

4.3 Linear, Homogeneous, Eqns w/ Constant Coefficients

are equations of form $y'' + py' + qy = 0$ where p & q are constants

From previous class, $y'' - y = 0$ if $p=0, q=-1$ we found 2 linearly independent solutions: $y_1(t) = e^t$ & $y_2(t) = e^{-t}$

Find exponential solutions to $y'' + py' + qy = 0$

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

$$y' = \lambda e^{\lambda t}$$

$$y'' = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$$

$\lambda =$ parameter to be

$$\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} + p\lambda e^{\lambda t} + q e^{\lambda t} = 0$$

$$e^{\lambda t} \neq 0 \quad e^{\lambda t}(\lambda^2 + p\lambda + q) = 0$$

$$\boxed{\lambda^2 + p\lambda + q = 0} \leftarrow$$

characteristic equation

for $y'' + py' + qy = 0$.

Root is called characteristic root

If λ is characteristic root, $y = e^{\lambda t}$ is a solution

Find roots of characteristic equation using quadratic formula:

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

3 cases

1) 2 distinct, real roots if $p^2 - 4q > 0$

2) 2 distinct, complex roots if $p^2 - 4q < 0$

3) 1 repeated, real root if $p^2 - 4q = 0$

Case 1: Distinct, Real

$$\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$$

$$y_1 = e^{\lambda_1 t} \quad \& \quad y_2 = e^{\lambda_2 t} \quad \text{are the solutions}$$

Since $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$, y_1 & y_2 are linearly ind.

Prop 3.3: If characteristic equation $\lambda^2 + p\lambda + q = 0$ has 2 distinct, real solutions λ_1, λ_2 general solution to $y'' + py' + qy = 0$ is $y(t) = C_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + C_2 e^{\lambda_2 t}$ where C_1 & C_2 are constants

Ex: Find General Solutions to $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

$$y' = \lambda e^{\lambda t}$$

$$y'' = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$$

$$e^{\lambda t}(\lambda^2 + 5\lambda + 6) = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + 5\lambda + 6 = 0 \leftarrow \text{characteristic equation}$$

$$(\lambda + 2)(\lambda + 3) = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = -2, \lambda_2 = -3$$

$$\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$$

General solution:

$$y = C_1 e^{-2t} + C_2 e^{-3t}$$

Ex: Find solution to IVP $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$, $y(0) = 2$, $y'(0) = 3$

$$y' = -2C_1 e^{-2t} - 3C_2 e^{-3t}$$

$$y(0) = C_1 e^{-2(0)} + C_2 e^{-3(0)} = 2 \Rightarrow C_1 + C_2 = 2 \quad C_1 = 9$$

$$y'(0) = -2C_1 e^{-2(0)} - 3C_2 e^{-3(0)} = 3 \Rightarrow -2C_1 - 3C_2 = 3 \quad C_2 = -7$$

$$\text{solution: } y(t) = 9e^{-2t} - 7e^{-3t}$$

Case 2: Complex Roots

If you have complex roots, they must be complex conjugates

$$\lambda = a + ib \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{\lambda} = a - ib$$

Euler's formula: $e^{i\theta} = \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$, solutions are

$$\begin{cases} z(t) = e^{(a+ib)t} = e^{at} e^{ibt} = e^{at} (\cos(bt) + i\sin(bt)) \\ \bar{z}(t) = e^{(a-ib)t} = e^{at} e^{-ibt} = e^{at} (\cos(bt) - i\sin(bt)) \end{cases}$$

$$\underbrace{\bar{z}(t) = e^{-2ib t}}_{\text{not constant}} z(t) \Rightarrow \bar{z} \text{ \& } z \text{ are linearly independent and form complex-valued fundamental set of solutions}$$

$$\text{General solution: } y(t) = C_1 z(t) + C_2 \bar{z}(t)$$

Write \bar{z}, z in real & imaginary parts

$$z(t) = y_1(t) + iy_2(t) \quad \bar{z}(t) = y_1(t) - iy_2(t)$$

$$\text{where } \begin{cases} y_1(t) = e^{at} \cos(bt) \\ y_2(t) = e^{at} \sin(bt) \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Since } z(t) + \bar{z}(t) = y_1(t) + y_2(t) + y_1(t) - y_2(t) = 2y_1(t)$$

$$\text{we get } \begin{cases} y_1(t) = \frac{1}{2}(z(t) + \bar{z}(t)) \\ \text{and} \\ y_2(t) = \frac{1}{2i}(z(t) - \bar{z}(t)) \end{cases} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{linear combination of} \\ \text{solutions to } y'' + py' + qy = 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

y_1 & y_2 are real-valued solutions to $y'' + py' + qy = 0$. They are linearly independent and form a real, fundamental set of solutions.

$$\text{general solution: } y(t) = A_1 y_1(t) + A_2 y_2(t) = A_1 e^{at} \cos(bt) + A_2 e^{at} \sin(bt)$$

where A_1 & A_2 are constants

Ex: Find general solution of $y'' + 2y' + 2y = 0$

Find solution corresponding to $y(0) = 2$, $y'(0) = 3$

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

$$e^{\lambda t}(\lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 2) = 0$$

$$y' = \lambda e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 2 = 0$$

$$y' = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\lambda = -1 \pm i$$

$$a \pm ib, \text{ so } a = -1, b = 1$$

$$y_1(t) = e^{-t} \cos t \quad \text{and} \quad y_2(t) = e^{-t} \sin t$$

$$\text{General solution: } y(t) = C_1 e^{-t} \cos t + C_2 e^{-t} \sin t = e^{-t} (C_1 \cos t + C_2 \sin t)$$

$$y'(t) = -e^{-t} (C_1 \cos t + C_2 \sin t) + e^{-t} (-C_1 \sin t + C_2 \cos t)$$

$$y(0) = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow C_1 = 2$$

$$y'(0) = 3$$

$$-C_1 + C_2 = 3$$

$$\Rightarrow C_1 = 2$$

$$C_2 = 5$$

$$y(t) = e^{-t} (2 \cos t + 5 \sin t)$$

$$e^{at} = e^{-t}$$

- Since $a = -1 < 0$, solution is decaying

- $\sin t \cos t$ causes oscillations

Case 3: Repeat Roots

If $\lambda^2 + p\lambda + q = 0$ has repeat roots, discriminant $\sqrt{p^2 - 4q} = 0$

$$\lambda = -\frac{p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - 4q}}{2} = -\frac{p}{2}, \quad \lambda_1 = -\frac{p}{2}$$

$$\downarrow q = \frac{p^2}{4}$$

Issue: both roots give same solution: $y_1 = e^{\lambda_1 t} = e^{-\frac{p}{2}t}$

We need a 2nd solution that's not a constant multiple of y

$$0 = y'' + py' + qy = y'' + py' + \frac{p^2}{4}y$$

Method By D'Alembert:

Refer to Fig 1

Refer to Fig 1

Prop 3.18 If $\lambda^2 + p\lambda + q = 0$ has only one double root λ_1 , the general solution to $y'' + py' + qy = 0$ is

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + C_2 t e^{\lambda_1 t} = (C_1 + C_2 t) e^{\lambda_1 t}$$

C_1, C_2 are arbitrary constants

Ex: Find solution of $y'' - y' + 0.25y = 0$, $y(0) = 2$, $y'(0) = \frac{1}{3}$

$$y = e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\lambda^2 - \lambda + \frac{1}{4} = 0$$

$$y' = \lambda e^{\lambda t}$$

$$(\lambda - \frac{1}{2})^2 = 0$$

$$y'' = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$$

$\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$ repeats / double root

$e^{\frac{1}{2}t}$ & $t e^{\frac{1}{2}t}$ form fundamental set of solutions to $y'' - y' + \frac{1}{4}y = 0$

$$y(t) = C_1 e^{\frac{t}{2}} + C_2 t e^{\frac{t}{2}}$$

$$y'(t) = \frac{C_1}{2} e^{\frac{t}{2}} + C_2 e^{\frac{t}{2}} + \frac{C_2}{2} t e^{\frac{t}{2}}$$

$$y(0) = 2$$

$$y'(0) = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}C_1 + C_2 = \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow C_1 = 2$$

$$C_2 = -\frac{2}{3}$$

$$\text{So } y(t) = 2e^{\frac{t}{2}} - \frac{2}{3}t e^{\frac{t}{2}}$$