

math    235    L16

Plan: \* Equations with  
singular points

\* Euler Differential eq.

$$(x-x_0)^2 y'' + \alpha (x-x_0) y' + \beta y = 0$$

\* Solutions near  $x_0$

\* The roots of the  
indicial polynomial.

\* (Equations with  
regular-singular points)

(5.4)

# \* Equations with singular points

Recall:  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  is a singular point of

$$P(x) y'' + Q(x) y' + R(x) y = 0 \quad (1)$$

iff  $P(x_0) = 0.$

- We are interested in finding sols. to (1) near a singular point  $x_0.$
- The order of the eq. changes near a singular point.

as  $x \rightarrow x_0$

- two l.i. solutions remain bounded
- or
- only one sol. remain bounded
- or
- none sol. remain bounded.

- It is known how to find sols. of eqs. near singular points in the case that the points are not so singular.
- Such points will be called regular singular points.
- Main example of an equation with regular singular points is the Euler differential eq.

4

## \* The Euler equation

Def: Given constants  $x_0, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  
the differential equation

$$(x-x_0)^2 y'' + \alpha(x-x_0) y' + \beta y = 0 \quad (2)$$

is called the Euler equation.

### Remarks:

- Eq. (2) has variable coefficients.
- Solutions of (2) are not of the form  
$$y = e^{rx}$$
- $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  is a singular point of (2).
- We are interested in finding sols. to (2) arbitrary close to  $x_0$
- Particular case  $x_0 = 0$  is

$$x^2 y'' + \alpha x y' + \beta y = 0 \quad (3)$$

$x_0 = 0$  is a singular point.

\* Main idea to find solutions to (3)

- Recall the constant coeff. case:

$$\boxed{y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0} \quad (4)$$

We looked for solutions  $y = e^{rx}$ , since the exponential can be canceled out of eq. (4)

$$\boxed{(r^2 + a_1 r + a_0) \cancel{e^{rx}} = 0} \quad (5)$$

So the number  $r$  of the characteristic eq.

$$\boxed{P(r) = r^2 + a_1 r + a_0 = 0}$$

- In the case of Euler eq

$$\boxed{x^2 y'' + \alpha x y' + \beta y = 0}$$

exponentials functions do not have the property in (4), since for  $y = e^{rx}$

$$\boxed{(x^2 r^2 + \alpha x r + \beta) \cancel{e^{rx}} = 0}$$

↓  
depends on  $x$ .

Idea: Look for solutions

$$y(x) = x^r$$

$$y'(x) = r x^{r-1} \Rightarrow$$

$$x y' = r x^r$$

$$y''(x) = r(r-1) x^{r-2} \Rightarrow$$

$$x^2 y'' = r(r-1) x^r$$

Introduce  $y$  into  $x^2 y'' + \alpha x y' + \beta y = 0$

$$(r(r-1) + \alpha r + \beta) x^r = 0$$

So  $r$  must be solution of

$$f(r) = r(r-1) + \alpha r + \beta = 0$$

Indicial eq. or Euler characteristic eq.

$r$  must be a root of  $f(r)$ .

Thrm:

Given constants  $x_0, \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  consider the Euler eq.

$$(x-x_0)^2 y'' + \alpha (x-x_0) y' + \beta y = 0 \quad (6)$$

Let  $r_1, r_2$  be roots of the indicial polynomial

$$f(r) = r(r-1) + \alpha r + \beta$$

(a) If  $r_1 \neq r_2$ , then the general sol. of (6) is

$$y(x) = c_1 |x-x_0|^{r_1} + c_2 |x-x_0|^{r_2}$$

with  $c_1, c_2$  constants.

(b) If  $r_1 = r_2$ , then the general sol. of (6) is

$$y(x) = c_1 |x-x_0|^{r_1} + c_2 \ln(|x-x_0|) |x-x_0|^{r_1}$$

with  $c_1, c_2$  constants.

100

Example: Find the general sol. of

Sol.:  $x^2 y'' + 4x y' + 2y = 0$  (7)

We look for sols.  $y = x^r$   $x > 0$ .

$$x^2 r(r-1) x^{r-2} + 4x r x^{r-1} + 2x^r = 0$$

$$(r(r-1) + 4r + 2) x^r = 0$$

$r$  must be root of the indicial polynomial

$$q(r) = r(r-1) + 4r + 2 = 0$$

$$= r^2 + 3r + 2 = 0$$

$$r = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{9-8}}{2} = \frac{-3 \pm 1}{2}$$

$$r_1 = -1$$

$$r_2 = -2$$

$$y_1(x) = x^{-1}$$

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$$y_2(x) = x^{-2}$$

fundamental solutions of (7) for  $x > 0$ .



The Thm says that

$$y_1 = |x|^{-1}$$

$$y_2 = |x|^{-2}$$

fundamental sols.  
for  $x \neq 0$ .

The general sol. is

$$y(x) = c_1 |x|^{-1} + c_2 |x|^{-2}$$

$c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$

Example : [ Find the general sol. of  $x^2 y'' - 3x y' + 4y = 0$  ]

Sol:

We look for  $y = x^r$ ,  $x > 0$ , so

$$(r(r-1) - 3r + 4) x^r = 0$$

$r$  must be root of the indicial polynomial

$$q(r) = r(r-1) - 3r + 4 = 0$$

$$r - 4r + 4 = 0$$

$$r = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 16}}{2} \Rightarrow r_1 = r_2 = 2$$

repeated roots.

$$y_1 = x^2$$

$$y_2 = x^2 \ln(|x|)$$

$x \neq 0$

(fundamental solutions)

The general Sol. is

$$y(x) = c_1 x^2 + c_2 x^2 \ln(|x|)$$

$x \neq 0$

Proof of Thm: (existence) (case  $x_0 = 0$ )

Propose  $y = x^r$   $x > 0$ .

Then  $r$  must be sol. of.

$$r(r-1) + \alpha r + \beta = 0$$

$$r_{1,2} = -\frac{(\alpha-1)}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta}$$

(1)  $(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta > 0 \Rightarrow$

|                 |
|-----------------|
| $y_1 = x^{r_1}$ |
| $y_2 = x^{r_2}$ |

Fundamental  
sols.  
 $x > 0$ .

This case includes:

$r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} r_1 = \lambda + i\mu \\ r_2 = \lambda - i\mu \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}$

12

$$(2) \quad (\alpha - 1) - 4\beta = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Gamma_1 = \Gamma_2 = -\frac{(\alpha - 1)}{2}.$$

$$\boxed{Y_1 = x^{\Gamma_1}} \quad x > 0.$$

- Find a solution  $Y_2$  l.i. to  $Y_1$ .
- Reduction of order method.

We look for

$$\boxed{Y_2 = v(x) x^{\Gamma_1}}$$

$$\boxed{Y_2' = v' x^{\Gamma_1} + v \Gamma_1 x^{\Gamma_1 - 1}}$$

$$\boxed{Y_2'' = v'' x^{\Gamma_1} + 2\Gamma_1 v' x^{\Gamma_1 - 1} + v \Gamma_1 (\Gamma_1 - 1) x^{\Gamma_1 - 2}}$$

Introduce  $Y_2$  into

$$x^2 Y_2'' + \alpha x Y_2' + \beta Y_2 = 0$$

13

$$0 = v'' x^{\overline{\Gamma+2}} + 2\Gamma_1 v' x^{\overline{\Gamma+1}} + v \Gamma_1 (\Gamma_1 - 1) x^{\overline{\Gamma}}$$

$$+ \alpha (v' x^{\overline{\Gamma+1}} + v \Gamma_1 x^{\overline{\Gamma}})$$

$$+ \beta v x^{\overline{\Gamma}}$$

$$0 = v'' x^{\Gamma+2} + (2\Gamma_1 + \alpha) v' x^{\Gamma+1}$$

$$+ (\Gamma_1 (\Gamma_1 - 1) + \alpha \Gamma_1 + \beta) v x^{\Gamma}$$

Recall:

$$\Gamma_1 (\Gamma_1 - 1) + \alpha \Gamma_1 + \beta = 0$$

$\Gamma_1$ : root of  $\varphi$ .

$$\Gamma_1 = -\frac{(\alpha, -1)}{2} \Rightarrow$$

$$2\Gamma_1 + \alpha = 1$$

$\Gamma_1$  the only root of  $\varphi$

$$0 = v'' x^{\Gamma+2} + v' x^{\Gamma+1}$$

$$v'' x + v' = 0$$

$$u = v' \Rightarrow x u' + u = 0$$

$$x u' = -u$$

$$\frac{u'}{u} = -\frac{1}{x}$$

$$\ln u = -\ln x = \ln\left(\frac{1}{x}\right)$$

$$u = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$u = v'$$

$$v' = \frac{1}{x} \Rightarrow$$

$$v(x) = \ln(x)$$

$$x > 0$$

$$y_1 = x^{\alpha}$$

$$, \quad y_2 = x^{\alpha} \ln(x)$$

$$x > 0$$

for  $x < 0$ , introduce the change of variable:

$$\hat{x} = -x \quad \Rightarrow \quad \hat{x} > 0.$$

$$x^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + \alpha x \frac{dy}{dx} + \beta y = 0$$

$$x = -\hat{x}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{d\hat{x}} \frac{d\hat{x}}{dx} = -\frac{dy}{d\hat{x}}$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{dy}{dx} \right)$$

$$= \frac{d}{d\hat{x}} \left( -\frac{dy}{d\hat{x}} \right)$$

$$= (-1)^2 \frac{d^2 y}{d\hat{x}^2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{dy}{d\hat{x}}$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{d^2 y}{d\hat{x}^2}$$

$$\hat{x}^2 \frac{d^2 y}{d\hat{x}^2} + \alpha \hat{x} \frac{dy}{d\hat{x}} + \beta y = 0 \quad \hat{x} > 0$$

$$y_1 = \hat{x}^{\alpha_1}$$

$$y_2 = \hat{x}^{\alpha_2}$$

$$\hat{x} = -x$$

Summary  $\gamma$ :

$$\boxed{\gamma_1 \neq \gamma_2}$$

$$x > 0 : \quad \gamma_1 = x^{\gamma_1} \quad , \quad \gamma_2 = x^{\gamma_2}$$

$$x < 0 : \quad \gamma_1 = (-x)^{\gamma_1} \quad , \quad \gamma_2 = (-x)^{\gamma_2}$$

$$\boxed{\gamma_1 = \gamma_2}$$

$$x > 0 : \quad \gamma_1 = x^{\gamma_1} \quad \gamma_2 = x^{\gamma_1} \ln(x)$$

$$x < 0 : \quad \gamma_1 = (-x)^{\gamma_1} \quad \gamma_2 = (-x)^{\gamma_1} \ln(-x)$$

Therefore:

$$\boxed{\gamma_1 = |x|^{\gamma_1} \quad , \quad \gamma_2 = |x|^{\gamma_2}} \quad , \quad \boxed{\gamma_1 \neq \gamma_2} \quad , \quad \boxed{x \neq 0.}$$

$$\boxed{\gamma_1 = |x|^{\gamma_1} \quad , \quad \gamma_2 = |x|^{\gamma_1} \ln(|x|)} \quad , \quad \boxed{\gamma_1 = \gamma_2} \quad , \quad \boxed{x \neq 0.}$$

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Remark: The case of complex roots

The Euler eq.

$$x^2 y'' + \alpha x y' + \beta y = 0 \quad (6)$$

in the case that

$$f(r) = r(r-1) + \alpha r + \beta$$

has roots

$$r = -\frac{(\alpha-1)}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta}$$

with

$$(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta < 0$$

Denote

$$\mu = \sqrt{4\beta - (\alpha-1)^2}$$
$$\lambda = -\frac{(\alpha-1)}{2}$$

The roots have the form

$$r_1 = \lambda + i\mu$$

$$r_2 = \lambda - i\mu$$

- complex-valued

fundamental sols. of (6)

$$\tilde{y}_1 = |x|^{\lambda + i\mu}$$

$$\tilde{y}_2 = |x|^{\lambda - i\mu}$$

Proposition:

Real valued fundamental sols. of (6) in the case that  $q$  has complex roots are:

$$y_1 = |x|^\lambda \cos[\mu \ln(|x|)]$$

$$y_2 = |x|^\lambda \sin[\mu \ln(|x|)]$$

Proof: Given  $\tilde{Y}_1, \tilde{Y}_2$ , introduce:

$$Y_1 = \frac{1}{2} (\tilde{Y}_1 + \tilde{Y}_2)$$

$$Y_2 = \frac{1}{2i} (\tilde{Y}_1 - \tilde{Y}_2)$$

$$\tilde{Y}_1 = |x|^{\lambda + i\mu}$$

$$= |x|^\lambda |x|^{i\mu}$$

$$= |x|^\lambda e^{\ln(|x|^{i\mu})}$$

$$= |x|^\lambda e^{i\mu \ln|x|}$$

(Euler eq.)

$$\tilde{Y}_1 = |x|^\lambda [\cos(\mu \ln|x|) + i \sin(\mu \ln|x|)]$$

$$\tilde{Y}_2 = |x|^\lambda [\cos(\mu \ln|x|) - i \sin(\mu \ln|x|)]$$

$$Y_1 = |x|^\lambda \cos(\mu \ln|x|)$$

$$Y_2 = |x|^\lambda \sin(\mu \ln|x|)$$

Example: Find real-valued fundamental  
sols. of  
 $x^2 y'' - 3x y' + 13 y = 0$

Soln

$$f(r) = r(r-1) - 3r + 13 = 0$$

$$r^2 - 4r + 13 = 0$$

$$r = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 52}}{2} = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-36}}{2} = \frac{4 \pm 6i}{2}$$

$$r_1 = 2 + 3i$$

$$r_2 = 2 - 3i$$

$$\tilde{y}_1 = |x|^{2+3i}$$

$$\tilde{y}_2 = |x|^{2-3i}$$

Complex-val.  
sols.

$$y_1 = x^2 \cos(3 \ln |x|)$$

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$$y_2 = x^2 \sin(3 \ln |x|)$$

Real-valued  
fundamental  
sols.