

## 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

$$P(x)y' + Q(x)y + R(x)y = 0$$

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.)

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

$= 0$  (Homogeneous

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

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