

## Lecture 2

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 7:29 AM

### linear differential equations of arbitrary order (continuation)

Given:  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  open interval,  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in C(I)$ ,  $f \in C(I)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}^*$

Find  $x : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s.t.

$$(1) \quad x^{(n)} + a_1(t)x^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_{n-1}(t)x' + a_n(t)x = f(t) \quad , \quad t \in I$$

Remark:  $n$  is the order of eq. (1).

$$\text{L1: } L : C^n(I) \rightarrow C(I) \quad L(x)(t) = x^{(n)} + a_1(t)x^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_n(t)x, \quad \forall t \in I, \forall x \in C^n(I)$$

$$x \mapsto L(x)$$

$$\boxed{(1) \Leftrightarrow L(x) = f}$$

$f \neq 0 \quad L(x) = f$  is said to be a linear non-hom. d.e. (LNHDE)

$f = 0 \quad L(x) = 0 \quad \dots \quad$  - linear hom. d.e. (LHDE)

we proved that  $L$  is a linear map between the vector spaces  $C^n(I)$  and  $C(I)$

1. Fundamental theorems for LDE's
2. LHDE's with constant coefficients

### 1. Fundamental theorems for LDE's

Def. Given  $\eta = (\eta_1, \eta_2, \dots, \eta_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $t_0 \in I$ . The following problem is called Initial Value Problem (IVP) or Cauchy Problem (CP) :

$$(2) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} L(x) = f \quad (n^{\text{th}} \text{ order LDE}) \\ x(t_0) = \eta_1 \\ x'(t_0) = \eta_2 \\ \vdots \\ x^{(n-1)}(t_0) = \eta_n \end{array} \right\} \quad n \text{ initial conditions} \quad t_0 \sim \text{the initial time}$$

Example.  $n=1 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x' + a_1(t)x = f(t) \\ x(t_0) = \eta_1 \end{array} \right.$        $n=2 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x'' + a_1(t)x' + a_2(t)x = f(t) \\ x(t_0) = \eta_1 \\ x'(t_0) = \eta_2 \end{array} \right.$

Theorem 1 (The existence and uniqueness theorem for the sol. of an IVP)

In the above hypotheses the IVP (2) has a unique solution  $\varphi \in C^n(I)$ .

Example. Solve the IVP :

$$\dots \quad r \sim 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\dots \quad t \dots \quad t_0 \dots \quad \dots$$

Example. Solve the IVP:

$$(i) \begin{cases} x'' + t^2 x = 0 & \text{(second order)} \\ x(0) = 0 \\ x'(0) = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{2 initial cond. LHDE}$$

First we notice that  $x=0$  is a solution.  
Then we apply the F! th. and deduce  
that there are no other solutions.  
Hence,  $x=0$  is the unique sol.

Theorem 2 (The fundamental theorem for LHDE's)

$\text{Ker } \mathcal{L}$  is a vector space of dimension  $n$ .

Hence, if  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are linearly independent solutions of  $\mathcal{L}(x)=0$ ,  
then the general solution of  $\mathcal{L}(x)=0$  is

$$x = c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2 + \dots + c_n x_n, \quad c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R} \text{ arbitrary.}$$

Examples (i) Prove that  $x = c e^{-\frac{t}{2}}$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  is the general sol. of  $x' + \frac{1}{2}x = 0$   
(recall that in Lecture 1 we already proved this by integrating this DE).

Note that  $x_1 = e^{-\frac{t}{2}}$  satisfies  $x_1 \neq 0$  and  $x_1$  is a sol. of  $x' + \frac{1}{2}x = 0$ . (lecture 1)  
Th2  $\Rightarrow$  the gen. sol. is  $x = c \cdot x_1$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ , i.e.  $x = c e^{-\frac{t}{2}}, c \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(ii) Prove that  $x = c_1 e^t + c_2 e^{-t}$ ,  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  is the general sol. of  $x'' - x = 0$   
denote  $x_1 = e^t$  and  $x_2 = e^{-t}$ .

We immediately check that  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are solutions of  $x'' - x = 0$ ;

and that they are lin. independent: take  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $\alpha_1 e^t + \alpha_2 e^{-t} = 0$   
 $\forall t \in \mathbb{R}$

HW: prove that  $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = 0$ .

Then, by Th2 we get the conclusion

(iii) Prove that  $x = c_1 \text{cht} + c_2 \text{sht}$ ,  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$   
is the general sol. of  $x'' - x = 0$ .

Notation:  $\text{cht} = \frac{1}{2}(e^t + e^{-t})$  and  $\text{sht} = \frac{1}{2}(e^t - e^{-t})$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ch} 0 = 1, \text{ sh} 0 = 0 \quad (\text{ch } t)' = \text{sht}, \quad (\text{sht})' = \text{cht} \\ \text{ch}^2 t - \text{sh}^2 t = 1 \end{array} \right.$$

cos  
ch

HW: represent their graph.

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x = \text{cht} \\ y = \text{sht} \end{array} \right. , t \in \mathbb{R} \quad x^2 - y^2 = 1 \quad \text{hyperbola} \\ \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x = \cos t \\ y = \sin t \end{array} \right. , t \in \mathbb{R} \quad \cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1 \end{array} \right. .$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x = \cosh t \\ y = \sinh t, \quad t \in \mathbb{R} \end{array} \right. \quad x^2 - y^2 = 1 \quad \text{hyperbola} \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} x = \cos t \\ y = \sin t, \quad t \in \mathbb{R} \end{array} \right. \quad \cos^2 t + \sin^2 t = 1 \\ (\text{represent this hyperbola}) \quad x^2 + y^2 = 1 \quad \text{circle}$$

There are two methods: Method 1 Using that  $x = c_1 e^t + c_2 e^{-t}$ ,  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  is the general sol. of  $x'' - x = 0$ .  
(HW)

Method 2. Prove first that  $x_1 = \cosh t$  and  $x_2 = \sinh t$  are linearly indep. solutions of  $x'' - x = 0$ .  
The conclusion comes from Th 2. (HW)

### Theorem 3 (The fundamental theorem for L-mn-HDE's)

The set of solutions of  $L(x) = f$  is  $\text{Ker } L + \{x_p\}$ , where  $x_p$  is a particular solution of  $L(x) = f$ .

Hence, the general sol. of  $L(x) = f$  can be written as  $x = x_h + x_p$  where  $x_h$  is the general sol. of  $L(x) = 0$  (called the LHDE associated to  $L(x) = f$ ) and  $x_p$  is a particular sol. of  $L(x) = f$ .

Example. Find the general sol. of  $x'' - x = -3$ .

Step 1 we write the LHDE associated  $x'' - x = 0$  and we find its general sol.  
we know from a previous example that  $x_h = c_1 e^t + c_2 e^{-t}$ ,  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$

Step 2. we look for a partic. sol. of  $x'' - x = -3$ .

Note that  $x_p = 3$ .

Step 3 the gen. sol. is  $x = c_1 e^t + c_2 e^{-t} + 3$ ,  $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ .

### 2. The characteristic equation method for LHDE's with CC (constant coefficients)

$$(3) \quad x^{(m)} + a_1 x^{(m-1)} + \dots + a_{m-1} x' + a_m x = 0 \quad \text{where } a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Idea: Look for solutions of the form  $x = e^{rt}$ .

$$x' = r e^{rt}, \quad x'' = r^2 e^{rt}, \quad \dots, \quad x^{(k)} = r^k e^{rt}$$

we replace in (3) and obtain:  $r^m e^{rt} + a_1 r^{m-1} e^{rt} + \dots + a_{m-1} r e^{rt} + a_m e^{rt} = 0, \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$

$$(4) \quad r^m + a_1 r^{m-1} + \dots + a_{m-1} r + a_m = 0$$

this is a polynomial eq.  
of degree  $m$  with the same coeff.

as (3)

(4) is called the characteristic equation of the DE (3).

Recall that : (4) has  $n$  roots in  $\mathbb{C}$ , counting with the corresp. multiplicities.  
denote the roots by  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n \in \mathbb{C}$  (some of them are repeated)

$e^{rt}$  when  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  of course  $\underline{e^{rt}}$  is a solution of (3) ✓

when  $r \in \mathbb{C}$  what  $e^{rt}$  means ? ?

if  $r = -2$  has multiplicity  $m=3$  we have only one sol.  $e^{-2t}$ . From where are the other 2 solutions of (3) ? ?

There is a particular case in which this idea is sufficient to find the general sol. of (3): when the roots of the ch. eq (4) are real and distinct

The characteristic equation method to find the general sol. of (3) in any situation

Step 1. we write the ch. eq. (4).

Step 2. we find the roots  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n \in \mathbb{C}$  and their multiplicities (of (4))

Step 3. we associate  $n$  functions using the rules:

if  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  is a root of (4) of multiplicity  $m \geq 1 \mapsto$

$$e^{rt}, te^{rt}, t^2 e^{rt}, \dots, t^{m-1} e^{rt}$$

if  $r = \alpha \pm i\beta$  with  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}, \beta > 0$  are roots of (4) of multiplicity  $m \geq 1 \mapsto$

$$e^{\alpha t} \cos \beta t, e^{\alpha t} \sin \beta t, t e^{\alpha t} \cos \beta t, t e^{\alpha t} \sin \beta t, \dots, t^{m-1} e^{\alpha t} \sin \beta t$$

Step 4. we use the following proposition

Proposition The  $n$  functions found at Step 3 are  $n$  linearly independent solutions of eq (3). Denote them by  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .

and Th 2 to deduce that the general solution of (3) is

$$x = c_1 x_1 + c_2 x_2 + \dots + c_n x_n, \quad c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R} \text{ arbitrary.}$$

For the next lecture (optional)

- present something about ch. 1, slt
- Proof of Th2 (using Th1) : this is a nice application of linear algebra
- ~ Proof of Proposition above in the case that the roots are real and distinct
- other questions formulated by you.

Euler's formula  $e^{iz} = ?$   $z^2, z \in \mathbb{C} ?$