

Handout for section 1.2 (solutions)

Not on homework

#1 (b) Let $p(x) = x^4 - 2x^3 + 3x - 6$.

Then $p(1) = 1 - 2 + 3 - 6 = -4$, so $x=1$ is not a solution;

$p(2) = 16 - 16 + 6 - 6 = 0$, so $x=2$ is a solution

$p(-2) = 16 + 16 - 6 - 6 \neq 0$, so $x=-2$ is not a solution.

#2 b) $\cdot \frac{dy_1}{dt} = 0 = -y_1^2$, so $y_1(t) = 0$ is a solution.

$\cdot \frac{dy_2}{dt} = -\frac{1}{t^2} = -\left(\frac{1}{t}\right)^2 = -y_2^2$, so

$y_2(t) = \frac{1}{t}$ is a solution.

$\cdot \frac{dy_3}{dt} = -\frac{2}{t^2} \neq -y_3^2 = -\frac{4}{t^2}$, so $y_3(t) = \frac{2}{t}$ is

not a solution.

$\cdot \frac{dy_4}{dt} = -\frac{1}{(t-2)^2} = -y_4^2$, so $y_4(t) = \frac{1}{t-2}$ is a solution

#3 b) Plugging in: $y'' + y' - 2y = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} + \lambda e^{\lambda t} - 2e^{\lambda t} = e^{\lambda t}(\lambda^2 + \lambda - 2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda^2 + \lambda - 2 = (\lambda + 2)(\lambda - 1) = 0$

$\lambda_1 = -2, \lambda_2 = 1$

#4 c) Let $y(t) = c$ be a constant solution, then

$\frac{dy}{dt} = 0 = (t^2 - 1)(c - 5) \cos c$, so

$c = 5$ or $\cos c = 0 \Rightarrow c = 5$ or $\frac{\pi}{2} + \pi n$
 $n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

#5(b) Let $y(t) = at + b$, then

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = a = 3(at + b) - t + 2, \text{ so}$$

$$a = t(3a - 1) + 3b + 2 \text{ for all } t.$$

$$\text{Thus } \begin{cases} 3a - 1 = 0 & \Rightarrow a = \frac{1}{3} \\ a = 3b + 2 & \Rightarrow b = -\frac{5}{9} \end{cases} \quad \boxed{y(t) = \frac{1}{3}t - \frac{5}{9}}$$

Initial condition: $y(0) = -\frac{5}{9}$.

#6(b) Many different answers are possible;
for example,

$$\bullet \frac{dy}{dt} = 3t^2 + 1$$

$$\bullet \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{3y}{t} - 2$$

$$\bullet \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{y}{t} + 2t^2$$