

MTH 166

Lecture-7

Linear Differential Equations (LDE)

Unit 2: Differential Equations of Higher Order

(Book: Advanced Engineering Mathematics by R.K.Jain and S.R.K Iyengar, Chapter-5)

Topic:

Linear Differential Equations (LDE)

Learning Outcomes:

- 1.** Identification of Linear Differential Equations (LDE).
- 2.** Necessary and Sufficient condition for LDE to be Normal on an interval
- 3.** Show functions as solutions of LDE.

Linear Differential Equations (LDE):

A linear differential equation of order n is written as:

$$a_0 \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_1 \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \dots + a_{n-1} \frac{dy}{dx} + a_n y = r(x) \quad (1)$$

or

$$a_0 y^n + a_1 y^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} y' + a_n y = r(x) \quad (1)$$

For example, a second order LDE is written as:

$$a_0 y'' + a_1 y' + a_2 y = r(x) \quad (2)$$

- * If $r(x) = 0$, then LDE is called Homogeneous LDE.
- * If $r(x) \neq 0$, then LDE is called Non-Homogeneous LDE.
- * If a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n are all constants, then LDE is called LDE with constant coefficients.
- * If a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n are not all constants, then it is called LDE with variable coefficients.

Classify the following LDE:

1. $y'' + 4y' + 3y = x^2 e^x$

It is a 2nd order Non-homogeneous LDE with constant coefficients.

2. $y'' + 2y' + y = \sin x$

It is a 2nd order Non-homogeneous LDE with constant coefficients.

3. $x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - 4)y = 0$

It is a 2nd order Homogeneous LDE with variable coefficients.

4. $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + 20y = 0$

It is a 2nd order Homogeneous LDE with variable coefficients.

Necessary and Sufficient condition for LDE to be Normal on an interval:

A linear differential equation of order n :

$$a_0 y^n + a_1 y^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} y' + a_n y = r(x) \quad (1)$$

is said to be normal on an interval I if:

1. a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n and $r(x)$ are all continuous on an interval I
2. $a_0 \neq 0$

- * In homogeneous LDE ($r(x)=0$), the problem arises only because of $a_0 \neq 0$.
- * In non-homogeneous LDE ($r(x) \neq 0$), the problem arises due to $a_0 \neq 0$ and also due to domain of $r(x)$.
- * In almost all numerical a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n are all continuous, so first condition automatically holds. We are focused on second condition only.

Find the intervals on which the following differential equations are normal.

Problem 1. $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + 3y = 0$

Solution: $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + 3y = 0 \quad (1)$

Comparing with: $a_0y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = 0$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_0 = (1 - x^2) \\ 1. \quad a_1 = -2x \\ a_2 = 3 \end{array} \right\} \text{Being polynomials, } a_0, a_1, a_2 \text{ are all continuous on } (-\infty, \infty)$$

2. $a_0 \neq 0 \Rightarrow (1 - x^2) \neq 0 \Rightarrow x^2 \neq 1 \Rightarrow x \neq \pm 1$



Thus, LDE (1) is normal on subintervals: $(-\infty, -1), (-1, 1), (1, \infty)$.

Problem 2. $x^2y'' + xy' + (n^2 - x^2)y = 0$; n is real.

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

Comparing with: $a_0y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = 0$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_0 = x^2 \\ a_1 = x \\ a_2 = (n^2 - x^2) \end{array} \right\}$$

Being polynomials, a_0, a_1, a_2 are all continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$

2. $a_0 \neq 0 \quad \Rightarrow x^2 \neq 0 \quad \Rightarrow x \neq 0$



Thus, LDE (1) is normal on subintervals: $(-\infty, 0), (0, \infty)$.

Problem 3. $y'' + 9y' + y = \log(x^2 - 9)$

Solution: $y'' + 9y' + y = \log(x^2 - 9) \quad (1)$

Comparing with: $a_0y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = r(x)$

1. $\begin{cases} a_0 = 1 \\ a_1 = 9 \\ a_2 = 1 \end{cases}$ Being constants, a_0, a_1, a_2 are all continuous on $(-\infty, \infty)$

Also $r(x) = \log(x^2 - 9)$ will be defined if $(x^2 - 9) > 0$ i.e. $x^2 > 9$

$$\Rightarrow |x| > 3 \quad \Rightarrow -\infty < x < -3 \text{ and } 3 < x < \infty$$

2. $a_0 \neq 0 \quad \Rightarrow 1 \neq 0$ which is true.



Thus, LDE (1) is normal on subintervals: $(-\infty, -3), (3, \infty)$.

Problem 4. $\sqrt{x}y'' + 6xy' + 15y = \log(x^4 - 256)$

Solution: $\sqrt{x}y'' + 6xy' + 15y = \log(x^4 - 256) \quad (1)$

Comparing with: $a_0y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = r(x)$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a_0 = \sqrt{x} \\ a_1 = 6x \\ a_2 = 15 \end{array} \right\} \text{Being polynomials, } a_0, a_1, a_2 \text{ are all continuous on } (-\infty, \infty)$$

Also $r(x) = \log(x^4 - 256)$ will be defined if $(x^4 - 256) \geq 0$ i.e. $x^2 \geq 9$

$$\Rightarrow |x| \geq 3 \quad \Rightarrow -\infty < x \leq -3 \text{ and } 3 \leq x \leq \infty$$

2. $a_0 \neq 0 \quad \Rightarrow \sqrt{x} \neq 0 \Rightarrow x > 0 \quad (\text{Square root of a negative number is not defined})$



Thus, LDE (1) is normal on subintervals: $(3, \infty)$.

Principle of Superposition:

If functions (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) are the solutions of homogeneous LDE:

$$a_0 y^n + a_1 y^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} y' + a_n y = 0 \quad (1)$$

Then, their linear combination: $(c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + \dots + c_n y_n)$ is also a solution of LDE (1).

Note: Principle of superposition is not applicable to non-homogeneous LDE.

Problem: Show that (e^x, e^{-x}) and their linear combination $(c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x})$ are the solutions of homogeneous equation: $y'' - y = 0$

Solution: The given homogeneous LDE: $y'' - y = 0$ (1)

Let $(y_1, y_2) = (e^x, e^{-x})$ be the given set of functions.

Now they will be solutions of equation (1) if they satisfy equation (1).

i.e. y_1 will be solution of equation (1) if $y_1'' - y_1 = 0$ (2)

$$\text{Here } y_1 = e^x \quad \Rightarrow y_1' = e^x \quad \Rightarrow y_1'' = e^x$$

Substitute these values of y_1 and y_1'' in equation (2), we get:

$$e^x - e^x = 0 \text{ which is true.}$$

So, y_1 is a solution of equation (1)

Now y_2 will be solution of equation (1) if $y_2'' - y_2 = 0$ (3)

$$\text{Here } y_2 = e^{-x} \Rightarrow y_2' = -e^{-x} \Rightarrow y_2'' = e^x$$

Substitute these values of y_2 and y_2'' in equation (3), we get:

$$e^x - e^x = 0 \text{ which is true.}$$

So, y_2 is a solution of equation (1)

By principle of superposition, if y_1 and y_2 are solutions, then their linear combination $(c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x})$ will also be a solution.

Let us verify it:

$$\text{Let } y_3 = (c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x}) \Rightarrow y_3' = (c_1 e^x - c_2 e^{-x}) \Rightarrow y_3'' = (c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x})$$

Now y_3 will be solution of equation (1) if $y_3'' - y_3 = 0$

$$\text{i.e. } (c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x}) - (c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x}) = 0 \text{ which is true.}$$



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