

## 2.5 Euler–Cauchy Equations

$$x^2 y'' + axy' + by = 0$$

$a, b$  are  
constants.

$y = x^m$  trial solution

$$m(m-1)x^m + amx^m + bx^m = 0$$

$$(m^2 + (a-1)m + b) x^m = 0$$

Characteristic eq<sup>n</sup> / Auxilliary eq<sup>n</sup>

$$m^2 + (a-1)m + b = 0$$

Definition: of real arbitrary power

$$x^a := e^{a \ln(x)}$$

$$m^2 + (a-1)m + b = 0$$

Case (i)

roots are real & distinct : say

$$m_1, m_2$$

two independent real solutions:  $x^{m_1}, x^{m_2}$

general solution of the ODE :

$$y = C_1 x^{m_1} + C_2 x^{m_2}$$

$$m^2 + (a-1)m + b = 0$$

Case (2) say the roots are in complex pairs

$$m = \alpha \pm i$$

$$y_1 = x^{(\alpha+i\beta)}$$

$$y_2 = x^{(\alpha-i\beta)}$$

Job: find real & imaginary parts of  $x^{(\alpha+i\beta)}$

$$e^{i\theta} = \cos \theta + i \sin \theta$$

$$x^{(2+3i)} = x^2 \cdot x^{3i} = x^2 e^{3i \log x}$$

$$= x^2 [\cos(3 \log x) + i \sin(3 \log x)]$$

$$\rightarrow \text{real}(x^{2+3i}) = x^2 \cos(3 \log x)$$

$$\rightarrow \text{im}(x^{2+3i}) = x^2 \sin(3 \log x)$$

$$x^{\alpha+i\beta} = x^{\alpha} [\cos(\beta \log(x)) + i \sin(\beta \log(x))]$$

$$y_1 = \text{Re}(x^{\alpha+i\beta})$$

$$y_2 = \text{Im}(x^{\alpha+i\beta})$$

H.W. if  $\alpha+i\beta$  solves  
the char eq<sup>n</sup>  
then  $\text{Re}(x^{\alpha+i\beta})$  &  $\text{Im}(x^{\alpha+i\beta})$   
also solve the EC eq<sup>n</sup>

$$x^2 y'' - 20y = 0$$

Char eq<sup>n</sup>

$$m^2 + (a-1)m + b = 0$$

$$m^2 - m - 20 = 0$$

$$(m - 5)(m + 4) = 0$$

$$m = 5, -4$$

general solution

$$y = c_1 x^5 + \frac{c_2}{x^4}$$

$$xy'' + 2y' = 0$$

$$x^2 y'' + 2x y' = 0$$

Char eq<sup>n</sup>

$$m^2 + (a-1)m + b = 0$$

$$m^2 + m = 0$$

$$m(m+1) = 0$$

$$m = 0, -1$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} y &= C_1 x^0 + C_2 x^{-1} \\ &= C_1 + \frac{C_2}{x} \end{aligned}$$



$$(x^2 D^2 - 3xD + 10I)y = 0$$

$$x^2 y'' - 3xy' + 10y = 0$$

$$\text{char. eqn} : m^2 - 4m + 10 = 0$$

$$m = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 40}}{2} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-24}}{2}$$

$$= 2 \pm i\sqrt{6}$$

$$D = \frac{d}{dx}$$

$$Dy = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$Iy = y$$

$$y = x^2 \left[ C_1 \cos(\sqrt{6} \log x) + C_2 \sin(\sqrt{6} \log(x)) \right]$$

Case ③

$$x^2 y'' + a x y' + b y = 0$$

$$\text{trial sol}^n: y = x^m$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{suppose } m^2 + (a-1)m + b = 0$$

has repeated real root, say  $m$

$\rightarrow$  now we have one solution  $y = x^m$

$\rightarrow$  find  $y_2 = u(x) x^m$ , where  $u(x)$  needs to be determined.

$\rightarrow$  plug  $u x^m$  in the above ODE, get an  
eq<sup>n</sup> for  $u$

$\wedge$  then solve that eq<sup>n</sup> to get  $u$

$$x^2 y'' + a x y' + b y = 0$$

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Recall

$$[m^2 + (a-1)m + b] x^m = 0$$

$$b(y = u x^m)$$

$$a x (y' = m u x^{m-1} + u' x^m)$$

$$x^2 (y'' = m(m-1) u x^{m-2} + 2m u' x^{m-1} + u'' x^m)$$

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$$0 = 0 + u' a x^{m+1} + 2m u' x^{m+1} + u'' x^{m+2}$$

$$\underline{0 = u'(2m+a) + u''x}$$

$$m^2 + (a-1)m + b = 0 \quad \& \quad \text{roots are repeated}$$

then

$$m = -\frac{(a-1)}{2} \quad \Big| \Rightarrow 2m+a=1$$

the governing eq<sup>n</sup> for  $u$  is

$$0 = u' + u''x$$

$$0 = v + v'x$$

$$\text{say } v = u'$$

$$v'x = -v$$

$$\frac{1}{v} v' = -\frac{1}{x}$$

$$\log v = -\ln x$$

$$v = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$u' = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$u = \log x$$

Case ③ if  $m^2 + (a-1)m + b = 0$

has repeated roots  $m$ ,

then the general solution of the EC eq<sup>n</sup>

is  $y = C_1 x^m + C_2 x^m \log x$

12.  $x^2 y'' - 4xy' + 6y = 0, \quad y(1) = 0.4, \quad y'(1) = 0$

$$y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$$

