

3 Differential Equations

3.1 Introduction

2 Types of Differential Equation (D.E)

(i) Ordinary Differential Equation (O.D.E)

Equation involving (ordinary) derivatives

$$x, y, \frac{dy}{dx}, \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}, \dots, \frac{d^ny}{dx^n} \quad (\text{some fixed } n)$$

y is some unknown function of x together with its derivatives, i.e.

$$F(x, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0 \quad (1)$$

Note $y^4 \neq y^{(4)}$

Also if $y = y(t)$, where t is time, then we often write

$$\dot{y} = \frac{dy}{dt}, \quad \ddot{y} = \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}, \quad \dots, \quad y^{(4)} = \frac{d^4y}{dt^4}$$

(ii) Partial Differential Equation (PDE)

Involve partial derivatives, i.e. unknown function dependent on two or more variables,

e.g.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial z} - u = 0$$

So here we solving for the unknown function $u(x, y, z, t)$.

More complicated to solve - better for modelling real-life situations, e.g. finance, engineering & science.

In quant finance there is no concept of spatial variables, unlike other branches of mathematics.

Order of the highest derivative is the **order of the DE**

An ode is of **degree** r if $\frac{d^n y}{dx^n}$ (where n is the order of the derivative) appears with power r

$(r \in \mathbb{Z}^+)$ — the definition of n and r is distinct. Assume that any ode has the property that each

$\frac{d^\ell y}{dx^\ell}$ appears in the form $\left(\frac{d^\ell y}{dx^\ell}\right)^r \rightarrow \left(\frac{d^n y}{dx^n}\right)^r$ order n and degree r .

Examples:

| | DE | order | degree |
|-----|--|-------|--------|
| (1) | $y' = 3y$ | 1 | 1 |
| (2) | $(y')^3 + 4 \sin y = x^3$ | 1 | 3 |
| (3) | $(y^{(4)})^2 + x^2 (y^{(2)})^5 + (y')^6 + y = 0$ | 4 | 2 |
| (4) | $y'' = \sqrt{y' + y + x}$ | 2 | 2 |
| (5) | $y'' + x (y')^3 - xy = 0$ | 2 | 1 |

Note - example (4) can be written as $(y'')^2 = y' + y + x$

We will consider ODE's of degree one, and of the form

$$a_n(x) \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_{n-1}(x) \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \dots + a_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x) y = g(x)$$

$$\equiv \sum_{i=0}^n a_i(x) y^{(i)}(x) = g(x) \quad (\text{more pedantic})$$

Note: $y^{(0)}(x)$ - zeroth derivative, i.e. $y(x)$.

This is a Linear ODE of order n , i.e. $r = 1 \ \forall$ (for all) terms. Linear also because $a_i(x)$ not a function of $y^{(i)}(x)$ - else equation is Non-linear.

Examples:

| DE | Nature of DE |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| (1) $2xy'' + x^2y' - (x + 1)y = x^2$ | Linear |
| (2) $yy'' + xy' + y = 2$ | $a_2 = y \Rightarrow$ Non-Linear |
| (3) $y'' + \sqrt{y'} + y = x^2$ | Non-Linear $\because (y')^{\frac{1}{2}}$ |
| (4) $\frac{d^4y}{dx^4} + y^4 = 0$ | Non-Linear - y^4 |

Our aim is to solve our ODE either explicitly or by finding the most general $y(x)$ satisfying it or implicitly by finding the function y implicitly in terms of x , via the most general function g s.t $g(x, y) = 0$.

Suppose that y is given in terms of x and n arbitrary constants of integration c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n .

So $\tilde{g}(x, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = 0$. Differentiating \tilde{g} , n times to get $(n + 1)$ equations involving

$$c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n, x, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n)}.$$

Eliminating c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n we get an ODE

$$\tilde{f}(x, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0$$

Examples:

(1) $y = x^3 + ce^{-3x}$ (so 1 constant c)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = 3x^2 - 3ce^{-3x}, \text{ so eliminate } c \text{ by taking } 3y + y' = 3x^3 + 3x^2, \text{ i.e.}$$

$$-3x^2(x+1) + 3y + y' = 0$$

(2) $y = c_1e^{-x} + c_2e^{2x}$ (2 constant's so differentiate twice)

$$y' = -c_1e^{-x} + 2c_2e^{2x} \Rightarrow y'' = c_1e^{-x} + 4c_2e^{2x}$$

Now

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} y + y' = 3c_2e^{2x} \\ y' + y'' = 6c_2e^{2x} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{(a)} \\ \text{(b)} \end{array}$$

and $2(a)=(b) \therefore 2(y + y') = y + y'' \rightarrow$

$$y'' - 2y' - y = 0.$$

Conversely it can be shown (under suitable conditions) that the general solution of an n^{th} order ode will involve n arbitrary constants. If we specify values (i.e. boundary values) of

$$y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}$$

for values of x , then the constants involved may be determined.

A solution $y = y(x)$ of (1) is a function that produces zero upon substitution into the lhs of (1).

Example:

$y'' - 3y' + 2y = 0$ is a 2nd order equation and $y = e^x$ is a solution.

$y = y' = y'' = e^x$ - substituting in equation gives $e^x - 3e^x + 2e^x = 0$. So we can verify that a function is the solution of a DE simply by substitution.

Exercise:

(1) Is $y(x) = c_1 \sin 2x + c_2 \cos 2x$ (c_1, c_2 arbitrary constants) a solution of $y'' + 4y = 0$

(2) Determine whether $y = x^2 - 1$ is a solution of $\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^4 + y^2 = -1$

3.1.1 Initial & Boundary Value Problems

A DE together with conditions, an unknown function $y(x)$ and its derivatives, all given at the same value of independent variable x is called an **Initial Value Problem** (IVP).

e.g. $y'' + 2y' = e^x$; $y(\pi) = 1$, $y'(\pi) = 2$ is an IVP because both conditions are given at the same value $x = \pi$.

A **Boundary Value Problem** (BVP) is a DE together with conditions given at different values of x , i.e. $y'' + 2y' = e^x$; $y(0) = 1$, $y(1) = 1$.

Here conditions are defined at different values $x = 0$ and $x = 1$.

A solution to an IVP or BVP is a function $y(x)$ that both solves the DE and satisfies all given initial or boundary conditions.

Exercise: Determine whether any of the following functions

(a) $y_1 = \sin 2x$ (b) $y_2 = x$ (c) $y_3 = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2x$ is a solution of the IVP

$$y'' + 4y = 0; \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1$$

3.2 First Order Ordinary Differential Equations

Standard form for a first order DE (in the unknown function $y(x)$) is

$$y' = f(x, y) \quad (2)$$

so given a 1st order ode

$$F(x, y, y') = 0$$

can often be rearranged in the form (2), e.g.

$$xy' + 2xy - y = 0 \Rightarrow y' = \frac{y - 2x}{x}$$

3.2.1 One Variable Missing

This is the simplest case

y missing:

$$y' = f(x) \quad \text{solution is } y = \int f(x)dx$$

x missing:

$$y' = f(y) \quad \text{solution is } x = \int \frac{1}{f(y)}dy$$

Example:

$$y' = \cos^2 y, \quad y = \frac{\pi}{4} \text{ when } x = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \int \frac{1}{\cos^2 y} dy = \int \sec^2 y \, dy \Rightarrow x = \tan y + c,$$

c is a constant of integration.

This is the general solution. To obtain a particular solution use

$$y(2) = \frac{\pi}{4} \rightarrow 2 = \tan \frac{\pi}{4} + c \Rightarrow c = 1$$

so rearranging gives

$$y = \arctan(x - 1)$$

3.2.2 Variable Separable

$$y' = g(x) h(y) \quad (3)$$

So $f(x, y) = g(x) h(y)$ where g and h are functions of x only and y only in turn. So

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = g(x) h(y) \rightarrow \int \frac{dy}{h(y)} = \int g(x) dx + c$$

c — arbitrary constant.

Two examples follow on the next page:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2 + 2}{y}$$

$$\int y \, dy = \int (x^2 + 2) \, dx \rightarrow \frac{y^2}{2} = \frac{x^3}{3} + 2x + c$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y \ln x \text{ subject to } y = 1 \text{ at } x = e \text{ (} y(e) = 1 \text{)}$$

$$\int \frac{dy}{y} = \int \ln x \, dx \quad \text{Recall: } \int \ln x \, dx = x (\ln x - 1)$$

$$\ln y = x (\ln x - 1) + c \rightarrow y = A \exp(x \ln x - x)$$

A – arb. constant

now putting $x = e$, $y = 1$ gives $A = 1$. So solution becomes

$$y = \exp(\ln x^x) \exp(-x) \rightarrow y = \frac{x^x}{e^x} \Rightarrow y = \left(\frac{x}{e}\right)^x$$

3.2.3 Linear Equations

These are equations of the form

$$y' + P(x)y = Q(x) \quad (4)$$

which are similar to (3), but the presence of $Q(x)$ renders this no longer separable. We look for a function $R(x)$, called an **Integrating Factor** (I.F) so that

$$R(x)y' + R(x)P(x)y = \frac{d}{dx}(R(x)y)$$

So upon multiplying the lhs of (4), it becomes a derivative of $R(x)y$, i.e.

$$Ry' + RPy = Ry' + R'y$$

from (4).

This gives $RPy = R'y \Rightarrow R(x)P(x) = \frac{dR}{dx}$, which is a DE for R which is separable, hence

$$\int \frac{dR}{R} = \int P dx + c \rightarrow \ln R = \int P dx + c$$

So $R(x) = K \exp(\int P dx)$, hence there exists a function $R(x)$ with the required property. Multiply (4) through by $R(x)$

$$\underbrace{R(x) [y' + P(x)y]}_{=\frac{d}{dx}(R(x)y)} = R(x)Q(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}(Ry) = R(x)Q(x) \rightarrow Ry = \int R(x)Q(x)dx + B$$

B – arb. constant.

We also know the form of $R(x) \rightarrow$

$$yK \exp\left(\int P dx\right) = \int K \exp\left(\int P dx\right) Q(x)dx + B.$$

Divide through by K to give

$$y \exp \left(\int P \, dx \right) = \int \exp \left(\int P \, dx \right) Q(x) dx + \text{constant}.$$

So we can take $K = 1$ in the expression for $R(x)$.

To solve $y' + P(x)y = Q(x)$ calculate $\boxed{R(x) = \exp \left(\int P \, dx \right)}$, which is the I.F.

Examples:

1. Solve $y' - \frac{1}{x}y = x^2$

In this case c.f (4) gives $P(x) \equiv -\frac{1}{x}$ & $Q(x) \equiv x^2$, therefore

I.F $R(x) = \exp\left(\int -\frac{1}{x} dx\right) = \exp(-\ln x) = \frac{1}{x}$. Multiply DE by $\frac{1}{x} \rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{x} \left(y' - \frac{1}{x}y \right) &= x \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{y}{x} \right) = x \rightarrow \int d(x^{-1}y) \\ &= \int x dx + c\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{y}{x} = \frac{x^2}{2} + c \therefore \text{GS is } y = \frac{x^3}{2} + cx$$

2. Obtain the general solution of $(1 + ye^x) \frac{dx}{dy} = e^x$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = (1 + ye^x) e^{-x} = e^{-x} + y \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} - y = e^{-x}$$

Which is a linear equation, with $P = -1$; $Q = e^{-x}$

$$\text{I.F } R(y) = \exp \left(\int -dx \right) = e^{-x}$$

so multiplying DE by I.F

$$e^{-x} (y' - y) = e^{-2x} \rightarrow \frac{d}{dx} (ye^{-x}) = e^{-2x} \Rightarrow$$

$$\int d(ye^{-x}) = \int e^{-2x} dx$$

$$ye^{-x} = -\frac{1}{2}e^{-2x} + c \therefore y = ce^x - \frac{1}{2}e^{-x} \text{ is the GS.}$$

3.3 Second Order ODE's

Typical second order ODE (degree 1) is

$$y'' = f(x, y, y')$$

solution involves two arbitrary constants.

3.3.1 Simplest Cases

A y', y missing, so $y'' = f(x)$

Integrate wrt x (twice): $y = \int (\int f(x) dx) dx$

Example: $y'' = 4x$

$$\text{GS } y = \int \left(\int 4x \, dx \right) dx = \int [2x^2 + C] \, dx = \frac{2x^3}{3} + Cx + D$$

B y missing, so $\boxed{y'' = f(y', x)}$

Put $P = y' \rightarrow y'' = \frac{dP}{dx} = f(P, x)$, i.e. $P' = f(P, x)$ - first order ode

Solve once $\rightarrow P(x)$

Solve again $\rightarrow y(x)$

Example: Solve $x \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 2 \frac{dy}{dx} = x^3$

Note: $\boxed{\text{A}}$ is a special case of $\boxed{\text{B}}$

C y' and x missing, so

$$y'' = f(y)$$

Put $p = y'$, then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} &= \frac{dp}{dx} = \frac{dp}{dy} \frac{dy}{dx} = p \frac{dp}{dy} \\ &= f(y) \end{aligned}$$

So solve 1st order ode

$$p \frac{dp}{dy} = f(y)$$

which is separable, so

$$\int p \, dp = \int f(y) \, dy \rightarrow$$

$$\frac{1}{2}p^2 = \int f(y) dy + \text{const.}$$

Example: Solve $y^3 y'' = 4$

$$\Rightarrow y'' = \frac{4}{y^3}. \text{ Put } p = y' \rightarrow \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = p \frac{dp}{dy} = \frac{4}{y^3}$$

$$\therefore \int p dp = \int \frac{4}{y^3} dy \Rightarrow p^2 = -\frac{4}{y^2} + D \quad \therefore p = \frac{\pm \sqrt{Dy^2 - 4}}{y}, \text{ so from our definition of } p,$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\pm \sqrt{Dy^2 - 4}}{y} \Rightarrow \int dx = \int \frac{\pm y}{\sqrt{Dy^2 - 4}} dy$$

Integrate rhs by substitution (i.e. $u = Dy^2 - 4$) to give

$$x = \frac{\pm\sqrt{Dy^2 - 4}}{D} + E \rightarrow [D(x - E)^2] = Dy^2 - 4$$

$$\therefore \text{GS is } Dy^2 - D^2(x - E)^2 = 4$$

D x missing: $y'' = f(y', y)$

Put $P = y'$, so $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = P \frac{dP}{dy} = f(P, y)$ - 1st order ODE

3.3.2 Linear ODE's of Order at least 2

General n^{th} order linear ode is of form:

$$a_n(x) y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(x) y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1(x) y' + a_0(x) y = g(x)$$

Use symbolic notation:

$$D \equiv \frac{d}{dx} ; \quad D^r \equiv \frac{d^r}{dx^r} \quad \text{so} \quad D^r y \equiv \frac{d^r y}{dx^r}$$

$$\therefore a_r D^r \equiv a_r(x) \frac{d^r}{dx^r} \quad \text{so}$$

$$a_r D^r y = a_r(x) \frac{d^r y}{dx^r}$$

Now introduce

$$L = a_n D^n + a_{n-1} D^{n-1} + a_{n-2} D^{n-2} + \dots + a_1 D + a_0$$

so we can write a linear ode in the form

$$L y = g$$

L — Linear Differential Operator of order n and its definition will be used throughout.

If $g(x) = 0 \forall x$, then $L y = 0$ is said to be **HOMOGENEOUS**.

$L y = 0$ is said to be the homogeneous part of $L y = g$.

L is a linear operator because as is trivially verified:

$$(1) L(y_1 + y_2) = L(y_1) + L(y_2)$$

$$(2) L(cy) = cL(y) \quad c \in \mathbb{R}$$

GS of $Ly = g$ is given by

$$y = y_c + y_p$$

where y_c — Complimentary Function & y_p — Particular Integral (or Particular Solution)

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} y_c \text{ is solution of } Ly = 0 \\ y_p \text{ is solution of } Ly = g \end{array} \right\} \therefore \text{GS } y = y_c + y_p$$

Look at homogeneous case $Ly = 0$. Put $\textcircled{S} =$ all solutions of $Ly = 0$. Then \textcircled{S} forms a vector space of dimension n . Functions $y_1(x), \dots, y_n(x)$ are LINEARLY DEPENDENT if $\exists \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R}$ (not all zero) s.t

$$\lambda_1 y_1(x) + \lambda_2 y_2(x) + \dots + \lambda_n y_n(x) = 0$$

Otherwise y_i 's ($i = 1, \dots, n$) are said to be LINEARLY INDEPENDENT (Lin. Indep.) \Rightarrow whenever

$$\lambda_1 y_1(x) + \lambda_2 y_2(x) + \dots + \lambda_n y_n(x) = 0 \quad \forall x$$

then $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \dots = \lambda_n = 0$.

FACT:

(1) L — n^{th} order linear operator, then \exists n Lin. Indep. solutions y_1, \dots, y_n of $Ly = 0$ s.t GS of $Ly = 0$ is given by

$$y = \lambda_1 y_1 + \lambda_2 y_2 + \dots + \lambda_n y_n \quad \lambda_i \in \mathbb{R} . \\ 1 \leq i \leq n$$

(2) Any n Lin. Indep. solutions of $Ly = 0$ have this property.

To solve $Ly = 0$ we need only find by "hook or by crook" n Lin. Indep. solutions.

3.3.3 Linear ODE's with Constant Coefficients

Consider Homogeneous case: $Ly = 0$.

All basic features appear for the case $n = 2$, so we analyse this.

$$L y = a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + cy = 0 \quad a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$$

Try a solution of the form $y = \exp(\lambda x)$

$$L(e^{\lambda x}) = (aD^2 + bD + c)e^{\lambda x}$$

hence $a\lambda^2 + b\lambda + c = 0$ and so λ is a root of the quadratic equation

$$a\lambda^2 + b\lambda + c = 0 \quad \textbf{AUXILLIARY EQUATION (A.E)}$$

There are three cases to consider:

$$(1) \ b^2 - 4ac > 0$$

So $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$, so GS is

$$y = c_1 \exp(\lambda_1 x) + c_2 \exp(\lambda_2 x)$$

c_1, c_2 — arb. const.

$$(2) \ b^2 - 4ac = 0$$

$$\text{So } \lambda = \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = -\frac{b}{2a}$$

Clearly $e^{\lambda x}$ is a solution of $L y = 0$ - but theory tells us there exist two solutions for a 2nd order ode. So now try $y = x \exp(\lambda x)$

$$\begin{aligned} L(xe^{\lambda x}) &= (aD^2 + bD + c)(xe^{\lambda x}) \\ &= \underbrace{(a\lambda^2 + b\lambda + c)}_{=0}(xe^{\lambda x}) + \underbrace{(2a\lambda + b)}_{=0}(e^{\lambda x}) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

This gives a 2nd solution \therefore GS is $y = c_1 \exp(\lambda x) + c_2 x \exp(\lambda x)$, hence

$$\boxed{y = (c_1 + c_2 x) \exp(\lambda x)}$$

$$(3) \quad b^2 - 4ac < 0$$

So $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ - Complex conjugate pair $\lambda = p \pm iq$ where

$$p = -\frac{b}{2a}, \quad q = \frac{1}{2a} \sqrt{|b^2 - 4ac|} \quad (\neq 0)$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} y &= c_1 \exp(p + iq)x + c_2 \exp(p - iq)x \\ &= c_1 e^{px} e^{iqx} + c_2 e^{px} e^{-iqx} = e^{px} (c_1 e^{iqx} + c_2 e^{-iqx}) \end{aligned}$$

Eulers identity gives $\exp(\pm i\theta) = \cos \theta \pm i \sin \theta$

Simplifying (using Euler) then gives the GS

$$y(x) = e^{px} (A \cos qx + B \sin qx)$$

Examples:

$$(1) \quad y'' - 3y' - 4y = 0$$

Put $y = e^{\lambda x}$ to obtain A.E

$$\text{A.E: } \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 4 = 0 \rightarrow (\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 1) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \lambda = 4 \text{ \& } -1 - 2$$

distinct \mathbb{R} roots

$$\text{GS } y(x) = Ae^{4x} + Be^{-x}$$

$$(2) \ y'' - 8y' + 16y = 0$$

$$\text{A.E} \quad \lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 16 = 0 \rightarrow (\lambda - 4)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 4, 4 \text{ (2 fold root)}$$

'go up one', i.e. instead of $y = e^{\lambda x}$, take $y = xe^{\lambda x}$

$$\text{GS} \ y(x) = (C + Dx)e^{4x}$$

$$(3) \ y'' - 3y' + 4y = 0$$

$$\text{A.E: } \lambda^2 - 3\lambda + 4 = 0 \rightarrow \lambda = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 16}}{2} = \frac{3 \pm i\sqrt{7}}{2} \equiv p \pm iq$$

$$\left(p = \frac{3}{2}, \quad q = \frac{\sqrt{7}}{2} \right)$$

$$y = e^{\frac{3}{2}x} \left(a \cos \frac{\sqrt{7}}{2}x + b \sin \frac{\sqrt{7}}{2}x \right)$$

3.4 General n^{th} Order Equation

Consider

$$Ly = a_n y^{(n)} + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0$$

then

$$L \equiv a_n D^n + a_{n-1} D^{n-1} + a_{n-2} D^{n-2} + \dots + a_1 D + a_0$$

so $Ly = 0$ and the A.E becomes

$$a_n \lambda^n + a_{n-1} \lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 \lambda + a_0 = 0$$

Case 1 (Basic)

n distinct roots $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ then $e^{\lambda_1 x}, e^{\lambda_2 x}, \dots, e^{\lambda_n x}$ are n Lin. Indep. solutions giving a GS

$$y = \beta_1 e^{\lambda_1 x} + \beta_2 e^{\lambda_2 x} + \dots + \beta_n e^{\lambda_n x}$$

β_i — arb.

Case 2

If λ is a real r — fold root of the A.E then $e^{\lambda x}, x e^{\lambda x}, x^2 e^{\lambda x}, \dots, x^{r-1} e^{\lambda x}$ are r Lin. Indep. solutions of $Ly = 0$, i.e.

$$y = e^{\lambda x} (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 x + \alpha_3 x^2 \dots + \alpha_r x^{r-1})$$

α_i — arb.

Case 3

If $\lambda = p + iq$ is a r - fold root of the A.E then so is $p - iq$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} e^{px} \cos qx, \quad xe^{px} \cos qx, \dots, x^{r-1} e^{px} \cos qx \\ e^{px} \sin qx, \quad xe^{px} \sin qx, \dots, x^{r-1} e^{px} \sin qx \end{array} \right\}$$

→ $2r$ Lin. Indep. solutions of $L y = 0$

$$\text{GS } y = e^{px} (c_1 + c_2 x + c_3 x^2 + \dots) \cos qx + e^{px} (C_1 + C_2 x + C_3 x^2 + \dots) \sin qx$$

Examples: Find the GS of each ODE

$$(1) y^{(4)} - 5y'' + 6y = 0$$

$$\text{A.E: } \lambda^4 - 5\lambda^2 + 6 = 0 \rightarrow (\lambda^2 - 2)(\lambda^2 - 3) = 0$$

So $\lambda = \pm\sqrt{2}$, $\lambda = \pm\sqrt{3}$ - four distinct roots

$$\therefore \text{GS } y = Ae^{\sqrt{2}x} + Be^{-\sqrt{2}x} + Ce^{\sqrt{3}x} + De^{-\sqrt{3}x} \quad (\text{Case 1})$$

$$(2) \frac{d^6 y}{dx^6} - 5\frac{d^4 y}{dx^4} = 0$$

$$\text{A.E: } \lambda^6 - 5\lambda^4 = 0 \quad \text{roots: } 0, 0, 0, 0, \pm\sqrt{5}$$

$$\text{GS } y = Ae^{\sqrt{5}x} + Be^{-\sqrt{5}x} + (C + Dx + Ex^2 + Fx^3) \quad (\because \exp(0) = 1)$$

$$(3) \frac{d^4 y}{dx^4} + 2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + y = 0$$

$$\text{A.E: } \lambda^4 + 2\lambda^2 + 1 = (\lambda^2 + 1)^2 = 0 \quad \lambda = \pm i \text{ is a 2 fold root.}$$

Example of Case (3)

$$y = A \cos x + Bx \cos x + C \sin x + Dx \sin x$$

3.5 Non-Homogeneous Case - Method of Undetermined Coefficients

$$\text{GS } y = \text{C.F} + \text{P.I}$$

C.F comes from the roots of the A.E

There are three methods for finding P.I

(a) "Guesswork" - which we are interested in

(b) Annihilator

(c) D-operator Method

(a) Guesswork Method

If the rhs of the ode $g(x)$ is of a certain type, we can guess the form of P.I. We then try it out and determine the numerical coefficients.

The method will work when $g(x)$ has the following forms

- i. Polynomial in x $g(x) = p_0 + p_1x + p_2x^2 + \dots + p_mx^m$.
- ii. An exponential $g(x) = Ce^{kx}$ (Provided k is not a root of A.E).
- iii. Trigonometric terms, $g(x)$ has the form $\sin ax$, $\cos ax$ (Provided ia is not a root of A.E).
- iv. $g(x)$ is a combination of i. , ii. , iii. provided $g(x)$ does not contain part of the C.F (in which case use other methods).

Examples:

$$(1) y'' + 3y' + 2y = 3e^{5x}$$

The homogeneous part is the same as in (1), so $y_c = Ae^{-x} + Be^{-2x}$. For the non-homog. part we note that $g(x)$ has the form e^{kx} , so try $y_p = Ce^{5x}$, and $k = 5$ is not a solution of the A.E.

Substituting y_p into the DE gives

$$C(5^2 + 15 + 2)e^{5x} = 3e^{5x} \rightarrow C = \frac{1}{14}$$

$$\therefore y = Ae^{-x} + Be^{-2x} + \frac{1}{14}e^{5x}$$

$$(2) \quad y'' + 3y' + 2y = x^2$$

$$\text{GS} \quad y = \text{C.F} + \text{P.I} = y_c + y_p$$

C.F: A.E gives

$$\lambda^2 + 3\lambda + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = -1, -2 \therefore y_c = ae^{-x} + be^{-2x}$$

$$\text{P.I} \quad \text{Now } g(x) = x^2,$$

$$\text{so try } y_p = p_0 + p_1x + p_2x^2 \quad \rightarrow y'_p = p_1 + 2p_2x \quad \rightarrow y''_p = 2p_2$$

Now substitute these in to the DE, ie

$$2p_2 + 3(p_1 + 2p_2x) + 2(p_0 + p_1x + p_2x^2) = x^2 \text{ and equate coefficients of } x^n$$

$$O(x^2) : \quad 2p_2 = 1 \Rightarrow p_2 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$O(x) : \quad 6p_2 + 2p_1 = 0 \Rightarrow p_1 = -\frac{3}{2}$$

$$O(x^0) : \quad 2p_2 + 3p_1 + 2p_0 = 0 \Rightarrow p_0 = \frac{7}{4}$$

$$\therefore \text{GS } y = ae^{-x} + be^{-2x} + \frac{7}{4} - \frac{3}{2}x + \frac{1}{2}x^2$$

$$(3) \ y'' - 5y' - 6y = \cos 3x$$

$$\text{A.E: } \lambda^2 - \lambda - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = -1, 6 \Rightarrow y_c = \alpha e^{-x} + \beta e^{6x}$$

Guided by the rhs, i.e. $g(x)$ is a trigonometric term, we can try $y_p = A \cos 3x + B \sin 3x$, and calculate the coefficients A and B .

How about a more sublime approach? Put $y_p = \operatorname{Re} K e^{i3x}$ for the unknown coefficient K .

$\rightarrow y_p' = 3 \operatorname{Re} iK e^{i3x} \rightarrow y_p'' = -9 \operatorname{Re} K e^{i3x}$ and substitute into the DE, dropping Re

$$\begin{aligned} (-9 - 15i - 6) K e^{i3x} &= e^{i3x} \\ -15(1 + i) K &= 1 \\ -15K &= \frac{1}{1 + i} \longrightarrow K = \frac{1}{2}(1 - i) \end{aligned}$$

Hence $K = -\frac{1}{30}(1 - i)$ to give

$$\begin{aligned}y_p &= -\frac{1}{30} \operatorname{Re}(1 - i)(\cos 3x + i \sin 3x) \\&= -\frac{1}{30}(\cos 3x + i \sin 3x - i \cos 3x + \sin 3x)\end{aligned}$$

so general solution becomes

$$y = \alpha e^{-x} + \beta e^{6x} - \frac{1}{30}(\cos 3x + \sin 3x)$$

3.5.1 Failure Case

Consider the DE $y'' - 5y' + 6y = e^{2x}$, which has a CF given by $y(x) = \alpha e^{2x} + \beta e^{3x}$. To find a PI, if we try $y_p = Ae^{2x}$, we have upon substitution

$$Ae^{2x} [4 - 10 + 6] = e^{2x}$$

so when $k (= 2)$ is also a solution of the C.F , then the trial solution $y_p = Ae^{kx}$ fails, so we must seek the existence of an alternative solution.

$Ly = y'' + ay' + b = \alpha e^{kx}$ - trial function is normally $y_p = Ce^{kx}$.

If k is a root of the A.E then $L(Ce^{kx}) = 0$ so this substitution does not work. In this case, we try $y_p = Cxe^{kx}$ - so 'go one up'.

This works provided k is not a repeated root of the A.E, if so try $y_p = Cx^2e^{kx}$, and so forth

3.6 Linear ODE's with Variable Coefficients - Euler Equation

In the previous sections we have looked at various second order DE's with constant coefficients. We now introduce a 2nd order equation in which the coefficients are variable in x . An equation of the form

$$L y = ax^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + \beta x \frac{dy}{dx} + cy = g(x)$$

is called a Cauchy-Euler equation. Note the relationship between the coefficient and corresponding derivative term, ie $a_n(x) = ax^n$ and $\frac{d^n y}{dx^n}$, i.e. both power and order of derivative are n .

The equation is still linear. To solve the homogeneous part, we look for a solution of the form

$$y = x^\lambda$$

So $y' = \lambda x^{\lambda-1} \rightarrow y'' = \lambda(\lambda - 1)x^{\lambda-2}$, which upon substitution yields the quadratic, A.E.

$$a\lambda^2 + b\lambda + c = 0$$

[where $b = (\beta - a)$] which can be solved in the usual way - there are 3 cases to consider, depending upon the nature of $b^2 - 4ac$.

Case 1: $b^2 - 4ac > 0 \rightarrow \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ - 2 real distinct roots

$$\text{GS } y = Ax^{\lambda_1} + Bx^{\lambda_2}$$

Case 2: $b^2 - 4ac = 0 \rightarrow \lambda = \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ - 1 real (double fold) root

$$\text{GS } y = x^\lambda (A + B \ln x)$$

Case 3: $b^2 - 4ac < 0 \rightarrow \lambda = \alpha \pm i\beta \in \mathbb{C}$ - pair of complex conjugate roots

$$\text{GS } y = x^\alpha (A \cos(\beta \ln x) + B \sin(\beta \ln x))$$

Example 1 Solve $x^2 y'' - 2xy' - 4y = 0$

Put $y = x^\lambda \Rightarrow y' = \lambda x^{\lambda-1} \Rightarrow y'' = \lambda(\lambda-1)x^{\lambda-2}$ and substitute in DE to obtain (upon simplification) the A.E. $\lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 4 = 0 \rightarrow (\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 1) = 0$

$\Rightarrow \lambda = 4$ & -1 : 2 distinct \mathbb{R} roots. So GS is

$$y(x) = Ax^4 + Bx^{-1}$$

Example 2 Solve $x^2 y'' - 7xy' + 16y = 0$

So assume $y = x^\lambda$

A.E $\lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 16 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 4, 4$ (2 fold root)

'go up one', i.e. instead of $y = x^\lambda$, take $y = x^\lambda \ln x$ to give

$$y(x) = x^4 (A + B \ln x)$$

Example 3 Solve $x^2 y'' - 3xy' + 13y = 0$

Assume existence of solution of the form $y = x^\lambda$

A.E becomes $\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 13 = 0 \rightarrow \lambda = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 52}}{2} = \frac{4 \pm 6i}{2}$

$$\lambda_1 = 2 + 3i, \quad \lambda_2 = 2 - 3i \equiv \alpha \pm i\beta \quad (\alpha = 2, \beta = 3)$$

$$y = x^2 (A \cos(3 \ln x) + B \sin(3 \ln x))$$

3.6.1 Reduction to constant coefficient

The Euler equation considered above can be reduced to the constant coefficient problem discussed earlier by use of a suitable transform. To illustrate this simple technique we use a specific example.

Solve $x^2 y'' - xy' + y = \ln x$

Use the substitution $x = e^t$ i.e. $t = \ln x$. We now rewrite the equation in terms of the variable t , so require new expressions for the derivatives (chain rule):

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dt} \frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} &= \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dt} \right) = \frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx} \frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{1}{x^2} \frac{dy}{dt} \\ &= \frac{1}{x} \frac{dt}{dx} \frac{d}{dt} \frac{dy}{dt} - \frac{1}{x^2} \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{1}{x^2} \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} - \frac{1}{x^2} \frac{dy}{dt}\end{aligned}$$

∴ the Euler equation becomes

$$\begin{aligned}x^2 \left(\frac{1}{x^2} \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} - \frac{1}{x^2} \frac{dy}{dt} \right) - x \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dt} \right) + y &= t \quad \rightarrow \\ y''(t) - 2y'(t) + y &= t\end{aligned}$$

The solution of the homogeneous part , ie C.F. is $y_c = e^t (A + Bt)$.

The particular integral (P.I.) is obtained by using $y_p = p_0 + p_1 t$ to give
 $y_p = 2 + t$

The GS of this equation becomes

$$y(t) = e^t (A + Bt) + 2 + t$$

which is a function of t . The original problem was $y = y(x)$, so we use our transformation $t = \ln x$ to get the GS

$$y = x (A + B \ln x) + 2 + \ln x.$$