

CHAPTER 3

Second Order Linear Equations.

$$y''(t) = f(t, y(t), y'(t)) \quad (1.1)$$

3.1 Homogeneous Equations with Constant Coefficients.

Consider

Non-trivial
Solns.

$$\begin{aligned} a) \quad y''(t) - y(t) &= 0 \\ y'' &= y \end{aligned}$$

$$y_1(t) = e^t, \quad y_2(t) = e^{-t}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b) \quad y'' + y &= 0 \\ y'' &= -y \end{aligned}$$

$$y_1(t) = \sin t, \quad y_2(t) = \cos t$$

$$\begin{aligned} c) \quad y'' - y' &= 0 \\ y'' &= y' \end{aligned}$$

$$y_1(t) = e^t, \quad y_2(t) = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} d) \quad y'' + y' &= 0 \\ y'' &= -y' \end{aligned}$$

$$y_1(t) = e^{-t}, \quad y_2(t) = 1.$$

Notice that all these equations have exponential solns.

Even $y_1(t) = \sin t$ and $y_2(t) = \cos t$

Can be written as

$$y_1(t) = \sin t = \frac{e^{it} - e^{-it}}{2i}$$

Since $\frac{e^{it} - e^{-it}}{2i} = \frac{\cos t + i \sin t - (\cos t - i \sin t)}{2i} = \frac{2i \sin t}{2i} = \sin t$

Also, $y_2(t) = \cos t = \frac{e^{it} + e^{-it}}{2}$

All these eqns. are particular cases of

$$ay''(t) + by'(t) + cy(t) = 0 \quad (2.1)$$

which is a particular case of

$$P(t) y''(t) + Q(t) y'(t) + R(t) y(t) = G(t) \quad (2.2)$$

or if $P(t) \neq 0$

$$y''(t) + p(t) y'(t) + q(t) y(t) = g(t). \quad (2.3)$$

where $p(t) = \frac{Q(t)}{P(t)}$, $q(t) = \frac{R(t)}{P(t)}$

$$g(t) = \frac{G(t)}{P(t)}$$

i) Equ. (2.2) is the more general form of second order linear equations

- a) If $G(t) \equiv 0$, this equation is called homogeneous.
 b) If $G(t) \neq 0$, this equ. is called nonhomogeneous.

ii) Equ. (2.1) is called: Second order linear homogeneous ordinary differential equation (ODE) with constant coefficients.

iii) If rhs of (2.1) is $g(t) \neq 0$

then

$$ay''(t) + by'(t) + cy(t) = g(t)$$

is called: Sec. order linear nonhomogeneous ODE with constant coefficients

The IVP for 2nd order ODEs requires two initial conditions (ICs). For example,

$$\text{IVP: } \begin{cases} P(t)y''(t) + Q(t)y'(t) + R(t)y(t) = 0 \\ y(t_0) = y_0 \\ y'(t_0) = y'_0 \end{cases}$$

General Solutions of

$$\underline{a y''(t) + b y'(t) + c y(t) = 0.} \quad (4.1)$$

a, b, c constants.

Based on our previous experience with equs. (a)-(d). we will look for solutions in the form:

$$\boxed{y(t) = e^{rt}}$$

r to be determined.

$$y'(t) = r e^{rt}, \quad y''(t) = r^2 e^{rt}$$

Substituting into (4.1).

$$a r^2 e^{rt} + b r e^{rt} + c e^{rt} = 0$$

$$\text{or } e^{rt} (a r^2 + b r + c) = 0$$

So to determine "r" we need to find the roots of

$$a r^2 + b r + c = 0$$

Three cases arise: a) $r_1 \neq r_2$, r_1, r_2 in $\mathbb{R}$. Sect 3.1

b) $r_1 = r_2$, r_1, r_2 in $\mathbb{R}$. Sect 3.4

c) No real roots Sect 3.3
 r_1, r_2 conjugate complex numbers.

Example: Solve the IVP:

$$\begin{cases} y''(t) + 2y'(t) - 15y(t) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (5.1)$$

$$\begin{cases} y(0) = 6, & y'(0) = -14 \end{cases} \quad (5.2)$$

Ans:

Look for solns. in the form of

$$y(t) = e^{rt}, \quad "r" \text{ to be determined}$$

After Substitution

$$e^{rt} (r^2 + 2r - 15) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{r^2 + 2r - 15 = 0} \quad (5.3)$$

Characteristic polynomial.

Therefore, $(r+5)(r-3) = 0$

or $r_1 = -5, r_2 = 3$ are the roots

As a result, two solutions are

$$y_1(t) = e^{-5t}, \quad y_2(t) = e^{3t}$$

It can be easily verified that

$$\boxed{y(t) = C_1 e^{-5t} + C_2 e^{3t}} \quad (5.4)$$

is also a solution.

Therefore, the linear combination of

$$y_1(t) = e^{-5t} \quad \text{and} \quad y_2(t) = e^{3t} \quad \text{is also a}$$

Soln. Thus, (5.4) is a family of infinite solutions.

Idea: Will it be possible to find the

a) Soln. of our IVP from this family of solns?

or

b) Are there constants C_1 and C_2 such that

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{-5t} + C_2 e^{3t}$$

also satisfies the IC's

$$y(0) = 6 \quad \text{and} \quad y'(0) = -14. \quad ?$$

Well, let us try!

Compute first $y'(t)$

$$y'(t) = -5C_1 e^{-5t} + 3C_2 e^{3t}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} y(0) = 6 &\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} C_1 + C_2 = 6 \\ -5C_1 + 3C_2 = -14 \end{cases} \\ y'(0) = -14 &\Leftrightarrow \end{aligned}$$

Algebraic
Linear system
of two Eques
and two unknowns.

How do we solve it?

Many ways!

One way: consider the associated matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 6 \\ -5 & 3 & -14 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now reduce it

$$A \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 8 & 16 \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus

$$8C_2 = 16 \Rightarrow C_2 = 2$$

$$C_1 + C_2 = 6 \Rightarrow C_1 = 6 - C_2 = 6 - 2 = 4$$

Therefore, a Soln. of the IVP (5.1)-(5.2) is given by

$$y(t) = 4e^{-5t} + 2e^{3t}$$

Now, consider the more general IVP:

$$\begin{cases} y''(t) + p(t)y'(t) + q(t)y(t) = 0 & (9.1) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} y(t_0) = y_0, & y'(t_0) = y_0' & (9.2) \end{cases}$$

Questions of the Soul?

Inspired Questions?

- 1) If $y_1(t)$ and $y_2(t)$ are two different solutions of (9.1), is it possible (always) to find " C_1 " and " C_2 " such that

$$y(t) = C_1 y_1(t) + C_2 y_2(t)$$

also satisfies (8.2) ICs.

?

- 2) If $y_1(t)$ and $y_2(t)$ are two different solutions of (9.1).

Is it true that

$$y(t) = C_1 y_1(t) + C_2 y_2(t)$$

includes every soln. of (9.1). ?

- 3) For equation (9.1), is it always possible to find two different solns.

$y_1(t)$ and $y_2(t)$ such that (1) and (2) are true ?