

EXAMPLE: CRITICALLY-DAMPED HARMONIC OSCILLATOR: FIND THE GENERAL SOLUTION OF THE HOMOGENEOUS EQ. $y'' + 2y' + y = 0$.

SOLUTION: ASSUMING A SOLUTION OF THE FORM $y = Ce^{rx}$, THE CHARACTERISTIC EQUATION $r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0$ HAS A DOUBLE-ROOT AT $r = -1$.

ONE OF THE HOMOGENEOUS SOLUTIONS IS $y_1(x) = C_1 e^{-x}$; WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER? IDEA: USE THE WRONSKIAN!

WE WANT THE OTHER LINEARLY-INDEPENDENT SOLUTION. USE ABEL'S IDENTITY WITH $W_0 \neq 0$:

$$W[y_1, y_2](x) = y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1' = W_0 \exp\left[-\int_{x_0}^x P(x') dx'\right]$$

WITH $y_1 = C_1 e^{-x}$ AND $P(x') = 2$;

$$y_2' = y_2 \frac{(-C_1 e^{-x})}{C_1 e^{-x}} + \frac{W_0}{C_1} e^x \underbrace{e^{-\int_{x_0}^x 2 dx'}}_{e^{-2(x-x_0)}}$$

FIRST-ORDER
LINEAR D.E. FOR
 y_2

$$\rightarrow y_2' = -y_2 + C_3 e^{-x}$$

THE INTEGRATING FACTOR $I(x) = e^{\int dx} = e^x$ AND THE FULL SOLUTION

$$\text{IS } y_2 = e^{-x} \left[\int e^x C_3 e^{-x} dx + C_4 \right] = e^{-x} [C_3 x + C_4]$$

$$= C_3 x e^{-x} + \underbrace{C_4 e^{-x}}_{\text{CAN BE COMBINED WITH } y_1}$$

ALTOGETHER,

$$y_H(x) = \underbrace{C_1 e^{-x}}_{\text{EASY}} + \underbrace{C_2 x e^{-x}}_{\text{USE THE WRONSKIAN}}$$

THIS STRATEGY OF USING THE WRONSKIAN (ABEL'S IDENTITY) TO FIND A SECOND LINEARLY-INDEPENDENT SOLUTION BY SOLVING A DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION OF LOWER-ORDER IS CALLED: 'REDUCTION-OF-ORDER'. IT HAS SOME ANALOGIES WITH THE GRAM-SCHMIDT PROCESS FOR TO PRODUCE AN ORTHONORMAL BASIS IN LINEAR ALGEBRA

IN THE EXAMPLE ABOVE, WE USED A SPECIFIC $y_1(x)$; BUT THE METHOD CAN BE GENERALLY APPLIED. START WITH ABEL'S IDENTITY TO GENERATE A LINEAR FIRST-ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION, THEN USE AN INTEGRATING FACTOR TO ARRIVE AT THE FULL SOLUTION (SHOW THIS.)

$$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \int_{x_0}^x \frac{1}{y_1^2(x')} \exp \left[- \int_{x_0}^{x'} P(x'') dx'' \right] dx'$$

REDUCTION-OF-ORDER SOLUTION FOR A
SECOND-ORDER HOMOGENEOUS EQUATION

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VARIATION OF PARAMETERS

IT IS USEFUL TO THINK OF THE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION AS A LINEAR OPERATOR \mathcal{L} ACTING ON THE FUNCTION $y(x)$:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + Q(x)y = R(x) \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{L}(x) \cdot y(x) = R(x)$$

WHERE $\mathcal{L}(x) = \left[\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{d}{dx} + Q(x) \right]$

AND THE LINEARLY-INDEPENDENT HOMOGENEOUS SOLUTIONS $y_1(x)$ & $y_2(x)$ AS THE BASIS VECTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE LINEAR OPERATOR $\mathcal{L}(x)$. IT SHOULD COME AS NO SURPRISE THAT WE CAN CONSTRUCT A PARTICULAR SOLUTION $y_p(x)$ IN TERMS OF THE HOMOGENEOUS SOLUTIONS - IN ANALOGY WITH LINEAR ALGEBRA, WE WRITE,

$$y_p(x) = V_1(x) y_1(x) + V_2(x) y_2(x)$$

AND DETERMINE THE WEIGHTING FUNCTIONS V_1 & V_2 . THIS APPROACH IS CALLED 'VARIATION OF PARAMETERS'.

TAKING A DERIVATIVE,

$$y_p' = V_1 y_1' + V_1' y_1 + V_2 y_2' + V_2' y_2$$

WE CAN SIMPLIFY THE ALGEBRA BY SETTING $V_1' y_1 + V_2' y_2 = 0$. IN FACT, WE CAN SIMPLIFY THE ALGEBRA A LOT BY

SETTING

$$V_1' y_1 + V_2' y_2 = 0 \quad (1)$$

THEN, THE FIRST TWO DERIVATIVES OF y_p ARE,

$$y_p' = v_1 y_1' + v_2 y_2' \quad \text{AND} \quad y_p'' = v_1 y_1'' + v_2 y_2'' + v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2'$$

SUBSTITUTING INTO THE ORIGINAL DIFFERENTIAL EQ., AND USING THE FACT THAT $y_1(x)$ & $y_2(x)$ SOLVE THE HOMOGENEOUS EQ.,

$$y_p'' + P(x) y_p' + Q(x) y_p = R(x)$$

$$v_1 [y_1'' + P y_1' + Q y_1] + v_2 [y_2'' + P y_2' + Q y_2] + v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2' = R(x)$$

$\hookrightarrow 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \hookrightarrow 0$

$$\boxed{v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2' = R(x)} \quad (2)$$

COMBINING COMBINING EQS (1) & (2) IN MATRIX-VECTOR FORM:

BECAUSE y_1 & y_2 ARE LINEARLY INDEPENDENT, $W[y_1, y_2] \neq 0$, AND THIS MATRIX IS INVERTIBLE!

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1' \\ v_2' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ R(x) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_1' \\ v_2' \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{W[y_1, y_2](x)} \begin{bmatrix} y_2' & -y_2 \\ -y_1' & y_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ R(x) \end{bmatrix}$$

$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{bmatrix}^{-1}}$

OR,

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_1' \\ v_2' \end{bmatrix} = \frac{R(x)}{W[y_1, y_2](x)} \begin{bmatrix} -y_2 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

INTEGRATING EACH COMPONENT TO DETERMINE $v_1(x)$ & $v_2(x)$, THE FULL PARTICULAR SOLUTION IS:

$$y_p(x) = y_1(x) \underbrace{\int_{x_0}^x \frac{-y_2(x') R(x')}{W[y_1, y_2](x')} dx'}_{v_1(x)} + y_2(x) \underbrace{\int_{x_0}^x \frac{y_1(x') R(x')}{W[y_1, y_2](x')} dx'}_{v_2(x)}$$

NOTICE THAT WE CAN WRITE THE PARTICULAR SOLUTION AS

$$y_p(x) = \int_{x_0}^x \underbrace{\frac{y_2(x)y_1(x') - y_1(x)y_2(x')}{W[y_1, y_2](x')}} R(x') dx' \quad (*)$$

THE KERNEL OF THIS INTEGRAL OPERATOR ON $R(x)$ IS CALLED THE 'GREEN'S FUNCTION' ASSOCIATED WITH THE LINEAR DIFFERENTIAL OPERATOR,

$$G(x, x') = \frac{y_2(x)y_1(x') - y_1(x)y_2(x')}{W[y_1, y_2](x')}$$

THE INTEGRAL $(*)$ CAN THEN BE THOUGHT OF AS THE 'INVERSE' OF THE LINEAR DIFFERENTIAL OPERATOR, ACTING ON THE INHOMOGENEOUS FUNCTION $R(x)$:

$$\underbrace{\left[\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{d}{dx} + Q(x) \right]}_{L(x)} y_p(x) = R(x)$$

$$L(x)y_p(x) = R(x) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad y_p(x) = \int_{x_0}^x G(x, x') R(x') dx'$$

THE CONNECTION BETWEEN LINEAR ALGEBRA & DIFFERENTIAL EOS RUNS DEEP; YOU WILL SEE MORE IN COURSES ON PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EOS (eg. AMATH 353), QUANTUM MECHANICS (eg. AM373 / AM473), AND FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS (eg. AMATH 731).

EXERCISE: SHOW THAT $\left[\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{d}{dx} + Q(x) \right] \int_{x_0}^x G(x, x') R(x') dx' = R(x)$.

*SHOW THAT $\int_{x_0}^x G(x, x') \left[\frac{d^2}{dx'^2} y + P(x') \frac{d}{dx'} y + Q(x') y \right] dx' = y_p(x)$.

EXAMPLE $x^2 y'' - 2xy' + 2y = x^3 \sin x$

RE-WRITING IN STANDARD FORM:

$$y'' - \frac{2}{x} y' + \frac{2}{x^2} y = x \sin x$$

$y_1 = x$ AND $y_2 = x^2$ ARE INDEPENDENT SOLUTIONS OF THE HOMOGENEOUS EQ ON AN INTERVAL NOT CONTAINING $x=0$.

AND $W[y_1, y_2](x) = 2x^2 - x^2 = x^2$. USE OUR EXPRESSION FOR THE PARTICULAR SOLUTION:

$$y_p = \underbrace{x}_{y_1} \cdot \underbrace{\int_{x_0}^x \frac{-x'^2 (x' \sin x')}{x'^2} dx'}_{v_1} + \underbrace{x^2}_{y_2} \underbrace{\int_{x_0}^x \frac{x' \cdot (x' \sin x')}{x'^2} dx'}_{v_2}$$

~~AT THE LOWER LIMIT OF INTEGRATION,~~

$$= x \int_{x_0}^x -x' \sin x' dx' + x^2 \int_{x_0}^x \sin x' dx'$$

$$= x [x \cos x - \sin x - \underbrace{x_0 \cos x_0 + \sin x_0}_{\text{CONSTANT } C_1}] + x^2 [-\cos x + \underbrace{\cos x_0}_{\text{CONSTANT } C_2}]$$

$$= x^2 \cos x - x \sin x - C_1 x - x^2 \cos x + C_2 x^2$$

$$= -x \sin x - \underbrace{C_1 x + C_2 x^2}_{\text{HOMOGENEOUS SOLUTIONS.}}$$

THE LOWER LIMIT ($x'=x_0$) WILL ALWAYS PRODUCE A LINEAR COMBINATION OF THE HOMOGENEOUS SOLUTIONS. THESE CAN SIMPLY BE COMBINED WITH THE GENERAL SOLUTION. ALTOGETHER, THE PARTICULAR SOLUTION IS:

$$y_p(x) = -x \sin x.$$

TRY IT: $y_p' = -x \cos x - \sin x$ & $y_p'' = -2 \cos x + x \sin x.$

SO, $x^2 y_p'' - 2x y_p' + 2y_p = \cancel{[(-x^3 \cos x - x^2 \sin x)]}$

$$= (-2x^2 \cos x + x^3 \sin x) + (2x^2 \cos x + 2x \sin x) - 2x \sin x$$

$$= x^3 \sin x \checkmark$$

EXERCISE: $y'' + y = \sec x$. GIVEN $y_1 = \sin x$ & $y_2 = \cos x$
($0 \leq x < \pi/2$)

SOLUTION: $y_p = x \sin x + \cos x \ln(\cos x)$

POWER SERIES SOLUTIONS OF ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

RECALL ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RESULTS FROM FRESHMAN CALCULUS - POWER SERIES REPRESENTATION OF FUNCTIONS. THESE ARE INFINITE-ORDER POLYNOMIALS,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n (x-x_0)^n = C_0 + C_1 (x-x_0) + \dots$$

\nwarrow CONSTANTS.

WE SAY THE SERIES CONVERGES IF THE SEQUENCE OF PARTIAL SUMS

$$S_N = \sum_{n=0}^N C_n (x-x_0)^n \text{ CONVERGES AS } N \rightarrow \infty,$$

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_N = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n (x-x_0)^n$$

THE INTERVAL ABOUT x_0 FOR WHICH THE SERIES CONVERGES IS CALLED THE 'RADIUS OF CONVERGENCE' ρ .

i.e.

FOR $|x-x_0| < \rho$, THE POWER SERIES CONVERGES ABSOLUTELY, AND BEHAVES, FOR ALL INTENTS & PURPOSES, LIKE AN ORDINARY FUNCTION. IN PARTICULAR,

IF $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$ & $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (x-x_0)^n$ CONVERGE TO $f(x)$ & $g(x)$, RESPECTIVELY, FOR $|x-x_0| < \rho$, THEN (FOR $|x-x_0| < \rho$),

$$i) f(x) \pm g(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n \pm b_n) (x-x_0)^n \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{LIKEWISE, MULTIPLICATION} \\ \text{AND DIVISION} \end{array} \right]$$

ii) SERIES CAN BE DIFFERENTIATED & INTEGRATED TERM-WISE,

$$\text{eg/ } \frac{df}{dx} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \cdot a_n (x-x_0)^{n-1} \quad \& \quad \int f(x) dx = C + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{(n+1)} (x-x_0)^{n+1}$$

A FUNCTION THAT IS EQUAL TO A POWER SERIES IN A NEIGHBOURHOOD OF x_0 IS SAID TO BE ANALYTIC AT x_0 , AND THE COEFFICIENTS OF THE POWER SERIES ARE GIVEN BY TAYLOR'S FORMULA:

$$C_n = \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!}$$

BEING ANALYTIC IMPLIES BEING INFINITELY-DIFFERENTIABLE, BUT THE OPPOSITE IS NOT TRUE. NEVERTHELESS, POLYNOMIALS & RATIONAL FUNCTIONS ARE ANALYTIC ON POINTS FOR WHICH THEY ARE DEFINED.

$$e^x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!} = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \dots \quad \cos x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!} = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^4}{4!} - \dots \quad \sin x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots$$

A VERY CLEVER APPROACH TO THE SOLUTION OF ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION IS TO ASSUME A POWER-SERIES FORM FOR THE SOLUTION, THEN SOLVE FOR THE COEFFICIENTS. THAT IS, MAKE A TAYLOR SERIES EXPANSION BEFORE YOU KNOW WHAT THE FUNCTION IS. IN SOME CASES, THE SERIES IS RECOGNIZABLE AND CAN BE CONVERTED INTO A CLOSED-FORM, BUT OFTEN THE POWER-SERIES ITSELF DEFINES A NEW 'SPECIAL FUNCTION'!

EX. $y' = y$; $y(0) = 1$

ASSUME $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots$ AND USE THE DIFFERENTIAL EQ. TO FIND CONSTRAINTS THAT DETERMINE a_n . DIFFERENTIATING TERM-WISE,

$$y' = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1} = a_1 + 2a_2 x + 3a_3 x^2 + \dots \quad \text{TO 'SOLVE' THE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION, WE NEED TO CHOOSE}$$

COEFFICIENTS a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots SO THAT

$$\underbrace{a_1 + 2a_2 x + 3a_3 x^2 + \dots + (n+1)a_{n+1} x^n + \dots}_{y'} = \underbrace{a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_n x^n + \dots}_{y'}$$

THIS EQUATION IS SATISFIED FOR ALL x IF THE COEFFICIENTS OF x^n MATCH; THAT DEGENERATES AN INFINITE SYSTEM OF EQUATIONS,

$$a_1 = a_0$$

$$2a_2 = a_1$$

$$3a_3 = a_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$(n+1)a_{n+1} = a_n$$

OR, $\boxed{a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n}{(n+1)} \quad n=0,1,2,\dots}$

APPLY THE RECURSIVE CONSTRAINT: $a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n}{(n+1)} = \frac{1}{(n+1)} \frac{a_{n-1}}{n} = \dots = \frac{a_0}{(n+1)!}$

SO THE SOLUTION IS:

$$y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_0 \frac{x^n}{n!} \quad \text{FROM THE INITIAL CONDITION, } y(0) = 1 \Rightarrow a_0 = 1$$