

Second Order Differential Equations

Anton 14.1

Second Order Differential Equations:

Equations where the highest derivative is y''

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

Homogeneous: $r(x) = 0$

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

Nonhomogeneous: $r(x) \neq 0$



Linear Independence

Two functions are linearly *dependent* if one is a constant multiple of the other.

Examples:

① $f(x) = \sin x$

$g(x) = -4\sin x$

LINEARLY DEPENDENT

② $f(x) = \sin x$

$g(x) = x\sin x$

LINEARLY INDEPENDENT



Theorem

If $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ are linearly independent solutions of

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

then

$$y_c = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{LINEAR COMBINATION} \\ \text{OF } y_1 \text{ AND } y_2 \end{array} \right\}$$

is the general solution of the diff. eq.

y_c is a **linear combination** of y_1 and y_2



Constant Coefficients: $y'' + py' + qy = 0$

What could we try as a solution?

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= e^{mx} & m^2 e^{mx} + p \cdot m e^{mx} + q e^{mx} &= 0 \\
 y' &= m e^{mx} & e^{mx} (m^2 + pm + q) &= 0 \\
 y'' &= m^2 e^{mx} & \underbrace{m^2 + pm + q}_0 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

AUXILIARY EQ.
CHARACTERISTIC EQ.

SOLVE FOR m :

$$m = \frac{-p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - 4q}}{2}$$



Two Distinct Real Roots: m_1 and m_2

$\therefore y_1 = e^{m_1 x}$ and $y_2 = e^{m_2 x}$ are solutions.

The general solution to the differential equation is a linear combination of y_1 and y_2 :

$$\therefore y_c = c_1 e^{m_1 x} + c_2 e^{m_2 x}$$



Example: $y'' - y' - 6y = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 m^2 - m - 6 &= 0 \\
 (m+2)(m-3) & \\
 m &= -2, 3 \\
 y_1 &= e^{3x} \\
 y_2 &= e^{-2x}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$y_c = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-2x}$$



One Double Root: $m_1 = m_2 = m$

$\therefore y_1 = e^{mx}$ and $y_2 = x e^{mx}$ are solutions.

The general solution to the differential equation is a linear combination of y_1 and y_2 :

$$\therefore y_c = c_1 e^{mx} + c_2 x e^{mx}$$



Example: $y'' - 8y' + 16y = 0$

$$m^2 - 8m + 16 = 0$$

$$(m-4)^2 = 0$$

$$y_c = c_1 e^{4x} + c_2 x e^{4x}$$

$$m=4$$

SHOW: $y = x e^{4x}$ IS A SOLUTION

$$e^{4x}(4x+8) - 8 \cdot e^{4x}(4x+1) + 16x e^{4x} \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

$$16x + 8 - 8(4x+1) + 16x \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

✓

$$y' = x e^{4x} \cdot 4 + e^{4x} = e^{4x}(4x+1)$$

$$y'' = e^{4x}(4) + (4x+1) \cdot 4e^{4x} = e^{4x}(4 + 4(4x+1)) = e^{4x}(16x+8)$$

→

Complex Roots: $m_1 = a + bi$, $m_2 = a - bi$

$\therefore y_1 = e^{(a+bi)x}$ and $y_2 = e^{(a-bi)x}$ are solutions.
 $e^{ax+bi x}$
 $e^{ax} \cdot e^{bi x}$

An equivalent version of y_c that is more commonly used is:

$$y_c = e^{ax} (c_1 \cos(bx) + c_2 \sin(bx))$$

→

Example: $y'' + y' + y = 0$

$$m^2 + m + 1 = 0$$

$$m = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1-4(1)(1)}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-1 \pm i\sqrt{3}}{2}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}i$$

$$\downarrow \quad \downarrow$$

$$a \quad b$$

$$y_c = e^{ax} (c_1 \cos bx + c_2 \sin bx)$$

$$= e^{-\frac{1}{2}x} (c_1 \cos(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x) + c_2 \sin(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}x))$$

→

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

$$m^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$m = \pm 1$$

$$y_c = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x} \Rightarrow 1 = c_1 e^{0x} + c_2 e^{0x} \Rightarrow 1 = c_1 + c_2$$

$$y_c' = c_1 e^x - c_2 e^{-x} \Rightarrow 0 = c_1 e^{0x} - c_2 e^{0x} \Rightarrow 0 = c_1 - c_2$$

$$1 = 2c_1$$

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2}(e^x + e^{-x}) = \cosh(x)$$

→

Classwork:

Anton 14.1 # 10, 18

Homework:

Anton 14.1 # 1 - 23 odd

