

## Lecture 13

### 2.3. Basis and Dimension (cont.)

#### Dimension of vector space of Solutions to a homogeneous ODE

Theorem (Existence and uniqueness  
of solns to linear ODE's).

Let

$$\begin{aligned} y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(x)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1(x)y'' \\ \textcircled{*} \qquad \qquad \qquad + a_0(x)y = 0 \end{aligned}$$

be a linear homogeneous ODE on an  
interval  $I$ , where  $a_0(x), \dots, a_{n-1}(x)$   
are continuous on  $I$ .

Let  $x_0 \in I$ , and :

initial conditions

$$\begin{cases} y(x_0) = c_0 \\ y^{(1)}(x_0) = c_1 \\ \vdots \\ y^{(n-1)}(x_0) = c_{n-1} \end{cases} \quad (**)$$

where  $c_0, \dots, c_{n-1}$  are arbitrary constants. Then there exists a unique soln to the ODE (\*) satisfying the initial conditions (\*\*).

Proof - won't do.

Corollary Let  $V$  be the vector space of solns to an  $n^{\text{th}}$  order homogeneous linear ODE on an interval  $I$ ,

$$y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(x)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1(x)y^{(1)} + a_0(x)y = 0$$

where  $a_1(x), \dots, a_{n-1}(x)$  are continuous on  $I$ . Then

$$\dim(V) = n.$$

Proof Choose  $x_0 \in I$ . By the existence part of prev. Theorem, we know that there exist

$$y_0, \dots, y_{n-1} \in V$$

Satisfying :

$$y_i^{(j)}(x_0) = \delta_{ij} \quad i, j = 1, \dots, n-1$$

$y_0$	$y_1$	...	$y_{n-1}$
$y_0 \in V$	$y_1 \in V$		$y_{n-1} \in V$
$y_0(x_0) = 1$	$y_1(x_0) = 0$		$y_{n-1}(x_0) = 0$
$y_0'(x_0) = 0$	$y_1^{(1)}(x_0) = 1$		$y_{n-1}^{(1)}(x_0) = 0$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$		$\vdots$
$y_0^{(n-1)}(x_0) = 0$	$y_1^{(n-1)}(x_0) = 0$		$y_{n-1}^{(n-1)}(x_0) = 1$



Claim  $\{y_0, \dots, y_{n-1}\}$  is a basis  
for  $V$ .

$\{y_0, \dots, y_{n-1}\}$  is linearly independent:

Suppose

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{0} & \quad k_0 y_0 + \dots + k_{n-1} y_{n-1} = 0 \\ \therefore \textcircled{1} & \quad k_0 y_0' + \dots + k_{n-1} y_{n-1}' = 0 \\ & \quad \vdots \\ \textcircled{n-1} & \quad k_0 y_0^{(n-1)} + \dots + k_{n-1} y_{n-1}^{(n-1)} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Evaluating  $\textcircled{0}$  at  $x = x_0$ :

$$k_0 \underbrace{y_0(x_0)}_1 + k_1 \underbrace{y_1(x_0)}_0 + \dots + k_{n-1} \underbrace{y_{n-1}(x_0)}_0 = 0$$

$\therefore k_0 = 0$

Evaluating (1) at  $x_0$ :

$$k_0 \underbrace{y_0'(x_0)}_{=0} + k_1 \underbrace{y_1'(x_0)}_{=1} + \dots + k_{n-1} \underbrace{y_{n-1}'(x_0)}_{=0} = 0$$

$$\therefore k_1 = 0$$

Similarly,  $k_2 = 0, \dots, k_{n-1} = 0$ .

$\therefore \{y_0, \dots, y_{n-1}\}$  is lin. ind.

$\{y_0, \dots, y_{n-1}\}$  spans  $V$

Let  $y \in V$ . Let

$$c_0 := y(x_0)$$

$$c_1 := y^{(1)}(x_0)$$

$\vdots$

$$c_{n-1} := y^{(n-1)}(x_0)$$

Let

$$f = c_0 y_0 + c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_{n-1} y_{n-1}$$

Claim :  $f = y$ .

We know  $f$  solves ODE. And:

$$\begin{aligned} f^{(0)}(x_0) &= c_0 & \dots & f^{(n-1)}(x_0) = c_{n-1} \\ f^{(1)}(x_0) &= c_1 \end{aligned}$$

∴ By the uniqueness part of  
prev Thm, we must have

$$f=y.$$

∴  $\{y_0, \dots, y_{n-1}\}$  spans  $V$ .

∴ a basis

$$\therefore \dim(V) = n.$$

□

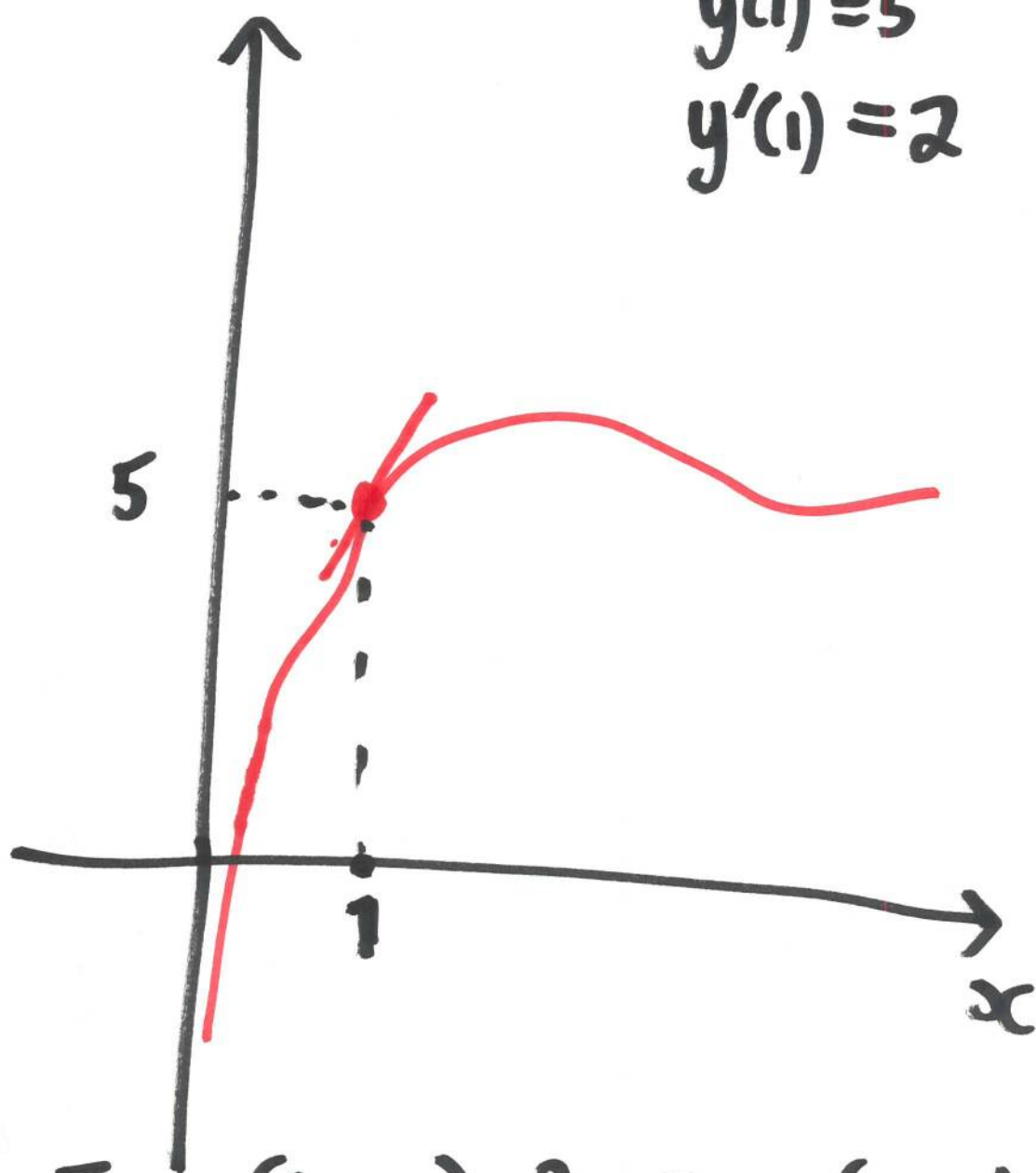


$$y'' - \frac{3}{x} y' + \frac{5}{x^2} y = 0$$

$$x \in (0, \infty)$$

$$y(1) = 5$$

$$y'(1) = 2$$



$$y = 5 \cos(\log x) x^2 - 3 \sin(\log x) x^2$$

$$y_0(1) = 1$$

$$y_0'(1) = 0$$

$$y_1(1) = 0$$

$$y_1'(1) = 1$$

$$y_0 = x^2 \left( \cos(\log x) - 2 \sin(\log x) \right)$$

$$y_1 = x^2 \sin(\log x).$$

$$y'' - \frac{3}{x} y' + \frac{5}{x^2} y = 0$$