

MATH246 Summer II  
QUIZ 2

Name:

1. [4 pt] State the largest interval on which a solution to the given initial value problem is determined by the conditions given

$$(x^2 - 1)y'' + y = e^x \cos(x), y(2) = y'(2) = \pi$$

Write as

$$y'' + \frac{1}{(x^2 - 1)} y = \frac{e^x \cos(x)}{(x^2 - 1)}$$

Coefficients and forcing are not defined if  $x=1$  or  $x=-1$   
the largest interval that includes  $x=2$  is then  $(1, \infty)$ .

2. [6 pt]

- (a) Check that  $e^{3z}$  and  $e^{4z}$  are solutions to  $w'' - 7w' + 12w = 0$ .
- (b) Check that  $\{e^{3z}, e^{4z}\}$  is a fundamental set for this differential equation. Hint: We only need to show that its Wronskian satisfies  $W[e^{3z}, e^{4z}] \neq 0$ , because we already show that they are solutions to the equation.
- (c) Use the method of superposition to find the solution  $W(z)$  of the differential equation that satisfies  $W(0) = 0, W'(0) = 0$ . Hint: assume that  $W(z) = c_1 e^{3z} + c_2 e^{4z}$  and then use the initial data to find  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ .

a)

$$(e^{3z})'' - 7(e^{3z})' + 12e^{3z} = 9e^{3z} - 21e^{3z} + 12e^{3z} = 0$$

$$(e^{4z})'' - 7(e^{4z})' + 12e^{4z} = 16e^{4z} - 28e^{4z} + 12e^{4z} = 0$$

b)

$$W[e^{3z}, e^{4z}] = \det \begin{pmatrix} e^{3z} & e^{4z} \\ 3e^{3z} & 4e^{4z} \end{pmatrix} = 4e^{7z} - 3e^{7z} = e^{7z} \neq 0$$

c)

$$W'(z) = 3c_1 e^{3z} + 4c_2 e^{4z}$$

We need

$$0 = c_1 e^{3(0)} + c_2 e^{4(0)} = c_1 + c_2 \quad \text{①}$$

$$0 = 3c_1 e^{3(0)} + 4c_2 e^{4(0)} = 3c_1 + 4c_2 \quad \text{②}$$

Substituting ① from ② three times we have:

$$0 + c_2 = 0, \text{ then } c_2 = 0$$

and using any of the two equations we obtain that  $c_1 = 0$  too.

Alternatively, we note that  $c_1 = 0, c_2 = 0$  is a solution to the system. Because  $W[e^{3z}, e^{4z}] \neq 0$ , then that is the unique solution.