

mth 235 L11

Plan:

- \*  $y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0$
- \* Repeated roots of the characteristic polynomial
- \* Reduction of order method.

(3.4)

\* Review: Constant coefficient eqs.

Given constants  $a_1, a_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , consider

$$y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0$$

With characteristic polynomial having roots

$$r = -\frac{a_1}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{a_1^2 - 4a_0}$$

$\nearrow r_1$   
 $\searrow r_2$

(1) If  $a_1^2 - 4a_0 > 0$ , then:

$$\begin{cases} y_1(t) = e^{r_1 t} \\ y_2(t) = e^{r_2 t} \end{cases}$$

(2) If  $a_1^2 - 4a_0 < 0$ , then

$$\begin{cases} y_1(t) = e^{\alpha t} \cos(\beta t) \\ y_2(t) = e^{\alpha t} \sin(\beta t) \end{cases}$$

Where  $\alpha = -\frac{a_1}{2}$ ,  $\beta = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{4a_0 - a_1^2}$

(3) If  $a_1^2 - 4a_0 = 0$ , then  $y_1(t) = e^{-\frac{a_1}{2} t}$

\* Questions:

Does the equation

$$y'' + a_1 y' + \frac{a_1^2}{4} y = 0 \quad (1)$$

have two linearly independent solutions?

or

Is every solution to eq. (1) proportional to

$$y_1(t) = e^{-\frac{a_1}{2}t} \quad ?$$

\* Plausibility argument. (Not a proof)

(To form an intuition about what is happening.)

(Intuition is subjective.)

- Case (3) can be seen as the limit  $\beta \rightarrow 0$  in case (2)

- Let us study the solutions of the differential eq. in case (2) as  $\beta \rightarrow 0$  for fixed  $t$ .

$$\left. \begin{matrix} y_1(t) = e^{-\frac{\beta}{2}t} \cos(\beta t) \\ \beta \end{matrix} \right\} \xrightarrow{\beta \rightarrow 0} \left. \begin{matrix} e^{-\frac{\beta}{2}t} = y_1(t) \\ (t: \text{fixed}) \end{matrix} \right\}$$

Since :

$$\boxed{\begin{matrix} \cos(\beta t) \rightarrow 1 \\ \beta \rightarrow 0 \end{matrix}}$$

$$\left. \begin{matrix} y_2(t) = e^{-\frac{\beta}{2}t} \sin(\beta t) \\ \beta \end{matrix} \right\} \xrightarrow{\beta \rightarrow 0} \left. \begin{matrix} \beta t e^{-\frac{\beta}{2}t} \rightarrow 0 \\ (t: \text{fixed}) \end{matrix} \right\}$$

Since :

$$\boxed{\begin{matrix} \frac{\sin(\beta t)}{\beta t} \rightarrow 1 \\ \beta \rightarrow 0 \end{matrix}}$$

$$y_{1p}(t) = e^{-\frac{a_1}{2}t} \cos(\beta t) \quad \xrightarrow{\beta \rightarrow 0} \quad e^{-\frac{a_1}{2}t} = y_1(t)$$

$$y_{2p}(t) = e^{-\frac{a_1}{2}t} \sin(\beta t) \quad \xrightarrow{\beta \rightarrow 0} \quad \beta t e^{-\frac{a_1}{2}t} = \beta t y_1(t) \rightarrow 0$$

Is  $y_2(t) = t y_1(t)$  solution of (1)?

Introducing  $y_2$  into eq. (1), gives the answer:

Yes.

Since  $y_2$  is not proportional to  $y_1$ ,

$y_2, y_1$  are a fundamental set for eq. (1)

Thm:

If the coefficients  $a_1, a_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  in the eq.

$$y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0 \tag{1}$$

satisfy then

$$a_1^2 = 4a_0,$$

$$y_1(t) = e^{r_1 t}$$

$$y_2(t) = t e^{r_1 t},$$

with  $r_1 = -\frac{a_1}{2}$ , are

fundamental solutions of eq. (1).

We give a proof based on a new idea:  
Reduction of order method.

17  
Proof: The characteristic eq. is

$$\boxed{\Gamma^2 + a_1 \Gamma + a_0 = 0}$$

$$\Gamma = \frac{-a_1 \pm \sqrt{a_1^2 - 4a_0}}{2}, \quad \boxed{a_1^2 = 4a_0} \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{\Gamma_1 = \Gamma_2 = -\frac{a_1}{2}}$$

Therefore  $\Gamma_1$  satisfies both.

$$\boxed{\Gamma_1^2 + a_1 \Gamma_1 + a_0 = 0}$$

(2)

$$\boxed{2\Gamma_1 + a_1 = 0}$$

(3)

It is clear that  $y_1(t) = e^{\Gamma_1 t}$  is solution of Eq. (1)

A second solution  $y_2$  not proportional to  $y_1$  can be found as follows:

(D'Alembert  
~1750)

Express :

$$y_2(t) = v(t) y_1(t)$$

and find the equation that function  $v$  satisfies from the condition

$$y_2'' + a_1 y_2' + a_0 y_2 = 0.$$

$$y_2(t) = v(t) e^{\gamma_1 t}$$

$$y_2'(t) = v'(t) e^{\gamma_1 t} + \gamma_1 v(t) e^{\gamma_1 t}$$

$$y_2''(t) = v''(t) e^{\gamma_1 t} + 2\gamma_1 v'(t) e^{\gamma_1 t} + \gamma_1^2 v(t) e^{\gamma_1 t}$$

$$\left[ (v'' + 2\gamma_1 v' + \gamma_1^2 v) + a_1 (v' + \gamma_1 v) + a_0 v \right] e^{\gamma_1 t} = 0$$

$$\left[ \underbrace{v'' + 2\gamma_1 v'}_{\text{green}} + \underbrace{\gamma_1^2 v}_{\text{blue}} + \underbrace{a_1 v'}_{\text{green}} + \underbrace{a_1 \gamma_1 v}_{\text{blue}} + \underbrace{a_0 v}_{\text{blue}} \right] e^{\gamma_1 t} = 0$$



$$v'' + \underbrace{(2\Gamma_1 + a_1)}_{=0} v' + \underbrace{(\Gamma_1^2 + a_1\Gamma_1 + a_0)}_{=0} v = 0$$

Eq. for  $v$ :  $v'' = 0$

Solution:  $v(t) = c_1 + c_2 t$

Therefore:  $y_2(t) = (c_1 + c_2 t) e^{\Gamma_1 t}$

If  $c_2 \neq 0$ , then  $y_2, y_1$  l.i.

Simplest choice:  $c_1 = 0, c_2 = 1$

then:

$$y_1(t) = e^{\Gamma_1 t}, \quad y_2(t) = t e^{\Gamma_1 t}$$

are fundamental solutions of eq. (1).

The general sol. is

$$y(t) = (c_1 + c_2 t) e^{\Gamma_1 t}$$



/10

\* Example: [ Find the general sol. of ]  
 $9y'' + 6y' + y = 0.$  ]

Sol:

The characteristic eq. is:

$$9r^2 + 6r + 1 = 0$$

$$r = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{36 - 36}}{(2)(9)} \Rightarrow \boxed{r_1 = r_2 = -\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$\boxed{y(t) = (c_1 + c_2 t) e^{-t/3}}$$

11

\* Example: Find the sol. to the IVP:

$$9y'' + 6y' + y = 0 \quad (4)$$
$$y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = \frac{5}{3}$$

Sol:

The general sol. of (4) is

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

$$y'(t) = (c_1 + c_2 t) \left(\frac{-1}{3}\right) e^{-t/3} + c_2 e^{-t/3}$$

$$1 = y(0) = c_1$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$c_1 = 1$$

$$\frac{5}{3} = y'(0) = -\frac{c_1}{3} + c_2$$

$$c_2 = \frac{5}{3} + \frac{1}{3}$$

$$c_2 = 2$$

$$y(t) = (1 + 2t) e^{-t/3}$$

12

\* The reduction of order method :

The same idea used in the proof of Thm above can be used in variable coefficients eqs.

Thm: Given continuous functions  $P, q : (t_1, t_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , let  $y_1 : (t_1, t_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be solution of

$$y'' + P(t) y' + q(t) y = 0. \quad (5)$$

If the function  $v : (t_1, t_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is solution of

$$y_1(t) v'' + [2 y_1'(t) + P(t) y_1(t)] v' = 0, \quad (6)$$

then the functions

$$y_1(t)$$

,

$$y_2(t) = v(t) y_1(t)$$

are fundamental solutions of (5).

Remark: The reason for the name "Reduction of order method" is that  $v$  does not appear in (6).

$$y_1' (v')' + (2y_1' + P)(v') = 0$$

is first order in  $(v')$ .

\* Example : Find a fundamental set of solutions to

$$t^2 y'' + 2t y' - 2y = 0 \tag{6}$$

knowing that  $y_1(t) = t$  is a solution.

Sol:

We express  $y_2(t) = v(t) y_1(t)$ .

The eq. for  $v$  is obtained from the condition that  $y_2$  be solution of (6),

$$t^2 y_2'' + 2t y_2' - 2y_2 = 0.$$

We need to compute :

$$y_2 = v t$$

$$y_2' = v' t + v$$

$$y_2'' = v'' t + 2v'$$

$$t^2 (v'' t + 2v') + 2t (v' t + v) - 2vt = 0$$

$$t^3 v'' + (2t^2 + 2t^2) v' + \underbrace{(2t - 2t)}_{=0} v = 0$$

$$t^3 v'' + 4t^2 v' = 0$$

$$v'' + \frac{4}{t} v' = 0$$

$$u = v'$$

$$u' + \frac{4}{t} u = 0$$

first order, linear, integrating factor method.

$$a(t) = \frac{4}{t}, \quad A(t) = 4 \ln(t) = \ln(t^4)$$

$$\mu(t) = e^{A(t)} \Rightarrow \boxed{\mu(t) = t^4}$$

$$t^4 u' + 4t^3 u = 0$$

$$(t^4 u)' = 0$$

$$u = \frac{C_0}{t^4}$$

$$v' = \frac{c_0}{t^4} = c_0 t^{-4}$$

$$v(t) = -\frac{c_0}{3} t^{-3} + c_1$$

$$y_2(t) = \left( -\frac{c_0}{3} t^{-3} + c_1 \right) y_1(t)$$

We can choose :  $c_1 = 0$

$$c_0 = -3.$$

$$y_2(t) = t^{-3} y_1(t)$$

$$y_1(t) = t$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} y_2(t) = \frac{1}{t^2} \\ y_1(t) = t \end{cases}$$

fundamental solutions of (1).

Proof of Thrm :

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} y_2 = v y_1 \\ y_2' = v' y_1 + v y_1' \\ y_2'' = v'' y_1 + 2v' y_1' + v y_1'' \end{array} \right]$$

$$y_2'' + P(x) y_2' + Q(x) y_2 = 0$$

$$v'' y_1 + 2v' y_1' + v y_1'' +$$

$$P(x) [v' y_1 + v y_1'] +$$

$$Q(x) [v y_1] = 0$$

$$v'' y_1 + [2y_1' + P(x) y_1] v' +$$

$$+ [y_1'' + P(x) y_1' + Q(x) y_1] v = 0$$

$$= 0$$

$$y_1 v'' + [2y_1' + P y_1] v' = 0$$

first order, linear for  $u = v'$



We now show that  $y_2 = v y_1$  and  $y_1$  are fundamental sols.

$$W_{y_1, y_2} = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_1' \\ v y_1 & v' y_1 + v y_1' \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= y_1 (v' y_1 + v y_1') - v y_1 y_1'$$

$$W_{y_1, y_2} = v' (y_1)^2$$

we need to find  $v'$ .

$$u = v'$$

$$y_1 u' + (2 y_1' + p y_1) u = 0$$

$$\frac{u'}{u} = - \frac{1}{y_1} (2 y_1' + p y_1)$$

$$\frac{u'}{u} = - 2 \frac{y_1'}{y_1} - p$$

$$\ln(u) = -2 \ln(y_1) - \int P(t) dt$$

$$IP(t) = \int P(t) dt$$

$$\ln(u) = \ln((y_1)^{-2}) - IP(t)$$

$$u = e^{\ln(y_1^{-2}) - IP(t)} = e^{\ln(y_1^{-2})} e^{-IP(t)}$$

$$u(t) = \frac{1}{y_1^2} e^{-IP(t)}$$

$$v'(t) = \frac{1}{[y_1(t)]^2} e^{-IP(t)}$$

$$W_{y_1 y_2} = v'(y_1)^2 \Rightarrow W_{y_1 y_2} = e^{-IP(t)}$$

$$W_{y_1 y_2} \neq 0$$

$y_1, y_2$  are fundamental solutions of (6).