

# Higher order Linear ODE's

- Exam 1 next Tuesday on Chapters 1-3 (not Today's lecture)
- Special Office hours Monday 12-2 (instead of Tuesday 3:30-5:00)
- No quiz next Wednesday.

Higher order linear equation

STANDARD FORM

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{d^n y}{dt^n} + p_1(t) \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dt^{n-1}} + p_2(t) \frac{d^{n-2} y}{dt^{n-2}} + \dots + p_{n-1}(t) \frac{dy}{dt} + p_n(t) y \\ = g(t) \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$\frac{d^n y}{dt^n} = y^{(n)} = D^n y \quad D = \frac{d}{dt}$$

raising operator to  $n$ th power means repeat operator  $n$  times

• can sometimes think of  $D$  as an algebraic symbol.

$$D^n y + p_1(t) D^{n-1} y + \dots + p_{n-1}(t) D y + p_n(t) y = g(t)$$

$$\left[ D^n + p_1(t) D^{n-1} + \dots + p_{n-1}(t) D + p_n(t) \right] y = g(t)$$

What does the initial value problem look like?

There are  $n$  initial conditions

$$y(t_0) = y_0 \quad y'(t_0) = y_0', \quad y''(t_0) = y_0'', \quad y'''(t_0) = y_0''',$$

$$\dots \quad y^{(n-1)}(t_0) = y_0^{(n-1)}$$

Basic fact: when coefficients  $p_1(t), p_2(t), \dots, p_n(t), q(t)$  are continuous, the initial value problem always has a unique solution.

$$\text{Homogeneous } [D^n + p_1(t)D^{n-1} + \dots + p_n(t)]y = 0$$

$$\left[ \text{Eg. } D^n y = f(t) \quad y = \underbrace{\int \int \int}_{n \text{ times}} f(t) \right]$$

get  $n$  constants of integration

general solution has  $n$  constants.

In general, the homogeneous eqn has  $n$  "independent" solutions  $y_1, \dots, y_n$

and the general solution is

$$y = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2 + \dots + C_{n-1} y_{n-1} + C_n y_n$$

Supersimple example

$$D^n y = 0$$

$$y^{(n)} = 0$$

$$y_1 = 1, \quad y_2 = t, \quad y_3 = t^2, \quad \dots, \quad y_n = t^{n-1}$$

$$D \downarrow \\ 0$$

$$D \downarrow \\ 1$$

$$D \downarrow \\ 2t$$

$$D^n \downarrow \\ 0$$

$$D \downarrow \\ 0$$

$$D \downarrow \\ 2$$

$$D \downarrow \\ 0$$

general solution  $y = c_1 \cdot 1 + c_2 t + c_3 t^2 + \dots + c_n t^{n-1}$   
that is any degree  $n-1$  polynomial.

Consider  $y''' + y' = 0$

$$(D^3 + D)y = 0$$

$$D(D^2 + 1)y = 0$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (D^2 + 1)y = 0 \\ y'' + y = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

check  $y_1 = 2 \cos t$  is a solution

$$\downarrow D^2 + 1$$

$$0$$

$$\downarrow D$$

$$0$$

$y_2 = 6 \sin t$  is a solution

$y_3 = 3 \cos t + 5 \sin t$  is a solution

Three solutions, but NOT GOOD ENOUGH

Eg. Try to solve  $y(0) = 1$   $y'(0) = 0$   $y''(0) = 0$

can't do it with any combination of these solutions

in fact  $y_4 = 1$  is also a solution

and  $u_1 = \cos t$   $u_2 = \sin t$   $u_3 = 1$  is  
a "complete" (fundamental) set of solutions

↳ can solve any IVP using these

Two criteria for having a fundamental set:

Wronskian criterion

$y_b^{(a)}$  = a<sup>th</sup> derivative  
of the b<sup>th</sup>  
solution.

$$c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_n y_n = y_0$$

$$c_1 y_1' + \dots + c_n y_n' = y_0'$$

⋮

$$c_1 y_1^{(n-1)} + \dots + c_n y_n^{(n-1)} = y_0^{(n-1)}$$

n x n system of  
linear equations.

↳ linear algebra says we need the determinant

$$W(y_1, \dots, y_n) = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & \dots & y_n \\ y_1' & y_2' & \dots & y_n' \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)} & y_2^{(n-1)} & \dots & y_n^{(n-1)} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0$$

For 3x3

$$\begin{vmatrix} A & B & C \\ D & E & F \\ G & H & I \end{vmatrix} = A \begin{vmatrix} E & F \\ H & I \end{vmatrix} - B \begin{vmatrix} D & F \\ G & I \end{vmatrix} + C \begin{vmatrix} D & E \\ G & H \end{vmatrix}$$



$y_1, \dots, y_n$  is a fundamental set  
if and only if

$$W(y_1, \dots, y_n) \neq 0$$

if and only if

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

Nonhomogeneous equation

$$D^n y + p_1(t) D^{n-1} y + \dots + p_n(t) y = g(t)$$

$y_1, \dots, y_n$  fundamental set of homogeneous solutions

$Y$  any particular nonhomogeneous solution

General nonhomogeneous solution

$$y = C_1 y_1 + \dots + C_n y_n + Y$$

Main example: Linear constant coefficient equations

$$a_0 y^{(n)} + a_1 y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_{n-1} y' + a_n y = 0$$

$$(a_0 D^n + a_1 D^{n-1} + a_2 D^{n-2} + \dots + a_{n-1} D + a_n) y = 0$$

Try  $e^{rt}$

$$D e^{rt} = r e^{rt}$$

$$D^2 e^{rt} = r^2 e^{rt}$$

$$D^n e^{rt} = r^n e^{rt}$$

( $D e^{rt} = r e^{rt}$  says that  $e^{rt}$  is an eigenvector for  $D$ )

$$0 \stackrel{?}{=} (a_0 D^n + a_1 D^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} D + a_n) e^{rt}$$
$$= \underbrace{(a_0 r^n + a_1 r^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} r + a_n)} e^{rt}$$

need this expression to be zero

Characteristic equation:

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

degree  $n$  polynomial equation.

$n > 2$  it's not easy or even impossible to solve for  $r$  using  $\sqrt[n]{\quad}$

But it is still true that any polynomial (with real coefficients) factors into a product of linear polynomials and irreducible quadratics.

$$(r - r_1)(r - r_2) \dots (r - r_n)$$

$$\times (r^2 + b_1 r + c_1)(r^2 + b_2 r + c_2)$$

$$b_1^2 - 4c_1 < 0 \quad b_2^2 - 4c_2 < 0$$

If  $r_1$  is a real root  $y_1 = e^{r_1 t}$  is a solution

if  $r^2 + b_1 r + c_1$  is a factor in the characteristic equation.

$$r = \frac{-b_1 \pm \sqrt{b_1^2 - 4c_1}}{2} = \lambda \pm \mu i$$

complex solutions  $e^{(\lambda + \mu i)t}$ ,  $e^{(\lambda - \mu i)t}$

real solutions  $e^{\lambda t} \cos(\mu t)$ ,  $e^{\lambda t} \sin(\mu t)$

if  $r_1$  is real repeated  $n_1$  times, then get

$$e^{r_1 t}, t e^{r_1 t}, t^2 e^{r_1 t}, \dots, t^{n_1-1} e^{r_1 t}$$

$$n=12$$

$$(D-1)(D-3)(D+50)^4(D^2+1)^2(D^2-2D+2)y = 0$$

$$r=1 \quad r=3 \quad r=-50 \quad r=\pm i \quad r=1 \pm i$$

$$e^t \quad e^{3t} \quad e^{-50t} \quad \cos t \quad e^t \cos t$$

$$t e^{-50t} \quad \sin t$$

$$e^t \sin t$$

$$t^2 e^{-50t} \quad t \cos t$$

$$t^3 e^{-50t} \quad t \sin t$$