

## Lecture Notes for the Ordinary Differential Equation-24<sup>th</sup> October 2018

$$L(y, y', y'') = y'' + p(x)y' + qy = 0 \text{ --- (1)}$$

### Proposition 1:

Let  $y_1, y_2$  be any two solutions of (1), then  $\alpha y_1 + \beta y_2$  is also a solution of (1), for any  $\alpha, \beta \in R$ . Suppose  $y_1, y_2$  are independent solution of (1), then any solution can be written in the form  $y = \alpha y_1 + \beta y_2$ , for some  $\alpha, \beta \in R$ .

### Proposition 2:

$S$  = The set of all solutions of the (1), then  $S$  is a linear space and  $\dim S \leq 2$ .

Proof: Assume  $y_1, y_2$  are independent

$$L(y_1, y_1', y_1'') = 0 = L(y_2, y_2', y_2'')$$

To prove: any solution  $y$  can be written in the form  $y = \alpha y_1 + \beta y_2$

By superposition or linearity principle,  $\alpha y_1 + \beta y_2$  is also a solution for (1).

$y_1, y_2$  and  $y$  are given to us and they are differentiable at all  $x$  in some interval  $[x_0, x_1]$ .

In particular, their derivatives exist at  $x_0$ . If  $y$  also satisfies the initial value conditions of (1) say  $y(x_0) = y_0, y'(x_0) = y_1$ , then the following linear system can be solved.

$$\begin{aligned} y(x_0) &= \alpha y_1(x_0) + \beta y_2(x_0) \\ y'(x_0) &= \alpha y_1'(x_0) + \beta y_2'(x_0) \\ \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} y_1(x_0) & y_2(x_0) \\ y_1'(x_0) & y_2'(x_0) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} y(x_0) \\ y'(x_0) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

To solve for  $\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$ , we need  $\begin{pmatrix} y_1(x_0) & y_2(x_0) \\ y_1'(x_0) & y_2'(x_0) \end{pmatrix}$  to be invertible.

Define

$$W(x) = \det \begin{pmatrix} y_1(x) & y_2(x) \\ y_1'(x) & y_2'(x) \end{pmatrix} = y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1'$$

If we prove that  $W(x) \neq 0$ , then  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are uniquely determined and hence it shows that  $y$  can be written in the form  $y = \alpha y_1 + \beta y_2$  for some  $\alpha, \beta \in R$

To prove:  $W(x) \neq 0$  if  $y_1, y_2$  are independent

Claim 1: Either  $W \equiv 0$  or  $W$  is never zero.

Proof for Claim 1:

$$W(x) = y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1' \rightarrow W'(x) = y_1' y_2' + y_1 y_2'' - y_2' y_1' - y_2 y_1'' = y_1 y_2'' - y_2 y_1''$$

$$\begin{aligned} W'(x) &= y_1(-p y_2' - q y_2) - y_2(-p y_1' - q y_1) \\ &= -p y_2' y_1 - q y_2 y_1 + p y_2 y_1' + q y_2 y_1 = -p W \end{aligned}$$

$$W(x) = C e^{-\int p(x) dx}$$

From this, it is clear that, if  $C = 0, W = 0$ , and if  $C \neq 0, W \neq 0$  as exponential will not be zero. Hence, the claim 1.

Claim 2:  $W \equiv 0$  if and only if  $y_1, y_2$  are dependent.

Proof for Claim 2:

Assume that  $y_1, y_2$  are dependent. We need to prove that  $W \equiv 0$ . Then, either  $y_1 = ky_2$  or  $y_2 = ly_1$ , for some  $k, l \in R$ , then  $W(x) = l(y_1y_1' - y_1'y_1') = 0 \Rightarrow W \equiv 0$ .

Conversely, assume  $W \equiv 0 \Rightarrow W(x) = 0, \text{ for all } x$ . We need to prove that  $y_1, y_2$  are dependent. If  $y_1 \equiv 0$  or  $y_2 \equiv 0$ , nothing to prove. (Because, if a set contains 0, then it is dependent). If  $y_1 \neq 0 \neq y_2$ . Then there exists a point  $x_i$  such that  $y(x_i) \neq 0$ . By continuity, there exists an interval  $[c, d] \subset [x_0, x_1], x_i \in [c, d], y_1(x_i) \neq 0$ .

$$0 = \frac{W(x)}{y_1^2} = \frac{y_1y_2' - y_2y_1'}{y_1^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{y_2}{y_1} \right) \rightarrow y_2 = ky_1$$

This is true in  $x \in [c, d]$ . By uniqueness property, it is true everywhere in  $[x_0, x_1]$ . Hence the claim 2. Therefore, we have also proved that  $W(x) \neq 0$  if and only if  $y_1, y_2$  are independent (You can prove this directly without Claim 2 also, I leave it as an exercise). This proves Proposition 1. From, proposition 1 and superposition principle, it is clear that  $S$  is linear space and  $\dim S \leq 2$ , since  $y_1, y_2$  are the two independent solutions. This proves proposition 2.

**Theorem:**  $\dim S = 2$

Proof: Let  $y_1, y_2$  be solution to the IVP

$$L(y_1, y_1', y_1'') = 0, y_1(t_0) = 1, y_2(t_0) = 0$$

$$L(y_2, y_2', y_2'') = 0, y_1(t_0) = 0, y_2(t_0) = 1$$

$W(t) \neq 0$ , since  $W(t_0) \neq 0$ . Therefore,  $y_1, y_2$  are independent. Hence  $\dim S = 2$ .

**Method 1:** For solving  $L(y, y', y'') = 0$

$$y = uv$$

$$y' = u'v + uv', y'' = u''v + 2u'v' + uv''$$

$$\begin{aligned} y'' + p(x)y' + qy &= u''v + 2u'v' + uv'' + p(u'v + uv') + quv = 0 \\ \Rightarrow uv'' + (2u' + pu)v' + (u'' + pu' + qu)v &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Choose  $u$  so that  $v'$  term vanishes

$$2u' + pu = 0 \rightarrow u = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \int p \, dx}$$

Since  $u$  is known to us, we can use these terms to solve for  $v$ .

**Example:**  $y'' + 2ty' + (1 + t^2)y = 0$

Solution:

$$p = 2t, q = 1 + t^2$$

$$y = uv \Rightarrow u = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \int p dt} = e^{-\frac{1}{2} \int 2t dt} = e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}}$$

$$u = e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow u' = -te^{-\frac{t^2}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow u'' = -e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} + t^2 e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow uv'' + (2u' + pu)v' + (u'' + pu' + qu)v = 0$$

$$2u' + pu = -2te^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} + 2te^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} = 0$$

$$u'' + pu' + qu = -e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} + t^2 e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} + 2t \left( -te^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} \right) + (1 + t^2)e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} = 0$$

$$uv'' + (2u' + pu)v' + (u'' + pu' + qu)v = 0 \Rightarrow uv'' = 0$$

$$uv'' = 0 \Rightarrow v'' = 0 \quad (u \neq 0 \text{ known}) \Rightarrow v' = c_1 \Rightarrow v = c_1 t + c_2$$

Therefore,

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

**Exercise:** Are  $y_1 = e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}}, y_2 = te^{-\frac{t^2}{2}}$  independent? Check

### Method 2: Order of Reduction

If one solution is known, then it is possible to find the second solution. Assume  $y_1$  is known. Then  $ky_1$  is also a solution. But not independent, so take  $y_2 = c(x)y_1$

Compute  $y_2', y_2''$  and solve  $Ly_2 = 0$

$$y = cy_1$$

$$y' = c'y_1 + cy_1'$$

$$y'' = c''y_1 + 2c'y_1' + cy_1''$$

$$y'' + py' + qy = c''y_1 + 2c'y_1' + cy_1'' + p(c'y_1 + cy_1') + qcy_1 = 0$$

$$c''y_1 + (2y_1' + py_1)c' + (y_1'' + py_1' + qy_1)c = 0$$

Since  $y_1$  is a solution,  $y_1'' + py_1' + qy_1 = 0$

Therefore,

$$c''y_1 + c'(2y_1' + py_1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{c''}{c'} = -\frac{2y_1' + py_1}{y_1} \Rightarrow \frac{v'}{v} = -\frac{2y_1'}{y_1} - p$$

Solve for  $v$ , then solve for  $v = c'$

**Example:**  $t^2 y'' + ty' - y = 0$

Solution: By trial and error,  $y_1 = t$  is a solution, for,  $y_1' = 1, y_1'' = 0 \Rightarrow 0 + t - t = 0$

Assume  $y_2 = ct$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}y_2' &= c + c't \\ \Rightarrow y_2'' &= c' + c''t + c' = c''t + 2c'\end{aligned}$$

$$t^2 y'' + ty' - y = 0 \Rightarrow t^2(c''t + 2c') + t(c + c't) - ct = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow c''t^3 + 2c't^2 + ct + c't^2 - ct = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow c''t^3 + 3c't^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow c'' = -\frac{3c'}{t} \Rightarrow \frac{c''}{c'} = -\frac{3}{t} \Rightarrow \frac{v'}{v} = -\frac{3}{t} \Rightarrow \log v = -3 \log t \Rightarrow v = \frac{1}{t^3}$$

$$c' = \frac{1}{t^3} \Rightarrow c = -\frac{1}{2t^2}$$

$$y_2 = -\frac{1}{2t^2}t = -\frac{1}{2t}$$

Or simply

$$y_2 = \frac{1}{t}$$

Exercise: Are  $y_1 = t, y_2 = \frac{1}{t}$  independent? Check.