

§ 2.2 2nd order linear homogeneous Diff Eqs w/ constant coefficients. (1)

2nd derivative
see form
no term depending only on t

form:

$$ax'' + bx' + cx = 0$$

2nd order (pointing to x'')
a, b, c constants (pointing to a, b, c)
homogeneous (pointing to $= 0$)

Linear Algebra

$$T(f) = a \frac{d^2 f}{dt^2} + b \frac{df}{dt} + cf$$

$$\text{ker } T = \{f \in V : T(f) = 0\}$$

functions (pointing to f)

Earlier: with 1st order ODE's ~ initial condition of form $x'(0) = x_0$

Now: initial conditions

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = x_0 \\ x'(0) = x_1 \end{cases}$$

Theorem 2.3: The IVP $\begin{cases} ax'' + bx' + cx = 0 \\ x(0) = x_0, x'(0) = x_1 \end{cases}$ has unique soln that exists on \mathbb{R} .

FACT: there will be exactly two "independent" solutions to these DE's ~ $x_1(t), x_2(t)$

↑
not a constant multiple of each other

And general soln will look like

Thm 2.4 : $x(t) = c_1 x_1(t) + c_2 x_2(t)$

How to solve $ax'' + bx' + cx = 0$?

"Guess" solution of form: $x(t) = e^{\lambda t}$
("ansatz") ↑ unknown constant

$x'(t) = \lambda e^{\lambda t}$
 $x''(t) = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$

Plug into DE:

$a\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} + b\lambda e^{\lambda t} + ce^{\lambda t} = 0$
nonzero

↓
divide by $e^{\lambda t}$

$a\lambda^2 + b\lambda + c = 0$ ← characteristic equation for DE
↑ know

Lin Algebra
e-vals of matrix
 $Mv = \lambda v$
 2×2 2×1 2×1
e-vector
e-value

↓ QF

eigenvalues
"eigen" ~ German means "your"
 $\lambda = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$

(3)

Case 1: $b^2 - 4ac > 0$

\Rightarrow get two distinct real e-values

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

\Rightarrow general soln

$$x(t) = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t}$$

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

\Rightarrow one e-value $\lambda = \frac{-b}{2a} \Rightarrow x_1(t) = e^{\lambda t}$ is a soln

Turns out $x_2(t) = t e^{\lambda t}$ will be a soln.

\Rightarrow general soln

$$x(t) = c_1 e^{\lambda t} + c_2 t e^{\lambda t}$$

\nwarrow will see later

Case 3: $b^2 - 4ac < 0$

$$i = \sqrt{-1}$$

$$\sqrt{-4} = \sqrt{4} i = 2i$$

$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac} = \sqrt{4ac - b^2} i$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{evalues } \lambda_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{4ac - b^2} i}{2a}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{4ac - b^2} i}{2a}$$

$$=: \alpha + \beta i$$

$$=: \alpha - \beta i$$

\Rightarrow general soln

$$x(t) = c_1 e^{(\alpha + \beta i)t} + c_2 e^{(\alpha - \beta i)t}$$

Ex: Consider

$$x'' - x' - 12x = 0$$

$$\text{Guess } x = e^{\lambda t} \rightarrow x' = \lambda e^{\lambda t} \rightarrow x'' = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\downarrow$$
$$\lambda^2 e^{\lambda t} - \lambda e^{\lambda t} - 12e^{\lambda t} = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - \lambda - 12 = 0$$

$$(\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 3) = 0$$

$$\lambda = 4, -3$$

Therefore,

$$x(t) = c_1 e^{4t} + c_2 e^{-3t}$$

Consider (initial conditions $x(0) = 1$, $x'(0) = 2$).

$$x'(t) = 4c_1 e^{4t} - 3c_2 e^{-3t}$$

$$\underbrace{1}_{\text{given}} = x(0) = \underbrace{c_1 + c_2}_{\text{computed}} \quad (\text{i})$$

$$\underbrace{2}_{\text{given}} = x'(0) = \underbrace{4c_1 - 3c_2}_{\text{computed}} \quad (\text{ii})$$

$$(i) \rightarrow c_1 = 1 - c_2$$

↓ plug into (ii)

$$2 = 4(1 - c_2) - 3c_2$$

$$= 4 - 4c_2 - 3c_2$$

$$-2 = -7c_2 \rightarrow c_2 = \frac{2}{7}$$

$$c_1 = 1 - \frac{2}{7} = \frac{5}{7}$$

particular soln is

$$x(t) = \frac{5}{7} e^{4t} + \frac{2}{7} e^{-3t}$$