

Lesson 20 Linear independence

Next HWK on home page due Wed

2nd order $y'' + Py' + Qy = 0$. Solⁿs y_1 and y_2

Good

1. $c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$ is Gen^l Solⁿ

2. $W[y_1, y_2](x_0) \neq 0$

3. W is never zero

1, 2, 3 are equivalent!

4. y_1 and y_2 are
linearly independent.

Bad

not

$$W \equiv 0$$

$$\frac{W}{y_1^2} = \frac{y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1'}{y_1^2} = \left(\frac{y_2}{y_1} \right)'$$

$$\text{So } \left(\frac{y_2}{y_1} \right)' = \text{const.}$$

One solⁿ is a constant times the other: They are linearly dependent.

n-th order case: $y^{(n)} + P_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \dots + P_1 y' + P_0 y = 0$

Get n solⁿs $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$

Good

1. $c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + \dots + c_n y_n$ is
the Gen^l Solⁿ

2. $W[y_1, \dots, y_n](x_0) \neq 0$

Bad

not

3. Abel's formula shows that

$$W = C e^{\int p(x) dx}$$

So $W \equiv 0$ or never zero

4. $y_1, \dots, y_n$ are
linearly independent
good

$y_1, \dots, y_n$ are
linearly dependent
bad

Defⁿ: $y_1, \dots, y_n$ are linearly independent if

whenever (*) $c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_n y_n = 0$, ↖ equal to the zero function

all the c 's must be zero.

They are linearly dependent if this is not the case,

when there are not all zero c 's that make (*) hold. Hmmm. Say $c_3 \neq 0$. ← Divide by c_3 !

$$c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + \underline{c_3} y_3 + \dots + c_n y_n \equiv 0$$

$$y_3 = -\frac{c_1}{c_3} y_1 - \dots - \frac{c_n}{c_3} y_n$$

← no y_3 term on right

Aha! One of the fns is a linear combo of the others. ← Defⁿ of dependent.

Fact: $W(x_0) \neq 0$, then solⁿs $y_1, \dots, y_n$ are indep.

Why: Suppose $c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_n y_n \equiv 0$

Diff'rate:
$$\begin{cases} c_1 y_1' + \dots + c_n y_n' \equiv 0 \\ \vdots \\ c_1 y_1^{(n-1)} + \dots + c_n y_n^{(n-1)} \equiv 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \text{Wronskian} \\ \text{matrix} \end{bmatrix}}_{W = \det \neq 0} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0}$$

$W = \det \neq 0$

All c 's must be zero! Indep!

Hummm. What if $W(x_0) = 0$.

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \text{Wronskian} \\ \text{matrix} \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{Bad matrix!}} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0}$$

Bad matrix!

$\det = 0$

Row reduction:

$$\begin{array}{c} c_1 \text{ bound} \\ c_2 \text{ bound} \end{array} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

← row of zeroes at bottom

Row of zeroes on bottom means not all var's are bound.

The non-bound are free variables. When free variables exist, there are not all zero c's solⁿs.

EX: If you have not all zero c's solving

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{Wronskian} \\ \text{matrix} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} c_1 y_1(x_0) + \dots + c_n y_n(x_0) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ c_1 y_1^{(n-1)}(x_0) + \dots + c_n y_n^{(n-1)}(x_0) = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

Aha!
This linear
combo
satisfies the
same IVP
as the zero
solⁿ $y \equiv 0$.

Aha! The Uniqueness part of $\exists! U$ Thm

gives us that $\underbrace{c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_n y_n}_{\text{not all c's} = 0} \equiv 0$

See $y_1, \dots, y_n$ are dependent.

EX: Are $\cos x$ and $\sin x$ lin indep.?

Duh! $\frac{\sin x}{\cos x} = \tan x \leftarrow \text{not a constant!}$

EX: Are $\begin{cases} 1 + 2x + 3x^2 \\ 4 + 5x + 6x^2 \\ 7 + 8x + 9x^2 \end{cases}$ indep?

No! $R_3 = 2R_2 - R_1$

Scientific way:

$$c_1 (1 + 2x + 3x^2) + c_2 (4 + 5x + 6x^2) + c_3 (7 + 8x + 9x^2) \equiv 0$$

$$\underbrace{(c_1 + 4c_2 + 7c_3)}_{\text{must} = 0} + \underbrace{(2c_1 + 5c_2 + 8c_3)}_{=0} x + \underbrace{(3c_1 + 6c_2 + 9c_3)}_{=0} x^2 \equiv 0$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{bmatrix}}_{\det = 0!} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{pmatrix} = \vec{0}$$

There exist not all zero c 's solⁿs.

[Same as (Row reduction) $\rightarrow$ row zeroes on bottom.]

Same as: free variables exist.

Back to solving constant coeff linear homog eqns.

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

Try $y = e^{rx}$.

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

Fund Thm of Algebra: This n -th degree poly has n roots counted with multiplicity in $\mathbb{C}$.

Note: The a_n 's are real. If a complex number z satisfies $P(z) = 0$, then

$$\overline{P(z)} = 0 \\ = P(\bar{z})$$

$$\overline{a_k z^k} = \overline{a_k} \overline{z^k} \\ = \overline{a_k} \bar{z}^k \\ \uparrow \\ = a_k \text{ when } a_k \text{ real}$$

and so we see that $\bar{z}$ is also a root.

Fact: Complex roots occur in conjugate pairs.

$$(r-z)(r-\bar{z}) = r^2 - \underbrace{(z+\bar{z})}_{2\operatorname{Re} z} r + \underbrace{z\bar{z}}_{|z|^2} \text{ a real quadratic poly!}$$

Big fact: Real polys factor into terms like this:

- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|---|
| 1) $(r - r_1)$ | r_1 real | $\left \begin{array}{l} r_1 \text{ real root} \\ \text{of multiplicity} \\ \text{one} \end{array} \right.$ |
| 2) $(r - r_1)^m$ | r_1 real | |
| 3) $(r^2 + br + c)$ | roots $A \pm Bi$ | conjugate pair |
| 4) $(r^2 + br + c)^m$ | roots $A \pm Bi$ | mult. m |