

Standard Form of Second Order Linear Differential Equations

$$P(x) \ddot{y} + Q(x) \dot{y} + R(x)y = b(x)$$

Special Case: $b(x) = 0$ (Homogeneous)

$$P(x) \ddot{y} + Q(x) \dot{y} + R(x)y = 0$$

Theorem:

If $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ are both solutions of
 $P(x) \ddot{y} + Q(x) \dot{y} + R(x)y = 0$ ← Homogeneous
and c_1, c_2 are constants with only constants,
then

$$y(x) = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x)$$

is also a solution

Two solutions are linearly independent if they are not constant multiples of each other.

Theorem:

If y_1 and y_2 are linear independent solutions of $P(x)y' + Q(x)y + R(x)y = 0$ Homogeneous

then any solution, $y(x)$ can be expressed as $y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$

for some constants c_1 & c_2

Constant Coefficients

$$a\ddot{y} + b\dot{y} + cy = 0$$

(a, b, c are constants, and equation is homogeneous)

Is there some $y(x)$, for which

$$a\ddot{y} + b\dot{y} + cy = 0?$$

guess: $y(x) = e^{rx}$, for some r

$$\dot{y} = re^{rx}$$

$$\ddot{y} = r^2 e^{rx}$$

$$a\ddot{y} + b\dot{y} + cy = (ar^2 + br + c)e^{rx}$$

Can we find r such that:

$$(ar^2 + br + c)e^{rx} = 0?$$

We know that $c''x$ cannot be zero.
So it must come the Characteristic equations!

$$(Ax^2 + bx + c)$$

Knowing that, let's set it equal to zero,
and solve for x !

Example:

$$\ddot{y} + \dot{y} - 6y = 0$$

make guess

$$(r^2 + r - 6) e^{rx} = 0$$

$$\text{So } r = -3, r = 2$$

$$(r+3)(r-2) = 0$$

$$\text{So let } y_1 = e^{-3x}$$

$$y_2 = e^{2x}$$

(We can actually check our solution if desired!)

$$\dot{y}_1 = -3e^{-3x}, \quad \ddot{y}_1 = 9e^{-3x}$$

(Plug I.)

$$9e^{-3x} - 3e^{-3x} - 6e^{-3x}$$

$\underset{\text{Homogeneous}}{=} 0$

So e^{-3x} is a solution!

(Homogeneous answer!)

Note: y_1 and y_2 are L.I. ($\frac{y_2}{y_1} = \frac{e^{2x}}{e^{-3x}} = e^{5x}$)

So,

NOT
constant

$$y(x) = C_1 e^{-3x} + C_2 e^{2x}$$

going From DE problem $\xrightarrow{\text{to}}$ Algebra problem

With guesses!

Getting r:

Best Case Scenario.

The discriminant is > 0 $(b^2 - 4ac)$

Roots are real.

Next Case Scenario

The discriminant is 0
or you only have one root! $(b^2 - 4ac = 0)$

$$y_1 = c^r x$$

Solution One

$$y_2 = x c^r x$$

Solution Two

Solutions need to be L.I.!

Solutions can't Dupe!

only one real root here!

$$y_1 = C_1 e^{rx} + C_2 x e^{rx}$$

Final Case

The discriminante is negative $(b^2 - 4ac < 0)$

We get two complex roots

$$r_1 = \alpha + i\beta, r_2 = \alpha - i\beta$$

... and they are conjugates!

Solutions

$$y_1 = e^{r_1 x}, y_2 = e^{r_2 x}$$

General Solution

$$y = C_1 e^{(\alpha + i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha - i\beta)x}$$

...

... some clever's idententities later

$$y = e^{\alpha x} (C_1 \cos \beta x + C_2 \sin \beta x)$$

Initial and Boundary-Value Problems

Example: Solve $\ddot{y} + y = 0$ with the initial conditions
 $y(0) = 2$ and $\dot{y}(0) = 3$

Char Eqn: $r^2 + 1 = 0$

$$r = \sqrt{-1} = \pm 1 = 0 \pm i; \\ \alpha \pm \beta i$$

General Solution:

$$y = e^{0x} [C_1 \cos x + C_2 \sin x]$$

$$\boxed{y = C_1 \cos x + C_2 \sin x}$$

Apply IC's $y(0) = 2$

$$C_1 \cos(0) + C_2 \sin(0) = C_1 \cdot 1 + C_2 \cdot 0 = C_1$$

$$C_1 = 2$$

and if we do the same for C_2 ...

$$C_2 = 3$$

Thus...

$$y(x) = 2 \cos x + 3 \sin x$$

Example: Solve $\ddot{y} + 2\dot{y} + 1 = 0$ with the boundary

conditions

$$y(0) = 1, \quad y(1) = 3$$

Char eq: $r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0$

$$(r+1)^2 = 0$$

$$r = -1$$

General solution for one real root

$$\underline{y = C_1 e^{-x} + C_2 x e^{-x}}$$

Apply BC's

$$y(0) = 1 \quad y(0) = C_1 e^0 + C_2 0 e^0 = C_1$$

$$\text{So } C_1 = 1$$

$$y(1) = 3 \quad y(1) = C_1 e^{-1} + C_2 \cdot 1 \cdot e^{-1} = \frac{1 + C_2}{e}$$

$$\frac{1 + C_2}{e} = 3$$

$$C_2 = 3e - 1$$

Thus

$$y = e^{-x} + (3e - 1) x e^{-x}$$