

$$A_n(x) \frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + A_{n-1}(x) \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \dots + A_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + A_0(x) y = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{Homog} \\ F(x) & \text{Inhomo} \end{cases}$$

↑ zeroes of $A_n(x)$ are dangerous!

EX: $y^{(n)} \equiv 0$

Integrate n -times: $y = C_0 + C_1 x + C_2 x^2 + \dots + C_{n-1} x^{n-1}$

Get n -constants, n -solutions: $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^{n-1}$

Step 1: Put ODE in standard form: Divide by $A_n(x) =$

$$\frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + P_{n-1}(x) \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \dots + P_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + P_0(x) y = \begin{cases} 0 & (*) \\ f(x) & (+) \end{cases}$$

E & U Thm: The Initial Value Problem (IVP), y solving

(*) or (+) with $\begin{cases} y(x_0) = y_0 \\ y'(x_0) = y_0' \\ \vdots \\ y^{(n-1)}(x_0) = y_0^{(n-1)} \end{cases}$

← n conditions.
Think: for n constants

has a unique sol^n when all the fns $P_j(x)$ are

↑ E ↑ U

continuous near x_0 (and $f(x)$ is cont for (+) too).

Sol^n guaranteed valid on largest interval containing x_0 where P 's are all continuous.

2
Big fact Superposition principle holds:

$$L[y] = y^{(n)} + P_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \dots + P_1 y' + P_0 y$$

is a linear operator. So linear combinations of solⁿs to the homog equ are solⁿs too.

Why: $L[c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_n y_n] = c_1 \underbrace{L[y_1]}_0 + \dots + c_n \underbrace{L[y_n]}_0 = 0$

EX: Constant coeff case =

$$a_n y^{(n)} + \dots + a_1 y' + a_0 y = 0 \quad (*)$$

Try $y = e^{rx}$:

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= r e^{rx} \\ y'' &= r^2 e^{rx} \\ &\vdots \\ y^{(n)} &= r^n e^{rx} \end{aligned}$$

Plug into (*): $a_n r^n e^{rx} + \dots + a_0 e^{rx} = 0$ want

$$\underbrace{(a_n r^n + \dots + a_1 r + a_0)}_{\text{Need this } = 0} e^{rx} = 0$$

never zero

Need this = 0
"Characteristic equ"

Hope: Get n distinct real roots $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$.

Get n solⁿs $e^{r_j x}$.

Hope: $y = c_1 e^{r_1 x} + c_2 e^{r_2 x} + \dots + c_n e^{r_n x}$ is gen^l solⁿ.

EX: 3rd order prob: Get $r=2,3,5$

$$y_1 = e^{2x}, \quad y_2 = e^{3x}, \quad y_3 = e^{5x}$$

Is $y = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 e^{3x} + c_3 e^{5x}$ the gen^l solⁿ?

Equiv question: Can I solve any and all IVPs with this solⁿ?

IVP $\begin{cases} y(0) = c_1 + c_2 + c_3 = A \\ y'(0) = 2c_1 + 3c_2 + 5c_3 = B \\ y''(0) = 4c_1 + 9c_2 + 25c_3 = C \end{cases}$ ← given

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 4 & 9 & 25 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A \\ B \\ C \end{pmatrix}$$

Need $\det \neq 0!$ ↗

How to remember linear alg fact: Cramer's rule =

$$c_2 = \frac{\det \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \textcolor{red}{A} & \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{3}{4} & \textcolor{red}{B} & \frac{5}{25} \\ \frac{4}{4} & \textcolor{red}{C} & \frac{25}{25} \end{bmatrix}}{\det \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{5} \\ \frac{2}{4} & \frac{3}{9} & \frac{5}{25} \\ \frac{4}{4} & \frac{9}{9} & \frac{25}{25} \end{bmatrix}} \quad \leftarrow \text{need } \neq 0$$

Defⁿ: $W[y_1, y_2, y_3] = \det \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ y_1' & y_2' & y_3' \\ y_1'' & y_2'' & y_3'' \end{bmatrix}$

$$W[y_1, \dots, y_n] = \det \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & \dots & y_n \\ y_1' & y_2' & \dots & y_n' \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)} & y_2^{(n-1)} & \dots & y_n^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Fact: If $W(0) \neq 0$, get general solⁿ for (*).

EX:

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} e^{r_1 x} & e^{r_2 x} & e^{r_3 x} \\ r_1 e^{r_1 x} & r_2 e^{r_2 x} & r_3 e^{r_3 x} \\ r_1^2 e^{r_1 x} & r_2^2 e^{r_2 x} & r_3^2 e^{r_3 x} \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} R1 \\ R2 \\ R3 \end{matrix}$$

$$= \det \begin{bmatrix} e^{r_1 x} & e^{r_2 x} & e^{r_3 x} \\ 0 & (r_2 - r_1) e^{r_2 x} & (r_3 - r_1) e^{r_3 x} \\ 0 & (r_2^2 - r_1^2) e^{r_2 x} & (r_3^2 - r_1^2) e^{r_3 x} \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} R2 - r_1 R1 \\ R3 - r_1^2 R1 \end{matrix}$$

$$= \det \begin{bmatrix} e^{r_1 x} & \cancel{e^{r_2 x}} & \cancel{e^{r_3 x}} \\ 0 & (r_2 - r_1) e^{r_2 x} & (r_3 - r_1) e^{r_3 x} \\ 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \\ R3 - (r_2 + r_1) R2 \end{matrix}$$

$\uparrow [(r_3^2 - r_1^2) - (r_2 + r_1)(r_3 - r_1)] e^{r_3 x}$

$$= e^{r_1 x} \cdot (r_2 - r_1) e^{r_2 x} \cdot [(r_3 - r_1)(r_3 + r_1 - (r_2 + r_1))] e^{r_3 x}$$

$$= (r_2 - r_1)(r_3 - r_1)(r_3 - r_2) e^{(r_1 + r_2 + r_3)x}$$

Never zero if r 's are distinct.

Fact: Abel's formula: Either $W \equiv 0$ or never zero.

So just checking W at one pt is enough.

Big fact: The gen^l solⁿ to $(+)$ $\leftarrow$ non-homog prob

is $\underbrace{[c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + \dots + c_n y_n]}_{\text{gen^l solⁿ to homog prob (*)}} + y_P$
 $\uparrow$
One particular solⁿ to $(+)$.

EX: $y''' + y' = e^{-2t} \quad (+)$

$$y''' + y' = 0 \quad (*)$$

Step 1: Solve $(*)$. Char. eqn $r^3 + r = 0$
 $r(r^2 + 1) = 0$

Roots: $r = 0, \pm i$

Get $y_1 = e^{0 \cdot t} \equiv 1$ solⁿ.

Hmmm. e^{it} is a complex solⁿ.

$$0 = \mathcal{L}[e^{it}] = \mathcal{L}[\cos t + i \sin t] = \underbrace{\mathcal{L}[\cos t]}_{=0} + i \underbrace{\mathcal{L}[\sin t]}_{=0}$$

Get two more real solⁿs: $y_2 = \cos t$, $y_3 = \sin t$.

Who cares how!

6

$$\text{Is } W \neq 0? \quad \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cos t & \sin t \\ 0 & -\sin t & \cos t \\ 0 & -\cos t & -\sin t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= 1 \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} -\sin t & \cos t \\ -\cos t & -\sin t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \sin^2 t + \cos^2 t \equiv 1 \quad \leftarrow \text{not zero!}$$

$$\text{So } y = c_1 \cdot 1 + c_2 \cos t + c_3 \sin t$$

is gen^l solⁿ to homog eqn (*).

Step: Find one y_p . Try $y_p = A e^{-2t}$

$$\left[A e^{-2t} \right]''' + \left[A e^{-2t} \right]' = e^{-2t} \quad \leftarrow \text{want}$$

$$-8A e^{-2t} - 2A e^{-2t} = e^{-2t} \quad \leftarrow \text{divide out } e^{-2t}$$

$$-10A = 1 \quad \boxed{A = -\frac{1}{10}}$$

$$\text{Gen^l solⁿ to (*)} = y = (c_1 + c_2 \cos t + c_3 \sin t) - \frac{1}{10} e^{-2t}$$