

**Reducible differential equations 9C**

1 a If  $x = ut$  then

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{du}{dt}t + u$$

$$\text{So } t(ut) \left( \frac{du}{dt}t + u \right) - u^2t^2 = 3t^4$$

$$\text{which rearranges to } u \frac{du}{dt} = 3t$$

b Solve the differential equation in  $u$  and  $t$  to

get  $\frac{1}{2}u^2 = \frac{3}{2}t^2 + c$ , and then use  $u = \frac{x}{t} = 3$  to find  $c = 3$ .

$$\text{So } u^2 = 3t^2 + 6 \Rightarrow x^2 = 3t^4 + 6t^2 \Rightarrow x = \sqrt{3t^4 + 6t^2}$$

The particular solution is  $x = t\sqrt{3t^2 + 6}$

c The function increases without limit so the displacement gets very large.

2 a  $\frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{dz}{dt}t + z$

$$\text{So } 3z^2t^3 \left( \frac{dz}{dt}t + z \right) = z^3t^3 + t^3, \text{ which}$$

$$\text{rearranges to } 3z^2t \frac{dz}{dt} = 1 - 2z^3$$

b Differential equation in  $z$  and  $t$  solves to

$$\text{give } |1 - 2z^3| = \frac{A}{t^2}$$

If  $v = 2$  for  $t = 1$ , then  $z = 2$ ,  
and  $A = |-15| \times 1 = 15$

$$\text{Then } t^2(2z^3 - 1) = 15 \Rightarrow 2v^3 - t^3 = 15t$$

$$\text{The particular solution is } v = \sqrt[3]{\frac{t^3 + 15t}{2}}$$

c  $v = \left( \frac{t^3 + 15t}{2} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{t^3 + 15t}{2} \right)^{-\frac{2}{3}} \times \left( \frac{3t^2 + 15}{2} \right)$$

So substituting  $t=2$  we obtain

velocity = 2.6684...  $\approx$  2.668

acceleration = 0.63199...  $\approx$  0.632

3 a  $s = \frac{v}{t}, \frac{ds}{dt} = \frac{1}{t} \frac{dv}{dt} - \frac{v}{t^2}, \frac{d^2s}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{t} \frac{d^2v}{dt^2} - \frac{2}{t^2} \frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{2v}{t^3}$

So equation becomes

$$t \left( \frac{1}{t} \frac{d^2v}{dt^2} - \frac{2}{t^2} \frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{2v}{t^3} \right) + (2-t) \left( \frac{1}{t} \frac{dv}{dt} - \frac{v}{t^2} \right) -$$

$$(1+2t) \frac{v}{t} = e^{2t}$$

Rearranging terms gives

$$\frac{d^2v}{dt^2} + \left( -\frac{2}{t} + \frac{2-t}{t} \right) \frac{dv}{dt} + \left( \frac{2v}{t^2} - \frac{(2-t)v}{t^2} - \frac{(1+2t)v}{t} \right)$$

$$\text{which simplifies to } \frac{d^2v}{dt^2} - \frac{dv}{dt} - 2v = e^{2t}$$

b Auxiliary equation has roots 2 and -1, so

the complementary function is  $v = Ae^{2t} + Be^{-t}$ . To find the particular integral, try  $v = \lambda te^{2t}$

Then

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = \lambda e^{2t} + 2\lambda te^{2t} \text{ and } \frac{d^2v}{dt^2} = 4\lambda e^{2t} + 4\lambda te^{2t}$$

$$\text{So } \frac{d^2v}{dt^2} - \frac{dv}{dt} - 2v = 4\lambda e^{2t} + 4\lambda te^{2t} - (\lambda e^{2t} + 2\lambda te^{2t}) - 2\lambda te^{2t} = 3\lambda e^{2t}$$

Letting  $\lambda = \frac{1}{3}$  gives a particular integral of

$$v = \frac{1}{3}te^{2t}$$

Therefore the general solution is

$$v = Ae^{2t} + Be^{-t} + \frac{1}{3}te^{2t}$$

c  $s = \frac{Ae^{2t} + Be^{-t}}{t} + \frac{1}{3}e^{2t}; t \neq 0$

4 a  $\frac{dx}{dt} = u + t \frac{du}{dt}, \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = 2 \frac{du}{dt} + t \frac{d^2u}{dt^2}$

So differential equation becomes

$$t \left( 2 \frac{du}{dt} + t \frac{d^2u}{dt^2} \right) - 2 \left( u + t \frac{du}{dt} \right) + \left( \frac{2+t^2}{t} \right) ut = t^4$$

which rearranges to the required equation.

- 4 b The auxiliary equation is  $m^2 + 1 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow m = \pm i$

So the general solution is

$$u = A \cos t + B \sin t + f(t)$$

where  $f(t)$  is a particular integral

$$\text{Let } f(t) = at^2 + bt + c$$

$$f'(t) = 2at + b, f''(t) = 2a$$

Then the equation becomes

$$2a + at^2 + bt + c = t^2$$

$$\text{So } a = 1, b = 0, c = -2$$

So the general solution is

$$u = A \cos t + B \sin t + t^2 - 2$$

$$\Rightarrow x = t(A \cos t + B \sin t + t^2 - 2)$$

- c As  $t$  gets large,  $x$  gets large; the spring will reach its elastic limit and/or break.