

Lecture 10

Linear 2nd-order ODEs

* Review of characteristic Equations

Given $a \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + b \frac{dy}{dt} + cy = g$

Linear
 ↗
 constant coefficient
 ↗
 homogeneous

Let $y(t) = Ce^{rt} \Rightarrow ar^2 + br + c = 0$

"characteristic equation"

Roots are given by $r = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

$b^2 > 4ac \Rightarrow$ real roots, and both roots are valid solutions

$\Rightarrow y(t) = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$

(If there are initial conditions, then
you can solve for c_1 and c_2)

What about complex roots?

Example 1

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + y = 0$$

Solution: $y(t) = c_1 \cos(t) + c_2 \sin(t)$

Could we have used a characteristic
equation to find the solution?

Let $y = ce^{rt}$, $y' = cre^{rt}$, $y'' = cr^2e^{rt}$

$$y'' + y = 0 \Rightarrow cr^2e^{rt} + ce^{rt} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow ce^{rt}(r^2 + 1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r^2 + 1 = 0$$

$$r^2 = -1 \Rightarrow r = \pm \sqrt{-1} = \pm i (j)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Solution: } y(t) = c_1 e^{it} + c_2 e^{-it} ?$$

Is this true?

INTRODUCING: EULER'S FORMULA

$$e^{ix} = \cos(x) + i \sin(x)$$

$$i^1 = i, \quad i^2 = -1, \quad i^3 = -i, \quad i^4 = 1, \quad i^5 = i, \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} e^{ix} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(ix)^n}{n!} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} i^n \frac{x^n}{n!} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2k}}{(2k)!} (-1)^k + i \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!} (-1)^k \\ &= \cos(x) + i \sin(x) \end{aligned}$$

Back to our solution:

$$\begin{aligned}y(t) &= c_1 e^{it} + c_2 e^{-it} \\&= c_1 (\cos(t) + i \sin(t)) \\&\quad + c_2 (\cos(t) - i \sin(t)) \\&= \underbrace{(c_1 + c_2)}_{d_1 = c_1 + c_2} \cos(t) + \underbrace{i(c_1 - c_2)}_{d_2 = i(c_1 - c_2)} \sin(t) \\&= \boxed{d_1 \cos(t) + d_2 \sin(t)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{If } e^{ix} = \cos(x) + i \sin(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{-ix} = \cos(x) - i \sin(x)$$

Example 2

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 9y = 0$$

Characteristic
Equation :

$$\frac{1}{a}r^2 + \frac{0}{b}r + \frac{9}{c} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{r^2 + 9 = 0}$$

$$r^2 = -9 \Rightarrow r = \pm\sqrt{-9} = \pm\sqrt{9}\sqrt{-1} = \pm 3i$$

Solution: $y = c_1 e^{3it} + c_2 e^{-3it}$

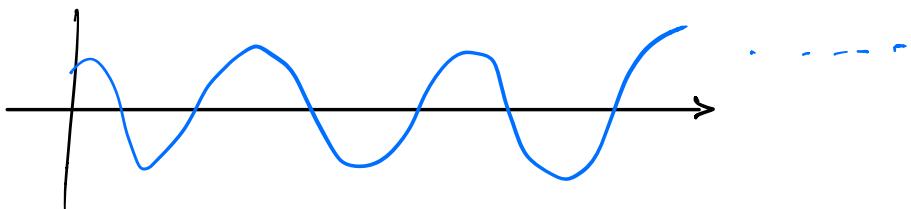
$$\left(\begin{array}{l} ay'' + by' + cy = 0 \\ ar^2 + br + c = 0 \\ a=1 \quad b=0 \quad c=9 \end{array} \right)$$

$$= c_1 (\cos(3t) + i \sin(3t)) + c_2 (\cos(3t) - i \sin(3t))$$

$$= (c_1 + c_2) \cos(3t) + i(c_1 - c_2) \sin(3t)$$

$$= \boxed{d_1 \cos(3t) + d_2 \sin(3t)}$$

Same as before, only with $3t$



Example 3

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dy}{dt} + 5y = 0$$

$\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$

$$r^2 + 2r + 5 = 0$$

Characteristic Equation

(Let $y = e^{rt}$)

$$\text{Roots: } r = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 20}}{2} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{-16}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-2 \pm 4i}{2} = -1 \pm 2i$$

$$\text{Solution: } y(t) = c_1 e^{(-1+2i)t} + c_2 e^{(-1-2i)t}$$

$$e^{(-1+2i)t} = e^{-t+2it} = \bar{e}^{-t} e^{2it}, \quad e^{(-1-2i)t} = \bar{e}^{-t} e^{-2it}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow y(t) &= c_1 \bar{e}^{-t} e^{2it} + c_2 \bar{e}^{-t} e^{-2it} \\ &= \bar{e}^{-t} (c_1 e^{2it} + c_2 e^{-2it}) \\ &= \bar{e}^{-t} (d_1 \cos(2t) + d_2 \sin(2t)) \end{aligned}$$

$d_1 = c_1 + c_2, \quad d_2 = i(c_1 - c_2)$

If $r = -1 \pm 2i$

$$y = e^{-t} (d_1 \cos(2t) + d_2 \sin(2t))$$

General Rule (complex roots)

$$r_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \alpha \pm i\beta$$

$(b^2 - 4ac < 0)$

where $\alpha = -\frac{b}{2a}$, $\beta = \frac{\sqrt{4ac - b^2}}{2a}$

$$\Rightarrow y(t) = e^{\alpha t} (d_1 \cos(\beta t) + d_2 \sin(\beta t))$$

What is the third case?

Example 4

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dy}{dt} + y = 0$$

Characteristic Equation: $r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0$

$$r = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4-4}}{2} = \frac{-2 \pm 0}{2} = -1$$

(only 1 root!)

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 t e^{-t} \\ &= (c_1 + c_2) e^{-t} = d_1 e^{-t} \end{aligned}$$

Don't Do This!!!

If you know 1 solution $y_1(t) = c_1 e^{-t}$,
you can find the other by letting

$$y(t) = V(t)y_1(t)$$

“Reduction of Order”

$$\text{Let } y = v(t) c_1 e^{-t}$$

$$y' = c_1 v' e^{-t} - c_1 v e^{-t}$$

$$y'' = c_1 v'' e^{-t} - 2c_1 v' e^{-t} + c_1 v e^{-t}$$

$$\text{ODE: } \underbrace{y''}_{c_1 e^{-t}} + \underbrace{2y'}_{2c_1 e^{-t}(v'-v)} + \underbrace{y}_{c_1 e^{-t} v} = 0$$

$$c_1 e^{-t} (v'' - 2v' + v) + 2c_1 e^{-t} (v' - v) + c_1 e^{-t} v = 0$$

$$= c_1 e^{-t} (v'' - 2v' + v + 2v' - 2v + v) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow v'' = 0 \Rightarrow v = at + b$$

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= ac_1 e^{-t} t + c_1 b e^{-t} \\ &= a e^{-t} t + b e^{-t} \end{aligned}$$

Rule: Repeated Root ($b^2 - 4ac = 0$)

$$r = -\frac{b}{2a} : \boxed{y(t) = c_1 e^{rt} + c_2 t e^{rt}}$$

Summary

Given: $a \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + b \frac{dy}{dt} + cy = 0$

(2nd-order, linear, constant coefficient, homogeneous)

Characteristic Equation: $ar^2 + br + c = 0$

Roots: $r = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

* CASE I: $b^2 > 4ac \rightarrow$ 2 real roots $r_{1,2}$

$$\Rightarrow y(t) = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 e^{r_2 t}$$

* CASE II: $b^2 < 4ac \rightarrow$ Complex roots $r = \alpha \pm i\beta$

$$\Rightarrow y(t) = e^{\alpha t} (c_1 \cos(\beta t) + c_2 \sin(\beta t))$$

* CASE III: $b^2 = 4ac \rightarrow$ Repeated root $r = \frac{-b}{2a}$

$$\Rightarrow y(t) = c_1 e^{rt} + c_2 t e^{rt}$$

