

Chapter 2: Second order linear ODEs

①

2.1

A second order ODE is called linear if it can be written:

$$a_0(x) y'' + a_1(x) y' + a_2(x) y = C(x), \text{ where } a_0(x) \neq 0$$

If we divide by $a_0(x)$, thus

$$y'' + p(x) y' + q(x) y = r(x)$$

$$a_1/a_0 = p, \quad \frac{C(x)}{a_0} = r(x) \\ a_2/a_0 = q$$

Two cases - ① Homogeneous ODE $r(x) = 0$

$$y'' + p(x) y' + q(x) y = 0$$

- ② Non-Homogeneous ODE, $r(x) \neq 0$

$$y'' + p(x) y' + q(x) y = r(x)$$

* Special case, homogeneous ODE where $p(x)$ and $q(x)$ are constants:

$$y'' + a y' + b y = 0, \quad a \text{ and } b \text{ constants. (Sec 2.2 text book)}$$

To solve: let $y(x) = C e^{rx}$

C : constant $\neq 0$

and substitute in ODE. $y'(x) = r C e^{rx}, y'' = r^2 C e^{rx}$

$$\text{so } r^2 C e^{rx} + a r C e^{rx} + b C e^{rx} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (r^2 + ar + b = 0) \rightarrow \text{characteristic equation}$$

$$r_{1,2} = \frac{-a \pm \sqrt{a^2 - 4b}}{2}$$

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \\ x_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

\Rightarrow Two solutions $y_1(x) = C_1 e^{r_1 x}, y_2(x) = C_2 e^{r_2 x}$

Using the principle of superposition "Any linear combination of two solutions is also a solution"

$$y(x) = y_1(x) + y_2(x) = C_1 e^{r_1 x} + C_2 e^{r_2 x}$$

Solution Cases

① Two distinct real roots ($a^2 - 4b > 0$)

$$y(x) = C_1 e^{r_1 x} + C_2 e^{r_2 x} \quad , C_1, C_2 \text{ constants}$$

② Repeated roots $r_1 = r_2 = r$ ($a^2 - 4b = 0$)

$$y(x) = C_1 e^{rx} + C_2 x e^{rx} \quad C_1, C_2 \text{ constants}$$

③ Complex roots ($a^2 - 4b < 0$)

$$r_1, r_2 = \alpha \pm i\beta \quad i = \sqrt{-1}$$

$$y(x) = e^{\alpha x} (A \cos \beta x + B \sin \beta x) \quad A, B \text{ constants.}$$

Example:- Solve $y'' + y' - 2y = 0$ \hookrightarrow IC's : $y(0) = 4$, $y'(0) = -5$

Sol $y(x) = C e^{rt}$ subst. , $y' = C r e^{rt}$, $y'' = C r^2 e^{rt}$

$$C r^2 e^{rt} + C r e^{rt} - 2 C e^{rt} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \boxed{r^2 + r - 2 = 0}$$

roots $r_1, r_2 = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1 - (4)(-2)}}{2} \Rightarrow r_1 = 1, r_2 = -2$ "Distinct roots"

So, $y(t) = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t} \Rightarrow y(t) = C_1 e^t + C_2 e^{-2t}$

To find C_1 and $C_2 \Rightarrow$ Initial conditions.

① $y(0) = 4 = C_1 e^0 + C_2 e^{-2(0)} \Rightarrow \boxed{C_1 + C_2 = 4}$

② $y'(0) = -5 = C_1 e^0 - 2C_2 e^{-2(0)} \Rightarrow \boxed{C_1 - 2C_2 = -5}$ $\hookrightarrow y'(x) = C_1 e^t - 2C_2 e^{-2t}$

Two equations and two unknowns $\Rightarrow \begin{matrix} C_1 = 1 \\ C_2 = 3 \end{matrix} \Rightarrow y(x) = e^t + 3e^{-2t}$

Example: Solve $y'' - 4y' + 4y = 0$ $\hookrightarrow y(0) = 3, y'(0) = 1$

Sol $r^2 - 4r + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow$ roots $r_1 = r_2 = 2$ "repeated roots"

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{rt} + C_2 t e^{rt}$$

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 t e^{2t} \quad \hookrightarrow C_1 = 3, C_2 = -5 \quad \text{"From IC's"}$$

$$\boxed{y(t) = 3e^{2t} - 5te^{2t}}$$

Example: Solve $y'' - 2y' + 10y(t) = 0$

(3)

Sol $\Rightarrow r^2 - 2r + 10 = 0 \quad \circ r_1 = 1 + 3i \quad \circ r_2 = 1 - 3i$ "complex roots"

For complex roots

$$y(t) = e^{\alpha t} (A \cos \beta t + B \sin \beta t) \quad \circ r_{1,2} = \overset{\text{real}}{\alpha} \pm i \overset{\text{Imag}}{\beta}$$

So,

$$y(t) = e^t (A \cos 3t + B \sin 3t) \quad \circ \begin{matrix} \alpha = 1 \\ \beta = 3 \end{matrix}$$

If we have IC's, we can obtain A & B.

* Practice Problem set 2.2 from textbook page 59
2, 6, 11, 12, 13, 22 and 26, and 29