

Theorem 0.1. *A solution of $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$ is either everywhere zero or else can take on the value zero at most once if the roots of the characteristic equations are real.*

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$r = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad (2)$$

Case 1 $b^2 - 4ac = 0$

$$r_1 = \frac{-b}{2a}, r_2 = \frac{-b}{2a}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 t e^{r_2 t}$$

$$0 = e^{r_1 t} (c_1 + c_2 t)$$

An exponent can not equal zero.

$$0 \neq e^{r_1 t}$$

Thus, this must be true.

$$0 = c_1 + c_2 t$$

$$-c_2 t = c_1$$

The solution can take on the value zero at most once if c_1 and c_2 are not zero. If c_1 and c_2 are zero, then the solution is zero everywhere.

Case 2 $b^2 - 4ac > 0$

$$r_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}, r_2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 e^{r_2 t}$$

$$0 = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 e^{r_2 t}$$

$$-c_2 e^{r_2 t} = c_1 e^{r_1 t}$$

$$\frac{-c_2}{c_1} = e^{t(r_1 - r_2)}$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{-c_2}{c_1}\right) = t(r_1 - r_2)$$

$$r_1 - r_2 = \frac{-b}{2a} - \frac{\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} - \left(\frac{-b}{2a} + \frac{\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}\right)$$

$$r_1 - r_2 = \frac{-2\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$r_1 - r_2 = \frac{b^2 - 4ac}{a}$$

$$\frac{\ln\left(\frac{-c_2}{c_1}\right)}{\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}} = t$$

$$\frac{a * \ln\left(\frac{-c_2}{c_1}\right)}{\sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}} = t$$

$$\ln\left(\frac{-c_2}{c_1}\right) = t \text{ when } -c_1 = c_2$$