



ANSWER BOOK

Second order equations

Differential equations · Year FM

7 questions · 29 marks

NAVY EDITION

SECTION A · Warm-up

- A1** $am^2 + bm + c = 0$. Substituting the trial solution $y = e^{mx}$ puts a factor of e^{mx} in every term; cancelling it leaves the quadratic. B1 for the auxiliary equation, B1 for where it comes from. [2]
- A2** Auxiliary: $m^2 - 7m + 12 = (m - 3)(m - 4) = 0$, roots 3 and 4. General solution $y = Ae^{3x} + Be^{4x}$: two distinct real roots, two independent exponentials. M1 for the auxiliary equation, A1 for the roots, A1 for the general solution. [3]

SECTION B · Standard

- B1** $m^2 + 9 = 0$ gives $m = \pm 3i$, so $y = A \cos 3x + B \sin 3x$. Pure oscillation at angular frequency 3, so every solution repeats with period $2\pi/3$. M1 for $m = \pm 3i$, A1 for the general solution, B1 for the period. [3]
- B2** $m^2 - 6m + 9 = (m - 3)^2 = 0$, a repeated root. The solution needs its extra factor of x , so $y = (A + Bx)e^{3x}$. M1 for the repeated root, A1 for the extra factor of x , A1 for the general solution. Without the Bx the two constants would collapse into one and two initial conditions could not be met. [3]
- B3** $m^2 - 2m + 5 = 0$ gives $m = 1 \pm 2i$, so $y = e^x(A \cos 2x + B \sin 2x)$. $y(0) = 2$ gives $A = 2$. Differentiating and setting $x = 0$ gives $y'(0) = A + 2B = 0$, so $B = -1$. The solution is $y = e^x(2 \cos 2x - \sin 2x)$, an oscillation at frequency 2 growing inside e^x . M1 for the auxiliary equation, A1 for $m = 1 \pm 2i$, A1 for the general solution, B1 for $A = 2$, M1 for differentiating and using $y'(0) = 0$, A1 for $B = -1$. [6]
- B4** $m^2 - 1 = 0$ gives $m = \pm 1$, so $y = Ae^x + Be^{-x}$. The conditions give $A + B = 1$ and $A - B = 0$, so $A = B = 1/2$ and $y = (e^x + e^{-x})/2 = \cosh x$. M1 for the auxiliary equation, A1 for the general solution, M1 for both conditions, A1 for A and B , B1 for naming $\cosh x$. The hyperbolic cosine is what this differential equation looks like when met without its name. [5]

SECTION C · Stretch

C1 The auxiliary equation $m^2 - 3m + 2 = 0$ has roots 1 and 2, so the complementary function is $Ae^x + Be^{2x}$. Trying $y = ke^{2x}$ for the particular integral fails, because that is already part of the complementary function and the left side collapses to zero. Multiply by x and try $y = kxe^{2x}$ instead. Then $y' = ke^{2x}(1 + 2x)$ and $y'' = ke^{2x}(4 + 4x)$, so the left side is $ke^{2x}[(4 + 4x) - 3(1 + 2x) + 2x] = ke^{2x}$. Matching to $4e^{2x}$ gives $k = 4$, so the general solution is $y = Ae^x + Be^{2x} + 4xe^{2x}$. M1 for the auxiliary equation, A1 for the complementary function, B1 for spotting the duplication, M1 for trying kxe^{2x} , A1 for the substitution, A1 for $k = 4$, A1 for the general solution. Always check the trial function against the complementary function before differentiating. When the right-hand side duplicates a term of the complementary function, an extra factor of x is needed, and a repeated auxiliary root would require x^2 . [7]
