

**38.** $f(x) = 2 - x, \quad 0 < x < 2$

In Problems 39 and 40 proceed as in Example 4 to find a particular solution $x_p(t)$ of equation (11) when $m = 1$, $k = 10$, and the driving force $f(t)$ is as given. Assume that when $f(t)$ is extended to the negative $t$-axis in a periodic manner, the resulting function is odd.

**39.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} 5, & 0 < t < \pi \\ -5, & \pi < t < 2\pi \end{cases}; \quad f(t + 2\pi) = f(t)$

**40.** $f(t) = 1 - t, \quad 0 < t < 2; \quad f(t + 2) = f(t)$

In Problems 41 and 42 proceed as in Example 4 to find a particular solution $x_p(t)$ of equation (11) when $m = \frac{1}{4}$, $k = 12$, and the driving force $f(t)$ is as given. Assume that when $f(t)$ is extended to the negative $t$-axis in a periodic manner, the resulting function is even.

**41.** $f(t) = 2\pi t - t^2$, $0 < t < 2\pi$; $f(t + 2\pi) = f(t)$

**42.** $f(t) = \begin{cases} t, & 0 < t < \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 - t, & \frac{1}{2} < t < 1 \end{cases}$; $f(t + 1) = f(t)$

**43. (a)** Solve the differential equation in Problem 39, $x'' + 10x = f(t)$, subject to the initial conditions $x(0) = 0$, $x'(0) = 0$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to plot the graph of the solution $x(t)$ in part (a).

**44. (a)** Solve the differential equation in Problem 41, $\frac{1}{4}x'' + 12x = f(t)$, subject to the initial conditions $x(0) = 1$, $x'(0) = 0$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to plot the graph of the solution $x(t)$ in part (a).

**45.** Suppose a uniform beam of length $L$ is simply supported at $x = 0$ and at $x = L$. If the load per unit length is given by $w(x) = w_0 x/L$, $0 < x < L$, then the differential equation for the deflection $y(x)$ is

$$EI \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} = \frac{w_0 x}{L},$$

where $E$, $I$, and $w_0$ are constants. (See (4) in Section 5.2.)

**(a)** Expand $w(x)$ in a half-range sine series.

**(b)** Use the method of Example 4 to find a particular solution $y_p(x)$ of the differential equation.

**46.** Proceed as in Problem 45 to find a particular solution $y_p(x)$ when the load per unit length is as given in Figure 11.3.13.
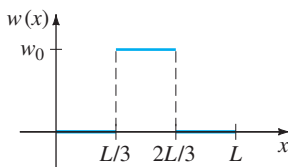
**FIGURE 11.3.13** Graph for Problem 46

**47.** When a uniform beam is supported by an elastic foundation and subject to a load per unit length $w(x)$, the differential equation for its deflection $y(x)$ is

$$EI \frac{d^4y}{dx^4} + ky = w(x),$$

where $k$ is the modulus of the foundation. Suppose that the beam and elastic foundation are infinite in length (that is, $-\infty < x < \infty$) and that the load per unit length is the periodic function

$$w(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -\pi < x < -\pi/2 \\ w_0, & -\pi/2 \le x \le \pi/2, \\ 0, & \pi/2 < x < \pi \end{cases} \quad w(x + 2\pi) = w(x).$$

Use the method of Example 4 to find a particular solution $y_p(x)$ of the differential equation.

## Discussion Problems

**48.** Prove properties (a), (c), (d), (f), and (g) in Theorem 11.3.1.

**49.** There is only one function that is both even and odd. What is it?

**50.** As we know from Chapter 4, the general solution of the differential equation in Problem 47 is $y = y_c + y_p$. Discuss why we can argue on physical grounds that the solution of Problem 47 is simply $y_p$. [*Hint*: Consider $y = y_c + y_p$ as $x \to \pm\infty$.]

## Computer Lab Assignments

In Problems 51 and 52 use a CAS to plot graphs of partial sums $\{S_N(x)\}$ of the given trigonometric series. Experiment with different values of $N$ and graphs on different intervals of the $x$-axis. Use your graphs to conjecture a closed-form expression for a function $f$ defined for $0 < x < L$ that is represented by the series.

**51.** $f(x) = -\frac{\pi}{4} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{(-1)^n - 1}{n^2 \pi} \cos nx \right.$

$$\left. + \frac{1 - 2(-1)^n}{n} \sin nx \right]$$

**52.** $f(x) = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{4}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \left( 1 - \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} \right) \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} x$

**53.** Is your answer in Problem 51 or in Problem 52 unique? Give a function $f$ defined on a symmetric interval about the origin $(-a, a)$ that has the same trigonometric series

**(a)** as in Problem 51,

**(b)** as in Problem 52.

| 11.4 | STURM-LIOUVILLE PROBLEM |

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- The concept of eigenvalues and eigenvectors was first introduced in Section 5.2. A review of that section (especially Example 2) is strongly recommended.

**INTRODUCTION** In this section we will study some special types of boundary-value problems in which the ordinary differential equation in the problem contains a parameter $\lambda$. The values of $\lambda$ for which the BVP possesses nontrivial solutions are called **eigenvalues,** and the corresponding solutions are called **eigenfunctions.** Boundary-value problems of this type are especially important throughout Chapters 12 and 13. In this section we also see that there is a connection between orthogonal sets and eigenfunctions of a boundary-value problem.

**REVIEW OF DEs** For convenience we present here a brief review of some of the linear ODEs that will occur frequently in the sections and chapters that follow. The symbol $\alpha$ represents a constant.

| **Constant-coefficient equations** | **General solutions** |
|---|---|
| $y' + \alpha y = 0$ | $y = c_1 e^{-\alpha x}$ |
| $y'' + \alpha^2 y = 0, \quad \alpha > 0$ | $y = c_1 \cos \alpha x + c_2 \sin \alpha x$ |
| $y'' - \alpha^2 y = 0, \quad \alpha > 0$ | $\begin{cases} y = c_1 e^{-\alpha x} + c_2 e^{\alpha x}, & \text{or} \\ y = c_1 \cosh \alpha x + c_2 \sinh \alpha x \end{cases}$ |
| **Cauchy-Euler equation** | **General solutions, $x > 0$** |
| $x^2 y'' + xy' - \alpha^2 y = 0, \quad \alpha \geq 0$ | $\begin{cases} y = c_1 x^{-\alpha} + c_2 x^{\alpha}, & \alpha > 0 \\ y = c_1 + c_2 \ln x, & \alpha = 0 \end{cases}$ |
| **Parametric Bessel equation ($v = 0$)** | **General solution, $x > 0$** |
| $xy'' + y' + \alpha^2 xy = 0,$ | $y = c_1 J_0(\alpha x) + c_2 Y_0(\alpha x)$ |
| **Legendre's equation** ($n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$) | **Particular solutions are polynomials** |
| $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + n(n + 1)y = 0,$ | $y = P_0(x) = 1,$ $y = P_1(x) = x,$ $y = P_2(x) = \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 1), \ldots$ |

Regarding the two forms of the general solution of $y'' - \alpha^2 y = 0$, we will make use of the following informal rule immediately in Example 1 as well as in future discussions:

■ This rule will be useful in Chapters 12–14.

*Use the exponential form $y = c_1 e^{-\alpha x} + c_2 e^{\alpha x}$ when the domain of $x$ is an infinite or semi-infinite interval; use the hyperbolic form $y = c_1 \cosh \alpha x + c_2 \sinh \alpha x$ when the domain of $x$ is a finite interval.*

**EIGENVALUES AND EIGENFUNCTIONS** Orthogonal functions arise in the solution of differential equations. More to the point, an orthogonal set of functions can be generated by solving a certain kind of two-point boundary-value problem

involving a linear second-order differential equation containing a parameter $\lambda$. In Example 2 of Section 5.2 we saw that the boundary-value problem

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0, \tag{1}$$

possessed nontrivial solutions only when the parameter $\lambda$ took on the values $\lambda_n = n^2\pi^2/L^2$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, called **eigenvalues.** The corresponding nontrivial solutions $y_n = c_2 \sin(n\pi x/L)$, or simply $y_n = \sin(n\pi x/L)$, are called the **eigenfunctions** of the problem. For example, for (1)

$$\downarrow \text{not an eigenvalue}$$
$$BVP: \quad y'' - 2y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0$$

$$\textit{Trivial solution:} \quad y = 0 \leftarrow \text{never an eigenfunction}$$

$$\downarrow \text{is an eigenvalue } (n = 3)$$
$$BVP: \quad y'' + \frac{9\pi^2}{L^2} y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(L) = 0$$

$$\textit{Nontrivial solution:} \quad y_3 = \sin(3\pi x/L) \leftarrow \text{eigenfunction}$$

For our purposes in this chapter it is important to recognize that the set of trigonometric functions generated by this BVP, that is, $\{\sin(n\pi x/L)\}$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, is an orthogonal set of functions on the interval $[0, L]$ and is used as the basis for the Fourier sine series. See Problem 10 in Exercises 11.1.

---

### EXAMPLE 1 Eigenvalues and Eigenfunctions

Consider the boundary-value problem

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0, \quad y'(L) = 0. \tag{2}$$

As in Example 2 of Section 5.2 there are three possible cases for the parameter $\lambda$: zero, negative, or positive; that is, $\lambda = 0$, $\lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0$, and $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$, where $\alpha > 0$. The solution of the DEs

$$y'' = 0, \quad \lambda = 0, \tag{3}$$

$$y'' - \alpha^2 y = 0, \quad \lambda = -\alpha^2, \tag{4}$$

$$y'' + \alpha^2 y = 0, \quad \lambda = \alpha^2, \tag{5}$$

are, in turn,

$$y = c_1 + c_2 x, \tag{6}$$

$$y = c_1 \cosh \alpha x + c_2 \sinh \alpha x, \tag{7}$$

$$y = c_1 \cos \alpha x + c_2 \sin \alpha x. \tag{8}$$

When the boundary conditions $y'(0) = 0$ and $y'(L) = 0$ are applied to each of these solutions, (6) yields $y = c_1$, (7) yields only $y = 0$, and (8) yields $y = c_1 \cos \alpha x$ *provided* that $\alpha = n\pi/L$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. Since $y = c_1$ satisfies the DE in (3) and the boundary conditions for any *nonzero* choice of $c_1$, we conclude that $\lambda = 0$ is an eigenvalue. Thus the eigenvalues and corresponding eigenfunctions of the problem are $\lambda_0 = 0$, $y_0 = c_1$, $c_1 \neq 0$, and $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2 = n^2\pi^2/L^2$, $n = 1, 2, \ldots$, $y_n = c_1 \cos(n\pi x/L)$, $c_1 \neq 0$. We can, if desired, take $c_1 = 1$ in each case. Note also that the eigenfunction $y_0 = 1$ corresponding to the eigenvalue $\lambda_0 = 0$ can be incorporated in the family $y_n = \cos(n\pi x/L)$ by permitting $n = 0$. The set $\{\cos(n\pi x/L)\}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, is orthogonal on the interval $[0, L]$. You are asked to fill in the details of this example in Problem 3 in Exercises 11.4. ■

**REGULAR STURM-LIOUVILLE PROBLEM** The problems in (1) and (2) are special cases of an important general two-point boundary value problem. Let $p$, $q$, $r$, and $r'$ be real-valued functions continuous on an interval $[a, b]$, and let $r(x) > 0$ and $p(x) > 0$ for every $x$ in the interval. Then

$$\text{Solve:} \qquad \frac{d}{dx}[r(x)y'] + (q(x) + \lambda p(x))y = 0 \qquad (9)$$

$$\text{Subject to:} \qquad A_1 y(a) + B_1 y'(a) = 0 \qquad (10)$$

$$A_2 y(b) + B_2 y'(b) = 0 \qquad (11)$$

is said to be a **regular Sturm-Liouville problem.** The coefficients in the boundary conditions (10) and (11) are assumed to be real and independent of $\lambda$. In addition, $A_1$ and $B_1$ are not both zero, and $A_2$ and $B_2$ are not both zero. The boundary-value problems in (1) and (2) are regular Sturm-Liouville problems. From (1) we can identify $r(x) = 1$, $q(x) = 0$, and $p(x) = 1$ in the differential equation (9); in boundary condition (10) we identify $a = 0$, $A_1 = 1$, $B_1 = 0$, and in (11), $b = L$, $A_2 = 1$, $B_2 = 0$. From (2) the identifications would be $a = 0$, $A_1 = 0$, $B_1 = 1$ in (10), $b = L$, $A_2 = 0$, $B_2 = 1$ in (11).

The differential equation (9) is linear and homogeneous. The boundary conditions in (10) and (11), both a linear combination of $y$ and $y'$ *equal to zero at a point*, are also **homogeneous.** A boundary condition such as $A_2 y(b) + B_2 y'(b) = C_2$, where $C_2$ is a nonzero constant, is **nonhomogeneous.** A boundary-value problem that consists of a homogeneous linear differential equation and homogeneous boundary conditions is, of course, said to be a homogeneous BVP; otherwise, it is nonhomogeneous. The boundary conditions (10) and (11) are referred to as **separated** because each condition involves only a single boundary point.

Because a regular Sturm-Liouville problem is a homogeneous BVP, it always possesses the trivial solution $y = 0$. However, this solution is of no interest to us. As in Example 1, in solving such a problem, we seek numbers $\lambda$ (eigenvalues) and nontrivial solutions $y$ that depend on $\lambda$ (eigenfunctions).

**PROPERTIES** Theorem 11.4.1 is a list of the more important of the many properties of the regular Sturm-Liouville problem. We shall prove only the last property.

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**THEOREM 11.4.1** **Properties of the Regular Sturm-Liouville Problem**

**(a)** There exist an infinite number of real eigenvalues that can be arranged in increasing order $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \lambda_3 < \cdots < \lambda_n < \cdots$ such that $\lambda_n \to \infty$ as $n \to \infty$.

**(b)** For each eigenvalue there is only one eigenfunction (except for nonzero constant multiples).

**(c)** Eigenfunctions corresponding to different eigenvalues are linearly independent.

**(d)** The set of eigenfunctions corresponding to the set of eigenvalues is orthogonal with respect to the weight function $p(x)$ on the interval $[a, b]$.

---

**PROOF OF (d)** Let $y_m$ and $y_n$ be eigenfunctions corresponding to eigenvalues $\lambda_m$ and $\lambda_n$, respectively. Then

$$\frac{d}{dx}[r(x)y'_m] + (q(x) + \lambda_m p(x))y_m = 0 \qquad (12)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[r(x)y'_n] + (q(x) + \lambda_n p(x))y_n = 0. \qquad (13)$$

Multiplying (12) by $y_n$ and (13) by $y_m$ and subtracting the two equations gives

$$(\lambda_m - \lambda_n)p(x)y_m y_n = y_m \frac{d}{dx}[r(x)y'_n] - y_n \frac{d}{dx}[r(x)y'_m].$$

Integrating this last result by parts from $x = a$ to $x = b$ then yields

$$(\lambda_m - \lambda_n)\int_a^b p(x)y_m y_n \, dx = r(b)[y_m(b)y'_n(b) - y_n(b)y'_m(b)] - r(a)[y_m(a)y'_n(a) - y_n(a)y'_m(a)]. \quad (14)$$

Now the eigenfunctions $y_m$ and $y_n$ must both satisfy the boundary conditions (10) and (11). In particular, from (10) we have

$$A_1 y_m(a) + B_1 y'_m(a) = 0$$
$$A_1 y_n(a) + B_1 y'_n(a) = 0.$$

For this system to be satisfied by $A_1$ and $B_1$, not both zero, the determinant of the coefficients must be zero:

$$y_m(a)y'_n(a) - y_n(a)y'_m(a) = 0.$$

A similar argument applied to (11) also gives

$$y_m(b)y'_n(b) - y_n(b)y'_m(b) = 0.$$

Since both members of the right-hand side of (14) are zero, we have established the orothogonality relation

$$\int_a^b p(x)y_m(x)y_n(x) \, dx = 0, \qquad \lambda_m \neq \lambda_n. \quad (15) \quad \blacksquare$$

---

## EXAMPLE 2    A Regular Sturm-Liouville Problem

Solve the boundary-value problem

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(1) + y'(1) = 0. \quad (16)$$

**SOLUTION**    We proceed exactly as in Example 1 by considering three cases in which the parameter $\lambda$ could be zero, negative, or positive: $\lambda = 0$, $\lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0$, and $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$, where $\alpha > 0$. The solutions of the DE for these values are listed in (3)–(5). For the cases $\lambda = 0$ and $\lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0$ we find that the BVP in (16) possesses only the trivial solution $y = 0$. For $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$ the general solution of the differential equation is $y = c_1 \cos \alpha x + c_2 \sin \alpha x$. Now the condition $y(0) = 0$ implies that $c_1 = 0$ in this solution, so we are left with $y = c_2 \sin \alpha x$. The second boundary condition $y(1) + y'(1) = 0$ is satisfied if

$$c_2 \sin \alpha + c_2 \alpha \cos \alpha = 0.$$

In view of the demand that $c_2 \neq 0$, the last equation can be written

$$\tan \alpha = -\alpha. \quad (17)$$

If for a moment we think of (17) as $\tan x = -x$, then Figure 11.4.1 shows the plausibility that this equation has an infinite number of roots, namely, the $x$-coordinates of the points where the graph of $y = -x$ intersects the infinite number of branches of the graph of $y = \tan x$. The eigenvalues of the BVP (16) are then $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2$, where $\alpha_n$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, are the consecutive *positive* roots $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \ldots$ of (17). With the aid of a CAS it is easily shown that, to four rounded decimal places, $\alpha_1 = 2.0288$, $\alpha_2 = 4.9132$, $\alpha_3 = 7.9787$, and $\alpha_4 = 11.0855$, and the corresponding solutions are $y_1 = \sin 2.0288x$, $y_2 = \sin 4.9132x$, $y_3 = \sin 7.9787x$, and $y_4 = \sin 11.0855x$. In general, the eigenfunctions of the problem are $\{\sin \alpha_n x\}$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$.
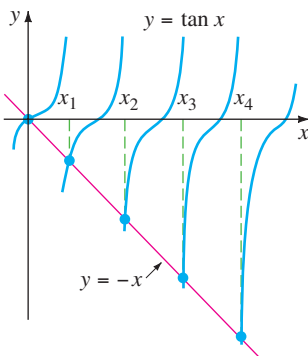


**FIGURE 11.4.1**    Positive roots $x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots$ of $\tan x = -x$

With the identification $r(x) = 1$, $q(x) = 0$, $p(x) = 1$, $A_1 = 1$, $B_1 = 0$, $A_2 = 1$, $B_2 = 1$ we see that (16) is a regular Sturm-Liouville problem. We conclude that $\{\sin \alpha_n x\}$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, is an orthogonal set with respect to the weight function $p(x) = 1$ on the interval $[0, 1]$. ∎

In some circumstances we can prove the orthogonality of solutions of (9) without the necessity of specifying a boundary condition at $x = a$ and at $x = b$.

**SINGULAR STURM-LIOUVILLE PROBLEM** There are several other important conditions under which we seek nontrivial solutions of the differential equation (9):

- $r(a) = 0$, and a boundary condition of the type given in (11) is specified at $x = b$; (18)
- $r(b) = 0$, and a boundary condition of the type given in (10) is specified at $x = a$; (19)
- $r(a) = r(b) = 0$, and no boundary condition is specified at either $x = a$ or at $x = b$; (20)
- $r(a) = r(b)$, and boundary conditions $y(a) = y(b)$, $y'(a) = y'(b)$. (21)

The differential equation (9) along with one of conditions (18)–(20), is said to be a **singular** boundary-value problem. Equation (9) with the conditions specified in (21) is said to be a **periodic** boundary-value problem (the boundary conditions are also said to be periodic). Observe that if, say, $r(a) = 0$, then $x = a$ *may* be a singular point of the differential equation, and consequently, a solution of (9) may become unbounded as $x \to a$. However, we see from (14) that if $r(a) = 0$, then no boundary condition is required at $x = a$ to prove orthogonality of the eigenfunctions provided that these solutions are bounded at that point. This latter requirement guarantees the existence of the integrals involved. By assuming that the solutions of (9) are bounded on the closed interval $[a, b]$, we can see from inspection of (14) that

- if $r(a) = 0$, then the orthogonality relation (15) holds with no boundary condition specified at $x = a$; (22)
- if $r(b) = 0$, then the orthogonality relation (15) holds with no boundary condition specified at $x = b$;[*] (23)
- if $r(a) = r(b) = 0$, then the orthogonality relation (15) holds with no boundary conditions specified at either $x = a$ or $x = b$; (24)
- if $r(a) = r(b)$, then the orthogonality relation (15) holds with the periodic boundary conditions $y(a) = y(b)$, $y'(a) = y'(b)$. (25)

We note that a Sturm-Liouville problem is also singular when the interval under consideration is infinite. See Problems 9 and 10 in Exercises 11.4.

**SELF-ADJOINT FORM** By carrying out the indicated differentiation in (9), we see that the differential equation is the same as

$$r(x)y'' + r'(x)y' + (q(x) + \lambda p(x))y = 0. \tag{26}$$

Examination of (26) might lead one to believe, given the coefficient of $y'$ is the derivative of the coefficient of $y''$, that few differential equations have form (9). On the contrary, if the coefficients are continuous and $a(x) \neq 0$ for all $x$ in some interval, then *any* second-order differential equation

$$a(x)y'' + b(x)y' + (c(x) + \lambda d(x))y = 0 \tag{27}$$

can be recast into the so-called **self-adjoint form** (9). To this end we basically proceed as in Section 2.3, where we rewrote a homogeneous linear first-order equation $a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = 0$ in the form $\dfrac{d}{dx}[\mu y] = 0$ by dividing the equation by $a_1(x)$

---

[*]Conditions (22) and (23) are equivalent to choosing $A_1 = 0$, $B_1 = 0$, and $A_2 = 0$, $B_2 = 0$, respectively.

and then multiplying by the integrating factor $\mu = e^{\int P(x)\,dx}$, where, assuming no common factors, $P(x) = a_0(x)/a_1(x)$. So first, we divide (27) by $a(x)$. The first two terms are $Y' + \dfrac{b(x)}{a(x)}Y + \cdots$, where for emphasis we have written $Y = y'$. Second, we multiply this equation by the integrating factor $e^{\int (b(x)/a(x))\,dx}$, where $a(x)$ and $b(x)$ are assumed to have no common factors:

$$\underbrace{e^{\int (b(x)/a(x))\,dx}Y' + \frac{b(x)}{a(x)}e^{\int (b(x)/a(x))\,dx}Y}_{\text{derivative of a product}} + \cdots = \frac{d}{dx}\left[e^{\int (b(x)/a(x))\,dx}Y\right] + \cdots = \frac{d}{dx}\left[e^{\int (b(x)/a(x))\,dx}y'\right] + \cdots.$$

In summary, by dividing (27) by $a(x)$ and then multiplying by $e^{\int (b(x)/a(x))\,dx}$, we get

$$e^{\int (b/a)\,dx}y'' + \frac{b(x)}{a(x)}e^{\int (b/a)\,dx}y' + \left(\frac{c(x)}{a(x)}e^{\int (b/a)\,dx} + \lambda\frac{d(x)}{a(x)}e^{\int (b/a)\,dx}\right)y = 0. \quad (28)$$

Equation (28) is the desired form given in (26) and is the same as (9):

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[\underbrace{e^{\int (b/a)\,dx}}_{r(x)}y'\right] + \left(\underbrace{\frac{c(x)}{a(x)}e^{\int (b/a)\,dx}}_{q(x)} + \lambda\underbrace{\frac{d(x)}{a(x)}e^{\int (b/a)\,dx}}_{p(x)}\right)y = 0$$

For example, to express $2y'' + 6y' + \lambda y = 0$ in self-adjoint form, we write $y'' + 3y' + \lambda\frac{1}{2}y = 0$ and then multiply by $e^{\int 3\,dx} = e^{3x}$. The resulting equation is

$$\overset{\underset{\displaystyle r(x)}{\downarrow}}{e^{3x}}y'' + \overset{\underset{\displaystyle r'(x)}{\downarrow}}{3e^{3x}}y' + \lambda\,\frac{1}{2}\overset{\underset{\displaystyle p(x)}{\downarrow}}{e^{3x}}y = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{d}{dx}\left[e^{3x}y'\right] + \lambda\,\frac{1}{2}e^{3x}y = 0$$

It is certainly not necessary to put a second-order differential equation (27) into the self-adjoint form (9) to *solve* the DE. For our purposes we use the form given in (9) to determine the weight function $p(x)$ needed in the orthogonality relation (15). The next two examples illustrate orthogonality relations for Bessel functions and for Legendre polynomials.

## EXAMPLE 3   Parametric Bessel Equation

In Section 6.3 we saw that the parametric Bessel differential equation of order $n$ is $x^2y'' + xy' + (\alpha^2x^2 - n^2)y = 0$, where $n$ is a fixed nonnegative integer and $\alpha$ is a positive parameter. The general solution of this equation is $y = c_1J_n(\alpha x) + c_2Y_n(\alpha x)$. After dividing the parametric Bessel equation by the lead coefficient $x^2$ and multiplying the resulting equation by the integrating factor $e^{\int (1/x)\,dx} = e^{\ln x} = x$, $x > 0$, we obtain

$$xy'' + y' + \left(\alpha^2x - \frac{n^2}{x}\right)y = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{d}{dx}[xy'] + \left(\alpha^2x - \frac{n^2}{x}\right)y = 0.$$

By comparing the last result with the self-adjoint form (9), we make the identifications $r(x) = x$, $q(x) = -n^2/x$, $\lambda = \alpha^2$, and $p(x) = x$. Now $r(0) = 0$, and of the two solutions $J_n(\alpha x)$ and $Y_n(\alpha x)$, only $J_n(\alpha x)$ is bounded at $x = 0$. Thus in view of (22) above, the set $\{J_n(\alpha_i x)\}$, $i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, is orthogonal with respect to the

weight function $p(x) = x$ on the interval $[0, b]$. The orthogonality relation is

$$\int_0^b x J_n(\alpha_i x) J_n(\alpha_j x) \, dx = 0, \qquad \lambda_i \neq \lambda_j, \tag{29}$$

provided that the $\alpha_i$, and hence the eigenvalues $\lambda_i = \alpha_i^2$, $i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, are defined by means of a boundary condition at $x = b$ of the type given in (11):

$$A_2 J_n(\alpha b) + B_2 \alpha J_n'(\alpha b) = 0.^* \tag{30} \quad \blacksquare$$

For any choice of $A_2$ and $B_2$, not both zero, it is known that (30) has an infinite number of roots $x_i = \alpha_i b$. The eigenvalues are then $\lambda_i = \alpha_i^2 = (x_i / b)^2$. More will be said about eigenvalues in the next chapter.

## EXAMPLE 4    Legendre's Equation

Legendre's differential equation $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + n(n + 1)y = 0$ is exactly of the form given in (26) with $r(x) = 1 - x^2$ and $r'(x) = -2x$. Hence the self-adjoint form (9) of the differential equation is immediate,

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[(1 - x^2)y'\right] + n(n + 1)y = 0. \tag{31}$$

From (31) we can further identify $q(x) = 0$, $\lambda = n(n + 1)$, and $p(x) = 1$. Recall from Section 6.3 that when $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$, Legendre's DE possesses polynomial solutions $P_n(x)$. Now we can put the observation that $r(-1) = r(1) = 0$ together with the fact that the Legendre polynomials $P_n(x)$ are the only solutions of (31) that are bounded on the closed interval $[-1, 1]$ to conclude from (24) that the set $\{P_n(x)\}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$, is orthogonal with respect to the weight function $p(x) = 1$ on $[-1, 1]$. The orthogonality relation is

$$\int_{-1}^1 P_m(x) P_n(x) \, dx = 0, \qquad m \neq n. \qquad \blacksquare$$

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$^*$The extra factor of $\alpha$ comes from the Chain Rule: $\dfrac{d}{dx} J_n(\alpha x) = J_n'(\alpha x) \dfrac{d}{dx} \alpha x = \alpha J_n'(\alpha x)$.

# EXERCISES 11.4

In Problems 1 and 2 find the eigenfunctions and the equation that defines the eigenvalues for the given boundary-value problem. Use a CAS to approximate the first four eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3,$ and $\lambda_4$. Give the eigenfunctions corresponding to these approximations.

**1.** $y'' + \lambda y = 0,$   $y'(0) = 0, y(1) + y'(1) = 0$

**2.** $y'' + \lambda y = 0,$   $y(0) + y'(0) = 0, y(1) = 0$

**3.** Consider $y'' + \lambda y = 0$ subject to $y'(0) = 0, y'(L) = 0$. Show that the eigenfunctions are

$$\left\{1, \cos\frac{\pi}{L}x, \cos\frac{2\pi}{L}x, \ldots\right\}.$$

This set, which is orthogonal on $[0, L]$, is the basis for the Fourier cosine series.

**4.** Consider $y'' + \lambda y = 0$ subject to the periodic boundary conditions $y(-L) = y(L),$ $y'(-L) = y'(L)$. Show that the eigenfunctions are

$$\left\{1, \cos\frac{\pi}{L}x, \cos\frac{2\pi}{L}x, \ldots, \sin\frac{\pi}{L}x, \sin\frac{2\pi}{L}x, \sin\frac{3\pi}{L}x, \ldots\right\}.$$

This set, which is orthogonal on $[-L, L]$, is the basis for the Fourier series.

**5.** Find the square norm of each eigenfunction in Problem 1.

**6.** Show that for the eigenfunctions in Example 2,

$$\|\sin \alpha_n x\|^2 = \tfrac{1}{2}[1 + \cos^2\alpha_n].$$

**7. (a)** Find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the boundary-value problem

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(1) = 0, \quad y(5) = 0.$$

**(b)** Put the differential equation in self-adjoint form.

**(c)** Give an orthogonality relation.

**8. (a)** Find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the boundary-value problem

$$y'' + y' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(2) = 0.$$

**(b)** Put the differential equation in self-adjoint form.

**(c)** Give an orthogonality relation.

**9. Laguerre's differential equation**

$$xy'' + (1 - x)y' + ny = 0, \qquad n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$$

has polynomial solutions $L_n(x)$. Put the equation in self-adjoint form and give an orthogonality relation.

**10. Hermite's differential equation**

$$y'' - 2xy' + 2ny = 0, \qquad n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$$

has polynomial solutions $H_n(x)$. Put the equation in self-adjoint form and give an orthogonality relation.

**11.** Consider the regular Sturm-Liouville problem:

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left[(1 + x^2)y'\right] + \frac{\lambda}{1 + x^2}y = 0,$$

$$y(0) = 0, \quad y(1) = 0.$$

**(a)** Find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the boundary-value problem. [*Hint*: Let $x = \tan\theta$ and then use the Chain Rule.]

**(b)** Give an orthogonality relation.

**12. (a)** Find the eigenfunctions and the equation that defines the eigenvalues for the boundary-value problem

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + (\lambda x^2 - 1)y = 0, \qquad x > 0,$$

$y$ is bounded at $x = 0, \quad y(3) = 0.$

Let $\lambda = \alpha^2, \alpha > 0.$

**(b)** Use Table 6.1 of Section 6.3 to find the approximate values of the first four eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$, and $\lambda_4$.

## Discussion Problems

**13.** Consider the special case of the regular Sturm-Liouville problem on the interval $[a, b]$:

$$\frac{d}{dx}[r(x)y'] + \lambda p(x)y = 0,$$

$$y'(a) = 0, \quad y'(b) = 0.$$

Is $\lambda = 0$ an eigenvalue of the problem? Defend your answer.

## Computer Lab Assignments

**14. (a)** Give an orthogonality relation for the Sturm-Liouville problem in Problem 1.

**(b)** Use a CAS as an aid in verifying the orthogonality relation for the eigenfunctions $y_1$ and $y_2$ that correspond to the first two eigenvalues $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$, respectively.

**15. (a)** Give an orthogonality relation for the Sturm-Liouville problem in Problem 2.

**(b)** Use a CAS as an aid in verifying the orthogonality relation for the eigenfunctions $y_1$ and $y_2$ that correspond to the first two eigenvalues $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$, respectively.

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## 11.5  BESSEL AND LEGENDRE SERIES

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Because the results in Examples 3 and 4 of Section 11.4 will play a major role in the discussion that follows, you are strongly urged to reread those examples in conjunction with (6)–(11) of Section 11.1.

**INTRODUCTION**   Fourier series, Fourier cosine series, and Fourier sine series are three ways of expanding a function in terms of an orthogonal set of functions. But such expansions are by no means limited to orthogonal sets of *trigonometric* functions. We saw in Section 11.1 that a function $f$ defined on an interval $(a, b)$ could be expanded, at least in a formal manner, in terms of any set of a functions $\{\phi_n(x)\}$ that is orthogonal with respect to a weight function on $[a, b]$. Many of these orthogonal series expansions or generalized Fourier series stem from Sturm-Liouville problems which, in turn, arise from attempts to solve linear partial differential equations that serve as models for physical systems. Fourier series and orthogonal series expansions, as well as the two series considered in this section, will appear in the subsequent consideration of these applications in Chapters 12 and 13.

## 11.5.1 FOURIER-BESSEL SERIES

We saw in Example 3 of Section 11.4 that for a fixed value of $n$ the set of Bessel functions $\{J_n(\alpha_i x)\}$, $i = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, is orthogonal with respect to the weight function $p(x) = x$ on an interval $[0, b]$ whenever the $\alpha_i$ are defined by means of a boundary condition of the form

$$A_2 J_n(\alpha b) + B_2 \alpha J_n'(\alpha b) = 0. \tag{1}$$

The eigenvalues of the corresponding Sturm-Liouville problem are $\lambda_i = \alpha_i^2$. From (7) and (8) of Section 11.1 the orthogonal series, or generalized Fourier series, expansion of a function $f$ defined on the interval $(0, b)$ in terms of this orthogonal set is

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i J_n(\alpha_i x), \tag{2}$$

where

$$c_i = \frac{\int_0^b x J_n(\alpha_i x) f(x) \, dx}{\|J_n(\alpha_i x)\|^2}. \tag{3}$$

The square norm of the function $J_n(\alpha_i x)$ is defined by (11) of Section 11.1.

$$\|J_n(\alpha_i x)\|^2 = \int_0^b x J_n^2(\alpha_i x) \, dx. \tag{4}$$

The series (2) with coefficients (3) is called a **Fourier-Bessel series,** or simply, a **Bessel series.**

**DIFFERENTIAL RECURRENCE RELATIONS** The differential recurrence relations that were given in (21) and (20) of Section 6.3 are often useful in the evaluation of the coefficients (3). For convenience we reproduce those relations here:

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x^n J_n(x)] = x^n J_{n-1}(x) \tag{5}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[x^{-n} J_n(x)] = -x^{-n} J_{n+1}(x). \tag{6}$$

**SQUARE NORM** The value of the square norm (4) depends on how the eigenvalues $\lambda_i = \alpha_i^2$ are defined. If $y = J_n(\alpha x)$, then we know from Example 3 of Section 11.4 that

$$\frac{d}{dx}[xy'] + \left(\alpha^2 x - \frac{n^2}{x}\right) y = 0.$$

After we multiply by $2xy'$, this equation can be written as

$$\frac{d}{dx}[xy']^2 + (\alpha^2 x^2 - n^2)\frac{d}{dx}[y]^2 = 0.$$

Integrating the last result by parts on $[0, b]$ then gives

$$2\alpha^2 \int_0^b xy^2 \, dx = \left.\left([xy']^2 + (\alpha^2 x^2 - n^2)y^2\right)\right|_0^b.$$

Since $y = J_n(\alpha x)$, the lower limit is zero because $J_n(0) = 0$ for $n > 0$. Furthermore, for $n = 0$ the quantity $[xy']^2 + \alpha^2 x^2 y^2$ is zero at $x = 0$. Thus

$$2\alpha^2 \int_0^b x J_n^2(\alpha x) \, dx = \alpha^2 b^2 [J_n'(\alpha b)]^2 + (\alpha^2 b^2 - n^2)[J_n(\alpha b)]^2, \tag{7}$$

where we have used the Chain Rule to write $y' = \alpha J_n'(\alpha x)$.

We now consider three cases of (1).

**CASE I:** If we choose $A_2 = 1$ and $B_2 = 0$, then (1) is

$$J_n(\alpha b) = 0. \tag{8}$$

There are an infinite number of positive roots $x_i = \alpha_i b$ of (8) (see Figure 6.3.1), which define the $\alpha_i$ as $\alpha_i = x_i/b$. The eigenvalues are positive and are then $\lambda_i = \alpha_i^2 = x_i^2/b^2$. No new eigenvalues result from the negative roots of (8), since $J_n(-x) = (-1)^n J_n(x)$. (See page 245.) The number 0 is not an eigenvalue for any $n$ because $J_n(0) = 0$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ and $J_0(0) = 1$. In other words, if $\lambda = 0$, we get the trivial function (which is never an eigenfunction) for $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, and for $n = 0$, $\lambda = 0$ (or, equivalently, $\alpha = 0$) does not satisfy the equation in (8). When (6) is written in the form $xJ_n'(x) = nJ_n(x) - xJ_{n+1}(x)$, it follows from (7) and (8) that the square norm of $J_n(\alpha_i x)$ is

$$\|J_n(\alpha_i x)\|^2 = \frac{b^2}{2} J_{n+1}^2(\alpha_i b). \tag{9}$$

**CASE II:**   If we choose $A_2 = h \geq 0$, and $B_2 = b$, then (1) is

$$hJ_n(\alpha b) + \alpha b J_n'(\alpha b) = 0. \tag{10}$$

Equation (10) has an infinite number of positive roots $x_i = \alpha_i b$ for each positive integer $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. As before, the eigenvalues are obtained from $\lambda_i = \alpha_i^2 = x_i^2/b^2$. $\lambda = 0$ is not an eigenvalue for $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. Substituting $\alpha_i b J_n'(\alpha_i b) = -hJ_n(\alpha_i b)$ into (7), we find that the square norm of $J_n(\alpha_i x)$ is now

$$\|J_n(\alpha_i x)\|^2 = \frac{\alpha_i^2 b^2 - n^2 + h^2}{2\alpha_i^2} J_n^2(\alpha_i b). \tag{11}$$

**CASE III:**   If $h = 0$ and $n = 0$ in (10), the $\alpha_i$ are defined from the roots of

$$J_0'(\alpha b) = 0. \tag{12}$$

Even though (12) is just a special case of (10), it is the only situation for which $\lambda = 0$ is an eigenvalue. To see this, observe that for $n = 0$ the result in (6) implies that $J_0'(\alpha b) = 0$ is equivalent to $J_1(\alpha b) = 0$. Since $x_1 = \alpha_1 b = 0$ is root of the last equation, $\alpha_1 = 0$, and because $J_0(0) = 1$ is nontrivial, we conclude from $\lambda_1 = \alpha_1^2 = x_1^2/b^2$ that $\lambda_1 = 0$ is an eigenvalue. But obviously, we cannot use (11) when $\alpha_1 = 0$, $h = 0$, and $n = 0$. However, from the square norm (4),

$$\|1\|^2 = \int_0^b x\, dx = \frac{b^2}{2}. \tag{13}$$

For $\alpha_i > 0$ we can use (11) with $h = 0$ and $n = 0$:

$$\|J_0(\alpha_i x)\|^2 = \frac{b^2}{2} J_0^2(\alpha_i b). \tag{14}$$

The following definition summarizes three forms of the series (2) corresponding to the square norms in the three cases.

---

**DEFINITION 11.5.1   Fourier-Bessel Series**

The **Fourier-Bessel series** of a function $f$ defined on the interval $(0, b)$ is given by

(i) $$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i J_n(\alpha_i x) \tag{15}$$

$$c_i = \frac{2}{b^2 J_{n+1}^2(\alpha_i b)} \int_0^b x J_n(\alpha_i x) f(x)\, dx, \tag{16}$$

where the $\alpha_i$ are defined by $J_n(\alpha b) = 0$.

*(ii)*
$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} c_i J_n(\alpha_i x) \tag{17}$$

$$c_i = \frac{2\alpha_i^2}{(\alpha_i^2 b^2 - n^2 + h^2)J_n^2(\alpha_i b)} \int_0^b x J_n(\alpha_i x)f(x)\, dx, \tag{18}$$

where the $\alpha_i$ are defined by $hJ_n(\alpha b) + \alpha b J_n'(\alpha b) = 0$.

*(iii)*
$$f(x) = c_1 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} c_i J_0(\alpha_i x) \tag{19}$$

$$c_1 = \frac{2}{b^2} \int_0^b x f(x)\, dx, \quad c_i = \frac{2}{b^2 J_0^2(\alpha_i b)} \int_0^b x J_0(\alpha_i x)f(x)\, dx, \tag{20}$$

where the $\alpha_i$ are defined by $J_0'(\alpha b) = 0$.

**CONVERGENCE OF A FOURIER-BESSEL SERIES**   Sufficient conditions for the convergence of a Fourier-Bessel series are not particularly restrictive.

---

**THEOREM 11.5.1**   **Conditions for Convergence**

If $f$ and $f'$ are piecewise continuous on the open interval $(0, b)$, then a Fourier-Bessel expansion of $f$ converges to $f(x)$ at any point where $f$ is continuous and to the average

$$\frac{f(x+) + f(x-)}{2}$$

at a point where $f$ is discontinuous.

---

**EXAMPLE 1**   **Expansion in a Fourier-Bessel Series**

Expand $f(x) = x$, $0 < x < 3$, in a Fourier-Bessel series, using Bessel functions of order one that satisfy the boundary condition $J_1(3\alpha) = 0$.

**SOLUTION**   We use (15) where the coefficients $c_i$ are given by (16) with $b = 3$:

$$c_i = \frac{2}{3^2 J_2^2(3\alpha_i)} \int_0^3 x^2 J_1(\alpha_i x)\, dx.$$

To evaluate this integral, we let $t = \alpha_i x$, $dx = dt/\alpha_i$, $x^2 = t^2/\alpha_i^2$, and use (5) in the form $\dfrac{d}{dt}[t^2 J_2(t)] = t^2 J_1(t)$:

$$c_i = \frac{2}{9\alpha_i^3 J_2^2(3\alpha_i)} \int_0^{3\alpha_i} \frac{d}{dt}[t^2 J_2(t)]\, dt = \frac{2}{\alpha_i J_2(3\alpha_i)}.$$

Therefore the desired expansion is

$$f(x) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\alpha_i J_2(3\alpha_i)} J_1(\alpha_i x). \qquad \blacksquare$$

You are asked to find the first four values of the $\alpha_i$ for the foregoing Fourier-Bessel series in Problem 1 in Exercises 11.5.

## EXAMPLE 2 Expansion in a Fourier-Bessel Series

If the $\alpha_i$ in Example 1 are defined by $J_1(3\alpha) + \alpha J_1'(3\alpha) = 0$, then the only thing that changes in the expansion is the value of the square norm. Multiplying the boundary condition by 3 gives $3J_1(3\alpha) + 3\alpha J_1'(3\alpha) = 0$, which now matches (10) when $h = 3$, $b = 3$, and $n = 1$. Thus (18) and (17) yield, in turn,

$$c_i = \frac{18\alpha_i J_2(3\alpha_i)}{(9\alpha_i^2 + 8)J_1^2(3\alpha_i)}$$

and

$$f(x) = 18\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\alpha_i J_2(3\alpha_i)}{(9\alpha_i^2 + 8)J_1^2(3\alpha_i)} J_1(\alpha_i x).$$ ■

**USE OF COMPUTERS** Since Bessel functions are "built-in functions" in a CAS, it is a straightforward task to find the approximate values of the $\alpha_i$ and the coefficients $c_i$ in a Fourier-Bessel series. For example, in (10) we can think of $x_i = \alpha_i b$ as a positive root of the equation $hJ_n(x) + xJ_n'(x) = 0$. Thus in Example 2 we have used a CAS to find the first five positive roots $x_i$ of $3J_1(x) + xJ_1'(x) = 0$, and from these roots we obtain the first five values of $\alpha_i$: $\alpha_1 = x_1/3 = 0.98320$, $\alpha_2 = x_2/3 = 1.94704$, $\alpha_3 = x_3/3 = 2.95758$, $\alpha_4 = x_4/3 = 3.98538$, and $\alpha_5 = x_5/3 = 5.02078$. Knowing the roots $x_i = 3\alpha_i$ and the $\alpha_i$, we again use a CAS to calculate the numerical values of $J_2(3\alpha_i)$, $J_1^2(3\alpha_i)$, and finally the coefficients $c_i$. In this manner we find that the fifth partial sum $S_5(x)$ for the Fourier-Bessel series representation of $f(x) = x$, $0 < x < 3$ in Example 2 is

$$S_5(x) = 4.01844 J_1(0.98320x) - 1.86937 J_1(1.94704x)$$
$$+ 1.07106 J_1(2.95758x) - 0.70306 J_1(3.98538x) + 0.50343 J_1(5.02078x).$$

The graph of $S_5(x)$ on the interval $(0, 3)$ is shown in Figure 11.5.1(a). In Figure 11.5.1(b) we have graphed $S_{10}(x)$ on the interval $(0, 50)$. Notice that outside the interval of definition $(0, 3)$ the series does not converge to a periodic extension of $f$ because Bessel functions are not periodic functions. See Problems 11 and 12 in Exercises 11.5.
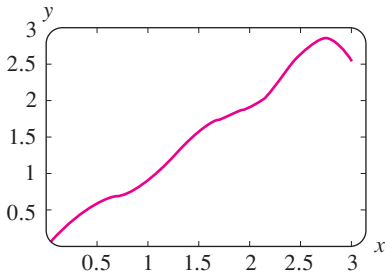


**(a)** $S_5(x)$, $0 < x < 3$
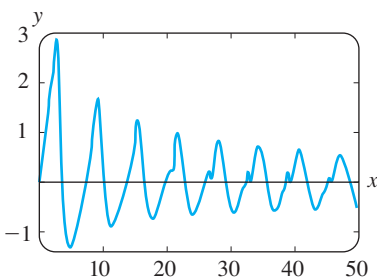


**(b)** $S_{10}(x)$, $0 < x < 50$

**FIGURE 11.5.1** Graphs of two partial sums of a Fourier-Bessel series

### 11.5.2 FOURIER-LEGENDRE SERIES

From Example 4 of Section 11.4 we know that the set of Legendre polynomials $\{P_n(x)\}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$, is orthogonal with respect to the weight function $p(x) = 1$ on the interval $[-1, 1]$. Furthermore, it can be proved that the square norm of a polynomial $P_n(x)$ depends on $n$ in the following manner:

$$\|P_n(x)\|^2 = \int_{-1}^{1} P_n^2(x)\, dx = \frac{2}{2n + 1}.$$

The orthogonal series expansion of a function in terms of the Legendre polynomials is summarized in the next definition.

---

**DEFINITION 11.5.2** Fourier-Legendre Series

The **Fourier-Legendre series** of a function $f$ on an interval $(-1, 1)$ is given by

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n P_n(x), \tag{21}$$

where

$$c_n = \frac{2n + 1}{2} \int_{-1}^{1} f(x) P_n(x)\, dx. \tag{22}$$

---

**CONVERGENCE OF A FOURIER-LEGENDRE SERIES** Sufficient conditions for convergence of a Fourier-Legendre series are given in the next theorem.

---

**THEOREM 11.5.2** Conditions for Convergence

If $f$ and $f'$ are piecewise continuous on the open interval $(-1, 1)$, then a Fourier-Legendre expansion of $f$ converges to $f(x)$ at any point where $f$ is continuous and to the average

$$\frac{f(x+) + f(x-)}{2}$$

at a point where $f$ is discontinuous.

---

**EXAMPLE 3** Expansion in a Fourier-Legendre Series

Write out the first four nonzero terms in the Fourier-Legendre expansion of

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -1 < x < 0 \\ 1, & 0 \le x < 1. \end{cases}$$

**SOLUTION** The first several Legendre polynomials are listed on page 249. From these and (22) we find

$$c_0 = \frac{1}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} f(x)P_0(x)\,dx = \frac{1}{2}\int_{0}^{1} 1 \cdot 1\,dx = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$c_1 = \frac{3}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} f(x)P_1(x)\,dx = \frac{3}{2}\int_{0}^{1} 1 \cdot x\,dx = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{5}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} f(x)P_2(x)\,dx = \frac{5}{2}\int_{0}^{1} 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 1)\,dx = 0$$

$$c_3 = \frac{7}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} f(x)P_3(x)\,dx = \frac{7}{2}\int_{0}^{1} 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2}(5x^3 - 3x)\,dx = -\frac{7}{16}$$

$$c_4 = \frac{9}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} f(x)P_4(x)\,dx = \frac{9}{2}\int_{0}^{1} 1 \cdot \frac{1}{8}(35x^4 - 30x^2 + 3)\,dx = 0$$

$$c_5 = \frac{11}{2}\int_{-1}^{1} f(x)P_5(x)\,dx = \frac{11}{2}\int_{0}^{1} 1 \cdot \frac{1}{8}(63x^5 - 70x^3 + 15x)\,dx = \frac{11}{32}.$$

Hence $\quad f(x) = \frac{1}{2}P_0(x) + \frac{3}{4}P_1(x) - \frac{7}{16}P_3(x) + \frac{11}{32}P_5(x) + \cdots.$ ■

Like the Bessel functions, Legendre polynomials are built-in functions in computer algebra systems such as *Maple* and *Mathematica,* so each of the coefficients just listed can be found by using the integration application of such a program. Indeed, using a CAS, we further find that $c_6 = 0$ and $c_7 = -\frac{65}{256}$. The fifth partial sum of the Fourier-Legendre series representation of the function $f$ defined in Example 3 is then

$$S_5(x) = \frac{1}{2}P_0(x) + \frac{3}{4}P_1(x) - \frac{7}{16}P_3(x) + \frac{11}{32}P_5(x) - \frac{65}{256}P_7(x).$$

The graph of $S_5(x)$ on the interval $(-1, 1)$ is given in Figure 11.5.2.



**FIGURE 11.5.2** Partial sum $S_5(x)$ of Fourier-Legendre series

**ALTERNATIVE FORM OF SERIES** In applications the Fourier-Legendre series appears in an alternative form. If we let $x = \cos\theta$, then $x = 1$ implies that $\theta = 0$ whereas $x = -1$ implies that $\theta = \pi$. Since $dx = -\sin\theta\,d\theta$, (21) and (22) become, respectively,

$$F(\theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n P_n(\cos\theta) \tag{23}$$

$$c_n = \frac{2n+1}{2}\int_0^\pi F(\theta)\,P_n(\cos\theta)\,\sin\theta\,d\theta, \tag{24}$$

where $f(\cos\theta)$ has been replaced by $F(\theta)$.

---

## EXERCISES 11.5

### 11.5.1 FOURIER-BESSEL SERIES

In Problems 1 and 2 use Table 6.1 in Section 6.3.

**1.** Find the first four $\alpha_i > 0$ defined by $J_1(3\alpha) = 0$.

**2.** Find the first four $\alpha_i \geq 0$ defined by $J_0'(2\alpha) = 0$.

In Problems 3–6 expand $f(x) = 1$, $0 < x < 2$, in a Fourier-Bessel series, using Bessel functions of order zero that satisfy the given boundary condition.

**3.** $J_0(2\alpha) = 0$        **4.** $J_0'(2\alpha) = 0$

**5.** $J_0(2\alpha) + 2\alpha J_0'(2\alpha) = 0$    **6.** $J_0(2\alpha) + \alpha J_0'(2\alpha) = 0$

In Problems 7–10 expand the given function in a Fourier-Bessel series, using Bessel functions of the same order as in the indicated boundary condition.

**7.** $f(x) = 5x$, $0 < x < 4$,
$\quad 3J_1(4\alpha) + 4\alpha J_1'(4\alpha) = 0$

**8.** $f(x) = x^2$, $0 < x < 1$,    $J_2(\alpha) = 0$

**9.** $f(x) = x^2$, $0 < x < 3$,    $J_0'(3\alpha) = 0$    [*Hint*: $t^3 = t^2 \cdot t$.]

**10.** $f(x) = 1 - x^2$, $0 < x < 1$,    $J_0(\alpha) = 0$

### Computer Lab Assignments

**11.** **(a)** Use a CAS to plot the graph of $y = 3J_1(x) + xJ_1'(x)$ on an interval so that the first five positive $x$-intercepts of the graph are shown.

     **(b)** Use the root-finding capability of your CAS to approximate the first five roots $x_i$ of the equation $3J_1(x) + xJ_1'(x) = 0$.

     **(c)** Use the data obtained in part (b) to find the first five positive values of $\alpha_i$ that satisfy $3J_1(4\alpha) + 4\alpha J_1'(4\alpha) = 0$. (See Problem 7.)

     **(d)** If instructed, find the first ten positive values of $\alpha_i$.

**12.** **(a)** Use the values of $\alpha_i$ in part (c) of Problem 11 and a CAS to approximate the values of the first five coefficients $c_i$ of the Fourier-Bessel series obtained in Problem 7.

     **(b)** Use a CAS to plot the graphs of the partial sums $S_N(x)$, $N = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ of the Fourier-Bessel series in Problem 7.

     **(c)** If instructed, plot the graph of the partial sum $S_{10}(x)$ on the interval $(0, 4)$ and on $(0, 50)$.

### Discussion Problems

**13.** If the partial sums in Problem 12 are plotted on a symmetric interval such as $(-30, 30)$ would the graphs possess any symmetry? Explain.

**14.** **(a)** Sketch, by hand, a graph of what you think the Fourier-Bessel series in Problem 3 converges to on the interval $(-2, 2)$.

     **(b)** Sketch, by hand, a graph of what you think the Fourier-Bessel series would converge to on the interval $(-4, 4)$ if the values $\alpha_i$ in Problem 7 were defined by $3J_2(4\alpha) + 4\alpha J_2'(4\alpha) = 0$.

### 11.5.2 FOURIER-LEGENDRE SERIES

In Problems 15 and 16 write out the first five nonzero terms in the Fourier-Legendre expansion of the given function. If instructed, use a CAS as an aid in evaluating the coefficients. Use a CAS to plot the graph of the partial sum $S_5(x)$.

**15.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & -1 < x < 0 \\ x, & 0 < x < 1 \end{cases}$

**16.** $f(x) = e^x$, $-1 < x < 1$

**17.** The first three Legendre polynomials are $P_0(x) = 1$, $P_1(x) = x$, and $P_2(x) = \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 1)$. If $x = \cos\theta$, then $P_0(\cos\theta) = 1$ and $P_1(\cos\theta) = \cos\theta$. Show that $P_2(\cos\theta) = \frac{1}{4}(3\cos 2\theta + 1)$.

**18.** Use the results of Problem 17 to find a Fourier-Legendre expansion (23) of $F(\theta) = 1 - \cos 2\theta$.

**19.** A Legendre polynomial $P_n(x)$ is an even or odd function, depending on whether $n$ is even or odd. Show that if $f$ is an even function on the interval $(-1, 1)$, then (21) and (22) become, respectively,

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_{2n} P_{2n}(x) \qquad (25)$$

$$c_{2n} = (4n + 1) \int_0^1 f(x) P_{2n}(x)\, dx. \qquad (26)$$

The series (25) can also be used when $f$ is defined only on the interval $(0, 1)$. The series then represents $f$ on $(0, 1)$ and an even extension of $f$ on the interval $(-1, 0)$.

**20.** Show that if $f$ is an odd function on the interval $(-1, 1)$, then (21) and (22) become, respectively,

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_{2n+1} P_{2n+1}(x) \qquad (27)$$

$$c_{2n+1} = (4n + 3) \int_0^1 f(x) P_{2n+1}(x)\, dx. \qquad (28)$$

The series (27) can also be used when $f$ is defined only on the interval $(0, 1)$. The series then represents $f$ on $(0, 1)$ and an odd extension of $f$ on the interval $(-1, 0)$.

In Problems 21 and 22 write out the first four nonzero terms in the indicated expansion of the given function. What function does the series represent on the interval $(-1, 1)$? Use a CAS to plot the graph of the partial sum $S_4(x)$.

**21.** $f(x) = x$, $0 < x < 1$; use (25)

**22.** $f(x) = 1$, $0 < x < 1$; use (27)

## Discussion Problems

**23.** Discuss: Why is a Fourier-Legendre expansion of a polynomial function that is defined on the interval $(-1, 1)$ necessarily a finite series?

**24.** Using only your conclusions from Problem 23 — that is, do not use (22) — find the finite Fourier-Legendre series of $f(x) = x^2$. The series of $f(x) = x^3$.

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## CHAPTER 11 IN REVIEW
*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-19.*

In Problems 1–6 fill in the blank or answer true or false without referring back to the text.

**1.** The functions $f(x) = x^2 - 1$ and $g(x) = x^5$ are orthogonal on the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$. _____

**2.** The product of an odd function $f$ with an odd function $g$ is _____.

**3.** To expand $f(x) = |x| + 1$, $-\pi < x < \pi$, in an appropriate trigonometric series, we would use a _____ series.

**4.** $y = 0$ is never an eigenfunction of a Sturm-Liouville problem. _____

**5.** $\lambda = 0$ is never an eigenvalue of a Sturm-Liouville problem. _____

**6.** If the function $f(x) = \begin{cases} x + 1, & -1 < x < 0 \\ -x, & 0 < x < 1 \end{cases}$ is expanded in a Fourier series, the series will converge to _____ at $x = -1$, to _____ at $x = 0$, and to _____ at $x = 1$.

**7.** Suppose the function $f(x) = x^2 + 1$, $0 < x < 3$, is expanded in a Fourier series, a cosine series, and a sine series. Give the value to which each series will converge at $x = 0$.

**8.** What is the corresponding eigenfunction for the boundary-value problem $y'' + \lambda y = 0$, $y'(0) = 0$, $y(\pi/2) = 0$ for $\lambda = 25$?

**9. Chebyshev's differential equation**

$$(1 - x^2)y'' - xy' + n^2 y = 0$$

has a polynomial solution $y = T_n(x)$ for $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$. Specify the weight function $w(x)$ and the interval over which the set of Chebyshev polynomials $\{T_n(x)\}$ is orthogonal. Give an orthogonality relation.

**10.** The set of Legendre polynomials $\{P_n(x)\}$, where $P_0(x) = 1$, $P_1(x) = x$, $\ldots$, is orthogonal with respect to the weight function $w(x) = 1$ on the interval $[-1, 1]$. Explain why $\int_{-1}^{1} P_n(x)\, dx = 0$ for $n > 0$.

**11.** Without doing any work, explain why the cosine series of $f(x) = \cos^2 x$, $0 < x < \pi$ is the finite series $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \cos 2x$.

**12. (a)** Show that the set

$$\left\{ \sin \frac{\pi}{2L} x, \sin \frac{3\pi}{2L} x, \sin \frac{5\pi}{2L} x, \ldots \right\}$$

is orthogonal on the interval $[0, L]$.

**(b)** Find the norm of each function in part (a). Construct an orthonormal set.

**13.** Expand $f(x) = |x| - x$, $-1 < x < 1$ in a Fourier series.

**14.** Expand $f(x) = 2x^2 - 1$, $-1 < x < 1$ in a Fourier series.

**15.** Expand $f(x) = e^x$, $0 < x < 1$
**(a)** in a cosine series    **(b)** in a Fourier series.

**16.** In Problems 13, 14, and 15, sketch the periodic extension of $f$ to which each series converges.

**17.** Discuss: Which of the two Fourier series of $f$ in Problem 15 converges to

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} f(x), & 0 < x < 1 \\ f(-x), & -1 < x < 0 \end{cases}$$

on the interval $(-1, 1)$?

**18.** Consider the portion of the periodic function $f$ shown in Figure 11.R.1. Expand $f$ in an appropriate Fourier series.
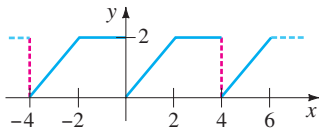


**FIGURE 11.R.1** Graph for Problem 18

**19.** Find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the boundary-value problem

$$x^2y'' + xy' + 9\lambda y = 0, \quad y'(1) = 0, \quad y(e) = 0.$$

**20.** Give an orthogonality relation for the eigenfunctions in Problem 19.

**21.** Expand $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < x < 2 \\ 0, & 2 < x < 4 \end{cases}$, in a Fourier-Bessel series, using Bessel functions of order zero that satisfy the boundary-condition $J_0(4\alpha) = 0$.

**22.** Expand $f(x) = x^4$, $-1 < x < 1$, in a Fourier-Legendre series.

**23.** Suppose the function $y = f(x)$ is defined on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$.

(a) Verify the identity $f(x) = f_e(x) + f_o(x)$, where

$$f_e(x) = \frac{f(x) + f(-x)}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad f_o(x) = \frac{f(x) - f(-x)}{2}.$$

(b) Show that $f_e$ is an even function and $f_o$ an odd function.

**24.** The function $f(x) = e^x$ is neither even or odd. Use Problem 23 to write $f$ as the sum of an even function and an odd function. Identify $f_e$ and $f_o$.

**25.** Suppose that $f$ is an integrable $2p$-periodic function. Prove that for any number $a$,

$$\int_0^{2p} f(x)\, dx = \int_a^{a+2p} f(x)\, dx.$$

# 12 BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS IN RECTANGULAR COORDINATES

In this and the next two chapters the emphasis will be on two procedures that are used in solving partial differential equations that occur frequently in problems involving temperature distributions, vibrations, and potentials. These problems, called boundary-value problems, are described by relatively simple linear second-order PDEs. The thrust of these procedures is to find solutions of a PDE by reducing it to two or more ODEs.

We begin with a method called *separation of variables*. The application of this method leads us back to the important concepts of Chapter 11—namely, eigenvalues, eigenfunctions, and the expansion of a function in an infinite series of orthogonal functions.

## 12.1 SEPARABLE PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

**REVIEW MATERIAL**

- Sections 2.3, 4.3, and 4.4
- Reread "Two Equations Worth Knowing" on pages 135–136.

**INTRODUCTION** Partial differential equations (PDEs), like ordinary differential equations (ODEs), are classified as either linear or nonlinear. Analogous to a linear ODE, the dependent variable and its partial derivatives in a linear PDE are only to the first power. For the remaining chapters of this text we shall be interested in, for the most part, *linear second-order* PDEs.

**LINEAR PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION** If we let $u$ denote the dependent variable and let $x$ and $y$ denote the independent variables, then the general form of a **linear second-order partial differential equation** is given by

$$A \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + B \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \, \partial y} + C \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + D \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + E \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + Fu = G, \tag{1}$$

where the coefficients $A, B, C, \ldots, G$ are functions of $x$ and $y$. When $G(x, y) = 0$, equation (1) is said to be **homogeneous;** otherwise, it is **nonhomogeneous.** For example, the linear equations

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = xy$$

are homogeneous and nonhomogeneous, respectively.

**SOLUTION OF A PDE** A **solution** of a linear partial differential equation (1) is a function $u(x, y)$ of two independent variables that possesses all partial derivatives occurring in the equation and that satisfies the equation in some region of the $xy$-plane.

It is not our intention to examine procedures for finding *general solutions* of linear partial differential equations. Not only is it often difficult to obtain a general solution of a linear second-order PDE, but a general solution is usually not all that useful in applications. Thus our focus throughout will be on finding *particular solutions* of some of the more important linear PDEs—that is, equations that appear in many applications.

**SEPARATION OF VARIABLES** Although there are several methods that can be tried to find particular solutions of a linear PDE, the one we are interested in at the moment is called the **method of separation of variables.** In this method we seek a particular solution of the form of a *product* of a function of $x$ and a function of $y$:

$$u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y).$$

With this assumption it is *sometimes* possible to reduce a linear PDE in two variables to two ODEs. To this end we note that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = X'Y, \qquad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = XY', \qquad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = X''Y, \qquad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = XY'',$$

where the primes denote ordinary differentiation.

> **EXAMPLE 1**   **Separation of Variables**

Find product solutions of $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 4\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}$.

**SOLUTION**   Substituting $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$ into the partial differential equation yields

$$X''Y = 4XY'.$$

After dividing both sides by $4XY$, we have separated the variables:

$$\frac{X''}{4X} = \frac{Y'}{Y}.$$

Since the left-hand side of the last equation is independent of $y$ and is equal to the right-hand side, which is independent of $x$, we conclude that both sides of the equation are independent of $x$ *and* $y$. In other words, each side of the equation must be a constant. In practice it is *convenient* to write this real **separation constant** as $-\lambda$ (using $\lambda$ would lead to the same solutions). 

From the two equalities

$$\frac{X''}{4X} = \frac{Y'}{Y} = -\lambda$$

we obtain the two linear ordinary differential equations

$$X'' + 4\lambda X = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad Y' + \lambda Y = 0. \tag{2}$$

Now, as in Example 1 of Section 11.4 we consider three cases for $\lambda$: zero, negative, or positive, that is, $\lambda = 0$, $\lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0$, and $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$, where $\alpha > 0$.

**CASE I**   If $\lambda = 0$, then the two ODEs in (2) are

$$X'' = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad Y' = 0.$$

Solving each equation (by, say, integration), we find $X = c_1 + c_2 x$ and $Y = c_3$. Thus a particular product solution of the given PDE is

$$u = XY = (c_1 + c_2 x)c_3 = A_1 + B_1 x, \tag{3}$$

where we have replaced $c_1 c_3$ and $c_2 c_3$ by $A_1$ and $B_1$, respectively.

**CASE II**   If $\lambda = -\alpha^2$, then the DEs in (2) are

$$X'' - 4\alpha^2 X = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad Y' - \alpha^2 Y = 0.$$

From their general solutions

$$X = c_4 \cosh 2\alpha x + c_5 \sinh 2\alpha x \qquad \text{and} \qquad Y = c_6 e^{\alpha^2 y}$$

we obtain another particular product solution of the PDE,

$$u = XY = (c_4 \cosh 2\alpha x + c_5 \sinh 2\alpha x)c_6 e^{\alpha^2 y}$$

or $\qquad\qquad u = A_2 e^{\alpha^2 y} \cosh 2\alpha x + B_2 e^{\alpha^2 y} \sinh 2\alpha x, \tag{4}$

where $A_2 = c_4 c_6$ and $B_2 = c_5 c_6$.

**CASE III**   If $\lambda = \alpha^2$, then the DEs

$$X'' + 4\alpha^2 X = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad Y' + \alpha^2 Y = 0$$

and their general solutions

$$X = c_7 \cos 2\alpha x + c_8 \sin 2\alpha x \qquad \text{and} \qquad Y = c_9 e^{-\alpha^2 y}$$

give yet another particular solution

$$u = A_3 e^{-\alpha^2 y} \cos 2\alpha x + B_3 e^{-\alpha^2 y} \sin 2\alpha x, \qquad (5)$$

where $A_3 = c_7 c_9$ and $B_2 = c_8 c_9$.   ■

It is left as an exercise to verify that (3), (4), and (5) satisfy the given PDE. See Problem 29 in Exercises 12.1.

**SUPERPOSITION PRINCIPLE**   The following theorem is analogous to Theorem 4.1.2 and is known as the **superposition principle.**

---

**THEOREM 12.1.1   Superposition Principle**

If $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_k$ are solutions of a homogeneous linear partial differential equation, then the linear combination

$$u = c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 + \cdots + c_k u_k,$$

where the $c_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$, are constants, is also a solution.

---

Throughout the remainder of the chapter we shall assume that whenever we have an infinite set $u_1, u_2, u_3, \ldots$ of solutions of a homogeneous linear equation, we can construct yet another solution $u$ by forming the infinite series

$$u = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k u_k,$$

where the $c_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots$ are constants.

**CLASSIFICATION OF EQUATIONS**   A linear second-order partial differential equation in two independent variables with constant coefficients can be classified as one of three types. This classification depends only on the coefficients of the second-order derivatives. Of course, we assume that at least one of the coefficients $A$, $B$, and $C$ is not zero.

---

**DEFINITION 12.1.1   Classification of Equations**

The linear second-order partial differential equation

$$A \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + B \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x\, \partial y} + C \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + D \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + E \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + Fu = 0,$$

where $A$, $B$, $C$, $D$, $E$, and $F$ are real constants, is said to be

$$
\begin{aligned}
\textbf{hyperbolic if} \quad & B^2 - 4AC > 0, \\
\textbf{parabolic if} \quad & B^2 - 4AC = 0, \\
\textbf{elliptic if} \quad & B^2 - 4AC < 0.
\end{aligned}
$$

---

**EXAMPLE 2   Classifying Linear Second-Order PDEs**

Classify the following equations:

**(a)** $3 \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}$   **(b)** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$   **(c)** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**SOLUTION   (a)** By rewriting the given equation as

$$3 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0,$$

we can make the identifications $A = 3$, $B = 0$, and $C = 0$. Since $B^2 - 4AC = 0$, the equation is parabolic.

**(b)** By rewriting the equation as

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0,$$

we see that $A = 1$, $B = 0$, $C = -1$, and $B^2 - 4AC = -4(1)(-1) > 0$. The equation is hyperbolic.

**(c)** With $A = 1$, $B = 0$, $C = 1$, and $B^2 - 4AC = -4(1)(1) < 0$ the equation is elliptic. ∎

---

### REMARKS

(*i*) In case you are wondering, separation of variables is not a general method for finding particular solutions; some linear partial differential equations are simply *not* separable. You are encouraged to verify that the assumption $u = XY$ does not lead to a solution for the linear PDE $\partial^2 u / \partial x^2 - \partial u / \partial y = x$.

(*ii*) A detailed explanation of why we would want to classify a linear second-order PDE as hyperbolic, parabolic, or elliptic is beyond the scope of this text, but you should at least be aware that this classification is of practical importance. We are going to solve some PDEs subject to only boundary conditions and others subject to both boundary and initial conditions; the kinds of side conditions that are appropriate for a given equation depend on whether the equation is hyperbolic, parabolic, or elliptic. On a related matter, we shall see in Chapter 15 that numerical-solution methods for linear second-order PDEs differ in conformity with the classification of the equation.

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## EXERCISES 12.1

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-19.*

In Problems 1–16 use separation of variables to find, if possible, product solutions for the given partial differential equation.

**1.** $\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}$

**2.** $\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} + 3\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$

**3.** $u_x + u_y = u$

**4.** $u_x = u_y + u$

**5.** $x\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} = y\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}$

**6.** $y\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} + x\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$

**7.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**8.** $y\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + u = 0$

**9.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - u = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad k > 0$

**10.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad k > 0$

**11.** $a^2\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$

**12.** $a^2\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + 2k\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad k > 0$

**13.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**14.** $x^2\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**15.** $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = u$

**16.** $a^2 u_{xx} - g = u_{tt}, \quad g$ a constant

In Problems 17–26 classify the given partial differential equation as hyperbolic, parabolic, or elliptic.

**17.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**18.** $3\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 5\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**19.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 6\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + 9\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**20.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x\,\partial y} - 3\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**21.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 9\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x\,\partial y}$

**22.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x\,\partial y} - \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + 2\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$

**23.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x\,\partial y} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} - 6\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$

**24.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = u$

**25.** $a^2\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$

**26.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad k > 0$

In Problems 27 and 28 show that the given partial differential equation possesses the indicated product solution.

**27.** $k\left(\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \dfrac{1}{r}\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right) = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t};$

$u = e^{-k\alpha^2 t}(c_1 J_0(\alpha r) + c_2 Y_0(\alpha r))$

**28.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \dfrac{1}{r}\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \dfrac{1}{r^2}\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} = 0;$

$u = (c_1 \cos \alpha\theta + c_2 \sin \alpha\theta)(c_3 r^\alpha + c_4 r^{-\alpha})$

**29.** Verify that each of the products $u = XY$ in (3), (4), and (5) satisfies the second-order PDE in Example 1.

**30.** Definition 12.1.1 generalizes to linear PDEs with coefficients that are functions of $x$ and $y$. Determine the regions in the $xy$-plane for which the equation

$$(xy + 1)\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + (x + 2y)\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x\,\partial y} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + xy^2 u = 0$$

is hyperbolic, parabolic, or elliptic.

## 12.2   CLASSICAL PDEs AND BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Reread the material on boundary-value problems in Sections 4.1, 4.3, and 5.2.

**INTRODUCTION**   We are not going to solve anything in this section. We are simply going to discuss the types of partial differential equations and boundary-value problems that we will be working with in the remainder of this chapter as well as in Chapters 13–15. The words *boundary-value problem* have a slightly different connotation than they did in Sections 4.1, 4.3, and 5.2. If, say, $u(x, t)$ is a solution of a PDE, where $x$ represents a spatial dimension and $t$ represents time, then we may be able to prescribe the value of $u$, or $\partial u/\partial x$, or a linear combination of $u$ and $\partial u/\partial x$ at a specified $x$ as well as to prescribe $u$ and $\partial u/\partial t$ at a given time $t$ (usually, $t = 0$). In other words, a "boundary-value problem" may consist of a PDE, along with boundary conditions *and* initial conditions.

**CLASSICAL EQUATIONS**   We shall be concerned principally with applying the method of separation of variables to find product solutions of the following classical equations of mathematical physics:

$$k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad k > 0 \tag{1}$$

$$a^2\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} \tag{2}$$

$$\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0 \tag{3}$$

or slight variations of these equations. The PDEs (1), (2), and (3) are known, respectively, as the **one-dimensional heat equation,** the **one-dimensional wave equation,** and the **two-dimensional form of Laplace's equation.** "One-dimensional" in the case of equations (1) and (2) refers to the fact that $x$ denotes a spatial variable, whereas $t$ represents time; "two-dimensional" in (3) means that $x$ and $y$ are both spatial variables. If you compare (1)–(3) with the linear form in Theorem 12.1.1 (with $t$ playing

the part of the symbol $y$), observe that the heat equation (1) is parabolic, the wave equation (2) is hyperbolic, and Laplace's equation is elliptic. This observation will be important in Chapter 15.

**HEAT EQUATION**   Equation (1) occurs in the theory of heat flow—that is, heat transferred by conduction in a rod or in a thin wire. The function $u(x, t)$ represents temperature at a point $x$ along the rod at some time $t$. Problems in mechanical vibrations often lead to the wave equation (2). For purposes of discussion, a solution $u(x, t)$ of (2) will represent the displacement of an idealized string. Finally, a solution $u(x, y)$ of Laplace's equation (3) can be interpreted as the steady-state (that is, time-independent) temperature distribution throughout a thin, two-dimensional plate.

Even though we have to make many simplifying assumptions, it is worthwhile to see how equations such as (1) and (2) arise.

Suppose a thin circular rod of length $L$ has a cross-sectional area $A$ and coincides with the $x$-axis on the interval $[0, L]$. See Figure 12.2.1. Let us suppose the following:

Cross-section of area $A$

**FIGURE 12.2.1**   One-dimensional flow of heat

- The flow of heat within the rod takes place only in the $x$-direction.
- The lateral, or curved, surface of the rod is insulated; that is, no heat escapes from this surface.
- No heat is being generated within the rod.
- The rod is homogeneous; that is, its mass per unit volume $\rho$ is a constant.
- The specific heat $\gamma$ and thermal conductivity $K$ of the material of the rod are constants.

To derive the partial differential equation satisfied by the temperature $u(x, t)$, we need two empirical laws of heat conduction:

(i)   *The quantity of heat $Q$ in an element of mass $m$ is*

$$Q = \gamma m u, \tag{4}$$

*where $u$ is the temperature of the element.*

(ii)   *The rate of heat flow $Q_t$ through the cross-section indicated in Figure 12.2.1 is proportional to the area $A$ of the cross section and the partial derivative with respect to $x$ of the temperature:*

$$Q_t = -KAu_x. \tag{5}$$

Since heat flows in the direction of decreasing temperature, the minus sign in (5) is used to ensure that $Q_t$ is positive for $u_x < 0$ (heat flow to the right) and negative for $u_x > 0$ (heat flow to the left). If the circular slice of the rod shown in Figure 12.2.1 between $x$ and $x + \Delta x$ is very thin, then $u(x, t)$ can be taken as the approximate temperature at each point in the interval. Now the mass of the slice is $m = \rho(A \, \Delta x)$, and so it follows from (4) that the quantity of heat in it is

$$Q = \gamma \rho A \, \Delta x \, u. \tag{6}$$

Furthermore, when heat flows in the positive $x$-direction, we see from (5) that heat builds up in the slice at the net rate

$$-KAu_x(x, t) - [-KAu_x(x + \Delta x, t)] = KA \, [u_x(x + \Delta x, t) - u_x(x, t)]. \tag{7}$$

By differentiating (6) with respect to $t$, we see that this net rate is also given by

$$Q_t = \gamma \rho A \, \Delta x \, u_t. \tag{8}$$

Equating (7) and (8) gives

$$\frac{K}{\gamma \rho} \frac{u_x(x + \Delta x, t) - u_x(x, t)}{\Delta x} = u_t. \tag{9}$$

Finally, by taking the limit of (9) as $\Delta x \to 0$, we obtain (1) in the form[*] $(K/\gamma\rho)u_{xx} = u_t$. It is customary to let $k = K/\gamma\rho$ and call this positive constant the **thermal diffusivity.**
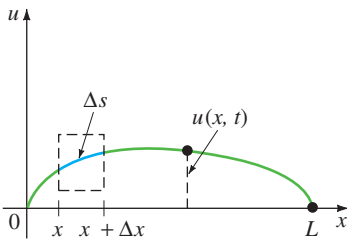


**(a)** Segment of string
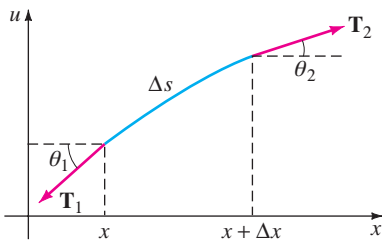


**(b)** Enlargement of segment

**FIGURE 12.2.2** Flexible string anchored at $x = 0$ and $x = L$

**WAVE EQUATION** Consider a string of length $L$, such as a guitar string, stretched taut between two points on the $x$-axis—say, $x = 0$ and $x = L$. When the string starts to vibrate, assume that the motion takes place in the $xu$-plane in such a manner that each point on the string moves in a direction perpendicular to the $x$-axis (transverse vibrations). As is shown in Figure 12.2.2(a), let $u(x, t)$ denote the vertical displacement of any point on the string measured from the $x$-axis for $t > 0$. We further assume the following:

- The string is perfectly flexible.
- The string is homogeneous; that is, its mass per unit length $\rho$ is a constant.
- The displacements $u$ are small in comparison to the length of the string.
- The slope of the curve is small at all points.
- The tension $\mathbf{T}$ acts tangent to the string, and its magnitude $T$ is the same at all points.
- The tension is large compared with the force of gravity.
- No other external forces act on the string.

Now in Figure 12.2.2(b) the tensions $\mathbf{T}_1$ and $\mathbf{T}_2$ are tangent to the ends of the curve on the interval $[x, x + \Delta x]$. For small $\theta_1$ and $\theta_2$ the net vertical force acting on the corresponding element $\Delta s$ of the string is then

$$T \sin\theta_2 - T \sin\theta_1 \approx T \tan\theta_2 - T \tan\theta_1$$

$$= T[u_x(x + \Delta x, t) - u_x(x, t)],^{\dagger}$$

where $T = |\mathbf{T}_1| = |\mathbf{T}_2|$. Now $\rho \Delta s \approx \rho \Delta x$ is the mass of the string on $[x, x + \Delta x]$, so Newton's second law gives

$$T[u_x(x + \Delta x, t) - u_x(x, t)] = \rho \Delta x\, u_{tt}$$

or
$$\frac{u_x(x + \Delta x, t) - u_x(x, t)}{\Delta x} = \frac{\rho}{T} u_{tt}.$$

If the limit is taken as $\Delta x \to 0$, the last equation becomes $u_{xx} = (\rho/T)u_{tt}$. This of course is (2) with $a^2 = T/\rho$.

**LAPLACE'S EQUATION** Although we shall not present its derivation, Laplace's equation in two and three dimensions occurs in time-independent problems involving potentials such as electrostatic, gravitational, and velocity in fluid mechanics. Moreover, a solution of Laplace's equation can also be interpreted as a steady-state temperature distribution. As illustrated in Figure 12.2.3, a solution $u(x, y)$ of (3) could represent the temperature that varies from point to point—but not with time—of a rectangular plate. Laplace's equation in two dimensions and in three dimensions is abbreviated as $\nabla^2 u = 0$, where



**FIGURE 12.2.3** Steady-state temperatures in a rectangular plate

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}$$

are called the two-dimensional **Laplacian** and the three-dimensional Laplacian, respectively, of a function $u$.

---

[*]The definition of the second partial derivative is $u_{xx} = \displaystyle\lim_{\Delta x \to 0} \frac{u_x(x + \Delta x, t) - u_x(x, t)}{\Delta x}$.

[†]$\tan\theta_2 = u_x(x + \Delta x, t)$ and $\tan\theta_1 = u_x(x, t)$ are equivalent expressions for slope.

We often wish to find solutions of equations (1), (2), and (3) that satisfy certain side conditions.

**INITIAL CONDITIONS**   Since solutions of (1) and (2) depend on time $t$, we can prescribe what happens at $t = 0$; that is, we can give **initial conditions (IC).** If $f(x)$ denotes the initial temperature distribution throughout the rod in Figure 12.2.1, then a solution $u(x, t)$ of (1) must satisfy the single initial condition $u(x, 0) = f(x)$, $0 < x < L$. On the other hand, for a vibrating string we can specify its initial displacement (or shape) $f(x)$ as well as its initial velocity $g(x)$. In mathematical terms we seek a function $u(x, t)$ that satisfies (2) and the two initial conditions:

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = g(x), \qquad 0 < x < L. \tag{10}$$

For example, the string could be plucked, as shown in Figure 12.2.4, and released from rest ($g(x) = 0$).



$u = 0$
at $x = 0$

$u = 0$
at $x = L$
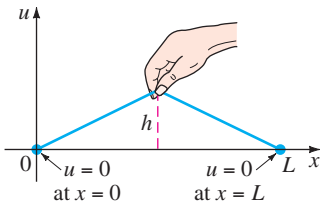
**FIGURE 12.2.4**   Plucked string

**BOUNDARY CONDITIONS**   The string in Figure 12.2.4 is secured to the $x$-axis at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ for all time. We interpret this by the two **boundary conditions (BC):**

$$u(0, t) = 0, \qquad u(L, t) = 0, \quad t > 0.$$

Note that in this context the function $f$ in (10) is continuous, and consequently, $f(0) = 0$ and $f(L) = 0$. In general, there are three types of boundary conditions associated with equations (1), (2), and (3). On a boundary we can specify the values of *one* of the following:

$$(i) \quad u, \qquad (ii) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial n}, \qquad \text{or} \qquad (iii) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} + hu, \qquad h \text{ a constant.}$$

Here $\partial u/\partial n$ denotes the normal derivative of $u$ (the directional derivative of $u$ in the direction perpendicular to the boundary). A boundary condition of the first type $(i)$ is called a **Dirichlet condition;** a boundary condition of the second type $(ii)$ is called a **Neumann condition;** and a boundary condition of the third type $(iii)$ is known as a **Robin condition.** For example, for $t > 0$ a typical condition at the right-hand end of the rod in Figure 12.2.1 can be

$$(i)' \quad u(L, t) = u_0, \qquad u_0 \text{ a constant,}$$

$$(ii)' \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=L} = 0, \qquad \text{or}$$

$$(iii)' \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=L} = -h(u(L, t) - u_m), \qquad h > 0 \text{ and } u_m \text{ constants.}$$

Condition $(i)'$ simply states that the boundary $x = L$ is held by some means at a constant *temperature* $u_0$ for all time $t > 0$. Condition $(ii)'$ indicates that the boundary $x = L$ is *insulated*. From the empirical law of heat transfer, the flux of heat across a boundary (that is, the amount of heat per unit area per unit time conducted across the boundary) is proportional to the value of the normal derivative $\partial u/\partial n$ of the temperature $u$. Thus when the boundary $x = L$ is thermally insulated, no heat flows into or out of the rod, so

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=L} = 0.$$

We can interpret $(iii)'$ to mean that *heat is lost* from the right-hand end of the rod by being in contact with a medium, such as air or water, that is held at a constant temperature. From Newton's law of cooling, the outward flux of heat from the rod is proportional to the difference between the temperature $u(L, t)$ at the boundary and the

temperature $u_m$ of the surrounding medium. We note that if heat is lost from the left-hand end of the rod, the boundary condition is

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = h(u(0, t) - u_m).$$

The change in algebraic sign is consistent with the assumption that the rod is at a higher temperature than the medium surrounding the ends so that $u(0, t) > u_m$ and $u(L, t) > u_m$. At $x = 0$ and $x = L$ the slopes $u_x(0, t)$ and $u_x(L, t)$ must be positive and negative, respectively.

Of course, at the ends of the rod we can specify different conditions at the same time. For example, we could have

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u(L, t) = u_0, \quad t > 0.$$

We note that the boundary condition in $(i)'$ is homogeneous if $u_0 = 0$; if $u_0 \neq 0$, the boundary condition is nonhomogeneous. The boundary condition $(ii)'$ is homogeneous; $(iii)'$ is homogeneous if $u_m = 0$ and nonhomogeneous if $u_m \neq 0$.

**BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS**   Problems such as

$$\textit{Solve:} \qquad a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$$\textit{Subject to:} \quad \text{(BC)} \quad u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0, \quad t > 0 \tag{11}$$

$$\text{(IC)} \quad u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = g(x), \quad 0 < x < L$$

and

$$\textit{Solve:} \qquad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < x < a, \quad 0 < y < b$$

$$\textit{Subject to:} \quad \text{(BC)} \quad \begin{cases} \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=a} = 0, \quad 0 < y < b \\[2mm] u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, b) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < a \end{cases} \tag{12}$$

are called **boundary-value problems.**

**MODIFICATIONS**   The partial differential equations (1), (2), and (3) must be modified to take into consideration internal or external influences acting on the physical system. More general forms of the one-dimensional heat and wave equations are, respectively,

$$k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + G(x, t, u, u_x) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \tag{13}$$

and

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + F(x, t, u, u_t) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}. \tag{14}$$

For example, if there is heat transfer from the lateral surface of a rod into a surrounding medium that is held at a constant temperature $u_m$, then the heat equation (13) is

$$k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - h(u - u_m) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}.$$

In (14) the function $F$ could represent the various forces acting on the string. For example, when external, damping, and elastic restoring forces are taken into account,

(14) assumes the form

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + f(x, t) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + ku \tag{15}$$

↑ External force    ↑ Damping force  ↑ Restoring force

## REMARKS

The analysis of a wide variety of diverse phenomena yields mathematical models (1), (2), or (3) or their generalizations involving a greater number of spatial variables. For example, (1) is sometimes called the **diffusion equation,** since the diffusion of dissolved substances in solution is analogous to the flow of heat in a solid. The function $u(x, t)$ satisfying the partial differential equation in this case represents the concentration of the dissolved substance. Similarly, equation (2) arises in the study of the flow of electricity in a long cable or transmission line. In this setting (2) is known as the **telegraph equation.** It can be shown that under certain assumptions the current and the voltage in the line are functions satisfying two equations identical with (2). The wave equation (2) also appears in the theory of high-frequency transmission lines, fluid mechanics, acoustics, and elasticity. Laplace's equation (3) is encountered in the static displacement of membranes.

## EXERCISES 12.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-20.*

In Problems 1–4 a rod of length $L$ coincides with the interval $[0, L]$ on the $x$-axis. Set up the boundary-value problem for the temperature $u(x, t)$.

1. The left end is held at temperature zero, and the right end is insulated. The initial temperature is $f(x)$ throughout.

2. The left end is held at temperature $u_0$, and the right end is held at temperature $u_1$. The initial temperature is zero throughout.

3. The left end is held at temperature 100, and there is heat transfer from the right end into the surrounding medium at temperature zero. The initial temperature is $f(x)$ throughout.

4. The ends are insulated, and there is heat transfer from the lateral surface into the surrounding medium at temperature 50. The initial temperature is 100 throughout.

In Problems 5–8 a string of length $L$ coincides with the interval $[0, L]$ on the $x$-axis. Set up the boundary-value problem for the displacement $u(x, t)$.

5. The ends are secured to the $x$-axis. The string is released from rest from the initial displacement $x(L - x)$.

6. The ends are secured to the $x$-axis. Initially, the string is undisplaced but has the initial velocity $\sin(\pi x/L)$.

7. The left end is secured to the $x$-axis, but the right end moves in a transverse manner according to $\sin \pi t$. The string is released from rest from the initial displacement $f(x)$. For $t > 0$ the transverse vibrations are damped with a force proportional to the instantaneous velocity.

8. The ends are secured to the $x$-axis, and the string is initially at rest on that axis. An external vertical force proportional to the horizontal distance from the left end acts on the string for $t > 0$.

In Problems 9 and 10 set up the boundary-value problem for the steady-state temperature $u(x, y)$.

9. A thin rectangular plate coincides with the region defined by $0 \le x \le 4$, $0 \le y \le 2$. The left end and the bottom of the plate are insulated. The top of the plate is held at temperature zero, and the right end of the plate is held at temperature $f(y)$.

10. A semi-infinite plate coincides with the region defined by $0 \le x \le \pi$, $y \ge 0$. The left end is held at temperature $e^{-y}$, and the right end is held at temperature 100 for $0 < y \le 1$ and temperature zero for $y > 1$. The bottom of the plate is held at temperature $f(x)$.

## 12.3 HEAT EQUATION

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Section 12.1
- A rereading of Example 2 in Section 5.2 and Example 1 of Section 11.4 is recommended.

**INTRODUCTION** Consider a thin rod of length $L$ with an initial temperature $f(x)$ throughout and whose ends are held at temperature zero for all time $t > 0$. If the rod shown in Figure 12.3.1 satisfies the assumptions given on page 438, then the temperature $u(x, t)$ in the rod is determined from the boundary-value problem

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0 \tag{1}$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0, \quad t > 0 \tag{2}$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < L. \tag{3}$$

In this section we shall solve this BVP.



$u = 0$      $u = 0$

$0$      $L$   $x$
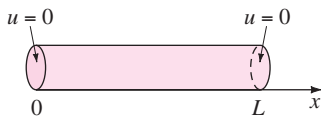
**FIGURE 12.3.1** Temperatures in a rod of length $L$

**SOLUTION OF THE BVP** To start, we use the product $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$ to separate variables in (1). Then, if $-\lambda$ is the separation constant, the two equalities

$$\frac{X''}{X} = \frac{T'}{kT} = -\lambda \tag{4}$$

lead to the two ordinary differential equations

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0 \tag{5}$$

$$T' + k\lambda T = 0. \tag{6}$$

Before solving (5), note that the boundary conditions (2) applied to $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$ are

$$u(0, t) = X(0)T(t) = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad u(L, t) = X(L)T(t) = 0.$$

Since it makes sense to expect that $T(t) \neq 0$ for all $t$, the foregoing equalities hold only if $X(0) = 0$ and $X(L) = 0$. These homogeneous boundary conditions together with the homogeneous DE (5) constitute a regular Sturm-Liouville problem:

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0, \quad X(0) = 0, \quad X(L) = 0. \tag{7}$$

The solution of this BVP was discussed thoroughly in Example 2 of Section 5.2. In that example we considered three possible cases for the parameter $\lambda$: zero, negative, or positive. The corresponding solutions of the DEs are, in turn, given by

$$X(x) = c_1 + c_2 x, \qquad\qquad \lambda = 0 \tag{8}$$

$$X(x) = c_1 \cosh \alpha x + c_2 \sinh \alpha x, \qquad \lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0 \tag{9}$$

$$X(x) = c_1 \cos \alpha x + c_2 \sin \alpha x, \qquad \lambda = \alpha^2 > 0. \tag{10}$$

When the boundary conditions $X(0) = 0$ and $X(L) = 0$ are applied to (8) and (9), these solutions yield only $X(x) = 0$, and so we would have to conclude that $u = 0$. But when $X(0) = 0$ is applied to (10), we find that $c_1 = 0$ and $X(x) = c_2 \sin \alpha x$. The second boundary condition then implies that $X(L) = c_2 \sin \alpha L = 0$. To obtain a non-trivial solution, we must have $c_2 \neq 0$ and $\sin \alpha L = 0$. The last equation is satisfied when $\alpha L = n\pi$ or $\alpha = n\pi/L$. Hence (7) possesses nontrivial solutions when

$\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2 = n^2\pi^2/L^2$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. These values of $\lambda$ are the **eigenvalues** of the problem; the **eigenfunctions** are

$$X(x) = c_2 \sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x, \qquad n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots \tag{11}$$

From (6) we have $T(t) = c_3 e^{-k(n^2\pi^2/L^2)t}$, so

$$u_n = X(x)T(t) = A_n e^{-k(n^2\pi^2/L^2)t} \sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x, \tag{12}$$

where we have replaced the constant $c_2 c_3$ by $A_n$. Each of the product functions $u_n(x, t)$ given in (12) is a particular solution of the partial differential equation (1), and each $u_n(x, t)$ satisfies both boundary conditions (2) as well. However, for (12) to satisfy the initial condition (3), we would have to choose the coefficient $A_n$ in such a manner that

$$u_n(x, 0) = f(x) = A_n \sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x. \tag{13}$$

In general, we would not expect condition (13) to be satisfied for an arbitrary but reasonable choice of $f$. Therefore we are forced to admit that $u_n(x, t)$ *is not a solution of the given problem*. Now by the superposition principle (Theorem 12.1.1) the function $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n$ or

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-k(n^2\pi^2/L^2)t} \sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x \tag{14}$$

must also, although formally, satisfy equation (1) and the conditions in (2). Substituting $t = 0$ into (14) implies that

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x.$$

This last expression is recognized as a half-range expansion of $f$ in a sine series. If we make the identification $A_n = b_n$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, it follows from (5) of Section 11.3 that

$$A_n = \frac{2}{L}\int_0^L f(x) \sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x\,dx. \tag{15}$$

We conclude that a solution of the boundary-value problem described in (1), (2), and (3) is given by the infinite series

$$u(x, t) = \frac{2}{L}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left(\int_0^L f(x)\sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x\,dx\right)e^{-k(n^2\pi^2/L^2)t}\sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x. \tag{16}$$

In the special case when the initial temperature is $u(x, 0) = 100$, $L = \pi$, and $k = 1$, you should verify that the coefficients (15) are given by

$$A_n = \frac{200}{\pi}\left[\frac{1 - (-1)^n}{n}\right]$$

and that (16) is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{200}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left[\frac{1 - (-1)^n}{n}\right]e^{-n^2 t}\sin nx. \tag{17}$$

**USE OF COMPUTERS** Since $u$ is a function of two variables, the graph of the solution (17) is a surface in 3-space. We could use the 3D-plot application of a computer algebra system to approximate this surface by graphing partial sums $S_n(x, t)$ over a rectangular region defined by $0 \le x \le \pi, 0 \le t \le T$. Alternatively, with the aid of the 2D-plot application of a CAS we can plot the solution $u(x, t)$ on the $x$-interval $[0, \pi]$ for increasing values of time $t$. See Figure 12.3.2(a). In Figure 12.3.2(b) the solution $u(x, t)$ is graphed on the $t$-interval $[0, 6]$ for increasing values of $x$ ($x = 0$ is the left end and $x = \pi/2$ is the midpoint of the rod of length $L = \pi$.) Both sets of graphs verify what is apparent in (17)—namely, $u(x, t) \to 0$ as $t \to \infty$.
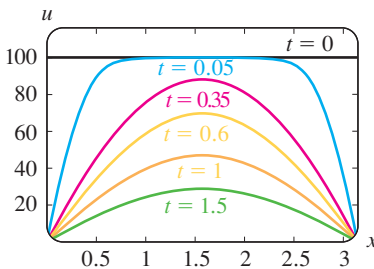


**(a)** $u(x, t)$ graphed as a function of $x$ for various fixed times
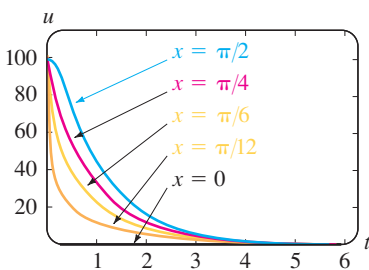


**(b)** $u(x, t)$ graphed as a function of $t$ for various fixed positions

**FIGURE 12.3.2** Graphs of (17) when one variable is held fixed

## EXERCISES 12.3

In Problems 1 and 2 solve the heat equation (1) subject to the given conditions. Assume a rod of length $L$.

**1.** $u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0$

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < x < L/2 \\ 0, & L/2 < x < L \end{cases}$$

**2.** $u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0$
$u(x, 0) = x(L - x)$

**3.** Find the temperature $u(x, t)$ in a rod of length $L$ if the initial temperature is $f(x)$ throughout and if the ends $x = 0$ and $x = L$ are insulated.

**4.** Solve Problem 3 if $L = 2$ and

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0, & 1 < x < 2. \end{cases}$$

**5.** Suppose heat is lost from the lateral surface of a thin rod of length $L$ into a surrounding medium at temperature zero. If the linear law of heat transfer applies, then the heat equation takes on the form

$$k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - hu = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t},$$

$0 < x < L, \ t > 0$, $h$ a constant. Find the temperature $u(x, t)$ if the initial temperature is $f(x)$ throughout and the ends $x = 0$ and $x = L$ are insulated. See Figure 12.3.3.
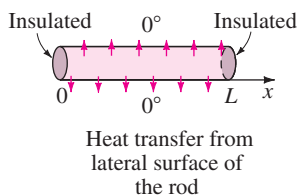


**FIGURE 12.3.3** Rod losing heat in Problem 5

**6.** Solve Problem 5 if the ends $x = 0$ and $x = L$ are held at temperature zero.

### Discussion Problems

**7.** Figure 12.3.2(b) shows the graphs of $u(x, t)$ for $0 \leq t \leq 6$ for $x = 0$, $x = \pi/12$, $x = \pi/6$, $x = \pi/4$, and $x = \pi/2$. Describe or sketch the graphs of $u(x, t)$ on the same time interval but for the fixed values $x = 3\pi/4$, $x = 5\pi/6$, $x = 11\pi/12$, and $x = \pi$.

**8.** Find the solution of the boundary-value problem given in (1)–(3) when $f(x) = 10 \sin(5\pi x/L)$.

### Computer Lab Assignments

**9.** **(a)** Solve the heat equation (1) subject to

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(100, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 0.8x, & 0 \leq x \leq 50 \\ 0.8(100 - x), & 50 < x \leq 100. \end{cases}$$

**(b)** Use the 3D-plot application of your CAS to graph the partial sum $S_5(x, t)$ consisting of the first five nonzero terms of the solution in part (a) for $0 \leq x \leq 100, 0 \leq t \leq 200$. Assume that $k = 1.6352$. Experiment with various three-dimensional viewing perspectives of the surface (called the **ViewPoint** option in *Mathematica*).

## 12.4 WAVE EQUATION

### REVIEW MATERIAL
• Reread pages 439–441 of Section 12.2.

**INTRODUCTION** We are now in a position to solve the boundary-value problem (11) that was discussed in Section 12.2. The vertical displacement $u(x, t)$ of the vibrating string of length $L$ shown in Figure 12.2.2(a) is determined from

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0 \tag{1}$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0, \quad t > 0 \tag{2}$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|_{t=0} = g(x), \quad 0 < x < L. \tag{3}$$

**SOLUTION OF THE BVP**  With the usual assumption that $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$, separating variables in (1) gives

$$\frac{X''}{X} = \frac{T''}{a^2 T} = -\lambda$$

so that

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0 \tag{4}$$

$$T'' + a^2 \lambda T = 0. \tag{5}$$

As in the preceding section, the boundary conditions (2) translate into $X(0) = 0$ and $X(L) = 0$. Equation (4) along with these boundary conditions is the regular Sturm-Liouville problem

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0, \quad X(0) = 0, \quad X(L) = 0. \tag{6}$$

Of the usual three possibilities for the parameter, $\lambda = 0$, $\lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0$, and $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$, only the last choice leads to nontrivial solutions. Corresponding to $\lambda = \alpha^2$, $\alpha > 0$, the general solution of (4) is

$$X = c_1 \cos \alpha x + c_2 \sin \alpha x.$$

$X(0) = 0$ and $X(L) = 0$ indicate that $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 \sin \alpha L = 0$. The last equation again implies that $\alpha L = n\pi$ or $\alpha = n\pi/L$. The eigenvalues and corresponding eigenfunctions of (6) are $\lambda_n = n^2\pi^2/L^2$ and $X(x) = c_2 \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{L} x$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$.

The general solution of the second-order equation (5) is then

$$T(t) = c_3 \cos \frac{n\pi a}{L} t + c_4 \sin \frac{n\pi a}{L} t.$$

By rewriting $c_2 c_3$ as $A_n$ and $c_2 c_4$ as $B_n$, solutions that satisfy both the wave equation (1) and boundary conditions (2) are

$$u_n = \left( A_n \cos \frac{n\pi a}{L} t + B_n \sin \frac{n\pi a}{L} t \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x \tag{7}$$

and

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( A_n \cos \frac{n\pi a}{L} t + B_n \sin \frac{n\pi a}{L} t \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x. \tag{8}$$

Setting $t = 0$ in (8) and using the initial condition $u(x, 0) = f(x)$ gives

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x.$$

Since the last series is a half-range expansion for $f$ in a sine series, we can write $A_n = b_n$:

$$A_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x \, dx. \tag{9}$$

To determine $B_n$, we differentiate (8) with respect to $t$ and then set $t = 0$:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( -A_n \frac{n\pi a}{L} \sin \frac{n\pi a}{L} t + B_n \frac{n\pi a}{L} \cos \frac{n\pi a}{L} t \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \bigg|_{t=0} = g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( B_n \frac{n\pi a}{L} \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x.$$

For this last series to be the half-range sine expansion of the initial velocity $g$ on the interval, the *total* coefficient $B_n n\pi a/L$ must be given by the form $b_n$ in (5) of Section 11.3, that is,

$$B_n \frac{n\pi a}{L} = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x \, dx$$

from which we obtain

$$B_n = \frac{2}{n\pi a} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x \, dx. \tag{10}$$

The solution of the boundary-value problem (1)–(3) consists of the series (8) with coefficients $A_n$ and $B_n$ defined by (9) and (10), respectively.

We note that when the string is released from *rest,* then $g(x) = 0$ for every $x$ in the interval $[0, L]$, and consequently, $B_n = 0$.

**PLUCKED STRING** A special case of the boundary-value problem in (1)–(3) is the model of the **plucked string.** We can see the motion of the string by plotting the solution or displacement $u(x, t)$ for increasing values of time $t$ and using the animation feature of a CAS. Some frames of a "movie" generated in this manner are given in Figure 12.4.1; the initial shape of the string is given in Figure 12.4.1(a). You are asked to emulate the results given in the figure plotting a sequence of partial sums of (8). See Problems 7 and 22 in Exercises 12.4.



**(a)** $t = 0$ initial shape  **(b)** $t = 0.2$  **(c)** $t = 0.7$

**(d)** $t = 1.0$  **(e)** $t = 1.6$  **(f)** $t = 1.9$
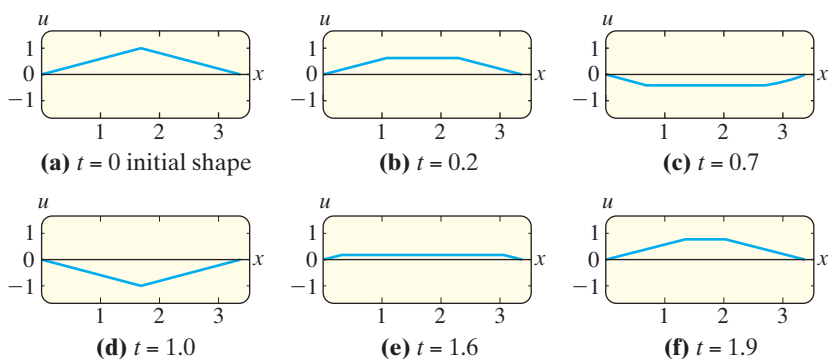
**FIGURE 12.4.1** Frames of a CAS "movie"

**STANDING WAVES** Recall from the derivation of the one-dimensional wave equation in Section 12.2 that the constant $a$ appearing in the solution of the boundary-value problem in (1), (2), and (3) is given by $\sqrt{T/\rho}$, where $\rho$ is mass per unit length and $T$ is the magnitude of the tension in the string. When $T$ is large enough, the vibrating string produces a musical sound. This sound is the result of standing waves. The solution (8) is a superposition of product solutions called **standing waves** or **normal modes:**

$$u(x, t) = u_1(x, t) + u_2(x, t) + u_3(x, t) + \cdots .$$

In view of (6) and (7) of Section 5.1 the product solutions (7) can be written as

$$u_n(x, t) = C_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi a}{L} t + \phi_n\right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x, \tag{11}$$

where $C_n = \sqrt{A_n^2 + B_n^2}$ and $\phi_n$ is defined by $\sin \phi_n = A_n/C_n$ and $\cos \phi_n = B_n/C_n$. For $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ the standing waves are essentially the graphs of $\sin(n\pi x/L)$, with a time-varying amplitude given by

$$C_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi a}{L} t + \phi_n\right).$$

Alternatively, we see from (11) that at a fixed value of $x$ each product function $u_n(x, t)$ represents simple harmonic motion with amplitude $C_n|\sin(n\pi x/L)|$ and frequency $f_n = na/2L$. In other words, each point on a standing wave vibrates with a different amplitude but with the same frequency. When $n = 1$,

$$u_1(x, t) = C_1 \sin\left(\frac{\pi a}{L} t + \phi_1\right) \sin \frac{\pi}{L} x$$
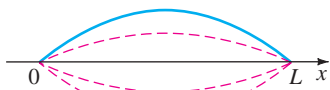
**(a)** First standing wave
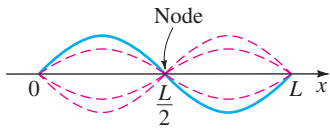


**(b)** Second standing wave
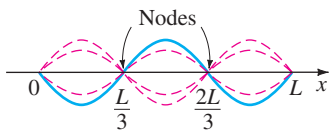


**(c)** Third standing wave

**FIGURE 12.4.2** First three standing waves

is called the **first standing wave,** the **first normal mode,** or the **fundamental mode of vibration.** The first three standing waves, or normal modes, are shown in Figure 12.4.2. The dashed graphs represent the standing waves at various values of time. The points in the interval $(0, L)$, for which $\sin(n\pi /L)x = 0$, correspond to points on a standing wave where there is no motion. These points are called **nodes.** For example, in Figures 12.4.2(b) and 12.4.2(c) we see that the second standing wave has one node at $L/2$ and the third standing wave has two nodes at $L/3$ and $2L/3$. In general, the $n$th normal mode of vibration has $n - 1$ nodes.

The frequency

$$f_1 = \frac{a}{2L} = \frac{1}{2L}\sqrt{\frac{T}{\rho}}$$

of the first normal mode is called the **fundamental frequency** or **first harmonic** and is directly related to the pitch produced by a stringed instrument. It is apparent that the greater the tension on the string, the higher the pitch of the sound. The frequencies $f_n$ of the other normal modes, which are integer multiples of the fundamental frequency, are called **overtones.** The second harmonic is the first overtone, and so on.

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## EXERCISES 12.4

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-20.*

In Problems 1–8 solve the wave equation (1) subject to the given conditions.

**1.** $u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0$

$u(x, 0) = \dfrac{1}{4}x(L - x), \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0$

**2.** $u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = x(L - x)$

**3.** $u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0$

$u(x, 0)$, given in Figure 12.4.3, $\quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0$
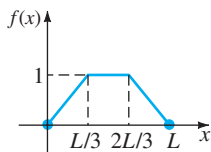


**FIGURE 12.4.3** Initial displacement in Problem 3

**4.** $u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0$

$u(x, 0) = \frac{1}{6}x(\pi^2 - x^2), \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0$

**5.** $u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = \sin x$

**6.** $u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0$

$u(x, 0) = 0.01 \sin 3\pi x, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0$

**7.** $u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0$

$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} \dfrac{2hx}{L}, & 0 < x < \dfrac{L}{2} \\ 2h\left(1 - \dfrac{x}{L}\right), & \dfrac{L}{2} \le x < L \end{cases}, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0$

**8.** $\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=L} = 0$

$u(x, 0) = x, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0$

This problem could describe the longitudinal displacement $u(x, t)$ of a vibrating elastic bar. The boundary conditions at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ are called **free-end conditions.** See Figure 12.4.4.
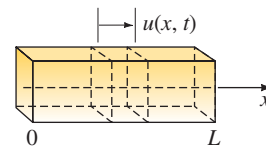


**FIGURE 12.4.4** Vibrating elastic bar in Problem 8

**9.** A string is stretched and secured on the $x$-axis at $x = 0$ and $x = \pi$ for $t > 0$. If the transverse vibrations take place in a medium that imparts a resistance proportional to the instantaneous velocity, then the wave equation takes on the form

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + 2\beta \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < \beta < 1, \quad t > 0.$$

Find the displacement $u(x, t)$ if the string starts from rest from the initial displacement $f(x)$.

**10.** Show that a solution of the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + u, \qquad 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < \pi/2 \\ \pi - x, & \pi/2 \le x < \pi \end{cases}$$

$$\left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi$$

is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{(2k-1)^2} \sin(2k-1)x \cos \sqrt{(2k-1)^2 + 1}\, t.$$

**11.** The transverse displacement $u(x, t)$ of a vibrating beam of length $L$ is determined from a fourth-order partial differential equation

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0.$$

If the beam is **simply supported,** as shown in Figure 12.4.5, the boundary and initial conditions are

$$u(0, t) = 0, \qquad u(L, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$\left.\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right|_{x=L} = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = g(x), \quad 0 < x < L.$$

Solve for $u(x, t)$. [*Hint*: For convenience use $\lambda = \alpha^4$ when separating variables.]
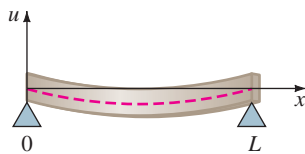


**FIGURE 12.4.5** Simply supported beam in Problem 11

**12.** If the ends of the beam in Problem 11 are **embedded** at $x = 0$ and $x = L$, the boundary conditions become, for $t > 0$,

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0$$

$$\left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right|_{x=L} = 0.$$

**(a)** Show that the eigenvalues of the problem are $\lambda_n = x_n^2/L^2$, where $x_n$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, are the

positive roots of the equation

$$\cosh x \cos x = 1.$$

**(b)** Show graphically that the equation in part (a) has an infinite number of roots.

**(c)** Use a calculator or a CAS to find approximations to the first four eigenvalues. Use four decimal places.

**13.** Consider the boundary-value problem given in (1), (2), and (3) of this section. If $g(x) = 0$ for $0 < x < L$, show that the solution of the problem can be written as

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}[f(x + at) + f(x - at)].$$

[*Hint*: Use the identity
$$2 \sin \theta_1 \cos \theta_2 = \sin(\theta_1 + \theta_2) + \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2).]$$

**14.** The vertical displacement $u(x, t)$ of an infinitely long string is determined from the initial-value problem

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad t > 0$$

$$\tag{12}$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = g(x).$$

This problem can be solved without separating variables.

**(a)** Show that the wave equation can be put into the form $\partial^2 u/\partial \eta \partial \xi = 0$ by means of the substitutions $\xi = x + at$ and $\eta = x - at$.

**(b)** Integrate the partial differential equation in part (a), first with respect to $\eta$ and then with respect to $\xi$, to show that $u(x, t) = F(x + at) + G(x - at)$, where $F$ and $G$ are arbitrary twice differentiable functions, is a solution of the wave equation. Use this solution and the given initial conditions to show that

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{2}f(x) + \frac{1}{2a}\int_{x_0}^{x} g(s)\,ds + c$$

and $\quad G(x) = \frac{1}{2}f(x) - \frac{1}{2a}\int_{x_0}^{x} g(s)\,ds - c,$

where $x_0$ is arbitrary and $c$ is a constant of integration.

**(c)** Use the results in part (b) to show that

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}[f(x + at) + f(x - at)] + \frac{1}{2a}\int_{x-at}^{x+at} g(s)\,ds. \tag{13}$$

Note that when the initial velocity $g(x) = 0$, we obtain

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}[f(x + at) + f(x - at)], \qquad -\infty < x < \infty.$$

This last solution can be interpreted as a super-position of two **traveling waves,** one moving to the right (that is, $\frac{1}{2}f(x - at)$) and one moving to the

left ($\frac{1}{2}f(x + at)$). Both waves travel with speed $a$ and have the same basic shape as the initial displacement $f(x)$. The form of $u(x, t)$ given in (13) is called **d'Alembert's solution.**

In Problems 15–18 use d'Alembert's solution (13) to solve the initial-value problem in Problem 14 subject to the given initial conditions.

**15.** $f(x) = \sin x$, $g(x) = 1$

**16.** $f(x) = \sin x$, $g(x) = \cos x$

**17.** $f(x) = 0$, $g(x) = \sin 2x$

**18.** $f(x) = e^{-x^2}$, $g(x) = 0$

### Computer Lab Assignments

**19.** **(a)** Use a CAS to plot d'Alembert's solution in Problem 18 on the interval $[-5, 5]$ at the times $t = 0, t = 1$, $t = 2, t = 3$, and $t = 4$. Superimpose the graphs on one coordinate system. Assume that $a = 1$.

**(b)** Use the 3D-plot application of your CAS to plot d'Alembert's solution $u(x, t)$ in Problem 18 for $-5 \le x \le 5$, $0 \le t \le 4$. Experiment with various three-dimensional viewing perspectives of this surface. Choose the perspective of the surface for which you feel the graphs in part (a) are most apparent.

**20.** A model for an infinitely long string that is initially held at the three points $(-1, 0)$, $(1, 0)$, and $(0, 1)$ and then simultaneously released at all three points at time $t = 0$ is given by (12) with

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - |x|, & |x| \le 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = 0.$$

**(a)** Plot the initial position of the string on the interval $[-6, 6]$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to plot d'Alembert's solution (13) on $[-6, 6]$ for $t = 0.2k, k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, 25$. Assume that $a = 1$.

**(c)** Use the animation feature of your computer algebra system to make a movie of the solution. Describe the motion of the string over time.

**21.** An infinitely long string coinciding with the $x$-axis is struck at the origin with a hammer whose head is 0.2 inch in diameter. A model for the motion of the string is given by (12) with

$$f(x) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & |x| \le 0.1 \\ 0, & |x| \ge 0.1. \end{cases}$$

**(a)** Use a CAS to plot d'Alembert's solution (13) on $[-6, 6]$ for $t = 0.2k, k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, 25$. Assume that $a = 1$.

**(b)** Use the animation feature of your computer algebra system to make a movie of the solution. Describe the motion of the string over time.

**22.** The model of the vibrating string in Problem 7 is called the **plucked string.** The string is tied to the $x$-axis at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ and is held at $x = L/2$ at $h$ units above the $x$-axis. See Figure 12.2.4. Starting at $t = 0$ the string is released from rest.

**(a)** Use a CAS to plot the partial sum $S_6(x, t)$—that is, the first six nonzero terms of your solution—for $t = 0.1k, k = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, 20$. Assume that $a = 1$, $h = 1$, and $L = \pi$.

**(b)** Use the animation feature of your computer algebra system to make a movie of the solution to Problem 7.

## 12.5 LAPLACE'S EQUATION

### REVIEW MATERIAL
• Reread page 438 of Section 12.2 and Example 1 in Section 11.4.

**INTRODUCTION** Suppose we wish to find the steady-state temperature $u(x, y)$ in a rectangular plate whose vertical edges $x = 0$ and $x = a$ are insulated, as shown in Figure 12.5.1. When no heat escapes from the lateral faces of the plate, we solve the following boundary-value problem:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < a, \quad 0 < y < b \tag{1}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=a} = 0, \quad 0 < y < b \tag{2}$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, b) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < a. \tag{3}$$
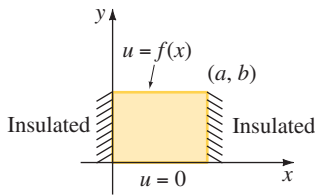
**FIGURE 12.5.1** Steady-state temperatures in a rectangular plate

**SOLUTION OF THE BVP**   With $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$ separation of variables in (1) leads to

$$\frac{X''}{X} = -\frac{Y''}{Y} = -\lambda$$

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0 \tag{4}$$

$$Y'' - \lambda Y = 0. \tag{5}$$

The three homogeneous boundary conditions in (2) and (3) translate into $X'(0) = 0$, $X'(a) = 0$, and $Y(0) = 0$. The Sturm-Liouville problem associated with the equation in (4) is then

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0, \quad X'(0) = 0, \quad X'(a) = 0. \tag{6}$$

Examination of the cases corresponding to $\lambda = 0$, $\lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0$, and $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$, where $\alpha > 0$, has already been carried out in Example 1 in Section 11.4.[*] Here is a brief summary of that analysis.

For $\lambda = 0$, (6) becomes

$$X'' = 0, \quad X'(0) = 0, \quad X'(a) = 0.$$

The solution of the DE is $X = c_1 + c_2 x$. The boundary conditions imply $X = c_1$. By imposing $c_1 \neq 0$, this problem possesses a nontrivial solution. For $\lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0$, (6) possesses only the trivial solution. For $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$, (6) becomes

$$X'' + \alpha^2 X = 0, \quad X'(0) = 0, \quad X'(a) = 0.$$

The solution of the DE in this problem is $X = c_1 \cos \alpha x + c_2 \sin \alpha x$. The boundary condition $X'(0) = 0$ implies that $c_2 = 0$, so $X = c_1 \cos \alpha x$. Differentiating this last expression and then setting $x = a$ gives $-c_1 \sin \alpha a = 0$. Since we have assumed that $\alpha > 0$, this last condition is satisfied when $\alpha a = n\pi$ or $\alpha = n\pi/a, n = 1, 2, \ldots$. The eigenvalues of (6) are then $\lambda_0 = 0$ and $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2 = n^2 \pi^2/a^2, n = 1, 2, \ldots$. If we correspond $\lambda_0 = 0$ with $n = 0$, the eigenfunctions of (6) are

$$X = c_1, \quad n = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad X = c_1 \cos \frac{n\pi}{a} x, \quad n = 1, 2, \ldots.$$

We now solve equation (5) subject to the single homogeneous boundary condition $Y(0) = 0$. There are two cases. For $\lambda_0 = 0$, equation (5) is simply $Y'' = 0$; therefore its solution is $Y = c_3 + c_4 y$. But $Y(0) = 0$ implies that $c_3 = 0$, so $Y = c_4 y$. For $\lambda_n = n^2 \pi^2/a^2$, (5) is $Y'' - \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{a^2} Y = 0$. Because $0 < y < b$ defines a finite interval, we use (according to the informal rule indicated on pages 135–136) the hyperbolic form of the general solution:

$$Y = c_3 \cosh (n\pi y/a) + c_4 \sinh (n\pi y/a).$$

$Y(0) = 0$ again implies that $c_3 = 0$, so we are left with $Y = c_4 \sinh (n\pi y/a)$.

Thus product solutions $u_n = X(x)Y(y)$ that satisfy the Laplace's equation (1) and the three homogeneous boundary conditions in (2) and (3) are

$$A_0 y, \quad n = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad A_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} y \cos \frac{n\pi}{a} x, \quad n = 1, 2, \ldots,$$

where we have rewritten $c_1 c_4$ as $A_0$ for $n = 0$ and as $A_n$ for $n = 1, 2, \ldots$.

---

[*]In that example the symbols $y$ and $L$ play the part of $X$ and $a$ in the current discussion.

The superposition principle yields another solution:

$$u(x, y) = A_0 y + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} y \cos \frac{n\pi}{a} x. \tag{7}$$

We are now in a position to use the last boundary condition in (3). Substituting $x = b$ in (7) gives

$$u(x, b) = f(x) = A_0 b + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( A_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} b \right) \cos \frac{n\pi}{a} x,$$

which is a half-range expansion of $f$ in a cosine series. If we make the identifications $A_0 b = a_0/2$ and $A_n \sinh(n\pi b/a) = a_n$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, it follows from (2) and (3) of Section 11.3 that

$$2A_0 b = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a f(x)\, dx$$

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{ab} \int_0^a f(x)\, dx \tag{8}$$

and

$$A_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} b = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi}{a} x\, dx$$

$$A_n = \frac{2}{a \sinh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} b} \int_0^a f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi}{a} x\, dx. \tag{9}$$

The solution of the boundary-value problem (1)–(3) consists of the series in (7), with coefficients $A_0$ and $A_n$ defined in (8) and (9), respectively.

**DIRICHLET PROBLEM**   A boundary-value problem in which we seek a solution of an elliptic partial differential equation such as Laplace's equation $\nabla^2 u = 0$, within a bounded region $R$ (in the plane or 3-space) such that $u$ takes on prescribed values on the entire boundary of the region is called a **Dirichlet problem.** In Problem 1 in Exercises 12.5 you are asked to show that the solution of the Dirichlet problem for a rectangular region

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < x < a, \quad 0 < y < b$$

$$u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(a, y) = 0, \quad 0 < y < b$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, b) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < a$$

is

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} y \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x, \qquad \text{where} \qquad A_n = \frac{2}{a \sinh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} b} \int_0^a f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x\, dx. \tag{10}$$

In the special case when $f(x) = 100$, $a = 1$, $b = 1$, the coefficients $A_n$ in (10) are given by $A_n = 200 \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n\pi \sinh n\pi}$. With the help of a CAS we plotted the surface defined by $u(x, y)$ over the region $R$: $0 \le x \le 1$, $0 \le y \le 1$, in Figure 12.5.2(a). You can see in the figure that the boundary conditions are satisfied; especially note that along $y = 1$, $u = 100$ for $0 \le x \le 1$. The **isotherms,** or curves in the rectangular region along which the temperature $u(x, y)$ is constant, can be obtained by using the contour plotting capabilities of a CAS and are illustrated in

**(a)** Surface
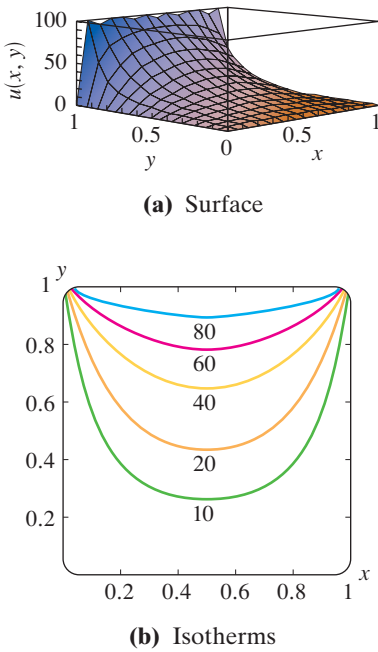


**(b)** Isotherms

**FIGURE 12.5.2** Surface is graph of partial sums when $f(x) = 100$ and $a = b = 1$ in (10)

Figure 12.5.2(b). The isotherms can also be visualized as the curves of intersection (projected into the $xy$-plane) of horizontal planes $u = 80$, $u = 60$, and so on, with the surface in Figure 12.5.2(a). Notice that throughout the region the maximum temperature is $u = 100$ and occurs on the portion of the boundary corresponding to $y = 1$. This is no coincidence. There is a **maximum principle** that states a solution $u$ of Laplace's equation within a bounded region $R$ with boundary $B$ (such as a rectangle, circle, sphere, and so on) takes on its maximum and minimum values on $B$. In addition, it can be proved that $u$ can have no relative extrema (maxima or minima) in the interior of $R$. This last statement is clearly borne out by the surface shown in Figure 12.5.2(a).

**SUPERPOSITION PRINCIPLE** A Dirichlet problem for a rectangle can be readily solved by separation of variables when homogeneous boundary conditions are specified on two *parallel* boundaries. However, the method of separation of variables is not applicable to a Dirichlet problem when the boundary conditions on all four sides of the rectangle are nonhomogeneous. To get around this difficulty, we break the problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < a, \quad 0 < y < b$$

$$u(0, y) = F(y), \quad u(a, y) = G(y), \quad 0 < y < b \tag{11}$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u(x, b) = g(x), \quad 0 < x < a$$

into two problems, each of which has homogeneous boundary conditions on parallel boundaries, as shown:

| Problem 1 | Problem 2 |
|---|---|
| $\dfrac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < a, \quad 0 < y < b$ | $\dfrac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < a, \quad 0 < y < b$ |
| $u_1(0, y) = 0, \quad u_1(a, y) = 0, \quad 0 < y < b$ | $u_2(0, y) = F(y), \quad u_2(a, y) = G(y), \quad 0 < y < b$ |
| $u_1(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u_1(x, b) = g(x), \quad 0 < x < a$ | $u_2(x, 0) = 0, \quad u_2(x, b) = 0, \quad 0 < x < a$ |

Suppose $u_1$ and $u_2$ are the solutions of Problems 1 and 2, respectively. If we define $u(x, y) = u_1(x, y) + u_2(x, y)$, it is seen that $u$ satisfies all boundary conditions in the original problem (11). For example,

$$u(0, y) = u_1(0, y) + u_2(0, y) = 0 + F(y) = F(y),$$

$$u(x, b) = u_1(x, b) + u_2(x, b) = g(x) + 0 = g(x),$$

and so on. Furthermore, $u$ is a solution of Laplace's equation by Theorem 12.1.1. In other words, by solving Problems 1 and 2 and adding their solutions, we have solved the original problem. This additive property of solutions is known as the **superposition principle.** See Figure 12.5.3.
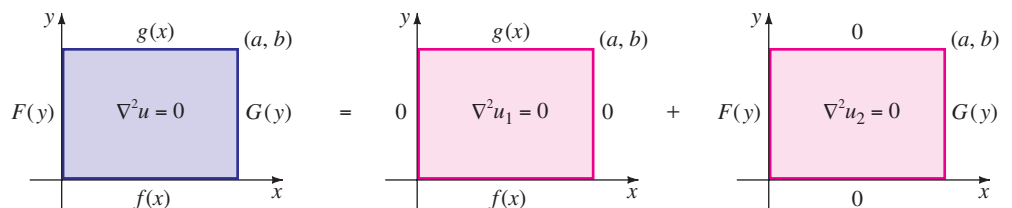


**FIGURE 12.5.3** Solution $u$ = Solution $u_1$ of Problem 1 + Solution $u_2$ of Problem 2

We leave as exercises (see Problems 13 and 14 in Exercises 12.5) to show that a solution of Problem 1 is

$$u_1(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ A_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{a} y + B_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} y \right\} \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x,$$

where

$$A_n = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x \, dx$$

$$B_n = \frac{1}{\sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} b} \left( \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x \, dx - A_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{a} b \right),$$

and that a solution of Problem 2 is

$$u_2(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ A_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{b} x + B_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{b} x \right\} \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y,$$

where

$$A_n = \frac{2}{b} \int_0^b F(y) \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y \, dy$$

$$B_n = \frac{1}{\sinh \frac{n\pi}{b} a} \left( \frac{2}{b} \int_0^b G(y) \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y \, dy - A_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{b} a \right).$$

## EXERCISES 12.5

In Problems 1–10 solve Laplace's equation (1) for a rectangular plate subject to the given boundary conditions.

**1.** $u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(a, y) = 0$
$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, b) = f(x)$

**2.** $u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(a, y) = 0$
$\left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0} = 0, \quad u(x, b) = f(x)$

**3.** $u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(a, y) = 0$
$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u(x, b) = 0$

**4.** $\left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|_{x=a} = 0$
$u(x, 0) = x, \quad u(x, b) = 0$

**5.** $u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(1, y) = 1 - y$
$\left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0} = 0, \quad \left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_{y=1} = 0$

**6.** $u(0, y) = g(y), \quad \left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|_{x=1} = 0$
$\left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0} = 0, \quad \left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_{y=\pi} = 0$

**7.** $\left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0} = u(0, y), \quad u(\pi, y) = 1$
$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, \pi) = 0$

**8.** $u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(1, y) = 0$
$\left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0} = u(x, 0), \quad u(x, 1) = f(x)$

**9.** $u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(1, y) = 0$
$u(x, 0) = 100, \quad u(x, 1) = 200$

**10.** $u(0, y) = 10y, \quad \left. \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|_{x=1} = -1$
$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, 1) = 0$

In Problems 11 and 12 solve Laplace's equation (1) for the given semi-infinite plate extending in the positive y-direction. In each case assume that $u(x, y)$ is bounded as $y \to \infty$.

**11.**
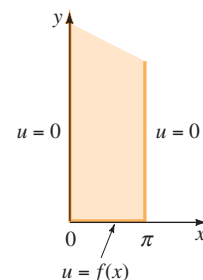


FIGURE 12.5.4 Plate in Problem 11

**12.**
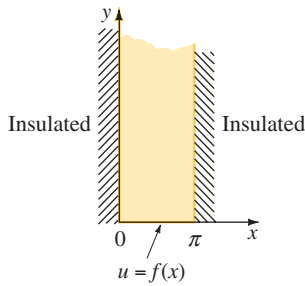


FIGURE 12.5.5 Plate in Problem 12

In Problems 13 and 14 solve Laplace's equation (1) for a rectangular plate subject to the given boundary conditions.

**13.** $u(0, y) = 0,$ $\quad u(a, y) = 0$
$u(x, 0) = f(x),$ $\quad u(x, b) = g(x)$

**14.** $u(0, y) = F(y),$ $\quad u(a, y) = G(y)$
$u(x, 0) = 0,$ $\quad u(x, b) = 0$

In Problems 15 and 16 use the superposition principle to solve Laplace's equation (1) for a square plate subject to the given boundary conditions.

**15.** $u(0, y) = 1,$ $\quad u(\pi, y) = 1$
$u(x, 0) = 0,$ $\quad u(x, \pi) = 1$

**16.** $u(0, y) = 0,$ $\quad u(2, y) = y(2 - y)$
$u(x, 0) = 0,$ $\quad u(x, 2) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 2 - x, & 1 \le x < 2 \end{cases}$

**Discussion Problems**

**17. (a)** In Problem 1 suppose that $a = b = \pi$ and $f(x) = 100x(\pi - x)$. Without using the solution $u(x, y)$, sketch, by hand, what the surface would look like over the rectangular region defined by $0 \le x \le \pi, 0 \le y \le \pi$.

**(b)** What is the maximum value of the temperature $u$ for $0 \le x \le \pi, 0 \le y \le \pi$?

**(c)** Use the information in part (a) to compute the coefficients for your answer in Problem 1. Then use the 3D-plot application of your CAS to graph the partial sum $S_5(x, y)$ consisting of the first five nonzero terms of the solution in part (a) for $0 \le x \le \pi, 0 \le y \le \pi$. Use different perspectives and then compare with your sketch from part (a).

**18.** In Problem 16 what is the maximum value of the temperature $u$ for $0 \le x \le 2, 0 \le y \le 2$?

**Computer Lab Assignments**

**19. (a)** Use the contour-plot application of your CAS to graph the isotherms $u = 170, 140, 110, 80, 60, 30$ for the solution of Problem 9. Use the partial sum $S_5(x, y)$ consisting of the first five nonzero terms of the solution.

**(b)** Use the 3D-plot application of your CAS to graph the partial sum $S_5(x, y)$.

**20.** Use the contour-plot application of your CAS to graph the isotherms $u = 2, 1, 0.5, 0.2, 0.1, 0.05, 0, -0.05$ for the solution of Problem 10. Use the partial sum $S_5(x, y)$ consisting of the first five nonzero terms of the solution.

---

## 12.6 NONHOMOGENEOUS BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS

**REVIEW MATERIAL**
● Sections 12.3–12.5

**INTRODUCTION** A boundary-value problem is said to be **nonhomogeneous** if either the partial differential equation or the boundary conditions are nonhomogeneous. The method of separation of variables that we employed in the preceding three sections may not be applicable to a nonhomogeneous boundary-value problem *directly*. However, in the first of the two techniques examined in this section we employ a change of variable that transforms a nonhomogeneous boundary-value problem into a two problems: one a relatively simple BVP for an ODE and the other a homogeneous BVP for a PDE. The latter problem is solvable by separation of variables. The second technique is basically a frontal attack on the BVP using orthogonal series expansions.

**NONHOMOGENEOUS BVPs** When heat is generated at a rate $r$ within a rod of finite length, the heat equation takes on the form

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + r = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0. \tag{1}$$

Equation (1) is nonhomogeneous and is readily shown not to be separable. On the other hand, suppose we wish to solve the homogeneous heat equation $ku_{xx} = u_t$ when the boundary conditions at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ are nonhomogeneous—say, the boundaries are held at nonzero temperatures: $u(0, t) = u_0$ and $u(L, t) = u_1$. Even though the substitution $u(x, t) = X(t)T(t)$ separates $ku_{xx} = u_t$, we quickly find ourselves at an impasse in determining eigenvalues and eigenfunctions, since no conclusion can be drawn about $X(0)$ and $X(L)$ from $u(0, t) = X(0)T(t) = u_0$ and $u(L, t) = X(L)T(t) = u_1$.

What follows are two solution methods that are distinguished by different types of nonhomogeneous BVPs.

**METHOD 1**   Consider a BVP involving a *time-independent nonhomogeneous equation* and *time-independent boundary conditions* such as

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + F(x) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = u_0, \quad u(L, t) = u_1, \quad t > 0 \tag{2}$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < L,$$

where $u_0$ and $u_1$ are constants. By changing the dependent variable $u$ to a new dependent variable $v$ by the substitution $u(x, t) = v(x, t) + \psi(x)$, the problem in (2) can be reduced to two problems:

Problem $A$:   $\{k\psi'' + F(x) = 0, \qquad \psi(0) = u_0, \quad \psi(L) = u_1$

Problem $B$:
$$\begin{cases} k\dfrac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial v}{\partial t}, \\ v(0, t) = 0, \quad v(L, t) = 0 \\ v(x, 0) = f(x) - \psi(x) \end{cases}$$

Notice that Problem $A$ involves an ODE that can be solved by integration, whereas Problem $B$ is a homogeneous BVP that is solvable by the usual separation of variables. A solution of the original problem (2) is the sum of the solutions of Problems $A$ and $B$.

The following example illustrates this first method.

---

### EXAMPLE 1   Using Method 1

Suppose $r$ is a positive constant. Solve (1) subject to

$$u(0, t) = 0, \qquad u(1, t) = u_0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

**SOLUTION**   Both the partial differential equation and the boundary condition at $x = 1$ are nonhomogeneous. If we let $u(x, t) = v(x, t) + \psi(x)$, then

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \psi'' \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial t}.$$

Substituting these results into (1) gives

$$k\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + k\psi'' + r = \frac{\partial v}{\partial t}. \tag{3}$$

Equation (3) reduces to a homogeneous equation if we demand that $\psi$ satisfy

$$k\psi'' + r = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \psi'' = -\frac{r}{k}.$$

Integrating the last equation twice reveals that

$$\psi(x) = -\frac{r}{2k}x^2 + c_1 x + c_2. \tag{4}$$

Furthermore, $\qquad u(0, t) = v(0, t) + \psi(0) = 0$

$$u(1, t) = v(1, t) + \psi(1) = u_0.$$

We have $v(0, t) = 0$ and $v(1, t) = 0$, provided that

$$\psi(0) = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad \psi(1) = u_0.$$

Applying the latter two conditions to (4) gives, in turn, $c_2 = 0$ and $c_1 = r/2k + u_0$. Consequently,

$$\psi(x) = -\frac{r}{2k}x^2 + \left(\frac{r}{2k} + u_0\right)x.$$

Finally, the initial condition $u(x, 0) = v(x, 0) + \psi(x)$ implies that $v(x, 0) = u(x, 0) - \psi(x) = f(x) - \psi(x)$. Thus to determine $v(x, t)$, we solve the new boundary-value problem

$$k\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$v(0, t) = 0, \quad v(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$v(x, 0) = f(x) + \frac{r}{2k}x^2 - \left(\frac{r}{2k} + u_0\right)x, \qquad 0 < x < 1$$

by separation of variables. In the usual manner we find

$$v(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-kn^2\pi^2 t} \sin n\pi x,$$

where

$$A_n = 2\int_0^1 \left[f(x) + \frac{r}{2k}x^2 - \left(\frac{r}{2k} + u_0\right)x\right] \sin n\pi x \, dx. \tag{5}$$

A solution of the original problem is obtained by adding $\psi(x)$ and $v(x, t)$:

$$u(x, t) = -\frac{r}{2k}x^2 + \left(\frac{r}{2k} + u_0\right)x + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-kn^2\pi^2 t} \sin n\pi x, \tag{6}$$

where the coefficients $A_n$ are defined in (5). ■

Observe in (6) that $u(x, t) \rightarrow \psi(x)$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. In the context of solving forms of the heat equation, $\psi$ is called a **steady-state solution.** Since $v(x, t) \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$, it is called a **transient solution.**

**METHOD 2** Another type of problem involves a *time-dependent nonhomogeneous equation* and *homogeneous boundary conditions.* Unlike Method 1, in which $u(x, t)$ is found by solving two separate problems, it is possible to find the entire solution of a problem such as

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + F(x, t) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0, \quad t > 0 \tag{7}$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < L,$$

by making the assumption that time-dependent coefficients $u_n(t)$ and $F_n(t)$ can be found such that both $u(x, t)$ and $F(x, t)$ in (7) can be expanded in the series

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(t) \sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x \qquad \text{and} \qquad F(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n(t) \sin\frac{n\pi}{L}x, \tag{8}$$

where $\sin(n\pi x/L)$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, are the eigenfunctions of $X'' + \lambda X = 0$, $X(0) = 0$, $X(L) = 0$ corresponding to the eigenvalues $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2 = n^2\pi^2/L^2$. The latter problem would have been obtained had separation of variables been applied to the associated homogeneous PDE in (7). In (8) observe that the assumed form for $u(x, t)$ already satisfies the boundary conditions in (7). The basic idea here is to substitute the first series in (8) into the nonhomogeneous PDE in (7), collect terms, and equate the resulting series with the actual series expansion found for $F(x, t)$.

The next example illustrates this method.

---

### EXAMPLE 2  Using Method 2

Solve
$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + (1 - x)\sin t = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0,$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

**SOLUTION**  With $k = 1$, $L = 1$, the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of $X'' + \lambda X = 0$, $X(0) = 0$, $X(1) = 0$ are found to be $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2 = n^2\pi^2$ and $\sin n\pi x$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. If we assume that

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(t) \sin n\pi x, \tag{9}$$

then the formal partial derivatives of $u$ are

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(t)(-n^2\pi^2) \sin n\pi x \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n'(t) \sin n\pi x. \tag{10}$$

Now the assumption that we can write $F(x, t) = (1 - x)\sin t$ as

$$(1 - x)\sin t = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n(t) \sin n\pi x$$

implies that

$$F_n(t) = \frac{2}{1} \int_0^1 (1 - x)\sin t \sin n\pi x \, dx = 2\sin t \int_0^1 (1 - x)\sin n\pi x \, dx = \frac{2}{n\pi}\sin t.$$

Hence,
$$(1 - x)\sin t = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n\pi}\sin t \sin n\pi x. \tag{11}$$

Substituting the series in (10) and (11) into $u_t - u_{xx} = (1 - x)\sin t$, we get

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ u_n'(t) + n^2\pi^2 u_n(t) \right] \sin n\pi x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2\sin t}{n\pi} \sin n\pi x.$$

To determine $u_n(t)$, we now equate the coefficients of $\sin n\pi x$ on each side of the preceding equality:

$$u_n'(t) + n^2\pi^2 u_n(t) = \frac{2\sin t}{n\pi}.$$

This last equation is a linear first-order ODE whose solution is

$$u_n(t) = \frac{2}{n\pi} \left[ \frac{n^2\pi^2 \sin t - \cos t}{n^4\pi^4 + 1} \right] + C_n e^{-n^2\pi^2 t},$$

where $C_n$ denotes the arbitrary constant. Therefore the assumed form of $u(x, t)$ in (9) can be written as the sum of two series:

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n\pi}\left[\frac{n^2\pi^2\sin t - \cos t}{n^4\pi^4 + 1}\right]\sin n\pi x + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n e^{-n^2\pi^2 t}\sin n\pi x. \quad (12)$$

Finally, we apply the initial condition $u(x, 0) = 0$ to (12). By rewriting the resulting expression as one series,

$$0 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left[\frac{-2}{n\pi(n^4\pi^4 + 1)} + C_n\right]\sin n\pi x,$$

we conclude from this identity that the total coefficient of $\sin n\pi x$ must be zero, so

$$C_n = \frac{2}{n\pi(n^4\pi^4 + 1)}.$$

Hence from (12) we see that a solution of the given problem is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\frac{n^2\pi^2\sin t - \cos t}{n(n^4\pi^4 + 1)}\sin n\pi x + \frac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\frac{1}{n(n^4\pi^4 + 1)}e^{-n^2\pi^2 t}\sin n\pi x. \quad\blacksquare$$

## EXERCISES 12.6

In Problems 1–12 use Method 1 of this section to solve the given boundary-value problem.

In Problems 1 and 2 solve the heat equation $ku_{xx} = u_t$, $0 < x < 1$, $t > 0$, subject to the given conditions.

**1.** $u(0, t) = 100$,   $u(1, t) = 100$
    $u(x, 0) = 0$

**2.** $u(0, t) = u_0$,   $u(1, t) = 0$
    $u(x, 0) = f(x)$

In Problems 3 and 4 solve the partial differential equation (1) subject to the given conditions.

**3.** $u(0, t) = u_0$,   $u(1, t) = u_0$
    $u(x, 0) = 0$

**4.** $u(0, t) = u_0$,   $u(1, t) = u_1$
    $u(x, 0) = f(x)$

**5.** Solve the boundary-value problem

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + Ae^{-\beta x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad \beta > 0, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

The partial differential equation is a form of the heat equation when heat is generated within a thin rod from radioactive decay of the material.

**6.** Solve the boundary-value problem

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - hu = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = u_0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi.$$

The partial differential equation is a form of the heat equation when heat is lost by radiation from the lateral surface of a thin rod into a medium at temperature zero.

**7.** Find a steady-state solution $\psi(x)$ of the boundary-value problem

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - h(u - u_0) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = u_0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

**8.** Find a steady-state solution $\psi(x)$ if the rod in Problem 7 is semi-infinite extending in the positive $x$-direction, radiates from its lateral surface into a medium of temperature zero, and

$$u(0, t) = u_0, \qquad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad x > 0.$$

**9.** When a vibrating string is subjected to an external vertical force that varies with the horizontal distance

from the left end, the wave equation takes on the form

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + Ax = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2},$$

where $A$ is a constant. Solve this partial differential equation subject to

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

10. A string initially at rest on the $x$-axis is secured on the $x$-axis at $x = 0$ and $x = 1$. If the string is allowed to fall under its own weight for $t > 0$, the displacement $u(x, t)$ satisfies

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - g = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0,$$

where $g$ is the acceleration of gravity. Solve for $u(x, t)$.

11. Find the steady-state temperature $u(x, y)$ in the semi-infinite plate shown in Figure 12.6.1. Assume that the temperature is bounded as $x \to \infty$. [*Hint:* Try $u(x, y) = v(x, y) + \psi(y)$.]
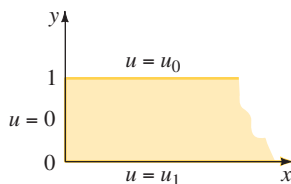


**FIGURE 12.6.1** Plate in Problem 11

12. The partial differential equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = -h,$$

where $h > 0$ is a constant, is known as **Poisson's equation** and occurs in many problems involving electrical potential. Solve the equation subject to the conditions

$$u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(\pi, y) = 1, \quad y > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi.$$

In Problems 13–16 use Method 2 of this section to solve the given boundary-value problem.

13. $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + x e^{-3t} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi$

14. $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + x e^{-3t} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=\pi} = 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi$

15. $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - 1 + x - x \cos t = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = x(1 - x), \quad 0 < x < 1$

16. $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \cos t \sin x = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0, \quad t > 0,$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi$

## Contributed Problem

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17. **The Euler-Bernoulli Beam Equation** In this problem we will analyze a model of a flexible beam that is being forced. A common experimental methodology in vibration analysis is the forcing of a structure at several different frequencies. The structure is mounted to a piston-style shaker, which forces the structure periodically. The input periodic forcing is typically computer-controlled. See Figure 12.6.2.
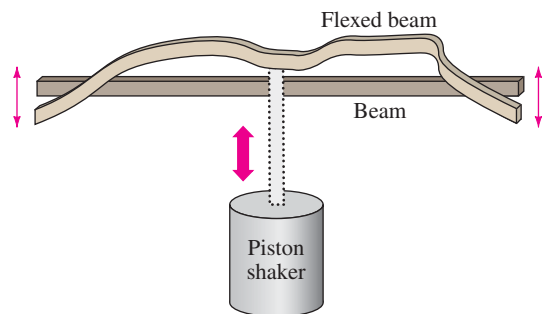


**FIGURE 12.6.2** Beam in Problem 17 flexing under forcing from centered shaker device

The **Euler-Bernoulli beam equation** models the dynamics of this situation.

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\left(EI \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right) = f(x, t).$$

The ends are free, leading to "no moment/no shear force" boundary conditions:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\bigg|_{x=0} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\bigg|_{x=L} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^3}\bigg|_{x=0} = \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^3}\bigg|_{x=L} = 0,$$

The parameter definitions are as follows. The linear mass density (which is the volumetric mass density times the cross-sectional area) of the material of the beam is $\rho$. Young's modulus is $E$, and the moment of inertia is $I$. Each of these parameters is known for the beam of interest. The moment of inertia for a rectangular cross section is $I = wh^3/12$, where $h$ is the thickness (measured in the direction of motion of the beam) and $w$ is the width (measured in the direction orthogonal to motion).

In undertaking this problems, there are several tasks whose solution will require computational assistance. A computer algebra system such as *Mathematica* or *Maple* will be very helpful. Here are your tasks:

**(a)** Apply separation of variables to solve the homogeneous equation

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\left(EI \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right) = 0.$$

The solution, as discussed in the separation of variables sections for the heat and wave equations takes the form $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x, t)$, where $u_n(x, t) = X_n(x)T_n(t)$. This task has several subtasks:

**(i)** Find the general formula for the $T(t)$ function. Your answer should be of the form $T(t) = P \cos(\omega t) + Q \sin(\omega t)$ where $P$ and $Q$ are unknown constants and $\omega$ depends on $\rho$, $E$, $I$, $L$, and the spatial frequencies you will get from the $X(x)$ equation.

**(ii)** Find the general formula for the $X(x)$ function. Your answer should be of the form $X(x) = Ae^{\beta x} + Be^{-\beta x} + C \cos \beta x + D \sin \beta x$, where $A$, $B$, $C$, and $D$ are unknown constants and $\beta$ depends on $\rho$, $E$, $I$, $L$ and the spatial frequencies.

**(iii)** Use the boundary conditions to find four equations that include the five unknowns of part (*ii*) ($A$, $B$, $C$, $D$, and $\beta$). Write these equations as a $4 \times 4$ matrix (that depends on $\beta$) times the vector of coefficients $A$, $B$, $C$, and $D$.

**(iv)** Since the right-hand side of your equation system is the zero vector, you have two possibilities: All the coefficients are zero, or the determinant of the matrix is zero. Plot the determinant as a function of $\beta$. Plot it carefully so that you can see the oscillations. Find the smallest ten numbers $\beta$ that make the determinant equal to zero.

**(v)** What constraints must hold for $A$, $B$, $C$, $D$? They are unknown parameters, but some relationships must be established.

**(vi)** Use those values of $\beta$ to determine the smallest five values of $\omega$ from part (*i*).

**(b)** Plot the 10 mode shapes you found.

**(c)** Use separation of variables to solve the forced equation,

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}\left(EI \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right) = f(x, t).$$

The forcing function is (approximately) $f(x, t) = F_0 \sin(\alpha t)\delta(x - L/2)$, a periodic function that is concentrated at the beam's midpoint. To use the separation of variables approach, we need to expand the forcing function in terms of the $X_n(x)$ functions. As described in the context of the wave equation on page 479 of the text and using the orthogonal function expansion techniques of Section 11.1, the forcing function can be written as

$$f(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\int_0^L f(x, t)X_n(x)\, dx}{\int_0^L X_n^2(x)\, dx} X_n(x).$$

**(d)** The material parameters for the beam, a 6061-T6 aluminum beam with rectangular cross section, are as follows:

$$L = 1.22 \text{ m},$$
$$w = 0.019 \text{ m},$$
$$h = 0.0033 \text{ m},$$
$$E = 7.310 \times 10^{10} \text{ m} = 73.10 \text{ GPa},$$
$$\rho = 0.1693 \text{ kg/m}.$$

Using these material parameters, plot the solution as a function of space and time.

**(e)** Plot the acceleration from the model and the data (obtained from the website) and compare the results.

**(f)** Generate a more exact forcing function representation based on the setup of the system and apply it to solve the forced differential equation.

## 12.7   ORTHOGONAL SERIES EXPANSIONS

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- The results in (7)–(11) of Section 11.1 form the backbone of the discussion that follows. A review that material is recommended.

**INTRODUCTION**   For certain types of boundary conditions the method of separation of variables and the superposition principle lead to an expansion of a function in a trigonometric series that is *not* a Fourier series. To solve the problems in this section, we shall utilize the concept of orthogonal series expansions or generalized Fourier series.

**EXAMPLE 1**   **Using Orthogonal Series Expansions**

The temperature in a rod of unit length in which there is heat transfer from its right boundary into a surrounding medium kept at a constant temperature zero is determined from

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=1} = -hu(1, t), \quad h > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 1, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

Solve for $u(x, t)$.

**SOLUTION**   Proceeding as in Section 12.3 with $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$ and using $-\lambda$ as the separation constant, we find the separated equations and boundary conditions to be, respectively,

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0 \tag{1}$$

$$T' + k\lambda T = 0 \tag{2}$$

$$X(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad X'(1) = -hX(1). \tag{3}$$

Equation (1) and the homogeneous boundary conditions (3) make up a regular Sturm-Liouville problem:

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0, \quad X(0) = 0, \quad X'(1) + hX(1) = 0. \tag{4}$$

By analyzing the usual three cases in which $\lambda$ is zero, negative, or positive, we find that only the last case will yield nontrivial solutions. Thus with $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0, \alpha > 0$, the general solution of the DE in (4) is

$$X(x) = c_1 \cos \alpha x + c_2 \sin \alpha x. \tag{5}$$

The first boundary condition in (4) immediately gives $c_1 = 0$. Applying the second condition in (4) to $X(x) = c_2 \sin \alpha x$ yields

$$\alpha \cos \alpha + h \sin \alpha = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \tan \alpha = -\frac{\alpha}{h}. \tag{6}$$

From the analysis in Example 2 of Section 11.4 we know that the last equation in (6) has an infinite number of roots. If the consecutive positive roots are denoted $\alpha_n$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, then the eigenvalues of the problem are $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2$, and the corresponding eigenfunctions are $X(x) = c_2 \sin \alpha_n x$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$. The solution of the first-order DE (2) is $T(t) = c_3 e^{-k\alpha_n^2 t}$, so

$$u_n = XT = A_n e^{-k\alpha_n^2 t} \sin \alpha_n x \qquad \text{and} \qquad u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-k\alpha_n^2 t} \sin \alpha_n x.$$

Now at $t = 0$, $u(x, 0) = 1$, $0 < x < 1$, so

$$1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin \alpha_n x. \tag{7}$$

The series in (7) is not a Fourier sine series; rather, it is an expansion of $u(x, 0) = 1$ in terms of the orthogonal functions arising from the regular Sturm-Liouville problem (4). It follows that the set of eigenfunctions $\{\sin \alpha_n x\}$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, where the $\alpha$'s are defined by $\tan \alpha = -\alpha/h$, is orthogonal with respect to the weight function $p(x) = 1$ on the interval $[0, 1]$. By matching (7) with (7) of Section 11.1, it

follows from (8) of that section, with $f(x) = 1$ and $\phi_n(x) = \sin \alpha_n x$, that the coefficients $A_n$ are given by

$$A_n = \frac{\int_0^1 \sin \alpha_n x \, dx}{\int_0^1 \sin^2 \alpha_n x \, dx}. \tag{8}$$

To evaluate the square norm of each of the eigenfunctions, we use a trigonometric identity:

$$\int_0^1 \sin^2 \alpha_n x \, dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (1 - \cos 2\alpha x) \, dx = \frac{1}{2}\left(1 - \frac{1}{2\alpha_n} \sin 2\alpha_n\right). \tag{9}$$

Using the double-angle formula $\sin 2\alpha_n = 2 \sin \alpha_n \cos \alpha_n$ and the first equation in (6) in the form $\alpha_n \cos \alpha_n = -h \sin \alpha_n$, we simplify (9) to

$$\int_0^1 \sin^2 \alpha_n x \, dx = \frac{1}{2h}\left(h + \cos^2 \alpha_n\right).$$

Also

$$\int_0^1 \sin \alpha_n x \, dx = -\frac{1}{\alpha_n} \cos \alpha_n x \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{\alpha_n}(1 - \cos \alpha_n).$$

Consequently, (8) becomes

$$A_n = \frac{2h(1 - \cos \alpha_n)}{\alpha_n(h + \cos^2 \alpha_n)}.$$

Finally, a solution of the boundary-value problem is

$$u(x, t) = 2h \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1 - \cos \alpha_n}{\alpha_n(h + \cos^2 \alpha_n)} e^{-k\alpha_n^2 t} \sin \alpha_n x. \qquad \blacksquare$$

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### EXAMPLE 2    Using Orthogonal Series Expansions

The twist angle $\theta(x, t)$ of a torsionally vibrating shaft of unit length is determined from

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \theta}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$\theta(0, t) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=1} = 0, \quad t > 0$$
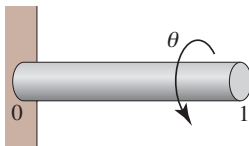
$$\theta(x, 0) = x, \quad \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$



**FIGURE 12.7.1** Twisted shaft

See Figure 12.7.1. The boundary condition at $x = 1$ is called a free-end condition. Solve for $\theta(x, t)$.

**SOLUTION** Proceeding as in Section 12.4 with $\theta(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$ and using $-\lambda$ once again as the separation constant, the separated equations and boundary conditions are

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0 \tag{10}$$

$$T'' + a^2 \lambda T = 0 \tag{11}$$

$$X(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad X'(1) = 0. \tag{12}$$

A regular Sturm-Liouville problem in this case consists of equation (10) and the homogeneous boundary conditions in (12):

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0, \quad X(0) = 0, \quad X'(1) = 0. \tag{13}$$

As in Example 1, (13) possesses nontrivial solutions only for $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$, $\alpha > 0$. The boundary conditions $X(0) = 0$ and $X'(1) = 0$ applied to the general solution

$$X(x) = c_1 \cos \alpha x + c_2 \sin \alpha x \tag{14}$$

give, in turn, $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 \cos \alpha = 0$. Since the cosine function is zero at odd multiples of $\pi/2$, $\alpha = (2n - 1)\pi/2$, and the eigenvalues of (13) are $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2 = (2n - 1)^2 \pi^2/4$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ . The solution of the second-order DE (11) is $T(t) = c_3 \cos a\alpha_n t + c_4 \sin a\alpha_n t$. The initial condition $T'(0) = 0$ gives $c_4 = 0$, so

$$\theta_n = XT = A_n \cos a \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi t \sin \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi x.$$

To satisfy the remaining initial condition, we form

$$\theta(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos a \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi t \sin \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi x. \tag{15}$$

When $t = 0$, we must have, for $0 < x < 1$,

$$\theta(x, 0) = x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi x. \tag{16}$$

As in Example 1 the set of eigenfunctions $\left\{ \sin \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi x \right\}$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, is orthogonal with respect to the weight function $p(x) = 1$ on the interval $[0, 1]$. Although the series in (16) looks like a Fourier sine series, it is not, because the argument of the sine function is not an integer multiple of $\pi x/L$ (here $L = 1$). The series again is an orthogonal series expansion or generalized Fourier series. Hence from (8) of Section 11.1 the coefficients in (16) are

$$A_n = \frac{\displaystyle\int_0^1 x \sin \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi x \, dx}{\displaystyle\int_0^1 \sin^2 \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi x \, dx}.$$

Carrying out the two integrations, we arrive at

$$A_n = \frac{8(-1)^{n+1}}{(2n - 1)^2 \pi^2}.$$

The twist angle is then

$$\theta(x, t) = \frac{8}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(2n - 1)^2} \cos a \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi t \sin \left( \frac{2n - 1}{2} \right) \pi x. \tag{17} ∎$$

We can use a CAS to plot $\theta(x, t)$ defined in (17) either as a three-dimensional surface or as two-dimensional curves by holding one of the variables constant. In Figure 12.7.2 we have plotted the surface defined by $\theta(x, t)$ over the rectangular region $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $0 \leq t \leq 10$. The cross sections of this surface are interesting. In Figure 12.7.3 we have plotted $\theta$ as a function of time $t$ on the interval $[0, 10]$ using four specified values of $x$ and a partial sum of (17) (with $a = 1$). As can be seen in the four parts of Figure 12.7.3, the twist angle of each cross section of the rod oscillates back and forth (positive and negative values of $\theta$) as time $t$ increases. Figure 12.7.3(d) portrays what we would intuitively expect in the absence of any damping, the end of the rod $x = 1$ is displaced initially 1 radian ($\theta(1, 0) = 1$); when in motion, this end oscillates indefinitely between its maximum displacement of 1 radian and minimum displacement of $-1$ radian. The graphs in Figure 12.7.3(a)–(c) show what appears to be a "pausing" behavior of $\theta$ at its maximum (minimum)
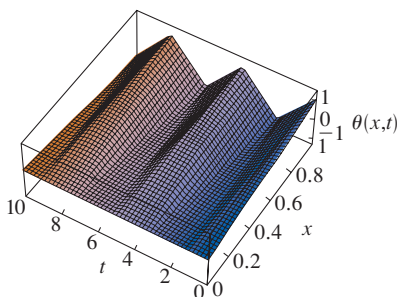


**FIGURE 12.7.2** Surface is the graph of a partial sum of (17) with $a = 1$

displacement of each of the specified cross sections before changing direction and heading toward its minimum (maximum). This behavior diminishes as $x \to 1$.
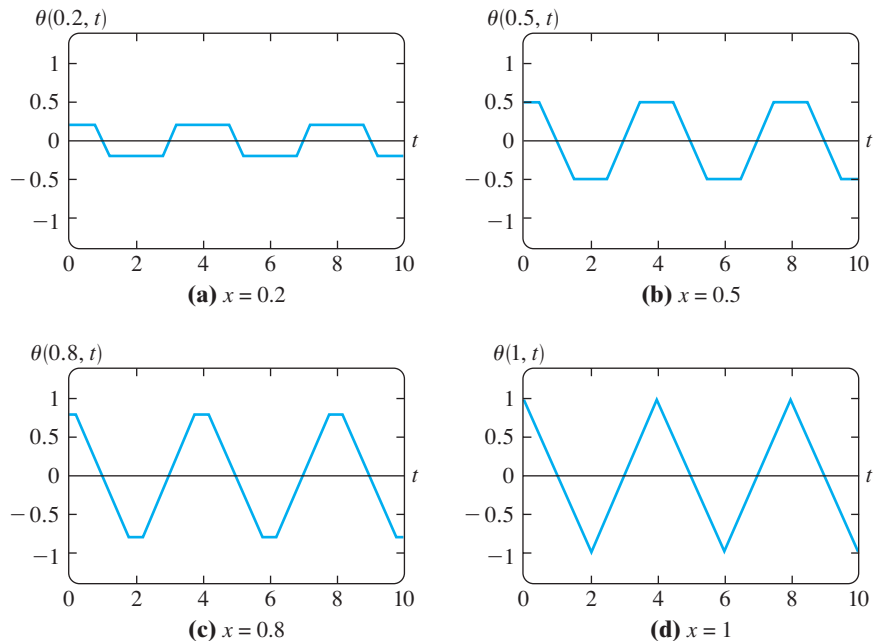


**FIGURE 12.7.3** Angular displacements $\theta$ as a function of time at various cross sections of the rod

## EXERCISES 12.7

1. In Example 1 find the temperature $u(x, t)$ when the left end of the rod is insulated.

2. Solve the boundary-value problem

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=1} = -h(u(1, t) - u_0), \quad h > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

3. Find the steady-state temperature for a rectangular plate for which the boundary conditions are

$$u(0, y) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=a} = -hu(a, y), \quad 0 < y < b$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, b) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < a.$$

4. Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < y < 1, \quad x > 0$$

$$u(0, y) = u_0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, y) = 0, \quad 0 < y < 1$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=0} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=1} = -hu(x, 1), \quad h > 0, \quad x > 0.$$

5. Find the temperature $u(x, t)$ in a rod of length $L$ if the initial temperature is $f(x)$ throughout and if the end $x = 0$ is kept at temperature zero and the end $x = L$ is insulated.

6. Solve the boundary-value problem

$$a^2\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad E\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=L} = F_0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < L.$$

The solution $u(x, t)$ represents the longitudinal displacement of a vibrating elastic bar that is anchored at its left end and is subjected to a constant force of magnitude $F_0$ at its right end. See Figure 12.4.4 in Exercises 12.4. $E$ is a constant called the modulus of elasticity.

7. Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 < y < 1$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0, \quad u(1, y) = u_0, \quad 0 < y < 1$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=1} = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

**8.** The initial temperature in a rod of unit length is $f(x)$ throughout. There is heat transfer from both ends, $x = 0$ and $x = 1$, into a surrounding medium kept at a constant temperature zero. Show that

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-k\alpha_n^2 t}(\alpha_n \cos \alpha_n x + h \sin \alpha_n x),$$

where

$$A_n = \frac{2}{(\alpha_n^2 + 2h + h^2)} \int_0^1 f(x)(\alpha_n \cos \alpha_n x + h \sin \alpha_n x) \, dx.$$

The eigenvalues are $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2, n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$, where the $\alpha_n$ are the consecutive positive roots of $\tan \alpha = 2\alpha h/(\alpha^2 - h^2)$.

**9.** Use Method 2 of Section 12.6 to solve the boundary-value problem

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + xe^{-2t} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right|_{x=1} = -u(1, t), \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

### Computer Lab Assignments

**10.** A vibrating cantilever beam is embedded at its left end $(x = 0)$ and free at its right end $(x = 1)$. See Figure 12.7.4. The transverse displacement $u(x, t)$ of the beam is

determined from the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right|_{x=0} = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$\left.\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right|_{x=1} = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^3}\right|_{x=1} = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = g(x), \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

Use a CAS to find approximations to the first two positive eigenvalues of the problem. [*Hint*: See Problems 11 and 12 in Exercises 12.4.]
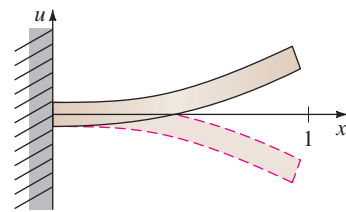


**FIGURE 12.7.4** Vibrating cantilever beam in Problem 10

**11. (a)** Find an equation that defines the eigenvalues when the ends of the beam in Problem 10 are embedded at $x = 0$ and $x = 1$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to find approximations to the first two positive eigenvalues.

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| **12.8** | HIGHER-DIMENSIONAL PROBLEMS |

### REVIEW MATERIAL
● Sections 12.3 and 12.4

**INTRODUCTION** Up to now we have solved boundary-value problems involving the one-dimensional heat and wave equations. In this section we show how to extend the method of separation of variables to problems involving the two-dimensional versions of these partial differential equations.

**HEAT AND WAVE EQUATIONS IN TWO DIMENSIONS** Suppose the rectangular region in Figure 12.8.1(a) is a thin plate in which the temperature $u$ is a function of time $t$ and position $(x, y)$. Then, under suitable conditions, $u(x, y, t)$ can be shown to satisfy the **two-dimensional heat equation**

$$k\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}. \tag{1}$$

On the other hand, suppose Figure 12.8.1(b) represents a rectangular frame over which a thin flexible membrane has been stretched (a rectangular drum). If the membrane is set in motion, then its displacement $u$, measured from the $xy$-plane

**(a)**



**(b)**
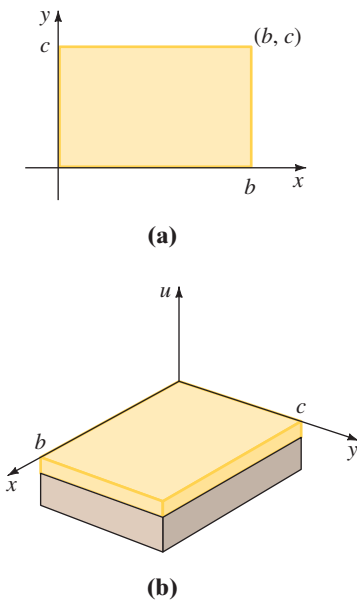
**FIGURE 12.8.1**  (a) Rectangular plate and (b) rectangular membrane

(transverse vibrations), is also a function of $t$ and position $(x, y)$. When the vibrations are small, free, and undamped, $u(x, y, t)$ satisfies the **two-dimensional wave equation**

$$a^2 \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}. \qquad (2)$$

To separate variables in (1) and (2), we assume a product solution of the form $u(x, y, t) = X(x)Y(y)T(t)$. We note that

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = X''YT, \qquad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = XY''T, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = XYT'.$$

As we see next, with appropriate boundary conditions, boundary-value problems involving (1) and (2) lead to the concept of Fourier series in two variables.

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**EXAMPLE 1  Temperatures in a Plate**

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Find the temperature $u(x, y, t)$ in the plate shown in Figure 12.8.1(a) if the initial temperature is $f(x, y)$ throughout and if the boundaries are held at temperature zero for time $t > 0$.

**SOLUTION**  We must solve

$$k \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < b, \quad 0 < y < c, \quad t > 0$$

subject to

$$u(0, y, t) = 0, \quad u(b, y, t) = 0, \quad 0 < y < c, \quad t > 0$$
$$u(x, 0, t) = 0, \quad u(x, c, t) = 0, \quad 0 < x < b, \quad t > 0$$
$$u(x, y, 0) = f(x, y), \quad 0 < x < b, \quad 0 < y < c.$$

Substituting $u(x, y, t) = X(x)Y(y)T(t)$, we get

$$k(X''YT + XY''T) = XYT' \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{X''}{X} = -\frac{Y''}{Y} + \frac{T'}{kT}. \qquad (3)$$

Since the left-hand side of the last equation in (3) depends only on $x$ and the right side depends only on $y$ and $t$, we must have both sides equal to a constant $-\lambda$:

$$\frac{X''}{X} = -\frac{Y''}{Y} + \frac{T'}{kT} = -\lambda$$

and so

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0 \qquad (4)$$

$$\frac{Y''}{Y} = \frac{T'}{kT} + \lambda. \qquad (5)$$

By the same reasoning, if we introduce another separation constant $-\mu$ in (5), then

$$\frac{Y''}{Y} = -\mu \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{T'}{kT} + \lambda = -\mu$$

yield

$$Y'' + \mu Y = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad T' + k(\lambda + \mu)T = 0. \qquad (6)$$

Now the homogeneous boundary conditions

$$\left. \begin{array}{ll} u(0, y, t) = 0, & u(b, y, t) = 0 \\ u(x, 0, t) = 0, & u(x, c, t) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \quad \text{imply that} \quad \begin{cases} X(0) = 0, & X(b) = 0 \\ Y(0) = 0, & Y(c) = 0. \end{cases}$$

Thus we have two Sturm-Liouville problems:

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0, \quad X(0) = 0, \quad X(b) = 0 \qquad (7)$$

and

$$Y'' + \mu Y = 0, \quad Y(0) = 0, \quad Y(c) = 0. \qquad (8)$$

The usual consideration of cases ($\lambda = 0$, $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$, $\lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0$, $\mu = 0$, and so on) leads to two independent sets of eigenvalues,

$$\lambda_m = \frac{m^2 \pi^2}{b^2} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \mu_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{c^2}.$$

The corresponding eigenfunctions are

$$X(x) = c_2 \sin \frac{m\pi}{b} x, \quad m = 1, 2, 3 \ldots, \qquad \text{and} \qquad Y(y) = c_4 \sin \frac{n\pi}{c} y, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots \quad (9)$$

After we substitute the known values of $\lambda_n$ and $\mu_n$ in the first-order DE in (6), its general solution is found to be $T(t) = c_5 e^{-k[(m\pi/b)^2 + (n\pi/c)^2]t}$. A product solution of the two-dimensional heat equation that satisfies the four homogeneous boundary conditions is then

$$u_{mn}(x, y, t) = A_{mn} e^{-k[(m\pi/b)^2 + (n\pi/c)^2]t} \sin \frac{m\pi}{b} x \sin \frac{n\pi}{c} y,$$

where $A_{mn}$ is an arbitrary constant. Because we have two sets of eigenvalues, we are prompted to try the superposition principle in the form of a double sum

$$u(x, y, t) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{mn} e^{-k[(m\pi/b)^2 + (n\pi/c)^2]t} \sin \frac{m\pi}{b} x \sin \frac{n\pi}{c} y. \quad (10)$$

At $t = 0$ we must have

$$u(x, y, 0) = f(x, y) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{mn} \sin \frac{m\pi}{b} x \sin \frac{n\pi}{c} y. \quad (11)$$

We can find the coefficients $A_{mn}$ by multiplying the double sum (11) by the product $\sin(m\pi x/b) \sin(n\pi y/c)$ and integrating over the rectangle defined by the inequalities $0 \le x \le b$, $0 \le y \le c$. It follows that

$$A_{mn} = \frac{4}{bc} \int_0^c \int_0^b f(x, y) \sin \frac{m\pi}{b} x \sin \frac{n\pi}{c} y \, dx dy. \quad (12)$$

Thus the solution of the BVP consists of (10) with the $A_{mn}$ defined in (12). ■

The series (11) with coefficients (12) is called a **sine series in two variables** or a **double sine series.** We summarize next the **cosine series in two variables.**

The **double cosine series** of a function $f(x, y)$ defined over a rectangular region defined by $0 \le x \le b$, $0 \le y \le c$ is given by

$$f(x, y) = A_{00} + \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} A_{m0} \cos \frac{m\pi}{b} x + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{0n} \cos \frac{n\pi}{c} y$$

$$+ \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{mn} \cos \frac{m\pi}{b} x \cos \frac{n\pi}{c} y,$$

where

$$A_{00} = \frac{1}{bc} \int_0^c \int_0^b f(x, y) \, dx \, dy$$

$$A_{m0} = \frac{2}{bc} \int_0^c \int_0^b f(x, y) \cos \frac{m\pi}{b} x \, dx \, dy$$

$$A_{0n} = \frac{2}{bc} \int_0^c \int_0^b f(x, y) \cos \frac{n\pi}{c} y \, dx \, dy$$

$$A_{mn} = \frac{4}{bc} \int_0^c \int_0^b f(x, y) \cos \frac{m\pi}{b} x \cos \frac{n\pi}{c} y \, dx \, dy.$$

For a problem leading to a double-cosine series see Problem 2 in Exercises 12.8.

## EXERCISES 12.8

In Problems 1 and 2 solve the heat equation (1) subject to the given conditions.

**1.** $u(0, y, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, y, t) = 0$
$u(x, 0, t) = 0, \quad u(x, \pi, t) = 0$
$u(x, y, 0) = u_0$

**2.** $\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=1} = 0$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=0} = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=1} = 0$

$u(x, y, 0) = xy$

In Problems 3 and 4 solve the wave equation (2) subject to the given conditions.

**3.** $u(0, y, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, y, t) = 0$
$u(x, 0, t) = 0, \quad u(x, \pi, t) = 0$
$u(x, y, 0) = xy(x - \pi)(y - \pi)$
$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = 0$

**4.** $u(0, y, t) = 0, \quad u(b, y, t) = 0$
$u(x, 0, t) = 0, \quad u(x, c, t) = 0$
$u(x, y, 0) = f(x, y)$
$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = g(x, y)$

The steady-state temperature $u(x, y, z)$ in the rectangular parallelepiped shown in Figure 12.8.2 satisfies Laplace's equation in three dimensions:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = 0. \tag{13}$$
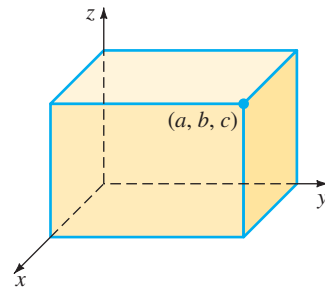


**FIGURE 12.8.2** Rectangular parallelepiped in Problems 5 and 6

**5.** Solve Laplace's equation (13) if the top $(z = c)$ of the parallelepiped is kept at temperature $f(x, y)$ and the remaining sides are kept at temperature zero.

**6.** Solve Laplace's equation (13) if the bottom $(z = 0)$ of the parallelepiped is kept at temperature $f(x, y)$ and the remaining sides are kept at temperature zero.

## CHAPTER 12 IN REVIEW

**1.** Use separation of variables to find product solutions of

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \, \partial y} = u.$$

**2.** Use separation of variables to find product solutions of

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + 2\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + 2\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0.$$

Is it possible to choose a separation constant so that both $X$ and $Y$ are oscillatory functions?

**3.** Find a steady-state solution $\psi(x)$ of the boundary-value problem

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0,$$

$$u(0, t) = u_0, \quad -\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=\pi} = u(\pi, t) - u_1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi.$$

**4.** Give a physical interpretation for the boundary conditions in Problem 3.

**5.** At $t = 0$ a string of unit length is stretched on the positive $x$-axis. The ends of the string $x = 0$ and $x = 1$ are secured on the $x$-axis for $t > 0$. Find the displacement $u(x, t)$ if the initial velocity $g(x)$ is as given in Figure 12.R.1.
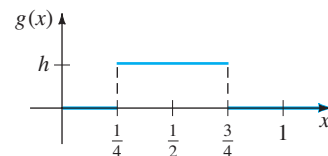


**FIGURE 12.R.1** Initial velocity $g(x)$ in Problem 5

**6.** The partial differential equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + x^2 = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$

is a form of the wave equation when an external vertical force proportional to the square of the horizontal distance from the left end is applied to the string. The string is secured at $x = 0$ one unit above the $x$-axis and on the $x$-axis at $x = 1$ for $t > 0$. Find the displacement $u(x, t)$ if the string starts from rest from the initial displacement $f(x)$.

**7.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(x, y)$ in the square plate shown in Figure 12.R.2.
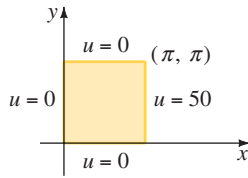


**FIGURE 12.R.2** Square plate in Problem 7

**8.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(x, y)$ in the semi-infinite plate shown in Figure 12.R.3.
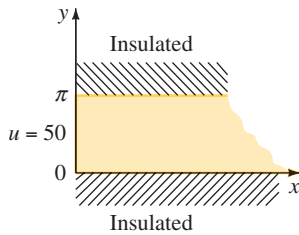


**FIGURE 12.R.3** Semi-infinite plate in Problem 8

**9.** Solve Problem 8 if the boundaries $y = 0$ and $y = \pi$ are held at temperature zero for all time.

**10.** Find the temperature $u(x, t)$ in the infinite plate of width $2L$ shown in Figure 12.R.4 if the initial temperature is $u_0$ throughout. [*Hint*: $u(x, 0) = u_0$, $-L < x < L$ is an even function of $x$.]
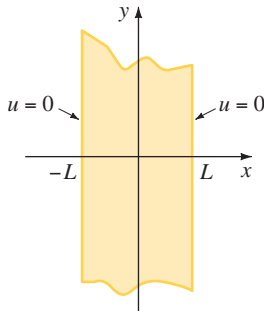


**FIGURE 12.R.4** Infinite plate in Problem 10

**11.** Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < \pi, \qquad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = \sin x, \quad 0 < x < \pi.$$

**12.** Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \sin x = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 400, \quad u(\pi, t) = 200, \qquad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 400 + \sin x, \quad 0 < x < \pi.$$

**13.** Find a formal series solution of the problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + 2\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u, \qquad 0 < x < \pi, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi.$$

**14.** The concentration $c(x, t)$ of a substance that both diffuses in a medium and is convected by the currents in the medium satisfies the partial differential equation

$$k\frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2} - h\frac{\partial c}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial c}{\partial t}, \qquad k \text{ and } h \text{ constants.}$$

Solve the PDE subject to

$$c(0, t) = 0, \quad c(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$c(x, 0) = c_0, \quad 0 < x < 1,$$

where $c_0$ is a constant.

# 13 BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS IN OTHER COORDINATE SYSTEMS
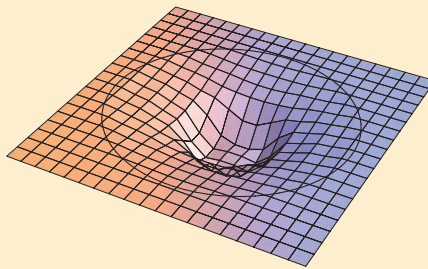
All the boundary-value problems that we have considered up to this point were expressed only in terms of a rectangular coordinate system. But if we wished to find, say, temperatures in a circular plate, in a circular cylinder, or in a sphere, we would naturally try to describe the problem in terms of polar coordinates, cylindrical coordinates, or spherical coordinates, respectively. In this chapter we shall see that by trying to solve BVPs in these latter three coordinate systems by the method of separation of variables, the theory of Fourier-Bessel series and Fourier-Legendre series is put to practical use.

## 13.1 POLAR COORDINATES

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Cauchy-Euler DEs in Section 4.7
- Review of DEs in Section 11.4 (page 416)

**INTRODUCTION** Because only steady-state temperature problems in polar coordinates are considered in this section, the first thing we must do is convert the familiar Laplace's equation in rectangular coordinates to polar coordinates.
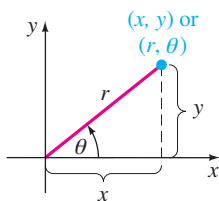


**FIGURE 13.1.1** Polar coordinates of a point $(x, y)$ are $(r, \theta)$

**LAPLACIAN IN POLAR COORDINATES** The relationships between polar coordinates in the plane and rectangular coordinates are given by

$$x = r \cos \theta, \qquad y = r \sin \theta, \qquad \text{and} \qquad r^2 = x^2 + y^2, \qquad \tan \theta = \frac{y}{x}.$$

See Figure 13.1.1. The first pair of equations transforms polar coordinates $(r, \theta)$ into rectangular coordinates $(x, y)$; the second pair of equations enables us to transform rectangular coordinates into polar coordinates. These equations also make it possible to convert the two-dimensional Laplacian $\nabla^2 u = \partial^2 u/\partial x^2 + \partial^2 u/\partial y^2$ into polar coordinates. You are encouraged to work through the details of the Chain Rule and show that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\frac{\partial r}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial x} = \cos \theta \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - \frac{\sin \theta}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\frac{\partial r}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial y} = \sin \theta \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{\cos \theta}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \cos^2 \theta \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} - \frac{2 \sin \theta \cos \theta}{r}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r \partial \theta} + \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\sin^2 \theta}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{2 \sin \theta \cos \theta}{r^2}\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \sin^2 \theta \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2 \sin \theta \cos \theta}{r}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r \partial \theta} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\cos^2 \theta}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - \frac{2 \sin \theta \cos \theta}{r^2}\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}. \quad (2)$$

Adding (1) and (2) and simplifying yields the Laplacian of $u$ in polar coordinates

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2}.$$



**FIGURE 13.1.2** Dirichlet problem for a circle

In this section we focus only on boundary-value problems involving Laplace's equation $\nabla^2 u = 0$ in polar coordinates:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} = 0. \quad (3)$$

Our first example is a Dirichlet problem for a circular disk. We wish to solve Laplace's equation (3) for the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in a circular disk or plate of radius $c$ when the temperature on the circumference is $u(c, \theta) = f(\theta)$, $0 < \theta < 2\pi$. See Figure 13.1.2. It is assumed that the two faces of the plate are insulated. This seemingly simple problem is unlike any we encountered in the previous chapter.

---

**EXAMPLE 1**    **Steady Temperatures in a Circular Plate**

Solve Laplace's equation (3) subject to $u(c, \theta) = f(\theta)$, $0 < \theta < 2\pi$.

**SOLUTION** Before attempting separation of variables, we note that the single boundary condition is nonhomogeneous. In other words, there are no explicit conditions in the statement of the problem that enable us to determine either the coefficients in the solutions of the separated ODEs or the required eigenvalues. However, there are some *implicit* conditions.

First, our physical intuition leads us to expect that the temperature $u(r, \theta)$ should be continuous and therefore bounded inside the circle $r = c$. In addition, the temperature $u(r, \theta)$ should be single-valued; this means that the value of $u$ should be the same at a specified point in the circle regardless of the polar description of that point. Because $(r, \theta + 2\pi)$ is an equivalent description of the point $(r, \theta)$, we must have $u(r, \theta) = u(r, \theta + 2\pi)$. That is, $u(r, \theta)$ must be periodic in $\theta$ with period $2\pi$. If we seek a product solution $u = R(r)\Theta(\theta)$, then $\Theta(\theta)$ needs to be $2\pi$-periodic.

With all this in mind we choose to write the separation constant in the separation of variables as $\lambda$:

$$\frac{r^2 R'' + r R'}{R} = -\frac{\Theta''}{\Theta} = \lambda.$$

The separated equations are then

$$r^2 R'' + r R' - \lambda R = 0 \tag{4}$$

$$\Theta'' + \lambda \Theta = 0. \tag{5}$$

We are seeking a solution of the problem

$$\Theta'' + \lambda \Theta = 0, \quad \Theta(\theta) = \Theta(\theta + 2\pi). \tag{6}$$

Although (6) is not a regular Sturm-Liouville problem, nonetheless the problem generates eigenvalues and eigenfunctions. The latter form an orthogonal set on the interval $[0, 2\pi]$.

Of the three possible general solutions of (5),

$$\Theta(\theta) = c_1 + c_2 \theta, \qquad\qquad \lambda = 0 \tag{7}$$

$$\Theta(\theta) = c_1 \cosh \alpha\theta + c_2 \sinh \alpha\theta, \quad \lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0 \tag{8}$$

$$\Theta(\theta) = c_1 \cos \alpha\theta + c_2 \sin \alpha\theta, \quad \lambda = \alpha^2 > 0 \tag{9}$$

we can dismiss (8) as inherently nonperiodic unless $c_1 = c_2 = 0$. Similarly, solution (7) is nonperiodic unless we define $c_2 = 0$. The remaining constant solution $\Theta(\theta) = c_1, c_1 \neq 0$, can be assigned any period, and so $\lambda = 0$ is an eigenvalue. Finally, solution (9) will be $2\pi$-periodic if we take $\alpha = n$, where $n = 1, 2, \ldots$.* The eigenvalues of (6) are then $\lambda_0 = 0$ and $\lambda_n = n^2, n = 1, 2, \ldots$. If we correspond $\lambda_0 = 0$ with $n = 0$, the eigenfunctions of (6) are

$$\Theta(\theta) = c_1, \quad n = 0, \qquad \text{and} \qquad \Theta(\theta) = c_1 \cos n\theta + c_2 \sin n\theta, \quad n = 1, 2, \ldots.$$

When $\lambda_n = n^2, n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$, the solutions of the Cauchy-Euler DE (4) are

$$R(r) = c_3 + c_4 \ln r, \qquad n = 0, \tag{10}$$

$$R(r) = c_3 r^n + c_4 r^{-n}, \qquad n = 1, 2, \ldots. \tag{11}$$

Now observe in (11) that $r^{-n} = 1/r^n$. In either of the solutions (10) or (11) we must define $c_4 = 0$ to guarantee that the solution $u$ is bounded at the center of the plate (which is $r = 0$). Thus product solutions $u_n = R(r)\Theta(\theta)$ for Laplace's equation in polar coordinates are

$$u_0 = A_0, \quad n = 0, \qquad \text{and} \qquad u_n = r^n(A_n \cos n\theta + B_n \sin n\theta), \quad n = 1, 2, \ldots,$$

---

*For example, note that $\cos n(\theta + 2\pi) = \cos(n\theta + 2n\pi) = \cos n\theta$.

where we have replaced $c_3 c_1$ by $A_0$ for $n = 0$ and by $A_n$ for $n = 1, 2, \ldots$; the combination $c_3 c_2$ has been replaced by $B_n$. The superposition principle then gives

$$u(r, \theta) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^n (A_n \cos n\theta + B_n \sin n\theta). \tag{12}$$

By applying the boundary condition at $r = c$ to (12), we recognize

$$f(\theta) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c^n (A_n \cos n\theta + B_n \sin n\theta)$$

as an expansion of $f$ in a full Fourier series. Consequently, we can make the identifications

$$A_0 = \frac{a_0}{2}, \qquad c^n A_n = a_n, \qquad \text{and} \qquad c^n B_n = b_n.$$

That is,

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta) \, d\theta \tag{13}$$

$$A_n = \frac{1}{c^n \pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta) \cos n\theta \, d\theta \tag{14}$$

$$B_n = \frac{1}{c^n \pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta) \sin n\theta \, d\theta. \tag{15}$$

The solution of the problem consists of the series given in (12), where the coefficients $A_0$, $A_n$, and $B_n$ are defined in (13), (14), and (15). ∎

Observe in Example 1 that corresponding to each *positive* eigenvalue $\lambda_n = n^2$, $n = 1, 2, \ldots$, there are two different eigenfunctions—namely, $\cos n\theta$ and $\sin n\theta$. In this situation the eigenvalues are sometimes called **double eigenvalues.**

## EXAMPLE 2   Steady Temperatures in a Semicircular Plate

Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in the semicircular plate shown in Figure 13.1.3.

**SOLUTION**   The boundary-value problem is

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < \theta < \pi, \quad 0 < r < c$$

$$u(c, \theta) = u_0, \quad 0 < \theta < \pi,$$

$$u(r, 0) = 0, \quad u(r, \pi) = 0, \quad 0 < r < c.$$



FIGURE 13.1.3   Semicircular plate in Example 2

Defining $u = R(r)\Theta(\theta)$ and separating variables gives

$$\frac{r^2 R'' + rR'}{R} = -\frac{\Theta''}{\Theta} = \lambda$$

and

$$r^2 R'' + rR' - \lambda R = 0 \tag{16}$$

$$\Theta'' + \lambda\Theta = 0. \tag{17}$$

The homogeneous conditions stipulated at the boundaries $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = \pi$ translate into $\Theta(0) = 0$ and $\Theta(\pi) = 0$. These conditions together with equation (17) constitute a regular Sturm-Liouville problem:

$$\Theta'' + \lambda\Theta = 0, \quad \Theta(0) = 0, \quad \Theta(\pi) = 0. \tag{18}$$

This familiar problem* possesses eigenvalues $\lambda_n = n^2$ and eigenfunctions $\Theta(\theta) = c_2 \sin n\theta$, $n = 1, 2, \ldots$. Also, by replacing $\lambda$ by $n^2$, the solution of (16) is $R(r) = c_3 r^n + c_4 r^{-n}$. The reasoning that was used in Example 1, namely, that we expect a solution $u$ of the problem to be bounded at $r = 0$, prompts us to define $c_4 = 0$. Therefore $u_n = R(r)\Theta(\theta) = A_n r^n \sin n\theta$, and

$$u(r, \theta) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n r^n \sin n\theta.$$

The remaining boundary condition at $r = c$ gives the sine series

$$u_0 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n c^n \sin n\theta.$$

Consequently,

$$A_n c^n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} u_0 \sin n\theta \, d\theta,$$

and so

$$A_n = \frac{2u_0}{\pi c^n} \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{n}.$$

Hence the solution of the problem is given by

$$u(r, \theta) = \frac{2u_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{n} \left(\frac{r}{c}\right)^n \sin n\theta. \qquad \blacksquare$$

---

*The problem in (18) is Example 2 of Section 5.2 with $L = \pi$.

# EXERCISES 13.1

In Problems 1–4 find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in a circular plate of radius $r = 1$ if the temperature on the circumference is as given.

1. $u(1, \theta) = \begin{cases} u_0, & 0 < \theta < \pi \\ 0, & \pi < \theta < 2\pi \end{cases}$

2. $u(1, \theta) = \begin{cases} \theta, & 0 < \theta < \pi \\ \pi - \theta, & \pi < \theta < 2\pi \end{cases}$

3. $u(1, \theta) = 2\pi\theta - \theta^2, \quad 0 < \theta < 2\pi$

4. $u(1, \theta) = \theta, \quad 0 < \theta < 2\pi$

5. Solve the exterior Dirichlet problem for a circular disk of radius $c$ if $u(c, \theta) = f(\theta)$, $0 < \theta < 2\pi$. In other words, find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in a plate that coincides with the entire $xy$-plane in which a circular hole of radius $c$ has been cut out around the origin and the temperature on the circumference of the hole is $f(\theta)$. [*Hint*: Assume that the temperature is bounded as $r \to \infty$.]

6. Find the steady-state temperature in the quarter-circular plate shown in Figure 13.1.4.
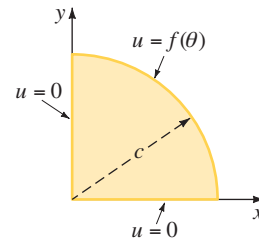


**FIGURE 13.1.4**   Quarter-circular plate in Problem 6

7. If the boundaries $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = \pi/2$ in Figure 13.1.4 are insulated, we then have, respectively,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}\bigg|_{\theta = 0} = 0, \qquad \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}\bigg|_{\theta = \pi/2} = 0.$$

Find the steady-state temperature if

$$u(c, \theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < \theta < \pi/4 \\ 0, & \pi/4 < \theta < \pi/2. \end{cases}$$

**8.** Find the steady-state temperature in the infinite wedge-shaped plate shown in Figure 13.1.5. [*Hint*: Assume that the temperature is bounded as $r \to 0$ and as $r \to \infty$.]
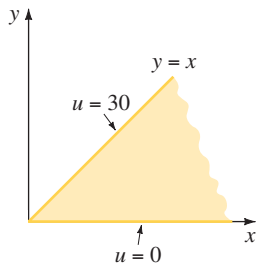


**FIGURE 13.1.5** Wedge-shaped plate in Problem 8

**9.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in the circular ring shown in Figure 13.1.6. [*Hint*: Proceed as in Example 1.]
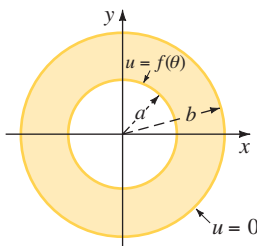


**FIGURE 13.1.6** Ring-shaped plate in Problem 9

**10.** If the boundary conditions for the circular ring in Figure 13.1.6 are $u(a, \theta) = u_0, u(b, \theta) = u_1, 0 < \theta < 2\pi$, $u_0$ and $u_1$ constants, show that the steady-state temperature is given by

$$u(r, \theta) = \frac{u_0 \ln(r/b) - u_1 \ln(r/a)}{\ln(a/b)}.$$

[*Hint*: Try a solution of the form $u(r, \theta) = v(r, \theta) + \psi(r)$.]

**11.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in a semicircular ring if

$$u(a, \theta) = \theta(\pi - \theta), \quad u(b, \theta) = 0, \quad 0 < \theta < \pi$$

$$u(r, 0) = 0, \quad\quad u(r, \pi) = 0, \quad a < r < b.$$

**12.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in a semicircular plate of radius $r = 1$ if

$$u(1, \theta) = u_0, \quad 0 < \theta < \pi$$

$$u(r, 0) = 0, \quad u(r, \pi) = u_0, \quad 0 < r < 1,$$

$u_0$ a constant.

**13.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in a semicircular plate of radius $r = 2$ if

$$u(2, \theta) = \begin{cases} u_0, & 0 < \theta < \pi/2 \\ 0, & \pi/2 < \theta < \pi, \end{cases}$$

$u_0$ a constant, and the edges $\theta = 0$ and $\theta = \pi$ are insulated.

**14.** The plate in the first quadrant shown in Figure 13.1.7 is one-eighth of the circular ring in Figure 13.1.6. Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$.
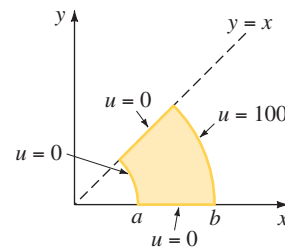


**FIGURE 13.1.7** Plate in Problem 14

### Discussion Problems

**15.** Consider the circular ring in Figure 13.1.6. Discuss how the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ can be found when the boundary conditions are $u(a, \theta) = f(\theta)$, $u(b, \theta) = g(\theta)$, $0 \le \theta \le 2\pi$.

**16.** Carry out your ideas from Problem 15 to find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in the circular ring shown in Figure 13.1.6 when the boundary conditions are $u(\frac{1}{2}, \theta) = 100(1 + 0.5 \cos \theta), u(1, \theta) = 200, 0 \le \theta \le 2\pi$.

### Computer Lab Assignments

**17. (a)** Find the series solution for $u(r, \theta)$ in Example 1 when

$$u(1, \theta) = \begin{cases} 100, & 0 < \theta < \pi \\ 0, & \pi < \theta < 2\pi. \end{cases}$$

**(b)** Use a CAS or a graphing utility to plot the partial sum $S_5(r, \theta)$ consisting of the first five nonzero terms of the solution in part (a) for $r = 0.9$, $r = 0.7, r = 0.5, r = 0.3$, and $r = 0.1$. Superimpose the graphs on the same coordinate axes.

**(c)** Approximate the temperatures $u(0.9, 1.3), u(0.7, 2)$, $u(0.5, 3.5), u(0.3, 4), u(0.1, 5.5)$. Then approximate $u(0.9, 2\pi - 1.3), u(0.7, 2\pi - 2), u(0.5, 2\pi - 3.5)$, $u(0.3, 2\pi - 4), u(0.1, 2\pi - 5.5)$.

**(d)** What is the temperature at the center of the circular plate? Why is it appropriate to call this value the average temperature in the plate? [*Hint*: Look at the graphs in part (b) and look at the numbers in part (c).]

## 13.2 POLAR AND CYLINDRICAL COORDINATES

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Parametric Bessel differential equation in Section 6.3
- Forms of Fourier-Bessel series in Definition 11.5.1

**INTRODUCTION** In this section we are going to consider boundary-value problems involving forms of the heat and wave equation in polar coordinates and a form of Laplace's equation in cylindrical coordinates. There is a commonality throughout the examples and exercises: Each boundary-value problem in this section possesses radial symmetry.

**RADIAL SYMMETRY** The two-dimensional heat and wave equations

$$k\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \quad \text{and} \quad a^2\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$

expressed in polar coordinates are, in turn,

$$k\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2}\right) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \quad \text{and} \quad a^2\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2}\right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad (1)$$

where $u = u(r, \theta, t)$. To solve a boundary-value problem involving either of these equations by separation of variables, we must define $u = R(r)\Theta(\theta)T(t)$. As in Section 12.8, this assumption leads to multiple infinite series. See Problem 14 in Exercises 13.2. In the discussion that follows we shall consider the simpler, but still important, problems that possess **radial symmetry**—that is, problems in which the unknown function $u$ is independent of the angular coordinate $\theta$. In this case the heat and wave equations in (1) take, respectively, the forms

$$k\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \quad \text{and} \quad a^2\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad (2)$$

where $u = u(r, t)$. Vibrations described by the second equation in (2) are said to be **radial vibrations.**

The first example deals with the free undamped radial vibrations of a thin circular membrane. We assume that the displacements are small and that the motion is such that each point on the membrane moves in a direction perpendicular to the $xy$-plane (transverse vibrations)—that is, the $u$-axis is perpendicular to the $xy$-plane. A physical model to keep in mind while working through this example is a vibrating drumhead.

### EXAMPLE 1 Radial Vibrations of a Circular Membrane

Find the displacement $u(r, t)$ of a circular membrane of radius $c$ clamped along its circumference if its initial displacement is $f(r)$ and its initial velocity is $g(r)$. See Figure 13.2.1.

**SOLUTION** The boundary-value problem to be solved is

$$a^2\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad 0 < r < c, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(c, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = f(r), \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = g(r), \quad 0 < r < c.$$
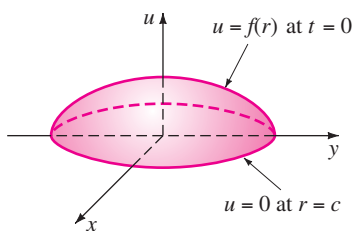


**FIGURE 13.2.1** Initial displacement of a circular membrane in Example 1

Substituting $u = R(r)T(t)$ into the partial differential equation and separating variables gives

$$\frac{R'' + \dfrac{1}{r}R'}{R} = \frac{T''}{a^2 T} = -\lambda. \tag{3}$$

Note that in (3) we have returned to our usual separation constant $-\lambda$. The two equations obtained from (3) are

$$rR'' + R' + \lambda r R = 0 \tag{4}$$

and
$$T'' + a^2 \lambda T = 0. \tag{5}$$

Because of the vibrational nature of the problem, equation (5) suggests that we use only $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$, $\alpha > 0$, since this choice leads to periodic functions. Also, take a second look at equation (4); it is *not* a Cauchy-Euler equation but is the parametric Bessel equation of order $\nu = 0$, that is, $rR'' + R' + \alpha^2 rR = 0$. From (13) of Section 6.3 the general solution of the last equation is

$$R = c_1 J_0(\alpha r) + c_2 Y_0(\alpha r). \tag{6}$$

The general solution of the familiar equation (5) is

$$T = c_3 \cos a\alpha t + c_4 \sin a\alpha t.$$

Now recall that $Y_0(\alpha r) \to -\infty$ as $r \to 0^+$, so the implicit assumption that the displacement $u(r, t)$ should be bounded at $r = 0$ forces us to define $c_2 = 0$ in (6). Thus $R = c_1 J_0(\alpha r)$.

Since the boundary condition $u(c, t) = 0$ is equivalent to $R(c) = 0$, we must have $c_1 J_0(\alpha c) = 0$. We rule out $c_1 = 0$ (this would lead to a trivial solution of the PDE), so consequently,

$$J_0(\alpha c) = 0. \tag{7}$$

If $x_n = \alpha_n c$ are the positive roots of (7), then $\alpha_n = x_n/c$, and so the eigenvalues of the problem are $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2 = x_n^2/c^2$, and the eigenfunctions are $c_1 J_0(\alpha_n r)$. Product solutions that satisfy the partial differential equation and the boundary conditions are

$$u_n = R(r)T(t) = (A_n \cos a\alpha_n t + B_n \sin a\alpha_n t) J_0(\alpha_n r), \tag{8}$$

where we have done the usual relabeling of constants. The superposition principle gives

$$u(r, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_n \cos a\alpha_n t + B_n \sin a\alpha_n t) J_0(\alpha_n r). \tag{9}$$

The given initial conditions determine the coefficients $A_n$ and $B_n$.

Setting $t = 0$ in (9) and using $u(r, 0) = f(r)$ gives

$$f(r) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n J_0(\alpha_n r). \tag{10}$$

The last result is recognized as the Fourier-Bessel expansion of the function $f$ on the interval $(0, c)$. Hence by a direct comparison of (7) and (10) with (8) and (15) of Section 11.5 we can identify the coefficients $A_n$ with those given in (16) of Section 11.5:

$$A_n = \frac{2}{c^2 J_1^2(\alpha_n c)} \int_0^c r J_0(\alpha_n r) f(r) \, dr. \tag{11}$$

Next, we differentiate (9) with respect to $t$, set $t = 0$, and use $u_t(r, 0) = g(r)$:

$$g(r) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a\alpha_n B_n J_0(\alpha_n r).$$

This is now a Fourier-Bessel expansion of the function $g$. By identifying the total coefficient $a\alpha_n B_n$ with (16) of Section 11.5, we can write

$$B_n = \frac{2}{a\alpha_n c^2 J_1^2(\alpha_n c)} \int_0^c r J_0(\alpha_n r) g(r)\, dr. \tag{12}$$

Finally, the solution of the original boundary-value problem is the series in (9) with coefficients $A_n$ and $B_n$ defined in (11) and (12). ∎

**STANDING WAVES**   Analogous to (11) of Section 12.4, the product solutions (8) are called **standing waves.** For $n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$ the standing waves are basically the graph of $J_0(\alpha_n r)$ with the time varying amplitude

$$A_n \cos a\alpha_n t + B_n \sin a\alpha_n t.$$

The standing waves at different values of time are represented by the dashed graphs in Figure 13.2.2. The zeros of each standing wave in the interval $(0, c)$ are the roots of $J_0(\alpha_n r) = 0$ and correspond to the set of points on a standing wave where there is no motion. The set of points is called a **nodal line.** If (as in Example 1) the positive roots of $J_0(\alpha_n c) = 0$ are denoted by $x_n$, then $x_n = \alpha_n c$ implies that $\alpha_n = x_n/c$, and consequently, the zeros of the standing wave are determined from

$$J_0(\alpha_n r) = J_0\left(\frac{x_n}{c} r\right) = 0.$$

Now from Table 6.1 the first three positive zeros of $J_0$ are (approximately) $x_1 = 2.4$, $x_2 = 5.5$, and $x_3 = 8.7$. Thus for $n = 1$ the first positive root of

$$J_0\left(\frac{x_1}{c} r\right) = 0 \qquad \text{is} \qquad \frac{2.4}{c} r = 2.4 \qquad \text{or} \qquad r = c.$$

Since we are seeking zeros of the standing waves in the open interval $(0, c)$, the last result means that the first standing wave has no nodal line. For $n = 2$ the first two positive roots of

$$J_0\left(\frac{x_2}{c} r\right) = 0 \qquad \text{are determined from} \qquad \frac{5.5}{c} r = 2.4 \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{5.5}{c} r = 5.5.$$

Thus the second standing wave has one nodal line defined by $r = x_1 c/x_2 = 2.4c/5.5$. Note that $r \approx 0.44c < c$. For $n = 3$ a similar analysis shows that there are two nodal lines defined by $r = x_1 c/x_3 = 2.4c/8.7$ and $r = x_2 c/x_3 = 5.5c/8.7$. In general, the $n$th standing wave has $n - 1$ nodal lines $r = x_1 c/x_n, r = x_2 c/x_n, \ldots, r = x_{n-1} c/x_n$. Since $r = constant$ is an equation of a circle in polar coordinates, we see in Figure 13.2.2 that the nodal lines of a standing wave are concentric circles.

**USE OF COMPUTERS**   It is possible to see the effect of a single drumbeat for the model solved in Example 1 by means of the animation capabilities of a computer algebra system. In Problem 15 in Exercises 13.2 you are asked to find the solution given in (6) when

$$c = 1, \quad f(r) = 0, \qquad \text{and} \qquad g(r) = \begin{cases} -v_0, & 0 \leq r < b \\ 0, & b \leq r < 1. \end{cases}$$

Some frames of a "movie" of the vibrating drumhead are given in Figure 13.2.3.



$n = 1$

**(a)**

$n = 2$

**(b)**

$n = 3$

**(c)**
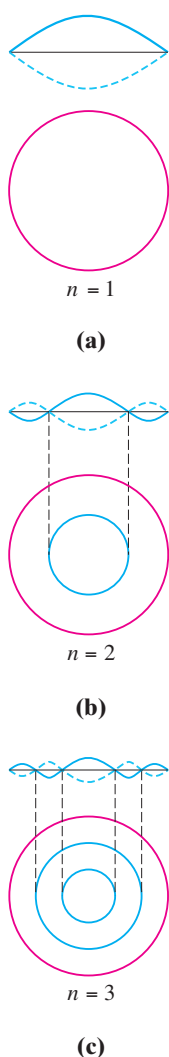
**FIGURE 13.2.2**   Standing waves
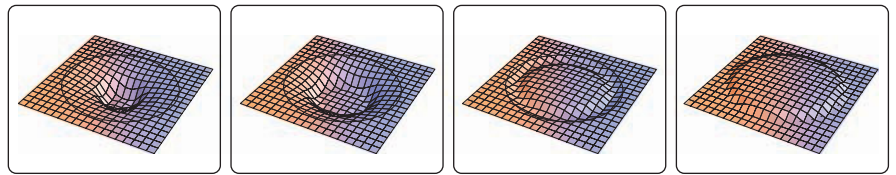
**FIGURE 13.2.3** Frames of a CAS "movie"
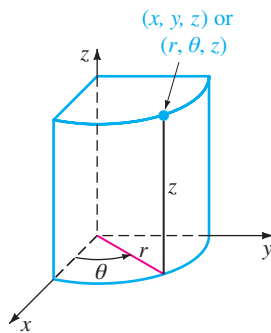


**FIGURE 13.2.4** Cylindrical coordinates of a point $(x, y, z)$ are $(r, \theta, z)$.

**LAPLACIAN IN CYLINDRICAL COORDINATES** In Figure 13.2.4 we can see that the relationship between the cylindrical coordinates of a point in space and its rectangular coordinates is given by

$$x = r \cos \theta, \qquad y = r \sin \theta, \qquad z = z.$$

It follows immediately from the derivation of the Laplacian in polar coordinates (see Section 13.1) that the Laplacian of a function $u$ in cylindrical coordinates is

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}.$$

**EXAMPLE 2** **Steady Temperatures in a Circular Cylinder**

Find the steady-state temperature $u$ in the circular cylinder shown in Figure 13.2.5.



**FIGURE 13.2.5** Circular cylinder in Example 2

**SOLUTION** The boundary conditions suggest that the temperature $u$ has radial symmetry. Accordingly, $u(r, z)$ is determined from

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < r < 2, \quad 0 < z < 4$$

$$u(2, z) = 0, \quad 0 < z < 4$$

$$u(r, 0) = 0, \quad u(r, 4) = u_0, \quad 0 < r < 2.$$

Using $u = R(r)Z(z)$ and separating variables gives

$$\frac{R'' + \frac{1}{r} R'}{R} = -\frac{Z''}{Z} = -\lambda \tag{13}$$

and

$$rR'' + R' + \lambda r R = 0 \tag{14}$$

$$Z'' - \lambda Z = 0. \tag{15}$$

We choose the separation constant to be $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$ (the choice $\lambda = -\alpha^2 < 0$ would, in view of equation (15), result in a condition that there is no reason to expect, namely, a solution $u(r, z)$ that is periodic in $z$). The solution of (14) is

$$R(r) = c_1 J_0(\alpha r) + c_2 Y_0(\alpha r),$$

and since the solution of (15) is defined on the finite interval $[0, 4]$, we write its general solution as

$$Z(z) = c_3 \cosh \alpha z + c_4 \sinh \alpha z.$$

As in Example 1, the assumption that the temperature $u$ is bounded at $r = 0$ demands that $c_2 = 0$. The condition $u(2, z) = 0$ implies that $R(2) = 0$. This equation,

$$J_0(2\alpha) = 0, \tag{16}$$

defines the positive eigenvalues $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2$ of the problem. Finally, $Z(0) = 0$ implies that $c_3 = 0$. Hence we have $R(r) = c_1 J_0(\alpha_n r)$, $Z(z) = c_4 \sinh \alpha_n z$, and

$$u_n = R(r)Z(z) = A_n \sinh \alpha_n z J_0(\alpha_n r)$$

$$u(r, z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sinh \alpha_n z J_0(\alpha_n r).$$

The remaining boundary condition at $z = 4$ then yields the Fourier-Bessel series

$$u_0 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sinh 4\alpha_n J_0(\alpha_n r),$$

so in view of the defining equation (16) the coefficients are given by (16) of Section 11.5,

$$A_n \sinh 4\alpha_n = \frac{2u_0}{2^2 J_1^2(2\alpha_n)} \int_0^2 r J_0(\alpha_n r)\, dr.$$

To evaluate the last integral, we first use the substitution $t = \alpha_n r$, followed by $\dfrac{d}{dt}[tJ_1(t)] = tJ_0(t)$. From

$$A_n \sinh 4\alpha_n = \frac{u_0}{2\alpha_n^2 J_1^2(2\alpha_n)} \int_0^{2\alpha_n} \frac{d}{dt}[tJ_1(t)]\, dt = \frac{u_0}{\alpha_n J_1(2\alpha_n)}$$

we get

$$A_n = \frac{u_0}{\alpha_n \sinh 4\alpha_n J_1(2\alpha_n)}.$$

Thus the temperature in the cylinder is

$$u(r, z) = u_0 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\alpha_n \sinh 4\alpha_n J_1(2\alpha_n)} \sinh \alpha_n z J_0(\alpha_n r). \qquad \blacksquare$$

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# EXERCISES 13.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-22.*

1. Find the displacement $u(r, t)$ in Example 1 if $f(r) = 0$ and the circular membrane is given an initial unit velocity in the upward direction.

2. A circular membrane of unit radius 1 is clamped along its circumference. Find the displacement $u(r, t)$ if the membrane starts from rest from the initial displacement $f(r) = 1 - r^2$, $0 < r < 1$. [*Hint*: See Problem 10 in Exercises 11.5.]

3. Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, z)$ in the cylinder in Example 2 if the boundary conditions are $u(2, z) = 0$, $0 < z < 4$, $u(r, 0) = u_0$, $u(r, 4) = 0$, $0 < r < 2$.

4. If the lateral side of the cylinder in Example 2 is insulated, then

$$\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right|_{r=2} = 0, \qquad 0 < z < 4.$$

   (a) Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, z)$ when $u(r, 4) = f(r)$, $0 < r < 2$.

   (b) Show that the steady-state temperature in part (a) reduces to $u(r, z) = u_0 z/4$ when $f(r) = u_0$. [*Hint*: Use (12) of Section 11.5.]

5. Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, z)$ in the cylinder in Figure 13.2.5 if the lateral side is kept at temperature 0, the top $z = 4$ is kept at temperature 50, and the base $z = 0$ is insulated.

6. Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, z)$ in the cylinder in Figure 13.2.5 if the lateral side is kept at temperature 50 and the top $z = 4$ and base $z = 0$ are insulated.

7. The temperature in a circular plate of radius $c$ is determined from the boundary-value problem

$$k\left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < r < c, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(c, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = f(r), \quad 0 < r < c.$$

   Solve for $u(r, t)$.

8. Solve Problem 7 if the edge $r = c$ of the plate is insulated.

9. When there is heat transfer from the lateral side of an infinite circular cylinder of unit radius (see Figure 13.2.6)

into a surrounding medium at temperature zero, the temperature inside the cylinder is determined from

$$k\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < r < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$\left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right|_{r=1} = -hu(1, t), \qquad h > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = f(r), \quad 0 < r < 1.$$

Solve for $u(r, t)$.
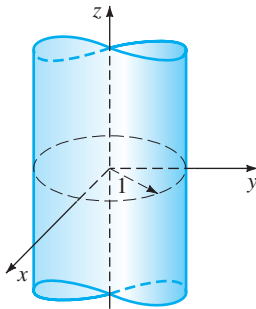


**FIGURE 13.2.6** Infinite cylinder in Problem 9

**10.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, z)$ in a semi-infinite cylinder of unit radius ($z \geq 0$) if there is heat transfer from its lateral side into a surrounding medium at temperature zero and if the temperature of the base $z = 0$ is held at a constant temperature $u_0$.

**11.** A circular plate is a composite of two different materials in the form of concentric circles. See Figure 13.2.7. The temperature in the plate is determined from the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < r < 2, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(2, t) = 100, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = \begin{cases} 200, & 0 < r < 1 \\ 100, & 1 < r < 2. \end{cases}$$

Solve for $u(r, t)$. [*Hint*: Let $u(r, t) = v(r, t) + \psi(r)$.]
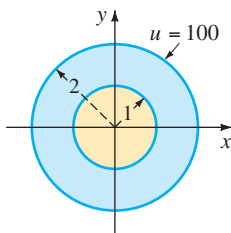


**FIGURE 13.2.7** Composite circular plate in Problem 11

**12.** Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \beta = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < r < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < r < 1.$$

Assume that $\beta$ is a constant.

**13.** The horizontal displacement $u(x, t)$ of a heavy uniform chain of length $L$ oscillating in a vertical plane satisfies the partial differential equation

$$g\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(x\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0.$$

See Figure 13.2.8.

**(a)** Using $-\lambda$ as a separation constant, show that the ordinary differential equation in the spatial variable $x$ is $xX'' + X' + \lambda X = 0$. Solve this equation by means of the substitution $x = \tau^2/4$.

**(b)** Use the result of part (a) to solve the given partial differential equation subject to

$$u(L, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < L.$$

[*Hint*: Assume that the oscillations at the free end $x = 0$ are finite.]
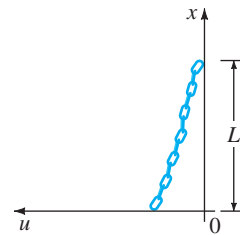


**FIGURE 13.2.8** Oscillating chain in Problem 13

**14.** In this problem we consider the general case—that is, with $\theta$ dependence—of the vibrating circular membrane of radius $c$:

$$a^2\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2}\right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < r < c, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(c, \theta, t) = 0, \quad 0 < \theta < 2\pi, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, \theta, 0) = f(r, \theta), \quad 0 < r < c, \quad 0 < \theta < 2\pi$$

$$\left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = g(r, \theta), \quad 0 < r < c, \quad 0 < \theta < 2\pi.$$

**(a)** Assume that $u = R(r)\Theta(\theta)T(t)$ and that the separation constants are $-\lambda$ and $-\nu$. Show that the separated differential equations are

$$T'' + a^2\lambda T = 0, \qquad \Theta'' + \nu\Theta = 0$$

$$r^2 R'' + rR' + (\lambda r^2 - \nu)R = 0.$$

**(b)** Let $\lambda = \alpha^2$ and $\nu = \beta^2$ and solve the separated equations.

**(c)** Determine the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the problem.

**(d)** Use the superposition principle to determine a multiple series solution. Do not attempt to evaluate the coefficients.

## Computer Lab Assignments

**15.** Consider an idealized drum consisting of a thin membrane stretched over a circular frame of unit radius. When such a drum is struck at its center, one hears a sound that is frequently described as a dull thud rather than a melodic tone. We can model a single drumbeat using the boundary-value problem solved in Example 1.

**(a)** Find the solution $u(r, t)$ given in (6) when $c = 1$, $f(r) = 0$, and

$$g(r) = \begin{cases} -v_0, & 0 \le r < b \\ 0, & b \le r < 1. \end{cases}$$

**(b)** Show that the frequency of the standing wave $u_n(r, t)$ is $f_n = a\alpha_n/2\pi$, where $\alpha_n$ is the $n$th positive zero of $J_0(x)$. Unlike the solution of the one-dimensional wave equation in Section 12.4, the frequencies are not integer multiples of the fundamental frequency $f_1$. Show that $f_2 \approx 2.295f_1$ and $f_3 \approx 3.598f_1$. We say that the drumbeat produces **anharmonic overtones.** As a result, the displacement function $u(r, t)$ is not periodic, so our ideal drum cannot produce a sustained tone.

**(c)** Let a $= 1$, $b = \frac{1}{4}$, and $v_0 = 1$ in your solution in part (a). Use a CAS to graph the fifth partial sum $S_5(r, t)$ at the times $t = 0, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, \ldots, 5.9, 6.0$

for $-1 \le r \le 1$. Use the animation capabilities of your CAS to produce a movie of these vibrations.

**(d)** For a greater challenge, use the 3D-plot application of your CAS to make a movie of the motion of the circular drum head that is shown in cross section in part (c). [*Hint*: There are several ways of proceeding. For a fixed time, either graph $u$ as a function of $x$ and $y$ using $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ or use the equivalent of *Mathematica's* **CylindricalPlot3D.**]

**16. (a)** Consider Example 1 with $a = 1$, $c = 10$, $g(r) = 0$, and $f(r) = 1 - r/10, 0 < r < 10$. Use a CAS as an aid in finding the numerical values of the first three eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ of the boundary-value problem and the first three coefficients $A_1, A_2, A_3$ of the solution $u(r, t)$ given in (6). Write the third partial sum $S_3(r, t)$ of the series solution.

**(b)** Use a CAS to plot the graph of $S_3(r, t)$ for $t = 0, 4, 10, 12, 20$.

**17.** Solve Problem 7 with boundary conditions $u(c, t) = 200$, $u(r, 0) = 0$. With these imposed conditions, one would expect intuitively that at any interior point of the plate, $u(r, t) \to 200$ as $t \to \infty$. Assume that $c = 10$ and that the plate is cast iron so that $k = 0.1$ (approximately). Use a CAS as an aid in finding the numerical values of the first five eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4, \lambda_5$ of the boundary-value problem and the five coefficients $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4, A_5$ in the solution $u(r, t)$. Let the corresponding approximate solution be denoted by $S_5(r, t)$. Plot $S_5(5, t)$ and $S_5(0, t)$ on a sufficiently large time interval $0 \le t \le T$. Use the plots of $S_5(5, t)$ and $S_5(0, t)$ to estimate the times (in seconds) for which $u(5, t) \approx 100$ and $u(0, t) \approx 100$. Repeat for $u(5, t) \approx 200$ and $u(0, t) \approx 200$.

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## 13.3 SPHERICAL COORDINATES

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Legendre's differential equation in Section 6.3
- Forms of Fourier-Legendre series in Definition 11.5.2

**INTRODUCTION** We conclude our examination of boundary-value problems in different coordinate systems by next considering problems involving the heat, wave, and Laplace's equation in spherical coordinates.

**LAPLACIAN IN SPHERICAL COORDINATES** As shown in Figure 13.3.1, a point in 3-space is described in terms of rectangular coordinates and in spherical coordinates. The rectangular coordinates $x$, $y$, and $z$ of the point are related to its spherical coordinates $r$, $\theta$, and $\phi$ through the equations

$$x = r \sin \theta \cos \phi, \qquad y = r \sin \theta \sin \phi, \qquad z = r \cos \theta. \qquad (1)$$
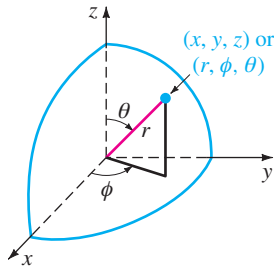
**FIGURE 13.3.1** Spherical coordinates of a point $(x, y, z)$ are $(r, \theta, \phi)$.

By using the equations in (1), it can be shown that the Laplacian $\nabla^2 u$ in the spherical coordinate system is

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\cot \theta}{r^2}\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}. \tag{2}$$

As you might imagine, problems involving (2) can be quite formidable. Consequently, we shall consider only a few of the simpler problems that are independent of the azimuthal angle $\phi$.

The next example is a Dirichlet problem for a sphere.

---

### EXAMPLE 1 Steady Temperatures in a Sphere

Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ within the sphere shown in Figure 13.3.2.

**SOLUTION** The temperature is determined from

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\cot \theta}{r^2}\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} = 0, \quad 0 < r < c, \quad 0 < \theta < \pi$$

$$u(c, \theta) = f(\theta), \quad 0 < \theta < \pi.$$



**FIGURE 13.3.2** Dirichlet problem for a sphere

If $u = R(r)\Theta(\theta)$, then the partial differential equation separates as

$$\frac{r^2 R'' + 2rR'}{R} = -\frac{\Theta'' + \cot \theta\, \Theta'}{\Theta} = \lambda,$$

and so

$$r^2 R'' + 2rR' - \lambda R = 0 \tag{3}$$

$$\sin \theta\, \Theta'' + \cos \theta\, \Theta' + \lambda \sin \theta\, \Theta = 0. \tag{4}$$

After we substitute $x = \cos \theta$, $0 \le \theta \le \pi$, (4) becomes

$$(1 - x^2)\frac{d^2\Theta}{dx^2} - 2x\frac{d\Theta}{dx} + \lambda\, \Theta = 0, \quad -1 \le x \le 1. \tag{5}$$

The latter equation is a form of Legendre's equation (see Problem 46 in Exercises 6.3). Now the only solutions of (5) that are continuous and have continuous derivatives on the closed interval $[-1, 1]$ are the Legendre polynomials $P_n(x)$ corresponding to $\lambda = n(n + 1)$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$. Therefore we take the solutions of (4) to be

$$\Theta = P_n(\cos \theta).$$

Furthermore, when $\lambda = n(n + 1)$, the general solution of the Cauchy-Euler equation (3) is

$$R = c_1 r^n + c_2 r^{-(n+1)}.$$

Since we again expect $u(r, \theta)$ to be bounded at $r = 0$, we define $c_2 = 0$. Hence $u_n = A_n r^n P_n(\cos \theta)$, and

$$u(r, \theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n r^n P_n(\cos \theta).$$

At $r = c$,

$$f(\theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n c^n P_n(\cos \theta).$$

Therefore $A_n c^n$ are the coefficients of the Fourier-Legendre series (23) of Section 11.5:

$$A_n = \frac{2n + 1}{2c^n}\int_0^\pi f(\theta)P_n(\cos \theta) \sin \theta\, d\theta.$$

It follows that the solution is

$$u(r, \theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left(\frac{2n + 1}{2}\int_0^\pi f(\theta)\, P_n(\cos \theta) \sin \theta\, d\theta\right)\left(\frac{r}{c}\right)^n P_n(\cos \theta). \quad \blacksquare$$

# EXERCISES 13.3

1. Solve the BVP in Example 1 if

$$f(\theta) = \begin{cases} 50, & 0 < \theta < \pi/2 \\ 0, & \pi/2 < \theta < \pi. \end{cases}$$

Write out the first four nonzero terms of the series solution. [*Hint*: See Example 3 in Section 11.5.]

2. The solution $u(r, \theta)$ in Example 1 of this section could also be interpreted as the potential inside the sphere due to a charge distribution $f(\theta)$ on its surface. Find the potential outside the sphere.

3. Find the solution of the problem in Example 1 if $f(\theta) = \cos \theta, 0 < \theta < \pi$. [*Hint*: $P_1(\cos \theta) = \cos \theta$. Use orthogonality.]

4. Find the solution of the problem in Example 1 if $f(\theta) = 1 - \cos 2\theta, 0 < \theta < \pi$. [*Hint*: See Problem 18 in Exercises 11.5.]

5. Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ within a hollow sphere $a < r < b$ if its inner surface $r = a$ is kept at temperature $f(\theta)$ and its outer surface $r = b$ is kept at temperature zero. The sphere in the first octant is shown in Figure 13.3.3.
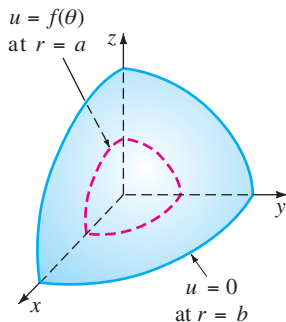


**FIGURE 13.3.3** Hollow sphere in Problem 5

6. The steady-state temperature in a hemisphere of radius $r = c$ is determined from

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\cot \theta}{r^2}\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} = 0,$$

$$0 < r < c, \quad 0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$u\left(r, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0, \quad 0 < r < c$$

$$u(r, \theta) = f(\theta), \quad 0 < \theta < \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

Solve for $u(r, \theta)$. [*Hint*: $P_n(0) = 0$ only if $n$ is odd. Also see Problem 20 in Exercises 11.5.]

7. Solve Problem 6 when the base of the hemisphere is insulated; that is,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}\bigg|_{\theta = \pi/2} = 0, \quad 0 < r < c.$$

8. Solve Problem 6 for $r > c$.

9. The time-dependent temperature within a sphere of unit radius is determined from

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < r < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(1, t) = 100, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < r < 1.$$

Solve for $u(r, t)$. [*Hint*: Verify that the left-hand side of the partial differential equation can be written as $\frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2}(ru)$. Let $ru(r, t) = v(r, t) + \psi(r)$. Use only functions that are bounded as $r \to 0$.]

10. A uniform solid sphere of radius 1 at an initial constant temperature $u_0$ throughout is dropped into a large container of fluid that is kept at a constant temperature $u_1$ ($u_1 > u_0$) for all time. See Figure 13.3.4. Since there is heat transfer across the boundary $r = 1$, the temperature $u(r, t)$ in the sphere is determined from the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < r < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\bigg|_{r=1} = -h(u(1, t) - u_1), \quad 0 < h < 1$$

$$u(r, 0) = u_0, \quad 0 < r < 1.$$

Solve for $u(r, t)$. [*Hint*: Proceed as in Problem 9.]
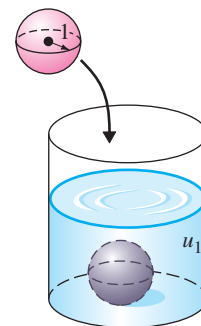


**FIGURE 13.3.4** Container of fluid in Problem 10

11. Solve the boundary-value problem involving spherical vibrations:

$$a^2\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad 0 < r < c, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(c, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = f(r), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = g(r), \quad 0 < r < c.$$

[*Hint*: Verify that the left side of the partial differential equation is $a^2 \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2}(ru)$. Let $v(r, t) = ru(r, t)$.]

**12.** A conducting sphere of radius $r = c$ is grounded and placed in a uniform electric field that has intensity $E$ in the $z$-direction. The potential $u(r, \theta)$ outside the sphere is determined from the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{\cot \theta}{r^2}\frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta} = 0, \quad r > c, \ 0 < \theta < \pi$$

$$u(c, \theta) = 0, \quad 0 < \theta < \pi$$

$$\lim_{r \to \infty} u(r, \theta) = -Ez = -Er \cos \theta.$$

Show that

$$u(r, \theta) = -Er \cos \theta + E\frac{c^3}{r^2} \cos \theta.$$

[*Hint*: Explain why $\int_0^\pi \cos \theta \, P_n(\cos \theta) \sin \theta \, d\theta = 0$ for all nonnegative integers except $n = 1$. See (24) of Section 11.5.]

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## CHAPTER 13 IN REVIEW
*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-23.*

**1.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in a circular plate of radius $c$ if the temperature on the circumference is given by

$$u(c, \theta) = \begin{cases} u_0, & 0 < \theta < \pi \\ -u_0, & \pi < \theta < 2\pi. \end{cases}$$

**2.** Find the steady-state temperature in the circular plate in Problem 1 if

$$u(c, \theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < \theta < \pi/2 \\ 0, & \pi/2 < \theta < 3\pi/2 \\ 1, & 3\pi/2 < \theta < 2\pi. \end{cases}$$

**3.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in a semicircular plate of radius 1 if

$$u(1, \theta) = u_0(\pi\theta - \theta^2), \quad 0 < \theta < \pi$$

$$u(r, 0) = 0, \quad u(r, \pi) = 0, \quad 0 < r < 1.$$

**4.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in the semicircular plate in Problem 3 if $u(1, \theta) = \sin \theta, 0 < \theta < \pi$.

**5.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in the plate shown in Figure 13.R.1.
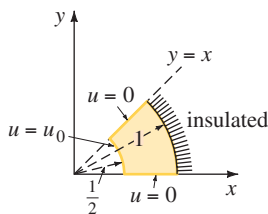


**FIGURE 13.R.1** Wedge-shaped plate in Problem 5

**6.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in the infinite plate shown in Figure 13.R.2.
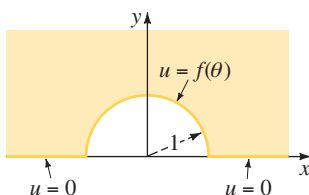


**FIGURE 13.R.2** Infinite plate in Problem 6

**7.** Suppose heat is lost from the flat surfaces of a very thin circular unit disk into a surrounding medium at temperature zero. If the linear law of heat transfer applies, the heat equation assumes the form

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - hu = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad h > 0, \ 0 < r < 1, \ t > 0.$$

See Figure 13.R.3. Find the temperature $u(r, t)$ if the edge $r = 1$ is kept at temperature zero and if initially the temperature of the plate is unity throughout.
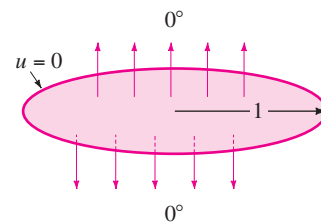


**FIGURE 13.R.3** Circular plate in Problem 7

**8.** Suppose $x_k$ is a positive zero of $J_0$. Show that a solution of the boundary-value problem

$$a^2\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\right) = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad 0 < r < 1, \ t > 0$$

$$u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = u_0 J_0(x_k r), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < r < 1$$

is $u(r, t) = u_0 J_0(x_k r) \cos ax_k t$.

**9.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, z)$ in the cylinder in Figure 13.2.5 if the lateral side is kept at temperature 50, the top $z = 4$ is kept at temperature 0, and the base $z = 0$ is insulated.

**10.** Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r}\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = 0, \quad 0 < r < 1, \ 0 < z < 1$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}\bigg|_{r=1} = 0, \quad 0 < z < 1$$

$$u(r, 0) = f(r), \quad u(r, 1) = g(r), \quad 0 < r < 1.$$

**11.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(r, \theta)$ in a sphere of unit radius if the surface is kept at

$$u(1, \theta) = \begin{cases} 100, & 0 < \theta < \pi/2 \\ -100, & \pi/2 < \theta < \pi. \end{cases}$$

[*Hint*: See Problem 22 in Exercises 11.5.]

**12.** Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < r < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right|_{r=1} = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = f(r), \quad \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|_{t=0} = g(r), \quad 0 < r < 1.$$

[*Hint*: Proceed as in Problems 9 and 10 in Exercises 13.3, but let $v(r, t) = ru(r, t)$. See Section 12.7.]

**13.** The function $u(x) = Y_0(\alpha a) J_0(\alpha x) - J_0(\alpha a) Y_0(\alpha x)$, $a > 0$ is a solution of the parametric Bessel equation

$$x^2 \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + x \frac{du}{dx} + \alpha^2 x^2 u = 0$$

on the interval $[a, b]$. If the eigenvalues $\lambda_n = \alpha_n^2$ are defined by the positive roots of the equation

$$Y_0(\alpha a) J_0(\alpha b) - J_0(\alpha a) Y_0(\alpha b) = 0,$$

show that the functions

$$u_m(x) = Y_0(\alpha_m a) J_0(\alpha_m x) - J_0(\alpha_m a) Y_0(\alpha_m x)$$

$$u_n(x) = Y_0(\alpha_n a) J_0(\alpha_n x) - J_0(\alpha_n a) Y_0(\alpha_n x)$$

are orthogonal with respect to the weight function $p(x) = x$ on the interval $[a, b]$; that is,

$$\int_a^b x u_m(x) u_n(x) \, dx = 0, \qquad m \neq n.$$

[*Hint*: Follow the procedure on pages 418–419.]

**14.** Use the results of Problem 13 to solve the following boundary-value problem for the temperature $u(r, t)$ in a circular ring:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad a < r < b, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(a, t) = 0, \quad u(b, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(r, 0) = f(r), \quad a < r < b.$$

**15.** Discuss how to solve

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < r < c, \quad 0 < z < L$$

with the boundary conditions given in Figure 13.R.4. Carry out your ideas and find $u(r, z)$. [*Hint*: Review (11) of Section 12.5.]
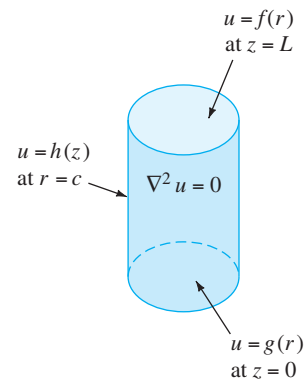


**FIGURE 13.R.4** Cylinder in Problem 15

# 14

# INTEGRAL TRANSFORMS
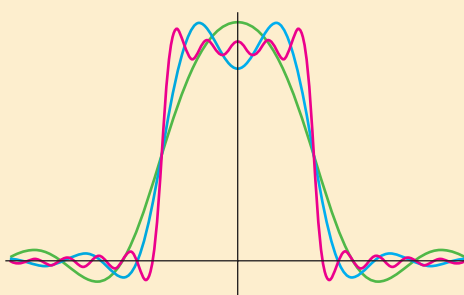
The method of separation of variables is a powerful but not universally applicable method for solving boundary-value problems. If the partial differential equation is nonhomogeneous, if the boundary conditions are time dependent, or if the domain of the spatial variable is an infinite interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ or a semi-infinite interval $(a, \infty)$, we may be able to use an integral transform to solve the problem. In Section 14.2 we will solve problems that involve the heat and wave equations by means of the familiar Laplace transform. In Section 14.4 we introduce three new integral transforms—the Fourier transforms.

## 14.1 ERROR FUNCTION

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- See (14) and Example 7 in Section 2.3.

**INTRODUCTION** There are many functions in mathematics that are defined in terms of an integral. For example, in many traditional calculus texts the natural logarithm is defined in the following manner: $\ln x = \int_1^x dt/t$, $x > 0$. In earlier chapters we saw, albeit briefly, the error function $\text{erf}(x)$, the complementary error function $\text{erfc}(x)$, the sine integral function $\text{Si}(x)$, the Fresnel sine integral $S(x)$, and the gamma function $\Gamma(\alpha)$; all of these functions are defined by means of an integral. Before applying the Laplace transform to boundary-value problems, we need to know a little more about the error function and the complementary error function. In this section we examine the graphs and a few of the more obvious properties of $\text{erf}(x)$ and $\text{erfc}(x)$.

**PROPERTIES AND GRAPHS** The definitions of the **error function** $\text{erf}(x)$ and **complementary error function** $\text{erfc}(x)$ are, respectively,

$$\text{erf}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^x e^{-u^2}\, du \qquad \text{and} \qquad \text{erfc}(x) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_x^\infty e^{-u^2}\, du. \tag{1}$$

With the aid of polar coordinates it can be demonstrated that

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-u^2}\, du = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-u^2}\, du = 1.$$

Thus from the additive interval property of definite integrals, $\int_0^\infty = \int_0^x + \int_x^\infty$, the last result can be written as

$$\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left[ \int_0^x e^{-u^2}\, du + \int_x^\infty e^{-u^2}\, du \right] = 1.$$

This shows that $\text{erf}(x)$ and $\text{erfc}(x)$ are related by the identity

$$\text{erf}(x) + \text{erfc}(x) = 1. \tag{2}$$



**FIGURE 14.1.1** Graphs of $\text{erf}(x)$ and $\text{erfc}(x)$ for $x \geq 0$

The graphs of $\text{erf}(x)$ and $\text{erfc}(x)$ for $x \geq 0$ are given in Figure 14.1.1. Note that $\text{erf}(0) = 0$, $\text{erfc}(0) = 1$ and that $\text{erf}(x) \to 1$, $\text{erfc}(x) \to 0$ as $x \to \infty$. Other numerical values of $\text{erf}(x)$ and $\text{erfc}(x)$ can be obtained from a CAS or tables. In tables the error function is often referred to as the **probability integral**. The domain of $\text{erf}(x)$ and of $\text{erfc}(x)$ is $(-\infty, \infty)$. In Problem 11 in Exercises 14.1 you are asked to obtain the graph of each function on this interval and to deduce a few additional properties.

Table 14.1, of Laplace transforms, will be useful in the exercises in the next section. The proofs of these results are complicated and will not be given.

**TABLE 14.1** Laplace Transforms

| $f(t)$, $a > 0$ | $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ | $f(t)$, $a > 0$ | $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1.** $\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t}} e^{-a^2/4t}$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{\sqrt{s}}$ | **4.** $2\sqrt{\dfrac{t}{\pi}} e^{-a^2/4t} - a\,\text{erfc}\!\left(\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s\sqrt{s}}$ |
| **2.** $\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{\pi t^3}} e^{-a^2/4t}$ | $e^{-a\sqrt{s}}$ | **5.** $e^{ab}e^{b^2 t}\,\text{erfc}\!\left(b\sqrt{t} + \dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{\sqrt{s}\,(\sqrt{s} + b)}$ |
| **3.** $\text{erfc}\!\left(\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s}$ | **6.** $-e^{ab}e^{b^2 t}\,\text{erfc}\!\left(b\sqrt{t} + \dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right) + \text{erfc}\!\left(\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{b\,e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s\,(\sqrt{s} + b)}$ |

## EXERCISES 14.1

**1. (a)** Show that $\text{erf}(\sqrt{t}) = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \displaystyle\int_0^t \dfrac{e^{-\tau}}{\sqrt{\tau}}\, d\tau.$

**(b)** Use the convolution theorem and the results of Problems 41 and 42 in Exercises 7.1 to show that

$$\mathscr{L}\{\text{erf}(\sqrt{t})\} = \dfrac{1}{s\sqrt{s+1}}.$$

**2.** Use the result of Problem 1 to show that

$$\mathscr{L}\{\text{erfc}(\sqrt{t})\} = \dfrac{1}{s}\left[1 - \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{s+1}}\right].$$

**3.** Use the result of Problem 1 to show that

$$\mathscr{L}\{e^t\,\text{erf}(\sqrt{t})\} = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{s}\,(s-1)}.$$

**4.** Use the result of Problem 2 to show that

$$\mathscr{L}\{e^t\,\text{erfc}(\sqrt{t})\} = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{s}\,(\sqrt{s}+1)}.$$

**5.** Let $C$, $G$, $R$, and $x$ be constants. Use Table 14.1 to show that

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{C}{Cs+G}\,(1 - e^{-x\sqrt{RCs+RG}})\right\} = e^{-Gt/C}\,\text{erf}\left(\dfrac{x}{2}\sqrt{\dfrac{RC}{t}}\right).$$

**6.** Let $a$ be a constant. Show that

$$\mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\dfrac{\sinh a\sqrt{s}}{s\sinh\sqrt{s}}\right\} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\left[\text{erf}\left(\dfrac{2n+1+a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right) - \text{erf}\left(\dfrac{2n+1-a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)\right].$$

[*Hint*: Use the exponential definition of the hyperbolic sine. Expand $1/(1 - e^{-2\sqrt{s}})$ in a geometric series.]

**7.** Use the Laplace transform and Table 14.1 to solve the integral equation

$$y(t) = 1 - \displaystyle\int_0^t \dfrac{y(\tau)}{\sqrt{t-\tau}}\, d\tau.$$

**8.** Use the third and fifth entries in Table 14.1 to derive the sixth entry.

**9.** Show that $\displaystyle\int_a^b e^{-u^2}\, du = \dfrac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}\,[\text{erf}(b) - \text{erf}(a)].$

**10.** Show that $\displaystyle\int_{-a}^a e^{-u^2}\, du = \sqrt{\pi}\,\text{erf}(a).$

### Computer Lab Assignments

**11.** The functions $\text{erf}(x)$ and $\text{erfc}(x)$ are defined for $x < 0$. Use a CAS to superimpose the graphs of $\text{erf}(x)$ and $\text{erfc}(x)$ on the same axes for $-10 \le x \le 10$. Do the graphs possess any symmetry? What are $\lim_{x\to-\infty}\text{erf}(x)$ and $\lim_{x\to-\infty}\text{erfc}(x)$?

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## 14.2   LAPLACE TRANSFORM

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Linear second-order initial-value problems (Sections 4.3 and 4.4)
- Operational properties of the Laplace Transform (Sections 7.2–7.4)

**INTRODUCTION**   The Laplace transform of a function $f(t)$, $t \ge 0$, is defined to be $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}f(t)\, dt$ whenever the improper integral converges. This integral transforms the function $f(t)$ into a function $F$ of the transform parameter $s$, that is, $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$. Similar to Chapter 7, where the Laplace transform was used mainly to solve linear ordinary differential equations, in this section we use the Laplace transform to solve linear partial differential equations. But in contrast to Chapter 7, where the Laplace transform reduced a linear ODE with constant coefficients to an algebraic equation, in this section we see that a linear PDE with constant coefficients is transformed into an ODE.

**TRANSFORM OF A FUNCTION OF TWO VARIABLES**   The boundary-value problems that we consider in this section will involve either the one-dimensional wave and heat equations or slight variations of these equations. These PDEs involve an unknown function of two independent variables $u(x, t)$, where the variable $t$

represents time $t \geq 0$. The Laplace transform of the function $u(x, t)$ with respect to $t$ is defined by

$$\mathcal{L}\{u(x, t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} u(x, t)\, dt,$$

where $x$ is treated as a parameter. We continue the convention of using capital letters to denote the Laplace transform of a function by writing

$$\mathcal{L}\{u(x, t)\} = U(x, s).$$

**TRANSFORM OF PARTIAL DERIVATIVES** The transforms of the partial derivatives $\partial u/\partial t$ and $\partial^2 u/\partial t^2$ follow analogously from (6) and (7) of Section 7.2:

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right\} = sU(x, s) - u(x, 0), \tag{1}$$

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}\right\} = s^2 U(x, s) - su(x, 0) - u_t(x, 0). \tag{2}$$

Because we are transforming with respect to $t$, we further suppose that it is legitimate to interchange integration and differentiation in the transform of $\partial^2 u/\partial x^2$:

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\, dt = \int_0^\infty \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}[e^{-st}u(x, t)]\, dt = \frac{d^2}{dx^2}\int_0^\infty e^{-st}u(x, t)\, dt = \frac{d^2}{dx^2}\mathcal{L}\{u(x, t)\};$$

that is,

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right\} = \frac{d^2 U}{dx^2}. \tag{3}$$

In view of (1) and (2) we see that the Laplace transform is suited to problems with initial conditions—namely, those problems associated with the heat equation or the wave equation.

---

### EXAMPLE 1 Laplace Transform of a PDE

Find the Laplace transform of the wave equation $a^2\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$, $t > 0$.

**SOLUTION** From (2) and (3),

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{a^2\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right\} = \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}\right\}$$

becomes

$$a^2\frac{d^2}{dx^2}\mathcal{L}\{u(x, t)\} = s^2\mathcal{L}\{u(x, t)\} - su(x, 0) - u_t(x, 0)$$

or

$$a^2\frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} - s^2 U = -su(x, 0) - u_t(x, 0). \tag{4} \blacksquare$$

The Laplace transform with respect to $t$ of either the wave equation or the heat equation eliminates that variable, and for the one-dimensional equations the transformed equations are then *ordinary differential equations* in the spatial variable $x$. In solving a transformed equation, we treat $s$ as a parameter.

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**EXAMPLE 2**    Using the Laplace Transform to Solve a BVP

</div>

Solve
$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

subject to
$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = \sin \pi x, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

**SOLUTION**   The partial differential equation is recognized as the wave equation with $a = 1$. From (4) and the given initial conditions the transformed equation is

$$\frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} - s^2 U = -\sin \pi x, \tag{5}$$

where $U(x, s) = \mathscr{L}\{u(x, t)\}$. Since the boundary conditions are functions of $t$, we must also find their Laplace transforms:

$$\mathscr{L}\{u(0, t)\} = U(0, s) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathscr{L}\{u(1, t)\} = U(1, s) = 0. \tag{6}$$

The results in (6) are boundary conditions for the ordinary differential equation (5). Since (5) is defined over a finite interval, its complementary function is

$$U_c(x, s) = c_1 \cosh sx + c_2 \sinh sx.$$

The method of undetermined coefficients yields a particular solution

$$U_p(x, s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + \pi^2} \sin \pi x.$$

Hence
$$U(x, s) = c_1 \cosh sx + c_2 \sinh sx + \frac{1}{s^2 + \pi^2} \sin \pi x.$$

But the conditions $U(0, s) = 0$ and $U(1, s) = 0$ yield, in turn, $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = 0$. We conclude that

$$U(x, s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + \pi^2} \sin \pi x$$

$$u(x, t) = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{1}{s^2 + \pi^2} \sin \pi x\right\} = \frac{1}{\pi} \sin \pi x \, \mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\pi}{s^2 + \pi^2}\right\}.$$

Therefore
$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \sin \pi x \sin \pi t. \qquad \blacksquare$$

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**EXAMPLE 3**    Using the Laplace Transform to Solve a BVP

</div>

A very long string is initially at rest on the nonnegative $x$-axis. The string is secured at $x = 0$, and its distant right end slides down a frictionless vertical support. The string is set in motion by letting it fall under its own weight. Find the displacement $u(x, t)$.

**SOLUTION**   Since the force of gravity is taken into consideration, it can be shown that the wave equation has the form

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - g = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad x > 0, \quad t > 0.$$

Here $g$ represents the constant acceleration due to gravity. The boundary and initial conditions are, respectively,

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = 0, \quad x > 0.$$

The second boundary condition, $\lim_{x \to \infty} \partial u/\partial x = 0$, indicates that the string is horizontal at a great distance from the left end. Now from (2) and (3),

$$\mathscr{L}\left\{a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right\} - \mathscr{L}\{g\} = \mathscr{L}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}\right\}$$

becomes

$$a^2 \frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} - \frac{g}{s} = s^2 U - su(x, 0) - u_t(x, 0)$$

or, in view of the initial conditions,

$$\frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} - \frac{s^2}{a^2} U = \frac{g}{a^2 s}.$$

The transforms of the boundary conditions are

$$\mathscr{L}\{u(0, t)\} = U(0, s) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathscr{L}\left\{\lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right\} = \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{dU}{dx} = 0.$$

With the aid of undetermined coefficients, the general solution of the transformed equation is found to be

$$U(x, s) = c_1 e^{-(x/a)s} + c_2 e^{(x/a)s} - \frac{g}{s^3}.$$

The boundary condition $\lim_{x \to \infty} dU/dx = 0$ implies that $c_2 = 0$, and $U(0, s) = 0$ gives $c_1 = g/s^3$. Therefore

$$U(x, s) = \frac{g}{s^3} e^{-(x/a)s} - \frac{g}{s^3}.$$

Now by the second translation theorem we have

$$u(x, t) = \mathscr{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{g}{s^3} e^{-(x/a)s} - \frac{g}{s^3}\right\} = \frac{1}{2} g\left(t - \frac{x}{a}\right)^2 \mathscr{U}\left(t - \frac{x}{a}\right) - \frac{1}{2} gt^2$$

or

$$u(x, t) = \begin{cases} -\dfrac{1}{2} gt^2, & 0 \le t < \dfrac{x}{a} \\[2mm] -\dfrac{g}{2a^2}(2axt - x^2), & t \ge \dfrac{x}{a}. \end{cases}$$



$u$

Vertical support → "at ∞"

$at$

$x$

$(at, -\frac{1}{2}gt^2)$

FIGURE 14.2.1 "Infinitely long" string falling under its own weight

To interpret the solution, let us suppose that $t > 0$ is fixed. For $0 \le x \le at$ the string is the shape of a parabola passing through $(0, 0)$ and $(at, -\frac{1}{2}gt^2)$. For $x > at$ the string is described by the horizontal line $u = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2$. See Figure 14.2.1. ■

Observe that the problem in the next example could be solved by the procedure in Section 12.6. The Laplace transform provides an alternative solution.

**EXAMPLE 4** A Solution in Terms of erf($x$)

Solve the heat equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

subject to $\qquad u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = u_0, \quad t > 0$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

**SOLUTION** From (1) and (3) and the given initial condition,

$$\mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right\} = \mathcal{L}\left\{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right\}$$

becomes $\qquad\qquad \dfrac{d^2 U}{dx^2} - sU = 0. \qquad\qquad\qquad (7)$

The transforms of the boundary conditions are

$$U(0, s) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad U(1, s) = \frac{u_0}{s}. \qquad\qquad (8)$$

Since we are concerned with a finite interval on the $x$-axis, we choose to write the general solution of (7) as

$$U(x, s) = c_1 \cosh(\sqrt{s}x) + c_2 \sinh(\sqrt{s}x).$$

Applying the two boundary conditions in (8) yields $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = u_0/(s \sinh \sqrt{s})$, respectively. Thus

$$U(x, s) = u_0 \frac{\sinh(\sqrt{s}x)}{s \sinh \sqrt{s}}.$$

Now the inverse transform of the latter function cannot be found in most tables. However, by writing

$$\frac{\sinh(\sqrt{s}x)}{s \sinh \sqrt{s}} = \frac{e^{\sqrt{s}x} - e^{-\sqrt{s}x}}{s(e^{\sqrt{s}} - e^{-\sqrt{s}})} = \frac{e^{(x-1)\sqrt{s}} - e^{-(x+1)\sqrt{s}}}{s(1 - e^{-2\sqrt{s}})}$$

and using the geometric series

$$\frac{1}{1 - e^{-2\sqrt{s}}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-2n\sqrt{s}}$$

we find $\qquad \dfrac{\sinh(\sqrt{s}x)}{s \sinh \sqrt{s}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[\dfrac{e^{-(2n+1-x)\sqrt{s}}}{s} - \dfrac{e^{-(2n+1+x)\sqrt{s}}}{s}\right].$

If we assume that the inverse Laplace transform can be done term by term, it follows from entry 3 of Table 14.1 that

$$u(x, t) = u_0 \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{\sinh(\sqrt{s}x)}{s \sinh \sqrt{s}}\right\}$$

$$= u_0 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[\mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{e^{-(2n+1-x)\sqrt{s}}}{s}\right\} - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\left\{\frac{e^{-(2n+1+x)\sqrt{s}}}{s}\right\}\right]$$

$$= u_0 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[\text{erfc}\left(\frac{2n+1-x}{2\sqrt{t}}\right) - \text{erfc}\left(\frac{2n+1+x}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)\right]. \qquad (9)$$

The solution (9) can be rewritten in terms of the error function using $\text{erfc}(x) = 1 - \text{erf}(x)$:

$$u(x, t) = u_0 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[\text{erf}\left(\frac{2n+1+x}{2\sqrt{t}}\right) - \text{erf}\left(\frac{2n+1-x}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)\right]. \qquad (10) \quad \blacksquare$$

Figure 14.2.2(a), obtained with the aid of the 3D-plot application in a CAS, shows the surface over the rectangular region $0 \le x \le 1$, $0 \le t \le 6$, defined by the partial sum $S_{10}(x, t)$ of the solution (10) with $u_0 = 100$. It is apparent from the surface and the accompanying two-dimensional graphs that at a fixed value of $x$ (the curve of intersection of a plane slicing the surface perpendicular to the $x$-axis on

the interval [0, 1] the temperature $u(x, t)$ increases rapidly to a constant value as time increases. See Figures 14.2.2(b) and 14.2.2(c). For a fixed time (the curve of intersection of a plane slicing the surface perpendicular to the $t$-axis) the temperature $u(x, t)$ naturally increases from 0 to 100. See Figures 14.2.2(d) and 14.2.2(e).
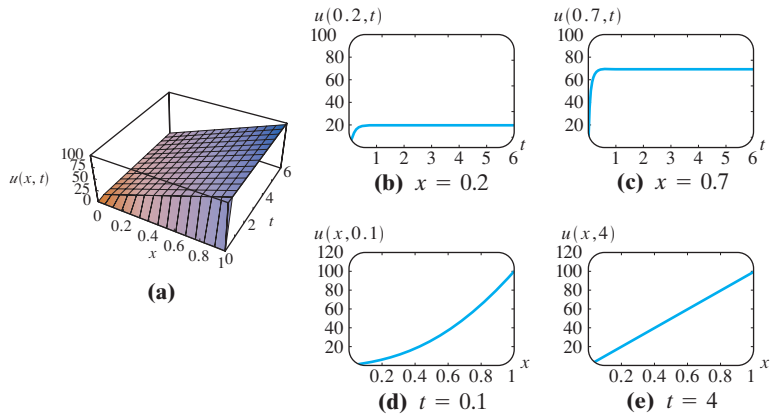


**FIGURE 14.2.2** Graph of solution given in (10). In (b) and (c) $x$ is held constant. In (d) and (e) $t$ is held constant

# EXERCISES 14.2

1. A string is stretched along the $x$-axis between $(0, 0)$ and $(L, 0)$. Find the displacement $u(x, t)$ if the string starts from rest in the initial position $A \sin(\pi x/L)$.

2. Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 2 \sin \pi x + 4 \sin 3\pi x.$$

3. The displacement of a semi-infinite elastic string is determined from

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad x > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = f(t), \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 0, \quad x > 0.$$

Solve for $u(x, t)$.

4. Solve the boundary-value problem in Problem 3 when

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} \sin \pi t, & 0 \le t \le 1 \\ 0, & t > 1. \end{cases}$$

Sketch the displacement $u(x, t)$ for $t > 1$.

5. In Example 3 find the displacement $u(x, t)$ when the left end of the string at $x = 0$ is given an oscillatory motion described by $f(t) = A \sin \omega t$.

6. The displacement $u(x, t)$ of a string that is driven by an external force is determined from

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \sin \pi x \sin \omega t = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

Solve for $u(x, t)$.

7. A uniform bar is clamped at $x = 0$ and is initially at rest. If a constant force $F_0$ is applied to the free end at $x = L$, the longitudinal displacement $u(x, t)$ of a cross section of the bar is determined from

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \left. E\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right|_{x=L} = F_0, \quad E \text{ a constant}, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < L.$$

Solve for $u(x, t)$. [*Hint*: Expand $1/(1 + e^{-2sL/a})$ in a geometric series.]

8. A uniform semi-infinite elastic beam moving along the $x$-axis with a constant velocity $-v_0$ is

brought to a stop by hitting a wall at time $t = 0$. See Figure 14.2.3. The longitudinal displacement $u(x, t)$ is determined from

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = -v_0, \quad x > 0.$$

Solve for $u(x, t)$.



Wall    Beam
$\leftarrow v_0$

$x = 0$    $x$
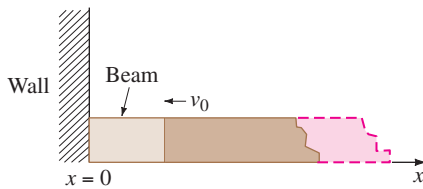
**FIGURE 14.2.3** Moving elastic beam in Problem 8

9. Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = xe^{-x}, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0, \quad x > 0.$$

10. Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 1, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = e^{-x}, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0, \quad x > 0.$$

In Problems 11–18 use the Laplace transform to solve the heat equation $u_{xx} = u_t$, $x > 0$, $t > 0$, subject to the given conditions.

11. $u(0, t) = u_0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = u_1, \quad u(x, 0) = u_1$

12. $u(0, t) = u_0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{u(x, t)}{x} = u_1, \quad u(x, 0) = u_1 x$

13. $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=0} = u(0, t), \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = u_0, \quad u(x, 0) = u_0$

14. $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=0} = u(0, t) - 50, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = 0$

15. $u(0, t) = f(t), \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = 0$

[*Hint*: Use the convolution theorem.]

16. $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=0} = -f(t), \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = 0$

17. $u(0, t) = 60 + 40 \mathcal{U}(t - 2), \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 60,$
$u(x, 0) = 60$

18. $u(0, t) = \begin{cases} 20, & 0 < t < 1 \\ 0, & t \geq 1 \end{cases}, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 100,$
$u(x, 0) = 100$

19. Solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad -\infty < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=1} = 100 - u(1, t), \quad \lim_{x \to -\infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad -\infty < x < 1.$$

20. Show that a solution of the boundary-value problem

$$k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + r = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad x > 0,$$

where $r$ is a constant, is given by

$$u(x, t) = rt - r \int_0^t \text{erfc}\left(\frac{x}{2\sqrt{k\tau}}\right) d\tau.$$

21. A rod of length $L$ is held at a constant temperature $u_0$ at its ends $x = 0$ and $x = L$. If the rod's initial temperature is $u_0 + u_0 \sin(x\pi/L)$, solve the heat equation $u_{xx} = u_t$, $0 < x < L$, $t > 0$ for the temperature $u(x, t)$.

22. If there is a heat transfer from the lateral surface of a thin wire of length $L$ into a medium at constant temperature $u_m$, then the heat equation takes on the form

$$k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - h(u - u_m) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0,$$

where $h$ is a constant. Find the temperature $u(x, t)$ if the initial temperature is a constant $u_0$ throughout and the ends $x = 0$ and $x = L$ are insulated.

23. A rod of unit length is insulated at $x = 0$ and is kept at temperature zero at $x = 1$. If the initial temperature of the rod is a constant $u_0$, solve $ku_{xx} = u_t$, $0 < x < 1$, $t > 0$ for the temperature $u(x, t)$. [*Hint*: Expand $1/(1 + e^{-2\sqrt{s/k}})$ in a geometric series.]

**24.** An infinite porous slab of unit width is immersed in a solution of constant concentration $c_0$. A dissolved substance in the solution diffuses into the slab. The concentration $c(x, t)$ in the slab is determined from

$$D\frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial c}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$c(0, t) = c_0, \quad c(1, t) = c_0, \quad t > 0$$

$$c(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1,$$

where $D$ is a constant. Solve for $c(x, t)$.

**25.** A very long telephone transmission line is initially at a constant potential $u_0$. If the line is grounded at $x = 0$ and insulated at the distant right end, then the potential $u(x, t)$ at a point $x$ along the line at time $t$ is determined from

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - RC\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - RGu = 0, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = u_0, \quad x > 0,$$

where $R$, $C$, and $G$ are constants known as resistance, capacitance, and conductance, respectively. Solve for $u(x, t)$. [*Hint*: See Problem 5 in Exercises 14.1.]

**26.** Show that a solution of the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - hu = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0, \quad h \text{ constant}$$

$$u(0, t) = u_0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad x > 0$$

is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{u_0 x}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^t \frac{e^{-h\tau - x^2/4\tau}}{\tau^{3/2}} \, d\tau.$$

**27.** Starting at $t = 0$, a concentrated load of magnitude $F_0$ moves with a constant velocity $v_0$ along a semi-infinite string. In this case the wave equation becomes

$$a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + F_0 \delta\left(t - \frac{x}{v_0}\right),$$

where $\delta(t - x/v_0)$ is the Dirac delta function. Solve the above PDE subject to

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = 0, \quad x > 0$$

(a) when $v_0 \neq a$    (b) when $v_0 = a$.

**Computer Lab Assignments**

**28. (a)** The temperature in a semi-infinite solid is modeled by the boundary-value problem

$$k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = u_0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad x > 0.$$

Solve for $u(x, t)$. Use the solution to determine analytically the value of $\lim_{t \to \infty} u(x, t), x > 0$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to graph $u(x, t)$ over the rectangular region defined by $0 \le x \le 10, 0 \le t \le 15$. Assume that $u_0 = 100$ and $k = 1$. Indicate the two boundary conditions and initial condition on your graph. Use 2D and 3D plots of $u(x, t)$ to verify your answer to part (a).

**29. (a)** In Problem 28 if there is a constant flux of heat into the solid at its left-hand boundary, then the boundary condition is $\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = -A, A > 0, t > 0$.

Solve for $u(x, t)$. Use the solution to determine analytically the value of $\lim_{t \to \infty} u(x, t), x > 0$.

**(b)** Use a CAS to graph $u(x, t)$ over the rectangular region defined by $0 \le x \le 10, 0 \le t \le 15$. Assume that $u_0 = 100$ and $k = 1$. Use 2D and 3D plots of $u(x, t)$ to verify your answer to part (a).

**30.** Humans gather most of our information on the outside world through sight and sound. But many creatures use chemical signals as their primary means of communication; for example, honeybees, when alarmed, emit a substance and fan their wings feverishly to relay the warning signal to the bees that attend to the queen. These molecular messages between members of the same species are called pheromones. The signals may be carried by moving air or water or by a *diffusion process* in which the random movement of gas molecules transports the chemical away from its source. Figure 14.2.4 shows an ant emitting an alarm chemical into the still air of a tunnel. If $c(x, t)$ denotes the concentration of the chemical $x$ centimeters from the source at time $t$, then $c(x, t)$ satisfies

$$k\frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial c}{\partial t}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$$

and $k$ is a positive constant. The emission of pheromones as a discrete pulse gives rise to a boundary condition of the form

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = -A\delta(t),$$

where $\delta(t)$ is the Dirac delta function.

**(a)** Solve the boundary-value problem if it is further known that

$$c(x, 0) = 0, \quad x > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} c(x, t) = 0, \quad t > 0.$$

(b) Use a CAS to graph the solution in part (a) for $x \geq 0$ at the fixed times $t = 0.1$, $t = 0.5$, $t = 1$, $t = 2$, and $t = 5$.

(c) For any fixed time $t$, show that $\int_0^\infty c(x, t)\, dx = Ak$. Thus $Ak$ represents the total amount of chemical discharged.
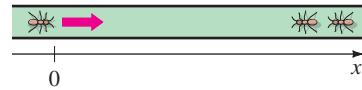


**FIGURE 14.2.4** Ant responding to chemical signal in Problem 30

## 14.3 FOURIER INTEGRAL

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- The Fourier integral has different forms that are analogous to the four forms of Fourier series given in Definitions 11.2.1 and 11.3.1 and Problem 21 in Exercises 14.2. A review of these various forms is recommended.

**INTRODUCTION** In Chapters 11–13 we used Fourier series to represent a function $f$ defined on a finite interval such as $(-p, p)$ or $(0, L)$. When $f$ and $f'$ are piecewise continuous on such an interval, a Fourier series represents the function on the interval and converges to the periodic extension of $f$ outside the interval. In this way we are justified in saying that Fourier series are associated only with *periodic functions*. We shall now derive, in a nonrigorous fashion, a means of representing certain kinds of *nonperiodic functions* that are defined on either an infinite interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ or a semi-infinite interval $(0, \infty)$.

**FOURIER SERIES TO FOURIER INTEGRAL** Suppose a function $f$ is defined on the interval $(-p, p)$. If we use the integral definitions of the coefficients (9), (10), and (11) of Section 11.2 in (8) of that section, then the Fourier series of $f$ on the interval is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2p} \int_{-p}^{p} f(t)\, dt + \frac{1}{p} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \left( \int_{-p}^{p} f(t) \cos \frac{n\pi}{p} t\, dt \right) \cos \frac{n\pi}{p} x + \left( \int_{-p}^{p} f(t) \sin \frac{n\pi}{p} t\, dt \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{p} x \right]. \quad (1)$$

If we let $\alpha_n = n\pi/p$, $\Delta\alpha = \alpha_{n+1} - \alpha_n = \pi/p$, then (1) becomes

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \int_{-p}^{p} f(t)\, dt \right) \Delta\alpha + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \left( \int_{-p}^{p} f(t) \cos \alpha_n t\, dt \right) \cos \alpha_n x + \left( \int_{-p}^{p} f(t) \sin \alpha_n t\, dt \right) \sin \alpha_n x \right] \Delta\alpha. \quad (2)$$

We now expand the interval $(-p, p)$ by letting $p \to \infty$. Since $p \to \infty$ implies that $\Delta\alpha \to 0$, the limit of (2) has the form $\lim_{\Delta\alpha \to 0} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} F(\alpha_n)\, \Delta\alpha$, which is suggestive of the definition of the integral $\int_0^\infty F(\alpha)\, d\alpha$. Thus if $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t)\, dt$ exists, the limit of the first term in (2) is zero, and the limit of the sum becomes

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \left[ \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \cos \alpha t\, dt \right) \cos \alpha x + \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) \sin \alpha t\, dt \right) \sin \alpha x \right] d\alpha. \quad (3)$$

The result given in (3) is called the **Fourier integral** of $f$ on $(-\infty, \infty)$. As the following summary shows, the basic structure of the Fourier integral is reminiscent of that of a Fourier series.

> **DEFINITION 14.3.1**   **Fourier Integral**
>
> The **Fourier integral** of a function $f$ defined on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ is given by
>
> $$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty [A(\alpha) \cos \alpha x + B(\alpha) \sin \alpha x]\, d\alpha, \qquad (4)$$
>
> where
> $$A(\alpha) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x) \cos \alpha x\, dx \qquad (5)$$
>
> $$B(\alpha) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x) \sin \alpha x\, dx. \qquad (6)$$

**CONVERGENCE OF A FOURIER INTEGRAL**   Sufficient conditions under which a Fourier integral converges to $f(x)$ are similar to, but slightly more restrictive than, the conditions for a Fourier series.

> **THEOREM 14.3.1**   **Conditions for Convergence**
>
> Let $f$ and $f'$ be piecewise continuous on every finite interval and let $f$ be absolutely integrable on $(-\infty, \infty)$.[*] Then the Fourier integral of $f$ on the interval converges to $f(x)$ at a point of continuity. At a point of discontinuity the Fourier integral will converge to the average
>
> $$\frac{f(x+) + f(x-)}{2},$$
>
> where $f(x+)$ and $f(x-)$ denote the limit of $f$ at $x$ from the right and from the left, respectively.

> **EXAMPLE 1**   **Fourier Integral Representation**

Find the Fourier integral representation of the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ 1, & 0 < x < 2 \\ 0, & x > 2. \end{cases}$$

**SOLUTION**   The function, whose graph is shown in Figure 14.3.1, satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem 14.3.1. Hence from (5) and (6) we have at once

$$A(\alpha) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x) \cos \alpha x\, dx$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^0 f(x) \cos \alpha x\, dx + \int_0^2 f(x) \cos \alpha x\, dx + \int_2^\infty f(x) \cos \alpha x\, dx$$

$$= \int_0^2 \cos \alpha x\, dx = \frac{\sin 2\alpha}{\alpha}$$
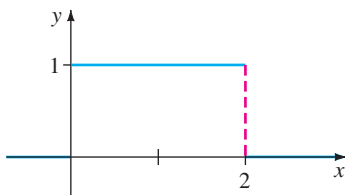
$$B(\alpha) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x) \sin \alpha x\, dx = \int_0^2 \sin \alpha x\, dx = \frac{1 - \cos 2\alpha}{\alpha}.$$

**FIGURE 14.3.1**   Piecewise-continuous function defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$

---

[*]This means that the integral $\int_{-\infty}^\infty |f(x)|\, dx$ converges.

Substituting these coefficients into (4) then gives

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \left[ \left( \frac{\sin 2\alpha}{\alpha} \right) \cos \alpha x + \left( \frac{1 - \cos 2\alpha}{\alpha} \right) \sin \alpha x \right] d\alpha.$$

When we use trigonometric identities, the last integral simplifies to

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin \alpha \cos \alpha(x - 1)}{\alpha} d\alpha. \tag{7} \quad \blacksquare$$

The Fourier integral can be used to evaluate integrals. For example, it follows from Theorem 14.3.1 that (7) converges to $f(1) = 1$; that is,

$$\frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} d\alpha = 1 \qquad \text{and so} \qquad \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} d\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

The latter result is worthy of special note, since it cannot be obtained in the "usual" manner; the integrand $(\sin x)/x$ does not possess an antiderivative that is an elementary function.

**COSINE AND SINE INTEGRALS** When $f$ is an even function on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, then the product $f(x) \cos \alpha x$ is also an even function, whereas $f(x) \sin \alpha x$ is an odd function. As a consequence of property $(g)$ of Theorem 11.3.1, $B(\alpha) = 0$, and so (4) becomes

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \left( \int_0^\infty f(t) \cos \alpha t \, dt \right) \cos \alpha x \, d\alpha.$$

Here we have also used property $(f)$ of Theorem 11.3.1 to write

$$\int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t) \cos \alpha t \, dt = 2 \int_0^\infty f(t) \cos \alpha t \, dt.$$

Similarly, when $f$ is an odd function on $(-\infty, \infty)$, products $f(x) \cos \alpha x$ and $f(x) \sin \alpha x$ are odd and even functions, respectively. Therefore $A(\alpha) = 0$, and

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \left( \int_0^\infty f(t) \sin \alpha t \, dt \right) \sin \alpha x \, d\alpha.$$

We summarize in the following definition.

---

**DEFINITION 14.3.2** **Fourier Cosine and Sine Integrals**

($i$) The Fourier integral of an even function on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ is the **cosine integral**

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty A(\alpha) \cos \alpha x \, d\alpha, \tag{8}$$

where

$$A(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty f(x) \cos \alpha x \, dx. \tag{9}$$

($ii$) The Fourier integral of an odd function on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ is the **sine integral**

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty B(\alpha) \sin \alpha x \, d\alpha, \tag{10}$$

where

$$B(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty f(x) \sin \alpha x \, dx. \tag{11}$$

---

### EXAMPLE 2 Cosine Integral Representation

Find the Fourier integral representation of the function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & |x| < a \\ 0, & |x| > a. \end{cases}$$

**SOLUTION** It is apparent from Figure 14.3.2 that $f$ is an even function. Hence we represent $f$ by the Fourier cosine integral (8). From (9) we obtain

$$A(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty f(x) \cos \alpha x \, dx = \int_0^a f(x) \cos \alpha x \, dx + \int_a^\infty f(x) \cos \alpha x \, dx = \int_0^a \cos \alpha x \, dx = \frac{\sin a\alpha}{\alpha},$$

so
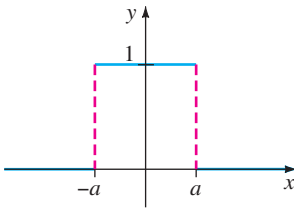
$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin a\alpha \cos \alpha x}{\alpha} \, d\alpha. \tag{12} \blacksquare$$



**FIGURE 14.3.2** Piecewise-continuous even function defined on $(-\infty, \infty)$

The integrals (8) and (10) can be used when $f$ is neither odd nor even and defined only on the half-line $(0, \infty)$. In this case (8) represents $f$ on the interval $(0, \infty)$ and its even (but not periodic) extension to $(-\infty, 0)$, whereas (10) represents $f$ on $(0, \infty)$ and its odd extension to the interval $(-\infty, 0)$. The next example illustrates this concept.

### EXAMPLE 3 Cosine and Sine Integral Representations

Represent $f(x) = e^{-x}$, $x > 0$
**(a)** by a cosine integral     **(b)** by a sine integral.

**SOLUTION** The graph of the function is given in Figure 14.3.3.

**(a)** Using integration by parts, we find

$$A(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} \cos \alpha x \, dx = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha^2}.$$

Therefore the cosine integral of $f$ is
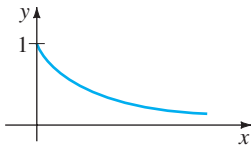
$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\cos \alpha x}{1 + \alpha^2} \, d\alpha. \tag{13}$$



**FIGURE 14.3.3** Function defined on $(0, \infty)$

**(b)** Similarly, we have

$$B(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} \sin \alpha x \, dx = \frac{\alpha}{1 + \alpha^2}.$$

The sine integral of $f$ is then

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\alpha \sin \alpha x}{1 + \alpha^2} \, d\alpha. \tag{14}$$

Figure 14.3.4 shows the graphs of the functions and their extensions represented by the two integrals. $\blacksquare$
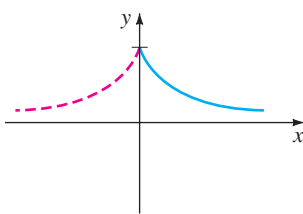


**(a)** Cosine integral
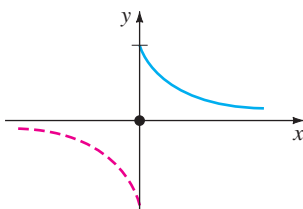


**(b)** Sine integral

**FIGURE 14.3.4** (a) is the even extension of $f$; (b) is the odd extension of $f$

**USE OF COMPUTERS** We can examine the convergence of a Fourier integral in a manner similar to graphing partial sums of a Fourier series. To illustrate, let's use part (b) of Example 3. Then by definition of an improper integral the Fourier sine integral representation (14) of $f(x) = e^{-x}$, $x > 0$, can be written as $f(x) = \lim_{b \to \infty} F_b(x)$, where $x$ is considered a parameter in

$$F_b(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^b \frac{\alpha \sin \alpha x}{1 + \alpha^2} \, d\alpha. \tag{15}$$

Now the idea is this: Since the Fourier sine integral (14) converges, for a specified value of $b > 0$ the graph of the **partial integral** $F_b(x)$ in (15) will be an approximation to the graph of $f$ in Figure 14.3.4(b). The graphs of $F_b(x)$ for $b = 5$ and $b = 20$ given in Figure 14.3.5 were obtained by using *Mathematica* and its **NIntegrate** application. See Problem 21 in Exercises 14.3.



**(a)** $F_5(x)$        **(b)** $F_{20}(x)$
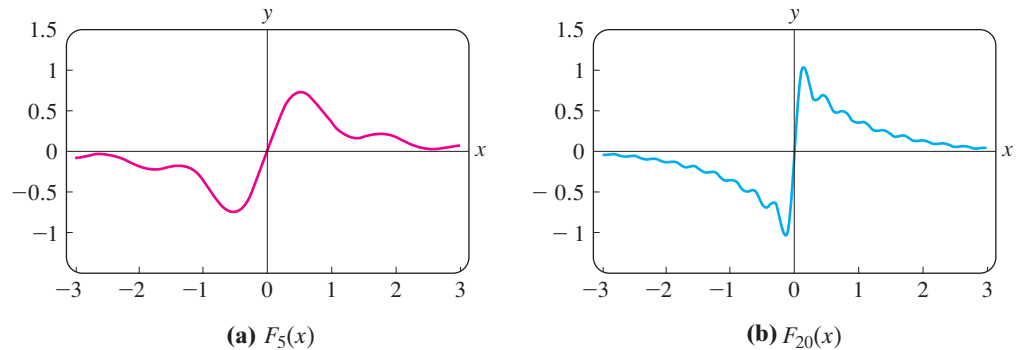
**FIGURE 14.3.5** Convergence of $F_b(x)$ to $f(x)$ in Example 3(b) as $b \to \infty$

**COMPLEX FORM** The Fourier integral (4) also possesses an equivalent **complex form,** or **exponential form,** that is analogous to the complex form of a Fourier series (see Problem 21 in Exercises 11.2). If (5) and (6) are substituted into (4), then

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t) [\cos \alpha t \cos \alpha x + \sin \alpha t \sin \alpha x] \, dt \, d\alpha$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t) \cos \alpha(t - x) \, dt \, d\alpha$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t) \cos \alpha(t - x) \, dt \, d\alpha \tag{16}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t)[\cos \alpha(t - x) + i \sin \alpha(t - x)] \, dt \, d\alpha \tag{17}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t)e^{i\alpha(t-x)} \, dt \, d\alpha$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \left( \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t)e^{i\alpha t} \, dt \right) e^{-i\alpha x} \, d\alpha. \tag{18}$$

We note that (16) follows from the fact that the integrand is an even function of $\alpha$. In (17) we have simply added zero to the integrand;

$$i \int_{-\infty}^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t) \sin \alpha(t - x) \, dt \, d\alpha = 0$$

because the integrand is an odd function of $\alpha$. The integral in (18) can be expressed as

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^\infty C(\alpha)e^{-i\alpha x} \, d\alpha, \tag{19}$$

where $$C(\alpha) = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x)e^{i\alpha x} \, dx. \tag{20}$$

This latter form of the Fourier integral will be put to use in the next section when we return to the solution of boundary-value problems.

# EXERCISES 14.3

In Problems 1–6 find the Fourier integral representation of the given function.

**1.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < -1 \\ -1, & -1 < x < 0 \\ 2, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0, & x > 1 \end{cases}$

**2.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < \pi \\ 4, & \pi < x < 2\pi \\ 0, & x > 2\pi \end{cases}$

**3.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ x, & 0 < x < 3 \\ 0, & x > 3 \end{cases}$

**4.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ \sin x, & 0 \le x \le \pi \\ 0, & x > \pi \end{cases}$

**5.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ e^{-x}, & x > 0 \end{cases}$

**6.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} e^x, & |x| < 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1 \end{cases}$

In Problems 7–12 represent the given function by an appropriate cosine or sine integral.

**7.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < -1 \\ -5, & -1 < x < 0 \\ 5, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0, & x > 1 \end{cases}$

**8.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & |x| < 1 \\ \pi, & 1 < |x| < 2 \\ 0, & |x| > 2 \end{cases}$

**9.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} |x|, & |x| < \pi \\ 0, & |x| > \pi \end{cases}$

**10.** $f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & |x| < \pi \\ 0, & |x| > \pi \end{cases}$

**11.** $f(x) = e^{-|x|} \sin x$

**12.** $f(x) = xe^{-|x|}$

In Problems 13–16 find the cosine and sine integral representations of the given function.

**13.** $f(x) = e^{-kx}, \quad k > 0, \quad x > 0$

**14.** $f(x) = e^{-x} - e^{-3x}, \quad x > 0$

**15.** $f(x) = xe^{-2x}, \quad x > 0$

**16.** $f(x) = e^{-x} \cos x, \quad x > 0$

In Problems 17 and 18 solve the given integral equation for the function *f.*

**17.** $\displaystyle\int_0^\infty f(x) \cos \alpha x \, dx = e^{-\alpha}$

**18.** $\displaystyle\int_0^\infty f(x) \sin \alpha x \, dx = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < \alpha < 1 \\ 0, & \alpha > 1 \end{cases}$

**19. (a)** Use (7) to show that

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{\sin 2x}{x} \, dx = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

[*Hint*: $\alpha$ is a dummy variable of integration.]

**(b)** Show in general that for $k > 0$,

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{\sin kx}{x} \, dx = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

**20.** Use the complex form (19) to find the Fourier integral representation of $f(x) = e^{-|x|}$. Show that the result is the same as that obtained from (8).

## Computer Lab Assignments

**21.** While the integral (12) can be graphed in the same manner discussed on page 501 to obtain Figure 14.3.5, it can also be expressed in terms of a special function that is built into a CAS.

**(a)** Use a trigonometric identity to show that an alternative form of the Fourier integral representation (12) of the function *f* in Example 2 (with $a = 1$) is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin \alpha(x + 1) - \sin \alpha(x - 1)}{\alpha} \, d\alpha.$$

**(b)** As a consequence of part (a), $f(x) = \lim_{b \to \infty} F_b(x)$, where

$$F_b(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^b \frac{\sin \alpha(x + 1) - \sin \alpha(x - 1)}{\alpha} \, d\alpha.$$

Show that the last integral can be written as

$$F_b(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} [\text{Si}(b(x + 1)) - \text{Si}(b(x - 1))],$$

where $\text{Si}(x)$ is the **sine integral function.** See Problem 49 in Exercises 2.3.

**(c)** Use a CAS and the sine integral form of $F_b(x)$ in part (b) to obtain the graphs on the interval $[-3, 3]$ for $b = 4$, 6, and 15. Then graph $F_b(x)$ for larger values of $b > 0$.

## 14.4 FOURIER TRANSFORMS

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Definition 14.3.2
- Equations (19) and (20) in Section 14.3

**INTRODUCTION** So far in this text we have studied and used only one integral transform: the Laplace transform. But in Section 14.3 we saw that the Fourier integral had three alternative forms: the cosine integral, the sine integral, and the complex or exponential form. In the present section we shall take these three forms of the Fourier integral and develop them into three new integral transforms, not surprisingly called **Fourier transforms.** In addition, we shall expand on the concept of a transform pair, that is, an integral transform and its inverse. We shall also see that the inverse of an integral transform is itself another integral transform.

**TRANSFORM PAIRS** The Laplace transform $F(s)$ of a function $f(t)$ is defined by an integral, but up to now we have been using the symbolic representation $f(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\}$ to denote the inverse Laplace transform of $F(s)$. Actually, the inverse Laplace transform is also an integral transform.

If $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t)\, dt = F(s)$, then the inverse Laplace transform is

$$\mathcal{L}^{-1}\{F(s)\} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma - i\infty}^{\gamma + i\infty} e^{st} F(s)\, ds = f(t).$$

The last integral is called a **contour integral;** its evaluation requires the use of complex variables and is beyond the scope of this text. The point here is this: Integral transforms appear in **transform pairs.** If $f(x)$ is transformed into $F(\alpha)$ by an **integral transform**

$$F(\alpha) = \int_a^b f(x)K(\alpha, x)\, dx,$$

then the function $f$ can be recovered by another integral transform

$$f(x) = \int_c^d F(\alpha)H(\alpha, x)\, d\alpha,$$

called the **inverse transform.** The functions $K$ and $H$ in the integrands are called the **kernels** of their respective transforms. We identify $K(s, t) = e^{-st}$ as the kernel of the Laplace transform and $H(s, t) = e^{st}/2\pi i$ as the kernel of the inverse Laplace transform.

**FOURIER TRANSFORM PAIRS** The Fourier integral is the source of three new integral transforms. From (20)–(19), (11)–(10), and (9)–(8) of Section 14.3 we are prompted to define the following **Fourier transform pairs.**

---

**DEFINITION 14.4.1** Fourier Transform Pairs

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| (i) | Fourier transform: | $\mathcal{F}\{f(x)\} = \displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)e^{i\alpha x}\, dx = F(\alpha)$ | (1) |
| | Inverse Fourier transform: | $\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{F(\alpha)\} = \dfrac{1}{2\pi}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\alpha)e^{-i\alpha x}\, d\alpha = f(x)$ | (2) |

(ii) Fourier sine transform:

$$\mathscr{F}_s\{f(x)\} = \int_0^\infty f(x) \sin \alpha x \, dx = F(\alpha) \qquad (3)$$

Inverse Fourier sine transform:

$$\mathscr{F}_s^{-1}\{F(\alpha)\} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty F(\alpha) \sin \alpha x \, d\alpha = f(x) \qquad (4)$$

(iii) Fourier cosine transform:

$$\mathscr{F}_c\{f(x)\} = \int_0^\infty f(x) \cos \alpha x \, dx = F(\alpha) \qquad (5)$$

Inverse Fourier cosine transform:

$$\mathscr{F}_c^{-1}\{F(\alpha)\} = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty F(\alpha) \cos \alpha x \, d\alpha = f(x) \qquad (6)$$

**EXISTENCE** The conditions under which (1), (3), and (5) exist are more stringent than those for the Laplace transform. For example, you should verify that $\mathscr{F}\{1\}$, $\mathscr{F}_s\{1\}$, and $\mathscr{F}_c\{1\}$ do not exist. Sufficient conditions for existence are that $f$ be absolutely integrable on the appropriate interval and that $f$ and $f'$ be piecewise continuous on every finite interval.

**OPERATIONAL PROPERTIES** Since our immediate goal is to apply these new transforms to boundary-value problems, we need to examine the transforms of derivatives.

**FOURIER TRANSFORM** Suppose that $f$ is continuous and absolutely integrable on the interval $(-\infty, \infty)$ and $f'$ is piecewise continuous on every finite interval. If $f(x) \to 0$ as $x \to \pm\infty$, then integration by parts gives

$$\mathscr{F}\{f'(x)\} = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f'(x) e^{i\alpha x} \, dx$$

$$= f(x) e^{i\alpha x} \Big|_{-\infty}^\infty - i\alpha \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x) e^{i\alpha x} \, dx$$

$$= -i\alpha \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x) e^{i\alpha x} \, dx,$$

that is,

$$\mathscr{F}\{f'(x)\} = -i\alpha \, F(\alpha). \qquad (7)$$

Similarly, under the added assumptions that $f'$ is continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$, $f''(x)$ is piecewise continuous on every finite interval and $f'(x) \to 0$ as $x \to \pm\infty$, we have

$$\mathscr{F}\{f''(x)\} = (-i\alpha)^2 \, \mathscr{F}\{f(x)\} = -\alpha^2 F(\alpha). \qquad (8)$$

It is important to be aware that the sine and cosine transforms are not suitable for transforming the first derivative (or, for that matter, any derivative of *odd* order). It is readily shown that

$$\mathscr{F}_s\{f'(x)\} = -\alpha\mathscr{F}_c\{f(x)\} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \mathscr{F}_c\{f'(x)\} = \alpha\mathscr{F}_s\{f(x)\} - f(0).$$

The difficulty is apparent; the transform of $f'(x)$ is not expressed in terms of the original integral transform.

**FOURIER SINE TRANSFORM** Suppose that $f$ and $f'$ are continuous, $f$ is absolutely integrable on the interval $[0, \infty)$, and $f''$ is piecewise continuous on every

finite interval. If $f \to 0$ and $f' \to 0$ as $x \to \infty$, then

$$\mathcal{F}_s\{f''(x)\} = \int_0^\infty f''(x) \sin \alpha x \, dx$$

$$= f'(x) \sin \alpha x \Big|_0^\infty - \alpha \int_0^\infty f'(x) \cos \alpha x \, dx$$

$$= -\alpha \left[ f(x) \cos \alpha x \Big|_0^\infty + \alpha \int_0^\infty f(x) \sin \alpha x \, dx \right]$$

$$= \alpha f(0) - \alpha^2 \mathcal{F}_s\{f(x)\},$$

that is, $\qquad \mathcal{F}_s\{f''(x)\} = -\alpha^2 F(\alpha) + \alpha f(0). \qquad (9)$

**FOURIER COSINE TRANSFORM** Under the same assumptions that lead to (9) we find the Fourier cosine transform of $f''(x)$ to be

$$\mathcal{F}_c\{f''(x)\} = -\alpha^2 F(\alpha) - f'(0). \qquad (10)$$

A natural question is "How do we know which transform to use on a given boundary-value problem?" Clearly, to use a Fourier transform, the domain of the variable to be eliminated must be $(-\infty, \infty)$. To utilize a sine or cosine transform, the domain of at least one of the variables in the problem must be $[0, \infty)$. But the determining factor in choosing between the sine transform and the cosine transform is the type of boundary condition specified at zero.

■ Remember this when working Exercises 14.4.

In the examples that follow, we shall assume without further mention that both $u$ and $\partial u/\partial x$ (or $\partial u/\partial y$) approach zero as $x \to \pm\infty$. This is not a major restriction, since these conditions hold in most applications.

---

| **EXAMPLE 1** | **Using the Fourier Transform** |

Solve the heat equation $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}$, $-\infty < x < \infty$, $t > 0$, subject to

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \qquad \text{where} \qquad f(x) = \begin{cases} u_0, & |x| < 1 \\ 0, & |x| > 1. \end{cases}$$

**SOLUTION** The problem can be interpreted as finding the temperature $u(x, t)$ in an infinite rod. Because the domain of $x$ is the infinite interval $(-\infty, \infty)$, we use the Fourier transform (1) and define

$$\mathcal{F}\{u(x, t)\} = \int_{-\infty}^\infty u(x, t) e^{i\alpha x} \, dx = U(\alpha, t).$$

If we transform the partial differential equation and use (8),

$$\mathcal{F}\left\{ k\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right\} = \mathcal{F}\left\{ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right\}$$

yields $\qquad -k\alpha^2 U(\alpha, t) = \dfrac{dU}{dt} \qquad \text{or} \qquad \dfrac{dU}{dt} + k\alpha^2 U(\alpha, t) = 0.$

Solving the last equation gives $U(\alpha, t) = ce^{-k\alpha^2 t}$. Now the transform of the initial condition is

$$\mathcal{F}\{u(x, 0)\} = \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(x) e^{i\alpha x} \, dx = \int_{-1}^1 u_0 e^{i\alpha x} \, dx = u_0 \frac{e^{i\alpha} - e^{-i\alpha}}{i\alpha}.$$

This result is the same as $U(\alpha, 0) = 2u_0 \dfrac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha}$. Applying this condition to the solution $U(\alpha, t)$ gives $U(\alpha, 0) = c = (2u_0 \sin \alpha)/\alpha$, so

$$U(\alpha, t) = 2u_0 \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} e^{-k\alpha^2 t}.$$

It then follows from the inversion integral (2) that

$$u(x, t) = \frac{u_0}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} e^{-k\alpha^2 t} e^{-i\alpha x} \, d\alpha.$$

The last expression can be simplified somewhat by using Euler's formula $e^{-i\alpha x} = \cos \alpha x - i \sin \alpha x$ and noting that

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha} e^{-k\alpha^2 t} \sin \alpha x \, d\alpha = 0,$$

since the integrand is an odd function of $\alpha$. Hence we finally have

$$u(x, t) = \frac{u_0}{\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\sin \alpha \cos \alpha x}{\alpha} e^{-k\alpha^2 t} \, d\alpha. \qquad (11) \quad \blacksquare$$

It is left to the reader to show that the solution (11) can be expressed in terms of the error function. See Problem 23 in Exercises 14.4.

---

### EXAMPLE 2  Using the Cosine Transform

The steady-state temperature in a semi-infinite plate is determined from

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < x < \pi, \quad y > 0$$

$$u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(\pi, y) = e^{-y}, \quad y > 0$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_{y=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi.$$

Solve for $u(x, y)$.

**SOLUTION**  The domain of the variable $y$ and the prescribed condition at $y = 0$ indicate that the Fourier cosine transform is suitable for the problem. We define

$$\mathscr{F}_c\{u(x, y)\} = \int_0^{\infty} u(x, y) \cos \alpha y \, dy = U(x, \alpha).$$

In view of (10),

$$\mathscr{F}_c\left\{ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right\} + \mathscr{F}_c\left\{ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right\} = \mathscr{F}_c\{0\}$$

becomes

$$\frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} - \alpha^2 U(x, \alpha) - u_y(x, 0) = 0 \qquad \text{or} \qquad \frac{d^2 U}{dx^2} - \alpha^2 U = 0.$$

Since the domain of $x$ is a finite interval, we choose to write the solution of the ordinary differential equation as

$$U(x, \alpha) = c_1 \cosh \alpha x + c_2 \sinh \alpha x. \qquad (12)$$

Now $\mathscr{F}_c\{u(0, y)\} = \mathscr{F}_c\{0\}$ and $\mathscr{F}_c\{u(\pi, y)\} = \mathscr{F}_c\{e^{-y}\}$ are in turn equivalent to

$$U(0, \alpha) = 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad U(\pi, \alpha) = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha^2}.$$

When we apply these latter conditions, the solution (12) gives $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2 = 1/[(1 + \alpha^2) \sinh \alpha\pi]$. Therefore

$$U(x, \alpha) = \frac{\sinh \alpha x}{(1 + \alpha^2) \sinh \alpha\pi},$$

so from (6) we arrive at

$$u(x, y) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sinh \alpha x}{(1 + \alpha^2) \sinh \alpha\pi} \cos \alpha y \, d\alpha. \qquad (13) \quad \blacksquare$$

Had $u(x, 0)$ been given in Example 2 rather than $u_y(x, 0)$, then the sine transform would have been appropriate.

---

## EXERCISES 14.4

In Problems 1–21 use the Fourier integral transforms of this section to solve the given boundary-value problem. Make assumptions about boundedness where necessary.

**1.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = e^{-|x|}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty$

**2.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < -1 \\ -100, & -1 < x < 0 \\ 100, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0, & x > 1 \end{cases}$

**3.** Find the temperature $u(x, t)$ in a semi-infinite rod if $u(0, t) = u_0, t > 0$ and $u(x, 0) = 0, x > 0$.

**4.** Use the result $\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \frac{\sin \alpha x}{\alpha} \, d\alpha = \frac{\pi}{2}, x > 0$, to show that the solution of Problem 3 can be written as

$$u(x, t) = u_0 - \frac{2u_0}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \frac{\sin \alpha x}{\alpha} e^{-k\alpha^2 t} \, d\alpha.$$

**5.** Find the temperature $u(x, t)$ in a semi-infinite rod if $u(0, t) = 0, t > 0$, and

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0, & x > 1. \end{cases}$$

**6.** Solve Problem 3 if the condition at the left boundary is

$$\left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right|_{x=0} = -A, \quad t > 0,$$

where $A$ is a constant.

**7.** Solve Problem 5 if the end $x = 0$ is insulated.

**8.** Find the temperature $u(x, t)$ in a semi-infinite rod if $u(0, t) = 1, t > 0$, and $u(x, 0) = e^{-x}, x > 0$.

**9. (a)** $a^2 \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = f(x), \left.\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = g(x), \quad -\infty < x < \infty$

**(b)** If $g(x) = 0$, show that the solution of part (a) can be written as $u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}[f(x + at) + f(x - at)]$.

**10.** Find the displacement $u(x, t)$ of a semi-infinite string if

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = xe^{-x}, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 0, \quad x > 0$$

**11.** Solve the problem in Example 2 if the boundary conditions at $x = 0$ and $x = \pi$ are reversed: $u(0, y) = e^{-y}$, $u(\pi, y) = 0, y > 0$.

**12.** Solve the problem in Example 2 if the boundary condition at $y = 0$ is $u(x, 0) = 1, 0 < x < \pi$.

**13.** Find the steady-state temperature $u(x, y)$ in a plate defined by $x \geq 0, y \geq 0$ if the boundary $x = 0$ is insulated and, at $y = 0$,

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 50, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0, & x > 1. \end{cases}$$

**14.** Solve Problem 13 if the boundary condition at $x = 0$ is $u(0, y) = 0, y > 0$.

**15.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad x > 0, \quad 0 < y < 2$

$u(0, y) = 0, \quad 0 < y < 2$

$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u(x, 2) = 0, \quad x > 0$

**16.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi, \quad y > 0$

$u(0, y) = f(y), \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=\pi} = 0, \quad y > 0$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}\Big|_{y=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi$

In Problems 17 and 18 find the steady-state temperature in the plate given in the figure. [*Hint*: One way of proceeding is to express Problems 17 and 18 as two- and three-boundary-value problems, respectively. Use the superposition principle. See Section 12.5.]

**17.**
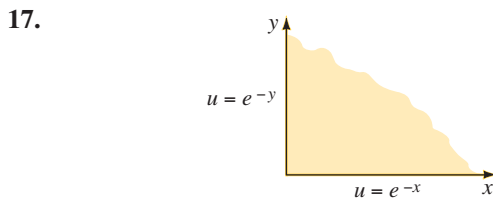


FIGURE 14.4.1    Plate in Problem 17

**18.**
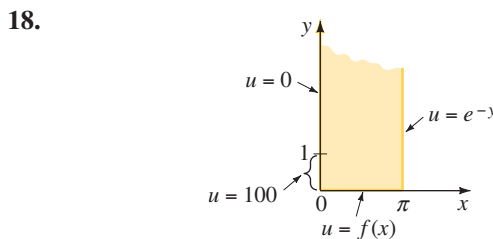


FIGURE 14.4.2    Plate in Problem 18

**19.** Use the result $\mathscr{F}\{e^{-x^2/4p^2}\} = 2\sqrt{\pi}pe^{-p^2\alpha^2}$ to solve the boundary-value problem

$k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = e^{-x^2}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty.$

**20.** If $\mathscr{F}\{f(x)\} = F(\alpha)$ and $\mathscr{F}\{g(x)\} = G(\alpha)$, then the **convolution theorem** for the Fourier transform is given by

$\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau)g(x - \tau)\,d\tau = \mathscr{F}^{-1}\{F(\alpha)G(\alpha)\}.$

Use this result and $\mathscr{F}\{e^{-x^2/4p^2}\} = 2\sqrt{\pi}pe^{-p^2\alpha^2}$ to show that a solution of the boundary-value problem

$k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad -\infty < x < \infty$

is    $u(x, t) = \dfrac{1}{2\sqrt{k\pi t}}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\tau)e^{-(x-\tau)^2/4kt}\,d\tau.$

**21.** Use the transform $\mathscr{F}\{e^{-x^2/4p^2}\}$ given in Problem 19 to find the steady-state temperature in the infinite strip shown in Figure 14.4.3.
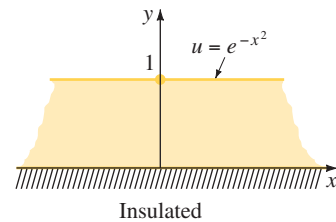


FIGURE 14.4.3    Infinite strip in Problem 21

**22.** The solution of Problem 14 can be integrated. Use entries 42 and 43 of the table in Appendix III to show that

$u(x, y) = \dfrac{100}{\pi}\left[\arctan\dfrac{x}{y} - \dfrac{1}{2}\arctan\dfrac{x+1}{y} - \dfrac{1}{2}\arctan\dfrac{x-1}{y}\right].$

**23.** Use the solution given in Problem 20 to rewrite the solution of Example 1 in an alternative integral form. Then use the change of variables $v = (x - \tau)/2\sqrt{kt}$ and the results of Problem 9 in Exercises 14.1 to show that the solution of Example 1 can be expressed as

$u(x, t) = \dfrac{u_0}{2}\left[\mathrm{erf}\left(\dfrac{x+1}{2\sqrt{kt}}\right) - \mathrm{erf}\left(\dfrac{x-1}{2\sqrt{kt}}\right)\right].$

## Computer Lab Assignments

**24.** Assume that $u_0 = 100$ and $k = 1$ in the solution in Problem 23. Use a CAS to graph $u(x, t)$ over the rectangular region defined by $-4 \le x \le 4, \ 0 \le t \le 6$. Use a 2D plot to superimpose the graphs of $u(x, t)$ for $t = 0.05, 0.125, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 6$, and 15 on the interval $[-4, 4]$. Use the graphs to conjecture the values of $\lim_{t \to \infty} u(x, t)$ and $\lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t)$. Then prove these results analytically using the properties of $\mathrm{erf}(x)$.

## CHAPTER 14 IN REVIEW

In Problems 1–16 solve the given boundary-value problem by an appropriate integral transform. Make assumptions about boundedness where necessary.

**1.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad x > 0, \quad 0 < y < \pi$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0, \quad 0 < y < \pi$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=\pi} = e^{-x}, \quad x > 0$

**2.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = 50 \sin 2\pi x, \quad 0 < x < 1$

**3.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - hu = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad h > 0, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = u_0, \quad x > 0$

**4.** $\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = e^{-|x|}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad -\infty < x < \infty$

**5.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(0, t) = t, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 0$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad x > 0$ [*Hint*: Use Theorem 7.4.2.]

**6.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = \sin \pi x, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = -\sin \pi x, \quad 0 < x < 1$

**7.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ u_0, & 0 < x < \pi \\ 0, & x > \pi \end{cases}$

**8.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi, \quad y > 0$

$u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(\pi, y) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 < y < 1 \\ 1, & 1 < y < 2 \\ 0, & y > 2 \end{cases}$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=0} = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi$

**9.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad x > 0, \quad y > 0$

$u(0, y) = \begin{cases} 50, & 0 < y < 1 \\ 0, & y > 1 \end{cases}$

$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 100, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0, & x > 1 \end{cases}$

**10.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + r = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1$

**11.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad x > 0, \quad 0 < y < \pi$

$u(0, y) = A, \quad 0 < y < \pi$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=0} = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=\pi} = Be^{-x}, \quad x > 0$

**12.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$

$u(0, t) = u_0, \quad u(1, t) = u_0, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < 1$

[*Hint*: Use the identity

$\sinh (x - y) = \sinh x \cosh y - \cosh x \sinh y$,

and then use Problem 6 in Exercises 14.1.]

**13.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ e^{-x}, & x > 0 \end{cases}$

**14.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = -50, \quad \lim_{x \to \infty} u(x, t) = 100, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = 100, \quad x > 0$

**15.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0, \quad t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = e^{-x}, \quad x > 0$

**16.** Show that a solution of the BVP

$\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, \quad 0 < y < 1$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}\bigg|_{y=0} = 0, \quad u(x, 1) = f(x), \quad -\infty < x < \infty$

is $u(x, y) = \dfrac{1}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty f(t) \dfrac{\cosh \alpha y \cos \alpha(t - x)}{\cosh \alpha} \, dt \, d\alpha.$

# 15

# NUMERICAL SOLUTIONS OF PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS
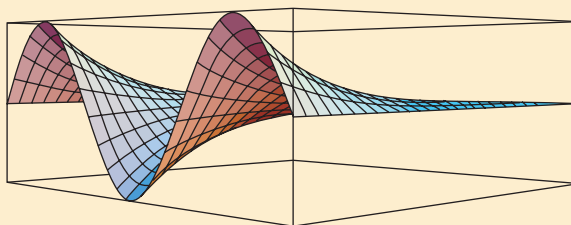
In Section 9.5 we saw that one way of approximating a solution of a second-order boundary-value problem was to work with a finite difference equation replacement of the ordinary differential equation. The difference equation was constructed by replacing the ordinary derivatives $d^2y/dx^2$ and $dy/dx$ by difference quotients. The same idea carries over to BVPs involving partial differential equations. In the succeeding sections of this chapter we will form a difference equation replacement for Laplace's equation, the heat equation, and the wave equation by replacing the partial derivatives $\partial^2u/\partial x^2$, $\partial^2u/\partial y^2$, $\partial^2u/\partial t^2$, and $\partial u/\partial t$ by difference quotients.

## 15.1 LAPLACE'S EQUATION

### REVIEW MATERIAL

- Section 9.5, 12.1, 12.2, and 12.5

**INTRODUCTION** In Section 12.1 we saw that linear second-order PDEs in two independent variables are classified as *elliptic, parabolic,* and *hyperbolic.* Roughly, elliptic PDEs involve partial derivatives with respect to spatial variables only, and as a consequence solutions of such equations are determined by boundary conditions alone. Parabolic and hyperbolic equations involve partial derivatives with respect to both spatial and time variables, so solutions of such equations generally are determined from boundary and initial conditions. A solution of an elliptic PDE (such as Laplace's equation) can describe a physical system whose state is in equilibrium (steady-state); a solution of a parabolic PDE (such as the heat equation) can describe a diffusional state, whereas a hyperbolic PDE (such as the wave equation) can describe a vibrational state.

In this section we begin our discussion with approximation methods that are appropriate for elliptic equations. Our focus will be on the simplest but probably the most important PDE of the elliptic type: Laplace's equation.
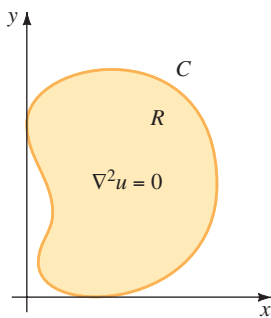


**FIGURE 15.1.1** Planar region $R$ with boundary $C$

**DIFFERENCE EQUATION REPLACEMENT** Suppose that we are seeking a solution $u(x, y)$ of Laplace's equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0 \tag{1}$$

in a planar region $R$ that is bounded by some curve $C$. See Figure 15.1.1. Analogous to (6) of Section 9.5, by using the central differences

$$u(x + h, y) - 2u(x, y) + u(x - h, y) \quad \text{and} \quad u(x, y + h) - 2u(x, y) + u(x, y - h),$$

approximations for the second partial derivatives $u_{xx}$ and $u_{yy}$ can be obtained using the difference quotients

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{1}{h^2}[u(x + h, y) - 2u(x, y) + u(x - h, y)] \tag{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \approx \frac{1}{h^2}[u(x, y + h) - 2u(x, y) + u(x, y - h)]. \tag{3}$$

By adding (2) and (3), we obtain a **five-point approximation** to the Laplacian:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \approx \frac{1}{h^2}[u(x + h, y) + u(x, y + h) + u(x - h, y) + u(x, y - h) - 4u(x, y)].$$

Hence we can replace Laplace's equation (1) by the difference equation

$$u(x + h, y) + u(x, y + h) + u(x - h, y) + u(x, y - h) - 4u(x, y) = 0. \tag{4}$$

If we adopt the notation $u(x, y) = u_{ij}$ and

$$u(x + h, y) = u_{i+1, j}, \quad u(x, y + h) = u_{i, j+1}$$
$$u(x - h, y) = u_{i-1, j}, \quad u(x, y - h) = u_{i, j-1},$$

then (4) becomes

$$u_{i+1, j} + u_{i, j+1} + u_{i-1, j} + u_{i, j-1} - 4u_{ij} = 0. \tag{5}$$
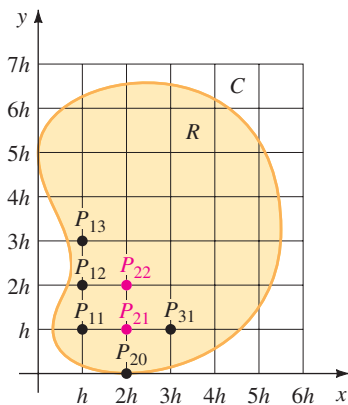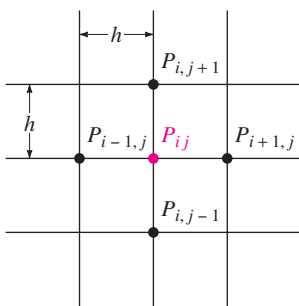
To understand (5) a little better, suppose a rectangular grid consisting of horizontal lines spaced $h$ units apart and vertical lines spaced $h$ units apart is placed over the region $R$. The number $h$ is called the **mesh size.** See Figure 15.1.2(a). The points $P_{ij} = P(ih, jh)$, where $i$ and $j$ are integers, of intersection of the horizontal and vertical lines, are called **mesh points** or **lattice points.** A mesh point is an **interior point** if its four nearest neighboring mesh points are points of $R$. Points in $R$ or on $C$ that are not interior points are called **boundary points.** For example, in Figure 15.1.2(a) we have

$$P_{20} = P(2h, 0), \quad P_{11} = P(h, h), \quad P_{21} = P(2h, h), \quad P_{22} = P(2h, 2h),$$

and so on. Of the points just listed, $P_{21}$ and $P_{22}$ are interior points, whereas $P_{20}$ and $P_{11}$ are boundary points. In Figure 15.1.2(a) interior points are the dots shown in red, and the boundary points are shown in black. Now from (5) we see that

$$u_{ij} = \frac{1}{4}\left[u_{i+1,j} + u_{i,j+1} + u_{i-1,j} + u_{i,j-1}\right], \tag{6}$$

so, as can be seen in Figure 15.1.2(b), the value $u_{ij}$ at an interior mesh point of $R$ is the average of the values of $u$ at four neighboring mesh points. The neighboring points $P_{i+1,j}$, $P_{i,j+1}$, $P_{i-1,j}$, and $P_{i,j-1}$ correspond to the four points on the compass E, N, W, and S, respectively.

**DIRICHLET PROBLEM** Recall that in the **Dirichet problem** for Laplace's equation $\nabla^2 u = 0$ the values of $u(x, y)$ are prescribed on the boundary of a region $R$. The basic idea is to find an approximate solution to Laplace's equation at interior mesh points by replacing the partial differential equation at these points by the difference equation (5). Hence the approximate values of $u$ at the mesh points—namely, the $u_{ij}$—are related to each other and possibly to known values of $u$ if a mesh point lies on the boundary. In this manner we obtain a system of linear algebraic equations that we solve for the unknown $u_{ij}$. The following example illustrates the method for a square region.



**FIGURE 15.1.2** Region $R$ overlaid with rectangular grid

## EXAMPLE 1 A BVP Revisited

In Problem 16 of Exercises 12.5 you were asked to solve the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < 2, \quad 0 < y < 2$$

$$u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(2, y) = y(2 - y), \quad 0 < y < 2$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, 2) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 2 - x, & 1 \le x < 2. \end{cases}$$
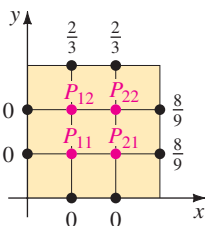


**FIGURE 15.1.3** Square region $R$ for Example 1

utilizing the superposition principle. To apply the present numerical method, let us start with a mesh size of $h = \frac{2}{3}$. As we see in Figure 15.1.3, that choice yields four interior points and eight boundary points. The numbers listed next to the boundary points are the exact values of $u$ obtained from the specified condition along that boundary. For example, at $P_{31} = P(3h, h) = P(2, \frac{2}{3})$ we have $x = 2$ and $y = \frac{2}{3}$, and so the condition $u(2, y)$ gives $u(2, \frac{2}{3}) = \frac{2}{3}(2 - \frac{2}{3}) = \frac{8}{9}$. Similarly, at $P_{13} = P(\frac{2}{3}, 2)$ the condition $u(x, 2)$ gives $u(\frac{2}{3}, 2) = \frac{2}{3}$. We now apply (5) at each interior point. For example, at $P_{11}$ we have $i = 1$ and $j = 1$, so (5) becomes

$$u_{21} + u_{12} + u_{01} + u_{10} - 4u_{11} = 0.$$

Since $u_{01} = u(0, \frac{2}{3}) = 0$ and $u_{10} = u(\frac{2}{3}, 0) = 0$, the foregoing equation becomes $-4u_{11} + u_{21} + u_{12} = 0$. Repeating this, in turn, at $P_{21}$, $P_{12}$, and $P_{22}$ we get three additional equations:

$$
\begin{aligned}
-4u_{11} + u_{21} + u_{12} \phantom{{}+ u_{22}} &= 0 \\
u_{11} - 4u_{21} + \phantom{u_{12}} u_{22} &= -\tfrac{8}{9} \\
u_{11} \phantom{{}- 4u_{21}} - 4u_{12} + u_{22} &= -\tfrac{2}{3} \\
u_{21} + u_{12} - 4u_{22} &= -\tfrac{14}{9}.
\end{aligned}
\tag{7}
$$

Using a computer algebra system to solve the system, we find the approximate values at the four interior points to be

$$u_{11} = \frac{7}{36} = 0.1944, \quad u_{21} = \frac{5}{12} = 0.4167, \quad u_{12} = \frac{13}{36} = 0.3611, \quad u_{22} = \frac{7}{12} = 0.5833. \quad\blacksquare$$

As in the discussion of ordinary differential equations, we expect that a smaller value of $h$ will improve the accuracy of the approximation. However, using a smaller mesh size means, of course, that there are more interior mesh points, and correspondingly there is a much larger system of equations to be solved. For a *square* region whose length of side is $L$, a mesh size of $h = L/n$ will yield a total of $(n-1)^2$ interior mesh points. In Example 1, for $n = 8$ the mesh size is a reasonable $h = \frac{2}{8} = \frac{1}{4}$, but the number of interior points is $(8-1)^2 = 49$. Thus we have 49 equations in 49 unknowns. In the next example we use a mesh size of $h = \frac{1}{2}$.

### EXAMPLE 2   Example 1 with More Mesh Points
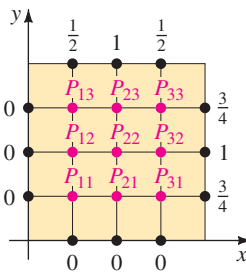


FIGURE 15.1.4   Region $R$ in Example 1 with additional mesh points

As we see in Figure 15.1.4, with $n = 4$ a mesh size $h = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$ for the square in Example 1 gives $3^2 = 9$ interior mesh points. Applying (5) at these points and using the indicated boundary conditions, we get nine equations in nine unknowns. So that you can verify the results, we give the system in an unsimplified form:

$$
\begin{aligned}
u_{21} + u_{12} + \phantom{u_{11}}0 + \phantom{u_{13}}0 - 4u_{11} &= 0 \\
u_{31} + u_{22} + u_{11} + \phantom{u_{13}}0 - 4u_{21} &= 0 \\
\tfrac{3}{4} + u_{32} + u_{21} + \phantom{u_{13}}0 - 4u_{31} &= 0 \\
u_{22} + u_{13} + u_{11} + \phantom{u_{13}}0 - 4u_{12} &= 0 \\
u_{32} + u_{23} + u_{12} + u_{21} - 4u_{22} &= 0 \\
1 + u_{33} + u_{22} + u_{31} - 4u_{32} &= 0 \\
u_{23} + \tfrac{1}{2} + \phantom{u_{13}}0 + u_{12} - 4u_{13} &= 0 \\
u_{33} + 1 + u_{13} + u_{22} - 4u_{23} &= 0 \\
\tfrac{3}{4} + \tfrac{1}{2} + u_{23} + u_{32} - 4u_{33} &= 0.
\end{aligned}
\tag{8}
$$

In this case a CAS yields

$$u_{11} = \frac{7}{64} = 0.1094, \qquad u_{21} = \frac{51}{224} = 0.2277, \qquad u_{31} = \frac{177}{448} = 0.3951$$

$$u_{12} = \frac{47}{224} = 0.2098, \qquad u_{22} = \frac{13}{32} = 0.4063, \qquad u_{32} = \frac{135}{224} = 0.6027$$

$$u_{13} = \frac{145}{448} = 0.3237, \qquad u_{23} = \frac{131}{224} = 0.5848, \qquad u_{33} = \frac{39}{64} = 0.6094. \quad\blacksquare$$

After we simplify (8), it is interesting to note that the $9 \times 9$ matrix of coefficients is

$$\begin{pmatrix} -4 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -4 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -4 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -4 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -4 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{9}$$

This is an example of a **sparse matrix** in that a large percentage of the entries are zeros. The matrix (9) is also an example of a **banded matrix.** These kinds of matrices are characterized by the properties that the entries on the main diagonal and on diagonals (or bands) parallel to the main diagonal are all nonzero.

**GAUSS-SEIDEL ITERATION** Problems that require approximations to solutions of partial differential equations invariably lead to large systems of linear algebraic equations. It is not uncommon to have to solve systems involving hundreds of equations. Although a direct method of solution such as Gaussian elimination leaves unchanged the zero entries outside the bands in a matrix such as (9), it does fill in the positions between the bands with nonzeros. Since storing very large matrices uses up a large portion of computer memory, it is usual practice to solve a large system in an indirect manner. One popular indirect method is called **Gauss-Seidel iteration.**

We shall illustrate this method for the system in (7). For the sake of simplicity we replace the double-subscripted variables $u_{11}$, $u_{21}$, $u_{12}$, and $u_{22}$ by $x_1$, $x_2$, $x_3$, and $x_4$, respectively.

---

### EXAMPLE 3    Gauss-Seidel Iteration

**Step 1:**    *Solve each equation for the variables on the main diagonal of the system.* That is, in (7) solve the first equation for $x_1$, the second equation for $x_2$, and so on:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= & 0.25x_2 + 0.25x_3 & \\ x_2 &= 0.25x_1 + & 0.25x_4 + 0.2222 & \\ x_3 &= 0.25x_1 + & 0.25x_4 + 0.1667 & \\ x_4 &= & 0.25x_2 + 0.25x_3 & + 0.3889. \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

These equations can be obtained directly by using (6) rather than (5) at the interior points.

**Step 2:**    *Iterations.* We start by making an initial guess for the values of $x_1$, $x_2$, $x_3$, and $x_4$. If this were simply a system of linear equations and we knew nothing about the solution, we could start with $x_1 = 0$, $x_2 = 0$, $x_3 = 0$, $x_4 = 0$. But since the solution of (10) represents approximations to a solution of a boundary-value problem, it would seem reasonable to use as the initial guess for the values of $x_1 = u_{11}$, $x_2 = u_{21}$, $x_3 = u_{12}$, and $x_4 = u_{22}$ the average of all the boundary conditions. In this case the average of the numbers at the eight boundary points shown in Figure 15.1.3 is approximately 0.4. Thus our initial guess is $x_1 = 0.4$, $x_2 = 0.4$, $x_3 = 0.4$, and $x_4 = 0.4$. Iterations of the Gauss-Seidel method use the $x$ values as soon as they are computed. Note that the first equation in (10) depends only on $x_2$ and $x_3$; thus substituting $x_2 = 0.4$ and $x_3 = 0.4$ gives $x_1 = 0.2$. Since the second and

third equations depend on $x_1$ and $x_4$, we use the newly calculated values $x_1 = 0.2$ and $x_4 = 0.4$ to obtain $x_2 = 0.3722$ and $x_3 = 0.3167$. The fourth equation depends on $x_2$ and $x_3$, so we use the new values $x_2 = 0.3722$ and $x_3 = 0.3167$ to get $x_4 = 0.5611$. In summary, the first iteration has given the values

$$x_1 = 0.2, \qquad x_2 = 0.3722, \qquad x_3 = 0.3167, \qquad x_4 = 0.5611.$$

Note how close these numbers are already to the actual values given at the end of Example 1.

The second iteration starts with substituting $x_2 = 0.3722$ and $x_3 = 0.3167$ into the first equation. This gives $x_1 = 0.1722$. From $x_1 = 0.1722$ and the last computed value of $x_4$ (namely, $x_4 = 0.5611$), the second and third equations give, in turn, $x_2 = 0.4055$ and $x_3 = 0.3500$. Using these two values, we find from the fourth equation that $x_4 = 0.5678$. At the end of the second iteration we have

$$x_1 = 0.1722, \qquad x_2 = 0.4055, \qquad x_3 = 0.3500, \qquad x_4 = 0.5678.$$

The third through seventh iterations are summarized in Table 15.1.

**TABLE 15.1**

| Iteration | 3rd | 4th | 5th | 6th | 7th |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| $x_1$ | 0.1889 | 0.1931 | 0.1941 | 0.1944 | 0.1944 |
| $x_2$ | 0.4139 | 0.4160 | 0.4165 | 0.4166 | 0.4166 |
| $x_3$ | 0.3584 | 0.3605 | 0.3610 | 0.3611 | 0.3611 |
| $x_4$ | 0.5820 | 0.5830 | 0.5833 | 0.5833 | 0.5833 |

**NOTE** To apply Gauss-Seidel iteration to a general system of $n$ linear equations in $n$ unknowns, the variable $x_i$ must actually appear in the $i$th equation of the system. Moreover, after each equation is solved for $x_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, the resulting system has the form $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{AX} + \mathbf{B}$, where all the entries on the main diagonal of $\mathbf{A}$ are zero.

## REMARKS

(*i*) In the examples given in this section the values of $u_{ij}$ were determined by using known values of $u$ at boundary points. But what do we do if the region is such that boundary points do not coincide with the actual boundary $C$ of the region $R$? In this case the required values can be obtained by interpolation.

(*ii*) It is sometimes possible to cut down the number of equations to solve by using symmetry. Consider the rectangular region $0 \leq x \leq 2, 0 \leq y \leq 1$, shown in Figure 15.1.5. The boundary conditions are $u = 0$ along the boundaries $x = 0$, $x = 2$, $y = 1$, and $u = 100$ along $y = 0$. The region is symmetric about the lines $x = 1$ and $y = \frac{1}{2}$, and the interior points $P_{11}$ and $P_{31}$ are equidistant from the neighboring boundary points at which the specified values of $u$ are the same. Consequently, we assume that $u_{11} = u_{31}$, so the system of three equations in three unknowns reduces to two equations in two unknowns. See Problem 2 in Exercises 15.1.

(*iii*) In the context of approximating a solution to Laplace's equation the iteration technique illustrated in Example 3 is often referred to as **Liebman's method.**

(*iv*) Although it may not be noticeable on a computer, convergence of Gauss-Seidel iteration, or Liebman's method, might not be particularly fast. Also, in a more general setting, Gauss-Seidel iteration might not converge at all. For conditions that are sufficient to guarantee convergence of Gauss-Seidel iteration, you are encouraged to consult texts on numerical analysis.



**FIGURE 15.1.5** Rectangular region $R$

## EXERCISES 15.1

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-24.*

In Problems 1–8 use a computer as a computation aid.

In Problems 1–4 use (5) to approximate the solution of Laplace's equation at the interior points of the given region. Use symmetry when possible.

**1.** $u(0, y) = 0$, $u(3, y) = y(2 - y)$, $0 < y < 2$
$u(x, 0) = 0$, $u(x, 2) = x(3 - x)$, $0 < x < 3$
mesh size: $h = 1$

**2.** $u(0, y) = 0$, $u(2, y) = 0$, $0 < y < 1$
$u(x, 0) = 100$, $u(x, 1) = 0$, $0 < x < 2$
mesh size: $h = \frac{1}{2}$

**3.** $u(0, y) = 0$, $u(1, y) = 0$, $0 < y < 1$
$u(x, 0) = 0$, $u(x, 1) = \sin \pi x$, $0 < x < 1$
mesh size: $h = \frac{1}{3}$

**4.** $u(0, y) = 108y^2(1 - y)$, $u(1, y) = 0$, $0 < y < 1$
$u(x, 0) = 0$, $u(x, 1) = 0$, $0 < x < 1$
mesh size: $h = \frac{1}{3}$

In Problems 5 and 6 use (6) and Gauss-Seidel iteration to approximate the solution of Laplace's equation at the interior points of a unit square. Use the mesh size $h = \frac{1}{4}$. In Problem 5 the boundary conditions are given; in Problem 6 the values of $u$ at boundary points are given in Figure 15.1.6.

**5.** $u(0, y) = 0$, $u(1, y) = 100y$, $0 < y < 1$
$u(x, 0) = 0$, $u(x, 1) = 100x$, $0 < x < 1$

**6.**
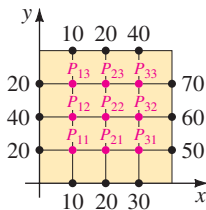


**FIGURE 15.1.6** Region for Problem 6

**7. (a)** In Problem 12 of Exercises 12.6 you solved a potential problem using a special form of Poisson's equation $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = f(x, y)$. Show that the difference equation replacement for Poisson's equation is

$$u_{i+1, j} + u_{i, j+1} + u_{i-1, j} + u_{i, j-1} - 4u_{ij} = h^2 f(x, y).$$

**(b)** Use the result in part (a) to approximate the solution of the Poisson equation $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = -2$ at the interior points of the region in Figure 15.1.7. The mesh size is $h = \frac{1}{2}$, $u = 1$ at every point along $ABCD$, and $u = 0$ at every point along $DEFGA$. Use symmetry and, if necessary, Gauss-Seidel iteration.
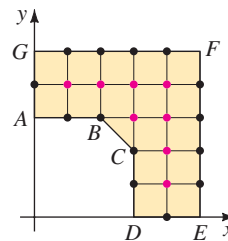


**FIGURE 15.1.7** Region for Problem 7

**8.** Use the result in part (a) of Problem 7 to approximate the solution of the Poisson equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = -64$$

at the interior points of the region in Figure 15.1.8. The mesh size is $h = \frac{1}{8}$, and $u = 0$ at every point on the boundary of the region. If necessary, use Gauss-Seidel iteration.
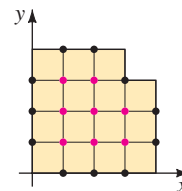


**FIGURE 15.1.8** Region for Problem 8

## 15.2 HEAT EQUATION

### REVIEW MATERIAL
- Sections 9.5, 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, and 15.1

**INTRODUCTION** The basic idea in the discussion that follows is the same as in Section 15.1: We approximate a solution of a PDE—this time a parabolic PDE—by replacing the equation with a finite difference equation. But unlike the preceding section we shall consider *two* finite-difference approximation methods for parabolic partial differential equations: one called an *explicit method* and the other called an *implicit method*.
For the sake of definiteness we consider only the one-dimensional heat equation.

**DIFFERENCE EQUATION REPLACEMENT**    To approximate a solution $u(x, t)$ of the one-dimensional heat equation

$$c \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \qquad (1)$$

we again replace each derivative by a difference quotient. By using the central difference approximation (2) of Section 15.1,

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{1}{h^2} [u(x + h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x - h, t)]$$

and the forward difference approximation (3) of Section 9.5,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \approx \frac{1}{h} [u(x, t + h) - u(x, t)]$$

equation (1) becomes

$$\frac{c}{h^2} [u(x + h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x - h, t)] = \frac{1}{k} [u(x, t + k) - u(x, t)]. \qquad (2)$$

If we let $\lambda = ck/h^2$ and

$$u(x, t) = u_{ij}, \quad u(x + h, t) = u_{i+1, j}, \quad u(x - h, t) = u_{i-1, j}, \quad u(x, t + k) = u_{i, j+1},$$

then, after simplifying, (2) is

$$u_{i, j+1} = \lambda u_{i+1, j} + (1 - 2\lambda) u_{ij} + \lambda u_{i-1, j}. \qquad (3)$$

In the case of the heat equation (1), typical boundary conditions are $u(0, t) = u_1$, $u(a, t) = u_2$, $t > 0$, and an initial condition is $u(x, 0) = f(x)$, $0 < x < a$. The function $f$ can be interpreted as the initial temperature distribution in a homogeneous rod extending from $x = 0$ to $x = a$; $u_1$ and $u_2$ can be interpreted as constant temperatures at the endpoints of the rod. Although we shall not prove it, the boundary-value problem consisting of (1) and these two boundary conditions and one initial condition has a unique solution when $f$ is continuous on the closed interval $[0, a]$. This latter condition will be assumed, and so we replace the initial condition by $u(x, 0) = f(x)$, $0 \le x \le a$. Moreover, instead of working with the semi-infinite region in the $xt$-plane defined by the inequalities $0 \le x \le a, t \ge 0$, we use a rectangular region defined by $0 \le x \le a, 0 \le t \le T$, where $T$ is some specified value of time. Over this region we place a rectangular grid consisting of vertical lines $h$ units apart and horizontal lines $k$ units apart. See Figure 15.2.1. If we choose two positive integers $n$ and $m$ and define

$$h = \frac{a}{n} \qquad \text{and} \qquad k = \frac{T}{m},$$

then the vertical and horizontal grid lines are defined by

$$x_i = ih, \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n \qquad \text{and} \qquad t_j = jk, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, m.$$

As illustrated in Figure 15.2.2, the plan here is to use formula (3) to estimate the values of the solution $u(x, t)$ at the points on the $(j + 1)$st time line using only values from the $j$th time line. For example, the values on the first time line $(j = 1)$ depend on the initial condition $u_{i,0} = u(x_i, 0) = f(x_i)$ given on the zeroth time $(j = 0)$. This kind of numerical procedure is called an **explicit finite difference method.**
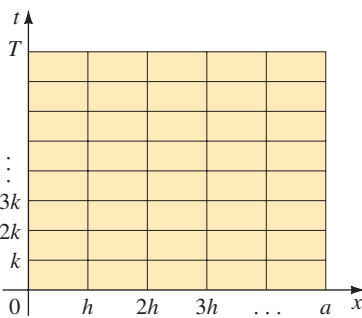


**FIGURE 15.2.1** Rectangular region in $xt$-plane
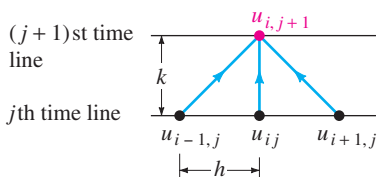


**FIGURE 15.2.2** $u$ at $t = j + 1$ is determined from three values of $u$ at $t = j$

| | EXAMPLE 1    Using the Finite Difference Method |

Consider the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 < t < 0.5$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \le t \le 0.5$$

$$u(x, 0) = \sin \pi x, \quad 0 \le x \le 1.$$

First we identify $c = 1$, $a = 1$, and $T = 0.5$. If we choose, say, $n = 5$ and $m = 50$, then $h = 1/5 = 0.2$, $k = 0.5/50 = 0.01$, $\lambda = 0.25$,

$$x_i = i\frac{1}{5}, \quad i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \qquad t_j = j\frac{1}{100}, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, 50.$$

Thus (3) becomes

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.25(u_{i+1,j} + 2u_{ij} + u_{i-1,j}).$$

By setting $j = 0$ in this formula, we get a formula for the approximations to the temperature $u$ on the first time line:

$$u_{i,1} = 0.25(u_{i+1,0} + 2u_{i,0} + u_{i-1,0}).$$

If we then let $i = 1, \ldots, 4$ in the last equation, we obtain, in turn,

$$u_{11} = 0.25(u_{20} + 2u_{10} + u_{00})$$

$$u_{21} = 0.25(u_{30} + 2u_{20} + u_{10})$$

$$u_{31} = 0.25(u_{40} + 2u_{30} + u_{20})$$

$$u_{41} = 0.25(u_{50} + 2u_{40} + u_{30}).$$

The first equation in this list is interpreted as

$$u_{11} = 0.25(u(x_2, 0) + 2u(x_1, 0) + u(0, 0))$$

$$= 0.25(u(0.4, 0) + 2u(0.2, 0) + u(0, 0)).$$

From the initial condition $u(x, 0) = \sin \pi x$ the last line becomes

$$u_{11} = 0.25(0.951056516 + 2(0.587785252) + 0) = 0.531656755.$$

This number represents an approximation to the temperature $u(0.2, 0.01)$.

Since it would require a rather large table of over 200 entries to summarize all the approximations over the rectangular grid determined by $h$ and $k$, we give only selected values in Table 15.2.

**TABLE 15.2** Explicit Difference Equation Approximation with $h = 0.2$, $k = 0.01$, $\lambda = 0.25$

| Time | $x = 0.20$ | $x = 0.40$ | $x = 0.60$ | $x = 0.80$ |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 0.5878 | 0.9511 | 0.9511 | 0.5878 |
| 0.10 | 0.2154 | 0.3486 | 0.3486 | 0.2154 |
| 0.20 | 0.0790 | 0.1278 | 0.1278 | 0.0790 |
| 0.30 | 0.0289 | 0.0468 | 0.0468 | 0.0289 |
| 0.40 | 0.0106 | 0.0172 | 0.0172 | 0.0106 |
| 0.50 | 0.0039 | 0.0063 | 0.0063 | 0.0039 |

**TABLE 15.3**

| Actual | Approx. |
|--------|---------|
| $u(0.4, 0.05) = 0.5806$ | $u_{25} = 0.5758$ |
| $u(0.6, 0.06) = 0.5261$ | $u_{36} = 0.5208$ |
| $u(0.2, 0.10) = 0.2191$ | $u_{1,10} = 0.2154$ |
| $u(0.8, 0.14) = 0.1476$ | $u_{4,14} = 0.1442$ |

You should verify, using the methods of Chapter 12, that an exact solution of the boundary-value problem in Example 1 is given by $u(x, t) = e^{-\pi^2 t} \sin \pi x$. Using this solution, we compare in Table 15.3 a sample of actual values with their corresponding approximations.

**STABILITY** These approximations are comparable to the exact values and are accurate enough for some purposes. But there is a problem with the foregoing method. Recall that a numerical method is **unstable** if round-off errors or any other errors grow too rapidly as the computations proceed. The numerical procedure illustrated in Example 1 can exhibit this kind of behavior. It can be proved that the procedure is stable if $\lambda$ is less than or equal to 0.5 but unstable otherwise. To obtain $\lambda = 0.25 \le 0.5$ in Example 1, we had to choose the value $k = 0.01$; the necessity of

using very small step sizes in the time direction is the principal fault of this method. You are urged to work Problem 12 in Exercises 15.2 and witness the predictable instability when $\lambda = 1$.

**CRANK-NICHOLSON METHOD** There are **implicit finite difference methods** for solving parabolic partial differential equations. These methods require that we solve a system of equations to determine the approximate values of $u$ on the $(j + 1)$st time line. However, implicit methods do not suffer from instability problems.

The algorithm introduced by J. Crank and P. Nicholson in 1947 is used mostly for solving the heat equation. The algorithm consists of replacing the second partial derivative in $c\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}$ by an average of two central difference quotients, one evaluated at $t$ and the other at $t + k$:

$$\frac{c}{2}\left[\frac{u(x + h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x - h, t)}{h^2} + \frac{u(x + h, t + k) - 2u(x, t + k) + u(x - h, t + k)}{h^2}\right] \tag{4}$$
$$= \frac{1}{k}[u(x, t + k) - u(x, t)].$$

If we again define $\lambda = ck/h^2$, then after rearranging terms, we can write (4) as

$$-u_{i-1, j+1} + \alpha u_{i, j+1} - u_{i+1, j+1} = u_{i+1, j} - \beta u_{ij} + u_{i-1, j}, \tag{5}$$

where $\alpha = 2(1 + 1/\lambda)$ and $\beta = 2(1 - 1/\lambda)$, $j = 0, 1, \ldots, m - 1$, and $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n - 1$.

For each choice of $j$ the difference equation (5) for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n - 1$ gives $n - 1$ equations in $n - 1$ unknowns $u_{i, j+1}$. Because of the prescribed boundary conditions, the values of $u_{i, j+1}$ are known for $i = 0$ and for $i = n$. For example, in the case $n = 4$ the system of equations for determining the approximate values of $u$ on the $(j + 1)$st time line is

$$-u_{0, j+1} + \alpha u_{1, j+1} - u_{2, j+1} = u_{2, j} - \beta u_{1, j} + u_{0, j}$$
$$-u_{1, j+1} + \alpha u_{2, j+1} - u_{3, j+1} = u_{3, j} - \beta u_{2, j} + u_{1, j}$$
$$-u_{2, j+1} + \alpha u_{3, j+1} - u_{4, j+1} = u_{4, j} - \beta u_{3, j} + u_{2, j}$$

or

$$\alpha u_{1, j+1} - u_{2, j+1} \qquad\qquad = b_1$$
$$-u_{1, j+1} + \alpha u_{2, j+1} - u_{3, j+1} = b_2 \tag{6}$$
$$-\ u_{2, j+1} + \alpha u_{3, j+1} = b_3,$$

where

$$b_1 = u_{2, j} - \beta u_{1, j} + u_{0, j} + u_{0, j+1}$$
$$b_2 = u_{3, j} - \beta u_{2, j} + u_{1, j}$$
$$b_3 = u_{4, j} - \beta u_{3, j} + u_{2, j} + u_{4, j+1}.$$

In general, if we use the difference equation (5) to determine values of $u$ on the $(j + 1)$st time line, we need to solve a linear system $\mathbf{AX} = \mathbf{B}$, where the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$ is a **tridiagonal matrix,**

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} \alpha & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & & 0 \\ -1 & \alpha & -1 & 0 & 0 & & & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & \alpha & -1 & 0 & & & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & \alpha & -1 & & & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & & \ddots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & \alpha & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & -1 & \alpha \end{vmatrix},$$

and the entries of the column matrix **B** are

$$b_1 = u_{2,j} - \beta u_{1,j} + u_{0,j} + u_{0,j+1}$$
$$b_2 = u_{3,j} - \beta u_{2,j} + u_{1,j}$$
$$b_3 = u_{4,j} - \beta u_{3,j} + u_{2,j}$$
$$\vdots$$
$$b_{n-1} = u_{n,j} - \beta u_{n-1,j} + u_{n-2,j} + u_{n,j+1}.$$

## EXAMPLE 2  Using the Crank-Nicholson Method

Use the Crank-Nicholson method to approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem

$$0.25 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 2, \quad 0 < t < 0.3$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(2, t) = 0, \quad 0 \le t \le 0.3$$
$$u(x, 0) = \sin \pi x, \quad 0 \le x \le 2,$$

using $n = 8$ and $m = 30$.

**SOLUTION**  From the identifications $a = 2$, $T = 0.3$, $h = \frac{1}{4} = 0.25$, $k = \frac{1}{100} = 0.01$, and $c = 0.25$ we get $\lambda = 0.04$. With the aid of a computer we get the results in Table 15.4. As in Example 1 the entries in this table represent only a selected number from the 210 approximations over the rectangular grid determined by $h$ and $k$.

**TABLE 15.4**  Crank-Nicholson Method with $h = 0.25$, $k = 0.01$, $\lambda = 0.25$

| Time | $x = 0.25$ | $x = 0.50$ | $x = 0.75$ | $x = 1.00$ | $x = 1.25$ | $x = 1.50$ | $x = 1.75$ |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 0.7071 | 1.0000 | 0.7071 | 0.0000 | −0.7071 | −1.0000 | −0.7071 |
| 0.05 | 0.6289 | 0.8894 | 0.6289 | 0.0000 | −0.6289 | −0.8894 | −0.6289 |
| 0.10 | 0.5594 | 0.7911 | 0.5594 | 0.0000 | −0.5594 | −0.7911 | −0.5594 |
| 0.15 | 0.4975 | 0.7036 | 0.4975 | 0.0000 | −0.4975 | −0.7036 | −0.4975 |
| 0.20 | 0.4425 | 0.6258 | 0.4425 | 0.0000 | −0.4425 | −0.6258 | −0.4425 |
| 0.25 | 0.3936 | 0.5567 | 0.3936 | 0.0000 | −0.3936 | −0.5567 | −0.3936 |
| 0.30 | 0.3501 | 0.4951 | 0.3501 | 0.0000 | −0.3501 | −0.4951 | −0.3501 |

**TABLE 15.5**

| Actual | Approx. |
|--------|---------|
| $u(0.75, 0.05) = 0.6250$ | $u_{35} = 0.6289$ |
| $u(0.50, 0.20) = 0.6105$ | $u_{2, 20} = 0.6259$ |
| $u(0.25, 0.10) = 0.5525$ | $u_{1, 10} = 0.5594$ |

Like Example 1, the boundary-value problem in Example 2 possesses an exact solution given by $u(x, t) = e^{-\pi^2 t/4} \sin \pi x$. The sample comparisons listed in Table 15.5 show that the absolute errors are of the order $10^{-2}$ or $10^{-3}$. Smaller errors can be obtained by decreasing either $h$ or $k$.

## EXERCISES 15.2

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-25.*

In Problems 1–12 use a computer as a computation aid.

**1.** Use the difference equation (3) to approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 2, \quad 0 < t < 1$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(2, t) = 0, \quad 0 \le t \le 1$$

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 1, & 0 \le x \le 1 \\ 0, & 1 < x \le 2. \end{cases}$$

Use $n = 8$ and $m = 40$.

**2.** Using the Fourier series solution obtained in Problem 1 of Exercises 12.3, with $L = 2$, one can sum the first 20 terms to estimate the values for $u(0.25, 0.1)$, $u(1, 0.5)$, and $u(1.5, 0.8)$ for the solution $u(x, t)$ of Problem 1 above. A student wrote a computer program to do this and obtained the results $u(0.25, 0.1) = 0.3794$, $u(1, 0.5) = 0.1854$, and $u(1.5, 0.8) = 0.0623$. Assume that these results are accurate for all digits given. Compare these values with the approximations obtained in Problem 1 above. Find the absolute errors in each case.

**3.** Solve Problem 1 by the Crank-Nicholson method with $n = 8$ and $m = 40$. Use the values for $u(0.25, 0.1)$,

$u(1, 0.5)$, and $u(1.5, 0.8)$ given in Problem 2 to compute the absolute errors.

4. Repeat Problem 1 using $n = 8$ and $m = 20$. Use the values for $u(0.25, 0.1)$, $u(1, 0.5)$, and $u(1.5, 0.8)$ given in Problem 2 to compute the absolute errors. Why are the approximations so inaccurate in this case?

5. Solve Problem 1 by the Crank-Nicholson method with $n = 8$ and $m = 20$. Use the values for $u(0.25, 0.1)$, $u(1, 0.5)$, and $u(1.5, 0.8)$ given in Problem 2 to compute the absolute errors. Compare the absolute errors with those obtained in Problem 4.

6. It was shown in Section 12.2 that if a rod of length $L$ is made of a material with thermal conductivity $K$, specific heat $\gamma$, and density $\rho$, the temperature $u(x, t)$ satisfies the partial differential equation

$$\frac{K}{\gamma\rho}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < L.$$

Consider the boundary-value problem consisting of the foregoing equation and the following conditions:

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 10$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq L.$$

Use the difference equation (3) in this section with $n = 10$ and $m = 10$ to approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem when
(a) $L = 20$, $K = 0.15$, $\rho = 8.0$, $\gamma = 0.11$, $f(x) = 30$
(b) $L = 50$, $K = 0.15$, $\rho = 8.0$, $\gamma = 0.11$, $f(x) = 30$
(c) $L = 20$, $K = 1.10$, $\rho = 2.7$, $\gamma = 0.22$,
   $f(x) = 0.5x(20 - x)$
(d) $L = 100$, $K = 1.04$, $\rho = 10.6$, $\gamma = 0.06$,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0.8x, & 0 \leq x \leq 50 \\ 0.8(100 - x), & 50 < x \leq 100 \end{cases}$$

7. Solve Problem 6 by the Crank-Nicholson method with $n = 10$ and $m = 10$.

8. Repeat Problem 6 if the endpoint temperatures are $u(0, t) = 0$, $u(L, t) = 20$, $0 \leq t \leq 10$.

9. Solve Problem 8 by the Crank-Nicholson method.

10. Consider the boundary-value problem in Example 2. Assume that $n = 4$.
   (a) Find the new value of $\lambda$.
   (b) Use the Crank-Nicholson difference equation (5) to find the system of equations for $u_{11}$, $u_{21}$, and $u_{31}$—that is, the approximate values of $u$ on the first time line. [*Hint*: Set $j = 0$ in (5) and let $i$ take on the values 1, 2, 3.]
   (c) Solve the system of three equations without the aid of a computer program. Compare your results with the corresponding entries in Table 15.4.

11. Consider a rod whose length is $L = 20$ for which $K = 1.05$, $\rho = 10.6$, and $\gamma = 0.056$. Suppose

$$u(0, t) = 20, \qquad u(20, t) = 30$$

$$u(x, 0) = 50.$$

   (a) Use the method outlined in Section 12.6 to find the steady-state solution $\psi(x)$.
   (b) Use the Crank-Nicholson method to approximate the temperatures $u(x, t)$ for $0 \leq t \leq T_{max}$. Select $T_{max}$ large enough to allow the temperatures to approach the steady-state values. Compare the approximations for $t = T_{max}$ with the values of $\psi(x)$ found in part (a).

12. Use the difference equation (3) to approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 < t < 1$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$u(x, 0) = \sin \pi x, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

Use $n = 5$ and $m = 25$.

## 15.3 WAVE EQUATION

### REVIEW MATERIAL
● Sections 9.5, 12.1, 12.2, 12.4, and 15.2

**INTRODUCTION** In this section we approximate a solution of the one-dimensional wave equation using the finite difference method that we used in the preceding two sections. The one-dimensional wave equation is the archetype of a hyperbolic partial differential equation.

**DIFFERENCE EQUATION REPLACEMENT** Suppose $u(x, t)$ represents a solution of the one-dimensional wave equation

$$c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}. \tag{1}$$

Using two central differences,

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{1}{h^2} [u(x + h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x - h, t)]$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} \approx \frac{1}{k^2} [u(x, t + k) - 2u(x, t) + u(x, t - k)],$$

we replace equation (1) by

$$\frac{c^2}{h^2} [u(x + h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x - h, t)] = \frac{1}{k^2} [u(x, t + k) - 2u(x, t) + u(x, t - k)]. \quad (2)$$

We solve (2) for $u(x, t + k)$, which is $u_{i, j+1}$. If $\lambda = ck/h$, then (2) yields

$$u_{i, j+1} = \lambda^2 u_{i+1, j} + 2(1 - \lambda^2) u_{ij} + \lambda^2 u_{i-1, j} - u_{i, j-1} \quad (3)$$

for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n - 1$ and $j = 1, 2, \ldots, m - 1$.

In the case in which the wave equation (1) is a model for the vertical displacements $u(x, t)$ of a vibrating string, typical boundary conditions are $u(0, t) = 0$, $u(a, t) = 0$, $t > 0$, and initial conditions are $u(x, 0) = f(x)$, $\partial u/\partial t|_{t=0} = g(x)$, $0 < x < a$. The functions $f$ and $g$ can be interpreted as the initial position and the initial velocity of the string. The numerical method based on equation (3), like the first method considered in Section 15.2, is an explicit finite difference method. As before, we use the difference equation (3) to approximate the solution $u(x, t)$ of (1), using the boundary and initial conditions, over a rectangular region in the $xt$-plane defined by the inequalities $0 \leq x \leq a$, $0 \leq t \leq T$, where $T$ is some specified value of time. If $n$ and $m$ are positive integers and

$$h = \frac{a}{n} \quad \text{and} \quad k = \frac{T}{m},$$

the vertical and horizontal grid lines on this region are defined by

$$x_i = ih, \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, n \quad \text{and} \quad t_j = jk, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, m.$$



$(j + 1)$st time line

$j$th time line
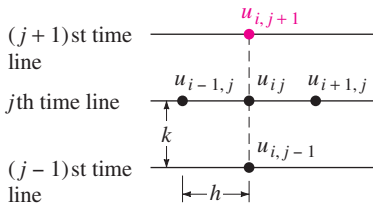
$(j - 1)$st time line

FIGURE 15.3.1   $u$ at $t = j + 1$ is determined from three values of $u$ at $t = j$ and one value at $t = j - 1$.

As shown in Figure 15.11, (3) enables us to obtain the approximation $u_{i, j+1}$ on the $(j + 1)$st time line from the values indicated on the $j$th and $(j - 1)$st time lines. Moreover, we use

$$u_{0, j} = u(0, jk) = 0, \quad u_{n, j} = u(a, jk) = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{boundary conditions}$$

and

$$u_{i, 0} = u(x_i, 0) = f(x_i). \quad \leftarrow \text{initial condition}$$

There is one minor problem in getting started. You can see from (3) that for $j = 1$ we need to know the values of $u_{i, 1}$ (that is, the estimates of $u$ on the first time line) in order to find $u_{i, 2}$. But from Figure 15.3.1, with $j = 0$, we see that the values of $u_{i, 1}$ on the first time line depend on the values of $u_{i, 0}$ on the zeroth time line and on the values of $u_{i, -1}$. To compute these latter values, we make use of the initial-velocity condition $u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$. At $t = 0$ it follows from (5) of Section 9.5 that

$$g(x_i) = u_t(x_i, 0) \approx \frac{u(x_i, k) - u(x_i, -k)}{2k}. \quad (4)$$

To make sense of the term $u(x_i, -k) = u_{i, -1}$ in (4), we have to imagine $u(x, t)$ extended backward in time. It follows from (4) that

$$u(x_i, -k) \approx u(x_i, k) - 2kg(x_i).$$

This last result suggests that we define

$$u_{i, -1} = u_{i, 1} - 2kg(x_i) \quad (5)$$

in the iteration of (3). By substituting (5) into (3) when $j = 0$, we get the special case

$$u_{i, 1} = \frac{\lambda^2}{2} (u_{i+1, 0} + u_{i-1, 0}) + (1 - \lambda^2) u_{i, 0} + kg(x_i). \quad (6)$$

### EXAMPLE 1   Using the Finite Difference Method

Approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem

$$4\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 < t < 1$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \le t \le 1$$

$$u(x, 0) = \sin \pi x, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\bigg|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 \le x \le 1,$$

using (3) with $n = 5$ and $m = 20$.

**SOLUTION**   We make the identifications $c = 2$, $a = 1$, and $T = 1$. With $n = 5$ and $m = 20$ we get $h = \frac{1}{5} = 0.2$, $k = \frac{1}{20} = 0.05$, and $\lambda = 0.5$. Thus, with $g(x) = 0$, equations (6) and (3) become, respectively,

$$u_{i,1} = 0.125(u_{i+1,0} + u_{i-1,0}) + 0.75u_{i,0} \tag{7}$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.25u_{i+1,j} + 1.5u_{ij} + 0.25u_{i-1,j} - u_{i,j-1}. \tag{8}$$

For $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$, equation (7) yields the following values for the $u_{i,1}$ on the first time line:

$$\begin{aligned}
u_{11} &= 0.125(u_{20} + u_{00}) + 0.75u_{10} = 0.55972100 \\
u_{21} &= 0.125(u_{30} + u_{10}) + 0.75u_{20} = 0.90564761 \\
u_{31} &= 0.125(u_{40} + u_{20}) + 0.75u_{30} = 0.90564761 \\
u_{41} &= 0.125(u_{50} + u_{30}) + 0.75u_{40} = 0.55972100.
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

Note that the results given in (9) were obtained from the initial condition $u(x, 0) = \sin \pi x$. For example, $u_{20} = \sin(0.2\pi)$, and so on. Now $j = 1$ in (8) gives

$$u_{i,2} = 0.25u_{i+1,1} + 1.5u_{i,1} + 0.25u_{i-1,1} - u_{i,0},$$

and so for $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ we get

$$\begin{aligned}
u_{12} &= 0.25u_{21} + 1.5u_{11} + 0.25u_{01} - u_{10} \\
u_{22} &= 0.25u_{31} + 1.5u_{21} + 0.25u_{11} - u_{20} \\
u_{32} &= 0.25u_{41} + 1.5u_{31} + 0.25u_{21} - u_{30} \\
u_{42} &= 0.25u_{51} + 1.5u_{41} + 0.25u_{31} - u_{40}.
\end{aligned}$$

Using the boundary conditions, the initial conditions, and the data obtained in (9), we get from these equations the approximations for $u$ on the second time line. These last results and an abbreviation of the remaining calculations are given in Table 15.6.

**TABLE 15.6**   Explicit Difference Equation Approximation with $h = 0.2$, $k = 0.05$, $\lambda = 0.5$

| Time | $x = 0.20$ | $x = 0.40$ | $x = 0.60$ | $x = 0.80$ |
|------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 0.00 | 0.5878 | 0.9511 | 0.9511 | 0.5878 |
| 0.10 | 0.4782 | 0.7738 | 0.7738 | 0.4782 |
| 0.20 | 0.1903 | 0.3080 | 0.3080 | 0.1903 |
| 0.30 | −0.1685 | −0.2727 | −0.2727 | −0.1685 |
| 0.40 | −0.4645 | −0.7516 | −0.7516 | −0.4645 |
| 0.50 | −0.5873 | −0.9503 | −0.9503 | −0.5873 |
| 0.60 | −0.4912 | −0.7947 | −0.7947 | −0.4912 |
| 0.70 | −0.2119 | −0.3428 | −0.3428 | −0.2119 |
| 0.80 | 0.1464 | 0.2369 | 0.2369 | 0.1464 |
| 0.90 | 0.4501 | 0.7283 | 0.7283 | 0.4501 |
| 1.00 | 0.5860 | 0.9482 | 0.9482 | 0.5860 |

It is readily verified that the exact solution of the BVP in Example 1 is $u(x, t) = \sin \pi x \cos 2\pi t$. With this function we can compare actual values with approximations. For example, some selected comparisons are given in Table 15.7. As you can see in the table, the approximations are in the same "ballpark" as the actual values, but the accuracy is not particularly impressive. We can, however, obtain more accurate results. The accuracy of the algorithm varies with the choice of $\lambda$. Of course, $\lambda$ is determined by the choice of integers $n$ and $m$, which in turn determine the values of the step sizes $h$ and $k$. It can be proved that the best accuracy is always obtainable from this method when the ratio $\lambda = kc/h$ is equal to one—in other words, when the step in the time direction is $k = h/c$. For example, the choice $n = 8$ and $m = 16$ yields $h = \frac{1}{8}$, $k = \frac{1}{16}$, and $\lambda = 1$. The sample values listed in Table 15.8 clearly show the improved accuracy.

**TABLE 15.7**

| Actual | Approx. |
|---|---|
| $u(0.4, 0.25) = 0$ | $u_{25} = 0.0185$ |
| $u(0.6, 0.3) = -0.2939$ | $u_{36} = -0.2727$ |
| $u(0.2, 0.5) = -0.5878$ | $u_{1,10} = -0.5873$ |
| $u(0.8, 0.7) = -0.1816$ | $u_{4,14} = -0.2119$ |

**TABLE 15.8**

| Actual | Approx. |
|---|---|
| $u(0.25, 0.3125) = -0.2706$ | $u_{25} = -0.2706$ |
| $u(0.375, 0.375) = -0.6533$ | $u_{36} = -0.6533$ |
| $u(0.125, 0.625) = -0.2706$ | $u_{1,10} = -0.2706$ |

**STABILITY**   We note in conclusion that this explicit finite difference method for the wave equation is stable when $\lambda \leq 1$ and unstable when $\lambda > 1$.

# EXERCISES 15.3

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-28.*

In Problems 1, 3, 5, and 6 use a computer as a computation aid.

**1.** Use the difference equation (3) to approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem

$$c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < a, \quad 0 < t < T$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(a, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 \leq x \leq a$$

when

**(a)** $c = 1$, $a = 1$, $T = 1$, $f(x) = x(1 - x)$; $n = 4$ and $m = 10$

**(b)** $c = 1$, $a = 2$, $T = 1$, $f(x) = e^{-16(x-1)^2}$; $n = 5$ and $m = 10$

**(c)** $c = \sqrt{2}$, $a = 1$, $T = 1$,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 \leq x \leq 0.5 \\ 0.5, & 0.5 < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

$n = 10$ and $m = 25$.

**2.** Consider the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 < t < 0.5$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 0.5$$

$$u(x, 0) = \sin \pi x, \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

**(a)** Use the methods of Chapter 12 to verify that the solution of the problem is $u(x, t) = \sin \pi x \cos \pi t$.

**(b)** Use the method of this section to approximate the solution of the problem without the aid of a computer program. Use $n = 4$ and $m = 5$.

**(c)** Compute the absolute error at each interior grid point.

**3.** Approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem in Problem 2 using a computer program with

**(a)** $n = 5$, $m = 10$       **(b)** $n = 5$, $m = 20$.

**4.** Given the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 < t < 1$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

$$u(x, 0) = x(1 - x), \quad \left.\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right|_{t=0} = 0, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1,$$

use $h = k = \frac{1}{5}$ in equation (6) to compute the values of $u_{i,1}$ by hand.

5. It was shown in Section 12.2 that the equation of a vibrating string is

$$\frac{T}{\rho} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2},$$

where $T$ is the constant magnitude of the tension in the string and $\rho$ is its mass per unit length. Suppose a string of length 60 centimeters is secured to the $x$-axis at its ends and is released from rest from the initial displacement

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0.01x, & 0 \le x \le 30 \\ 0.30 - \dfrac{x - 30}{100}, & 30 < x \le 60. \end{cases}$$

Use the difference equation (3) in this section to approximate the solution of the boundary-value problem when $h = 10$, $k = 5\sqrt{\rho/T}$ and where $\rho = 0.0225$ g/cm, $T = 1.4 \times 10^7$ dynes. Use $m = 50$.

6. Repeat Problem 5 using

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0.2x, & 0 \le x \le 15 \\ 0.30 - \dfrac{x - 15}{150}, & 15 < x \le 60 \end{cases}$$

and $h = 10$, $k = 2.5\sqrt{\rho/T}$. Use $m = 50$.

# CHAPTER 15 IN REVIEW

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-29.*

1. Consider the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \qquad 0 < x < 2, \quad 0 < y < 1$$

$$u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(2, y) = 50, \quad 0 < y < 1$$

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, 1) = 0, \quad 0 < x < 2.$$

Approximate the solution of the differential equation at the interior points of the region with mesh size $h = \frac{1}{2}$. Use Gaussian elimination or Gauss-Seidel iteration.

2. Solve Problem 1 using mesh size $h = \frac{1}{4}$. Use Gauss-Seidel iteration.

3. Consider the boundary-value problem

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \qquad 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 < t < 0.05$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = x, \quad 0 < x < 1.$$

(a) Note that the initial temperature $u(x, 0) = x$ indicates that the temperature at the right boundary $x = 1$ should be $u(1, 0) = 1$, whereas the boundary conditions imply that $u(1, 0) = 0$. Write a computer program for the explicit finite difference method so

that the boundary conditions prevail for all times considered, including $t = 0$. Use the program to complete Table 15.9.

(b) Modify your computer program so that the initial condition prevails at the boundaries at $t = 0$. Use this program to complete Table 15.10.

(c) Are Tables 15.9 and 15.10 related in any way? Use a larger time interval if necessary.

**TABLE 15.9**

| Time | $x = 0.00$ | $x = 0.20$ | $x = 0.40$ | $x = 0.60$ | $x = 0.80$ | $x = 1.00$ |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 0.0000 | 0.2000 | 0.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.8000 | 0.0000 |
| 0.01 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |
| 0.02 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |
| 0.03 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |
| 0.04 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |
| 0.05 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |

**TABLE 15.10**

| Time | $x = 0.00$ | $x = 0.20$ | $x = 0.40$ | $x = 0.60$ | $x = 0.80$ | $x = 1.00$ |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 0.0000 | 0.2000 | 0.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.8000 | 1.0000 |
| 0.01 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |
| 0.02 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |
| 0.03 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |
| 0.04 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |
| 0.05 | 0.0000 | | | | | 0.0000 |

# GAMMA FUNCTION

Euler's integral definition of the **gamma function** is

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^\infty t^{x-1} e^{-t} \, dt. \tag{1}$$

Convergence of the integral requires that $x - 1 > -1$ or $x > 0$. The recurrence relation

$$\Gamma(x + 1) = x\Gamma(x), \tag{2}$$

which we saw in Section 6.3, can be obtained from (1) with integration by parts. Now when $x = 1$, $\Gamma(1) = \int_0^\infty e^{-t} \, dt = 1$, and thus (2) gives

$$\Gamma(2) = 1\Gamma(1) = 1$$
$$\Gamma(3) = 2\Gamma(2) = 2 \cdot 1$$
$$\Gamma(4) = 3\Gamma(3) = 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1$$



$\Gamma(x)$

and so on. In this manner it is seen that when $n$ is a positive integer, $\Gamma(n + 1) = n!$. For this reason the gamma function is often called the **generalized factorial function.**

Although the integral form (1) does not converge for $x < 0$, it can be shown by means of alternative definitions that the gamma function is defined for all real and complex numbers *except* $x = -n$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$. As a consequence, (2) is actually valid for $x \neq -n$. The graph of $\Gamma(x)$, considered as a function of a real variable $x$, is as given in Figure I.1. Observe that the nonpositive integers correspond to vertical asymptotes of the graph.

In Problems 31 and 32 of Exercises 6.3 we utilized the fact that $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$. This result can be derived from (1) by setting $x = \frac{1}{2}$:

**FIGURE I.1** Graph of $\Gamma(x)$ for $x$ neither 0 nor a negative integer

$$\Gamma\left(\tfrac{1}{2}\right) = \int_0^\infty t^{-1/2} e^{-t} \, dt. \tag{3}$$

When we let $t = u^2$, (3) can be written as $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = 2\int_0^\infty e^{-u^2} \, du$. But $\int_0^\infty e^{-u^2} \, du = \int_0^\infty e^{-v^2} \, dv$, so

$$\left[\Gamma\left(\tfrac{1}{2}\right)\right]^2 = \left(2\int_0^\infty e^{-u^2} \, du\right)\left(2\int_0^\infty e^{-v^2} \, dv\right) = 4\int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-(u^2+v^2)} \, du \, dv.$$

Switching to polar coordinates $u = r\cos\theta$, $v = r\sin\theta$ enables us to evaluate the double integral:

$$4\int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-(u^2+v^2)} \, du \, dv = 4\int_0^{\pi/2} \int_0^\infty e^{-r^2} r \, dr \, d\theta = \pi.$$

Hence $$\left[\Gamma\left(\tfrac{1}{2}\right)\right]^2 = \pi \qquad \text{or} \qquad \Gamma\left(\tfrac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}. \tag{4}$$

---

**EXAMPLE 1** **Value of** $\Gamma\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$

Evaluate $\Gamma\left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)$.

**SOLUTION** In view of (2) and (4) it follows that, with $x = -\frac{1}{2}$,

$$\Gamma\left(\tfrac{1}{2}\right) = -\tfrac{1}{2}\Gamma\left(-\tfrac{1}{2}\right).$$

Therefore $\qquad\qquad\qquad \Gamma\left(-\tfrac{1}{2}\right) = -2\Gamma\left(\tfrac{1}{2}\right) = -2\sqrt{\pi}.$ ∎

---

## EXERCISES FOR APPENDIX I

*Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-29.*

1. Evaluate.
   (a) $\Gamma(5)$        (b) $\Gamma(7)$

   (c) $\Gamma\left(-\tfrac{3}{2}\right)$        (d) $\Gamma\left(-\tfrac{5}{2}\right)$

2. Use (1) and the fact that $\Gamma\left(\tfrac{6}{5}\right) = 0.92$ to evaluate
   $$\int_0^\infty x^5 e^{-x^5}\, dx. \text{ [Hint: Let } t = x^5.]$$

3. Use (1) and the fact that $\Gamma\left(\tfrac{5}{3}\right) = 0.89$ to evaluate
   $$\int_0^\infty x^4 e^{-x^3}\, dx.$$

4. Evaluate $\displaystyle\int_0^1 x^3 \left(\ln\frac{1}{x}\right)^3 dx.$ [*Hint*: Let $t = -\ln x.$]

5. Use the fact that $\Gamma(x) > \displaystyle\int_0^1 t^{x-1} e^{-t}\, dt$ to show that $\Gamma(x)$ is unbounded as $x \to 0^+$.

6. Use (1) to derive (2) for $x > 0$.

# APPENDIX II

# MATRICES

## II.1 BASIC DEFINITIONS AND THEORY

---

**DEFINITION II.1   Matrix**

A **matrix A** is any rectangular array of numbers or functions:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}. \tag{1}$$

---

If a matrix has $m$ rows and $n$ columns, we say that its **size** is $m$ by $n$ (written $m \times n$). An $n \times n$ matrix is called a **square matrix** of order $n$.

The element, or entry, in the $i$th row and $j$th column of an $m \times n$ matrix **A** is written $a_{ij}$. An $m \times n$ matrix **A** is then abbreviated as $\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij})_{m \times n}$ or simply $\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij})$. A $1 \times 1$ matrix is simply one constant or function.

---

**DEFINITION II.2   Equality of Matrices**

Two $m \times n$ matrices **A** and **B** are **equal** if $a_{ij} = b_{ij}$ for each $i$ and $j$.

---

**DEFINITION II.3   Column Matrix**

A **column matrix X** is any matrix having $n$ rows and one column:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} \\ b_{21} \\ \vdots \\ b_{n1} \end{pmatrix} = (b_{i1})_{n \times 1}.$$

---

A column matrix is also called a **column vector** or simply a **vector.**

---

**DEFINITION II.4   Multiples of Matrices**

A **multiple** of a matrix **A** is defined to be

$$k\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} ka_{11} & ka_{12} & \cdots & ka_{1n} \\ ka_{21} & ka_{22} & \cdots & ka_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ ka_{m1} & ka_{m2} & \cdots & ka_{mn} \end{pmatrix} = (ka_{ij})_{m \times n},$$

where $k$ is a constant or a function.

---

### EXAMPLE 1 Multiples of Matrices

(a) $5\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 4 & -1 \\ \frac{1}{5} & 6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & -15 \\ 20 & -5 \\ 1 & 30 \end{pmatrix}$  (b) $e^t\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^t \\ -2e^t \\ 4e^t \end{pmatrix}$  ∎

We note in passing that for any matrix **A** the product $k\mathbf{A}$ is the same as $\mathbf{A}k$. For example,

$$e^{-3t}\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2e^{-3t} \\ 5e^{-3t} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}e^{-3t}.$$

### DEFINITION II.5 Addition of Matrices

The **sum** of two $m \times n$ matrices **A** and **B** is defined to be the matrix

$$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = (a_{ij} + b_{ij})_{m\times n}.$$

In other words, when adding two matrices of the same size, we add the corresponding elements.

### EXAMPLE 2 Matrix Addition

The sum of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 6 \\ -6 & 10 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 7 & -8 \\ 9 & 3 & 5 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ is

$$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 2+4 & -1+7 & 3+(-8) \\ 0+9 & 4+3 & 6+5 \\ -6+1 & 10+(-1) & -5+2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 6 & -5 \\ 9 & 7 & 11 \\ -5 & 9 & -3 \end{pmatrix}.$$  ∎

### EXAMPLE 3 A Matrix Written as a Sum of Column Matrices

The single matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 3t^2 - 2e^t \\ t^2 + 7t \\ 5t \end{pmatrix}$ can be written as the sum of three column vectors:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3t^2 - 2e^t \\ t^2 + 7t \\ 5t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3t^2 \\ t^2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 7t \\ 5t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -2e^t \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}t^2 + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}t + \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^t.$$  ∎

The **difference** of two $m \times n$ matrices is defined in the usual manner: $\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A} + (-\mathbf{B})$, where $-\mathbf{B} = (-1)\mathbf{B}$.

---

**DEFINITION II.6    Multiplication of Matrices**

Let $\mathbf{A}$ be a matrix having $m$ rows and $n$ columns and $\mathbf{B}$ be a matrix having $n$ rows and $p$ columns. We define the **product AB** to be the $m \times p$ matrix

$$\mathbf{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \cdots & b_{1p} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \cdots & b_{2p} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ b_{n1} & b_{n2} & \cdots & b_{np} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}b_{11} + a_{12}b_{21} + \cdots + a_{1n}b_{n1} & \cdots & a_{11}b_{1p} + a_{12}b_{2p} + \cdots + a_{1n}b_{np} \\ a_{21}b_{11} + a_{22}b_{21} + \cdots + a_{2n}b_{n1} & \cdots & a_{21}b_{1p} + a_{22}b_{2p} + \cdots + a_{2n}b_{np} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{m1}b_{11} + a_{m2}b_{21} + \cdots + a_{mn}b_{n1} & \cdots & a_{m1}b_{1p} + a_{m2}b_{2p} + \cdots + a_{mn}b_{np} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \left( \sum_{k=1}^{n} a_{ik}b_{kj} \right)_{m \times p}.$$

---

Note carefully in Definition II.6 that the product $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{C}$ is defined only when the number of columns in the matrix $\mathbf{A}$ is the same as the number of rows in $\mathbf{B}$. The size of the product can be determined from

$$\mathbf{A}_{m \times n}\mathbf{B}_{n \times p} = \mathbf{C}_{m \times p}.$$

Also, you might recognize that the entries in, say, the $i$th row of the final matrix $\mathbf{AB}$ are formed by using the component definition of the inner, or dot, product of the $i$th row of $\mathbf{A}$ with each of the columns of $\mathbf{B}$.

---

**EXAMPLE 4    Multiplication of Matrices**

**(a)** For $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 7 \\ 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & -2 \\ 6 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$,

$$\mathbf{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \cdot 9 + 7 \cdot 6 & 4 \cdot (-2) + 7 \cdot 8 \\ 3 \cdot 9 + 5 \cdot 6 & 3 \cdot (-2) + 5 \cdot 8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 78 & 48 \\ 57 & 34 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**(b)** For $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 8 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & -3 \\ 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$,

$$\mathbf{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \cdot (-4) + 8 \cdot 2 & 5 \cdot (-3) + 8 \cdot 0 \\ 1 \cdot (-4) + 0 \cdot 2 & 1 \cdot (-3) + 0 \cdot 0 \\ 2 \cdot (-4) + 7 \cdot 2 & 2 \cdot (-3) + 7 \cdot 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & -15 \\ -4 & -3 \\ 6 & -6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In general, *matrix multiplication is not commutative; that is,* $\mathbf{AB} \neq \mathbf{BA}$. Observe in part (a) of Example 4 that $\mathbf{BA} = \begin{pmatrix} 30 & 53 \\ 48 & 82 \end{pmatrix}$, whereas in part (b) the product $\mathbf{BA}$ is not defined, since Definition II.6 requires that the first matrix (in this case $\mathbf{B}$) have the same number of columns as the second matrix has rows.

We are particularly interested in the product of a square matrix and a column vector.

## EXAMPLE 5 Multiplication of Matrices

(a) $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & -7 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 6 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cdot (-3) + (-1) \cdot 6 + 3 \cdot 4 \\ 0 \cdot (-3) + 4 \cdot 6 + 5 \cdot 4 \\ 1 \cdot (-3) + (-7) \cdot 6 + 9 \cdot 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 44 \\ -9 \end{pmatrix}$

(b) $\begin{pmatrix} -4 & 2 \\ 3 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -4x + 2y \\ 3x + 8y \end{pmatrix}$ ■

**MULTIPLICATIVE IDENTITY** For a given positive integer $n$ the $n \times n$ matrix

$$I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is called the **multiplicative identity matrix.** It follows from Definition II.6 that for any $n \times n$ matrix **A**.

$$\mathbf{AI} = \mathbf{IA} = \mathbf{A}.$$

Also, it is readily verified that if **X** is an $n \times 1$ column matrix, then $\mathbf{IX} = \mathbf{X}$.

**ZERO MATRIX** A matrix consisting of all zero entries is called a **zero matrix** and is denoted by **0**. For example,

$$\mathbf{0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and so on. If **A** and **0** are $m \times n$ matrices, then

$$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}.$$

**ASSOCIATIVE LAW** Although we shall not prove it, matrix multiplication is **associative.** If **A** is an $m \times p$ matrix, **B** a $p \times r$ matrix, and **C** an $r \times n$ matrix, then

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{BC}) = (\mathbf{AB})\mathbf{C}$$

is an $m \times n$ matrix.

**DISTRIBUTIVE LAW** If all products are defined, multiplication is **distributive** over addition:

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{AB} + \mathbf{AC} \qquad \text{and} \qquad (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C})\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{BA} + \mathbf{CA}.$$

**DETERMINANT OF A MATRIX** Associated with every *square* matrix **A** of constants is a number called the **determinant of the matrix,** which is denoted by det **A**.

## EXAMPLE 6 Determinant of a Square Matrix

For $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ we expand det **A** by cofactors of the first row:

$$\det \mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 6 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 3 \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} - 6 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} + 2 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 3(20 - 2) - 6(8 + 1) + 2(4 + 5) = 18. \quad ■$$

It can be proved that a determinant det $\mathbf{A}$ can be expanded by cofactors using any row or column. If det $\mathbf{A}$ has a row (or a column) containing many zero entries, then wisdom dictates that we expand the determinant by that row (or column).

---

**DEFINITION II.7   Transpose of a Matrix**

The **transpose** of the $m \times n$ matrix (1) is the $n \times m$ matrix $\mathbf{A}^T$ given by

$$\mathbf{A}^T = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{21} & \cdots & a_{m1} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{m2} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{1n} & a_{2n} & \cdots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix}.$$

In other words, the rows of a matrix $\mathbf{A}$ become the columns of its transpose $\mathbf{A}^T$.

---

**EXAMPLE 7   Transpose of a Matrix**

(a) The transpose of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ is $\mathbf{A}^T = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & -1 \\ 6 & 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$.

(b) If $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$, then $\mathbf{X}^T = (5 \quad 0 \quad 3)$.  ■

---

**DEFINITION II.8   Multiplicative Inverse of a Matrix**

Let $\mathbf{A}$ be an $n \times n$ matrix. If there exists an $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{B}$ such that

$$\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{BA} = \mathbf{I},$$

where $\mathbf{I}$ is the multiplicative identity, then $\mathbf{B}$ is said to be the **multiplicative inverse of A** and is denoted by $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$.

---

**DEFINITION II.9   Nonsingular/Singular Matrices**

Let $\mathbf{A}$ be an $n \times n$ matrix. If det $\mathbf{A} \neq 0$, then $\mathbf{A}$ is said to be **nonsingular.** If det $\mathbf{A} = 0$, then $\mathbf{A}$ is said to be **singular.**

---

The following theorem gives a necessary and sufficient condition for a square matrix to have a multiplicative inverse.

---

**THEOREM II.1   Nonsingularity Implies A Has an Inverse**

An $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}$ has a multiplicative inverse $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ if and only if $\mathbf{A}$ is nonsingular.

---

The following theorem gives one way of finding the multiplicative inverse for a nonsingular matrix.

---

**THEOREM II.2  A Formula for the Inverse of a Matrix**

Let $\mathbf{A}$ be an $n \times n$ nonsingular matrix and let $C_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j}M_{ij}$, where $M_{ij}$ is the determinant of the $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ matrix obtained by deleting the $i$th row and $j$th column from $\mathbf{A}$. Then

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det \mathbf{A}}(C_{ij})^{T}. \qquad (2)$$

---

Each $C_{ij}$ in Theorem II.2 is simply the **cofactor** (signed minor) of the corresponding entry $a_{ij}$ in $\mathbf{A}$. Note that the transpose is utilized in formula (2).

For future reference we observe in the case of a $2 \times 2$ nonsingular matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

that $C_{11} = a_{22}$, $C_{12} = -a_{21}$, $C_{21} = -a_{12}$, and $C_{22} = a_{11}$. Thus

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det \mathbf{A}}\begin{pmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{21} \\ -a_{12} & a_{11} \end{pmatrix}^{T} = \frac{1}{\det \mathbf{A}}\begin{pmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{12} \\ -a_{21} & a_{11} \end{pmatrix}. \qquad (3)$$

For a $3 \times 3$ nonsingular matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$C_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}, \qquad C_{12} = -\begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}, \qquad C_{13} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix},$$

and so on. Carrying out the transposition gives

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det \mathbf{A}}\begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{21} & C_{31} \\ C_{12} & C_{22} & C_{32} \\ C_{13} & C_{23} & C_{33} \end{pmatrix}. \qquad (4)$$

---

**EXAMPLE 8  Inverse of a 2 × 2 Matrix**

---

Find the multiplicative inverse for $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$.

**SOLUTION**  Since $\det \mathbf{A} = 10 - 8 = 2 \neq 0$, $\mathbf{A}$ is nonsingular. It follows from Theorem II.1 that $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ exists. From (3) we find

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{2}\begin{pmatrix} 10 & -4 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ -1 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}. \qquad ■$$

Not every square matrix has a multiplicative inverse. The matrix $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ is singular, since $\det \mathbf{A} = 0$. Hence $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ does not exist.

---

**EXAMPLE 9  Inverse of a 3 × 3 Matrix**

---

Find the multiplicative inverse for $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

**SOLUTION**  Since det $\mathbf{A} = 12 \neq 0$, the given matrix is nonsingular. The cofactors corresponding to the entries in each row of det $\mathbf{A}$ are

$$C_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \qquad C_{12} = -\begin{vmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 5 \qquad C_{13} = \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -3$$

$$C_{21} = -\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -2 \qquad C_{22} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \qquad C_{23} = -\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 6$$

$$C_{31} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \qquad C_{32} = -\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -2 \qquad C_{33} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 6.$$

If follows from (4) that

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{12} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 5 & 2 & -2 \\ -3 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{12} & -\frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{6} \\ \frac{5}{12} & \frac{1}{6} & -\frac{1}{6} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

You are urged to verify that $\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{I}$.  ∎

Formula (2) presents obvious difficulties for nonsingular matrices larger than $3 \times 3$. For example, to apply (2) to a $4 \times 4$ matrix, we would have to calculate *sixteen* $3 \times 3$ determinants.[*] In the case of a large matrix there are more efficient ways of finding $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$. The curious reader is referred to any text in linear algebra.

Since our goal is to apply the concept of a matrix to systems of linear first-order differential equations, we need the following definitions.

---

**DEFINITION II.10**  **Derivative of a Matrix of Functions**

If $\mathbf{A}(t) = (a_{ij}(t))_{m \times n}$ is a matrix whose entries are functions differentiable on a common interval, then

$$\frac{d\mathbf{A}}{dt} = \left( \frac{d}{dt} a_{ij} \right)_{m \times n}.$$

---

**DEFINITION II.11**  **Integral of a Matrix of Functions**

If $\mathbf{A}(t) = (a_{ij}(t))_{m \times n}$ is a matrix whose entries are functions continuous on a common interval containing $t$ and $t_0$, then

$$\int_{t_0}^{t} \mathbf{A}(s)\,ds = \left( \int_{t_0}^{t} a_{ij}(s)\,ds \right)_{m \times n}.$$

---

To differentiate (integrate) a matrix of functions, we simply differentiate (integrate) each entry. The derivative of a matrix is also denoted by $\mathbf{A}'(t)$.

---

**EXAMPLE 10**  **Derivative/Integral of a Matrix**

If $\qquad \mathbf{X}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \sin 2t \\ e^{3t} \\ 8t - 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad$ then $\qquad \mathbf{X}'(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \dfrac{d}{dt} \sin 2t \\ \dfrac{d}{dt} e^{3t} \\ \dfrac{d}{dt}(8t - 1) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2\cos 2t \\ 3e^{3t} \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$

---

[*]Strictly speaking, a determinant is a number, but it is sometimes convenient to refer to a determinant as if it were an array.

and
$$\int_0^t \mathbf{X}(s)\,ds = \begin{pmatrix} \int_0^t \sin 2s\,ds \\ \int_0^t e^{3s}\,ds \\ \int_0^t (8s - 1)\,ds \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}\cos 2t + \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{3}e^{3t} - \frac{1}{3} \\ 4t^2 - t \end{pmatrix}.$$  ∎

## II.2 GAUSSIAN AND GAUSS-JORDAN ELIMINATION

Matrices are an invaluable aid in solving algebraic systems of $n$ linear equations in $n$ unknowns,

$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n &= b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n &= b_2 \\ &\vdots \qquad\qquad \vdots \\ a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{nn}x_n &= b_n. \end{aligned}$$  (5)

If $\mathbf{A}$ denotes the matrix of coefficients in (5), we know that Cramer's rule could be used to solve the system whenever $\det \mathbf{A} \neq 0$. However, that rule requires a herculean effort if $\mathbf{A}$ is larger than $3 \times 3$. The procedure that we shall now consider has the distinct advantage of being not only an efficient way of handling large systems, but also a means of solving consistent systems (5) in which $\det \mathbf{A} = 0$ and a means of solving $m$ linear equations in $n$ unknowns.

---

**DEFINITION II.12   Augmented Matrix**

The **augmented matrix** of the system (5) is the $n \times (n + 1)$ matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} & \bigg| & b_1 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} & \bigg| & b_2 \\ \vdots & & & & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} & \bigg| & b_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

---

If $\mathbf{B}$ is the column matrix of the $b_i$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, the augmented matrix of (5) is denoted by $(\mathbf{A} | \mathbf{B})$.

**ELEMENTARY ROW OPERATIONS** Recall from algebra that we can transform an algebraic system of equations into an equivalent system (that is, one having the same solution) by multiplying an equation by a nonzero constant, interchanging the positions of any two equations in a system, and adding a nonzero constant multiple of an equation to another equation. These operations on equations in a system are, in turn, equivalent to **elementary row operations** on an augmented matrix:

- (*i*)   Multiply a row by a nonzero constant.
- (*ii*)  Interchange any two rows.
- (*iii*) Add a nonzero constant multiple of one row to any other row.

**ELIMINATION METHODS** To solve a system such as (5) using an augmented matrix, we use either **Gaussian elimination** or the **Gauss-Jordan elimination method.** In the former method we carry out a succession of elementary row operations until we arrive at an augmented matrix in **row-echelon form:**

- (*i*)   The first nonzero entry in a nonzero row is 1.
- (*ii*)  In consecutive nonzero rows the first entry 1 in the lower row appears to the right of the first 1 in the higher row.
- (*iii*) Rows consisting of all 0's are at the bottom of the matrix.

In the Gauss-Jordan method the row operations are continued until we obtain an augmented matrix that is in **reduced row-echelon form.** A reduced row-echelon matrix has the same three properties listed above in addition to the following one:

(*iv*)   A column containing a first entry 1 has 0's everywhere else.

---

**EXAMPLE 11**   **Row-Echelon/Reduced Row-Echelon Form**

**(a)** The augmented matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 & 0 & | & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & -6 & 2 & | & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

are in row-echelon form. You should verify that the three criteria are satisfied.

**(b)** The augmented matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & -6 & 0 & | & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

are in reduced row-echelon form. Note that the remaining entries in the columns containing a leading entry 1 are all 0's. ∎

Note that in Gaussian elimination we stop once we have obtained *an* augmented matrix in row-echelon form. In other words, by using different sequences of row operations we may arrive at different row-echelon forms. This method then requires the use of back-substitution. In Gauss-Jordan elimination we stop when we have obtained *the* augmented matrix in reduced row-echelon form. Any sequence of row operations will lead to the same augmented matrix in reduced row-echelon form. This method does not require back-substitution; the solution of the system will be apparent by inspection of the final matrix. In terms of the equations of the original system, our goal in both methods is simply to make the coefficient of $x_1$ in the first equation* equal to 1 and then use multiples of that equation to eliminate $x_1$ from other equations. The process is repeated on the other variables.

To keep track of the row operations on an augmented matrix, we utilize the following notation:

| Symbol | Meaning |
|---|---|
| $R_{ij}$ | Interchange rows $i$ and $j$ |
| $cR_i$ | Multiply the $i$th row by the nonzero constant $c$ |
| $cR_i + R_j$ | Multiply the $i$th row by $c$ and add to the $j$th row |

---

**EXAMPLE 12**   **Solution by Elimination**

Solve

$$2x_1 + 6x_2 + \phantom{-}x_3 = 7$$
$$\phantom{2}x_1 + 2x_2 - \phantom{4}x_3 = -1$$
$$5x_1 + 7x_2 - 4x_3 = 9$$

using **(a)** Gaussian elimination and **(b)** Gauss-Jordan elimination.

---

*We can always interchange equations so that the first equation contains the variable $x_1$.

**SOLUTION** (a) Using row operations on the augmented matrix of the system, we obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 & 1 & | & 7 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & | & -1 \\ 5 & 7 & -4 & | & 9 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_{12}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & | & -1 \\ 2 & 6 & 1 & | & 7 \\ 5 & 7 & -4 & | & 9 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[-5R_1 + R_3]{-2R_1 + R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & | & 9 \\ 0 & -3 & 1 & | & 14 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2}R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & | & \frac{9}{2} \\ 0 & -3 & 1 & | & 14 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{3R_2 + R_3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & | & \frac{9}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{11}{2} & | & \frac{55}{2} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\frac{2}{11}R_3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & | & \frac{9}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The last matrix is in row-echelon form and represents the system

$$x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = -1$$

$$x_2 + \frac{3}{2}x_3 = \frac{9}{2}$$

$$x_3 = 5.$$

Substituting $x_3 = 5$ into the second equation then gives $x_2 = -3$. Substituting both these values back into the first equation finally yields $x_1 = 10$.

(b) We start with the last matrix above. Since the first entries in the second and third rows are 1's, we must, in turn, make the remaining entries in the second and third columns 0's:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & | & \frac{9}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 5 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{-2R_2 + R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -4 & | & -10 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & | & \frac{9}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 5 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[-\frac{3}{2}R_3 + R_2]{4R_3 + R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 10 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The last matrix is now in reduced row-echelon form. Because of what the matrix means in terms of equations, it is evident that the solution of the system is $x_1 = 10$, $x_2 = -3$, $x_3 = 5$. ∎

---

### EXAMPLE 13  Gauss-Jordan Elimination

Solve

$$x + 3y - 2z = -7$$

$$4x + y + 3z = 5$$

$$2x - 5y + 7z = 19.$$

**SOLUTION**  We solve the system using Gauss-Jordan elimination:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & | & -7 \\ 4 & 1 & 3 & | & 5 \\ 2 & -5 & 7 & | & 19 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[-2R_1 + R_3]{-4R_1 + R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & | & -7 \\ 0 & -11 & 11 & | & 33 \\ 0 & -11 & 11 & | & 33 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[-\frac{1}{11}R_3]{-\frac{1}{11}R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & | & -7 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & | & -3 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[-R_2 + R_3]{-3R_2 + R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & | & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In this case the last matrix in reduced row-echelon form implies that the original system of three equations in three unknowns is really equivalent to two equations in three unknowns. Since only $z$ is common to both equations (the nonzero rows), we

can assign its values arbitrarily. If we let $z = t$, where $t$ represents any real number, then we see that the system has infinitely many solutions: $x = 2 - t$, $y = -3 + t$, $z = t$. Geometrically, these equations are the parametric equations for the line of intersection of the planes $x + 0y + z = 2$ and $0x + y - z = 3$. ■

**USING ROW OPERATIONS TO FIND AN INVERSE** Because of the number of determinants that must be evaluated, formula (2) in Theorem II.2 is seldom used to find the inverse when the matrix $\mathbf{A}$ is large. In the case of $3 \times 3$ or larger matrices the method described in the next theorem is a particularly efficient means for finding $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$.

---

**THEOREM II.3** **Finding $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ Using Elementary Row Operations**

If an $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}$ can be transformed into the $n \times n$ identity $\mathbf{I}$ by a sequence of elementary row operations, then $\mathbf{A}$ is nonsingular. The same sequence of operations that transforms $\mathbf{A}$ into the identity $\mathbf{I}$ will also transform $\mathbf{I}$ into $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$.

---

It is convenient to carry out these row operations on $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{I}$ simultaneously by means of an $n \times 2n$ matrix obtained by augmenting $\mathbf{A}$ with the identity $\mathbf{I}$ as shown here:

$$(\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{I}) = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The procedure for finding $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ is outlined in the following diagram:

Perform row operations on $\mathbf{A}$ until $\mathbf{I}$ is obtained. This means that $\mathbf{A}$ is nonsingular.

$(\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{I}) \longrightarrow (\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{A}^{-1}).$

By simultaneously applying the same row operations to $\mathbf{I}$, we get $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$.

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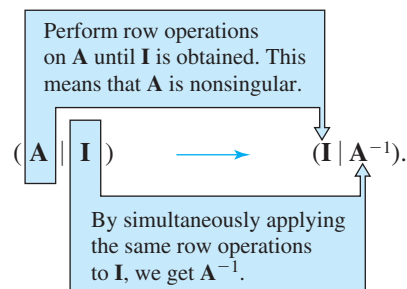
**EXAMPLE 14** **Inverse by Elementary Row Operations**

Find the multiplicative inverse for $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 & 4 \\ -5 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$.

**SOLUTION** We shall use the same notation as we did when we reduced an augmented matrix to reduced row-echelon form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 & | & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 3 & 4 & | & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -5 & 5 & 6 & | & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{2}R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & | & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 3 & 4 & | & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -5 & 5 & 6 & | & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[5R_1 + R_3]{2R_1 + R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & | & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 5 & | & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & \frac{17}{2} & | & \frac{5}{2} & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[\frac{1}{5}R_3]{\frac{1}{3}R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & | & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{5}{3} & | & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{17}{10} & | & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{5} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{-R_2 + R_3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & | & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{5}{3} & | & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{30} & | & \frac{1}{6} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{5} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{30R_3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & | & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{5}{3} & | & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 5 & -10 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\ -\frac{5}{3}R_3 + R_2]{-\frac{1}{3}R_3 + R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & -2 & 5 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & -8 & 17 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 5 & -10 & 6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Because **I** appears to the left of the vertical line, we conclude that the matrix to the right of the line is

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 5 & -3 \\ -8 & 17 & -10 \\ 5 & -10 & 6 \end{pmatrix}.$$ ∎

If row reduction of $(\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{I})$ leads to the situation

$$(\mathbf{A} \mid \mathbf{I}) \xrightarrow[\text{operations}]{\text{row}} (\mathbf{B} \mid \mathbf{C}),$$

where the matrix **B** contains a row of zeros, then necessarily **A** is singular. Since further reduction of **B** always yields another matrix with a row of zeros, we can never transform **A** into **I**.

## II.3 THE EIGENVALUE PROBLEM

Gauss-Jordan elimination can be used to find the eigenvectors of a square matrix.

---

**DEFINITION II.13** **Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors**

Let **A** be an $n \times n$ matrix. A number $\lambda$ is said to be an **eigenvalue** of **A** if there exists a *nonzero* solution vector **K** of the linear system

$$\mathbf{AK} = \lambda\mathbf{K}. \tag{6}$$

The solution vector **K** is said to be an **eigenvector** corresponding to the eigenvalue $\lambda$.

---

The word *eigenvalue* is a combination of German and English terms adapted from the German word *eigenwert*, which, translated literally, is "proper value." Eigenvalues and eigenvectors are also called **characteristic values** and **characteristic vectors,** respectively.

---

**EXAMPLE 15** **Eigenvector of a Matrix**

Verify that $\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is an eigenvector of the matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 3 \\ -2 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**SOLUTION**   By carrying out the multiplication $\mathbf{AK}$, we see that

$$\mathbf{AK} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 3 \\ -2 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = (-2) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = (\overset{\text{eigenvalue}}{\underset{\downarrow}{-2}})\mathbf{K}.$$

We see from the preceding line and Definition II.13 that $\lambda = -2$ is an eigenvalue of $\mathbf{A}$.   ■

Using properties of matrix algebra, we can write (6) in the alternative form

$$(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I})\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{0}, \tag{7}$$

where $\mathbf{I}$ is the multiplicative identity. If we let

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ \vdots \\ k_n \end{pmatrix},$$

then (7) is the same as

$$\begin{aligned}
(a_{11} - \lambda)k_1 + \quad & a_{12}k_2 + \cdots + \quad & a_{1n}k_n = 0 \\
a_{21}k_1 + (a_{22} - \lambda)k_2 + \cdots + \quad & a_{2n}k_n = 0 \\
& \vdots & \vdots \\
a_{n1}k_1 + \quad & a_{n2}k_2 + \cdots + (a_{nn} - \lambda)k_n = 0.
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

Although an obvious solution of (8) is $k_1 = 0$, $k_2 = 0$, . . . , $k_n = 0$, we are seeking only nontrivial solutions. It is known that a homogeneous system of $n$ linear equations in $n$ unknowns (that is, $b_i = 0$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$ in (5)) has a nontrivial solution if and only if the determinant of the coefficient matrix is equal to zero. Thus to find a nonzero solution $\mathbf{K}$ for (7), we must have

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = 0. \tag{9}$$

Inspection of (8) shows that the expansion of $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})$ by cofactors results in an $n$th-degree polynomial in $\lambda$. The equation (9) is called the **characteristic equation** of $\mathbf{A}$. Thus *the eigenvalues of* $\mathbf{A}$ *are the roots of the characteristic equation.* To find an eigenvector corresponding to an eigenvalue $\lambda$, we simply solve the system of equations $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{0}$ by applying Gauss-Jordan elimination to the augmented matrix $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0})$.

---

### EXAMPLE 16   Eigenvalues/Eigenvectors

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 6 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$.

**SOLUTION**   To expand the determinant in the characteristic equation, we use the cofactors of the second row:

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 2 & 1 \\ 6 & -1 - \lambda & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = -\lambda^3 - \lambda^2 + 12\lambda = 0.$$

From $-\lambda^3 - \lambda^2 + 12\lambda = -\lambda(\lambda + 4)(\lambda - 3) = 0$ we see that the eigenvalues are $\lambda_1 = 0$, $\lambda_2 = -4$, and $\lambda_3 = 3$. To find the eigenvectors, we must now reduce $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0})$ three times corresponding to the three distinct eigenvalues.

For $\lambda_1 = 0$ we have

$$(\mathbf{A} - 0\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 6 & -1 & 0 & | & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -1 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\substack{-6R_1 + R_2 \\ R_1 + R_3}]{} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & -13 & -6 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{-\frac{1}{13}R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{6}{13} & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{-2R_2 + R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{13} & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{6}{13} & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus we see that $k_1 = -\frac{1}{13}k_3$ and $k_2 = -\frac{6}{13}k_3$. Choosing $k_3 = -13$, we get the eigenvector[*]

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 6 \\ -13 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For $\lambda_2 = -4$,

$$(\mathbf{A} + 4\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & | & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & 3 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\substack{-R_3 \\ R_{31}}]{} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & | & 0 \\ 5 & 2 & 1 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[\substack{-6R_1 + R_2 \\ -5R_1 + R_3}]{} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & -9 & 18 & | & 0 \\ 0 & -8 & 16 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\substack{-\frac{1}{9}R_2 \\ -\frac{1}{8}R_3}]{} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\substack{-2R_2 + R_1 \\ -R_2 + R_3}]{} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

implies that $k_1 = -k_3$ and $k_2 = 2k_3$. Choosing $k_3 = 1$ then yields the second eigenvector

$$\mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Finally, for $\lambda_3 = 3$ Gauss-Jordan elimination gives

$$(\mathbf{A} - 3\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 2 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 6 & -4 & 0 & | & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & -4 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{operations}]{\text{row}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

so $k_1 = -k_3$ and $k_2 = -\frac{3}{2}k_3$. The choice of $k_3 = -2$ leads to the third eigenvector:

$$\mathbf{K}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

When an $n \times n$ matrix $\mathbf{A}$ possesses $n$ distinct eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_n$, it can be proved that a set of $n$ linearly independent[†] eigenvectors $\mathbf{K}_1, \mathbf{K}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{K}_n$ can be found. However, when the characteristic equation has repeated roots, it may not be possible to find $n$ linearly independent eigenvectors for $\mathbf{A}$.

---

[*]Of course $k_3$ could be chosen as any nonzero number. In other words, a nonzero constant multiple of an eigenvector is also an eigenvector.

[†]Linear independence of column vectors is defined in exactly the same manner as for functions.

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**EXAMPLE 17**   **Eigenvalues/Eigenvectors**

</div>

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ -1 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$.

**SOLUTION**   From the characteristic equation

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 4 \\ -1 & 7 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda - 5)^2 = 0$$

we see that $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 5$ is an eigenvalue of multiplicity two. In the case of a $2 \times 2$ matrix there is no need to use Gauss-Jordan elimination. To find the eigenvector(s) corresponding to $\lambda_1 = 5$, we resort to the system $(\mathbf{A} - 5\mathbf{I}|\mathbf{0})$ in its equivalent form

$$-2k_1 + 4k_2 = 0$$
$$-k_1 + 2k_2 = 0.$$

It is apparent from this system that $k_1 = 2k_2$. Thus if we choose $k_2 = 1$, we find the single eigenvector

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

■

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**EXAMPLE 18**   **Eigenvalues/Eigenvectors**

</div>

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 9 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$.

**SOLUTION**   The characteristic equation

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} 9 - \lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 9 - \lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 9 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = -(\lambda - 11)(\lambda - 8)^2 = 0$$

shows that $\lambda_1 = 11$ and that $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 8$ is an eigenvalue of multiplicity two.
For $\lambda_1 = 11$ Gauss-Jordan elimination gives

$$(\mathbf{A} - 11\mathbf{I}\,|\,\mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{operations}]{\text{row}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence $k_1 = k_3$ and $k_2 = k_3$. If $k_3 = 1$, then

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now for $\lambda_2 = 8$ we have

$$(\mathbf{A} - 8\mathbf{I}\,|\,\mathbf{0}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{operations}]{\text{row}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In the equation $k_1 + k_2 + k_3 = 0$ we are free to select two of the variables arbitrarily. Choosing, on the one hand, $k_2 = 1$, $k_3 = 0$ and, on the other, $k_2 = 0$, $k_3 = 1$, we obtain two linearly independent eigenvectors

$$\mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{K}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}. \qquad \blacksquare$$

## EXERCISES FOR APPENDIX II   *Answers to selected odd-numbered problems begin on page ANS-29.*

### II.1   BASIC DEFINITIONS AND THEORY

**1.** If $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ -6 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 6 \\ 8 & -10 \end{pmatrix}$, find

    **(a)** $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$     **(b)** $\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}$     **(c)** $2\mathbf{A} + 3\mathbf{B}$

**2.** If $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 \\ 7 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 \\ -4 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$, find

    **(a)** $\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}$     **(b)** $\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{A}$     **(c)** $2(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})$

**3.** If $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ -5 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 6 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, find

    **(a)** $\mathbf{AB}$   **(b)** $\mathbf{BA}$   **(c)** $\mathbf{A}^2 = \mathbf{AA}$   **(d)** $\mathbf{B}^2 = \mathbf{BB}$

**4.** If $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 5 & 10 \\ 8 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 6 & -3 \\ 1 & -3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, find

    **(a)** $\mathbf{AB}$     **(b)** $\mathbf{BA}$

**5.** If $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, and $\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$, find

    **(a)** $\mathbf{BC}$   **(b)** $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{BC})$   **(c)** $\mathbf{C}(\mathbf{BA})$   **(d)** $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C})$

**6.** If $\mathbf{A} = (5 \quad -6 \quad 7)$, $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$, and

$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, find

    **(a)** $\mathbf{AB}$   **(b)** $\mathbf{BA}$   **(c)** $(\mathbf{BA})\mathbf{C}$   **(d)** $(\mathbf{AB})\mathbf{C}$

**7.** If $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 8 \\ -10 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = (2 \quad 4 \quad 5)$, find

    **(a)** $\mathbf{A}^T\mathbf{A}$   **(b)** $\mathbf{B}^T\mathbf{B}$   **(c)** $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}^T$

**8.** If $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 5 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$, find

    **(a)** $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}^T$   **(b)** $2\mathbf{A}^T - \mathbf{B}^T$   **(c)** $\mathbf{A}^T(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})$

**9.** If $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 8 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 10 \\ -2 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$, find

    **(a)** $(\mathbf{AB})^T$   **(b)** $\mathbf{B}^T\mathbf{A}^T$

**10.** If $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 9 \\ -4 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 11 \\ -7 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, find

    **(a)** $\mathbf{A}^T + \mathbf{B}^T$   **(b)** $(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})^T$

In Problems 11–14 write the given sum as a single column matrix.

**11.** $4\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - 2\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} + 3\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

**12.** $3t\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ t \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + (t - 1)\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -t \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} - 2\begin{pmatrix} 3t \\ 4 \\ -5t \end{pmatrix}$

**13.** $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 6 \\ -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} -7 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$

**14.** $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & 4 \\ 2 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & -4 & -2 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} t \\ 2t - 1 \\ -t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -t \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 8 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}$

In Problems 15–22 determine whether the given matrix is singular or nonsingular. If it is nonsingular, find $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ using Theorem II.2.

**15.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 6 \\ -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$     **16.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

**17.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 8 \\ -3 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$     **18.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 10 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

**19.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$     **20.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 5 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

**21.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$   **22.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 1 & -1 \\ 6 & 2 & -3 \\ -2 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

In Problems 23 and 24 show that the given matrix is nonsingular for every real value of $t$. Find $\mathbf{A}^{-1}(t)$ using Theorem II.2.

**23.** $\mathbf{A}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 2e^{-t} & e^{4t} \\ 4e^{-t} & 3e^{4t} \end{pmatrix}$

**24.** $\mathbf{A}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 2e^t \sin t & -2e^t \cos t \\ e^t \cos t & e^t \sin t \end{pmatrix}$

In Problems 25–28 find $d\mathbf{X}/dt$.

**25.** $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 5e^{-t} \\ 2e^{-t} \\ -7e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$   **26.** $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t - 4 \cos 2t \\ -3 \sin 2t + 5 \cos 2t \end{pmatrix}$

**27.** $\mathbf{X} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + 4 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t}$   **28.** $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 5te^{2t} \\ t \sin 3t \end{pmatrix}$

**29.** Let $\mathbf{A}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} e^{4t} & \cos \pi t \\ 2t & 3t^2 - 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Find

 **(a)** $\dfrac{d\mathbf{A}}{dt}$   **(b)** $\displaystyle\int_0^2 \mathbf{A}(t)\, dt$   **(c)** $\displaystyle\int_0^t \mathbf{A}(s)\, ds$

**30.** Let $\mathbf{A}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} \dfrac{1}{t^2 + 1} & 3t \\ t^2 & t \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{B}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 6t & 2 \\ 1/t & 4t \end{pmatrix}$. Find

 **(a)** $\dfrac{d\mathbf{A}}{dt}$   **(b)** $\dfrac{d\mathbf{B}}{dt}$

 **(c)** $\displaystyle\int_0^1 \mathbf{A}(t)\, dt$   **(d)** $\displaystyle\int_1^2 \mathbf{B}(t)\, dt$

 **(e)** $\mathbf{A}(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$   **(f)** $\dfrac{d}{dt}\mathbf{A}(t)\mathbf{B}(t)$

 **(g)** $\displaystyle\int_1^t \mathbf{A}(s)\mathbf{B}(s)\, ds$

## II.2   GAUSSIAN AND GAUSS-JORDAN ELIMINATION

In Problems 31–38 solve the given system of equations by either Gaussian elimination or Gauss-Jordan elimination.

**31.** $\begin{aligned} x + y - 2z &= 14 \\ 2x - y + z &= 0 \\ 6x + 3y + 4z &= 1 \end{aligned}$   **32.** $\begin{aligned} 5x - 2y + 4z &= 10 \\ x + y + z &= 9 \\ 4x - 3y + 3z &= 1 \end{aligned}$

**33.** $\begin{aligned} y + z &= -5 \\ 5x + 4y - 16z &= -10 \\ x - y - 5z &= 7 \end{aligned}$   **34.** $\begin{aligned} 3x + y + z &= 4 \\ 4x + 2y - z &= 7 \\ x + y - 3z &= 6 \end{aligned}$

**35.** $\begin{aligned} 2x + y + z &= 4 \\ 10x - 2y + 2z &= -1 \\ 6x - 2y + 4z &= 8 \end{aligned}$   **36.** $\begin{aligned} x + 2z &= 8 \\ x + 2y - 2z &= 4 \\ 2x + 5y - 6z &= 6 \end{aligned}$

**37.** $\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 - x_3 - x_4 &= -1 \\ x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 &= 3 \\ x_1 - x_2 + x_3 - x_4 &= 3 \\ 4x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 + x_4 &= 0 \end{aligned}$   **38.** $\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \\ x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \\ 7x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

In Problems 39 and 40 use Gauss-Jordan elimination to demonstrate that the given system of equations has no solution.

**39.** $\begin{aligned} x + 2y + 4z &= 2 \\ 2x + 4y + 3z &= 1 \\ x + 2y - z &= 7 \end{aligned}$   **40.** $\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 - x_3 + 3x_4 &= 1 \\ x_2 - x_3 - 4x_4 &= 0 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 - 2x_3 - x_4 &= 6 \\ 4x_1 + 7x_2 - 7x_3 &= 9 \end{aligned}$

In Problems 41–46 use Theorem II.3 to find $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ for the given matrix or show that no inverse exists.

**41.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$   **42.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 & -2 \\ 4 & 2 & -2 \\ 8 & 10 & -6 \end{pmatrix}$

**43.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$   **44.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$

**45.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$   **46.** $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

## 11.3   THE EIGENVALUE PROBLEM

In Problems 47–54 find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the given matrix.

**47.** $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -7 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$   **48.** $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**49.** $\begin{pmatrix} -8 & -1 \\ 16 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$   **50.** $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{4} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**51.** $\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -5 & 9 \\ 5 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$   **52.** $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**53.** $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$   **54.** $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

In Problems 55 and 56 show that the given matrix has complex eigenvalues. Find the eigenvectors of the matrix.

**55.** $\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**56.** $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 5 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

## Miscellaneous Problems

**57.** If $\mathbf{A}(t)$ is a $2 \times 2$ matrix of differentiable functions and $\mathbf{X}(t)$ is a $2 \times 1$ column matrix of differentiable functions, prove the product rule

$$\frac{d}{dt}[\mathbf{A}(t)\mathbf{X}(t)] = \mathbf{A}(t)\mathbf{X}'(t) + \mathbf{A}'(t)\mathbf{X}(t).$$

**58.** Derive formula (3). [*Hint*: Find a matrix

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

for which $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{I}$. Solve for $b_{11}$, $b_{12}$, $b_{21}$, and $b_{22}$. Then show that $\mathbf{BA} = \mathbf{I}$.]

**59.** If $\mathbf{A}$ is nonsingular and $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{AC}$, show that $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{C}$.

**60.** If $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B}$ are nonsingular, show that $(\mathbf{AB})^{-1} = \mathbf{B}^{-1}\mathbf{A}^{-1}$.

**61.** Let $\mathbf{A}$ and $\mathbf{B}$ be $n \times n$ matrices. In general, is

$$(\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})^2 = \mathbf{A}^2 + 2\mathbf{AB} + \mathbf{B}^2?$$

**62.** A square matrix $\mathbf{A}$ is said to be a **diagonal matrix** if all its entries off the main diagonal are zero—that is, $a_{ij} = 0$, $i \neq j$. The entries $a_{ii}$ on the main diagonal may or may not be zero. The multiplicative identity matrix $\mathbf{I}$ is an example of a diagonal matrix.

(a) Find the inverse of the $2 \times 2$ diagonal matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

when $a_{11} \neq 0$, $a_{22} \neq 0$.

(b) Find the inverse of a $3 \times 3$ diagonal matrix $\mathbf{A}$ whose main diagonal entries $a_{ii}$ are all nonzero.

(c) In general, what is the inverse of an $n \times n$ diagonal matrix $\mathbf{A}$ whose main diagonal entries $a_{ii}$ are all nonzero?

# APPENDIX III

# LAPLACE TRANSFORMS

| $f(t)$ | $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ |
|---|---|
| **1.** $1$ | $\dfrac{1}{s}$ |
| **2.** $t$ | $\dfrac{1}{s^2}$ |
| **3.** $t^n$ | $\dfrac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$, $\quad n$ a positive integer |
| **4.** $t^{-1/2}$ | $\sqrt{\dfrac{\pi}{s}}$ |
| **5.** $t^{1/2}$ | $\dfrac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2s^{3/2}}$ |
| **6.** $t^{\alpha}$ | $\dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1)}{s^{\alpha+1}}$, $\quad \alpha > -1$ |
| **7.** $\sin kt$ | $\dfrac{k}{s^2 + k^2}$ |
| **8.** $\cos kt$ | $\dfrac{s}{s^2 + k^2}$ |
| **9.** $\sin^2 kt$ | $\dfrac{2k^2}{s(s^2 + 4k^2)}$ |
| **10.** $\cos^2 kt$ | $\dfrac{s^2 + 2k^2}{s(s^2 + 4k^2)}$ |
| **11.** $e^{at}$ | $\dfrac{1}{s - a}$ |
| **12.** $\sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{k}{s^2 - k^2}$ |
| **13.** $\cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{s}{s^2 - k^2}$ |
| **14.** $\sinh^2 kt$ | $\dfrac{2k^2}{s(s^2 - 4k^2)}$ |
| **15.** $\cosh^2 kt$ | $\dfrac{s^2 - 2k^2}{s(s^2 - 4k^2)}$ |
| **16.** $te^{at}$ | $\dfrac{1}{(s - a)^2}$ |
| **17.** $t^n e^{at}$ | $\dfrac{n!}{(s - a)^{n+1}}$, $\quad n$ a positive integer |

| $f(t)$ | $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ |
|---|---|
| **18.** $e^{at} \sin kt$ | $\dfrac{k}{(s-a)^2 + k^2}$ |
| **19.** $e^{at} \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{s-a}{(s-a)^2 + k^2}$ |
| **20.** $e^{at} \sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{k}{(s-a)^2 - k^2}$ |
| **21.** $e^{at} \cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{s-a}{(s-a)^2 - k^2}$ |
| **22.** $t \sin kt$ | $\dfrac{2ks}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$ |
| **23.** $t \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{s^2 - k^2}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$ |
| **24.** $\sin kt + kt \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{2ks^2}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$ |
| **25.** $\sin kt - kt \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{2k^3}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$ |
| **26.** $t \sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{2ks}{(s^2 - k^2)^2}$ |
| **27.** $t \cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{s^2 + k^2}{(s^2 - k^2)^2}$ |
| **28.** $\dfrac{e^{at} - e^{bt}}{a - b}$ | $\dfrac{1}{(s-a)(s-b)}$ |
| **29.** $\dfrac{ae^{at} - be^{bt}}{a - b}$ | $\dfrac{s}{(s-a)(s-b)}$ |
| **30.** $1 - \cos kt$ | $\dfrac{k^2}{s(s^2 + k^2)}$ |
| **31.** $kt - \sin kt$ | $\dfrac{k^3}{s^2(s^2 + k^2)}$ |
| **32.** $\dfrac{a \sin bt - b \sin at}{ab\,(a^2 - b^2)}$ | $\dfrac{1}{(s^2 + a^2)(s^2 + b^2)}$ |
| **33.** $\dfrac{\cos bt - \cos at}{a^2 - b^2}$ | $\dfrac{s}{(s^2 + a^2)(s^2 + b^2)}$ |
| **34.** $\sin kt \sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{2k^2 s}{s^4 + 4k^4}$ |
| **35.** $\sin kt \cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{k(s^2 + 2k^2)}{s^4 + 4k^4}$ |
| **36.** $\cos kt \sinh kt$ | $\dfrac{k(s^2 - 2k^2)}{s^4 + 4k^4}$ |
| **37.** $\cos kt \cosh kt$ | $\dfrac{s^3}{s^4 + 4k^4}$ |

| $f(t)$ | $\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ |
|---|---|
| **38.** $J_0(kt)$ | $\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{s^2 + k^2}}$ |
| **39.** $\dfrac{e^{bt} - e^{at}}{t}$ | $\ln\dfrac{s - a}{s - b}$ |
| **40.** $\dfrac{2(1 - \cos kt)}{t}$ | $\ln\dfrac{s^2 + k^2}{s^2}$ |
| **41.** $\dfrac{2(1 - \cosh kt)}{t}$ | $\ln\dfrac{s^2 - k^2}{s^2}$ |
| **42.** $\dfrac{\sin at}{t}$ | $\arctan\left(\dfrac{a}{s}\right)$ |
| **43.** $\dfrac{\sin at \cos bt}{t}$ | $\dfrac{1}{2}\arctan\dfrac{a + b}{s} + \dfrac{1}{2}\arctan\dfrac{a - b}{s}$ |
| **44.** $\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t}}\, e^{-a^2/4t}$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{\sqrt{s}}$ |
| **45.** $\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{\pi t^3}}\, e^{-a^2/4t}$ | $e^{-a\sqrt{s}}$ |
| **46.** $\operatorname{erfc}\left(\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s}$ |
| **47.** $2\sqrt{\dfrac{t}{\pi}}\, e^{-a^2/4t} - a\operatorname{erfc}\left(\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s\sqrt{s}}$ |
| **48.** $e^{ab}e^{b^2t}\operatorname{erfc}\left(b\sqrt{t} + \dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{\sqrt{s}(\sqrt{s} + b)}$ |
| **49.** $-e^{ab}e^{b^2t}\operatorname{erfc}\left(b\sqrt{t} + \dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ $+ \operatorname{erfc}\left(\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{be^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s(\sqrt{s} + b)}$ |
| **50.** $e^{at}f(t)$ | $F(s - a)$ |
| **51.** $\mathcal{U}(t - a)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-as}}{s}$ |
| **52.** $f(t - a)\mathcal{U}(t - a)$ | $e^{-as}F(s)$ |
| **53.** $g(t)\mathcal{U}(t - a)$ | $e^{-as}\mathcal{L}\{g(t + a)\}$ |
| **54.** $f^{(n)}(t)$ | $s^n F(s) - s^{(n-1)}f(0) - \cdots - f^{(n-1)}(0)$ |
| **55.** $t^n f(t)$ | $(-1)^n\dfrac{d^n}{ds^n}F(s)$ |
| **56.** $\displaystyle\int_0^t f(\tau)g(t - \tau)\, d\tau$ | $F(s)G(s)$ |
| **57.** $\delta(t)$ | $1$ |
| **58.** $\delta(t - t_0)$ | $e^{-st_0}$ |

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# ANSWERS FOR SELECTED
# ODD-NUMBERED PROBLEMS

## EXERCISES 1.1 (PAGE 10)

**1.** linear, second order    **3.** linear, fourth order
**5.** nonlinear, second order    **7.** linear, third order
**9.** linear in $x$ but nonlinear in $y$
**15.** domain of function is $[-2, \infty)$; largest interval of definition for solution is $(-2, \infty)$
**17.** domain of function is the set of real numbers except $x = 2$ and $x = -2$; largest intervals of definition for solution are $(-\infty, -2)$, $(-2, 2)$, or $(2, \infty)$
**19.** $X = \dfrac{e^t - 1}{e^t - 2}$ defined on $(-\infty, \ln 2)$ or on $(\ln 2, \infty)$
**27.** $m = -2$    **29.** $m = 2, m = 3$    **31.** $m = 0, m = -1$
**33.** $y = 2$    **35.** no constant solutions

## EXERCISES 1.2 (PAGE 17)

**1.** $y = 1/(1 - 4e^{-x})$
**3.** $y = 1/(x^2 - 1)$; $(1, \infty)$
**5.** $y = 1/(x^2 + 1)$; $(-\infty, \infty)$
**7.** $x = -\cos t + 8 \sin t$
**9.** $x = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \cos t + \frac{1}{4} \sin t$    **11.** $y = \frac{3}{2} e^x - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x}$
**13.** $y = 5e^{-x-1}$      **15.** $y = 0, y = x^3$
**17.** half-planes defined by either $y > 0$ or $y < 0$
**19.** half-planes defined by either $x > 0$ or $x < 0$
**21.** the regions defined by $y > 2$, $y < -2$, or $-2 < y < 2$
**23.** any region not containing $(0, 0)$
**25.** yes
**27.** no
**29.** (a) $y = cx$
    (b) any rectangular region not touching the $y$-axis
    (c) No, the function is not differentiable at $x = 0$.
**31.** (b) $y = 1/(1 - x)$ on $(-\infty, 1)$;
       $y = -1/(x + 1)$ on $(-1, \infty)$;
    (c) $y = 0$ on $(-\infty, \infty)$

## EXERCISES 1.3 (PAGE 27)

**1.** $\dfrac{dP}{dt} = kP + r; \dfrac{dP}{dt} = kP - r$
**3.** $\dfrac{dP}{dt} = k_1 P - k_2 P^2$
**7.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = kx(1000 - x)$
**9.** $\dfrac{dA}{dt} + \dfrac{1}{100} A = 0; A(0) = 50$
**11.** $\dfrac{dA}{dt} + \dfrac{7}{600 - t} A = 6$    **13.** $\dfrac{dh}{dt} = -\dfrac{c\pi}{450} \sqrt{h}$

**15.** $L\dfrac{di}{dt} + Ri = E(t)$      **17.** $m\dfrac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv^2$
**19.** $m\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -kx$      **21.** $\dfrac{d^2r}{dt^2} + \dfrac{gR^2}{r^2} = 0$
**23.** $\dfrac{dA}{dt} = k(M - A), k > 0$    **25.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} + kx = r, k > 0$
**27.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = \dfrac{-x + \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}{y}$

## CHAPTER 1 IN REVIEW (PAGE 32)

**1.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = 10y$          **3.** $y'' + k^2 y = 0$
**5.** $y'' - 2y' + y = 0$      **7.** (a), (d)
**9.** (b)                 **11.** (b)
**13.** $y = c_1$ and $y = c_2 e^x$, $c_1$ and $c_2$ constants
**15.** $y' = x^2 + y^2$
**17.** (a) The domain is the set of all real numbers.
    (b) either $(-\infty, 0)$ or $(0, \infty)$
**19.** For $x_0 = -1$ the interval is $(-\infty, 0)$, and for $x_0 = 2$ the interval is $(0, \infty)$.
**21.** (c) $y = \begin{cases} -x^2, & x < 0 \\ x^2, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$    **23.** $(-\infty, \infty)$
**25.** $(0, \infty)$        **27.** $y = \frac{1}{2} e^{3x} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-x} - 2x$
**29.** $y = \frac{3}{2} e^{3x-3} + \frac{9}{2} e^{-x+1} - 2x.$
**31.** $y_0 = -3, y_1 = 0$
**33.** $\dfrac{dP}{dt} = k(P - 200 + 10t)$

## EXERCISES 2.1 (PAGE 41)

**21.** 0 is asymptotically stable (attractor); 3 is unstable (repeller).
**23.** 2 is semi-stable.
**25.** $-2$ is unstable (repeller); 0 is semi-stable; 2 is asymptotically stable (attractor).
**27.** $-1$ is asymptotically stable (attractor); 0 is unstable (repeller).
**39.** $0 < P_0 < h/k$
**41.** $\sqrt{mg/k}$

## EXERCISES 2.2 (PAGE 50)

**1.** $y = -\frac{1}{5} \cos 5x + c$      **3.** $y = \frac{1}{3} e^{-3x} + c$
**5.** $y = cx^4$            **7.** $-3e^{-2y} = 2e^{3x} + c$
**9.** $\frac{1}{3} x^3 \ln x - \frac{1}{9} x^3 = \frac{1}{2} y^2 + 2y + \ln|y| + c$

**11.** $4 \cos y = 2x + \sin 2x + c$

**13.** $(e^x + 1)^{-2} + 2(e^y + 1)^{-1} = c$

**15.** $S = ce^{kr}$

**17.** $P = \dfrac{ce^t}{1 + ce^t}$

**19.** $(y + 3)^5 e^x = c(x + 4)^5 e^y$     **21.** $y = \sin\left(\frac{1}{2}x^2 + c\right)$

**23.** $x = \tan\left(4t - \frac{3}{4}\pi\right)$     **25.** $y = \dfrac{e^{-(1+1/x)}}{x}$

**27.** $y = \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\sqrt{1 - x^2}$     **29.** $y = e^{\int_4^x e^{-t}dt}$

**31.** (a) $y = 2, y = -2, y = 2\dfrac{3 - e^{4x-1}}{3 + e^{4x-1}}$

**33.** $y = -1$ and $y = 1$ are singular solutions of Problem 21; $y = 0$ of Problem 22

**35.** $y = 1$

**37.** $y = 1 + \frac{1}{10}\tan\left(\frac{1}{10}x\right)$

**41.** (a) $y = -\sqrt{x^2 + x - 1}$     (c) $\left(-\infty, -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}\right)$

**49.** $y(x) = (4h/L^2)x^2 + a$

## EXERCISES 2.3 (PAGE 60)

**1.** $y = ce^{5x}, (-\infty, \infty)$

**3.** $y = \frac{1}{4}e^{3x} + ce^{-x}, (-\infty, \infty); ce^{-x}$ is transient

**5.** $y = \frac{1}{3} + ce^{-x^3}, (-\infty, \infty); ce^{-x^3}$ is transient

**7.** $y = x^{-1}\ln x + cx^{-1}, (0, \infty)$; solution is transient

**9.** $y = cx - x \cos x, (0, \infty)$

**11.** $y = \frac{1}{7}x^3 - \frac{1}{5}x + cx^{-4}, (0, \infty); cx^{-4}$ is transient

**13.** $y = \frac{1}{2}x^{-2}e^x + cx^{-2}e^{-x}, (0, \infty); cx^{-2}e^{-x}$ is transient

**15.** $x = 2y^6 + cy^4, (0, \infty)$

**17.** $y = \sin x + c \cos x, (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$

**19.** $(x + 1)e^x y = x^2 + c, (-1, \infty)$; solution is transient

**21.** $(\sec \theta + \tan \theta)r = \theta - \cos \theta + c, (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$

**23.** $y = e^{-3x} + cx^{-1}e^{-3x}, (0, \infty)$; solution is transient

**25.** $y = x^{-1}e^x + (2 - e)x^{-1}, (0, \infty)$

**27.** $i = \dfrac{E}{R} + \left(i_0 - \dfrac{E}{R}\right)e^{-Rt/L}, (-\infty, \infty)$

**29.** $(x + 1)y = x \ln x - x + 21, (0, \infty)$

**31.** $y = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}(1 - e^{-2x}), & 0 \le x \le 3 \\ \frac{1}{2}(e^6 - 1)e^{-2x}, & x > 3 \end{cases}$

**33.** $y = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}e^{-x^2}, & 0 \le x < 1 \\ \left(\frac{1}{2}e + \frac{3}{2}\right)e^{-x^2}, & x \ge 1 \end{cases}$

**35.** $y = \begin{cases} 2x - 1 + 4e^{-2x}, & 0 \le x \le 1 \\ 4x^2 \ln x + (1 + 4e^{-2})x^2, & x > 1 \end{cases}$

**37.** $y = e^{x^2-1} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\pi}\, e^{x^2}(\text{erf}(x) - \text{erf}(1))$

**47.** $E(t) = E_0 e^{-(t-4)/RC}$

## EXERCISES 2.4 (PAGE 68)

**1.** $x^2 - x + \frac{3}{2}y^2 + 7y = c$     **3.** $\frac{5}{2}x^2 + 4xy - 2y^4 = c$

**5.** $x^2y^2 - 3x + 4y = c$     **7.** not exact

**9.** $xy^3 + y^2 \cos x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 = c$

**11.** not exact

**13.** $xy - 2xe^x + 2e^x - 2x^3 = c$

**15.** $x^3y^3 - \tan^{-1} 3x = c$

**17.** $-\ln|\cos x| + \cos x \sin y = c$

**19.** $t^4y - 5t^3 - ty + y^3 = c$

**21.** $\frac{1}{3}x^3 + x^2y + xy^2 - y = \frac{4}{3}$

**23.** $4ty + t^2 - 5t + 3y^2 - y = 8$

**25.** $y^2 \sin x - x^3y - x^2 + y \ln y - y = 0$

**27.** $k = 10$     **29.** $x^2y^2 \cos x = c$

**31.** $x^2y^2 + x^3 = c$     **33.** $3x^2y^3 + y^4 = c$

**35.** $-2ye^{3x} + \frac{10}{3}e^{3x} + x = c$

**37.** $e^{y^2}(x^2 + 4) = 20$

**39.** (c) $y_1(x) = -x^2 - \sqrt{x^4 - x^3 + 4}$

$y_2(x) = -x^2 + \sqrt{x^4 - x^3 + 4}$

**45.** (a) $v(x) = 8\sqrt{\dfrac{x}{3} - \dfrac{9}{x^2}}$     (b) 12.7 ft/s

## EXERCISES 2.5 (PAGE 74)

**1.** $y + x \ln|x| = cx$

**3.** $(x - y)\ln|x - y| = y + c(x - y)$

**5.** $x + y \ln|x| = cy$

**7.** $\ln(x^2 + y^2) + 2 \tan^{-1}(y/x) = c$

**9.** $4x = y(\ln|y| - c)^2$     **11.** $y^3 + 3x^3 \ln|x| = 8x^3$

**13.** $\ln|x| = e^{y/x} - 1$     **15.** $y^3 = 1 + cx^{-3}$

**17.** $y^{-3} = x + \frac{1}{3} + ce^{3x}$     **19.** $e^{t/y} = ct$

**21.** $y^{-3} = -\frac{9}{5}x^{-1} + \frac{49}{5}x^{-6}$

**23.** $y = -x - 1 + \tan(x + c)$

**25.** $2y - 2x + \sin 2(x + y) = c$

**27.** $4(y - 2x + 3) = (x + c)^2$

**29.** $-\cot(x + y) + \csc(x + y) = x + \sqrt{2} - 1$

**35.** (b) $y = \dfrac{2}{x} + \left(-\frac{1}{4}x + cx^{-3}\right)^{-1}$

## EXERCISES 2.6 (PAGE 79)

**1.** $y_2 = 2.9800, \quad y_4 = 3.1151$

**3.** $y_{10} = 2.5937, \quad y_{20} = 2.6533; y = e^x$

**5.** $y_5 = 0.4198, \quad y_{10} = 0.4124$

**7.** $y_5 = 0.5639, \quad y_{10} = 0.5565$

**9.** $y_5 = 1.2194, \quad y_{10} = 1.2696$

**13.** Euler: $y_{10} = 3.8191, \quad y_{20} = 5.9363$

RK4: $y_{10} = 42.9931, \quad y_{20} = 84.0132$

## CHAPTER 2 IN REVIEW (PAGE 80)

**1.** $-A/k$, a repeller for $k > 0$, an attractor for $k < 0$

**3.** true

**5.** $\dfrac{dy}{dx} = (y - 1)^2 (y - 3)^3$

**7.** semi-stable for $n$ even and unstable for $n$ odd;
semi-stable for $n$ even and asymptotically stable
for $n$ odd.

**11.** $2x + \sin 2x = 2 \ln(y^2 + 1) + c$

**13.** $(6x + 1)y^3 = -3x^3 + c$

**15.** $Q = ct^{-1} + \frac{1}{25} t^4 (-1 + 5 \ln t)$

**17.** $y = \frac{1}{4} + c(x^2 + 4)^{-4}$

**19.** $y = \csc x, (\pi, 2\pi)$

**21.** **(b)** $y = \frac{1}{4} (x + 2 \sqrt{y_0} - x_0)^2, (x_0 - 2 \sqrt{y_0}, \infty)$

## EXERCISES 3.1 (PAGE 89)

**1.** 7.9 yr; 10 yr

**3.** 760; approximately 11 persons/yr

**5.** 11 h

**7.** 136.5 h

**9.** $I(15) = 0.00098 I_0$ or approximately 0.1% of $I_0$

**11.** 15,600 years

**13.** $T(1) = 36.67°$ F; approximately 3.06 min

**15.** approximately 82.1 s; approximately 145.7 s

**17.** 390°

**19.** about 1.6 hours prior to the discovery of the body

**21.** $A(t) = 200 - 170 e^{-t/50}$

**23.** $A(t) = 1000 - 1000 e^{-t/100}$

**25.** $A(t) = 1000 - 10t - \frac{1}{10}(100 - t)^2$;   100 min

**27.** 64.38 lb

**29.** $i(t) = \frac{3}{5} - \frac{3}{5} e^{-500t}; i \to \frac{3}{5}$ as $t \to \infty$

**31.** $q(t) = \frac{1}{100} - \frac{1}{100} e^{-50t}; i(t) = \frac{1}{2} e^{-50t}$

**33.** $i(t) = \begin{cases} 60 - 60 e^{-t/10}, & 0 \le t \le 20 \\ 60(e^2 - 1)e^{-t/10}, & t > 20 \end{cases}$

**35.** **(a)** $v(t) = \dfrac{mg}{k} + \left(v_0 - \dfrac{mg}{k}\right) e^{-kt/m}$

   **(b)** $v \to \dfrac{mg}{k}$ as $t \to \infty$

   **(c)** $s(t) = \dfrac{mg}{k} t - \dfrac{m}{k}\left(v_0 - \dfrac{mg}{k}\right) e^{-kt/m}$
   $+ \dfrac{m}{k}\left(v_0 - \dfrac{mg}{k}\right)$

**39.** **(a)** $v(t) = \dfrac{\rho g}{4k}\left(\dfrac{k}{\rho} t + r_0\right) - \dfrac{\rho g r_0}{4k}\left(\dfrac{r_0}{\dfrac{k}{\rho} t + r_0}\right)^3$

   **(c)** $33\frac{1}{3}$ seconds

**41.** **(a)** $P(t) = P_0 e^{(k_1 - k_2)t}$

**43.** **(a)** As $t \to \infty, x(t) \to r/k$.

   **(b)** $x(t) = r/k - (r/k)e^{-kt}$; $(\ln 2)/k$

**47.** **(c)** 1.988 ft

## EXERCISES 3.2 (PAGE 99)

**1.** **(a)** $N = 2000$

   **(b)** $N(t) = \dfrac{2000 e^t}{1999 + e^t}$; $N(10) = 1834$

**3.** 1,000,000;   5.29 mo

**5.** **(b)** $P(t) = \dfrac{4(P_0 - 1) - (P_0 - 4)e^{-3t}}{(P_0 - 1) - (P_0 - 4)e^{-3t}}$

   **(c)** For $0 < P_0 < 1$, time of extinction is
   $t = -\dfrac{1}{3} \ln \dfrac{4(P_0 - 1)}{P_0 - 4}.$

**7.** $P(t) = \dfrac{5}{2} + \dfrac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \tan\left[-\dfrac{\sqrt{3}}{2} t + \tan^{-1}\left(\dfrac{2P_0 - 5}{\sqrt{3}}\right)\right]$;
   time of extinction is
   $t = \dfrac{2}{\sqrt{3}}\left[\tan^{-1}\dfrac{5}{\sqrt{3}} + \tan^{-1}\left(\dfrac{2P_0 - 5}{\sqrt{3}}\right)\right]$

**9.** 29.3 g; $X \to 60$ as $t \to \infty$; 0 g of $A$ and 30 g of $B$

**11.** **(a)** $h(t) = \left(\sqrt{H} - \dfrac{4A_h}{A_w}t\right)^2$; $I$ is $0 \le t \le \sqrt{H}A_w/4A_h$

   **(b)** $576 \sqrt{10}$ s or 30.36 min

**13.** **(a)** approximately 858.65 s or 14.31 min

   **(b)** 243 s or 4.05 min

**15.** **(a)** $v(t) = \sqrt{\dfrac{mg}{k}} \tanh\left(\sqrt{\dfrac{kg}{m}}t + c_1\right)$
   where $c_1 = \tanh^{-1}\left(\sqrt{\dfrac{k}{mg}}v_0\right)$

   **(b)** $\sqrt{\dfrac{mg}{k}}$

   **(c)** $s(t) = \dfrac{m}{k} \ln \cosh\left(\sqrt{\dfrac{kg}{m}}t + c_1\right) + c_2$,
   where $c_2 = -(m/k)\ln \cosh c_1$

**17.** **(a)** $m\dfrac{dv}{dt} = mg - kv^2 - \rho V$,
   where $\rho$ is the weight density of water

   **(b)** $v(t) = \sqrt{\dfrac{mg - \rho V}{k}} \tanh\left(\dfrac{\sqrt{kmg - k\rho V}}{m}t + c_1\right)$

   **(c)** $\sqrt{\dfrac{mg - \rho V}{k}}$

**19.** **(a)** $W = 0$ and $W = 2$

   **(b)** $W(x) = 2 \operatorname{sech}^2(x - c_1)$

   **(c)** $W(x) = 2 \operatorname{sech}^2 x$

## EXERCISES 3.3 (PAGE 110)

**1.** $x(t) = x_0 e^{-\lambda_1 t}$

$$y(t) = \frac{x_0 \lambda_1}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1}(e^{-\lambda_1 t} - e^{-\lambda_2 t})$$

$$z(t) = x_0\left(1 - \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1}e^{-\lambda_1 t} + \frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1}e^{-\lambda_2 t}\right)$$

**3.** 5, 20, 147 days. The time when $y(t)$ and $z(t)$ are the same makes sense because most of $A$ and half of $B$ are gone, so half of $C$ should have been formed.

**5.** $\dfrac{dx_1}{dt} = 6 - \frac{2}{25}x_1 + \frac{1}{50}x_2$

$\dfrac{dx_2}{dt} = \frac{2}{25}x_1 - \frac{2}{25}x_2$

**7. (a)** $\dfrac{dx_1}{dt} = 3\dfrac{x_2}{100 - t} - 2\dfrac{x_1}{100 + t}$

$\dfrac{dx_2}{dt} = 2\dfrac{x_1}{100 + t} - 3\dfrac{x_2}{100 - t}$

**(b)** $x_1(t) + x_2(t) = 150;\quad x_2(30) \approx 47.4$ lb

**13.** $L_1\dfrac{di_2}{dt} + (R_1 + R_2)i_2 + R_1 i_3 = E(t)$

$L_2\dfrac{di_3}{dt} + R_1 i_2 + (R_1 + R_3) i_3 = E(t)$

**15.** $i(0) = i_0, s(0) = n - i_0, r(0) = 0$

## CHAPTER 3 IN REVIEW (PAGE 113)

**1.** $dP/dt = 0.15P$

**3.** $P(45) = 8.99$ billion

**5.** $x = 10\ln\left(\dfrac{10 + \sqrt{100 - y^2}}{y}\right) - \sqrt{100 - y^2}$

**7. (a)** $\dfrac{BT_1 + T_2}{1 + B}, \dfrac{BT_1 + T_2}{1 + B}$

**(b)** $T(t) = \dfrac{BT_1 + T_2}{1 + B} + \dfrac{T_1 - T_2}{1 + B}e^{k(1+B)t}$

**9.** $i(t) = \begin{cases} 4t - \frac{1}{5}t^2, & 0 \le t < 10 \\ 20, & t \ge 10 \end{cases}$

**11.** $x(t) = \dfrac{\alpha c_1 e^{\alpha k_1 t}}{1 + c_1 e^{\alpha k_1 t}}, \quad y(t) = c_2(1 + c_1 e^{\alpha k_1 t})^{k_2/k_1}$

**13.** $x = -y + 1 + c_2 e^{-y}$

**15. (a)** $p(x) = -\rho(x)g\left(y + \dfrac{1}{K}\int q(x)\,dx\right)$

**(b)** The ratio is increasing; the ratio is constant.

**(d)** $\rho(x) = -\dfrac{Kp}{g(Ky + \int q(x)\,dx)};\quad \rho(x) = \sqrt{\dfrac{Kp}{2(CKp - \beta gx)}}$

## EXERCISES 4.1 (PAGE 128)

**1.** $y = \frac{1}{2}e^x - \frac{1}{2}e^{-x}$

**3.** $y = 3x - 4x\ln x$

**9.** $(-\infty, 2)$

**11. (a)** $y = \dfrac{e}{e^2 - 1}(e^x - e^{-x})$  **(b)** $y = \dfrac{\sinh x}{\sinh 1}$

**13. (a)** $y = e^x \cos x - e^x \sin x$

**(b)** no solution

**(c)** $y = e^x \cos x + e^{-\pi/2}e^x \sin x$

**(d)** $y = c_2 e^x \sin x$, where $c_2$ is arbitrary

**15.** dependent            **17.** dependent

**19.** dependent            **21.** independent

**23.** The functions satisfy the DE and are linearly independent on the interval since $W(e^{-3x}, e^{4x}) = 7e^x \ne 0$; $y = c_1 e^{-3x} + c_2 e^{4x}$.

**25.** The functions satisfy the DE and are linearly independent on the interval since $W(e^x \cos 2x, e^x \sin 2x) = 2e^{2x} \ne 0$; $y = c_1 e^x \cos 2x + c_2 e^x \sin 2x$.

**27.** The functions satisfy the DE and are linearly independent on the interval since $W(x^3, x^4) = x^6 \ne 0$; $y = c_1 x^3 + c_2 x^4$.

**29.** The functions satisfy the DE and are linearly independent on the interval since $W(x, x^{-2}, x^{-2}\ln x) = 9x^{-6} \ne 0$; $y = c_1 x + c_2 x^{-2} + c_3 x^{-2}\ln x$.

**35. (b)** $y_p = x^2 + 3x + 3e^{2x};\quad y_p = -2x^2 - 6x - \frac{1}{3}e^{2x}$

## EXERCISES 4.2 (PAGE 132)

**1.** $y_2 = xe^{2x}$          **3.** $y_2 = \sin 4x$

**5.** $y_2 = \sinh x$          **7.** $y_2 = xe^{2x/3}$

**9.** $y_2 = x^4 \ln|x|$          **11.** $y_2 = 1$

**13.** $y_2 = x\cos(\ln x)$          **15.** $y_2 = x^2 + x + 2$

**17.** $y_2 = e^{2x}, y_p = -\frac{1}{2}$          **19.** $y_2 = e^{2x}, y_p = \frac{5}{2}e^{3x}$

## EXERCISES 4.3 (PAGE 138)

**1.** $y = c_1 + c_2 e^{-x/4}$          **3.** $y = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-2x}$

**5.** $y = c_1 e^{-4x} + c_2 xe^{-4x}$          **7.** $y = c_1 e^{2x/3} + c_2 e^{-x/4}$

**9.** $y = c_1 \cos 3x + c_2 \sin 3x$

**11.** $y = e^{2x}(c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x)$

**13.** $y = e^{-x/3}\left(c_1 \cos \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{2}\,x + c_2 \sin \frac{1}{3}\sqrt{2}\,x\right)$

**15.** $y = c_1 + c_2 e^{-x} + c_3 e^{5x}$

**17.** $y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{3x} + c_3 xe^{3x}$

**19.** $u = c_1 e^t + e^{-t}(c_2 \cos t + c_3 \sin t)$

**21.** $y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 xe^{-x} + c_3 x^2 e^{-x}$

**23.** $y = c_1 + c_2 x + e^{-x/2}\left(c_3 \cos \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}\,x + c_4 \sin \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}\,x\right)$

**25.** $y = c_1 \cos \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}\,x + c_2 \sin \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}\,x$
    $\quad + c_3 x\cos \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}\,x + c_4 x\sin \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}\,x$

**27.** $u = c_1 e^r + c_2 re^r + c_3 e^{-r} + c_4 re^{-r} + c_5 e^{-5r}$

**29.** $y = 2\cos 4x - \frac{1}{2}\sin 4x$

**31.** $y = -\frac{1}{3}e^{-(t-1)} + \frac{1}{3}e^{5(t-1)}$

**33.** $y = 0$

**35.** $y = \frac{5}{36} - \frac{5}{36}e^{-6x} + \frac{1}{6}xe^{-6x}$

**37.** $y = e^{5x} - xe^{5x}$

**39.** $y = 0$

**41.** $y = \frac{1}{2}\left(1 - \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}}\right)e^{-\sqrt{3}x} + \frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}}\right)e^{\sqrt{3}x};$

$y = \cosh\sqrt{3}x + \frac{5}{\sqrt{3}}\sinh\sqrt{3}x$

## EXERCISES 4.4 (PAGE 148)

**1.** $y = c_1e^{-x} + c_2e^{-2x} + 3$

**3.** $y = c_1e^{5x} + c_2xe^{5x} + \frac{6}{5}x + \frac{3}{5}$

**5.** $y = c_1e^{-2x} + c_2xe^{-2x} + x^2 - 4x + \frac{7}{2}$

**7.** $y = c_1\cos\sqrt{3}x + c_2\sin\sqrt{3}x + \left(-4x^2 + 4x - \frac{4}{3}\right)e^{3x}$

**9.** $y = c_1 + c_2e^x + 3x$

**11.** $y = c_1e^{x/2} + c_2xe^{x/2} + 12 + \frac{1}{2}x^2e^{x/2}$

**13.** $y = c_1\cos 2x + c_2\sin 2x - \frac{3}{4}x\cos 2x$

**15.** $y = c_1\cos x + c_2\sin x - \frac{1}{2}x^2\cos x + \frac{1}{2}x\sin x$

**17.** $y = c_1e^x\cos 2x + c_2e^x\sin 2x + \frac{1}{4}xe^x\sin 2x$

**19.** $y = c_1e^{-x} + c_2xe^{-x} - \frac{1}{2}\cos x$
$+ \frac{12}{25}\sin 2x - \frac{9}{25}\cos 2x$

**21.** $y = c_1 + c_2x + c_3e^{6x} - \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{6}{37}\cos x + \frac{1}{37}\sin x$

**23.** $y = c_1e^x + c_2xe^x + c_3x^2e^x - x - 3 - \frac{2}{3}x^3e^x$

**25.** $y = c_1\cos x + c_2\sin x + c_3x\cos x + c_4x\sin x$
$+ x^2 - 2x - 3$

**27.** $y = \sqrt{2}\sin 2x - \frac{1}{2}$

**29.** $y = -200 + 200e^{-x/5} - 3x^2 + 30x$

**31.** $y = -10e^{-2x}\cos x + 9e^{-2x}\sin x + 7e^{-4x}$

**33.** $x = \frac{F_0}{2\omega^2}\sin\omega t - \frac{F_0}{2\omega}t\cos\omega t$

**35.** $y = 11 - 11e^x + 9xe^x + 2x - 12x^2e^x + \frac{1}{2}e^{5x}$

**37.** $y = 6\cos x - 6(\cot 1)\sin x + x^2 - 1$

**39.** $y = \frac{-4\sin\sqrt{3}x}{\sin\sqrt{3} + \sqrt{3}\cos\sqrt{3}} + 2x$

**41.** $y = \begin{cases} \cos 2x + \frac{5}{6}\sin 2x + \frac{1}{3}\sin x, & 0 \le x \le \pi/2 \\ \frac{2}{3}\cos 2x + \frac{5}{6}\sin 2x, & x > \pi/2 \end{cases}$

## EXERCISES 4.5 (PAGE 156)

**1.** $(3D - 2)(3D + 2)y = \sin x$

**3.** $(D - 6)(D + 2)y = x - 6$

**5.** $D(D + 5)^2y = e^x$

**7.** $(D - 1)(D - 2)(D + 5)y = xe^{-x}$

**9.** $D(D + 2)(D^2 - 2D + 4)y = 4$

**15.** $D^4$

**17.** $D(D - 2)$

**19.** $D^2 + 4$

**21.** $D^3(D^2 + 16)$

**23.** $(D + 1)(D - 1)^3$

**25.** $D(D^2 - 2D + 5)$

**27.** $1, x, x^2, x^3, x^4$

**29.** $e^{6x}, e^{-3x/2}$

**31.** $\cos\sqrt{5}x, \sin\sqrt{5}x$

**33.** $1, e^{5x}, xe^{5x}$

**35.** $y = c_1e^{-3x} + c_2e^{3x} - 6$

**37.** $y = c_1 + c_2e^{-x} + 3x$

**39.** $y = c_1e^{-2x} + c_2xe^{-2x} + \frac{1}{2}x + 1$

**41.** $y = c_1 + c_2x + c_3e^{-x} + \frac{2}{3}x^4 - \frac{8}{3}x^3 + 8x^2$

**43.** $y = c_1e^{-3x} + c_2e^{4x} + \frac{1}{7}xe^{4x}$

**45.** $y = c_1e^{-x} + c_2e^{3x} - e^x + 3$

**47.** $y = c_1\cos 5x + c_2\sin 5x + \frac{1}{4}\sin x$

**49.** $y = c_1e^{-3x} + c_2xe^{-3x} - \frac{1}{49}xe^{4x} + \frac{2}{343}e^{4x}$

**51.** $y = c_1e^{-x} + c_2e^x + \frac{1}{6}x^3e^x - \frac{1}{4}x^2e^x + \frac{1}{4}xe^x - 5$

**53.** $y = e^x(c_1\cos 2x + c_2\sin 2x) + \frac{1}{3}e^x\sin x$

**55.** $y = c_1\cos 5x + c_2\sin 5x - 2x\cos 5x$

**57.** $y = e^{-x/2}\left(c_1\cos\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x + c_2\sin\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x\right)$
$+ \sin x + 2\cos x - x\cos x$

**59.** $y = c_1 + c_2x + c_3e^{-8x} + \frac{11}{256}x^2 + \frac{7}{32}x^3 - \frac{1}{16}x^4$

**61.** $y = c_1e^x + c_2xe^x + c_3x^2e^x + \frac{1}{6}x^3e^x + x - 13$

**63.** $y = c_1 + c_2x + c_3e^x + c_4xe^x + \frac{1}{2}x^2e^x + \frac{1}{2}x^2$

**65.** $y = \frac{5}{8}e^{-8x} + \frac{5}{8}e^{8x} - \frac{1}{4}$

**67.** $y = -\frac{41}{125} + \frac{41}{125}e^{5x} - \frac{1}{10}x^2 + \frac{9}{25}x$

**69.** $y = -\pi\cos x - \frac{11}{3}\sin x - \frac{8}{3}\cos 2x + 2x\cos x$

**71.** $y = 2e^{2x}\cos 2x - \frac{3}{64}e^{2x}\sin 2x + \frac{1}{8}x^3 + \frac{3}{16}x^2 + \frac{3}{32}x$

## EXERCISES 4.6 (PAGE 161)

**1.** $y = c_1\cos x + c_2\sin x + x\sin x + \cos x\ln|\cos x|$

**3.** $y = c_1\cos x + c_2\sin x - \frac{1}{2}x\cos x$

**5.** $y = c_1\cos x + c_2\sin x + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{6}\cos 2x$

**7.** $y = c_1e^x + c_2e^{-x} + \frac{1}{2}x\sinh x$

**9.** $y = c_1e^{2x} + c_2e^{-2x} + \frac{1}{4}\left(e^{2x}\ln|x| - e^{-2x}\int_{x_0}^x \frac{e^{4t}}{t}dt\right),$
$x_0 > 0$

**11.** $y = c_1e^{-x} + c_2e^{-2x} + (e^{-x} + e^{-2x})\ln(1 + e^x)$

**13.** $y = c_1e^{-2x} + c_2e^{-x} - e^{-2x}\sin e^x$

**15.** $y = c_1e^{-t} + c_2te^{-t} + \frac{1}{2}t^2e^{-t}\ln t - \frac{3}{4}t^2e^{-t}$

**17.** $y = c_1e^x\sin x + c_2e^x\cos x + \frac{1}{3}xe^x\sin x$
$+ \frac{1}{3}e^x\cos x\ln|\cos x|$

**19.** $y = \frac{1}{4}e^{-x/2} + \frac{3}{4}e^{x/2} + \frac{1}{8}x^2e^{x/2} - \frac{1}{4}xe^{x/2}$

**21.** $y = \frac{4}{9}e^{-4x} + \frac{25}{36}e^{2x} - \frac{1}{4}e^{-2x} + \frac{1}{9}e^{-x}$

**23.** $y = c_1x^{-1/2}\cos x + c_2x^{-1/2}\sin x + x^{-1/2}$

**25.** $y = c_1 + c_2\cos x + c_3\sin x - \ln|\cos x|$
$- \sin x\ln|\sec x + \tan x|$

## EXERCISES 4.7 (PAGE 168)

**1.** $y = c_1x^{-1} + c_2x^2$

**3.** $y = c_1 + c_2\ln x$

**5.** $y = c_1\cos(2\ln x) + c_2\sin(2\ln x)$

**7.** $y = c_1 x^{(2-\sqrt{6})} + c_2 x^{(2+\sqrt{6})}$

**9.** $y = c_1 \cos\left(\frac{1}{5}\ln x\right) + c_2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{5}\ln x\right)$

**11.** $y = c_1 x^{-2} + c_2 x^{-2}\ln x$

**13.** $y = x^{-1/2}\left[c_1 \cos\left(\frac{1}{6}\sqrt{3}\ln x\right) + c_2 \sin\left(\frac{1}{6}\sqrt{3}\ln x\right)\right]$

**15.** $y = c_1 x^3 + c_2 \cos\left(\sqrt{2}\ln x\right) + c_3 \sin\left(\sqrt{2}\ln x\right)$

**17.** $y = c_1 + c_2 x + c_3 x^2 + c_4 x^{-3}$

**19.** $y = c_1 + c_2 x^5 + \frac{1}{5}x^5\ln x$

**21.** $y = c_1 x + c_2 x \ln x + x(\ln x)^2$

**23.** $y = c_1 x^{-1} + c_2 x - \ln x$

**25.** $y = 2 - 2x^{-2}$      **27.** $y = \cos(\ln x) + 2\sin(\ln x)$

**29.** $y = \frac{3}{4} - \ln x + \frac{1}{4}x^2$    **31.** $y = c_1 x^{-10} + c_2 x^2$

**33.** $y = c_1 x^{-1} + c_2 x^{-8} + \frac{1}{30}x^2$

**35.** $y = x^2[c_1 \cos(3\ln x) + c_2 \sin(3\ln x)] + \frac{4}{13} + \frac{3}{10}x$

**37.** $y = 2(-x)^{1/2} - 5(-x)^{1/2}\ln(-x),\ x < 0$

**EXERCISES 4.8 (PAGE 172)**

**1.** $x = c_1 e^t + c_2 t e^t$
$y = (c_1 - c_2)e^t + c_2 t e^t$

**3.** $x = c_1 \cos t + c_2 \sin t + t + 1$
$y = c_1 \sin t - c_2 \cos t + t - 1$

**5.** $x = \frac{1}{2}c_1 \sin t + \frac{1}{2}c_2 \cos t - 2c_3 \sin\sqrt{6}t - 2c_4 \cos\sqrt{6}t$
$y = c_1 \sin t + c_2 \cos t + c_3 \sin\sqrt{6}t + c_4 \cos\sqrt{6}t$

**7.** $x = c_1 e^{2t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + c_3 \sin 2t + c_4 \cos 2t + \frac{1}{5}e^t$
$y = c_1 e^{2t} + c_2 e^{-2t} - c_3 \sin 2t - c_4 \cos 2t - \frac{1}{5}e^t$

**9.** $x = c_1 - c_2 \cos t + c_3 \sin t + \frac{17}{15}e^{3t}$
$y = c_1 + c_2 \sin t + c_3 \cos t - \frac{4}{15}e^{3t}$

**11.** $x = c_1 e^t + c_2 e^{-t/2}\cos\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t + c_3 e^{-t/2}\sin\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t$
$y = \left(-\frac{3}{2}c_2 - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}c_3\right)e^{-t/2}\cos\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t$
$\qquad + \left(\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}c_2 - \frac{3}{2}c_3\right)e^{-t/2}\sin\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t$

**13.** $x = c_1 e^{4t} + \frac{4}{3}e^t$
$y = -\frac{3}{4}c_1 e^{4t} + c_2 + 5e^t$

**15.** $x = c_1 + c_2 t + c_3 e^t + c_4 e^{-t} - \frac{1}{2}t^2$
$y = (c_1 - c_2 + 2) + (c_2 + 1)t + c_4 e^{-t} - \frac{1}{2}t^2$

**17.** $x = c_1 e^t + c_2 e^{-t/2}\sin\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t + c_3 e^{-t/2}\cos\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t$
$y = c_1 e^t + \left(-\frac{1}{2}c_2 - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}c_3\right)e^{-t/2}\sin\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t$
$\qquad + \left(\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}c_2 - \frac{1}{2}c_3\right)e^{-t/2}\cos\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t$
$z = c_1 e^t + \left(-\frac{1}{2}c_2 + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}c_3\right)e^{-t/2}\sin\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t$
$\qquad + \left(-\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}c_2 - \frac{1}{2}c_3\right)e^{-t/2}\cos\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3}t$

**19.** $x = -6c_1 e^{-t} - 3c_2 e^{-2t} + 2c_3 e^{3t}$
$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + c_3 e^{3t}$
$z = 5c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + c_3 e^{3t}$

**21.** $x = e^{-3t+3} - te^{-3t+3}$
$y = -e^{-3t+3} + 2te^{-3t+3}$

**23.** $mx'' = 0$
$my'' = -mg;$
$x = c_1 t + c_2$
$y = -\frac{1}{2}gt^2 + c_3 t + c_4$

**EXERCISES 4.9 (PAGE 177)**

**3.** $y = \ln|\cos(c_1 - x)| + c_2$

**5.** $y = \frac{1}{c_1^2}\ln|c_1 x + 1| - \frac{1}{c_1}x + c_2$

**7.** $\frac{1}{3}y^3 - c_1 y = x + c_2$

**9.** $y = \tan\left(\frac{1}{4}\pi - \frac{1}{2}x\right),\ -\frac{1}{2}\pi < x < \frac{3}{2}\pi$

**11.** $y = -\frac{1}{c_1}\sqrt{1 - c_1^2 x^2} + c_2$

**13.** $y = 1 + x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x^3 + \frac{1}{6}x^4 + \frac{1}{10}x^5 + \cdots$

**15.** $y = 1 + x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{2}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{4}x^4 + \frac{7}{60}x^5 + \cdots$

**17.** $y = -\sqrt{1 - x^2}$

**CHAPTER 4 IN REVIEW (PAGE 178)**

**1.** $y = 0$

**3.** false

**5.** $(-\infty, 0);\ (0, \infty)$

**7.** $y = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-5x} + c_3 x e^{-5x} + c_4 e^x + c_5 x e^x + c_6 x^2 e^x;$
$y = c_1 x^3 + c_2 x^{-5} + c_3 x^{-5}\ln x + c_4 x + c_5 x \ln x + c_6 x (\ln x)^2$

**9.** $y = c_1 e^{(1+\sqrt{3})x} + c_2 e^{(1-\sqrt{3})x}$

**11.** $y = c_1 + c_2 e^{-5x} + c_3 x e^{-5x}$

**13.** $y = c_1 e^{-x/3} + e^{-3x/2}\left(c_2 \cos\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{7}x + c_3 \sin\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{7}x\right)$

**15.** $y = e^{3x/2}\left(c_2 \cos\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{11}x + c_3 \sin\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{11}x\right) + \frac{4}{5}x^3 + \frac{36}{25}x^2$
$\qquad + \frac{46}{125}x - \frac{222}{625}$

**17.** $y = c_1 + c_2 e^{2x} + c_3 e^{3x} + \frac{1}{5}\sin x - \frac{1}{5}\cos x + \frac{4}{3}x$

**19.** $y = e^x(c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x) - e^x \cos x \ln|\sec x + \tan x|$

**21.** $y = c_1 x^{-1/3} + c_2 x^{1/2}$

**23.** $y = c_1 x^2 + c_2 x^3 + x^4 - x^2 \ln x$

**25.** **(a)** $y = c_1 \cos\omega x + c_2 \sin\omega x + A\cos\alpha x$
$\qquad\qquad + B\sin\alpha x,\quad \omega \neq \alpha;$
$\qquad y = c_1 \cos\omega x + c_2 \sin\omega x + Ax\cos\omega x$
$\qquad\qquad + Bx\sin\omega x,\quad \omega = \alpha$

**(b)** $y = c_1 e^{-\omega x} + c_2 e^{\omega x} + Ae^{\alpha x}$, $\omega \neq \alpha$;

$\quad y = c_1 e^{-\omega x} + c_2 e^{\omega x} + Axe^{\omega x}$, $\omega = \alpha$

**27. (a)** $y = c_1\cosh x + c_2\sinh x + c_3 x\cosh x$
$\quad\quad + c_4 x \sinh x$

**(b)** $y_p = Ax^2\cosh x + Bx^2\sinh x$

**29.** $y = e^{x-\pi}\cos x$

**31.** $y = \frac{13}{4}e^x - \frac{5}{4}e^{-x} - x - \frac{1}{2}\sin x$

**33.** $y = x^2 + 4$

**37.** $x = -c_1 e^t - \frac{3}{2}c_2 e^{2t} + \frac{5}{2}$
$\quad\; y = c_1 e^t + c_2 e^{2t} - 3$

**39.** $x = c_1 e^t + c_2 e^{5t} + te^t$
$\quad\; y = -c_1 e^t + 3c_2 e^{5t} - te^t + 2e^t$

## EXERCISES 5.1 (PAGE 194)

**1.** $\dfrac{\sqrt{2}\,\pi}{8}$

**3.** $x(t) = -\frac{1}{4}\cos 4\sqrt{6}\,t$

**5. (a)** $x\left(\dfrac{\pi}{12}\right) = -\dfrac{1}{4}; x\left(\dfrac{\pi}{8}\right) = -\dfrac{1}{2}; x\left(\dfrac{\pi}{6}\right) = -\dfrac{1}{4};$

$\quad x\left(\dfrac{\pi}{4}\right) = \dfrac{1}{2}; x\left(\dfrac{9\pi}{32}\right) = \dfrac{\sqrt{2}}{4}$

**(b)** 4 ft/s; downward

**(c)** $t = \dfrac{(2n+1)\pi}{16}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$

**7. (a)** the 20-kg mass

**(b)** the 20-kg mass; the 50-kg mass

**(c)** $t = n\pi$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$; at the equilibrium position; the 50-kg mass is moving upward whereas the 20-kg mass is moving upward when $n$ is even and downward when $n$ is odd.

**9.** $x(t) = \dfrac{1}{2}\cos 2t + \dfrac{3}{4}\sin 2t = \dfrac{\sqrt{13}}{4}\sin(2t + 0.5880)$

**11. (a)** $x(t) = -\frac{2}{3}\cos 10t + \frac{1}{2}\sin 10t$

$\quad\quad = \frac{5}{6}\sin(10t - 0.927)$

**(b)** $\dfrac{5}{6}$ ft; $\dfrac{\pi}{5}$

**(c)** 15 cycles

**(d)** 0.721 s

**(e)** $\dfrac{(2n+1)\pi}{20} + 0.0927$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$

**(f)** $x(3) = -0.597$ ft   **(g)** $x'(3) = -5.814$ ft/s

**(h)** $x''(3) = 59.702$ ft/s$^2$   **(i)** $\pm 8\frac{1}{3}$ ft/s

**(j)** $0.1451 + \dfrac{n\pi}{5}$; $0.3545 + \dfrac{n\pi}{5}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$

**(k)** $0.3545 + \dfrac{n\pi}{5}$, $n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$

**13.** 120 lb/ft; $x(t) = \dfrac{\sqrt{3}}{12}\sin 8\sqrt{3}\,t$

**17. (a)** above   **(b)** heading upward

**19. (a)** below   **(b)** heading upward

**21.** $\frac{1}{4}$ s; $\frac{1}{2}$ s, $x\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = e^{-2}$; that is, the weight is approximately 0.14 ft below the equilibrium position.

**23. (a)** $x(t) = \frac{4}{3}e^{-2t} - \frac{1}{3}e^{-8t}$

**(b)** $x(t) = -\frac{2}{3}e^{-2t} + \frac{5}{3}e^{-8t}$

**25. (a)** $x(t) = e^{-2t}\left(-\cos 4t - \frac{1}{2}\sin 4t\right)$

**(b)** $x(t) = \dfrac{\sqrt{5}}{2}e^{-2t}\sin\left(4t + 4.249\right)$

**(c)** $t = 1.294$ s

**27. (a)** $\beta > \frac{5}{2}$   **(b)** $\beta = \frac{5}{2}$   **(c)** $0 < \beta < \frac{5}{2}$

**29.** $x(t) = e^{-t/2}\left(-\dfrac{4}{3}\cos\dfrac{\sqrt{47}}{2}t - \dfrac{64}{3\sqrt{47}}\sin\dfrac{\sqrt{47}}{2}t\right)$

$\quad\quad + \dfrac{10}{3}(\cos 3t + \sin 3t)$

**31.** $x(t) = \frac{1}{4}e^{-4t} + te^{-4t} - \frac{1}{4}\cos 4t$

**33.** $x(t) = -\frac{1}{2}\cos 4t + \frac{9}{4}\sin 4t + \frac{1}{2}e^{-2t}\cos 4t$

$\quad\quad - 2e^{-2t}\sin 4t$

**35. (a)** $m\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -k(x - h) - \beta\dfrac{dx}{dt}$ or

$\quad\quad \dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 2\lambda\dfrac{dx}{dt} + \omega^2 x = \omega^2 h(t)$,

$\quad\quad$ where $2\lambda = \beta/m$ and $\omega^2 = k/m$

**(b)** $x(t) = e^{-2t}\left(-\frac{56}{13}\cos 2t - \frac{72}{13}\sin 2t\right) + \frac{56}{13}\cos t$

$\quad\quad + \frac{32}{13}\sin t$

**37.** $x(t) = -\cos 2t - \frac{1}{8}\sin 2t + \frac{3}{4}t\sin 2t + \frac{5}{4}t\cos 2t$

**39. (b)** $\dfrac{F_0}{2\omega}t\sin\omega t$

**45.** 4.568 C; 0.0509 s

**47.** $q(t) = 10 - 10e^{-3t}(\cos 3t + \sin 3t)$
$\quad\; i(t) = 60e^{-3t}\sin 3t$; 10.432 C

**49.** $q_p = \frac{100}{13}\sin t + \frac{150}{13}\cos t$
$\quad\; i_p = \frac{100}{13}\cos t - \frac{150}{13}\sin t$

**53.** $q(t) = -\frac{1}{2}e^{-10t}(\cos 10t + \sin 10t) + \frac{3}{2}$; $\frac{3}{2}$ C

**57.** $q(t) = \left(q_0 - \dfrac{E_0 C}{1 - \gamma^2 LC}\right)\cos\dfrac{t}{\sqrt{LC}}$

$\quad\quad + \sqrt{LC}\,i_0\sin\dfrac{t}{\sqrt{LC}} + \dfrac{E_0 C}{1 - \gamma^2 LC}\cos\gamma t$

$\quad\; i(t) = i_0\cos\dfrac{t}{\sqrt{LC}} - \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}\left(q_0 - \dfrac{E_0 C}{1 - \gamma^2 LC}\right)\sin\dfrac{t}{\sqrt{LC}}$

$\quad\quad - \dfrac{E_0 C\gamma}{1 - \gamma^2 LC}\sin\gamma t$

## EXERCISES 5.2 (PAGE 204)

**1. (a)** $y(x) = \dfrac{w_0}{24EI}(6L^2x^2 - 4Lx^3 + x^4)$

**3. (a)** $y(x) = \dfrac{w_0}{48EI}(3L^2x^2 - 5Lx^3 + 2x^4)$

**5. (a)** $y(x) = \dfrac{w_0}{360EI}(7L^4x - 10L^2x^3 + 3x^5)$

 **(c)** $x \approx 0.51933,\ y_{max} \approx 0.234799$

**7.** $y(x) = -\dfrac{w_0EI}{P^2}\cosh\sqrt{\dfrac{P}{EI}}x$

$$+ \left(\dfrac{w_0EI}{P^2}\sinh\sqrt{\dfrac{P}{EI}}L - \dfrac{w_0L\sqrt{EI}}{P\sqrt{P}}\right)\dfrac{\sinh\sqrt{\dfrac{P}{EI}}x}{\cosh\sqrt{\dfrac{P}{EI}}L}$$

$$+ \dfrac{w_0}{2P}x^2 + \dfrac{w_0EI}{P^2}$$

**9.** $\lambda_n = n^2,\ n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots;\quad y = \sin nx$

**11.** $\lambda_n = \dfrac{(2n-1)^2\pi^2}{4L^2},\ n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots;$

 $y = \cos\dfrac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}$

**13.** $\lambda_n = n^2,\ n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots;\quad y = \cos nx$

**15.** $\lambda_n = \dfrac{n^2\pi^2}{25},\ n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots;\quad y = e^{-x}\sin\dfrac{n\pi x}{5}$

**17.** $\lambda_n = n^2,\ n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots;\quad y = \sin(n\ln x)$

**19.** $\lambda_n = n^4\pi^4,\quad n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots;\quad y = \sin n\pi x$

**21.** $x = L/4, x = L/2, x = 3L/4$

**25.** $\omega_n = \dfrac{n\pi\sqrt{T}}{L\sqrt{\rho}},\ n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots;\quad y = \sin\dfrac{n\pi x}{L}$

**27.** $u(r) = \left(\dfrac{u_0 - u_1}{b - a}\right)\dfrac{ab}{r} + \dfrac{u_1b - u_0a}{b - a}$

## EXERCISE 5.3 (PAGE 213)

**7.** $\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + x = 0$

**15. (a)** 5 ft  **(b)** $4\sqrt{10}$ ft/s  **(c)** $0 \le t \le \frac{3}{8}\sqrt{10}$; 7.5 ft

**17. (a)** $xy'' = r\sqrt{1 + (y')^2}$.

 When $t = 0, x = a, y = 0, dy/dx = 0$.

 **(b)** When $r \ne 1$,

$$y(x) = \dfrac{a}{2}\left[\dfrac{1}{1 + r}\left(\dfrac{x}{a}\right)^{1+r} - \dfrac{1}{1 - r}\left(\dfrac{x}{a}\right)^{1-r}\right]$$

$$+ \dfrac{ar}{1 - r^2}$$

When $r = 1$,

$$y(x) = \dfrac{1}{2}\left[\dfrac{1}{2a}(x^2 - a^2) + \dfrac{1}{a}\ln\dfrac{a}{x}\right]$$

 **(c)** The paths intersect when $r < 1$.

## CHAPTER 5 IN REVIEW (PAGE 216)

**1.** 8 ft

**3.** $\frac{5}{4}$ m

**5.** False; there could be an impressed force driving the system.

**7.** overdamped

**9.** $y = 0$ since $\lambda = 8$ is not an eigenvalue

**11.** 14.4 lb  **13.** $x(t) = -\frac{2}{3}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{3}e^{-4t}$

**15.** $0 < m \le 2$  **17.** $\gamma = \frac{8}{3}\sqrt{3}$

**19.** $x(t) = e^{-4t}\left(\frac{26}{17}\cos 2\sqrt{2}\,t + \frac{28}{17}\sqrt{2}\sin 2\sqrt{2}\,t\right) + \frac{8}{17}e^{-t}$

**21. (a)** $q(t) = -\frac{1}{150}\sin 100t + \frac{1}{75}\sin 50t$

 **(b)** $i(t) = -\frac{2}{3}\cos 100t + \frac{2}{3}\cos 50t$

 **(c)** $t = \dfrac{n\pi}{50}, n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$

**25.** $m\dfrac{d^2x}{dt^2} + kx = 0$

## EXERCISES 6.1 (PAGE 230)

**1.** $R = \frac{1}{2},\ \left[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right)$

**3.** $R = 10,\ (-5, 15)$

**5.** $x - \frac{2}{3}x^3 + \frac{2}{15}x^5 - \frac{4}{315}x^7 + \cdots$

**7.** $1 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{5}{24}x^4 + \frac{61}{720}x^6 + \cdots,\ (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$

**9.** $\displaystyle\sum_{k=3}^{\infty}(k - 2)c_{k-2}x^k$

**11.** $2c_1 + \displaystyle\sum_{k=1}^{\infty}[2(k + 1)c_{k+1} + 6c_{k-1}]x^k$

**15.** 5; 4

**17.** $y_1(x) = c_0\left[1 + \dfrac{1}{3\cdot 2}x^3 + \dfrac{1}{6\cdot 5\cdot 3\cdot 2}x^6\right.$

$$\left. + \dfrac{1}{9\cdot 8\cdot 6\cdot 5\cdot 3\cdot 2}x^9 + \cdots\right]$$

$y_2(x) = c_1\left[x + \dfrac{1}{4\cdot 3}x^4 + \dfrac{1}{7\cdot 6\cdot 4\cdot 3}x^7\right.$

$$\left. + \dfrac{1}{10\cdot 9\cdot 7\cdot 6\cdot 4\cdot 3}x^{10} + \cdots\right]$$

**19.** $y_1(x) = c_0\left[1 - \dfrac{1}{2!}x^2 - \dfrac{3}{4!}x^4 - \dfrac{21}{6!}x^6 - \cdots\right]$

$y_2(x) = c_1\left[x + \dfrac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dfrac{5}{5!}x^5 + \dfrac{45}{7!}x^7 + \cdots\right]$

**21.** $y_1(x) = c_0\left[1 - \dfrac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dfrac{4^2}{6!}x^6 - \dfrac{7^2 \cdot 4^2}{9!}x^9 + \cdots\right]$

$y_2(x) = c_1\left[x - \dfrac{2^2}{4!}x^4 + \dfrac{5^2 \cdot 2^2}{7!}x^7\right.$

$\left. - \dfrac{8^2 \cdot 5^2 \cdot 2^2}{10!}x^{10} + \cdots\right]$

**23.** $y_1(x) = c_0;\ y_2(x) = c_1\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1}{n}x^n$

**25.** $y_1(x) = c_0\left[1 + \dfrac{1}{2}x^2 + \dfrac{1}{6}x^3 + \dfrac{1}{6}x^4 + \cdots\right]$

$y_2(x) = c_1\left[x + \dfrac{1}{2}x^2 + \dfrac{1}{2}x^3 + \dfrac{1}{4}x^4 + \cdots\right]$

**27.** $y_1(x) = c_0\left[1 + \dfrac{1}{4}x^2 - \dfrac{7}{4\cdot 4!}x^4 + \dfrac{23\cdot 7}{8\cdot 6!}x^6 - \cdots\right]$

$y_2(x) = c_1\left[x - \dfrac{1}{6}x^3 + \dfrac{14}{2\cdot 5!}x^5 - \dfrac{34\cdot 14}{4\cdot 7!}x^7 - \cdots\right]$

**29.** $y(x) = -2\left[1 + \dfrac{1}{2!}x^2 + \dfrac{1}{3!}x^3 + \dfrac{1}{4!}x^4 + \cdots\right] + 6x$

$= 8x - 2e^x$

**31.** $y(x) = 3 - 12x^2 + 4x^4$

**33.** $y_1(x) = c_0\left[1 - \dfrac{1}{6}x^3 + \dfrac{1}{120}x^5 + \cdots\right]$

$y_2(x) = c_1\left[x - \dfrac{1}{12}x^4 + \dfrac{1}{180}x^6 + \cdots\right]$

**EXERCISES 6.2 (PAGE 239)**

**1.** $x = 0$, irregular singular point

**3.** $x = -3$, regular singular point;
$x = 3$, irregular singular point

**5.** $x = 0, 2i, -2i$, regular singular points

**7.** $x = -3, 2$, regular singular points

**9.** $x = 0$, irregular singular point;
$x = -5, 5, 2$, regular singular points

**11.** for $x = 1$: $p(x) = 5,\ q(x) = \dfrac{x(x-1)^2}{x+1}$

for $x = -1$: $p(x) = \dfrac{5(x+1)}{x-1},\ q(x) = x^2 + x$

**13.** $r_1 = \dfrac{1}{3},\ r_2 = -1$

**15.** $r_1 = \dfrac{3}{2},\ r_2 = 0$

$y(x) = C_1 x^{3/2}\left[1 - \dfrac{2}{5}x + \dfrac{2^2}{7\cdot 5\cdot 2}x^2\right.$

$\left. - \dfrac{2^3}{9\cdot 7\cdot 5\cdot 3!}x^3 + \cdots\right]$

$+ C_2\left[1 + 2x - 2x^2 + \dfrac{2^3}{3\cdot 3!}x^3 - \cdots\right]$

**17.** $r_1 = \dfrac{7}{8},\ r_2 = 0$

$y(x) = c_1 x^{7/8}\left[1 - \dfrac{2}{15}x + \dfrac{2^2}{23\cdot 15\cdot 2}x^2\right.$

$\left. - \dfrac{2^3}{31\cdot 23\cdot 15\cdot 3!}x^3 + \cdots\right]$

$+ c_2\left[1 - 2x + \dfrac{2^2}{9\cdot 2}x^2\right.$

$\left. - \dfrac{2^3}{17\cdot 9\cdot 3!}x^3 + \cdots\right]$

**19.** $r_1 = \dfrac{1}{3},\ r_2 = 0$

$y(x) = C_1 x^{1/3}\left[1 + \dfrac{1}{3}x + \dfrac{1}{3^2\cdot 2}x^2\right.$

$\left. + \dfrac{1}{3^3\cdot 3!}x^3 + \cdots\right]$

$+ C_2\left[1 + \dfrac{1}{2}x + \dfrac{1}{5\cdot 2}x^2 + \dfrac{1}{8\cdot 5\cdot 2}x^3 + \cdots\right]$

**21.** $r_1 = \dfrac{5}{2},\ r_2 = 0$

$y(x) = C_1 x^{5/2}\left[1 + \dfrac{2\cdot 2}{7}x + \dfrac{2^2\cdot 3}{9\cdot 7}x^2\right.$

$\left. + \dfrac{2^3\cdot 4}{11\cdot 9\cdot 7}x^3 + \cdots\right]$

$+ C_2\left[1 + \dfrac{1}{3}x - \dfrac{1}{6}x^2 - \dfrac{1}{6}x^3 - \cdots\right]$

**23.** $r_1 = \dfrac{2}{3},\ r_2 = \dfrac{1}{3}$

$y(x) = C_1 x^{2/3}\left[1 - \dfrac{1}{2}x + \dfrac{5}{28}x^2 - \dfrac{1}{21}x^3 + \cdots\right]$

$+ C_2 x^{1/3}\left[1 - \dfrac{1}{2}x + \dfrac{1}{5}x^2 - \dfrac{7}{120}x^3 + \cdots\right]$

**25.** $r_1 = 0,\ r_2 = -1$

$y(x) = C_1\displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\dfrac{1}{(2n+1)!}x^{2n} + C_2 x^{-1}\displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\dfrac{1}{(2n)!}x^{2n}$

$= C_1 x^{-1}\displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\dfrac{1}{(2n+1)!}x^{2n+1} + C_2 x^{-1}\displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\dfrac{1}{(2n)!}x^{2n}$

$= \dfrac{1}{x}[C_1\sinh x + C_2\cosh x]$

**27.** $r_1 = 1,\ r_2 = 0$

$y(x) = C_1 x + C_2\left[x\ln x - 1 + \dfrac{1}{2}x^2\right.$

$\left. + \dfrac{1}{12}x^3 + \dfrac{1}{72}x^4 + \cdots\right]$

**29.** $r_1 = r_2 = 0$

$y(x) = C_1 y(x) + C_2\left[y_1(x)\ln x + y_1(x)\left(-x + \dfrac{1}{4}x^2\right.\right.$

$\left.\left. - \dfrac{1}{3\cdot 3!}x^3 + \dfrac{1}{4\cdot 4!}x^4 - \cdots\right)\right]$

where $y_1(x) = \displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\dfrac{1}{n!}x^n = e^x$

**33. (b)** $y_1(t) = \sum\limits_{n=0}^{\infty} \dfrac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)!}(\sqrt{\lambda}\,t)^{2n} = \dfrac{\sin(\sqrt{\lambda}\,t)}{\sqrt{\lambda}\,t}$

$y_2(t) = t^{-1}\sum\limits_{n=0}^{\infty} \dfrac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!}(\sqrt{\lambda}\,t)^{2n} = \dfrac{\cos(\sqrt{\lambda}\,t)}{t}$

**(c)** $y = C_1 x \sin\left(\dfrac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{x}\right) + C_2 x \cos\left(\dfrac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{x}\right)$

## EXERCISES 6.3 (PAGE 250)

**1.** $y = c_1 J_{1/3}(x) + c_2 J_{-1/3}(x)$
**3.** $y = c_1 J_{5/2}(x) + c_2 J_{-5/2}(x)$
**5.** $y = c_1 J_0(x) + c_2 Y_0(x)$
**7.** $y = c_1 J_2(3x) + c_2 Y_2(3x)$
**9.** $y = c_1 J_{2/3}(5x) + c_2 J_{-2/3}(5x)$
**11.** $y = c_1 x^{-1/2} J_{1/2}(\alpha x) + c_2 x^{-1/2} J_{-1/2}(\alpha x)$
**13.** $y = x^{-1/2}\,[c_1 J_1(4x^{1/2}) + c_2 Y_1(4x^{1/2})]$
**15.** $y = x\,[c_1 J_1(x) + c_2 Y_1(x)]$
**17.** $y = x^{1/2}\,[c_1 J_{3/2}(x) + c_2 Y_{3/2}(x)]$
**19.** $y = x^{-1}\big[c_1 J_{1/2}\big(\tfrac12 x^2\big) + c_2 J_{-1/2}\big(\tfrac12 x^2\big)\big]$
**23.** $y = x^{1/2}\,[c_1 J_{1/2}(x) + c_2 J_{-1/2}(x)]$
$= C_1 \sin x + C_2 \cos x$
**25.** $y = x^{-1/2}\big[c_1 J_{1/2}\big(\tfrac18 x^2\big) + c_2 J_{-1/2}\big(\tfrac18 x^2\big)\big]$
$= C_1 x^{-3/2} \sin\big(\tfrac18 x^2\big) + C_2 x^{-3/2}\cos\big(\tfrac18 x^2\big)$
**35.** $y = c_1 x^{1/2} J_{1/3}\big(\tfrac23 \alpha x^{3/2}\big) + c_2 x^{1/2} J_{-1/3}\big(\tfrac23 \alpha x^{3/2}\big)$
**45.** $P_2(x)$, $P_3(x)$, $P_4(x)$, and $P_5(x)$ are given in the text,
$P_6(x) = \tfrac{1}{16}(231x^6 - 315x^4 + 105x^2 - 5)$,
$P_7(x) = \tfrac{1}{16}(429x^7 - 693x^5 + 315x^3 - 35x)$
**47.** $\lambda_1 = 2, \lambda_2 = 12, \lambda_3 = 30$

## CHAPTER 6 IN REVIEW (PAGE 253)

**1.** False
**3.** $[-\tfrac12, \tfrac12]$
**7.** $x^2(x-1)y'' + y' + y = 0$
**9.** $r_1 = \tfrac12, r_2 = 0$
$y_1(x) = C_1 x^{1/2}\big[1 - \tfrac13 x + \tfrac{1}{30}x^2 - \tfrac{1}{630}x^3 + \cdots\big]$
$y_2(x) = C_2\big[1 - x + \tfrac16 x^2 - \tfrac{1}{90}x^3 + \cdots\big]$
**11.** $y_1(x) = c_0\big[1 + \tfrac32 x^2 + \tfrac12 x^3 + \tfrac58 x^4 + \cdots\big]$
$y_2(x) = c_1\big[x + \tfrac12 x^3 + \tfrac14 x^4 + \cdots\big]$
**13.** $r_1 = 3, r_2 = 0$
$y_1(x) = C_1 x^3\big[1 + \tfrac14 x + \tfrac{1}{20}x^2 + \tfrac{1}{120}x^3 + \cdots\big]$
$y_2(x) = C_2\big[1 + x + \tfrac12 x^2\big]$
**15.** $y(x) = 3\big[1 - x^2 + \tfrac13 x^4 - \tfrac{1}{15}x^6 + \cdots\big]$
$\quad\quad - 2\big[x - \tfrac12 x^3 + \tfrac18 x^5 - \tfrac{1}{48}x^7 + \cdots\big]$
**17.** $\tfrac16 \pi$
**19.** $x = 0$ is an ordinary point

## EXERCISES 7.1 (PAGE 261)

**21.** $y(x) = c_0\Big[1 - \dfrac13 x^3 + \dfrac{1}{3^2 \cdot 2!}x^6 - \dfrac{1}{3^3 \cdot 3!}x^9 + \cdots\Big]$
$+ c_1\Big[x - \dfrac14 x^4 + \dfrac{1}{4 \cdot 7}x^7$
$- \dfrac{1}{4 \cdot 7 \cdot 10}x^{10} + \cdots\Big] + \Big[\dfrac52 x^2 - \dfrac13 x^3$
$+ \dfrac{1}{3^2 \cdot 2!}x^6 - \dfrac{1}{3^3 \cdot 3!}x^9 + \cdots\Big]$

**1.** $\dfrac{2}{s}e^{-s} - \dfrac{1}{s}$
**3.** $\dfrac{1}{s^2} - \dfrac{1}{s^2}e^{-s}$
**5.** $\dfrac{1 + e^{-\pi s}}{s^2 + 1}$
**7.** $\dfrac{1}{s}e^{-s} + \dfrac{1}{s^2}e^{-s}$
**9.** $\dfrac{1}{s} - \dfrac{1}{s^2} + \dfrac{1}{s^2}e^{-s}$
**11.** $\dfrac{e^7}{s-1}$
**13.** $\dfrac{1}{(s-4)^2}$
**15.** $\dfrac{1}{s^2 + 2s + 2}$
**17.** $\dfrac{s^2 - 1}{(s^2 + 1)^2}$
**19.** $\dfrac{48}{s^5}$
**21.** $\dfrac{4}{s^2} - \dfrac{10}{s}$
**23.** $\dfrac{2}{s^3} + \dfrac{6}{s^2} - \dfrac{3}{s}$
**25.** $\dfrac{6}{s^4} + \dfrac{6}{s^3} + \dfrac{3}{s^2} + \dfrac{1}{s}$
**27.** $\dfrac{1}{s} + \dfrac{1}{s-4}$
**29.** $\dfrac{1}{s} + \dfrac{2}{s-2} + \dfrac{1}{s-4}$
**31.** $\dfrac{8}{s^3} - \dfrac{15}{s^2 + 9}$
**33.** Use $\sinh kt = \dfrac{e^{kt} - e^{-kt}}{2}$ to show that
$$\mathscr{L}\{\sinh kt\} = \dfrac{k}{s^2 - k^2}.$$
**35.** $\dfrac{1}{2(s-2)} - \dfrac{1}{2s}$
**37.** $\dfrac{2}{s^2 + 16}$
**39.** $\dfrac{4\cos 5 + (\sin 5)s}{s^2 + 16}$

## EXERCISES 7.2 (PAGE 269)

**1.** $\tfrac12 t^2$
**3.** $t - 2t^4$
**5.** $1 + 3t + \tfrac32 t^2 + \tfrac16 t^3$
**7.** $t - 1 + e^{2t}$
**9.** $\tfrac14 e^{-t/4}$
**11.** $\tfrac57 \sin 7t$
**13.** $\cos \dfrac{t}{2}$
**15.** $2\cos 3t - 2\sin 3t$
**17.** $\tfrac13 - \tfrac13 e^{-3t}$
**19.** $\tfrac34 e^{-3t} + \tfrac14 e^{t}$
**21.** $0.3e^{0.1t} + 0.6e^{-0.2t}$
**23.** $\tfrac12 e^{2t} - e^{3t} + \tfrac12 e^{6t}$
**25.** $\tfrac15 - \tfrac15 \cos \sqrt{5}\,t$
**27.** $-4 + 3e^{-t} + \cos t + 3\sin t$
**29.** $\tfrac13 \sin t - \tfrac16 \sin 2t$
**31.** $y = -1 + e^{t}$
**33.** $y = \tfrac{1}{10}e^{4t} + \tfrac{19}{10}e^{-6t}$
**35.** $y = \tfrac43 e^{-t} - \tfrac13 e^{-4t}$

**37.** $y = 10 \cos t + 2 \sin t - \sqrt{2} \sin \sqrt{2}\, t$

**39.** $y = -\frac{8}{9} e^{-t/2} + \frac{1}{9} e^{-2t} + \frac{5}{18} e^t + \frac{1}{2} e^{-t}$

**41.** $y = \frac{1}{4} e^{-t} - \frac{1}{4} e^{-3t} \cos 2t + \frac{1}{4} e^{-3t} \sin 2t$

## EXERCISES 7.3 (PAGE 278)

**1.** $\dfrac{1}{(s - 10)^2}$

**3.** $\dfrac{6}{(s + 2)^4}$

**5.** $\dfrac{1}{(s - 2)^2} + \dfrac{2}{(s - 3)^2} + \dfrac{1}{(s - 4)^2}$

**7.** $\dfrac{3}{(s - 1)^2 + 9}$

**9.** $\dfrac{s}{s^2 + 25} - \dfrac{s - 1}{(s - 1)^2 + 25} + 3 \dfrac{s + 4}{(s + 4)^2 + 25}$

**11.** $\frac{1}{2} t^2 e^{-2t}$

**13.** $e^{3t} \sin t$

**15.** $e^{-2t} \cos t - 2 e^{-2t} \sin t$

**17.** $e^{-t} - t e^{-t}$

**19.** $5 - t - 5 e^{-t} - 4 t e^{-t} - \frac{3}{2} t^2 e^{-t}$

**21.** $y = t e^{-4t} + 2 e^{-4t}$

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

**25.** $y = \frac{1}{9} t + \frac{2}{27} - \frac{2}{27} e^{3t} + \frac{10}{9} t e^{3t}$

**27.** $y = -\frac{3}{2} e^{3t} \sin 2t$

**29.** $y = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} e^t \cos t + \frac{1}{2} e^t \sin t$

**31.** $y = (e + 1) t e^{-t} + (e - 1) e^{-t}$

**33.** $x(t) = -\dfrac{3}{2} e^{-7t/2} \cos \dfrac{\sqrt{15}}{2} t - \dfrac{7\sqrt{15}}{10} e^{-7t/2} \sin \dfrac{\sqrt{15}}{2} t$

**37.** $\dfrac{e^{-s}}{s^2}$

**39.** $\dfrac{e^{-2s}}{s^2} + 2 \dfrac{e^{-2s}}{s}$

**41.** $\dfrac{s}{s^2 + 4} e^{-\pi s}$

**43.** $\frac{1}{2} (t - 2)^2\, \mathcal{U}(t - 2)$

**45.** $-\sin t\, \mathcal{U}(t - \pi)$

**47.** $\mathcal{U}(t - 1) - e^{-(t-1)}\, \mathcal{U}(t - 1)$

**49.** (c)

**51.** (f)

**53.** (a)

**55.** $f(t) = 2 - 4 \mathcal{U}(t - 3);\ \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \dfrac{2}{s} - \dfrac{4}{s} e^{-3s}$

**57.** $f(t) = t^2\, \mathcal{U}(t - 1);\ \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = 2 \dfrac{e^{-s}}{s^3} + 2 \dfrac{e^{-s}}{s^2} + \dfrac{e^{-s}}{s}$

**59.** $f(t) = t - t\, \mathcal{U}(t - 2);\ \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \dfrac{1}{s^2} - \dfrac{e^{-2s}}{s^2} - 2 \dfrac{e^{-2s}}{s}$

**61.** $f(t) = \mathcal{U}(t - a) - \mathcal{U}(t - b);\ \mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \dfrac{e^{-as}}{s} - \dfrac{e^{-bs}}{s}$

**63.** $y = [5 - 5 e^{-(t-1)}]\, \mathcal{U}(t - 1)$

**65.** $y = -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{2} t + \frac{1}{4} e^{-2t} - \frac{1}{4} \mathcal{U}(t - 1)$
   $\quad - \frac{1}{2} (t - 1)\, \mathcal{U}(t - 1) + \frac{1}{4} e^{-2(t-1)}\, \mathcal{U}(t - 1)$

**67.** $y = \cos 2t - \frac{1}{6} \sin 2(t - 2\pi)\, \mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi)$
   $\quad + \frac{1}{3} \sin (t - 2\pi)\, \mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi)$

**69.** $y = \sin t + [1 - \cos(t - \pi)]\mathcal{U}(t - \pi)$
   $\quad - [1 - \cos(t - 2\pi)]\, \mathcal{U}(t - 2\pi)$

**71.** $x(t) = \frac{5}{4} t - \frac{5}{16} \sin 4t - \frac{5}{4} (t - 5)\, \mathcal{U}(t - 5)$
   $\quad + \frac{5}{16} \sin 4(t - 5)\, \mathcal{U}(t - 5) - \frac{25}{4} \mathcal{U}(t - 5)$
   $\quad + \frac{25}{4} \cos 4(t - 5)\, \mathcal{U}(t - 5)$

**73.** $q(t) = \frac{2}{5} \mathcal{U}(t - 3) - \frac{2}{5} e^{-5(t-3)}\, \mathcal{U}(t - 3)$

**75.** (a) $i(t) = \dfrac{1}{101} e^{-10t} - \dfrac{1}{101} \cos t + \dfrac{10}{101} \sin t$

$\quad - \dfrac{10}{101} e^{-10(t - 3\pi/2)}\, \mathcal{U}\!\left(t - \dfrac{3\pi}{2}\right)$

$\quad + \dfrac{10}{101} \cos\!\left(t - \dfrac{3\pi}{2}\right) \mathcal{U}\!\left(t - \dfrac{3\pi}{2}\right)$

$\quad + \dfrac{1}{101} \sin\!\left(t - \dfrac{3\pi}{2}\right) \mathcal{U}\!\left(t - \dfrac{3\pi}{2}\right)$

(b) $i_{\max} \approx 0.1$ at $t \approx 1.7$, $i_{\min} \approx -0.1$ at $t \approx 4.7$

**77.** $y(x) = \dfrac{w_0 L^2}{16 EI} x^2 - \dfrac{w_0 L}{12 EI} x^3 + \dfrac{w_0}{24 EI} x^4$

$\quad - \dfrac{w_0}{24 EI} \left(x - \dfrac{L}{2}\right)^4 \mathcal{U}\!\left(x - \dfrac{L}{2}\right)$

**79.** $y(x) = \dfrac{w_0 L^2}{48 EI} x^2 - \dfrac{w_0 L}{24 EI} x^3$

$\quad + \dfrac{w_0}{60 EIL} \left[\dfrac{5L}{2} x^4 - x^5 + \left(x - \dfrac{L}{2}\right)^5 \mathcal{U}\!\left(x - \dfrac{L}{2}\right)\right]$

**81.** (a) $\dfrac{dT}{dt} = k(T - 70 - 57.5t - (230 - 57.5t)\mathcal{U}(t - 4))$

## EXERCISES 7.4 (PAGE 289)

**1.** $\dfrac{1}{(s + 10)^2}$

**3.** $\dfrac{s^2 - 4}{(s^2 + 4)^2}$

**5.** $\dfrac{6s^2 + 2}{(s^2 - 1)^3}$

**7.** $\dfrac{12s - 24}{[(s - 2)^2 + 36]^2}$

**9.** $y = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-t} + \frac{1}{2} \cos t - \frac{1}{2} t \cos t + \frac{1}{2} t \sin t$

**11.** $y = 2 \cos 3t + \frac{5}{3} \sin 3t + \frac{1}{6} t \sin 3t$

**13.** $y = \frac{1}{4} \sin 4t + \frac{1}{8} t \sin 4t$
   $\quad - \frac{1}{8} (t - \pi) \sin 4(t - \pi)\mathcal{U}(t - \pi)$

**17.** $y = \frac{2}{3} t^3 + c_1 t^2$

**19.** $\dfrac{6}{s^5}$

**21.** $\dfrac{s - 1}{(s + 1)[(s - 1)^2 + 1]}$

**23.** $\dfrac{1}{s(s - 1)}$

**25.** $\dfrac{s + 1}{s[(s + 1)^2 + 1]}$

**27.** $\dfrac{1}{s^2(s - 1)}$

**29.** $\dfrac{3s^2 + 1}{s^2(s^2 + 1)^2}$

**31.** $e^t - 1$

**33.** $e^t - \frac{1}{2} t^2 - t - 1$

**37.** $f(t) = \sin t$

**39.** $f(t) = -\frac{1}{8} e^{-t} + \frac{1}{8} e^t + \frac{3}{4} t e^t + \frac{1}{4} t^2 e^t$

**41.** $f(t) = e^{-t}$

**43.** $f(t) = \frac{3}{8} e^{2t} + \frac{1}{8} e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{2} \cos 2t + \frac{1}{4} \sin 2t$

**45.** $y(t) = \sin t - \frac{1}{2} t \sin t$

**47.** $i(t) = 100[e^{-10(t-1)} - e^{-20(t-1)}]\mathscr{U}(t-1)$
$\qquad\quad - 100[e^{-10(t-2)} - e^{-20(t-2)}]\mathscr{U}(t-2)$

**49.** $\dfrac{1 - e^{-as}}{s(1 + e^{-as})}$

**51.** $\dfrac{a}{s}\left(\dfrac{1}{bs} - \dfrac{1}{e^{bs} - 1}\right)$

**53.** $\dfrac{\coth(\pi s/2)}{s^2 + 1}$

**55.** $i(t) = \dfrac{1}{R}\left(1 - e^{-Rt/L}\right)$
$\qquad\quad + \dfrac{2}{R} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} (-1)^n (1 - e^{-R(t-n)/L})\mathscr{U}(t-n)$

**57.** $x(t) = 2(1 - e^{-t}\cos 3t - \frac{1}{3}e^{-t}\sin 3t)$
$\qquad\quad + 4 \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty}(-1)^n\Big[1 - e^{-(t-n\pi)}\cos 3(t - n\pi)$
$\qquad\quad - \frac{1}{3}e^{-(t-n\pi)}\sin 3(t - n\pi)\Big]\mathscr{U}(t - n\pi)$

### EXERCISES 7.5 (PAGE 295)

**1.** $y = e^{3(t-2)}\mathscr{U}(t-2)$

**3.** $y = \sin t + \sin t\,\mathscr{U}(t - 2\pi)$

**5.** $y = -\cos t\,\mathscr{U}\!\left(t - \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + \cos t\,\mathscr{U}\!\left(t - \frac{3\pi}{2}\right)$

**7.** $y = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-2t} + \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-2(t-1)}\right]\mathscr{U}(t-1)$

**9.** $y = e^{-2(t-2\pi)}\sin t\,\mathscr{U}(t - 2\pi)$

**11.** $y = e^{-2t}\cos 3t + \frac{2}{3}e^{-2t}\sin 3t$
$\qquad\quad + \frac{1}{3}e^{-2(t-\pi)}\sin 3(t - \pi)\,\mathscr{U}(t - \pi)$
$\qquad\quad + \frac{1}{3}e^{-2(t-3\pi)}\sin 3(t - 3\pi)\,\mathscr{U}(t - 3\pi)$

**13.** $y(x) = \begin{cases} \dfrac{P_0}{EI}\left(\dfrac{L}{4}x^2 - \dfrac{1}{6}x^3\right), & 0 \le x < \dfrac{L}{2} \\[2mm] \dfrac{P_0 L^2}{4EI}\left(\dfrac{1}{2}x - \dfrac{L}{12}\right), & \dfrac{L}{2} \le x \le L \end{cases}$

### EXERCISES 7.6 (PAGE 299)

**1.** $x = -\frac{1}{3}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{3}e^t$
$\quad\; y = \frac{1}{3}e^{-2t} + \frac{2}{3}e^t$

**3.** $x = -\cos 3t - \frac{5}{3}\sin 3t$
$\quad\; y = 2\cos 3t - \frac{7}{3}\sin 3t$

**5.** $x = -2e^{3t} + \frac{5}{2}e^{2t} - \frac{1}{2}$
$\quad\; y = \frac{8}{3}e^{3t} - \frac{5}{2}e^{2t} - \frac{1}{6}$

**7.** $x = -\frac{1}{2}t - \frac{3}{4}\sqrt{2}\sin\sqrt{2}t$
$\quad\; y = -\frac{1}{2}t + \frac{3}{4}\sqrt{2}\sin\sqrt{2}t$

**9.** $x = 8 + \dfrac{2}{3!}t^3 + \dfrac{1}{4!}t^4$
$\quad\; y = -\dfrac{2}{3!}t^3 + \dfrac{1}{4!}t^4$

**11.** $x = \frac{1}{2}t^2 + t + 1 - e^{-t}$
$\quad\;\; y = -\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3}e^{-t} + \frac{1}{3}te^{-t}$

**13.** $x_1 = \dfrac{1}{5}\sin t + \dfrac{2\sqrt{6}}{15}\sin\sqrt{6}t + \dfrac{2}{5}\cos t - \dfrac{2}{5}\cos\sqrt{6}t$
$\quad\;\; x_2 = \dfrac{2}{5}\sin t - \dfrac{\sqrt{6}}{15}\sin\sqrt{6}t + \dfrac{4}{5}\cos t + \dfrac{1}{5}\cos\sqrt{6}t$

**15. (b)** $i_2 = \frac{100}{9} - \frac{100}{9}e^{-900t}$
$\qquad\quad i_3 = \frac{80}{9} - \frac{80}{9}e^{-900t}$
**(c)** $i_1 = 20 - 20e^{-900t}$

**17.** $i_2 = -\frac{20}{13}e^{-2t} + \frac{375}{1469}e^{-15t} + \frac{145}{113}\cos t + \frac{85}{113}\sin t$
$\quad\;\; i_3 = \frac{30}{13}e^{-2t} + \frac{250}{1469}e^{-15t} - \frac{280}{113}\cos t + \frac{810}{113}\sin t$

**19.** $i_1 = \dfrac{6}{5} - \dfrac{6}{5}e^{-100t}\cosh 50\sqrt{2}\,t - \dfrac{9\sqrt{2}}{10}e^{-100t}\sinh 50\sqrt{2}\,t$
$\quad\;\; i_2 = \dfrac{6}{5} - \dfrac{6}{5}e^{-100t}\cosh 50\sqrt{2}\,t - \dfrac{6\sqrt{2}}{5}e^{-100t}\sinh 50\sqrt{2}\,t$

### CHAPTER 7 IN REVIEW (PAGE 300)

**1.** $\dfrac{1}{s^2} - \dfrac{2}{s^2}e^{-s}$  **3.** false

**5.** true  **7.** $\dfrac{1}{s + 7}$

**9.** $\dfrac{2}{s^2 + 4}$  **11.** $\dfrac{4s}{(s^2 + 4)^2}$

**13.** $\frac{1}{6}t^5$  **15.** $\frac{1}{2}t^2 e^{5t}$

**17.** $e^{5t}\cos 2t + \frac{5}{2}e^{5t}\sin 2t$

**19.** $\cos \pi(t - 1)\mathscr{U}(t - 1) + \sin \pi(t - 1)\mathscr{U}(t - 1)$

**21.** $-5$  **23.** $e^{-k(s-a)}F(s - a)$

**25.** $f(t)\mathscr{U}(t - t_0)$  **27.** $f(t - t_0)\mathscr{U}(t - t_0)$

**29.** $f(t) = t - (t - 1)\mathscr{U}(t - 1) - \mathscr{U}(t - 4)$;
$\quad\; \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = \dfrac{1}{s^2} - \dfrac{1}{s^2}e^{-s} - \dfrac{1}{s}e^{-4s}$;
$\quad\; \mathscr{L}\{e^t f(t)\} = \dfrac{1}{(s - 1)^2} - \dfrac{1}{(s - 1)^2}e^{-(s-1)}$
$\qquad\qquad\qquad - \dfrac{1}{s - 1}e^{-4(s-1)}$

**31.** $f(t) = 2 + (t - 2)\mathscr{U}(t - 2)$;
$\quad\; \mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = \dfrac{2}{s} + \dfrac{1}{s^2}e^{-2s}$;
$\quad\; \mathscr{L}\{e^t f(t)\} = \dfrac{2}{s - 1} + \dfrac{1}{(s - 1)^2}e^{-2(s-1)}$

**33.** $y = 5te^t + \frac{1}{2}t^2 e^t$

**35.** $y = -\frac{6}{25} + \frac{1}{5}t + \frac{3}{2}e^{-t} - \frac{13}{50}e^{-5t} - \frac{4}{25}\mathscr{U}(t - 2)$
$\qquad\quad - \frac{1}{5}(t - 2)\mathscr{U}(t - 2) + \frac{1}{4}e^{-(t-2)}\mathscr{U}(t - 2)$
$\qquad\quad - \frac{9}{100}e^{-5(t-2)}\mathscr{U}(t - 2)$

**37.** $y = 1 + t + \frac{1}{2}t^2$

**39.** $x = -\frac{1}{4} + \frac{9}{8}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{8}e^{2t}$
$\quad\;\; y = t + \frac{9}{4}e^{-2t} - \frac{1}{4}e^{2t}$

**41.** $i(t) = -9 + 2t + 9e^{-t/5}$

**43.** $y(x) = \dfrac{w_0}{12\,EIL}\left[-\dfrac{1}{5}x^5 + \dfrac{L}{2}x^4 - \dfrac{L^2}{2}x^3 + \dfrac{L^3}{4}x^2\right.$

$$\left. + \dfrac{1}{5}\left(x - \dfrac{L}{2}\right)^5 \mathcal{U}\left(x - \dfrac{L}{2}\right)\right]$$

**45. (a)** $\theta_1(t) = \dfrac{\theta_0 + \psi_0}{2}\cos \omega t + \dfrac{\theta_0 - \psi_0}{2}\cos \sqrt{\omega^2 + 2K}\,t$

$$\theta_2(t) = \dfrac{\theta_0 + \psi_0}{2}\cos \omega t - \dfrac{\theta_0 - \psi_0}{2}\cos \sqrt{\omega^2 + 2K}\,t$$

## EXERCISES 8.1 (PAGE 310)

**1.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -5 \\ 4 & 8 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}, \quad$ where $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$

**3.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 4 & -9 \\ 6 & -1 & 0 \\ 10 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X}, \quad$ where $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$

**5.** $\mathbf{X}' = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\mathbf{X} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -3t^2 \\ t^2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} t \\ 0 \\ -t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$,

where $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$

**7.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = 4x + 2y + e^t$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = -x + 3y - e^t$

**9.** $\dfrac{dx}{dt} = x - y + 2z + e^{-t} - 3t$

$\dfrac{dy}{dt} = 3x - 4y + z + 2e^{-t} + t$

$\dfrac{dz}{dt} = -2x + 5y + 6z + 2e^{-t} - t$

**17.** Yes; $W(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2) = -2e^{-8t} \neq 0$ implies that $\mathbf{X}_1$ and $\mathbf{X}_2$ are linearly independent on $(-\infty, \infty)$.

**19.** No; $W(\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \mathbf{X}_3) = 0$ for every $t$. The solution vectors are linearly dependent on $(-\infty, \infty)$. Note that $\mathbf{X}_3 = 2\mathbf{X}_1 + \mathbf{X}_2$.

## EXERCISES 8.2 (PAGE 324)

**1.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}e^{5t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-t}$

**3.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-3t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}e^{t}$

**5.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}e^{8t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}e^{-10t}$

**7.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^{t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + c_3\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}e^{-t}$

**9.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}e^{3t} + c_3\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}e^{-2t}$

**11.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} -12 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}e^{-t/2} + c_3\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-3t/2}$

**13.** $\mathbf{X} = 3\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{t/2} + 2\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-t/2}$

**19.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + c_2\left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}t + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ -\frac{1}{4} \end{pmatrix}\right]$

**21.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + c_2\left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}te^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t}\right]$

**23.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + c_3\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t}$

**25.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ -5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}e^{5t}$

$$+ c_3\left[\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}te^{5t} + \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}e^{5t}\right]$$

**27.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{t} + c_2\left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}te^{t} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^{t}\right]$

$$+ c_3\left[\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}\dfrac{t^2}{2}e^{t} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}te^{t} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}e^{t}\right]$$

**29.** $\mathbf{X} = -7\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{4t} + 13\begin{pmatrix} 2t + 1 \\ t + 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{4t}$

**31.** Corresponding to the eigenvalue $\lambda_1 = 2$ of multiplicity five, the eigenvectors are

$$\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad \mathbf{K}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**33.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ 2\cos t + \sin t \end{pmatrix}e^{4t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ 2\sin t - \cos t \end{pmatrix}e^{4t}$

**35.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ -\cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix}e^{4t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ -\sin t + \cos t \end{pmatrix}e^{4t}$

**37.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix} 5\cos 3t \\ 4\cos 3t + 3\sin 3t \end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix} 5\sin 3t \\ 4\sin 3t - 3\cos 3t \end{pmatrix}$

**39.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}1\\0\\0\end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}-\cos t\\\cos t\\\sin t\end{pmatrix} + c_3\begin{pmatrix}\sin t\\-\sin t\\\cos t\end{pmatrix}$

**41.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}0\\2\\1\end{pmatrix}e^t + c_2\begin{pmatrix}\sin t\\\cos t\\\cos t\end{pmatrix}e^t + c_3\begin{pmatrix}\cos t\\-\sin t\\-\sin t\end{pmatrix}e^t$

**43.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}28\\-5\\25\end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}4\cos 3t - 3\sin 3t\\-5\cos 3t\\0\end{pmatrix}e^{-2t}$

$\qquad + c_3\begin{pmatrix}3\cos 3t + 4\sin 3t\\-5\sin 3t\\0\end{pmatrix}e^{-2t}$

**45.** $\mathbf{X} = -\begin{pmatrix}25\\-7\\6\end{pmatrix}e^t - \begin{pmatrix}\cos 5t - 5\sin 5t\\\cos 5t\\\cos 5t\end{pmatrix}$

$\qquad + 6\begin{pmatrix}5\cos 5t + \sin 5t\\\sin 5t\\\sin 5t\end{pmatrix}$

### EXERCISES 8.3 (PAGE 332)

**1.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}-1\\1\end{pmatrix}e^{-t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}-3\\1\end{pmatrix}e^t + \begin{pmatrix}-1\\3\end{pmatrix}$

**3.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}1\\-1\end{pmatrix}e^{-2t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}1\\1\end{pmatrix}e^{4t} + \begin{pmatrix}-\frac{1}{4}\\\frac{3}{4}\end{pmatrix}t^2$

$\qquad + \begin{pmatrix}\frac{1}{4}\\-\frac{1}{4}\end{pmatrix}t + \begin{pmatrix}-2\\\frac{3}{4}\end{pmatrix}$

**5.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}1\\-3\end{pmatrix}e^{3t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}1\\9\end{pmatrix}e^{7t} + \begin{pmatrix}\frac{55}{36}\\-\frac{19}{4}\end{pmatrix}e^t$

**7.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}1\\0\\0\end{pmatrix}e^t + c_2\begin{pmatrix}1\\1\\0\end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + c_3\begin{pmatrix}1\\2\\2\end{pmatrix}e^{5t} - \begin{pmatrix}\frac{3}{2}\\\frac{7}{2}\\2\end{pmatrix}e^{4t}$

**9.** $\mathbf{X} = 13\begin{pmatrix}1\\-1\end{pmatrix}e^t + 2\begin{pmatrix}-4\\6\end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix}-9\\6\end{pmatrix}$

**11.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}1\\1\end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}3\\2\end{pmatrix}e^t - \begin{pmatrix}11\\11\end{pmatrix}t - \begin{pmatrix}15\\10\end{pmatrix}$

**13.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}2\\1\end{pmatrix}e^{t/2} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}10\\3\end{pmatrix}e^{3t/2} - \begin{pmatrix}\frac{13}{2}\\\frac{13}{4}\end{pmatrix}te^{t/2} - \begin{pmatrix}\frac{15}{2}\\\frac{9}{4}\end{pmatrix}e^{t/2}$

**15.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}2\\1\end{pmatrix}e^t + c_2\begin{pmatrix}1\\1\end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix}3\\3\end{pmatrix}e^t + \begin{pmatrix}4\\2\end{pmatrix}te^t$

**17.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}4\\1\end{pmatrix}e^{3t} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}-2\\1\end{pmatrix}e^{-3t} + \begin{pmatrix}-12\\0\end{pmatrix}t - \begin{pmatrix}\frac{4}{3}\\\frac{4}{3}\end{pmatrix}$

**19.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}1\\-1\end{pmatrix}e^t + c_2\begin{pmatrix}t\\\frac{1}{2}-t\end{pmatrix}e^t + \begin{pmatrix}\frac{1}{2}\\-2\end{pmatrix}e^{-t}$

**21.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}\cos t\\\sin t\end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}\sin t\\-\cos t\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}\cos t\\\sin t\end{pmatrix}t$

$\qquad + \begin{pmatrix}-\sin t\\\cos t\end{pmatrix}\ln|\cos t|$

**23.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}\cos t\\\sin t\end{pmatrix}e^t + c_2\begin{pmatrix}\sin t\\-\cos t\end{pmatrix}e^t + \begin{pmatrix}\cos t\\\sin t\end{pmatrix}te^t$

**25.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}\cos t\\-\sin t\end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}\sin t\\\cos t\end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix}\cos t\\-\sin t\end{pmatrix}t$

$\qquad + \begin{pmatrix}-\sin t\\\sin t\tan t\end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix}\sin t\\\cos t\end{pmatrix}\ln|\cos t|$

**27.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}2\sin t\\\cos t\end{pmatrix}e^t + c_2\begin{pmatrix}2\cos t\\-\sin t\end{pmatrix}e^t + \begin{pmatrix}3\sin t\\\frac{3}{2}\cos t\end{pmatrix}te^t$

$\qquad + \begin{pmatrix}\cos t\\-\frac{1}{2}\sin t\end{pmatrix}e^t\ln|\sin t| + \begin{pmatrix}2\cos t\\-\sin t\end{pmatrix}e^t\ln|\cos t|$

**29.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}1\\-1\\0\end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}1\\1\\0\end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + c_3\begin{pmatrix}0\\0\\1\end{pmatrix}e^{3t}$

$\qquad + \begin{pmatrix}-\frac{1}{4}e^{2t} + \frac{1}{2}te^{2t}\\-e^t + \frac{1}{4}e^{2t} + \frac{1}{2}te^{2t}\\\frac{1}{2}t^2e^{3t}\end{pmatrix}$

**31.** $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix}2\\2\end{pmatrix}te^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix}-1\\1\end{pmatrix}e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix}-2\\2\end{pmatrix}te^{4t} + \begin{pmatrix}2\\0\end{pmatrix}e^{4t}$

**33.** $\begin{pmatrix}i_1\\i_2\end{pmatrix} = 2\begin{pmatrix}1\\3\end{pmatrix}e^{-2t} + \frac{6}{29}\begin{pmatrix}3\\-1\end{pmatrix}e^{-12t} - \frac{4}{29}\begin{pmatrix}19\\42\end{pmatrix}\cos t$

$\qquad + \frac{4}{29}\begin{pmatrix}83\\69\end{pmatrix}\sin t$

### EXERCISES 8.4 (PAGE 336)

**1.** $e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \begin{pmatrix}e^t & 0\\0 & e^{2t}\end{pmatrix};\qquad e^{-\mathbf{A}t} = \begin{pmatrix}e^{-t} & 0\\0 & e^{-2t}\end{pmatrix}$

**3.** $e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \begin{pmatrix}t+1 & t & t\\t & t+1 & t\\-2t & -2t & -2t+1\end{pmatrix}$

**5.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}1\\0\end{pmatrix}e^t + c_2\begin{pmatrix}0\\1\end{pmatrix}e^{2t}$

**7.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1\begin{pmatrix}t+1\\t\\-2t\end{pmatrix} + c_2\begin{pmatrix}t\\t+1\\-2t\end{pmatrix} + c_3\begin{pmatrix}t\\t\\-2t+1\end{pmatrix}$

**9.** $\mathbf{X} = c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^t + c_4 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$

**11.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \cosh t \\ \sinh t \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} \sinh t \\ \cosh t \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**13.** $\mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} t+1 \\ t \\ -2t \end{pmatrix} - 4 \begin{pmatrix} t \\ t+1 \\ -2t \end{pmatrix} + 6 \begin{pmatrix} t \\ t \\ -2t+1 \end{pmatrix}$

**15.** $e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{2}e^{2t} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-2t} & \frac{3}{4}e^{2t} - \frac{3}{4}e^{-2t} \\ -e^{2t} + e^{-2t} & -\frac{1}{2}e^{2t} + \frac{3}{2}e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix};$

$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{2}e^{2t} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-2t} \\ -e^{2t} + e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{4}e^{2t} - \frac{3}{4}e^{-2t} \\ -\frac{1}{2}e^{2t} + \frac{3}{2}e^{-2t} \end{pmatrix}$   or

$\mathbf{X} = c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + c_4 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} e^{-2t}$

**17.** $e^{\mathbf{A}t} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{2t} + 3te^{2t} & -9te^{2t} \\ te^{2t} & e^{2t} - 3te^{2t} \end{pmatrix};$

$\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1+3t \\ t \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -9t \\ 1-3t \end{pmatrix} e^{2t}$

**23.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{3}{2}e^{3t} - \frac{1}{2}e^{5t} \\ \frac{3}{2}e^{3t} - \frac{3}{2}e^{5t} \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}e^{3t} + \frac{1}{2}e^{5t} \\ -\frac{1}{2}e^{3t} + \frac{3}{2}e^{5t} \end{pmatrix}$   or

$\mathbf{X} = c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{3t} + c_4 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} e^{5t}$

## CHAPTER 8 IN REVIEW (PAGE 337)

**1.** $k = \frac{1}{3}$

**5.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} e^t + c_2 \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} te^t + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^t \right]$

**7.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \cos 2t \\ -\sin 2t \end{pmatrix} e^t + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} \sin 2t \\ \cos 2t \end{pmatrix} e^t$

**9.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 12 \\ -16 \end{pmatrix} e^{-3t}$

**11.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{4t} + \begin{pmatrix} 16 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} t + \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

**13.** $\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} \cos t \\ \cos t - \sin t \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ \sin t + \cos t \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$+ \begin{pmatrix} \sin t \\ \sin t + \cos t \end{pmatrix} \ln|\csc t - \cot t|$

**15. (b)** $\mathbf{X} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} e^{3t}$

## EXERCISES 9.1 (PAGE 344)

**1.** for $h = 0.1$, $y_5 = 2.0801$;   for $h = 0.05$, $y_{10} = 2.0592$
**3.** for $h = 0.1$, $y_5 = 0.5470$;   for $h = 0.05$, $y_{10} = 0.5465$
**5.** for $h = 0.1$, $y_5 = 0.4053$;   for $h = 0.05$, $y_{10} = 0.4054$
**7.** for $h = 0.1$, $y_5 = 0.5503$;   for $h = 0.05$, $y_{10} = 0.5495$
**9.** for $h = 0.1$, $y_5 = 1.3260$;   for $h = 0.05$, $y_{10} = 1.3315$
**11.** for $h = 0.1$, $y_5 = 3.8254$;   for $h = 0.05$, $y_{10} = 3.8840$;
    at $x = 0.5$ the actual value is $y(0.5) = 3.9082$

**13. (a)** $y_1 = 1.2$

   **(b)** $y''(c)\dfrac{h^2}{2} = 4e^{2c}\dfrac{(0.1)^2}{2} = 0.02\,e^{2c} \le 0.02\,e^{0.2}$

$$= 0.0244$$

   **(c)** Actual value is $y(0.1) = 1.2214$. Error is $0.0214$.
   **(d)** If $h = 0.05$, $y_2 = 1.21$.
   **(e)** Error with $h = 0.1$ is $0.0214$. Error with $h = 0.05$
       is $0.0114$.

**15. (a)** $y_1 = 0.8$

   **(b)** $y''(c)\dfrac{h^2}{2} = 5e^{-2c}\dfrac{(0.1)^2}{2} = 0.025e^{-2c} \le 0.025$

       for $0 \le c \le 0.1$.

   **(c)** Actual value is $y(0.1) = 0.8234$. Error is $0.0234$.
   **(d)** If $h = 0.05$, $y_2 = 0.8125$.
   **(e)** Error with $h = 0.1$ is $0.0234$. Error with $h = 0.05$
       is $0.0109$.

**17. (a)** Error is $19h^2e^{-3(c-1)}$.

   **(b)** $y''(c)\dfrac{h^2}{2} \le 19(0.1)^2(1) = 0.19$

   **(c)** If $h = 0.1$, $y_5 = 1.8207$.
       If $h = 0.05$, $y_{10} = 1.9424$.
   **(d)** Error with $h = 0.1$ is $0.2325$. Error with $h = 0.05$
       is $0.1109$.

**19. (a)** Error is $\dfrac{1}{(c+1)^2}\dfrac{h^2}{2}$.

   **(b)** $\left| y''(c)\dfrac{h^2}{2} \right| \le (1)\dfrac{(0.1)^2}{2} = 0.005$

   **(c)** If $h = 0.1$, $y_5 = 0.4198$. If $h = 0.05$, $y_{10} = 0.4124$.
   **(d)** Error with $h = 0.1$ is $0.0143$. Error with $h = 0.05$
       is $0.0069$.

## EXERCISES 9.2 (PAGE 348)

**1.** $y_5 = 3.9078$; actual value is $y(0.5) = 3.9082$
**3.** $y_5 = 2.0533$        **5.** $y_5 = 0.5463$
**7.** $y_5 = 0.4055$        **9.** $y_5 = 0.5493$
**11.** $y_5 = 1.3333$
**13. (a)** $35.7130$

   **(c)** $v(t) = \sqrt{\dfrac{mg}{k}} \tanh \sqrt{\dfrac{kg}{m}}\, t;$    $v(5) = 35.7678$

**15. (a)** for $h = 0.1$, $y_4 = 903.0282$;
for $h = 0.05$, $y_8 = 1.1 \times 10^{15}$

**17. (a)** $y_1 = 0.82341667$

**(b)** $y^{(5)}(c)\dfrac{h^5}{5!} = 40e^{-2c}\dfrac{h^5}{5!} \le 40e^{2(0)}\dfrac{(0.1)^5}{5!}$

$= 3.333 \times 10^{-6}$

**(c)** Actual value is $y(0.1) = 0.8234134413$. Error is
$3.225 \times 10^{-6} \le 3.333 \times 10^{-6}$.

**(d)** If $h = 0.05$, $y_2 = 0.82341363$.

**(e)** Error with $h = 0.1$ is $3.225 \times 10^{-6}$. Error with
$h = 0.05$ is $1.854 \times 10^{-7}$.

**19. (a)** $y^{(5)}(c)\dfrac{h^5}{5!} = \dfrac{24}{(c+1)^5}\dfrac{h^5}{5!}$

**(b)** $\dfrac{24}{(c+1)^5}\dfrac{h^5}{5!} \le 24\dfrac{(0.1)^5}{5!} = 2.0000 \times 10^{-6}$

**(c)** From calculation with $h = 0.1$, $y_5 = 0.40546517$.
From calculation with $h = 0.05$, $y_{10} = 0.40546511$.

## EXERCISES 9.3 (PAGE 353)

**1.** $y(x) = -x + e^x$; actual values are $y(0.2) = 1.0214$,
$y(0.4) = 1.0918$, $y(0.6) = 1.2221$, $y(0.8) = 1.4255$;
approximations are given in Example 1.

**3.** $y_4 = 0.7232$

**5.** for $h = 0.2$, $y_5 = 1.5569$; for $h = 0.1$, $y_{10} = 1.5576$

**7.** for $h = 0.2$, $y_5 = 0.2385$; for $h = 0.1$, $y_{10} = 0.2384$

## EXERCISES 9.4 (PAGE 357)

**1.** $y(x) = -2e^{2x} + 5xe^{2x}$; $y(0.2) = -1.4918$,
$y_2 = -1.6800$

**3.** $y_1 = -1.4928$, $y_2 = -1.4919$

**5.** $y_1 = 1.4640$, $y_2 = 1.4640$

**7.** $x_1 = 8.3055$, $y_1 = 3.4199$;
$x_2 = 8.3055$, $y_2 = 3.4199$

**9.** $x_1 = -3.9123$, $y_1 = 4.2857$;
$x_2 = -3.9123$, $y_2 = 4.2857$

**11.** $x_1 = 0.4179$, $y_1 = -2.1824$;
$x_2 = 0.4173$, $y_2 = -2.1821$

## EXERCISES 9.5 (PAGE 361)

**1.** $y_1 = -5.6774$, $y_2 = -2.5807$, $y_3 = 6.3226$

**3.** $y_1 = -0.2259$, $y_2 = -0.3356$, $y_3 = -0.3308$,
$y_4 = -0.2167$

**5.** $y_1 = 3.3751$, $y_2 = 3.6306$, $y_3 = 3.6448$, $y_4 = 3.2355$,
$y_5 = 2.1411$

**7.** $y_1 = 3.8842$, $y_2 = 2.9640$, $y_3 = 2.2064$, $y_4 = 1.5826$,
$y_5 = 1.0681$, $y_6 = 0.6430$, $y_7 = 0.2913$

**9.** $y_1 = 0.2660$, $y_2 = 0.5097$, $y_3 = 0.7357$, $y_4 = 0.9471$,
$y_5 = 1.1465$, $y_6 = 1.3353$, $y_7 = 1.5149$, $y_8 = 1.6855$,
$y_9 = 1.8474$

**11.** $y_1 = 0.3492$, $y_2 = 0.7202$, $y_3 = 1.1363$, $y_4 = 1.6233$,
$y_5 = 2.2118$, $y_6 = 2.9386$, $y_7 = 3.8490$

**13. (c)** $y_0 = -2.2755$, $y_1 = -2.0755$, $y_2 = -1.8589$,
$y_3 = -1.6126$, $y_4 = -1.3275$

## CHAPTER 9 IN REVIEW (PAGE 362)

**1.** Comparison of numerical methods with $h = 0.1$:

| $x_n$ | Euler | Improved Euler | RK4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.10 | 2.1386 | 2.1549 | 2.1556 |
| 1.20 | 2.3097 | 2.3439 | 2.3454 |
| 1.30 | 2.5136 | 2.5672 | 2.5695 |
| 1.40 | 2.7504 | 2.8246 | 2.8278 |
| 1.50 | 3.0201 | 3.1157 | 3.1197 |

Comparison of numerical methods with $h = 0.05$:

| $x_n$ | Euler | Improved Euler | RK4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1.10 | 2.1469 | 2.1554 | 2.1556 |
| 1.20 | 2.3272 | 2.3450 | 2.3454 |
| 1.30 | 2.5409 | 2.5689 | 2.5695 |
| 1.40 | 2.7883 | 2.8269 | 2.8278 |
| 1.50 | 3.0690 | 3.1187 | 3.1197 |

**3.** Comparison of numerical methods with $h = 0.1$:

| $x_n$ | Euler | Improved Euler | RK4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0.60 | 0.6000 | 0.6048 | 0.6049 |
| 0.70 | 0.7095 | 0.7191 | 0.7194 |
| 0.80 | 0.8283 | 0.8427 | 0.8431 |
| 0.90 | 0.9559 | 0.9752 | 0.9757 |
| 1.00 | 1.0921 | 1.1163 | 1.1169 |

Comparison of numerical methods with $h = 0.05$:

| $x_n$ | Euler | Improved Euler | RK4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0.60 | 0.6024 | 0.6049 | 0.6049 |
| 0.70 | 0.7144 | 0.7193 | 0.7194 |
| 0.80 | 0.8356 | 0.8430 | 0.8431 |
| 0.90 | 0.9657 | 0.9755 | 0.9757 |
| 1.00 | 1.1044 | 1.1168 | 1.1169 |

**5.** $h = 0.2$: $y(0.2) \approx 3.2$; $h = 0.1$: $y(0.2) \approx 3.23$

**7.** $x(0.2) \approx 1.62$, $y(0.2) \approx 1.84$

## EXERCISES 10.1 (PAGE 370)

**1.** $x' = y$
$y' = -9 \sin x$; critical points at $(\pm n\pi, 0)$

**3.** $x' = y$
$y' = x^2 + y(x^3 - 1)$; critical point at $(0, 0)$

**5.** $x' = y$
$y' = \epsilon x^3 - x$;

critical points at $(0, 0)$, $\left(\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}}, 0\right)$, $\left(-\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}}, 0\right)$

**7.** $(0, 0)$ and $(-1, -1)$

**9.** $(0, 0)$ and $\left(\frac{4}{3}, \frac{4}{3}\right)$

**11.** $(0, 0)$, $(10, 0)$, $(0, 16)$, and $(4, 12)$

**13.** $(0, y)$, $y$ arbitrary

**15.** $(0, 0)$, $(0, 1)$, $(0, -1)$, $(1, 0)$, $(-1, 0)$

**17. (a)** $x = c_1 e^{5t} - c_2 e^{-t}$     **(b)** $x = -2e^{-t}$
  $y = 2c_1 e^{5t} + c_2 e^{-t}$            $y = 2e^{-t}$

**19. (a)** $x = c_1(4 \cos 3t - 3 \sin 3t) + c_2(4 \sin 3t + 3 \cos 3t)$
  $y = c_1(5 \cos 3t) + c_2(5 \sin 3t)$
  **(b)** $x = 4 \cos 3t - 3 \sin 3t$
  $y = 5 \cos 3t$

**21. (a)** $x = c_1(\sin t - \cos t)e^{4t} + c_2(-\sin t - \cos t)e^{4t}$
  $y = 2c_1(\cos t)e^{4t} + 2c_2(\sin t)e^{4t}$
  **(b)** $x = (\sin t - \cos t)e^{4t}$
  $y = 2(\cos t)e^{4t}$

**23.** $r = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt[4]{4t + c_1}}$, $\theta = t + c_2$; $r = 4\dfrac{1}{\sqrt[4]{1024t + 1}}$, $\theta = t$;

the solution spirals toward the origin as $t$ increases.

**25.** $r = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1 + c_1 e^{-2t}}}$, $\theta = t + c_2$; $r = 1$, $\theta = t$ (or $x = \cos t$

and $y = \sin t$) is the solution that satisfies $\mathbf{X}(0) = (1, 0)$;

$r = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{3}{4}e^{-2t}}}$, $\theta = t$ is the solution that satisfies

$\mathbf{X}(0) = (2, 0)$. This solution spirals toward the circle
$r = 1$ as $t$ increases.

**27.** There are no critical points and therefore no periodic solutions.

**29.** There appears to be a periodic solution enclosing the critical point $(0, 0)$.

## EXERCISES 10.2 (PAGE 377)

**1. (a)** If $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$ lies on the line $y = 2x$, then $\mathbf{X}(t)$ approaches $(0, 0)$ along this line. For all other initial conditions, $\mathbf{X}(t)$ approaches $(0, 0)$ from the direction determined by the line $y = -x/2$.

**3. (a)** All solutions are unstable spirals that become unbounded as $t$ increases.

**5. (a)** All solutions approach $(0, 0)$ from the direction specified by the line $y = x$.

**7. (a)** If $\mathbf{X}(0) = \mathbf{X}_0$ lies on the line $y = 3x$, then $\mathbf{X}(t)$ approaches $(0, 0)$ along this line. For all other initial conditions, $\mathbf{X}(t)$ becomes unbounded and $y = x$ serves as the asymptote.

**9.** saddle point

**11.** saddle point

**13.** degenerate stable node     **15.** stable spiral

**17.** $|\mu| < 1$

**19.** $\mu < -1$ for a saddle point; $-1 < \mu < 3$ for an unstable spiral point

**23. (a)** $(-3, 4)$
  **(b)** unstable node or saddle point
  **(c)** $(0, 0)$ is a saddle point.

**25. (a)** $\left(\frac{1}{2}, 2\right)$
  **(b)** unstable spiral point
  **(c)** $(0, 0)$ is an unstable spiral point.

## EXERCISES 10.3 (PAGE 386)

**1.** $r = r_0 e^{\alpha t}$

**3.** $x = 0$ is unstable; $x = n + 1$ is asymptotically stable.

**5.** $T = T_0$ is unstable.

**7.** $x = \alpha$ is unstable; $x = \beta$ is asymptotically stable.

**9.** $P = c$ is asymptotically stable; $P = a/b$ is unstable.

**11.** $\left(\frac{1}{2}, 1\right)$ is a stable spiral point.

**13.** $\left(\sqrt{2}, 0\right)$ and $\left(-\sqrt{2}, 0\right)$ are saddle points; $\left(\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{7}{4}\right)$ is a stable spiral point.

**15.** $(1, 1)$ is a stable node; $(1, -1)$ is a saddle point; $(2, 2)$ is a saddle point; $(2, -2)$ is an unstable spiral point.

**17.** $(0, -1)$ is a saddle point; $(0, 0)$ is unclassified; $(0, 1)$ is stable but we are unable to classify further.

**19.** $(0, 0)$ is an unstable node; $(10, 0)$ is a saddle point; $(0, 16)$ is a saddle point; $(4, 12)$ is a stable node.

**21.** $\theta = 0$ is a saddle point. It is not possible to classify either $\theta = \pi/3$ or $\theta = -\pi/3$.

**23.** It is not possible to classify $x = 0$.

**25.** It is not possible to classify $x = 0$, but $x = 1/\sqrt{\epsilon}$ and $x = -1/\sqrt{\epsilon}$ and are each saddle points.

**29. (a)** $(0, 0)$ is a stable spiral point.

**33. (a)** $(1, 0)$, $(-1, 0)$

**35.** $|v_0| < \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{2}$

**37.** If $\beta > 0$, $(0, 0)$ is the only critical point and is stable. If $\beta < 0$, $(0, 0)$, $(\hat{x}, 0)$, and $(-\hat{x}, 0)$, where $\hat{x}^2 = -\alpha/\beta$, are critical points. $(0, 0)$ is stable, while $(\hat{x}, 0)$, and $(-\hat{x}, 0)$ are each saddle points.

**39. (b)** $(5\pi/6, 0)$ is a saddle point.
  **(c)** $(\pi/6, 0)$ is a center.

## EXERCISES 10.4 (PAGE 393)

**1.** $|\omega_0| < \sqrt{3g/L}$

**5. (a)** First show that $y^2 = v_0^2 - g \ln\left(\dfrac{1 + x^2}{1 + x_0^2}\right)$.

**9. (a)** The new critical point is $(d/c - \epsilon_2/c, a/b + \epsilon_1/b)$.
  **(b)** yes

**11.** $(0, 0)$ is an unstable node, $(0, 100)$ is a stable node, $(50, 0)$ is a stable node, and $(20, 40)$ is a saddle point.

**17. (a)** $(0, 0)$ is the only critical point.

## CHAPTER 10 IN REVIEW (PAGE 395)

**1.** true

**3.** a center or a saddle point

**5.** false

**7.** false

**9.** $\alpha = -1$

**11.** $r = 1 / \sqrt[3]{3t + 1}$, $\theta = t$. The solution curve spirals toward the origin.

**13.** (a) center
    (b) degenerate stable node

**15.** $(0, 0)$ is a stable critical point for $\alpha \leq 0$.

**17.** $x = 1$ is unstable; $x = -1$ is asymptotically stable.

**19.** The system is overdamped when $\beta^2 > 12\,kms^2$ and underdamped when $\beta^2 < 12\,kms^2$.

## EXERCISES 11.1 (PAGE 402)

**7.** $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\pi}$

**9.** $\sqrt{\pi/2}$

**11.** $\|1\| = \sqrt{p}$; $\|\cos(n\pi x/p)\| = \sqrt{p/2}$

**21.** (a) $T = 1$           (b) $T = \pi L /2$
      (c) $T = 2\pi$          (d) $T = \pi$
      (e) $T = 2\pi$          (f) $T = 2p$

## EXERCISES 11.2 (PAGE 407)

**1.** $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{2} + \dfrac{1}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n}\sin nx$

**3.** $f(x) = \dfrac{3}{4} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\dfrac{(-1)^n - 1}{n^2 \pi^2}\cos n\pi x - \dfrac{1}{n\pi}\sin n\pi x\right\}$

**5.** $f(x) = \dfrac{\pi^2}{6} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\dfrac{2(-1)^n}{n^2}\cos nx\right.$
$\left. + \left(\dfrac{(-1)^{n+1}\pi}{n} + \dfrac{2}{\pi n^3}[(-1)^n - 1]\right)\sin nx\right\}$

**7.** $f(x) = \pi + 2\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n}\sin nx$

**9.** $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{\pi} + \dfrac{1}{2}\sin x + \dfrac{1}{\pi}\sum_{n=2}^{\infty}\dfrac{(-1)^n + 1}{1 - n^2}\cos nx$

**11.** $f(x) = -\dfrac{1}{4} + \dfrac{1}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{-\dfrac{1}{n}\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{2}\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{2}x\right.$
$\left. + \dfrac{3}{n}\left(1 - \cos\dfrac{n\pi}{2}\right)\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{2}x\right\}$

**13.** $f(x) = \dfrac{9}{4} + 5\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\dfrac{(-1)^n - 1}{n^2 \pi^2}\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{5}x\right.$
$\left. + \dfrac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n\pi}\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{5}x\right\}$

**15.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2\sinh\pi}{\pi}\left[\dfrac{1}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{(-1)^n}{1 + n^2}(\cos nx - n\sin nx)\right]$

**19.** Set $x = \pi/2$.

## EXERCISES 11.3 (PAGE 414)

**1.** odd        **3.** neither even nor odd

**5.** even       **7.** odd

**9.** neither even nor odd

**11.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n}\sin nx$

**13.** $f(x) = \dfrac{\pi}{2} + \dfrac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{(-1)^n - 1}{n^2}\cos nx$

**15.** $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{3} + \dfrac{4}{\pi^2}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{(-1)^n}{n^2}\cos n\pi x$

**17.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2\pi^2}{3} + 4\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n^2}\cos nx$

**19.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1 - (-1)^n(1 + \pi)}{n}\sin nx$

**21.** $f(x) = \dfrac{3}{4} + \dfrac{4}{\pi^2}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{2} - 1}{n^2}\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{2}x$

**23.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi} + \dfrac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=2}^{\infty}\dfrac{1 + (-1)^n}{1 - n^2}\cos nx$

**25.** $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{2} + \dfrac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{2}}{n}\cos n\pi x$

$f(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1 - \cos\dfrac{n\pi}{2}}{n}\sin n\pi x$

**27.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi} + \dfrac{4}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{(-1)^n}{1 - 4n^2}\cos 2nx$

$f(x) = \dfrac{8}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{n}{4n^2 - 1}\sin 2nx$

**29.** $f(x) = \dfrac{\pi}{4} + \dfrac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{2\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{2} - (-1)^n - 1}{n^2}\cos nx$

$f(x) = \dfrac{4}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{2}}{n^2}\sin nx$

**31.** $f(x) = \dfrac{3}{4} + \dfrac{4}{\pi^2}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{2} - 1}{n^2}\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{2}x$

$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\dfrac{4}{n^2\pi^2}\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{2} - \dfrac{2}{n\pi}(-1)^n\right\}\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{2}x$

**33.** $f(x) = \dfrac{5}{6} + \dfrac{2}{\pi^2}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{3(-1)^n - 1}{n^2}\cos n\pi x$

$f(x) = 4\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\dfrac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n\pi} + \dfrac{(-1)^n - 1}{n^3\pi^3}\right\}\sin n\pi x$

**35.** $f(x) = \dfrac{4\pi^2}{3} + 4\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\dfrac{1}{n^2}\cos nx - \dfrac{\pi}{n}\sin nx\right\}$

**37.** $f(x) = \dfrac{3}{2} - \dfrac{1}{\pi}\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1}{n}\sin 2n\pi x$

**39.** $x_p(t) = \dfrac{10}{\pi}\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1-(-1)^n}{n(10-n^2)}\sin nt$

**41.** $x_p(t) = \dfrac{\pi^2}{18} + 16\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1}{n^2(n^2-48)}\cos nt$

**43.** $x(t) = \dfrac{10}{\pi}\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1-(-1)^n}{10-n^2}\left[\dfrac{1}{n}\sin nt - \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{10}}\sin\sqrt{10}t\right]$

**45. (b)** $y_p(x) = \dfrac{2w_0 L^4}{EI\pi^5}\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n^5}\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x$

**47.** $y_p(x) = \dfrac{w_0}{2k} + \dfrac{2w_0}{\pi}\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{\sin(n\pi/2)}{n(EIn^4+k)}\cos nx$

## EXERCISES 11.4 (PAGE 422)

**1.** $y = \cos\alpha_n x$; $\alpha$ defined by $\cot\alpha = \alpha$;
$\lambda_1 = 0.7402,\ \lambda_2 = 11.7349,$
$\lambda_3 = 41.4388,\ \lambda_4 = 90.8082$
$y_1 = \cos 0.8603x,\ y_2 = \cos 3.4256x,$
$y_3 = \cos 6.4373x,\ y_4 = \cos 9.5293x$

**5.** $\frac{1}{2}[1+\sin^2\alpha_n]$

**7. (a)** $\lambda_n = \left(\dfrac{n\pi}{\ln 5}\right)^2,\ y_n = \sin\left(\dfrac{n\pi}{\ln 5}\ln x\right),\ n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$

   **(b)** $\dfrac{d}{dx}[xy'] + \dfrac{\lambda}{x}y = 0$

   **(c)** $\displaystyle\int_1^5 \dfrac{1}{x}\sin\left(\dfrac{m\pi}{\ln 5}\ln x\right)\sin\left(\dfrac{n\pi}{\ln 5}\ln x\right)dx = 0,\ m \neq n$

**9.** $\dfrac{d}{dx}[xe^{-x}y'] + ne^{-x}y = 0;$
$\displaystyle\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x}L_m(x)L_n(x)\,dx = 0,\ m \neq n$

**11. (a)** $\lambda_n = 16n^2,\ y_n = \sin(4n\tan^{-1}x),\ n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots$

   **(b)** $\displaystyle\int_0^1 \dfrac{1}{1+x^2}\sin(4m\tan^{-1}x)\sin(4n\tan^{-1}x)\,dx = 0,\ m \neq n$

## EXERCISES 11.5 (PAGE 429)

**1.** $\alpha_1 = 1.277,\ \alpha_2 = 2.339,\ \alpha_3 = 3.391,\ \alpha_4 = 4.441$

**3.** $f(x) = \displaystyle\sum_{i=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1}{\alpha_i J_1(2\alpha_i)}J_0(\alpha_i x)$

**5.** $f(x) = 4\displaystyle\sum_{i=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{\alpha_i J_1(2\alpha_i)}{(4\alpha_i^2+1)J_0^2(2\alpha_i)}J_0(\alpha_i x)$

**7.** $f(x) = 20\displaystyle\sum_{i=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{\alpha_i J_2(4\alpha_i)}{(2\alpha_i^2+1)J_1^2(4\alpha_i)}J_1(\alpha_i x)$

**9.** $f(x) = \dfrac{9}{2} - 4\displaystyle\sum_{i=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{J_2(3\alpha_i)}{\alpha_i^2 J_0^2(3\alpha_i)}J_0(\alpha_i x)$

**15.** $f(x) = \frac{1}{4}P_0(x) + \frac{1}{2}P_1(x) + \frac{5}{16}P_2(x) - \frac{3}{32}P_4(x) + \cdots$

**21.** $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}P_0(x) + \frac{5}{8}P_2(x) - \frac{3}{16}P_4(x) + \cdots$,
$f(x) = |x|$ on $(-1, 1)$

## CHAPTER 11 IN REVIEW (PAGE 430)

**1.** true  **3.** cosine
**5.** false  **7.** 5.5, 1, 0

**9.** $\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}},\ -1 \le x \le 1,$

$\displaystyle\int_{-1}^{1}\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}T_m(x)T_n(x)\,dx = 0,\ m \neq n$

**13.** $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{2} + \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left\{\dfrac{1}{n^2\pi}[(-1)^n - 1]\cos n\pi x\right.$
$\left. + \dfrac{2}{n}(-1)^n\sin n\pi x\right\}$

**15. (a)** $f(x) = 1 - e^{-1} + 2\displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1-(-1)^n e^{-1}}{1+n^2\pi^2}\cos n\pi x$

   **(b)** $f(x) = \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{2n\pi[1-(-1)^n e^{-1}]}{1+n^2\pi^2}\sin n\pi x$

**19.** $\lambda_n = \dfrac{(2n-1)^2\pi^2}{36},\ n = 1, 2, 3, \ldots,$

$y_n = \cos\left(\dfrac{2n-1}{2}\pi\ln x\right)$

**21.** $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{4}\displaystyle\sum_{i=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{J_1(2\alpha_i)}{\alpha_i J_1^2(4\alpha_i)}J_0(\alpha_i x)$

## EXERCISES 12.1 (PAGE 436)

**1.** The possible cases can be summarized in one form
$u = c_1 e^{c_2(x+y)}$, where $c_1$ and $c_2$ are constants.
**3.** $u = c_1 e^{y+c_2(x-y)}$
**5.** $u = c_1(xy)^{c_2}$
**7.** not separable
**9.** $u = e^{-t}(A_1 e^{k\alpha^2 t}\cosh\alpha x + B_1 e^{k\alpha^2 t}\sinh\alpha x)$
$u = e^{-t}(A_2 e^{-k\alpha^2 t}\cos\alpha x + B_2 e^{-k\alpha^2 t}\sin\alpha x)$
$u = e^{-t}(A_3 x + B_3)$
**11.** $u = (c_1\cosh\alpha x + c_2\sinh\alpha x)(c_3\cosh\alpha at + c_4\sinh\alpha at)$
$u = (c_5\cos\alpha x + c_6\sin\alpha x)(c_7\cos\alpha at + c_8\sin\alpha at)$
$u = (c_9 x + c_{10})(c_{11}t + c_{12})$
**13.** $u = (c_1\cosh\alpha x + c_2\sinh\alpha x)(c_3\cos\alpha y + c_4\sin\alpha y)$
$u = (c_5\cos\alpha x + c_6\sin\alpha x)(c_7\cosh\alpha y + c_8\sinh\alpha y)$
$u = (c_9 x + c_{10})(c_{11}y + c_{12})$

**15.** For $\lambda = \alpha^2 > 0$ there are three possibilities:

(*i*) For $0 < \alpha^2 < 1$,
$$u = (c_1 \cosh \alpha x + c_2 \sinh \alpha x)(c_3 \cosh \sqrt{1 - \alpha^2}\, y + c_4 \sinh \sqrt{1 - \alpha^2}\, y)$$

(*ii*) For $\alpha^2 > 1$,
$$u = (c_1 \cosh \alpha x + c_2 \sinh \alpha x)(c_3 \cos \sqrt{\alpha^2 - 1}\, y + c_4 \sin \sqrt{\alpha^2 - 1}\, y)$$

(*iii*) For $\alpha^2 = 1$,
$$u = (c_1 \cosh x + c_2 \sinh x)(c_3 y + c_4)$$

The results for the case $\lambda = -\alpha^2$ are similar. For $\lambda = 0$,
$$u = (c_1 x + c_2)(c_3 \cosh y + c_4 \sinh y)$$

**17.** elliptic        **19.** parabolic

**21.** hyperbolic       **23.** parabolic

**25.** hyperbolic

## EXERCISES 12.2 (PAGE 442)

**1.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < L, t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 0, \quad \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=L} = 0, t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < L$

**3.** $k\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}, 0 < x < L, t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 100, \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=L} = -hu(L, t), t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = f(x), 0 < x < L$

**5.** $a^2\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, 0 < x < L, t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 0, u(L, t) = 0, t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = x(L - x), \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0, 0 < x < L$

**7.** $a^2\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - 2\beta\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, 0 < x < L, t > 0$

$u(0, t) = 0, u(L, t) = \sin \pi t, t > 0$

$u(x, 0) = f(x), \dfrac{\partial u}{\partial t}\Big|_{t=0} = 0, 0 < x < L$

**9.** $\dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dfrac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, 0 < x < 4, 0 < y < 2$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial x}\Big|_{x=0} = 0, u(4, y) = f(y), 0 < y < 2$

$\dfrac{\partial u}{\partial y}\Big|_{y=0} = 0, u(x, 2) = 0, 0 < x < 4$

## EXERCISES 12.3 (PAGE 445)

**1.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left(\dfrac{-\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{2} + 1}{n}\right) e^{-k(n^2\pi^2/L^2)t}\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x$

**3.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{1}{L}\int_0^L f(x)\, dx$

$\quad + \dfrac{2}{L}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left(\int_0^L f(x)\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x\, dx\right) e^{-k(n^2\pi^2/L^2)t}\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x$

**5.** $u(x, t) = e^{-ht}\left[\dfrac{1}{L}\int_0^L f(x)\, dx\right.$

$\quad + \left.\dfrac{2}{L}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left(\int_0^L f(x)\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x\, dx\right) e^{-k(n^2\pi^2/L^2)t}\cos\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x\right]$

## EXERCISES 12.4 (PAGE 448)

**1.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{L^2}{\pi^3}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n^3}\cos\dfrac{n\pi a}{L}t\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x$

**3.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{6\sqrt{3}}{\pi^2}\left(\cos\dfrac{\pi a}{L}t\sin\dfrac{\pi}{L}x\right.$

$\quad - \dfrac{1}{5^2}\cos\dfrac{5\pi a}{L}t\sin\dfrac{5\pi}{L}x$

$\quad + \left.\dfrac{1}{7^2}\cos\dfrac{7\pi a}{L}t\sin\dfrac{7\pi}{L}x - \cdots\right)$

**5.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{1}{a}\sin at \sin x$

**7.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{8h}{\pi^2}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\dfrac{\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{2}}{n^2}\cos\dfrac{n\pi a}{L}t\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x$

**9.** $u(x, t) = e^{-\beta t}\sum_{n=1}^{\infty}A_n\left\{\cos q_n t + \dfrac{\beta}{q_n}\sin q_n t\right\}\sin nx,$

$\quad$ where $A_n = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\int_0^{\pi} f(x)\sin nx\, dx$ and $q_n = \sqrt{n^2 - \beta^2}$

**11.** $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty}\left(A_n\cos\dfrac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2}at + B_n\sin\dfrac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2}at\right)x\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x,$

$\quad$ where $\quad A_n = \dfrac{2}{L}\int_0^L f(x)\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x\, dx$

$\quad\quad\quad\quad\quad B_n = \dfrac{2L}{n^2\pi^2 a}\int_0^L g(x)\sin\dfrac{n\pi}{L}x\, dx$

**15.** $u(x, t) = \sin x \cos 2at + t$

**17.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{1}{2a}\sin 2x \sin 2at$

## EXERCISES 12.5 (PAGE 454)

**1.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{a} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \dfrac{1}{\sinh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} b} \int_0^a f(x) \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{a} x \, dx \right)$

$\times \sinh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} y \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{a} x$

**3.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{a} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \dfrac{1}{\sinh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} b} \int_0^a f(x) \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{a} x \, dx \right)$

$\times \sinh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} (b - y) \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{a} x$

**5.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{1}{2} x + \dfrac{2}{\pi^2} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n^2 \sinh n\pi} \sinh n\pi x \cos n\pi y$

**7.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{\pi} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{[1 - (-1)^n]}{n}$

$\times \dfrac{n \cosh nx + \sinh nx}{n \cosh n\pi + \sinh n\pi} \sin ny$

**9.** $u(x, y) = \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_n \cosh n\pi y + B_n \sinh n\pi y) \sin n\pi x$,

where $A_n = 200 \dfrac{[1 - (-1)^n]}{n\pi}$

$B_n = 200 \dfrac{[1 - (-1)^n]}{n\pi} \dfrac{[2 - \cosh n\pi]}{\sinh n\pi}$

**11.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{\pi} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \int_0^\pi f(x) \sin nx \, dx \right) e^{-ny} \sin nx$

**13.** $u(x, y) = \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( A_n \cosh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} y + B_n \sinh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} y \right) \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{a} x$,

where $A_n = \dfrac{2}{a} \int_0^a f(x) \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{a} x \, dx$

$B_n = \dfrac{1}{\sinh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} b} \left( \dfrac{2}{a} \int_0^a g(x) \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{a} x \, dx - A_n \cosh \dfrac{n\pi}{a} b \right)$

**15.** $u = u_1 + u_2$, where

$u_1(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{\pi} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n \sinh n\pi} \sinh ny \sin nx$

$u_2(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{\pi} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{[1 - (-1)^n]}{n}$

$\times \dfrac{\sinh nx + \sinh n(\pi - x)}{\sinh n\pi} \sin ny$

## EXERCISES 12.6 (PAGE 459)

**1.** $u(x, t) = 100 + \dfrac{200}{\pi} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{(-1)^n - 1}{n} e^{-kn^2 \pi^2 t} \sin n\pi x$

**3.** $u(x, t) = u_0 - \dfrac{r}{2k} x(x - 1) + 2 \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \dfrac{u_0}{n\pi} + \dfrac{r}{kn^3 \pi^3} \right]$

$\times [(-1)^n - 1] e^{-kn^2 \pi^2 t} \sin n\pi x$

**5.** $u(x, t) = \psi(x) + \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-kn^2 \pi^2 t} \sin n\pi x$,

where $\psi(x) = \dfrac{A}{k\beta^2} [-e^{-\beta x} + (e^{-\beta} - 1)x + 1]$

and $A_n = 2 \int_0^1 [f(x) - \psi(x)] \sin n\pi x \, dx$

**7.** $\psi(x) = u_0 \left( 1 - \dfrac{\sinh \sqrt{h/k}\, x}{\sinh \sqrt{h/k}} \right)$

**9.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{A}{6a^2} (x - x^3)$

$+ \dfrac{2A}{a^2 \pi^3} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{(-1)^n}{n^3} \cos n\pi at \sin n\pi x$

**11.** $u(x, y) = (u_0 - u_1)y + u_1$

$+ \dfrac{2}{\pi} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{u_0(-1)^n - u_1}{n} e^{-n\pi x} \sin n\pi y$

**13.** $u(x, t) = 2 \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{(-1)^{n+1}}{n(n^2 - 3)} e^{-3t} \sin nx$

$+ 2 \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{(-1)^n}{n(n^2 - 3)} e^{-n^2 t} \sin nx$

**15.** $u(x, t) = \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{2}{n\pi} \left[ -\dfrac{1}{n^2 \pi^2} + (-1)^n \dfrac{n^2 \pi^2 \cos t - \sin t}{n^4 \pi^4 + 1} \right] \sin n\pi x$

$+ \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \dfrac{4 - 2(-1)^n}{n^3 \pi^3} \right.$

$\left. - (-1)^n \dfrac{2n\pi}{n^4 \pi^4 + 1} \right] e^{-n^2 \pi^2 t} \sin n\pi x$

## EXERCISES 12.7 (PAGE 465)

**1.** $u(x, t) = 2h \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{\sin \alpha_n}{\alpha_n(h + \sin^2 \alpha_n)} e^{-k\alpha_n^2 t} \cos \alpha_n x$, where

the $\alpha_n$ are the consecutive positive roots of $\cot \alpha = \alpha/h$

**3.** $u(x, y) = \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sinh \alpha_n y \sin \alpha_n x$, where

$A_n = \dfrac{2h}{\sinh \alpha_n b(ah + \cos^2 \alpha_n a)} \int_0^a f(x) \sin \alpha_n x \, dx$

and the $\alpha_n$ are the consecutive positive roots of
$\tan \alpha a = -\alpha/h$

**5.** $u(x, t) = \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-k(2n-1)^2 \pi^2 t/4L^2} \sin \left( \dfrac{2n-1}{2L} \right) \pi x$, where

$A_n = \dfrac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \left( \dfrac{2n-1}{2L} \right) \pi x \, dx$

**7.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{4u_0}{\pi} \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1}{(2n-1) \cosh \left( \dfrac{2n-1}{2} \right) \pi}$

$\times \cosh \left( \dfrac{2n-1}{2} \right) \pi x \sin \left( \dfrac{2n-1}{2} \right) \pi y$

**9.** $u(x, t) = \sum\limits_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{4 \sin \alpha_n}{\alpha_n^2 (k\alpha_n^2 - 2)(1 + \cos^2 \alpha_n)}$

$\times (e^{-2t} - e^{-k\alpha_n^2 t}) \sin \alpha_n x$

## EXERCISES 12.8 (PAGE 469)

**1.** $u(x, y, t) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{mn} e^{-k(m^2+n^2)t} \sin mx \sin ny$,

where $A_{mn} = \dfrac{4u_0}{mn\pi^2}[1 - (-1)^m][1 - (-1)^n]$

**3.** $u(x, y, t) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{mn} \sin mx \sin ny \cos a\sqrt{m^2+n^2}\, t$,

where $A_{mn} = \dfrac{16}{m^3 n^3 \pi^2}[(-1)^m - 1][(-1)^n - 1]$

**5.** $u(x, y, z) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_{mn} \sinh \omega_{mn} z \sin \dfrac{m\pi}{a} x \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{b} y$,

where $\omega_{mn} = \sqrt{(m\pi/a)^2 + (n\pi/b)^2}$

$A_{mn} = \dfrac{4}{ab \sinh(c\omega_{mn})} \int_0^b \int_0^a f(x, y)$

$\times \sin \dfrac{m\pi}{a} x \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{b} y\, dx\, dy$

## CHAPTER 12 IN REVIEW (PAGE 469)

**1.** $u = c_1 e^{(c_2 x + y/c_2)}$

**3.** $\psi(x) = u_0 + \dfrac{(u_1 - u_0)}{1 + \pi} x$

**5.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{2h}{\pi^2 a} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{\cos \dfrac{n\pi}{4} - \cos \dfrac{3n\pi}{4}}{n^2} \sin n\pi at \sin n\pi x$

**7.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{100}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n \sinh n\pi} \sinh nx \sin ny$

**9.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{100}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n} e^{-nx} \sin ny$

**11.** $u(x, t) = e^{-t} \sin x$

**13.** $u(x, t) = e^{-(x+t)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \left[ \sqrt{n^2 + 1} \cos \sqrt{n^2 + 1}\, t \right.$

$\left. + \sin \sqrt{n^2 + 1}\, t \right] \sin nx$

## EXERCISES 13.1 (PAGE 475)

**1.** $u(r, \theta) = \dfrac{u_0}{2} + \dfrac{u_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n} r^n \sin n\theta$

**3.** $u(r, \theta) = \dfrac{2\pi^2}{3} - 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{r^n}{n^2} \cos n\theta$

**5.** $u(r, \theta) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^{-n}(A_n \cos n\theta + B_n \sin n\theta)$,

where $A_0 = \dfrac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta)\, d\theta$

$A_n = \dfrac{c^n}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta) \cos n\theta\, d\theta$

$B_n = \dfrac{c^n}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta) \sin n\theta\, d\theta$

**7.** $u(r, \theta) = \dfrac{1}{2} + \dfrac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{\sin \dfrac{n\pi}{2}}{n} \left(\dfrac{r}{c}\right)^{2n} \cos 2n\theta$

**9.** $u(r, \theta) = A_0 \ln\left(\dfrac{r}{b}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\left(\dfrac{b}{r}\right)^n - \left(\dfrac{r}{b}\right)^n\right]$

$\times [A_n \cos n\theta + B_n \sin n\theta]$,

where $A_0 \ln\left(\dfrac{a}{b}\right) = \dfrac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta)\, d\theta$

$\left[\left(\dfrac{b}{a}\right)^n - \left(\dfrac{a}{b}\right)^n\right] A_n = \dfrac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta) \cos n\theta\, d\theta$

$\left[\left(\dfrac{b}{a}\right)^n - \left(\dfrac{a}{b}\right)^n\right] B_n = \dfrac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\theta) \sin n\theta\, d\theta$

**11.** $u(r, \theta) = \dfrac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n^3} \dfrac{r^{2n} - b^{2n}}{a^{2n} - b^{2n}} \left(\dfrac{a}{r}\right)^n \sin n\theta$

**13.** $u(r, \theta) = \dfrac{u_0}{2} + \dfrac{2u_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{\sin \dfrac{n\pi}{2}}{n} \left(\dfrac{r}{2}\right)^n \cos n\theta$

## EXERCISES 13.2 (PAGE 481)

**1.** $u(r, t) = \dfrac{2}{ac} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{\sin \alpha_n at}{\alpha_n^2 J_1(\alpha_n c)} J_0(\alpha_n r)$

**3.** $u(r, z) = u_0 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{\sinh \alpha_n(4 - z)}{\alpha_n \sinh 4\alpha_n J_1(2\alpha_n)} J_0(\alpha_n r)$

**5.** $u(r, z) = 50 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{\cosh(\alpha_n z)}{\alpha_n \cosh(4\alpha_n) J_1(2\alpha_n)} J_0(\alpha_n r)$

**7.** $u(r, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n J_0(\alpha_n r) e^{-k\alpha_n^2 t}$,

where $A_n = \dfrac{2}{c^2 J_1^2(\alpha_n c)} \int_0^c r J_0(\alpha_n r) f(r)\, dr$

**9.** $u(r, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n J_0(\alpha_n r) e^{-k\alpha_n^2 t}$,

where $A_n = \dfrac{2\alpha_n^2}{(\alpha_n^2 + h^2) J_0^2(\alpha_n)} \int_0^1 r J_0(\alpha_n r) f(r)\, dr$

**11.** $u(r, t) = 100 + 50 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{J_1(\alpha_n) J_0(\alpha_n r)}{\alpha_n J_1^2(2\alpha_n)} e^{-\alpha_n^2 t}$

**13. (b)** $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos(\alpha_n \sqrt{g}\, t) J_0(2\alpha_n \sqrt{x})$,

where $A_n = \dfrac{2}{L J_1^2(2\alpha_n \sqrt{L})} \int_0^{\sqrt{L}} v J_0(2\alpha_n v) f(v^2)\, dv$

## EXERCISES 13.3 (PAGE 485)

**1.** $u(r, \theta) = 50 \left[ \dfrac{1}{2} P_0(\cos\theta) + \dfrac{3}{4}\left(\dfrac{r}{c}\right) P_1(\cos\theta) \right.$

$\left. - \dfrac{7}{16}\left(\dfrac{r}{c}\right)^3 P_3(\cos\theta) + \dfrac{11}{32}\left(\dfrac{r}{c}\right)^5 P_5(\cos\theta) + \cdots \right]$

**3.** $u(r, \theta) = \dfrac{r}{c} \cos\theta$

**5.** $u(r, \theta) = \displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n \dfrac{b^{2n+1} - r^{2n+1}}{b^{2n+1} \, r^{n+1}} P_n(\cos \theta)$, where

$\dfrac{b^{2n+1} - a^{2n+1}}{b^{2n+1} \, a^{n+1}} A_n = \dfrac{2n + 1}{2} \displaystyle\int_0^{\pi} f(\theta) P_n(\cos \theta) \sin \theta \, d\theta$

**7.** $u(r, \theta) = \displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_{2n} \, r^{2n} P_{2n}(\cos \theta)$, where

$A_{2n} = \dfrac{4n + 1}{c^{2n}} \displaystyle\int_0^{\pi/2} f(\theta) P_{2n}(\cos \theta) \sin \theta \, d\theta$

**9.** $u(r, t) = 100 + \dfrac{200}{\pi r} \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{(-1)^n}{n} e^{-n^2 \pi^2 t} \sin n\pi r$

**11.** $u(r, t) = \dfrac{1}{r} \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( A_n \cos \dfrac{n\pi a}{c} t + B_n \sin \dfrac{n\pi a}{c} t \right) \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{c} r$,

where $\quad A_n = \dfrac{2}{c} \displaystyle\int_0^c r f(r) \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{c} r \, dr$,

$B_n = \dfrac{2}{n\pi a} \displaystyle\int_0^c r g(r) \sin \dfrac{n\pi}{c} r \, dr$

## CHAPTER 13 IN REVIEW (PAGE 486)

**1.** $u(r, \theta) = \dfrac{2u_0}{\pi} \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n} \left( \dfrac{r}{c} \right)^n \sin n\theta$

**3.** $u(r, \theta) = \dfrac{4u_0}{\pi} \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n^3} r^n \sin n\theta$

**5.** $u(r, \theta) = \dfrac{2u_0}{\pi} \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{r^{4n} + r^{-4n}}{2^{4n} + 2^{-4n}} \dfrac{1 - (-1)^n}{n} \sin 4n\theta$

**7.** $u(r, t) = 2e^{-ht} \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{1}{\alpha_n J_1(\alpha_n)} J_0(\alpha_n r) \, e^{-\alpha_n^2 t}$

**9.** $u(r, z) = 50 - 50 \displaystyle\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \dfrac{\cosh (\alpha_n z)}{\alpha_n \cosh (4\alpha_n) J_1(2\alpha_n)} J_0(\alpha_n r)$

**11.** $u(r, \theta) = 100 \left[ \dfrac{3}{2} r P_1(\cos \theta) - \dfrac{7}{8} r^3 P_3(\cos \theta) \right.$

$\left. + \dfrac{11}{16} r^5 P_5(\cos \theta) + \cdots \right]$

## EXERCISES 14.1 (PAGE 490)

**1. (a)** Let $\tau = u^2$ in the integral erf($\sqrt{t}$).

**7.** $y(t) = e^{\pi t} \text{erfc}(\sqrt{\pi t})$

**9.** Use the property $\displaystyle\int_0^b - \int_0^a = \int_0^b + \int_a^0$

## EXERCISES 14.2 (PAGE 495)

**1.** $u(x, t) = A \cos \dfrac{a\pi t}{L} \sin \dfrac{\pi x}{L}$

**3.** $u(x, t) = f\left( t - \dfrac{x}{a} \right) \mathcal{U}\left( t - \dfrac{x}{a} \right)$

**5.** $u(x, t) = \left[ \dfrac{1}{2} g\left( t - \dfrac{x}{a} \right)^2 + A \sin \omega \left( t - \dfrac{x}{a} \right) \right]$

$\times \, \mathcal{U}\left( t - \dfrac{x}{a} \right) - \dfrac{1}{2} gt^2$

**7.** $u(x, t) = a \dfrac{F_0}{E} \displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left\{ \left( t - \dfrac{2nL + L - x}{a} \right) \right.$

$\times \, \mathcal{U}\left( t - \dfrac{2nL + L - x}{a} \right)$

$- \left( t - \dfrac{2nL + L + x}{a} \right)$

$\left. \times \, \mathcal{U}\left( t - \dfrac{2nL + L + x}{a} \right) \right\}$

**9.** $u(x, t) = 2(t - x) \sinh (t - x) \mathcal{U}(t - x)$

$+ \, xe^{-x} \cosh t - e^{-x} t \sinh t$

**11.** $u(x, t) = u_1 + (u_0 - u_1) \text{erfc}\left( \dfrac{x}{2\sqrt{t}} \right)$

**13.** $u(x, t) = u_0 \left[ 1 - \left\{ \text{erfc}\left( \dfrac{x}{2\sqrt{t}} \right) \right.\right.$

$\left.\left. - \, e^{x+t} \text{erfc}\left( \sqrt{t} + \dfrac{x}{2\sqrt{t}} \right) \right\} \right]$

**15.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{x}{2\sqrt{\pi}} \displaystyle\int_0^t \dfrac{f(t - \tau)}{\tau^{3/2}} e^{-x^2/4\tau} \, d\tau$

**17.** $u(x, t) = 60 + 40 \, \text{erfc}\left( \dfrac{x}{2\sqrt{t - 2}} \right) \mathcal{U}(t - 2)$

**19.** $u(x, t) = 100 \left[ -e^{1-x+t} \text{erfc}\left( \sqrt{t} + \dfrac{1 - x}{2\sqrt{t}} \right) \right.$

$\left. + \, \text{erfc}\left( \dfrac{1 - x}{2\sqrt{t}} \right) \right]$

**21.** $u(x, t) = u_0 + u_0 e^{-(\pi^2/L^2)t} \sin\left( \dfrac{\pi}{L} x \right)$

**23.** $u(x, t) = u_0 - u_0 \displaystyle\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \left[ \text{erfc}\left( \dfrac{2n + 1 - x}{2\sqrt{kt}} \right) \right.$

$\left. + \, \text{erfc}\left( \dfrac{2n + 1 + x}{2\sqrt{kt}} \right) \right]$

**25.** $u(x, t) = u_0 e^{-Gt/C} \text{erf}\left( \dfrac{x}{2} \sqrt{\dfrac{RC}{t}} \right)$

**27. (a)** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{v_0^2 F_0}{a^2 - v_0^2}\left[\left(t - \dfrac{x}{v_0}\right)\mathcal{U}\left(t - \dfrac{x}{v_0}\right)\right.$

$$\left. - \left(t - \dfrac{x}{a}\right)\mathcal{U}\left(t - \dfrac{x}{a}\right)\right]$$

**(b)** $u(x, t) = -\dfrac{xF_0}{2a}\,\mathcal{U}\left(t - \dfrac{x}{a}\right)$

## EXERCISES 14.3 (PAGE 503)

**1.** $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\sin \alpha \cos \alpha x + 3(1 - \cos \alpha)\sin \alpha x}{\alpha}\,d\alpha$

**3.** $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty [A(\alpha)\cos \alpha x + B(\alpha)\sin \alpha x]\,d\alpha,$

where $\qquad A(\alpha) = \dfrac{3\alpha \sin 3\alpha + \cos 3\alpha - 1}{\alpha^2}$

$$B(\alpha) = \dfrac{\sin 3\alpha - 3\alpha \cos 3\alpha}{\alpha^2}$$

**5.** $f(x) = \dfrac{1}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\cos \alpha x + \alpha \sin \alpha x}{1 + \alpha^2}\,d\alpha$

**7.** $f(x) = \dfrac{10}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{(1 - \cos \alpha)\sin \alpha x}{\alpha}\,d\alpha$

**9.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{(\pi\alpha \sin \pi\alpha + \cos \pi\alpha - 1)\cos \alpha x}{\alpha^2}\,d\alpha$

**11.** $f(x) = \dfrac{4}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\alpha \sin \alpha x}{4 + \alpha^4}\,d\alpha$

**13.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2k}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\cos \alpha x}{k^2 + \alpha^2}\,d\alpha$

$f(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\alpha \sin \alpha x}{k^2 + \alpha^2}\,d\alpha$

**15.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{(4 - \alpha^2)\cos \alpha x}{(4 + \alpha^2)^2}\,d\alpha$

$f(x) = \dfrac{8}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\alpha \sin \alpha x}{(4 + \alpha^2)^2}\,d\alpha$

**17.** $f(x) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\dfrac{1}{1 + x^2}, \quad x > 0$

**19.** Let $x = 2$ in (7). Use a trigonometric identity and replace $\alpha$ by $x$. In part (b) make the change of variable $2x = kt$.

## EXERCISES 14.4 (PAGE 508)

**1.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{1}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^\infty \dfrac{e^{-k\alpha^2 t}}{1 + \alpha^2}\,e^{-i\alpha x}\,d\alpha$

$= \dfrac{1}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^\infty \dfrac{\cos \alpha x}{1 + \alpha^2}\,e^{-k\alpha^2 t}\,d\alpha$

**3.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{2u_0}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^\infty \dfrac{1 - e^{-k\alpha^2 t}}{\alpha}\sin \alpha x\,d\alpha$

**5.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{1 - \cos \alpha}{\alpha}\,e^{-k\alpha^2 t}\sin \alpha x\,d\alpha$

**7.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha}\,e^{-k\alpha^2 t}\cos \alpha x\,d\alpha$

**9. (a)** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{1}{2\pi}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^\infty \left(F(\alpha)\cos \alpha a t\right.$

$$\left. + G(\alpha)\dfrac{\sin \alpha a t}{\alpha a}\right)e^{-i\alpha x}\,d\alpha$$

**11.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\sinh \alpha(\pi - x)}{(1 + \alpha^2)\sinh \alpha\pi}\cos \alpha y\,d\alpha$

**13.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{100}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\sin \alpha}{\alpha}\,e^{-\alpha y}\cos \alpha x\,d\alpha$

**15.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty F(\alpha)\dfrac{\sinh \alpha(2 - y)}{\sinh 2\alpha}\sin \alpha x\,d\alpha$

**17.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\alpha}{1 + \alpha^2}[e^{-\alpha x}\sin \alpha y + e^{-\alpha y}\sin \alpha x]\,d\alpha$

**19.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{1}{\sqrt{1 + 4kt}}\,e^{-x^2/(1+4kt)}$

**21.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^\infty \dfrac{e^{-\alpha^2/4}\cosh \alpha y}{\cosh \alpha}\,e^{-i\alpha x}\,d\alpha$

$= \dfrac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^\infty \dfrac{e^{-\alpha^2/4}\cosh \alpha y}{\cosh \alpha}\cos \alpha x\,d\alpha$

## CHAPTER 14 IN REVIEW (PAGE 510)

**1.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\sinh \alpha y}{\alpha(1 + \alpha^2)\cosh \alpha\pi}\cos \alpha x\,d\alpha$

**3.** $u(x, t) = u_0 e^{-ht}\operatorname{erf}\left(\dfrac{x}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$

**5.** $u(x, t) = \displaystyle\int_0^t \operatorname{erfc}\left(\dfrac{x}{2\sqrt{\tau}}\right)d\tau$

**7.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{u_0}{2\pi}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^\infty \dfrac{\sin \alpha(\pi - x) + \sin \alpha x}{\alpha}\,e^{-k\alpha^2 t}\,d\alpha$

**9.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{100}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \left(\dfrac{1 - \cos \alpha}{\alpha}\right)$

$$\times [e^{-\alpha x}\sin \alpha y + 2e^{-\alpha y}\sin \alpha x]\,d\alpha$$

**11.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \left(\dfrac{B\cosh \alpha y}{(1 + \alpha^2)\sinh \alpha\pi} + \dfrac{A}{\alpha}\right)\sin \alpha x\,d\alpha$

**13.** $u(x, y) = \dfrac{1}{2\pi}\displaystyle\int_{-\infty}^\infty \dfrac{\cos \alpha x + \alpha \sin \alpha x}{1 + \alpha^2}\,e^{-k\alpha^2 t}\,d\alpha$

**15.** $u(x, t) = \dfrac{2}{\pi}\displaystyle\int_0^\infty \dfrac{\alpha e^{-k\alpha^2 t}}{\alpha^2 + 1}\cos \alpha x\,d\alpha$

## EXERCISES 15.1 (PAGE 517)

**1.** $u_{11} = \frac{11}{15}, u_{21} = \frac{14}{15}$

**3.** $u_{11} = u_{21} = \sqrt{3}/16, u_{22} = u_{12} = 3\sqrt{3}/16$

**5.** $u_{21} = u_{12} = 12.50, u_{31} = u_{13} = 18.75, u_{32} = u_{23} = 37.50,$
$u_{11} = 6.25, u_{22} = 25.00, u_{33} = 56.25$

**7. (b)** $u_{14} = u_{41} = 0.5427, u_{24} = u_{42} = 0.6707,$
$u_{34} = u_{43} = 0.6402, u_{33} = 0.4451, u_{44} = 0.9451$

## EXERCISES 15.2 (PAGE 521)

*The tables in this section give a selection of the total number of approximations.*

**1.**

| Time | $x = 0.25$ | $x = 0.50$ | $x = 0.75$ | $x = 1.00$ | $x = 1.25$ | $x = 1.50$ | $x = 1.75$ |
|------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 0.000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| 0.100 | 0.3728 | 0.6288 | 0.6800 | 0.5904 | 0.3840 | 0.2176 | 0.0768 |
| 0.200 | 0.2248 | 0.3942 | 0.4708 | 0.4562 | 0.3699 | 0.2517 | 0.1239 |
| 0.300 | 0.1530 | 0.2752 | 0.3448 | 0.3545 | 0.3101 | 0.2262 | 0.1183 |
| 0.400 | 0.1115 | 0.2034 | 0.2607 | 0.2757 | 0.2488 | 0.1865 | 0.0996 |
| 0.500 | 0.0841 | 0.1545 | 0.2002 | 0.2144 | 0.1961 | 0.1487 | 0.0800 |
| 0.600 | 0.0645 | 0.1189 | 0.1548 | 0.1668 | 0.1534 | 0.1169 | 0.0631 |
| 0.700 | 0.0499 | 0.0921 | 0.1201 | 0.1297 | 0.1196 | 0.0914 | 0.0494 |
| 0.800 | 0.0387 | 0.0715 | 0.0933 | 0.1009 | 0.0931 | 0.0712 | 0.0385 |
| 0.900 | 0.0301 | 0.0555 | 0.0725 | 0.0785 | 0.0725 | 0.0554 | 0.0300 |
| 1.000 | 0.0234 | 0.0432 | 0.0564 | 0.0610 | 0.0564 | 0.0431 | 0.0233 |

**3.**

| Time | $x = 0.25$ | $x = 0.50$ | $x = 0.75$ | $x = 1.00$ | $x = 1.25$ | $x = 1.50$ | $x = 1.75$ |
|------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 0.000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| 0.100 | 0.4015 | 0.6577 | 0.7084 | 0.5837 | 0.3753 | 0.1871 | 0.0684 |
| 0.200 | 0.2430 | 0.4198 | 0.4921 | 0.4617 | 0.3622 | 0.2362 | 0.1132 |
| 0.300 | 0.1643 | 0.2924 | 0.3604 | 0.3626 | 0.3097 | 0.2208 | 0.1136 |
| 0.400 | 0.1187 | 0.2150 | 0.2725 | 0.2843 | 0.2528 | 0.1871 | 0.0989 |
| 0.500 | 0.0891 | 0.1630 | 0.2097 | 0.2228 | 0.2020 | 0.1521 | 0.0814 |
| 0.600 | 0.0683 | 0.1256 | 0.1628 | 0.1746 | 0.1598 | 0.1214 | 0.0653 |
| 0.700 | 0.0530 | 0.0976 | 0.1270 | 0.1369 | 0.1259 | 0.0959 | 0.0518 |
| 0.800 | 0.0413 | 0.0762 | 0.0993 | 0.1073 | 0.0989 | 0.0755 | 0.0408 |
| 0.900 | 0.0323 | 0.0596 | 0.0778 | 0.0841 | 0.0776 | 0.0593 | 0.0321 |
| 1.000 | 0.0253 | 0.0466 | 0.0609 | 0.0659 | 0.0608 | 0.0465 | 0.0252 |

Absolute errors are approximately $2.2 \times 10^{-2}$, $3.7 \times 10^{-2}$, $1.3 \times 10^{-2}$.

**5.**

| Time | $x = 0.25$ | $x = 0.50$ | $x = 0.75$ | $x = 1.00$ | $x = 1.25$ | $x = 1.50$ | $x = 1.75$ |
|------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 0.00 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 1.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 |
| 0.10 | 0.3972 | 0.6551 | 0.7043 | 0.5883 | 0.3723 | 0.1955 | 0.0653 |
| 0.20 | 0.2409 | 0.4171 | 0.4901 | 0.4620 | 0.3636 | 0.2385 | 0.1145 |
| 0.30 | 0.1631 | 0.2908 | 0.3592 | 0.3624 | 0.3105 | 0.2220 | 0.1145 |
| 0.40 | 0.1181 | 0.2141 | 0.2718 | 0.2840 | 0.2530 | 0.1876 | 0.0993 |
| 0.50 | 0.0888 | 0.1625 | 0.2092 | 0.2226 | 0.2020 | 0.1523 | 0.0816 |
| 0.60 | 0.0681 | 0.1253 | 0.1625 | 0.1744 | 0.1597 | 0.1214 | 0.0654 |
| 0.70 | 0.0528 | 0.0974 | 0.1268 | 0.1366 | 0.1257 | 0.0959 | 0.0518 |
| 0.80 | 0.0412 | 0.0760 | 0.0991 | 0.1071 | 0.0987 | 0.0754 | 0.0408 |
| 0.90 | 0.0322 | 0.0594 | 0.0776 | 0.0839 | 0.0774 | 0.0592 | 0.0320 |
| 1.00 | 0.0252 | 0.0465 | 0.0608 | 0.0657 | 0.0607 | 0.0464 | 0.0251 |

Absolute errors are approximately $1.8 \times 10^{-2}$, $3.7 \times 10^{-2}$, $1.3 \times 10^{-2}$.

**7. (a)**

| Time | x = 2.00 | x = 4.00 | x = 6.00 | x = 8.00 | x = 10.00 | x = 12.00 | x = 14.00 | x = 16.00 | x = 18.00 |
|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 |
| 2.00 | 27.6450 | 29.9037 | 29.9970 | 29.9999 | 30.0000 | 29.9999 | 29.9970 | 29.9037 | 27.6450 |
| 4.00 | 25.6452 | 29.6517 | 29.9805 | 29.9991 | 29.9999 | 29.9991 | 29.9805 | 29.6517 | 25.6452 |
| 6.00 | 23.9347 | 29.2922 | 29.9421 | 29.9963 | 29.9996 | 29.9963 | 29.9421 | 29.2922 | 23.9347 |
| 8.00 | 22.4612 | 28.8606 | 29.8782 | 29.9898 | 29.9986 | 29.9898 | 29.8782 | 28.8606 | 22.4612 |
| 10.00 | 21.1829 | 28.3831 | 29.7878 | 29.9782 | 29.9964 | 29.9782 | 29.7878 | 28.3831 | 21.1829 |

**(b)**

| Time | x = 5.00 | x = 10.00 | x = 15.00 | x = 20.00 | x = 25.00 | x = 30.00 | x = 35.00 | x = 40.00 | x = 45.00 |
|------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 |
| 2.00 | 29.5964 | 29.9973 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9973 | 29.5964 |
| 4.00 | 29.2036 | 29.9893 | 29.9999 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9999 | 29.9893 | 29.2036 |
| 6.00 | 28.8212 | 29.9762 | 29.9997 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9997 | 29.9762 | 28.8213 |
| 8.00 | 28.4490 | 29.9585 | 29.9992 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9993 | 29.9585 | 28.4490 |
| 10.00 | 28.0864 | 29.9363 | 29.9986 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9986 | 29.9363 | 28.0864 |

**(c)**

| Time | x = 2.00 | x = 4.00 | x = 6.00 | x = 8.00 | x = 10.00 | x = 12.00 | x = 14.00 | x = 16.00 | x = 18.00 |
|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 18.0000 | 32.0000 | 42.0000 | 48.0000 | 50.0000 | 48.0000 | 42.0000 | 32.0000 | 18.0000 |
| 2.00 | 15.3312 | 28.5348 | 38.3465 | 44.3067 | 46.3001 | 44.3067 | 38.3465 | 28.5348 | 15.3312 |
| 4.00 | 13.6371 | 25.6867 | 34.9416 | 40.6988 | 42.6453 | 40.6988 | 34.9416 | 25.6867 | 13.6371 |
| 6.00 | 12.3012 | 23.2863 | 31.8624 | 37.2794 | 39.1273 | 37.2794 | 31.8624 | 23.2863 | 12.3012 |
| 8.00 | 11.1659 | 21.1877 | 29.0757 | 34.0984 | 35.8202 | 34.0984 | 29.0757 | 21.1877 | 11.1659 |
| 10.00 | 10.1665 | 19.3143 | 26.5439 | 31.1662 | 32.7549 | 31.1662 | 26.5439 | 19.3143 | 10.1665 |

**(d)**

| Time | x = 10.00 | x = 20.00 | x = 30.00 | x = 40.00 | x = 50.00 | x = 60.00 | x = 70.00 | x = 80.00 | x = 90.00 |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 8.0000 | 16.0000 | 24.0000 | 32.0000 | 40.0000 | 32.0000 | 24.0000 | 16.0000 | 8.0000 |
| 2.00 | 8.0000 | 16.0000 | 23.9999 | 31.9918 | 39.4932 | 31.9918 | 23.9999 | 16.0000 | 8.0000 |
| 4.00 | 8.0000 | 16.0000 | 23.9993 | 31.9686 | 39.0175 | 31.9686 | 23.9993 | 16.0000 | 8.0000 |
| 6.00 | 8.0000 | 15.9999 | 23.9978 | 31.9323 | 38.5701 | 31.9323 | 23.9978 | 15.9999 | 8.0000 |
| 8.00 | 8.0000 | 15.9998 | 23.9950 | 31.8844 | 38.1483 | 31.8844 | 23.9950 | 15.9998 | 8.0000 |
| 10.00 | 8.0000 | 15.9996 | 23.9908 | 31.8265 | 37.7498 | 31.8265 | 23.9908 | 15.9996 | 8.0000 |

**9. (a)**

| Time | x = 2.00 | x = 4.00 | x = 6.00 | x = 8.00 | x = 10.00 | x = 12.00 | x = 14.00 | x = 16.00 | x = 18.00 |
|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 |
| 2.00 | 27.6450 | 29.9037 | 29.9970 | 29.9999 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9990 | 29.9679 | 29.2150 |
| 4.00 | 25.6452 | 29.6517 | 29.9805 | 29.9991 | 30.0000 | 29.9997 | 29.9935 | 29.8839 | 28.5484 |
| 6.00 | 23.9347 | 29.2922 | 29.9421 | 29.9963 | 29.9997 | 29.9988 | 29.9807 | 29.7641 | 27.9782 |
| 8.00 | 22.4612 | 28.8606 | 29.8782 | 29.9899 | 29.9991 | 29.9966 | 29.9594 | 29.6202 | 27.4870 |
| 10.00 | 21.1829 | 28.3831 | 29.7878 | 29.9783 | 29.9976 | 29.9927 | 29.9293 | 29.4610 | 27.0610 |

**(b)**

| Time | x = 5.00 | x = 10.00 | x = 15.00 | x = 20.00 | x = 25.00 | x = 30.00 | x = 35.00 | x = 40.00 | x = 45.00 |
|------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 |
| 2.00 | 29.5964 | 29.9973 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9991 | 29.8655 |
| 4.00 | 29.2036 | 29.9893 | 29.9999 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9964 | 29.7345 |
| 6.00 | 28.8212 | 29.9762 | 29.9997 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9999 | 29.9921 | 29.6071 |
| 8.00 | 28.4490 | 29.9585 | 29.9992 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9997 | 29.9862 | 29.4830 |
| 10.00 | 28.0864 | 29.9363 | 29.9986 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 30.0000 | 29.9995 | 29.9788 | 29.3621 |

**(c)**

| Time | x = 2.00 | x = 4.00 | x = 6.00 | x = 8.00 | x = 10.00 | x = 12.00 | x = 14.00 | x = 16.00 | x = 18.00 |
|------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 18.0000 | 32.0000 | 42.0000 | 48.0000 | 50.0000 | 48.0000 | 42.0000 | 32.0000 | 18.0000 |
| 2.00 | 15.3312 | 28.5350 | 38.3477 | 44.3130 | 46.3327 | 44.4671 | 39.0872 | 31.5755 | 24.6930 |
| 4.00 | 13.6381 | 25.6913 | 34.9606 | 40.7728 | 42.9127 | 41.5716 | 37.4340 | 31.7086 | 25.6986 |
| 6.00 | 12.3088 | 23.3146 | 31.9546 | 37.5566 | 39.8880 | 39.1565 | 35.9745 | 31.2134 | 25.7128 |
| 8.00 | 11.1946 | 21.2785 | 29.3217 | 34.7092 | 37.2109 | 36.9834 | 34.5032 | 30.4279 | 25.4167 |
| 10.00 | 10.2377 | 19.5150 | 27.0178 | 32.1929 | 34.8117 | 34.9710 | 33.0338 | 29.5224 | 25.0019 |

**(d)**

| Time | x = 10.00 | x = 20.00 | x = 30.00 | x = 40.00 | x = 50.00 | x = 60.00 | x = 70.00 | x = 80.00 | x = 90.00 |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 8.0000 | 16.0000 | 24.0000 | 32.0000 | 40.0000 | 32.0000 | 24.0000 | 16.0000 | 8.0000 |
| 2.00 | 8.0000 | 16.0000 | 23.9999 | 31.9918 | 39.4932 | 31.9918 | 24.0000 | 16.0102 | 8.6333 |
| 4.00 | 8.0000 | 16.0000 | 23.9993 | 31.9686 | 39.0175 | 31.9687 | 24.0002 | 16.0391 | 9.2272 |
| 6.00 | 8.0000 | 15.9999 | 23.9978 | 31.9323 | 38.5701 | 31.9324 | 24.0005 | 16.0845 | 9.7846 |
| 8.00 | 8.0000 | 15.9998 | 23.9950 | 31.8844 | 38.1483 | 31.8846 | 24.0012 | 16.1441 | 10.3084 |
| 10.00 | 8.0000 | 15.9996 | 23.9908 | 31.8265 | 37.7499 | 31.8269 | 24.0023 | 16.2160 | 10.8012 |

**11. (a)** $\psi(x) = \frac{1}{2}x + 20$

**(b)**

| Time | x = 4.00 | x = 8.00 | x = 12.00 | x = 16.00 |
|------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 50.0000 | 50.0000 | 50.0000 | 50.0000 |
| 10.00 | 32.7433 | 44.2679 | 45.4228 | 38.2971 |
| 30.00 | 26.9487 | 32.1409 | 34.0874 | 32.9644 |
| 50.00 | 24.1178 | 27.4348 | 29.4296 | 30.1207 |
| 70.00 | 22.8995 | 25.4560 | 27.4554 | 28.8998 |
| 90.00 | 22.3817 | 24.6176 | 26.6175 | 28.3817 |
| 110.00 | 22.1619 | 24.2620 | 26.2620 | 28.1619 |
| 130.00 | 22.0687 | 24.1112 | 26.1112 | 28.0687 |
| 150.00 | 22.0291 | 24.0472 | 26.0472 | 28.0291 |
| 170.00 | 22.0124 | 24.0200 | 26.0200 | 28.0124 |
| 190.00 | 22.0052 | 24.0085 | 26.0085 | 28.0052 |
| 210.00 | 22.0022 | 24.0036 | 26.0036 | 28.0022 |
| 230.00 | 22.0009 | 24.0015 | 26.0015 | 28.0009 |
| 250.00 | 22.0004 | 24.0007 | 26.0007 | 28.0004 |
| 270.00 | 22.0002 | 24.0003 | 26.0003 | 28.0002 |
| 290.00 | 22.0001 | 24.0001 | 26.0001 | 28.0001 |
| 310.00 | 22.0000 | 24.0001 | 26.0001 | 28.0000 |
| 330.00 | 22.0000 | 24.0000 | 26.0000 | 28.0000 |
| 350.00 | 22.0000 | 24.0000 | 26.0000 | 28.0000 |

## EXERCISES 15.3 (PAGE 525)

*The tables in this section give a selection of the total number of approximations.*

**1. (a)**

| Time | $x = 0.25$ | $x = 0.50$ | $x = 0.75$ |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 0.1875 | 0.2500 | 0.1875 |
| 0.20 | 0.1491 | 0.2100 | 0.1491 |
| 0.40 | 0.0556 | 0.0938 | 0.0556 |
| 0.60 | −0.0501 | −0.0682 | −0.0501 |
| 0.80 | −0.1361 | −0.2072 | −0.1361 |
| 1.00 | −0.1802 | −0.2591 | −0.1802 |

**(b)**

| Time | $x = 0.4$ | $x = 0.8$ | $x = 1.2$ | $x = 1.6$ |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 0.0032 | 0.5273 | 0.5273 | 0.0032 |
| 0.20 | 0.0652 | 0.4638 | 0.4638 | 0.0652 |
| 0.40 | 0.2065 | 0.3035 | 0.3035 | 0.2065 |
| 0.60 | 0.3208 | 0.1190 | 0.1190 | 0.3208 |
| 0.80 | 0.3094 | −0.0180 | −0.0180 | 0.3094 |
| 1.00 | 0.1450 | −0.0768 | −0.0768 | 0.1450 |

**(c)**

| Time | $x = 0.1$ | $x = 0.2$ | $x = 0.3$ | $x = 0.4$ | $x = 0.5$ | $x = 0.6$ | $x = 0.7$ | $x = 0.8$ | $x = 0.9$ |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.5000 | 0.5000 | 0.5000 | 0.5000 |
| 0.12 | 0.0000 | 0.0000 | 0.0082 | 0.1126 | 0.3411 | 0.1589 | 0.3792 | 0.3710 | 0.0462 |
| 0.24 | 0.0071 | 0.0657 | 0.2447 | 0.3159 | 0.1735 | 0.2463 | −0.1266 | −0.3056 | −0.0625 |
| 0.36 | 0.1623 | 0.3197 | 0.2458 | 0.1657 | 0.0877 | −0.2853 | −0.2843 | −0.2104 | −0.2887 |
| 0.48 | 0.1965 | 0.1410 | 0.1149 | −0.1216 | −0.3593 | −0.2381 | −0.1977 | −0.1715 | 0.0800 |
| 0.60 | −0.2194 | −0.2069 | −0.3875 | −0.3411 | −0.1901 | −0.1662 | −0.0666 | 0.1140 | −0.0446 |
| 0.72 | −0.3003 | −0.6865 | −0.5097 | −0.3230 | −0.1585 | 0.0156 | 0.0893 | −0.0874 | 0.0384 |
| 0.84 | −0.2647 | −0.1633 | −0.3546 | −0.3214 | −0.1763 | −0.0954 | −0.1249 | 0.0665 | −0.0386 |
| 0.96 | 0.3012 | 0.1081 | 0.1380 | −0.0487 | −0.2974 | −0.3407 | −0.1250 | −0.1548 | 0.0092 |

**3. (a)**

| Time | $x = 0.2$ | $x = 0.4$ | $x = 0.6$ | $x = 0.8$ |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 0.5878 | 0.9511 | 0.9511 | 0.5878 |
| 0.10 | 0.5599 | 0.9059 | 0.9059 | 0.5599 |
| 0.20 | 0.4788 | 0.7748 | 0.7748 | 0.4788 |
| 0.30 | 0.3524 | 0.5701 | 0.5701 | 0.3524 |
| 0.40 | 0.1924 | 0.3113 | 0.3113 | 0.1924 |
| 0.50 | 0.0142 | 0.0230 | 0.0230 | 0.0142 |

**(b)**

| Time | $x = 0.2$ | $x = 0.4$ | $x = 0.6$ | $x = 0.8$ |
|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0.00 | 0.5878 | 0.9511 | 0.9511 | 0.5878 |
| 0.05 | 0.5808 | 0.9397 | 0.9397 | 0.5808 |
| 0.10 | 0.5599 | 0.9060 | 0.9060 | 0.5599 |
| 0.15 | 0.5257 | 0.8507 | 0.8507 | 0.5257 |
| 0.20 | 0.4790 | 0.7750 | 0.7750 | 0.4790 |
| 0.25 | 0.4209 | 0.6810 | 0.6810 | 0.4209 |
| 0.30 | 0.3527 | 0.5706 | 0.5706 | 0.3527 |
| 0.35 | 0.2761 | 0.4467 | 0.4467 | 0.2761 |
| 0.40 | 0.1929 | 0.3122 | 0.3122 | 0.1929 |
| 0.45 | 0.1052 | 0.1701 | 0.1701 | 0.1052 |
| 0.50 | 0.0149 | 0.0241 | 0.0241 | 0.0149 |

**5.**

| Time | $x = 10$ | $x = 20$ | $x = 30$ | $x = 40$ | $x = 50$ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0.00000 | 0.1000 | 0.2000 | 0.3000 | 0.2000 | 0.1000 |
| 0.60134 | 0.0984 | 0.1688 | 0.1406 | 0.1688 | 0.0984 |
| 1.20268 | 0.0226 | −0.0121 | 0.0085 | −0.0121 | 0.0226 |
| 1.80401 | −0.1271 | −0.1347 | −0.1566 | −0.1347 | −0.1271 |
| 2.40535 | −0.0920 | −0.2292 | −0.2571 | −0.2292 | −0.0920 |
| 3.00669 | −0.0932 | −0.1445 | −0.2018 | −0.1445 | −0.0932 |
| 3.60803 | −0.0284 | −0.0205 | 0.0336 | −0.0205 | −0.0284 |
| 4.20936 | 0.1064 | 0.1555 | 0.1265 | 0.1555 | 0.1064 |
| 4.81070 | 0.1273 | 0.2060 | 0.2612 | 0.2060 | 0.1273 |
| 5.41204 | 0.0625 | 0.1689 | 0.2038 | 0.1689 | 0.0625 |
| 6.01338 | 0.0436 | 0.0086 | −0.0080 | 0.0086 | 0.0436 |
| 6.61472 | −0.0931 | −0.1364 | −0.1578 | −0.1364 | −0.0931 |
| 7.21605 | −0.1436 | −0.2173 | −0.2240 | −0.2173 | −0.1436 |
| 7.81739 | −0.0625 | −0.1644 | −0.2247 | −0.1644 | −0.0625 |
| 8.41873 | −0.0287 | −0.0192 | −0.0085 | −0.0192 | −0.0287 |
| 9.02007 | 0.0654 | 0.1332 | 0.1755 | 0.1332 | 0.0654 |
| 9.62140 | 0.1540 | 0.2189 | 0.2089 | 0.2189 | 0.1540 |

*Note:* Time is expressed in milliseconds.

## CHAPTER 15 IN REVIEW (PAGE 526)

**1.** $u_{11} = 0.8929$, $u_{21} = 3.5714$, $u_{31} = 13.3929$

**3.(a)**

| $x = 0.20$ | $x = 0.40$ | $x = 0.60$ | $x = 0.80$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0.2000 | 0.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.8000 |
| 0.2000 | 0.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.5500 |
| 0.2000 | 0.4000 | 0.5375 | 0.4250 |
| 0.2000 | 0.3844 | 0.4750 | 0.3469 |
| 0.1961 | 0.3609 | 0.4203 | 0.2922 |
| 0.1883 | 0.3346 | 0.3734 | 0.2512 |

**(b)**

| $x = 0.20$ | $x = 0.40$ | $x = 0.60$ | $x = 0.80$ |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0.2000 | 0.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.8000 |
| 0.2000 | 0.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.8000 |
| 0.2000 | 0.4000 | 0.6000 | 0.5500 |
| 0.2000 | 0.4000 | 0.5375 | 0.4250 |
| 0.2000 | 0.3844 | 0.4750 | 0.3469 |
| 0.1961 | 0.3609 | 0.4203 | 0.2922 |

**(c)** Yes; the table in part (b) is the table in part (a) shifted downward.

## EXERCISES FOR APPENDIX I (PAGE APP-2)

**1. (a)** 24    **(b)** 720    **(c)** $\dfrac{4\sqrt{\pi}}{3}$    **(d)** $-\dfrac{8\sqrt{\pi}}{15}$

**3.** 0.297

## EXERCISES FOR APPENDIX II (PAGE APP-18)

**1. (a)** $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 11 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$    **(b)** $\begin{pmatrix} -6 & 1 \\ 14 & -19 \end{pmatrix}$

**(c)** $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 28 \\ 12 & -12 \end{pmatrix}$

**3. (a)** $\begin{pmatrix} -11 & 6 \\ 17 & -22 \end{pmatrix}$    **(b)** $\begin{pmatrix} -32 & 27 \\ -4 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

**(c)** $\begin{pmatrix} 19 & -18 \\ -30 & 31 \end{pmatrix}$    **(d)** $\begin{pmatrix} 19 & 6 \\ 3 & 22 \end{pmatrix}$

**5. (a)** $\begin{pmatrix} 9 & 24 \\ 3 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$    **(b)** $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 8 \\ -6 & -16 \end{pmatrix}$

**(c)** $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$    **(d)** $\begin{pmatrix} -4 & -5 \\ 8 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$

**7. (a)** 180    **(b)** $\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 8 & 10 \\ 8 & 16 & 20 \\ 10 & 20 & 25 \end{pmatrix}$

**(c)** $\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 12 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$

**9. (a)** $\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 38 \\ 10 & 75 \end{pmatrix}$  **(b)** $\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 38 \\ 10 & 75 \end{pmatrix}$

**11.** $\begin{pmatrix} -14 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**13.** $\begin{pmatrix} -38 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$

**15.** singular

**17.** nonsingular; $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \dfrac{1}{4}\begin{pmatrix} -5 & -8 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

**19.** nonsingular; $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \dfrac{1}{2}\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & -2 \\ -4 & -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$

**21.** nonsingular; $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = -\dfrac{1}{9}\begin{pmatrix} -2 & -2 & -1 \\ -13 & 5 & 7 \\ 8 & -1 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$

**23.** $\mathbf{A}^{-1}(t) = \dfrac{1}{2e^{3t}}\begin{pmatrix} 3e^{4t} & -e^{4t} \\ -4e^{-t} & 2e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$

**25.** $\dfrac{d\mathbf{X}}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} -5e^{-t} \\ -2e^{-t} \\ 7e^{-t} \end{pmatrix}$

**27.** $\dfrac{d\mathbf{X}}{dt} = 4\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}e^{2t} - 12\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}e^{-3t}$

**29. (a)** $\begin{pmatrix} 4e^{4t} & -\pi\sin\pi t \\ 2 & 6t \end{pmatrix}$  **(b)** $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4}e^8 - \frac{1}{4} & 0 \\ 4 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$

  **(c)** $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4}e^{4t} - \frac{1}{4} & (1/\pi)\sin\pi t \\ t^2 & t^3 - t \end{pmatrix}$

**31.** $x = 3, y = 1, z = -5$

**33.** $x = 2 + 4t, y = -5 - t, z = t$

**35.** $x = -\frac{1}{2}, y = \frac{3}{2}, z = \frac{7}{2}$

**37.** $x_1 = 1, x_2 = 0, x_3 = 2, x_4 = 0$

**41.** $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{2}{3} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

**43.** $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 & -3 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**45.** $\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{2}{3} & -\frac{1}{6} & \frac{7}{6} \\ 1 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{4}{3} \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$

**47.** $\lambda_1 = 6, \lambda_2 = 1, \mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**49.** $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = -4, \mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$

**51.** $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = 4, \lambda_3 = -4,$

  $\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 45 \\ 25 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{K}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 9 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**53.** $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -2,$

  $\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**55.** $\lambda_1 = 3i, \lambda_2 = -3i,$

  $\mathbf{K}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 3i \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{K}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 3i \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$

# INDEX

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| $f(t)$ | $\mathscr{L}\{f(t)\} = F(s)$ |
|---|---|
| **39.** $\dfrac{e^{bt} - e^{at}}{t}$ | $\ln \dfrac{s-a}{s-b}$ |
| **40.** $\dfrac{2(1 - \cos kt)}{t}$ | $\ln \dfrac{s^2 + k^2}{s^2}$ |
| **41.** $\dfrac{2(1 - \cosh kt)}{t}$ | $\ln \dfrac{s^2 - k^2}{s^2}$ |
| **42.** $\dfrac{\sin at}{t}$ | $\arctan\left(\dfrac{a}{s}\right)$ |
| **43.** $\dfrac{\sin at \cos bt}{t}$ | $\dfrac{1}{2}\arctan\dfrac{a+b}{s} + \dfrac{1}{2}\arctan\dfrac{a-b}{s}$ |
| **44.** $\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t}}e^{-a^2/4t}$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{\sqrt{s}}$ |
| **45.** $\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{\pi t^3}}e^{-a^2/4t}$ | $e^{-a\sqrt{s}}$ |
| **46.** $\operatorname{erfc}\left(\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s}$ |
| **47.** $2\sqrt{\dfrac{t}{\pi}}e^{-a^2/4t} - a\operatorname{erfc}\left(\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s\sqrt{s}}$ |
| **48.** $e^{ab}e^{b^2 t}\operatorname{erfc}\left(b\sqrt{t} + \dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{\sqrt{s}(\sqrt{s}+b)}$ |
| **49.** $-e^{ab}e^{b^2 t}\operatorname{erfc}\left(b\sqrt{t} + \dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ $\quad + \operatorname{erfc}\left(\dfrac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$ | $\dfrac{be^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s(\sqrt{s}+b)}$ |
| **50.** $e^{at}f(t)$ | $F(s-a)$ |
| **51.** $\mathscr{U}(t-a)$ | $\dfrac{e^{-as}}{s}$ |
| **52.** $f(t-a)\mathscr{U}(t-a)$ | $e^{-as}F(s)$ |
| **53.** $g(t)\mathscr{U}(t-a)$ | $e^{-as}\mathscr{L}\{g(t+a)\}$ |
| **54.** $f^{(n)}(t)$ | $s^n F(s) - s^{(n-1)}f(0) - \cdots - f^{(n-1)}(0)$ |
| **55.** $t^n f(t)$ | $(-1)^n \dfrac{d^n}{ds^n}F(s)$ |
| **56.** $\displaystyle\int_0^t f(\tau)g(t-\tau)\,d\tau$ | $F(s)G(s)$ |
| **57.** $\delta(t)$ | $1$ |
| **58.** $\delta(t - t_0)$ | $e^{-st_0}$ |

# DE TOOLS CORRELATION GUIDE

The DE Tools are a suite of simulations that provide an interactive, visual exploration of the concepts presented in this text. Visit academic.cengage.com/math/zill to find out more or contact your local sales representative to ask about options for bundling the DE Tools with this textbook.

## TEXT TOOLS

**Chapter 1**
**Interval of Definition**
Illustrates the concept of the interval of definition of a solution of a differential equation.

**Chapter 2**
**Direction Field**
Supports visual exploration of the relationship between direction fields and solutions of first-order ODEs of the form $dy/dx = f(x, y)$.

**Phase Line**
Lets you view the phase line, the solution graphs, and the graph of the differential equation for several first-order differential equations.

**Euler Method**
Supports visual and numerical comparison of the Euler Method and the Runge-Kutta Method of approximating solutions to the first order ODE, $dy/dx = f(x, y)$.

**Chapter 3**
**Growth and Decay**
Visual exploration of exponential growth and decay for the first order ODE, $dx/dt = rx$, or its solution $x(t)$.

**Mixture**
By allowing you to vary input-output rates and input concentration, this tool lets you see how the amount of salt changes when two brine solutions are mixed together in a large tank.

***LR* Circuit**
Qualitative exploration of the behavior of a model of a series circuit containing an inductor and a resistor model as parameters are varied.

**Predator-Prey**
Illustrates solution curves for the Lotka-Volterra predator-prey model.

**Chapter 5**
**Spring/Mass**
Supports graphical exploration of the effects of parameter changes on the motion of the spring/mass system: $mx'' + \beta x' + kx = F_0 \sin(\gamma t)$.

**Chapter 7**
**Linear Double Pendulum**
Visual exploration of a double pendulum.

**Chapter 8**
**Linear Phase Portrait**
Lets you generate phase portraits and solution curves for systems $\mathbf{X'} = \mathbf{AX}$ of two first-order DEs with constant coefficients. You see how the phase portrait depends on the eigenvalues of the coefficient matrix $\mathbf{A}$.

**Chapter 9**
**Numerical Methods**
Visual and numerical comparison of the Euler Method, the Improved Euler Method, and the Runge-Kutta Method of approximating solutions to systems of two differential equations.

## PROJECT TOOLS

**Chapter 1**
**Project: Deception Pass**
Supports visual exploration of the effect of the tide and channel width on the velocity of water moving through Deception Pass.

**Chapter 2**
**Project: Logistic Harvest**
Exploration of logistic population growth with either constant or proportional harvesting.

**Chapter 3**
**Project: Swimming**
Determine the relationship between the speed of a river and the speed of a person swimming across the river.

**Chapter 4**
**Project: Bungee Jumping**
Explore the forces acting on a bungee jumper as you change the weight of the jumper and the elasticity of the bungee cord.

**Chapter 5**
**Project: Tacoma Bridge**
Exploration of the rising and falling of the roadbed of a bridge.

**Chapter 6**
**Project: Tamarisk**
Exploration of the series solution for the growth of tamarisk in a desert canyon.

**Chapter 7**
**Project: Newton's Law of Cooling**
Use the mathematical model for Newton's law of cooling to determine the rate at which a body warms or cools to find the time the "Mayfair Diner Murder" took place and the time the body was moved from the kitchen to the refrigerator.

**Chapter 8**
**Project: Earthquake**
Visual exploration of the displacements of the floors of a three-story building in an earthquake.

**Chapter 9**
**Project: Hammer**
Exploration of a pendulum model using different numerical methods, time step sizes, and initial conditions.

The projects referenced above can be found at academic.cengage.com/math/zill.