

Ordinary Differential Equations

First-order ODEs

They are of the form:

$F(x, y, y') = 0$ or in explicit form $y' = f(x, y)$

involving the derivative $y' = dy/dt$ of an unknown function y , given functions of x , and/or y itself. A first-order ODE usually has a **general solution**; a solution involving an arbitrary constant, which is denoted by c . In applications we usually have to find a unique solution by determining a value of c from an **initial condition** of $y(x_0) = y_0$. Together with the ODE this is called an **initial value problem** with the following mathematical expression:

$y' = f(x, y), \quad y(x_0) = y_0 \quad (x_0, y_0 \text{ given numbers})$

and its solution is a **particular solution** of the ODE. A **separable ODE** is one that we can put into the form:

$g(y) \, dy = f(x) \, dx$

by algebraic manipulations (possibly combined with transformations, such as $y/x = u$) and solve by **integrating** on both sides. An **exact ODE**, on the other hand, is of the form

$M(x, y) \, dx + N(x, y) \, dy = 0$

where $M \, dx + N \, dy$ is the **differential** for and,

$du = u_x dx + u_y dy$

of a function $u(x, y)$, so that from $du = 0$ we immediately get the implicit general solution $u(x, y) = c$. The solution to u can be attained using two (2) ways:

$u = \int M \, dx + k(y) \quad \text{or} \quad u = \int N \, dy + l(x)$

Linear ODE's of the form:

$y' + p(x)y = r(x)$

are very important. Their solutions are given by the integral formula

$y(x) = e^{-h} \left(\int e^h r \, dx + c \right), \quad h = \int p(x) \, dx$

Certain nonlinear ODEs can be transformed to linear form in terms of new variables.

Second-order ODEs

A second-order ODE is called **linear** if it can be written as:

$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = r(x)$

The above equation is called **homogeneous** if $r(x)$ is zero for all x considered, usually in some open interval, this is written $r(x) = 0$. Then, this equation becomes:

$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = 0.$

The above equation is called **non-homogeneous** if $r(x) \neq 0$ (meaning $r(x)$ is not zero for some x considered). For the homogeneous ODE we have the important **superposition principle** that a linear combination of two solutions is again a solution.

Two **linearly independent** solutions y_1, y_2 on an open interval I form a **basis** (or **fundamental system**) of solutions. and $y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$ with arbitrary constants c_1, c_2 a **general solution**. From it, we obtain a **particular**

solution if we specify numeric values (numbers) for c_1 and c_2 , usually by prescribing two (2) **initial conditions**:

$y(x_0) = K_0, \quad y'(x_0) = K_1 \quad (x_0, K_0, K_1 \text{ are given}).$

This forms an **initial value problem**. For a nonhomogeneous ODE, a **general solution** is of the form

$y = y_h + y_p$

Here y_h is a **general** solution and y_p is a **particular** solution of. Such a y_p can be determined by a general method or in many practical cases by the *method of undetermined coefficients*. The latter applies when the above has constant coefficients p and q , and $r(x)$ is a power of x , sine, cosine, etc. (Table 3) Then we write (1) as

$y'' + ay' + by = r(x)$

Another large class of ODEs solvable "algebraically" consists of the **Euler-Cauchy equations**:

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

These have solutions of the form $y = x^m$, where m is a solution of the auxiliary equation

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

Depending of the roots different solutions can be derived (Table 6). A homogeneous ODE of

$y'' + ay' + by = 0$

can be solved by deriving its **characteristic** equation in the form:

$\lambda^2 + a\lambda + b = 0$

Depending of its roots of this equation different solutions can be derived (Table 5)

Higher-order ODEs

A higher order system is of the form:

$F(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0,$

Which through substitutions (i.e., $y^{iv} \rightarrow \lambda = y''$) it can be reduced to lower order forms. From there on, all principles from 2nd order ODEs can be applied.

System of ODEs

A system of ODEs (**linear**) can be written in the form:

$y' = Ay + g, \quad \text{where} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix},$
 $y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad g = \begin{bmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \end{bmatrix}.$

If $g = 0$, the system is called **homogeneous** and is of the form

$y' = Ay$

If a_{11}, \dots, a_{22} are **constants**, it has solutions

$y = x e^{\lambda t},$

where λ is a solution of the quadratic equation

$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (a_{11} - \lambda)(a_{22} - \lambda) - a_{12}a_{21} = 0$

and $x \neq 0$ has components x_1, x_2 determined up to a **multiplicative constant** by:

$(a_{11} - \lambda)x_1 + a_{12}x_2 = 0.$

These λ 's are called the **eigenvalues** and these vectors x **eigenvectors** of the matrix **A**. To calculate the **characteristic equation**:

$\det(A - \lambda I) = \lambda_2 - (a_{11} + a_{22})\lambda + \det(A) = 0.$

where:

$p = a_{11} + a_{22}, \quad q = \det A, \quad \Delta = p^2 - 4q.$

or in another form:

$p = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2, \quad q = \lambda_1 \lambda_2, \quad \Delta = (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2$

The stability criterion are given in Table 4.

Special Functions

The **power series method** gives solutions of linear ODEs:

$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = 0$

with **variable coefficients** p and q in the form of a power series (with any centre x_0 , e.g., $x_0 = 0$)

$y(x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_m (x - x_0)^m$
 $= a_0 + a_1(x - x_0) + a_2(x - x_0)^2 + \dots$

Legendre's differential equation:

$(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + n(n + 1)y = 0$

with its polynomial solution:

$P_n(x) = \sum_{m=0}^M (-1)^m \frac{(2n - 2m)!}{2^n m!(n - m)!(n - 2m)!} x^{n - 2m}$
 $= \frac{(2n)!}{2^n (n!)^2} x^n - \frac{(2n - 2)!}{2^n 1!(n - 1)!(n - 2)!} x^{n - 2} + \dots$

Frobenius Method states: Let $b(x)$ and $c(x)$ be any functions defined **analytic** at $x = 0$. Then the ODE:

$y'' + \frac{b(x)}{x}y' + \frac{c(x)}{x^2}y = 0 \tag{1}$

has **at least one solution** can be represented in the form:

$y(x) = x^r \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_m x^m$
 $= x^r (a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots) \quad (a_0 \neq 0)$

where the exponent r may be any (real or complex) number (and r is chosen so that $a_0 \neq 0$). It's **indicial equation** is:

$r(r - 1) + b_0 r + c_0 = 0$

Depending on the equations roots, we have the following three (3) cases:

Case 1. Distinct Roots Not Differing by an Integer
A basis is

$y_1(x) = x^{r_1} (a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots)$

and

$y_2(x) = x^{r_2} (A_0 + A_1 x + A_2 x^2 + \dots)$

with coefficients obtained successively from Eq. (1) with $r = r_1$ and $r = r_2$, respectively.

Case 2. Double Root $r_1 = r_2 = r$.
A basis is

$y_1(x) = x^r (a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots) \quad [r = \frac{1}{2}(1 - b_0)]$

(of the same general form as before) and

$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \ln x + x^r (A_1 x + A_2 x^2 + \dots) \quad (x > 0)$

Case 3. Roots Differing by an Integer. A basis is

$y_1(x) = x^{r_1} (a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots)$

(of the same general form as before) and

$y_2(x) = k y_1(x) \ln x + x^{r_2} (A_0 + A_1 x + A_2 x^2 + \dots)$

where the roots are so denoted that $r_1 - r_2 > 0$ and k may turn out to be zero. **Bessel's Equation** is of the form:

$x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - \nu^2)y = 0$

It solution of first kind is:

$J_n(x) = x^n \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^m x^{2m}}{2^{2m+n} m! (n + m)!} \quad (n \geq 0).$

Laplace Transform

The main purpose of Laplace transforms is the solution of differential equations and systems of such equations, as well as corresponding initial value problems. The Laplace transform $F(s) = \mathcal{L}(f)$ of a function $f(t)$ is defined by

F(s) = L(f) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st} f(t) dt

This definition is motivated by the property that the differentiation of f with respect to t corresponds to the multiplication of the transform F by s ; more precisely,

L(f') = sL(f) - f(0)
L(f'') = s^2L(f) - sf(0) - f'(0)

etc. Hence by taking the transform of a given differential equation

y'' + ay' + by = r(t) where a, b const.

and writing $\mathcal{L}(y) = Y(s)$, we obtain the subsidiary equation

(s^2 + as + b)Y = L(r) + sf(0) + f'(0) + af(0).

Here, in obtaining the transform $\mathcal{L}(r)$ we can get help from the Table 1. This is the first step. In the second step we solve the subsidiary equation algebraically for $Y(s)$. In the third step we determine the inverse transform $y(t) = \mathcal{L}^{-1}(Y)$, that is, the solution of the problem.

Linear Algebra

Fundamentals

A $m \times n$ matrix $A = [a_{jk}]$ is a rectangular array of numbers or functions arranged in m horizontal rows and n vertical columns. If $m = n$, the matrix is called square. A $1 \times n$ matrix is called a row vector and an $m \times 1$ matrix column vector.

The sum $A + B$ of matrices of the same size (i.e., both $m \times n$) is obtained by adding corresponding entries. The product of A by a scalar c is obtained by multiplying each a_{jk} by c .

The product $C = AB$ of an $m \times n$ matrix A by an $r \times p$ matrix $B = [b_{jk}]$ is defined only when $r = n$. It is associative, but is not commutative. If AB is defined, BA may not be defined, but even if BA is defined, $AB \neq BA$ in general. Also $AB = 0$ may not imply $A = 0$ or $B = 0$ or $BA = 0$.

The transpose A^T of a matrix $A = [a_{jk}]$ is $A^T = [a_{kj}]$. rows become columns and conversely. Here, A need not be square. If it is and $A = A^T$, then A is called symmetric; if $A = -A^T$, it is called symmetric. For a product, $(AB)^T = B^T A^T$.

A main application of matrices concerns linear systems of equations

Ax = b

(m equations in n unknowns x_1, \dots, x_n ; A and b given). The most important method of solution is the Gauss elimination, which reduces the system to "triangular" form by elementary row operations, which leave the set of solutions unchanged.

The inverse A^{-1} of a square matrix satisfies $AA^{-1} = A^{-1}A = I$. It exists if and only if $\det A \neq 0$. It can be computed by the Gauss-Jordan elimination.

The rank r of a matrix A is the maximum number of linearly independent rows or columns of A or, equivalently, the number of rows of the largest square sub-matrix of A with nonzero determinant. The system of equations has solutions if and only if $\text{rank } A = \text{rank}[A \ b]$, where $[A \ b]$ is the augmented matrix. The homogeneous system

Ax = 0

has solutions $x \neq 0$ ("nontrivial solutions") if and only if $\text{rank } A < n$, in the case $m = n$ equivalently if and only if $\det A = 0$.

Eigenvalue Problems

The problems are defined by the vector equation

Ax = λx.

A is a given square matrix. λ is a scalar. To solve the problem means to determine values of λ , called eigenvalues (or characteristic values) of A , such that, the above expression, has a nontrivial solution x (that is, $x \neq 0$), called an eigenvector of A corresponding to that λ . A $n \times n$ matrix has at least one and at most n numerically different eigenvalues. These are the solutions of the characteristic equation

D(λ) = det(A - λI) = 0.

$D(\lambda)$ is called the characteristic determinant of A . By expanding it we get the characteristic polynomial of A , which is of degree n in λ . Special matrices of importance are symmetric ($A^T = A$), skew-symmetric ($A^T = -A$), and orthogonal matrices ($A^T = A^{-1}$). concerns the diagonalization of matrices and the transformation of quadratic forms to principal axes and its relation to eigenvalues. If an $n \times n$ matrix A has a basis of eigenvectors, then

D = X^{-1}AX

is diagonal, with the eigenvalues of A as the entries on the main diagonal.

Here X is the matrix with these eigenvectors as column vectors. Also,

D^m = X^{-1}A^mX (m = 2, 3, ...).

Vector Calculus

All vectors of the form:

a = [a1, a2, a3] = (a1) x + (a2) y + (a3) z

constitute the real vector space R^3 with componentwise vector addition

[a1, a2, a3] + [b1, b2, b3] = [a1 + b1, a2 + b2, a3 + b3]

and componentwise scalar multiplication (c a scalar)

c[a1, a2, a3] = [ca1, ca2, ca3]

The inner product or dot product of two vectors is defined by

a · b = |a||b| cos θ = a1b1 + a2b2 + a3b3

where θ is the angle between a and b . This gives for the norm or length $|a|$ of a :

|a| = \sqrt{a · a} = \sqrt{a1^2 + a2^2 + a3^2}

as well as a formula for θ . If $a \cdot b = 0$, we call a and b orthogonal. The vector product or cross product $v = a \times b$ is a vector of length

a x b = |a||b| sin θ

which can also be represented as a determinant.

a x b = | x y z; a1 a2 a3; b1 b2 b3 |

This multiplication is anticommutative, and is not associative.

a x b = -b x a

Gradient is defined as:

∇f = ∂/∂x x + ∂/∂y y + ∂/∂z z

Divergence is defined as:

∇ · v = ∂vx/∂x + ∂vy/∂y + ∂vz/∂z.

Curl is defined as:

∇ x v = | x y z; ∂/∂x ∂/∂y ∂/∂z; vx vy vz |

Standard Integration Forms

Basic Forms

∫ x^n dx = 1/(n+1) x^{n+1}
∫ 1/x dx = ln|x|
∫ u dv = uv - ∫ v du
∫ 1/(ax+b) dx = 1/a ln|ax+b|

Integrals of Rational Functions

∫ 1/(x+a)^2 dx = -1/(x+a)
∫ (x+a)^n dx = (x+a)^{n+1}/(n+1), n ≠ -1
∫ x(x+a)^n dx = ((x+a)^{n+1}((n+1)x-a))/(n+1)(n+2)
∫ 1/(1+x^2) dx = tan^-1 x
∫ 1/(1+x^2) dx = arctan x
∫ 1/(a^2+x^2) dx = 1/a tan^-1 x/a
∫ x/(a^2+x^2) dx = 1/2 ln|a^2+x^2|
∫ x^2/(a^2+x^2) dx = x - a tan^-1 x/a
∫ x^3/(a^2+x^2) dx = 1/2 x^2 - 1/2 a^2 ln|a^2+x^2|
∫ 1/(ax^2+bx+c) dx = 2/√(4ac-b^2) tan^-1 (2ax+b)/√(4ac-b^2)
∫ 1/((x+a)(x+b)) dx = 1/(b-a) ln|(a+x)/(b+x)|, a ≠ b
∫ x/((x+a)^2) dx = a/(a+x) + ln|a+x|
∫ x/(ax^2+bx+c) dx = 1/2a ln|ax^2+bx+c| - b/(a√(4ac-b^2)) tan^-1 (2ax+b)/√(4ac-b^2)

$f(t)$	$\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = F(s)$	$f(t)$	$\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = F(s)$	$f(t)$	$\mathcal{L}(f(t)) = F(s)$
1	$\frac{1}{s}$	$\frac{ae^{at} - be^{bt}}{a - b}$	$\frac{s}{(s - a)(s - b)}$	$\frac{e^{at} - e^{bt}}{a - b}$	$\frac{1}{(s - a)(s - b)}$
$e^{at}f(t)$	$F(s - a)$	$\cosh kt$	$\frac{s}{s^2 - k^2}$	$\sinh kt$	$\frac{k}{s^2 - k^2}$
$\mathcal{U}(t - a)$	$\frac{e^{-as}}{s}$	e^{at}	$\frac{1}{s - a}$	$\cos kt$	$\frac{s}{s^2 + k^2}$
$f(t - a)\mathcal{U}(t - a)$	$e^{-as}F(s)$	$\sin kt$	$\frac{k}{s^2 + k^2}$	$t^x \ (x \geq -1 \in \mathbb{R})$	$\frac{\Gamma(x + 1)}{s^{x+1}}$
$\delta(t)$	1	$t^n \ (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$	$\frac{n!}{s^{n+1}}$	$\int_0^t f(x)g(t - x)dx$	$F(s)G(s)$
$\delta(t - t_0)$	e^{-st_0}	$t^n f(t)$	$(-1)^n \frac{d^n F(s)}{ds^n}$	$f'(t)$	$sF(s) - f(0)$
$f^{(n)}(t)$	$s^n F(s) - s^{(n-1)}f(0) - \dots - f^{(n-1)}(0)$	te^{at}	$\frac{1}{(s - a)^2}$	$t^n e^{at}$	$\frac{n!}{(s - a)^{n+1}}$
$e^{at} \sin kt$	$\frac{k}{(s - a)^2 + k^2}$	$e^{at} \cos kt$	$\frac{s - a}{(s - a)^2 + k^2}$	$e^{at} \sinh kt$	$\frac{k}{(s - a)^2 - k^2}$
$e^{at} \cosh kt$	$\frac{s - a}{(s - a)^2 - k^2}$	$t \sin kt$	$\frac{2ks}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$	$t \cos kt$	$\frac{s^2 - k^2}{(s^2 + k^2)^2}$
$t \sinh kt$	$\frac{2ks}{(s^2 - k^2)^2}$	$t \cosh kt$	$\frac{s^2 - k^2}{(s^2 - k^2)^2}$	$\frac{\sin at}{t}$	$\arctan \frac{a}{s}$
$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi t}} e^{-a^2/4t}$	$\frac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{\sqrt{s}}$	$\frac{a}{2\sqrt{\pi t^3}} e^{-a^2/4t}$	$e^{-a\sqrt{s}}$	$\operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{a}{2\sqrt{t}}\right)$	$\frac{e^{-a\sqrt{s}}}{s}$

Table 1: Common Laplace transform operations.

Name	$p = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$	$q = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$	$\Delta = (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)^2$	Comments
Node		$q > 0$	$\Delta \geq 0$	Real, same sign
Saddle Point		$q < 0$		Real, opposite signs
Centre	$p = 0$	$q > 0$		Pure imaginary
Spiral		$q \neq 0$	$\Delta < 0$	Complex (not pure imaginary)

Table 2: Criterion

Term in $r(x)$	Choice for $y_p(x)$
$ke^{\gamma x}$	$Ce^{\gamma x}$
kx^n where $(n = 0, 1, \dots)$	$K_n x^n + K_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + K_1 x + K_0$
$k \cos \omega x$ or $k \sin \omega x$	$K \cos \omega x + M \sin \omega x$
$ke^{\alpha x} \cos \omega x$ or $ke^{\alpha x} \sin \omega x$	$e^{\alpha x} (K \cos \omega x + M \sin \omega x)$

Table 3: Method of undetermined coefficients.

Type of Stability	$p = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$	$q = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$
Stable and attractive	$q < 0$	$q > 0$
Stable	$q \leq 0$	$q > 0$
Unstable	either $q \leq 0$	or $q > 0$

Table 4: Stability criterion for critical points.

Case	Type	Roots	Basis	General Solution
I	Distict real	(λ_1, λ_2)	$e^{\lambda_1 x}$ and $e^{\lambda_2 x}$	$y = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 x} + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 x}$
II	Real Double Root	$(\lambda = -\frac{1}{2}a)$	$e^{-a x/2}$ and $x e^{-a x/2}$	$y = (c_1 + c_2 x) e^{-ax/2}$
III	Complex Conjugate	$\lambda_{1,2} = -1/2a \pm j\omega$	$e^{-ax/2} \cos \omega x$ and $e^{-ax/2} \sin \omega x$	$y = e^{-ax/2} (A \cos \omega x + B \sin \omega x)$

Table 5: Possible roots of the characteristic equation based on the discriminant value.

Case	Type	Roots	General Solution
I	Distict real	(m_1, m_2)	$y = c_1 x^{m_1} + c_2 x^{m_2}$
II	Real Double Root	$m = \frac{1}{2}(1 - a)$	$y = c_1 x^m \ln x + c_2 x^m$
III	Complex Conjugate	$y = c_1 x^\alpha \cos(\beta \ln x) + c_2 x^\alpha \sin(\beta \ln x)$	
		$\alpha = \operatorname{Re}(m)$	
	$m_2 = \alpha - \beta j$	$\beta = \operatorname{Im}(m)$	

Table 6: Cases for solving Euler-Cauchy.