

Week 2

2nd Order, Homogeneous, Autonomous Linear ODEs

$$\ddot{x} + p \dot{x} + q x = 0, \quad x(0) = x_0, \quad \dot{x}(0) = y_0.$$

Let $y(t) := \dot{x}(t)$, then

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y \\ \dot{y} = -p y - q x \end{cases}$$

Therefore, by denoting $v := \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$ (i.e., $v: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$),

$$\dot{v} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -q & -p \end{bmatrix}}_{=: A} v = A v$$

$$\text{E. values: } |A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ -q & -p - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda(p + \lambda) + q = \lambda^2 + p\lambda + q = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lambda_{\pm} = \frac{-p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - 4q}}{2}$$

$$\text{E. vectors: } \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda_{\pm} & 1 \\ -q & -p - \lambda_{\pm} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{\pm} \\ y_{\pm} \end{bmatrix} = 0 \Leftrightarrow -\lambda_{\pm} x_{\pm} + y_{\pm} = 0 \Leftrightarrow y_{\pm} = \lambda_{\pm} x_{\pm}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_{\pm} \\ y_{\pm} \end{bmatrix} = c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \lambda_{\pm} \end{bmatrix} \text{ where } c \neq 0 \text{ constant.}$$

★ Recall what we did in week 1. If $\lambda_+ \neq \lambda_-$ (i.e., $p^2 - 4q \neq 0$), then

the eigenvectors $v_{\pm} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \lambda_{\pm} \end{bmatrix}$ span the whole space \mathbb{R}^2

$$\text{and } A = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \lambda_+ & \lambda_- \end{bmatrix}}_P \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_+ & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_- \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \lambda_+ & \lambda_- \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = P D P^{-1}$$

$$\dot{v} = A v \Leftrightarrow \frac{d}{dt}(P^{-1}v) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_+ & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_- \end{bmatrix} (P^{-1}v). \text{ Thus if } w := \begin{pmatrix} w_+ \\ w_- \end{pmatrix} = P^{-1}v, \text{ then}$$

$$\dot{w}_{\pm} = \lambda_{\pm} w_{\pm} \Leftrightarrow w_{\pm} = A_{\pm} e^{\lambda_{\pm} t}, \text{ where } A_{\pm} \text{ are constants } (= w_{\pm}(0).)$$

$$\text{Then } v = P w = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \lambda_+ & \lambda_- \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_+ e^{\lambda_+ t} \\ A_- e^{\lambda_- t} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_+ e^{\lambda_+ t} + A_- e^{\lambda_- t} \\ \dots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{solution.}$$

A Distinct Roots Thus, the general solution is, if $\lambda_+ \neq \lambda_-$ (i.e., $p^2 - 4q \neq 0$),

$$x = A_+ e^{\lambda_+ t} + A_- e^{\lambda_- t}$$

A_{\pm} can be determined by the initial condition:

A1 Two Real Roots

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = x_0 \\ \dot{x}(0) = y_0 \end{cases} \text{ gives } \begin{cases} x_0 = A_+ + A_- \\ y_0 = \lambda_+ A_+ + \lambda_- A_- \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \lambda_+ & \lambda_- \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A_+ \\ A_- \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A_+ \\ A_- \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ \lambda_+ & \lambda_- \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{-1}{\lambda_+ - \lambda_-} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_- & -1 \\ -\lambda_+ & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \text{e.g. } \ddot{x} - 3\dot{x} + 2x = 0. \quad p = -3, q = 2 \Rightarrow \lambda_+ = 2, \lambda_- = 1, \text{ and} \\ x(t) = A_+ e^{2t} + A_- e^t. \\ \cdot \text{ If } x(0) = 3, \dot{x}(0) = 4, \text{ then } \begin{bmatrix} A_+ \\ A_- \end{bmatrix} = -\frac{1}{2-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \\ \text{and thus } x(t) = e^{2t} + 2e^t. \end{array} \right]$$

A2 Complex Roots

Note that when $p^2 - 4q < 0$, $\lambda_{\pm} = r \pm si$

$$\text{where } r = -p/2, \quad s = \sqrt{-(p^2 - 4q)}/2$$

$$\text{Then } A_+ e^{\lambda_+ t} + A_- e^{\lambda_- t}$$

$$= (A_+ + A_-) e^{rt} \cos(st) + i(A_+ - A_-) e^{rt} \sin(st)$$

$$\text{It is convenient to define } \begin{cases} B_+ = A_+ + A_- \\ B_- = i(A_+ - A_-) \end{cases}$$

and denote the general solution by

$$x(t) = e^{rt} (B_+ \cos(st) + B_- \sin(st))$$

B_{\pm} can also be determined by the initial condition:

$$\begin{cases} x_0 = x(0) = B_+ \\ y_0 = \dot{x}(0) = rB_+ + sB_- \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ r & s \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_+ \\ B_- \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} B_+ \\ B_- \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{s} \begin{bmatrix} s & 0 \\ -r & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{Recall that } s > 0)$$

e.g. $\ddot{x} + x = 0$

$p = 0, q = 1 \Rightarrow \lambda_{\pm} = \pm i, \begin{Bmatrix} r \\ s \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{Bmatrix} \Rightarrow x(t) = B_+ \cos t + B_- \sin t$

B_+ and B_- are determined by the initial condition $x(0)$ and $\dot{x}(0)$.

If $\begin{cases} x(0) = 1 \\ \dot{x}(0) = 2 \end{cases}$ then $\begin{bmatrix} B_+ \\ B_- \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and

$x(t) = \cos t + 2 \sin t.$

B Repeated Roots

Now, what if $\lambda_+ = \lambda_- = \lambda$? i.e., $p^2 - 4q = 0$ and A is not diagonalizable?

Recall the Jordan normal form which always exists:

$$A = P J P^{-1}, \text{ where } J = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

Again, $P^{-1} \dot{v} = J(P^{-1}v)$ thus letting $w := \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} = P^{-1}v$, we have

$$\begin{cases} \dot{w}_1 = \lambda w_1 + w_2 \\ \dot{w}_2 = \lambda w_2 \end{cases}$$

Solve using back substitution: $w_2 = e^{\lambda t}$, (up to a const. factor)

$$\dot{w}_1 = \lambda w_1 + e^{\lambda t} \Rightarrow w_1 = t e^{\lambda t}$$

No need to find the matrix P of generalized eigenvectors.

Because $x = (v)_t = (Pw)_t = P_{11}w_1 + P_{12}w_2 = (\text{linear comb. of } w_1 \text{ and } w_2) \text{ anyway.}$

Thus $x(t) = A e^{\lambda t} + B t e^{\lambda t}$ and determine A and B with the initial condition.

$$\begin{cases} x_0 = x(0) = A \\ y_0 = \dot{x}(0) = \lambda A + B \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 - \lambda x_0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Application to a Spring-mass System

A spring-mass system w/ no forces other than a spring force $(-kx)$ and friction $(-cv)$ is governed by

$$ma = -cv - kx \quad (\text{Newton's law: } F=ma)$$

where $\begin{cases} a = \ddot{x} & \text{acceleration} \\ v = \dot{x} & \text{velocity} \\ x & \text{displacement} \end{cases}$

In other words, $m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0$ (11.1 of the Textbook)

Q Classify, by using the theory covered today, 3 (possibly) qualitatively different classes of solutions ("oscillations") using the parameters m, c , and k .

$$D = c^2 - 4mk$$

A $c^2 - 4mk > 0$ (overdamped)

B $c^2 = 4mk$ (critically damped)

C $c^2 < 4mk$ (underdamped)

