

## Lecture 9

### 2<sup>nd</sup>-order ODEs

2<sup>nd</sup>-order

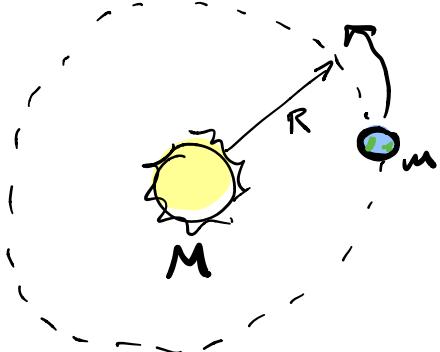
$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = f(x, y, \frac{dy}{dx})$$

- These ODEs are of huge importance for many reasons - namely Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> Law.

$$F = ma, \quad a = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}$$

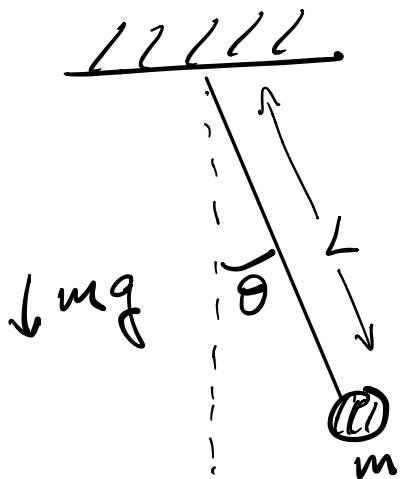
⇒  $m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = F(x)$





$$m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = - \frac{mMG}{R^3} x$$

(celestial mechanics)



Pendulum

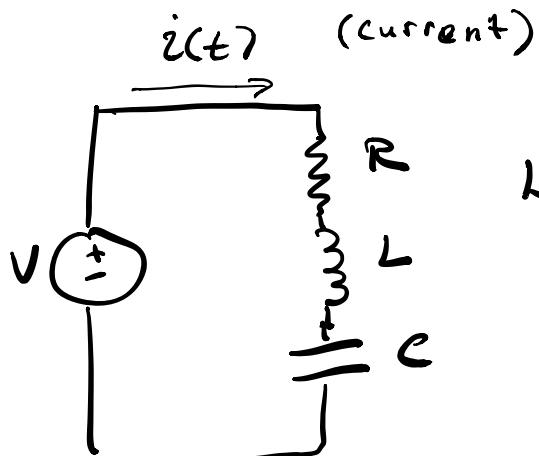
$$mL \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} = -mg \sin(\theta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \underbrace{\frac{g}{L} \sin(\theta)}_{} = 0$$

nonlinear

$$\theta = \theta(t)$$

(Linear) Circuit Theory



$$L \frac{d^2i}{dt^2} + R \frac{di}{dt} + \frac{1}{C} i = F(t)$$

$$F(t) = \frac{dV}{dt}$$

## Some Definitions

external  
input

Linear :  $a(t) \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + b(t) \frac{dy}{dt} + c(t)y = f(t)$

Homogeneous :  $a(t) \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + b(t) \frac{dy}{dt} + c(t)y = 0$

Constant Coefficient :  $a \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + b \frac{dy}{dt} + cy = f(t)$

$a, b, c = \text{constant}$

Let's start with the simplest case:

Linear

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

Homogeneous

constant coefficient

o None of the methods for 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODES will work, but maybe the 1<sup>st</sup>-order version of this problem will give us a hint.

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

look at these terms

$$b \frac{dy}{dt} + cy = 0 \Rightarrow y = A e^{-\frac{c}{b}t}$$

\* The solution is an exponential, which should make sense, because the derivative of an exponential is another exponential times a constant.

▷ let's try guessing an exponential

$$\text{let } y(t) = c e^{rt}$$

( $c, r$  are unknown)

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = cr e^{rt}, \quad \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = cr^2 e^{rt}$$

Example 1 :  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5 \frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 0$

Let  $y(t) = ce^{rt}$

$$\Rightarrow cr^2 e^{rt} - 5cr e^{rt} + 4ce^{rt} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow ce^{rt} [r^2 - 5r + 4] = 0$$

Assuming  
 $y \neq 0 \Rightarrow$

$$r^2 - 5r + 4 = 0$$

We must have  $r = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 16}}{2} = \frac{5 \pm 3}{2} = \{1, 4\}$

There are 2 solutions!

$$y_1(t) = c_1 e^t \quad ? \quad y_2(t) = c_2 e^{4t}$$

Check for  $y_1(t)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} y'' - 5y' + 4y &= c_1 e^t - 5c_1 e^t + 4c_1 e^t \\ &= c_1 e^t (1 - 5 + 4) = 0 \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

This should make sense:

o 1<sup>st</sup>-order ODE  $\rightarrow$  1 integration  $\rightarrow$  1 constant

o 2<sup>nd</sup>-order ODE  $\rightarrow$  2 integrations  $\rightarrow$  2 constants

which solution should you use? Both!

$$y(t) = c_1 e^t + c_2 e^{4t}$$

This is due to the "Superposition Principle"

- \* If  $y_1(t)$  and  $y_2(t)$  are both solutions to a linear ODE, then so is  $y_1(t) + y_2(t)$ .

### General Problem

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

- Let  $y = ce^{rt} \Rightarrow ar^2 + br + c = 0$   
"characteristic equation"

- Two roots:  $r_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

- Solution:  $y(t) = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 e^{r_2 t}$

- Any initial conditions can be used to solve for  $c_1 \in c_2$ .

## Example 2

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 5 \frac{dy}{dt} + 6y = 0$$

$$\text{IC: } y(0) = 2, \quad \frac{dy}{dt}(0) = 3$$

1) Let  $y = ce^{rt}$

$$\Rightarrow cr^2e^{rt} + 5cre^{rt} + 6ce^{rt} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow ce^{rt} [r^2 + 5r + 6] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r^2 + 5r + 6 = 0$$

2)  $r = \frac{-5 \pm \sqrt{25-24}}{2} = \frac{-5 \pm 1}{2} = \{-2, -3\}$

3)  $y(t) = c_1 e^{-2t} + c_2 e^{-3t}$

"General Solution"

4) Apply initial conditions

$$y(0) = 2, \quad y'(0) = 3$$

$$y(t) = c_1 e^{-2t} + c_2 e^{-3t}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt}(t) = -2c_1 e^{-2t} - 3c_2 e^{-3t}$$

$$\Rightarrow y(0) = c_1 e^0 + c_2 e^0 = c_1 + c_2 = 2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt}(0) = -2c_1 e^0 - 3c_2 e^0 = -2c_1 - 3c_2 = 3$$

$$c_1 + c_2 = 2 \quad R_1$$

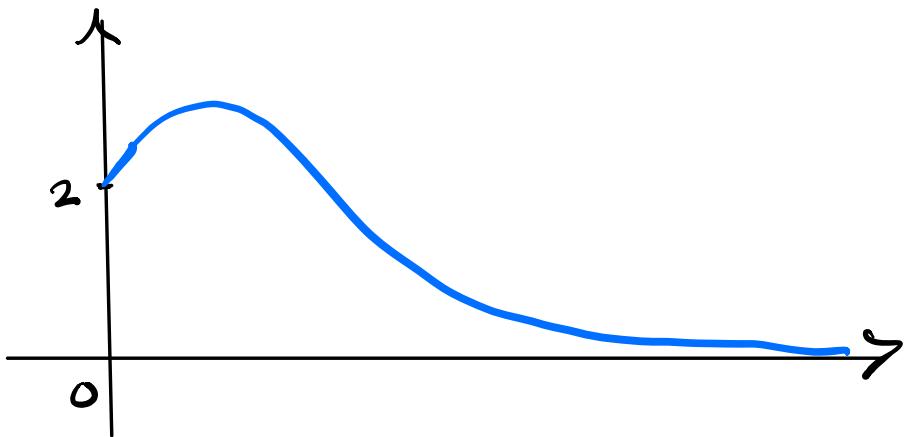
$$-2c_1 - 3c_2 = 3 \quad R_2$$

$$2R_1 + R_2 = 0 - c_2 = 7 \Rightarrow c_2 = -7$$

$$\text{Substitute into } R_1: \quad c_1 - 7 = 2 \Rightarrow c_1 = 9$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$y(t) = 9e^{-2t} - 7e^{-3t}$$



What happens for  $b^2 - 4ac \leq 0$

- To understand solutions, let's connect the ODE to a physical model.

A diagram of a mass-spring-damper system. A mass  $m$  is attached to a spring with stiffness  $k$ , which is fixed to a wall. The displacement  $x(t)$  is indicated by an arrow pointing to the left from the equilibrium position. A blue cloud-like shape surrounds the mass, with the label  $b = \text{drag}$  written below it.

$$m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = F$$

$$\approx -kx - b \frac{dx}{dt}$$

$$\Rightarrow m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + b \frac{dx}{dt} + kx = 0$$

$\uparrow a$        $\uparrow b$        $\uparrow c$

Real roots:  $b^2 > 4mk$  (strong damping)

Complex Roots:  $b^2 < 4mk$  (weak damping)  
(imaginary)

Oscillations

Example 3

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

$$(m=1, b=0, k=1)$$

Solution:

$$x(t) = c_1 \cos(t) + c_2 \sin(t)$$

To BE CONTINUED ----