

## Second order linear ODE

Standard form:  $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t)$

Homogeneous:  $g(t) = 0$

If you know the general solution to a homogeneous ODE, then by variation of parameters (will be seen later), you will be able to solve the corresponding non-homogeneous ODE

Existence & Uniqueness theorem: for the IVP

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t), y(t_0) = y_0, y'(t_0) = y'_0$$

If  $p(t), q(t), g(t)$  are continuous over an interval  $(a, b)$  that contain  $t_0$  ( $a < t_0 < b$ ), then the IVP has a unique solution over  $(a, b)$ .

Example: Find the interval of existence to the IVP

$$t^2 y'' - 4t y' + 4y = 0, y(1) = 1, y'(1) = 4.$$

Std. form:  $y'' - \frac{4}{t} y' + \frac{4}{t^2} = 0$

$\downarrow$                        $\downarrow$   
 blows up at  $t=0$



the solution exists on  $(0, \infty)$

## Principle of Superposition

1) If  $y_1, y_2$  are solutions to a 2<sup>nd</sup>-order linear homogeneous ODE

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0.$$

then for ANY number  $C_1, C_2$ , the function  $C_1y_1 + C_2y_2$  is also a solution

2) Moreover, if  $y_1, y_2$  are linearly independent (meaning the Wronskian  $\mathcal{W}(y_1, y_2) \neq 0$ ), then the general solution is  $C_1y_1 + C_2y_2$  where  $C_1, C_2$  are arbitrary constants.

Example:  $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 0$ .

1)  $y_1 = e^{3t}, y_2 = e^{-t}$  are solutions.

$$y_1'' - 2y_1' - 3y_1 = 9e^{3t} - 2 \times 3e^{3t} - 3e^{3t} = (9 - 6 - 3)e^{3t} = 0$$

$$y_2'' - 2y_2' - 3y_2 =$$

2)  $20e^{3t} - 99e^{-t}$  is also a solution.

$$20e^{3t} - 99e^{-t} = 20y_1 - 99y_2 \triangleq Y$$

$$Y'' - 2Y' - 3Y = (20y_1 - 99y_2)'' - 2(20y_1 - 99y_2)' - 3(20y_1 - 99y_2)$$

$$= 20y_1'' - 99y_2'' - 2(20y_1') + 2(99y_2') - 3(20y_1) + 3(99y_2)$$

$$= (20y_1'' - 2 \times 20y_1' - 3 \times 20y_1) - (99y_2'' - 2 \times 99y_2' - 3 \times 99y_2)$$

$$= 0$$

Wronskian of two functions

$$W(y_1, y_2) = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{vmatrix} = y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1'$$

Two functions  $y_1, y_2$  are linearly dependent if  $y_1 = k y_2$  for some number  $k$ . **Equivalently**, if the Wronskian  $W(y_1, y_2)$  is constantly zero. Otherwise, we say  $y_1, y_2$  are linearly independent.

Examples: 1)  $y_1 = t^2, y_2 = t^3$

$$W(t^2, t^3) = \begin{vmatrix} t^2 & t^3 \\ 2t & 3t^2 \end{vmatrix} = 3t^4 - 2t^4 = t^4 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \text{independent.}$$

2)  $y_1 = e^{3t}, y_2 = 5e^{3t}$

$$W(e^{3t}, 5e^{3t}) = \begin{vmatrix} e^{3t} & 5e^{3t} \\ 3e^{3t} & 15e^{3t} \end{vmatrix} = 15e^{6t} - 15e^{6t} = 0 \Rightarrow \text{dependent.}$$

3)  $y_1 = e^{r_1 t}, y_2 = e^{r_2 t}, r_1 \neq r_2$

$$W(e^{r_1 t}, e^{r_2 t}) = \begin{vmatrix} e^{r_1 t} & e^{r_2 t} \\ r_1 e^{r_1 t} & r_2 e^{r_2 t} \end{vmatrix} = r_2 e^{(r_1+r_2)t} - r_1 e^{(r_1+r_2)t} \\ = (r_2 - r_1) e^{(r_1+r_2)t}$$

$r_1 \neq r_2, W \neq 0 \Rightarrow \text{independent}$

4)  $y_1 = \sin^2 t, y_2 = \cos 2t - 1$

$$W(\sin^2 t, \cos 2t - 1) = \begin{vmatrix} \sin^2 t & \cos 2t - 1 \\ 2 \sin t \cos t & -2 \sin 2t \end{vmatrix} \\ = -2 \sin^2 t \sin 2t - 2 \sin t \cos t (\cos 2t - 1) \\ \sin 2t = 2 \sin t \cos t \\ = \sin 2t (-2 \sin^2 t + 1 - \cos 2t)$$

$$\sin^2 t = \frac{1 - \cos 2t}{2} = 0.$$

Attendance Quiz: HW 1b 2a

1. Find interval of existence to  $y'' - \cot t y' + (\ln t)y = e^{5t}$   $y(1) = 0$ ,  $y'(1) = 2$ .
2. Find if  $y_1 = e^{2t} \sin t$ ,  $y_2 = e^{2t} \cos t$  are linearly dependent.

1.  $\cot t$  blows up when  $\sin t = 0$

$$\text{i.e. } t = k\pi, k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

$$\cot t = \frac{\cos t}{\sin t}$$

$\ln t$  is not defined when  $t < 0$ .



I.o.E:  $(0, \pi)$

$$2. W = \begin{vmatrix} e^{2t} \sin t & e^{2t} \cos t \\ 2e^{2t} \sin t + e^{2t} \cos t & 2e^{2t} \cos t + e^{2t}(-\sin t) \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= e^{2t} \sin t (2e^{2t} \cos t - e^{2t} \sin t) - e^{2t} \cos t (2e^{2t} \sin t + e^{2t} \cos t)$$

$$= \cancel{2e^{4t} \sin t \cos t} - e^{4t} \sin^2 t - \cancel{2e^{4t} \cos t \sin t} - e^{4t} \cos^2 t$$

$$= e^{4t} (-\sin^2 t - \cos^2 t) = -e^{4t}$$

$$\cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1$$

$$\cos^2 t - \sin^2 t = \cos 2t$$

Coming back to the ODE  $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 0$ .

Knowing that  $e^{3t}$ ,  $e^{-t}$  are solutions to this homogeneous linear ODE.

From the above example,  $W(e^{3t}, e^{-t}) \neq 0$

The general solution is  $y = C_1 e^{3t} + C_2 e^{-t}$ .

## Second order linear homogeneous ODE with constant coefficients.

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0, \text{ where } a, b, c \text{ are numbers.}$$

Idea: Try  $y = e^{rt}$ . (derivatives are multiples of original function)

$$\begin{aligned} a(e^{rt})'' + b(e^{rt})' + ce^{rt} &= ar^2e^{rt} + bre^{rt} + ce^{rt} \\ &= (ar^2 + br + c)e^{rt} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

This means, if  $y = e^{rt}$  is a solution, then  $r$  must satisfy a quadratic equation

$$ar^2 + br + c = 0$$

called **characteristic equation**.

In case you obtain **two distinct real roots**,  $r_1, r_2$ , we know that  $y_1 = e^{r_1 t}$ ,  $y_2 = e^{r_2 t}$  are solutions, with  $W(y_1, y_2) \neq 0$ .

By the principle of superposition, the **general solution** is

$$y = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}.$$

Examples: 1)  $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 0$

$$\text{character eqn: } r^2 - 2r - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow (r+1)(r-3) = 0 \Rightarrow r = 3 \text{ or } -1$$

General solution:  $y = C_1 e^{3t} + C_2 e^{-t}$ .

$$2) y'' - 5y' + 6y = 0$$

characteristic eqn:  $r^2 - 5r + 6 = 0$ ,  $(r-2)(r-3) = 0$

$r = 2$  or  $3$ . gen. sol'n:  $y = C_1 e^{3t} + C_2 e^{2t}$

$$3) y'' - 5y' - 6y = 0$$

char. eqn.  $r^2 - 5r - 6 = 0$ .  $(r+1)(r-6) = 0$

$r = 6$  or  $-1$ . Gen. sol'n:  $y = C_1 e^{6t} + C_2 e^{-t}$ .

$$4) 2y'' + 7y' + 3y = 0.$$

char. eqn.  $2r^2 + 7r + 3 = 0$ .  $(2r+1)(r+3) = 0$

$r = -\frac{1}{2}$  or  $-3$ . General solution:  $y = C_1 e^{-\frac{1}{2}t} + C_2 e^{-3t}$

*Criss-cross method.*

Example:  $y'' - 4y' - 6y = 0$ .  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 0$

$$r^2 - 4r - 6 = 0. \quad r = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 4(-6)}}{2} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{40}}{2} = 2 \pm \sqrt{10}$$

Gen. sol'n:  $y = C_1 e^{(2+\sqrt{10})t} + C_2 e^{(2-\sqrt{10})t}$

$$y(0) = 1 \Rightarrow C_1 + C_2 = 1 \Rightarrow C_1 = 1 - C_2$$

$$y'(0) = 0 \Rightarrow C_1(2+\sqrt{10}) + C_2(2-\sqrt{10}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (2+\sqrt{10}) - (2+\sqrt{10})C_2 + (2-\sqrt{10})C_2 = 0$$

$$(2+\sqrt{10}) = 2\sqrt{10}C_2 \Rightarrow C_2 = \frac{2+\sqrt{10}}{2\sqrt{10}} = \frac{2\sqrt{10}+10}{20} = \frac{\sqrt{10}+5}{10}$$

$$C_1 = 1 - C_2 = 1 - \frac{\sqrt{10} + 5}{10} = \frac{-\sqrt{10} - 5}{10}$$

Solution to the IVP  $y = \frac{-\sqrt{10} - 5}{10} e^{(2+\sqrt{10})t} + \frac{\sqrt{10} + 5}{10} e^{(2-\sqrt{10})t}$

In addition, determine the long term behavior of the solution.

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y(t) = -\infty.$$

$e^{(2-\sqrt{10})t} \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .  $y$  is controlled by the first term

and the first term goes to  $-\infty$ .

Example:  $y'' - 5y' + 6y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = \alpha$ ,  $y'(0) = 1$

Determine the critical value of  $\alpha$  when the long term behavior changes.

Gen. sol'n:  $y = C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 e^{3t}$

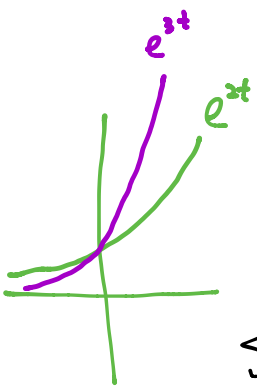
$$y(0) = \alpha \Rightarrow C_1 + C_2 = \alpha \Rightarrow C_1 = \alpha - C_2$$

$$y'(0) = 1 \Rightarrow 2C_1 + 3C_2 = 1 \Rightarrow 2(\alpha - C_2) + 3C_2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow C_2 = 1 - 2\alpha \Rightarrow C_1 = 3\alpha - 1$$

$$y = (3\alpha - 1)e^{2t} + (1 - 2\alpha)e^{3t}$$

Since  $e^{3t}$  increases faster than  $e^{2t}$ , as  $t$  becomes large, the solution is dominated by  $(1 - 2\alpha)e^{3t}$ .



When  $1-2\alpha > 0$ ,  $y \rightarrow +\infty$   
 $1-2\alpha < 0$ ,  $y \rightarrow -\infty$

So the behavior changes when  $1-2\alpha = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = \frac{1}{2}$

Critical value =  $\frac{1}{2}$



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