

Solving 2<sup>nd</sup> order, linear, homogeneous equations

In general:  $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0 \rightarrow L[y] = 0$ .

1. Because equation is linear and homogeneous we know: If  $y_1, y_2$  solve  $L[y_1] = L[y_2] = 0$ , then  $L[c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2] = c_1 L[y_1] + c_2 L[y_2] = 0$ .

2. Solution method:

a. Find 2 solutions  $y_1(t), y_2(t)$ .

b. Check that  $W(y_1, y_2)(t) \neq 0$  for some  $t$  in the interval where solutions exist.

(This means  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  are linearly independent)

c. Any solution has the form  $y(t) = c_1 y_1(t) + c_2 y_2(t)$

d. In this case we can always find  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  satisfying initial conditions  $y(t_0) = y_0, y'(t_0) = y'$

3. Currently looking at step 2a. for constant coefficients, i.e.  $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$ .

## Complex roots

#8  ~~$y'' - 2y' + 6y = 0$~~

$$r^2 - 2r + 6 = 0$$

$$r = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4-24}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{-20}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm 2\sqrt{-5}}{2} = 1 \pm i\sqrt{5}$$

Idea:  $y_1 = e^{(1+i\sqrt{5})t}$

$$= e^t e^{\sqrt{5}ti}$$

$$y_2 = e^{(1-i\sqrt{5})t}$$

$$= e^t e^{-\sqrt{5}ti}$$

know:  
 $\cos(-x) = \cos(x)$   
 $\sin(-x) = -\sin(x)$

$$\boxed{e^{ix} = \cos(x) + i \sin(x)}$$

$$= e^t (\cos \sqrt{5}t - i \sin \sqrt{5}t)$$

$$= e^t (\cos \sqrt{5}t + i \sin \sqrt{5}t)$$

Observe:  $\frac{1}{2}(y_1 + y_2) = e^t \cos(\sqrt{5}t)$  ← solns.  
in fact

$$\frac{1}{2i}(y_1 - y_2) = e^t \sin(\sqrt{5}t)$$

←  $W(y_1, y_2) \neq 0$ .

~~General solution~~  $y = c_1 e^t \cos(\sqrt{5}t) + c_2 e^t \sin(\sqrt{5}t)$ .

$$\#(8) \quad y'' + 4y' + 5y = 0$$

$$r^2 + 4r + 5 = 0$$

$$r = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 20}}{2} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} = \frac{-4 \pm 2i}{2}$$

$$= -2 \pm i$$

$$y_1(t) = e^{-2t} \cos(t), \quad y_2 = e^{-2t} \sin(t).$$

$$\rightarrow e^{(-2+i)t} \quad e^{(-2-i)t}$$

" " "

$$e^{-2t} e^{it} \quad e^{-2t} e^{-it}$$

" " "

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

Initial conditions:  $y(0) = 1 \quad y'(0) = 0$

$$y(t) = c_1 e^{-2t} \cos(t) + c_2 e^{-2t} \sin(t)$$

$$y'(t) = -c_1 e^{-2t} \sin t - 2c_1 e^{-2t} \cos t$$

$$+ c_2 e^{-2t} \cos t - 2c_2 e^{-2t} \sin t$$

$$1 = c_1 \quad c_1 = 1$$

$$0 = -2c_1 + c_2 \quad \rightarrow \quad c_2 = 2$$

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

### 3.4 Repeated Roots

e.g.  $y'' + 4y' + 4y = 0$ .

$$r^2 + 4r + 4 = 0.$$

$$(r+2)(r+2) = 0$$

$$(r+2)^2 = 0$$

$$r = -2 \quad \rightarrow \quad \underline{y_1(t) = e^{-2t}} \text{ is a solution}$$

How do we find  $y_2$ ? Take a guess that  $y_2$  has the form  $y_2(t) = v(t)e^{-2t}$ , try to find  $v(t)$ .

$$y_2'(t) = -2v(t)e^{-2t} + v'(t)e^{-2t}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_2''(t) &= 4v(t)e^{-2t} - 2v'(t)e^{-2t} - 2v'(t)e^{-2t} \\ &\quad + v''(t)e^{-2t} \end{aligned}$$

$$= 4v(t)e^{-2t} - 4v'(t)e^{-2t} + v''(t)e^{-2t}$$

$$y_2'' + 4y_2' + 4y_2 = 0 \text{ gives.}$$

$$4ve^{-2t} - 4v'e^{-2t} + v''e^{-2t} + 4(-2ve^{-2t} + v'e^{-2t}) \\ + 4ve^{-2t} = 0$$

$$\cancel{4v} - \cancel{4vt} + \cancel{v''} - \cancel{8v} + \cancel{4vt} + \cancel{4v} = 0$$

$$v'' = 0 \rightarrow v = c_1 t + c_2$$

$$\text{So } y_2(t) = (c_1 t + c_2)e^{-2t} = \underbrace{c_1}_1 t e^{-2t} + \underbrace{c_2 e^{-2t}}_{\text{multiple of } y_1}$$

only need  
a solution  
so take  $c_1 = 1$

$$\text{So take } \underline{y_2(t) = t e^{-2t}}$$

$$W(y_1, y_2) = y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1' \\ = e^{-2t} (-2te^{-2t} + e^{-2t}) - te^{-2t} \cancel{(-2e^{-2t})} \\ = \cancel{-2t^2 e^{-4t}} e^{-4t} \neq 0.$$

This will always work!

Solve  $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$ .

$$ar^2 + br + c = a(r - r_1)^2$$

$y_1 = e^{r_1 t}$  is one solution

$y_2 = te^{r_1 t}$  is another solution  
and  $W(y_1, y_2) \neq 0$ .

[Letting  $y_2 = ve^{r_1 t}$  always leads to  
 $v'' = 0$  so  $v(t) = t$  always works]

e.g. #12  $y'' - 6y' + 9y = 0$   $y(0) = 0$   $y'(0) = 2$ .

$$r^2 - 6r + 9 = 0$$

$$(r - 3)^2 = 0$$

$$\underline{r=3} \quad y_1(t) = e^{3t} \quad y_2(t) = te^{3t}$$

$$y(t) = c_1 e^{3t} + c_2 t e^{3t}$$

$$\text{Find } c_1, c_2. \quad y'(t) = 3c_1 e^{3t} + 3c_2 t e^{3t} + c_2 e^{3t}$$

$$0 = c_1$$

$$c_1 = 0$$

$$2 = 3c_1 + c_2 \rightarrow c_2 = 2$$

$$c_2 = 2$$

$$y(t) = 2te^{3t} //$$

This technique gives us a way to solve the general equation  $L[y] = y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$ .

If we already have  $y_1$ , solving  $L[y_1] = 0$  it is possible to find  $y_2$ .

### Reduction of order

Suppose  $y_1'' + p(t)y_1' + q(t)y_1 = 0$

Look for  $y_2$  of the form  $y_2 = v y_1$ ,

$$y_2' = v y_1' + v' y_1; \quad y_2'' = v y_1'' + 2v'y_1' + v'' y_1,$$
$$v y_1'' + 2v'y_1' + v'' y_1 + p\check{v}y_1' + p\check{v}y_1 + q\check{v}y_1 = 0$$

$$v(y_1'' + p y_1' + q y_1) + v'(2y_1' + p y_1) + v'' y_1 = 0$$

Solve:  $v'' y_1 + (2y_1' + p y_1) v' = 0$

This is a 1<sup>st</sup> order equation in  $u = v'$

If  $u = v'$  then  $u' = v''$  so equ is

$$u' y_1 + (2y_1' + p y_1) u = 0$$

$$\text{Q3} \quad 2t^2y'' + 3ty' - y = 0$$

Given  $y_1(t) = t^{-1}$  is a solution

Look for  $y_2 = v y_1 = v(t)t^{-1}$

$$y_2' = -v(t)t^{-2} + v'(t)t^{-1}$$

$$y_2'' = 2v(t)t^{-3} - 2v'(t)t^{-2} + v''(t)t^{-1}$$

$$2t^2y_2'' = 4t^2v(t)t^{-3} - 4t^2v'(t)t^{-2} + 2t^2v''(t)t^{-1}$$

$$= 4t^2v(t)t^{-3} - 4v'(t) + 2tv''(t)$$

$$= 4t^{-1}v(t) - 4v'(t) + 2tv''(t)$$

$$3t y_2' = -3tv(t)t^{-2} + 3tv't^{-1}$$

$$= 3t^{-1}v(t) + 3v'(t)$$

$$4t^{-1}v(t) - 4v'(t) + 2tv''(t) - 3t^{-1}v(t) + 3v'(t) - v(t)t^{-1} = 0$$

$$2tv'' - v' = 0 \quad u = v'$$

$$2tu' - u = 0$$

$$2t \frac{du}{dt} = u$$

$$\frac{du}{u} = \frac{1}{2t} dt$$

$$\ln|u| = \frac{1}{2}\ln|t| + C$$

$$|u| = C|t|^{1/2}$$

$$u = Ct^{1/2} \leftarrow \text{since } t > 0$$

$$v = \int ct^{1/2} dt = \frac{2}{3}ct^{3/2} + k$$

only need a solution so

$$\text{take } k=0, c=\frac{3}{2} \text{ so } v=t^{3/2}$$

$$\text{So } y_2 = t^{3/2} \cdot y_1 = t^{3/2} \cdot t^{-1} = t^{1/2}.$$

Check  $W(y_1, y_2)$ .

$$W(y_1, y_2) = y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1'$$

$$= t^{-1} \frac{1}{2} t^{-1/2} - t^{1/2} \cdot (-t^{-2})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} t^{-3/2} + t^{-3/2} = \frac{3}{2} t^{-3/2} \neq 0 \text{ for } t > 0.$$

General solution  $y = c_1 t^{-1} + c_2 t^{1/2}$ ,  $t > 0$ .

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Another approach:

$$\text{rewrite eqn as } y'' + \frac{3t}{2t^2} y' - \frac{1}{2t^2} y = 0$$

$$y'' + \frac{3}{2t} y' - \frac{1}{2t^2} y = 0$$

$$\begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ p(t) \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ q(t) \end{matrix}$$