

2nd ORDER EQUATIONS

Ch. 4. 2nd Order Equations

4.1

A 2nd order DE involves ind. variable t and unknown function y along with its 1st and 2nd derivatives

If we can write it in normal form,

$$y'' = f(t, y, y')$$

(solve for 2nd derivative)

The solution is $y(t)$ itself

Ex: Newton's 2nd Law $F = ma$

If $y(t)$ is displacement, $v(t) = y'(t)$ and $a(t) = y''(t)$

So:

$$m \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = F(t, y, \frac{dy}{dt})$$

Linear equations have form

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t)$$

coefficients $p, q, \& g$ are functions of t

$g(t)$ is called the forcing term

if forcing term = 0, then $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$ is homogeneous

Existence & Uniqueness (2nd order)

Thm 1.17 Suppose $p(t), q(t), \& g(t)$ are continuous on interval (α, β) . Let $\alpha < t_0 < \beta$. For any real #'s $y_0 \& y_1$, there is only one function $y(t)$ defined on (α, β) which is a solution to

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t) \quad \text{for } \alpha < t < \beta$$

and satisfies initial conditions $y(t_0) = y_0$ and $y'(t_0) = y_1$

Ex: $y'' - y = 0$ (linear & homogeneous)

Are $y_1(t) = e^t$ & $y_2(t) = e^{-t}$ solutions?

$$y_1'(t) = e^t \quad y_2'(t) = -e^{-t}$$

$$y_1''(t) = e^t \quad y_2''(t) = e^{-t}$$

$$y_1'' - y_1 = e^t - e^t = 0$$

So y_1 is a solution

$$y_2'' - y_2 = e^{-t} - e^{-t} = 0$$

So y_2 is a solution

Ex: Are $2e^t$ and $5e^{-t}$ solutions?

C_1, C_2 constant

$$y = C_1 y_1(t) + C_2 y_2(t) = C_1 e^t + C_2 e^{-t}$$

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

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

$$\Rightarrow y'' - y' = (C_1 e^t - C_2 e^{-t}) - (C_1 e^t + C_2 e^{-t}) = 0$$

$$y(t) = C_1 e^t + C_2 e^{-t} \text{ is the general solution}$$

Since $y'' - y' = 0$, y is solution

General Solutions:

Prop 1.18: Suppose y_1 & y_2 are both solutions to homogeneous linear equation:

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0,$$

then $y = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$ is also a solution for any constants C_1 and C_2 .

if w and v are functions of y_1 & y_2 respectively

Def: A linear combination of 2 functions w and v is any function of form $w = Aw + Bv$ where A & B are constants. BUT since Prop 1.18 says ANY linear combination, $w = Aw + Bv$ is also a solution of $y = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$

Def 1.22 2 functions w and v are said to be linearly independent on the interval (α, β) if neither is a constant multiple of the other on that interval. Otherwise, if one is a constant multiple of the other on (α, β) , they're said to be linearly dependent

Functions $w(t) = t$ and $v(t) = t^2$ are linearly independent on \mathbb{R} bc

$$v(t) = t w(t) \quad \text{and} \quad w(t) = \frac{1}{t} v(t)$$

$t, \frac{1}{t}$ are not constant factors!

but if $w(t) = 4 \cos 3t$ & $v(t) = 2 \cos 3t$,

$$w(t) = 2v(t) \quad \text{and} \quad v(t) = \frac{1}{2} w(t), \quad 2 \text{ \& } \frac{1}{2} \text{ are}$$

constant and therefore $v(t)$ & $w(t)$ are linearly dependent

Thm 1.23: Suppose y_1 & y_2 are linearly independent solutions to equation $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$.

The general solution to it is $y_1 = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$ where C_1 & C_2 are constants

2 linearly independent solutions form a fundamental set of solutions

Note: If we have 2 linearly independent solutions to $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$, we can form the general solution.

Thm 1.23:

Ex: $y'' - y = 0$ shows $y_1(t) = e^t$ and $y_2(t) = e^{-t}$ are solutions
and $y_1(t) = e^{2t} y_2(t)$ and $y_2(t) = e^{-2t} y_1(t)$

e^{2t}, e^{-2t} not constant

so y_1 & y_2 are linearly independent.

In cases where it's difficult to tell linear ind. or dependent, use Wronskian.

Wronskian of 2 functions w & v defined by

$$W(t) = \det \begin{vmatrix} w(t) & v(t) \\ w'(t) & v'(t) \end{vmatrix} = w(t)v'(t) - w'(t)v(t)$$

Prop 1.26 Suppose ^{functions} w, v solutions to linear, homogeneous equation
 $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$ in interval (α, β) .

Then the Wronskian of w and v is either identically equal to 0 on (α, β) or it's never equal to 0 there.

Ex: $y_1(t) = e^t, y_2(t) = e^{-t}$ $-\infty < t < \infty$

$$W(t) = \begin{vmatrix} e^t & e^{-t} \\ e^t & -e^{-t} \end{vmatrix} = -1 - 1 = -2$$

\Rightarrow Wronskian never 0

IF $W(t) \neq 0$, THEN
 $y_1(t)$ & $y_2(t)$ ARE
LINEARLY IND.

Prop 1.27: Suppose w, v are solutions to linear, homogeneous equation
 $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$ on interval (α, β) .

Then w and v are linearly dependent only if their Wronskian is identically 0 in (α, β)

Prop 1.29 Suppose functions u & v are solutions to linear, homogeneous equation $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$ in interval (α, β)

- If $w(t_0) \neq 0$ for some t_0 in interval (α, β) , then u, v are linearly independent in (α, β)
- If u, v are linearly independent in (α, β) , then $w(t)$ never vanishes in (α, β)

Ex: $y'' - y = 0$ but w/ initial conditions $y(0) = 2$ & $y'(0) = -1$

general solution $y(t) = C_1 e^t + C_2 e^{-t}$ IVP

$$y'(t) = C_1 e^t - C_2 e^{-t}$$

$$\text{ICS} = \begin{cases} y(0) = 2 \\ y'(0) = -1 \end{cases} \rightarrow \begin{cases} 2 = C_1 e^0 + C_2 e^0 \\ -1 = C_1 e^0 - C_2 e^0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} 2 = C_1 + C_2 \\ -1 = C_1 - C_2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Downarrow \\ \begin{aligned} C_1 &= 0.5 \\ C_2 &= 1.5 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Solution: } y(t) = \frac{1}{2}e^t + \frac{3}{2}e^{-t}$$