

2.9 Reduction of Order

$$y''(t) = f(t, y(t), y'(t)) \quad (1)$$

Second order equation

Case 1. If $y''(t) = f(t, y'(t))$ (2)

Change variables:

$$v = y'(t) \text{ implies } v'(t) = y''(t) \quad (3)$$

Thus, (2) is transformed into

$$v'(t) = f(t, v(t)) \quad \text{First order equ.}$$

Once $v(t)$ is obtained

$$y(t) = \int v(t) dt$$

$$\# 38) \quad y'' + t(y')^2 = 0, \quad v = y'$$

$$v' + t v^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{v'}{v^2} = -t \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{dv}{v^2} = -t dt$$

$$\int dv : -v^{-1} = -\frac{t^2}{2} + C \Rightarrow \frac{1}{v(t)} = \frac{t^2}{2} + C = \frac{t^2 + 2C}{2} = \frac{t^2 + d}{2}$$

$$\text{or } v(t) = \frac{2}{t^2 + d} \Rightarrow y(t) = \int v(t) dt = 2 \int \frac{dt}{t^2 + (\sqrt{d})^2}$$

$$\# 40) \quad y'' + y' = e^{-t}$$

$$v = y' \Rightarrow v' = y''$$

$$v' + v = e^{-t} \Rightarrow \mu(t) = e^t$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [v e^t] = e^{-t} e^t = 1$$

$$\int dt \quad v(t) e^t = t + C \Rightarrow v(t) e^t = t + C$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{v(t) = t e^{-t} + C e^{-t}}$$

$$\Rightarrow y(t) = \int v(t) dt$$

$$= \int (t e^{-t} + C e^{-t}) dt = \int t e^{-t} dt + \int C e^{-t} dt + d$$

$$\text{Then, } y(t) = -t e^{-t} + \int e^{-t} dt - C e^{-t} + d$$

$$\text{or } y(t) = -t e^{-t} - e^{-t} - C e^{-t} + d$$

$$\text{or } y(t) = -t e^{-t} - (1+C) e^{-t} + d = -t e^{-t} + \tilde{C} e^{-t} + d.$$

$$\text{So } \boxed{y(t) = -t e^{-t} + \tilde{C} e^{-t} + d}$$

Case 2: $y'' = f(y, y')$ "t" does not appear.

$$\text{If } v(y) = y'(t) \Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dt} = y''(t) = f(y, v)$$

$$\text{Assuming } v(t) = v(y(t))$$

$$y''(t) = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{dv}{dy} \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dv}{dy} v = f(y, v)$$

$$\text{or } \boxed{v \frac{dv}{dy} = f(y, v)}$$

Once $v(y)$ has been obtained

$$\frac{dy}{dt}(t) = v(y(t))$$

$$\text{or } \boxed{\frac{dy}{v(y)} = dt}$$

$$\#46 \quad y y'' - (y')^3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y'' = \frac{1}{y} (y')^3$$

$$\text{If } v = y' \text{ and } v \frac{dv}{dy} = y''$$

$$\Rightarrow v \frac{dv}{dy} = \frac{v^3}{y} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{v^2} dv = \frac{1}{y} dy$$

$$\int: -v^{-1} = \ln|y| + C_1$$

$$\frac{1}{v} = -\ln|y| + C_2 \Rightarrow v(y) = \frac{1}{C_2 - \ln|y|}, \quad C_2 = -C_1$$

$$\text{Now, } \frac{dy(t)}{dt} = v(y(t))$$

$$\text{or } \frac{dy}{v} = dt \Rightarrow (C_2 - \ln|y|) dy = dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \int: C_2 y - (y \ln|y| - y) = t + C_3$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{-y \ln|y| + y - C_2 y - t = C_3}$$

$$\text{or } \boxed{y \ln|y| - y + C_2 y + t = C_3} \quad \checkmark$$