

Differential Equations I

Week 06 / J. Behrens

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①

- Consider the homogeneous ODE of order n .
- Ansatz:

$$y(x) = e^{\lambda x}.$$

- We have: $y^{(k)} = \frac{d^k}{dx^k} e^{\lambda x} = \lambda^k e^{\lambda x}$ and $y = e^{\lambda x} \neq 0$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}$.
- Therefore $y = e^{\lambda x}$ ($g = 0$) is solution, iff λ is a root of

$$P(\lambda) = \lambda^n + a_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_0.$$

Solution Approach:

Investigating the roots of $P(\lambda)$ yields the following cases:

1. $P(\lambda)$ has n different real roots $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$.
2. $P(\lambda)$ has a complex root λ_k .
3. $P(\lambda)$ has a (real or complex) r -multiple root λ_1 ($r \geq 2$).

Roots of $P(\lambda)$.

Case 1: $P(\lambda)$ has n different roots $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R}$.

\Rightarrow The homogeneous ODE $L[y] = 0$ has n solutions
 $e^{\lambda_1 x}, \dots, e^{\lambda_n x}$

Case 2: $P(\lambda)$ has a complex root, $\lambda_k \in \mathbb{C}$.

• $e^{\lambda x}$ is sensibly defined for $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ and $\frac{d}{dx} e^{\lambda x} = \lambda e^{\lambda x}$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$
 $\Rightarrow e^{\lambda x}$ solves the homog. ODE for $\lambda_k \in \mathbb{C}$.

• If $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}$, then there exist for $e^{\lambda_k x}$ two real-valued solutions

• Let $\gamma_1(x), \gamma_2(x)$ ($x \in \mathbb{R}$) are real-valued functions
 $y(x) = \gamma_1(x) + i \gamma_2(x)$ is complex-valued

$$\Rightarrow y'(x) = \gamma_1'(x) + i \gamma_2'(x) \quad \text{or} \quad y^{(k)}(x) = \gamma_1^{(k)}(x) + i \gamma_2^{(k)}(x) \quad (k \in \mathbb{N})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow y^{(n)}(x) + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)}(x) + \dots + a_0 y(x) \\ = \underbrace{[\gamma_1^{(n)}(x) + a_{n-1} \gamma_1^{(n-1)}(x) + \dots + a_0 \gamma_1(x)]}_{\text{Re}} + i \underbrace{[\gamma_2^{(n)}(x) + a_{n-1} \gamma_2^{(n-1)}(x) + \dots + a_0 \gamma_2(x)]}_{\text{Im}} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

• We have that Re and Im both need to vanish

• $y(x)$ is solution to $L[y] = 0$

$\Leftrightarrow \gamma_1 = \text{Re}(y)$ and $\gamma_2 = \text{Im}(y)$ are solutions

• Use Euler's Formula and addition rules write
 $e^{i\phi} = \cos \phi + i \sin \phi \quad \phi \in \mathbb{R}$
 $e^{(a+ib)x} = e^a e^{ibx} \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}$
 $\lambda_k = \sigma_k + i \tau_k$

$$\Rightarrow y_\mu(x) = e^{\lambda_\mu x} = e^{\sigma_\mu x} (\cos \tau_\mu x + i \sin \tau_\mu x)$$

\Rightarrow we obtain the two solutions

$$e^{\sigma_\mu x} \cos \tau_\mu x \quad \text{and} \quad e^{\sigma_\mu x} \sin \tau_\mu x$$

• Since with λ_μ also $\bar{\lambda}_\mu$ is a root of $P(\lambda)$

$$\Rightarrow e^{\sigma_\mu x} \cos(-\tau_\mu x) = e^{\sigma_\mu x} \cos(\tau_\mu x)$$

$$e^{\sigma_\mu x} \sin(-\tau_\mu x) = -e^{\sigma_\mu x} \sin(\tau_\mu x)$$

these are (up to the sign) exactly the same solutions

Case 3: $P(\lambda)$ has a root λ_1 of multiplicity r ($r \geq 2$)
 $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ or \mathbb{C} .

Then $y(x) = e^{\lambda_1 x}$ is a solution.

• We have that using Schwarz' theorem and continuity of $f(\lambda, x) = e^{\lambda x}$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}[e^{\lambda x}] &= e^{\lambda x} P(\lambda) = e^{\lambda x} (\lambda - \lambda_1)^r (\lambda - \lambda_{r+1}) \dots (\lambda - \lambda_n) \\ &= e^{\lambda x} (\lambda - \lambda_1)^r Q(\lambda) \end{aligned}$$

• Differentiation

$$\mathcal{L}[x e^{\lambda x}] = e^{\lambda x} [x (\lambda - \lambda_1)^r Q(\lambda) + r (\lambda - \lambda_1)^{r-1} Q(\lambda) + (\lambda - \lambda_1)^r Q'(\lambda)]$$

• Since $r \geq 2$ the right hand side vanishes for $\lambda = \lambda_1$, i.e.

$$\underline{y(x) = x e^{\lambda_1 x}}$$
 is also solution to $\mathcal{L}[y] = 0$

• Repeat this procedure $r-1$ times:

$$e^{\lambda_1 x}, x e^{\lambda_1 x}, x^2 e^{\lambda_1 x}, \dots, x^{r-1} e^{\lambda_1 x} \quad \text{are all solutions.}$$

② Example 1

- Consider $y'' - 4y = 0$
- Charact. Polynomial : $\lambda^2 - 4 = P(\lambda)$
- Roots : $\lambda_1 = 2$, $\lambda_2 = -2$
- Fundamental system : $y_1(x) = e^{2x}$, $y_2(x) = e^{-2x}$
- General Solution : $y(x) = C_1 e^{2x} + C_2 e^{-2x}$

③

Preliminary Remarks:

- As an example, consider

$$y'' + a(x)y' + b(x)y = g(x).$$

- Let $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ be lin. independent solutions of the homogeneous equation ($g(x) = 0$).
- It holds

$$\begin{vmatrix} y_1(x) & y_2(x) \\ y_1'(x) & y_2'(x) \end{vmatrix} \neq 0.$$

- The solution of the homogeneous equation is given by

$$y(x) = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x).$$

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- $y(x) = C_1(x) y_1(x) + C_2(x) y_2(x)$
- $y'(x) = C_1(x) y_1'(x) + C_2(x) y_2'(x) + \underbrace{C_1'(x) y_1(x) + C_2'(x) y_2(x)}_{= ! 0}$
Assume $C_1(x)$ and $C_2(x)$ fulfill $C_1'(x) y_1(x) + C_2'(x) y_2(x) = 0$ ☒
- $y''(x) = C_1(x) y_1''(x) + C_2(x) y_2''(x) + C_1'(x) y_1'(x) + C_2'(x) y_2'(x)$

- Substitute into $y'' + ay' + by = g$

$$c_1(x)y_1''(x) + c_2(x)y_2''(x) + c_1'(x)y_1'(x) + c_2'(x)y_2'(x) +$$

$$a(x)[c_1(x)y_1'(x) + c_2(x)y_2'(x)] + b(x)[c_1(x)y_1(x) + c_2(x)y_2(x)] = g(x)$$

- Reordering:

$$c_1(x) \underbrace{[y_1''(x) + a(x)y_1'(x) + b(x)y_1(x)]}_{=0} + c_2(x) \underbrace{[y_2''(x) + a(x)y_2'(x) + b(x)y_2(x)]}_{=0 \text{ homog. solutions}} + c_1'(x)y_1'(x) + c_2'(x)y_2'(x) = g(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1'(x)y_1'(x) + c_2'(x)y_2'(x) = g(x) \quad (**)$$

- With $(*)$ and $(**)$ we obtain:

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1(x) & y_2(x) \\ y_1'(x) & y_2'(x) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1'(x) \\ c_2'(x) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ g(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Since y_1, y_2 form a fundamental system: $w(x) = y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2 \neq 0$

- Solve by Cramer's rule:

$$c_1'(x) = - \frac{y_2(x)g(x)}{w(x)} \quad c_2'(x) = \frac{y_1(x)g(x)}{w(x)}$$

- Integration:

$$c_1(x) = - \int \frac{y_2(x)g(x)}{w(x)} dx + C_3$$

$$c_2(x) = \int \frac{y_1(x)g(x)}{w(x)} dx + C_4$$

- Solution:

$$y(x) = c_1(x)y_1(x) + c_2(x)y_2(x)$$