The University of Sydney

## Solutions to Tutorial for Week 12

MATH1903: Integral Calculus and Modeling (Advanced)
Semester 2, 2017
Web Page: sydney.edu.au/science/maths/u/UG/JM/MATH1903/
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## Material covered

$\square$ Homogeneous linear second order differential equations with constant coefficients.Inhomogeneous linear second order differential equations with constant coefficients.

## Outcomes

After completing this tutorial you shouldbe confident in solving homogeneous second order homogeneous and inhomogeneous differential equations in various contexts.

## Summary of essential material

Homogeneous linear second order equations with constant coefficients. Consider a differential equation of the form

$$
a y^{\prime \prime}+b y^{\prime}+c^{\prime}=0
$$

with $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ constants and $a \neq 0$. To find the general write down the auxiliary equation

$$
a \lambda^{2}+b \lambda+c=0
$$

and find its roots (real or complex). Depending on the nature of the roots apply the relevant case:
Case 1: The auxiliary equation has two distinct real roots $\lambda_{1} \neq \lambda_{2}$. Then the general solution is

$$
y(t)=A e^{\lambda_{1} t}+B e^{\lambda_{2} t}
$$

Case 2: The auxiliary equation has one (real) double root $\lambda$. Then the general solution is

$$
y(t)=(A+B t) e^{\lambda t}
$$

Case 3: The auxiliary equation has a pair of complex conjugate roots $\lambda=\mu \pm i \omega$. Then the real form of the general solution is

$$
y(t)=e^{\mu t}(A \cos (\omega t)+B \sin (\omega t))
$$

Inhomogeneous linear second order equations with constant coefficients. Consider a differential equations of the form

$$
a y^{\prime \prime}+b y^{\prime}+c^{\prime}=f(t)
$$

with $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ constants and $a \neq 0$. The function $f$ is called the inhomogeneity. The general solution is of the form

$$
y(t)=y_{h}(t)+y_{p}(t),
$$

where $y_{h}$ is the general solution of the homogeneous problem $a y^{\prime \prime}+b y^{\prime}+c^{\prime}=0$ and $y_{p}$ an arbitrary solution of the inhomogeneous problem we call a particular solution. To find a particular solution we often find a solution that has a similar form to the inhomogeneity $f$. The idea is to determine the unknown parameters by subsitituion into the differential equations.

| Inhomogeneity $f(t)$ | Form of particular solution $y_{p}(t)$ | $(C, D, E, \ldots$ to be determined) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $A e^{\mu t}$ | $C e^{\mu t}$ |  |
| $A \cos (\omega t)$ or $B \cos (\omega t)$ | $C \cos (\omega t)+D \sin (\omega t)$ | (both terms unless there is symmetry) |
| $A t$ | $C+D t$ |  |
| $A t^{2}$ | $C t^{2}+D t+E$ | (all terms unless there is symmetry) |
| polynomial of degree $n$ | polynomial of degree $n$ | (all terms, unless there is symmetry) |
| $f(t)$ solves the homoge- | $C t f(t)$ |  |
| neous equation |  |  |

## Questions to do before the tutorial

1. Find the general solution of each of the following.
(a) $\frac{d^{2} y}{d x^{2}}+4 \frac{d y}{d x}-5 y=0$.

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}+4 \lambda-5=0$ has roots $\lambda=-5,1$, and so the general solution is $y=A e^{-5 x}+B e^{x}$.
(b) $\frac{d^{2} y}{d t^{2}}+9 y=0$.

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}+9=0$ has complex roots $\lambda= \pm 3 i$, and so the general solution is $y=C \cos 3 t+D \sin 3 t$.
2. Consider the second-order non-homogeneous differential equation $\frac{d^{2} y}{d x^{2}}-2 \frac{d y}{d x}+y=x^{2}$.
(a) Find the general solution of the above differential equation.

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}-2 \lambda+1=0$ has a double root $\lambda=1$, and so the general solution of the homogeneous equation (also called the complementary equation) is $y_{h}=A e^{x}+B x e^{x}$. For a particular solution, try $y_{p}=a x^{2}+b x+c$. Substituting this into the differential equation gives

$$
2 a-2(2 a x+b)+\left(a x^{2}+b x+c\right)=x^{2} .
$$

Comparing coefficients of like powers gives $a=1, b-4 a=0$ and $2 a-2 b+c=0$, and hence $a=1, b=4$ and $c=6$. So a particular solution is $y_{p}=x^{2}+4 x+6$, and the general solution is

$$
y=(A+B x) e^{x}+x^{2}+4 x+6 .
$$

(b) Find the particular solution of the above differential equation satisfying the initial conditions $y(0)=y^{\prime}(0)=4$.
Solution: The solution above gives $y(0)=A+6$ and $y^{\prime}(0)=A+B+4$. So $y(0)=4$ and $y^{\prime}(0)=4$ imply that $A=-2$ and $B=2$, and so the required particular solution is $y=2(x-1) e^{x}+x^{2}+4 x+6$.

## Questions to complete during the tutorial

3. Find the general solution of each of the following differential equations.
(a) $\frac{d^{2} x}{d t^{2}}-6 \frac{d x}{d t}+9 x=0$.

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}-6 \lambda+9=0$ has repeated roots $\lambda=3,3$, and so the general solution is $x=A e^{3 t}+B t e^{3 t}$.
(b) $\frac{d^{2} y}{d x^{2}}-6 \frac{d y}{d x}+25 y=0$.

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}-6 \lambda+25=0$ has complex roots $\lambda=3 \pm 4 i$, and so the general solution is $y=e^{3 x}(C \cos 4 x+D \sin 4 x)$.
4. Solve the following equations, giving the general solution and then the particular solution $y(x)$ satisfying the given boundary or initial conditions.
(a) $y^{\prime \prime}+4 y^{\prime}+5 y=0, \quad y(0)=2, y^{\prime}(0)=4$

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}+4 \lambda+5=0$ has roots $-2 \pm i$, and so the general solution is $y(x)=e^{-2 x}(C \cos x+D \sin x)$, which gives $y^{\prime}(x)=e^{-2 x}\{(D-2 C) \cos x-(C+$ $2 D) \sin x\}$. Hence $y(0)=C$ and $y^{\prime}(0)=D-2 C$, so the initial conditions imply $C=2$ and $D=8$, and the particular solution is $y(x)=2 e^{-2 x}(\cos x+4 \sin x)$.
(b) $y^{\prime \prime}-2 y^{\prime}+y=0, \quad y(2)=0, y^{\prime}(2)=1$

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}-2 \lambda+1=0$ has one double root $\lambda=1$, and so the general solution is $y(x)=(A+B x) e^{x}$, which gives $y^{\prime}(x)=(A+B+B x) e^{x}$. Hence $y(2)=(A+2 B) e^{2}$ and $y^{\prime}(2)=(A+3 B) e^{2}$, so the initial conditions imply $A=-2 e^{-2}$ and $B=e^{-2}$, and the particular solution is $y(x)=(x-2) e^{x-2}$.
5. We considered the case of a second order differential equation where the auxiliary equation has a double root, say $\lambda_{0}$. Here we provide an argument why $t e^{\lambda_{0} t}$ is expected to be a solution. The differential equation in that case is

$$
y^{\prime \prime}-2 \lambda_{0} y^{\prime}+\lambda_{0}^{2} y=0 .
$$

The idea is to look at a perturbed equation that has two distinct real roots, then obtain the solution $t e^{\lambda_{0} t}$ as a limit of solutions of the perturbed equation.
(a) Check that $e^{\lambda_{0} t}$ and $e^{\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right) t}$ are solutions to $y^{\prime \prime}-\left(2 \lambda_{0}+h\right) y^{\prime}+\lambda_{0}\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right) y=0$. Briefly explain why

$$
\frac{e^{\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right) t}-e^{\lambda_{0} t}}{h}
$$

is a solution of the same perturbed equation.
Solution: The auxiliary equation of the given differential equation is

$$
0=\lambda^{2}-\left(2 \lambda_{0}+h\right) \lambda+\lambda_{0}\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right)=\left(\lambda-\lambda_{0}\right)\left(\lambda-\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right)\right) .
$$

Hence the roots are $\lambda_{0}$ and $\lambda_{0}+h$ and thus $e^{\lambda_{0} t}$ and $e^{\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right) t}$ are solutions as required. According to the superposition principle, also

$$
\frac{1}{h} e^{\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right) t}-\frac{1}{h} e^{\lambda_{0} t}=\frac{e^{\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right) t}-e^{\lambda_{0} t}}{h}
$$

is a solution as well.
(b) Let $h \rightarrow 0$ in the equation as well as the solution given in part (a) and relate it to the original unperturbed equation. Check that the limit of solutions as $h \rightarrow 0$ is a solution to the limit equation.
Solution: Applying differentiation with respect to $\lambda$ from first principles we see that

$$
\lim _{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^{\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right) t}-e^{\lambda_{0} t}}{h}=\left.\frac{d}{d \lambda} e^{\lambda t}\right|_{\lambda=\lambda_{0}}=t e^{\lambda_{0} t}
$$

If we let $h \rightarrow 0$ in the equation $y^{\prime \prime}-\left(2 \lambda_{0}+h\right) y^{\prime}+\lambda_{0}\left(\lambda_{0}+h\right) y=0$ we obtain the original equation $y^{\prime \prime}-2 \lambda_{0} y^{\prime}+\lambda_{0} y=0$. It is not clear that the limit of solutions is a solution of the limit equation, but we might expect this anyway. Hence we need to check by differentiation and subsitution. We have, using the chain rule,

$$
y(t)=t e^{\lambda_{0} t}, \quad y^{\prime}(t)=e^{\lambda_{0} t}+\lambda_{0} t e^{\lambda_{0} t}, \quad y^{\prime \prime}(t)=2 \lambda_{0} e^{\lambda_{0} t}+\lambda_{0}^{2} t e^{\lambda_{0} t} .
$$

We substitute into the equation to obtain

$$
\begin{aligned}
y^{\prime \prime} & -2 \lambda_{0} y^{\prime}+\lambda_{0} y \\
& =\left(2 \lambda_{0} e^{\lambda_{0} t}+\lambda_{0}^{2} t e^{\lambda_{0} t}\right)-2 \lambda_{0}\left(e^{\lambda_{0} t}+\lambda_{0} t e^{\lambda_{0} t}\right)+\lambda_{0}^{2} t e^{\lambda_{0} t} \\
& =\left(2 \lambda_{0}-2 \lambda_{0}\right) e^{\lambda_{0} t}+\left(\lambda_{0}^{2}-2 \lambda_{0}^{2}+\lambda_{0}^{2}\right) t e^{\lambda_{0} t} \\
& =0
\end{aligned}
$$

as expected.
6. First find the general solution of each of the following non-homogeneous second-order differential equations, and then the particular solution for the given initial conditions.
(a) $y^{\prime \prime}+3 y^{\prime}+2 y=6 e^{t}, \quad y(0)=1, y^{\prime}(0)=0$.

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}+3 \lambda+2=0$ has roots $\lambda=-1,-2$, and so the general solution of the homogeneous equation is $y_{h}=C e^{-t}+D e^{-2 t}$. For a particular solution, try $y_{p}=\alpha e^{t}$. Substituting this into the differential equation gives $\alpha\left(e^{t}+3 e^{t}+\right.$ $\left.2 e^{t}\right)=6 e^{t}$, which implies $\alpha=1$. So a particular integral is $y_{p}=e^{t}$, and the general solution is

$$
y=C e^{-t}+D e^{-2 t}+e^{t}
$$

The solution above gives $y(0)=C+D+1$ and $\dot{y}(0)=-C-2 D+1$. So $y(0)=1$ and $\dot{y}(0)=0$ imply that $C=-1$ and $D=1$, and so the required particular solution is $y=-e^{-t}+e^{-2 t}+e^{t}$.
(b) $y^{\prime \prime}+3 y^{\prime}+2 y=6 e^{-t}, y(0)=2, y^{\prime}(0)=1$.

Solution: The auxiliary equation and hence the general solution of the homogeneous equation are the same as in the last part. In this case, however, the non-homogeneous term is itself a solution of the homogeneous equation and so we will not be able to produce a particular solution of the form $\alpha e^{-t}$. The standard procedure in this case is to include a factor $t$. So a suitable trial solution will take the form $y_{p}=\alpha t e^{-t}$. Substitution into the differential equation gives $\alpha(t-2) e^{-t}+3 \alpha(1-t) e^{-t}+2 \alpha t e^{-t}=6 e^{-t}$, which implies $\alpha=6$. So a particular solution is $y_{p}=6 t e^{-t}$, and the general solution is

$$
y=(6 t+C) e^{-t}+D e^{-2 t}
$$

The solution above gives $y(0)=C+D$ and $\dot{y}(0)=6-C-2 D$. So $y(0)=2$ and $\dot{y}(0)=1$ imply that $C=-1$ and $D=3$, and so the required particular solution is $y=(6 t-1) e^{-t}+3 e^{-2 t}$.
7. (a) For $\omega \neq 5$, find the general solution of the non-homogeneous differential equation,

$$
\frac{d^{2} y}{d t^{2}}+25 y=100 \sin \omega t
$$

and the particular solution subject to the initial conditions $y(0)=0$ and $\dot{y}(0)=0$.
Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}+25=0$ has roots $\lambda= \pm 5 i$, and so the general solution of the homogeneous equation is $y_{h}=C \cos 5 t+D \sin 5 t$. Since the non-homogeneous term is sinusoidal, we try a particular solution of the form, $y_{p}=\alpha \sin \omega t+\beta \cos \omega t$. This will work as long as $\omega \neq \pm 5$, which we assume for the present. Now, we can save ourselves some trouble by dropping the $\cos \omega t$ term in $y_{p}$. This is permitted because there is no first-order (or any odd-order) derivative term in the differential equation and because only a $\sin \omega t$ term appears on the right-hand side. (If you have any doubt about this, keep the cosine term in $y_{p}$ and find that its coefficient is zero after a calculation.) Substituting $y_{p}=\alpha \sin \omega t$ into the differential equation gives $-\alpha \omega^{2} \sin \omega t+25 \alpha \sin \omega t=$ $100 \sin \omega t$, from which it follows that $\alpha=100 /\left(25-\omega^{2}\right)$. Thus, a particular solution is $y_{p}=100\left(25-\omega^{2}\right)^{-1} \sin \omega t$, and the general solution is

$$
y=C \cos 5 t+D \sin 5 t+\frac{100}{25-\omega^{2}} \sin \omega t
$$

We want the particular solution such that $y(0)=\dot{y}(0)=0$. Differentiation of the general solution gives

$$
\dot{y}=-5 C \sin 5 t+5 D \cos 5 t+\frac{100 \omega}{25-\omega^{2}} \cos \omega t
$$

The initial conditions imply that $C=0$ and $D=-20 \omega /\left(25-\omega^{2}\right)$. Hence the required particular solution is

$$
y=\frac{100 \sin \omega t-20 \omega \sin 5 t}{25-\omega^{2}}
$$

(b) For $\omega=5$, find a particular solution of the differential equation. Then determine the particular solution with $y(0)=0$ and $\dot{y}(0)=0$.
Solution: In the case $\omega=5$, a solution of the form $y_{p}=\alpha \sin \omega t+\beta \cos \omega t$ is a solution of the homogeneous equation. The standard trick in this case is to include a factor $t$, in which case $y_{p}=\alpha t \sin 5 t+\beta t \cos 5 t$. As before, we can simplify the problem by a symmetry argument. Because there is no first-order derivative in the differential equation and because the forcing term is an odd function, we can get away with restricting $y_{p}$ to be an odd function. Thus $y_{p}=\beta t \cos 5 t$. Its derivatives are $\dot{y}_{p}=\beta(-5 t \sin 5 t+\cos 5 t)$ and $\ddot{y}_{p}=\beta(-25 t \cos 5 t-10 \sin 5 t)$. Substituting into the differential equation and cancelling terms shows that $\beta=-10$. Hence a particular solution is $y_{p}=-10 t \cos 5 t$, and the general solution is

$$
y=(C-10 t) \cos 5 t+D \sin 5 t
$$

Its derivative is $\dot{y}=(50 t-5 C) \sin 5 t+(5 D-10) \cos 5 t$. The initial conditions are satisfied by $C=0$ and $D=2$. Hence the required particular solution is

$$
y=2 \sin 5 t-10 t \cos 5 t
$$

(c) Find the corresponding particular solution of the differential equation for $\omega=5$ by fixing $t$ in the result of part (a) and taking the limit as $\omega$ approaches its special value.
Solution: If one puts $\omega=5$ in the result of part (a), the solution becomes a $0 / 0$-type indeterminate form. L'Hôpital's rule can be used to take the limit $\omega \rightarrow 5$. Here, we must hold $t$ constant while we take derivatives with respect to $\omega$. Thus, in the case of resonance,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& y=\lim _{\omega \rightarrow 5} \frac{100 \sin \omega t-20 \omega \sin 5 t}{25-\omega^{2}}=\lim _{\omega \rightarrow 5} \frac{(\partial / \partial \omega)(100 \sin \omega t-20 \omega \sin 5 t)}{(\partial / \partial \omega)\left(25-\omega^{2}\right)} \\
&=\left.\frac{100 t \cos \omega t-20 \sin 5 t}{-2 \omega}\right|_{\omega=5}=\frac{100 t \cos 5 t-20 \sin 5 t}{-10}=2 \sin 5 t-10 t \cos 5 t
\end{aligned}
$$

Without L'Hôpital's rule we can use differentiation from first principles. We can write

$$
\begin{aligned}
y & =\lim _{\omega \rightarrow 5} \frac{100 \sin \omega t-20 \omega \sin 5 t}{25-\omega^{2}} \\
& =\lim _{\omega \rightarrow 5} \frac{100 \sin \omega t-100 \sin 5 t-20(\omega-5) \sin 5 t}{25-\omega^{2}} \\
& =-\frac{100}{5+\omega} \frac{\sin \omega t-\sin 5 t}{\omega-5}+\frac{20}{5+\omega} \frac{(5-\omega) \sin 5 t}{\omega-5} \\
& \xrightarrow[\omega \rightarrow 5]{\longrightarrow}-\left.\frac{100}{5+5} \frac{d}{d \omega} \sin (\omega t)\right|_{\omega=5}+\frac{20}{5+5} \sin 5 t \\
& =-10 t \cos (5 t)+2 \sin 5 t
\end{aligned}
$$

which is the same as before. The factor $10 t$ shows that the amplitude grows without bound.

## Extra questions for further practice

8. A rope of length $L$ is suspended at two points $A$ and $B$ and hangs freely in-between in such a way that it does not move at all. The rope has constant mass density $\varrho$ per unit length, that is, a section of length $\ell$ has mass $\varrho \ell$. We assume that the rope is perfectly flexible, that is, there is no bending force.
The only forces acting on the rope are the tension force $T$ tangent to the rope and the gravitational force in the downwards direction. Denote the unit tangent vector along the rope by $\boldsymbol{u}$. The height of the rope above ground is given by a function $y(x)$. Denote acceleration due to gravity by $g$.


Consider a small section of rope of length $\Delta \ell$ between $x$ and $x+\Delta x$. That section has mass $\varrho \Delta \ell$. We denote the unit vectors in the direction of the $x$-axis and the $y$-axis by $\boldsymbol{i}$ and $\boldsymbol{j}$, respectively.
(a) Using the fact that the sum of all forces on $\Delta \ell$ add up to zero, show that

$$
\frac{d}{d x}(T(x) \boldsymbol{u}(x))=\varrho g \sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}} \boldsymbol{j}
$$

Solution: The length of the section $\Delta \ell$ is given by $\Delta \ell=\sqrt{(\Delta x)^{2}+(\Delta y)^{2}}$, so its mass is $\varrho \sqrt{(\Delta x)^{2}+(\Delta y)^{2}}$. Hence the gravitational force on $\Delta \ell$ is given by

$$
-\varrho \sqrt{(\Delta x)^{2}+(\Delta y)^{2}} \boldsymbol{j} .
$$

The minus sign comes from the fact that the gravitational force points downwards, whereas $\boldsymbol{j}$ points upwards. The other forces on $\Delta \ell$ are the tension forces at the right and left ends. The tension force at the right end is

$$
T(x+\Delta x) \boldsymbol{u}(x+\Delta x)
$$

and that at the left end is

$$
-T(x) \boldsymbol{u}(x)
$$

The minus sign comes from the fact that this is a "reaction force" to the section of the rope pulling to the left. The total force on $\Delta \ell$ must be zero, so

$$
T(x+\Delta x) \boldsymbol{u}(x+\Delta x)-T(x) \boldsymbol{u}(x)-\varrho \sqrt{(\Delta x)^{2}+(\Delta y)^{2}} \boldsymbol{j}=\mathbf{0} .
$$

If we rearrange and divide by $\Delta x$ we get

$$
\frac{T(x+\Delta x) \boldsymbol{u}(x+\Delta x)-T(x) \boldsymbol{u}(x)}{\Delta x}=\varrho \sqrt{1+\left(\frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x}\right)^{2}} \boldsymbol{j} .
$$

Letting $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$, using the definition of a derivative, we get the required differential equation.
(b) Explain why the unit tangent vector $\boldsymbol{u}$ is given by

$$
\boldsymbol{u}(x)=\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}} \boldsymbol{i}+\frac{y^{\prime}(x)}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}} \boldsymbol{j}
$$

Solution: The slope of the tangent at every point is given by $y^{\prime}(x)$. Hence the vector $\boldsymbol{i}+y^{\prime}(x) \boldsymbol{j}$ points in the direction of $\boldsymbol{u}(x)$. To get the unit vector we need to divide by the length which is given by $\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}$. Hence

$$
\boldsymbol{u}(x)=\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}} \boldsymbol{i}+\frac{y^{\prime}(x)}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}} \boldsymbol{j}
$$

(c) By considering the component of the differential equation from (a) in the $x$-direction, that is, the direction of $\boldsymbol{i}$, show that

$$
T(x)=H \sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}
$$

for some constant $H$. Give a physical interpretation of $H$.
Solution: According to part (b) the horizontal component of $\boldsymbol{u}$ is given by

$$
\frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}}
$$

Hence the horizontal component of (a) is given by

$$
\frac{d}{d x}\left(\frac{T(x)}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}}\right)=0
$$

Hence, there exists a constant $H$ so that

$$
\frac{T(x)}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}}=H
$$

and therefore $T(x)=H \sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}$ as claimed.
The horizontal component of the tension force is

$$
\frac{T(x)}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}}
$$

Using the explicit expression of $T$ the horizontal component of the tension force has the constant value $H$.
(d) By considering the component of the differential equation from (a) in the $y$-direction, that is, the direction of $\boldsymbol{j}$, show that

$$
y^{\prime \prime}(x)=\frac{\varrho g}{H} \sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}} .
$$

Solution: According to part (b) the vertical component of $\boldsymbol{u}$ is given by

$$
\frac{y^{\prime}(x)}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}}
$$

Hence the vertical component of (a) is given by

$$
\frac{d}{d x}\left(\frac{T(x) y^{\prime}(x)}{\sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}}\right)=\varrho g \sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}
$$

Substituting the solution from (c) we get

$$
\frac{d}{d x}\left(H y^{\prime}(x)\right)=H y^{\prime \prime}(x)=\varrho g \sqrt{1+\left(y^{\prime}(x)\right)^{2}}
$$

If we divide by $H$ we get the required differential equation.
(e) Find the general solution of the differential equation in (d). Note that the differential equation is a first order differential equation for $z(x)=y^{\prime}(x)$.
Solution: Rewriting the original differential equation as a differential equation for $z(x)=y^{\prime}(x)$ we get

$$
\frac{d z}{d x}=\frac{\varrho g}{H} \sqrt{1+z^{2}}
$$

We first separate variables and write

$$
\frac{d z}{\sqrt{1+z^{2}}}=\frac{\varrho g}{H} d x
$$

and integrating we get

$$
\int \frac{d z}{\sqrt{1+z^{2}}}=\int \frac{\varrho g}{H} d x=\frac{\varrho g x}{H}+C
$$

For the integral on the left hand side we use the substitution $z=\sinh t$. Then $d z=$ $\cosh t d t$. Using that $1+\sinh ^{2} t=\cosh t$ we get

$$
\frac{\varrho g x}{H}+C=\int \frac{d z}{\sqrt{1+z^{2}}}=\int \frac{\cosh t}{\sqrt{1+\sinh ^{2} t}} d t=\int \frac{\cosh t}{\cosh t} d t=t=\sinh ^{-1} z
$$

We do not need a constant as that constant can be merged with $C$. Alternatively we could use a table of standard integrals to evaluate the integral. Hence

$$
z=\sinh \left(\frac{\varrho g x}{H}+C\right)
$$

Next we recall that $z=y^{\prime}$, so

$$
y(x)=\int z(x) d x=\int \sinh \left(\frac{\varrho g x}{H}+C\right) d x=\frac{H}{\varrho g} \cosh \left(\frac{\varrho g x}{H}+C\right)+D .
$$

The cosh curve is often called the catenary. The constants $C, D$ and $H$ could be computed in terms of the length $L$ the mass density $\varrho$ and the coordinates of $A$ and $B$, but this is rather tedious to do for the general situation.
9. Find the general solution of the differential equation

$$
\frac{d^{2} y}{d t^{2}}-2 \frac{d y}{d t}+5 y=0,
$$

expressing your answer in real form. What is the particular solution satisfying $y(0)=1$ and $y(\pi / 4)=2$ ?
Solution: The auxiliary equation is $\lambda^{2}-2 \lambda+5=0$, which has roots $\lambda=1 \pm 2 i$, and so the general solution is

$$
y=e^{t}(A \cos 2 t+B \sin 2 t) .
$$

Hence $y(0)=E$ and $y(\pi / 4)=e^{\pi / 4} F$. If $y(0)=1$ and $y(\pi / 4)=2$ then $A=1$ and $B=2 e^{-\pi / 4}$, and hence the particular solution is

$$
y=e^{t}\left(\cos 2 t+2 e^{-\pi / 4} \sin 2 t\right)
$$

10. Solve the following equations, giving the general solution and then the particular solution $y(x)$ satisfying the given boundary or initial conditions.
(a) $2 y^{\prime \prime}-7 y^{\prime}+5 y=0, \quad y(0)=1, y^{\prime}(0)=1$

Solution: The auxiliary equation $2 \lambda^{2}-7 \lambda+5=0$ has roots $5 / 2$ and 1 , and so the general solution is $y(x)=A e^{5 x / 2}+B e^{x}$, which gives $y^{\prime}(x)=(5 A / 2) e^{5 x / 2}+B e^{x}$. Hence $y(0)=A+B$ and $y^{\prime}(0)=(5 A / 2)+B$, so the initial conditions imply $A=0$ and $B=1$, and the particular solution is $y(x)=e^{x}$.
(b) $y^{\prime \prime}+4 y^{\prime}+3 y=0, \quad y(-2)=1, y(2)=1$

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}+4 \lambda+3=0$ has roots -1 and -3 , and so the general solution is $y(x)=A e^{-x}+B e^{-3 x}$. Hence $y(-2)=A e^{2}+B e^{6}$ and $y(2)=A e^{-2}+B e^{-6}$, so the boundary conditions imply $A e^{2}+B e^{6}=1$ and $A e^{-2}+B e^{-6}=1$. Solving these simultaneous equations gives

$$
A=\frac{\sinh 6}{\sinh 4}=7.3915, \quad B=-\frac{\sinh 2}{\sinh 4}=-0.1329,
$$

and so the particular solution satisfying the boundary conditions is

$$
y(x)=7.3915 e^{-x}-0.1329 e^{-3 x} .
$$

(c) $2 y^{\prime \prime}-2 y^{\prime}+5 y=0, \quad y(0)=0, y(2)=2$

Solution: The auxiliary equation $2 \lambda^{2}-2 \lambda+5=0$ has roots $(1 \pm 3 i) / 2$, and so the general solution is $y(x)=e^{x / 2}\{A \cos (3 x / 2)+B \sin (3 x / 2)\}$. Hence $y(0)=A$, and the first boundary condition implies $A=0$. Thus $y(2)=B e \sin 3$, and so the second boundary condition implies $B=2 /(e \sin 3)=5.2137$, and hence the particular solution satisfying the boundary conditions is $y(x)=5.2137 e^{x / 2} \sin (3 x / 2)$.
(d) $y^{\prime \prime}-4 y^{\prime}+4 y=0, \quad y(0)=-2, y(1)=0$

Solution: The auxiliary equation $\lambda^{2}-4 \lambda+4=0$ has one double root $m=2$, and so the general solution is $y(x)=(A+B x) e^{2 x}$. Hence $y(0)=A$ and the first boundary condition implies $A=-2$. Thus $y(1)=(-2+B) e^{2}$, and so the second boundary condition implies $B=2$, and hence the particular solution satisfying the boundary conditions is $y(x)=2(x-1) e^{2 x}$.
11. Find the particular solution of the differential equation $y^{\prime \prime}-6 y^{\prime}+9 y=e^{3 x}$ which satisfies the initial conditions $y(0)=1$ and $y^{\prime}(0)=0$.
Solution: The auxiliary equation of the homogeneous problem is $\lambda^{2}-6 \lambda+9=(\lambda-3)^{2}=0$. As $\lambda=3$ is a double root $e^{3 x}$ and $x e^{3 x}$ solve the homogeneous equation. Hecne the inhomogeneity $e^{3 t}$ solves the equation. Normally we would find a particular solution of the form $A x e^{3 x}$, but that is a solution of the homogeneous equation as well. Hence we multiply by another $x$ and try a particular solution of the form $y=A x^{2} e^{3 x}$. We note that $y^{\prime}(x)=2 x A e^{3 x}+3 x^{2} A e^{3 x}$ and $y^{\prime \prime}(x)=2 A e^{3 x}+12 A x e^{3 x}+9 A x^{2} e^{3 x}$. Substitution into the equation yields

$$
2 A e^{3 x}+12 A x e^{3 x}+9 x^{2} A e^{3 x}-6\left(2 A x e^{3 x}+3 A x^{2} e^{3 x}\right)+9 A x^{2} e^{3 x}=e^{3 x} .
$$

If we cancel $e^{3 x} \neq 0$ and collect terms according to powers of $x$ we obtain

$$
2 A+(12 A-12 A) x+(9 A-18 A+9 A) x^{2}=2 A=1
$$

Hence $A=\frac{1}{2}$ and the general solution is

$$
y=\left(C+D x+\frac{x^{2}}{2}\right) e^{3 x}
$$

To make use of the initial conditions note that

$$
y^{\prime}=\left(3 C+3 D x+\frac{3 x^{2}}{2}+D+x\right) e^{3 x}
$$

Hence $y(0)=C$ and $y^{\prime}(0)=3 C+D$. So the conditions $y(0)=1$ and $y^{\prime}(0)=0$ imply that $C=1$ and $D=-3$. Hence, the required particular solution is

$$
y=\left(1-3 x+\frac{x^{2}}{2}\right) e^{3 x}
$$

