

Second order linear equations (DI)

(2.1)

- a second order linear equation has the form

$$(1) \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + p(t) \frac{dy}{dt} + q(t) y = f(t)$$

- observe that (1) is linear in y, y', y''

- notation: if we define a linear operator L as

$$L = \frac{d^2}{dt^2} + p(t) \frac{d}{dt} + q(t),$$

then (1) can be written as

$$L(y) = f(t)$$

- if $f(t) \equiv 0$ (identically 0 for all t), we say that

(1) is a homogeneous

equation. otherwise (1) is

→ nonhomogeneous. For example,

$$L(y) = e^t$$

is non-homogeneous,

and $L(y) = 0$ is the

associated homogeneous equation

- any linear operator has the property

$$L(c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2) = c_1 L(y_1) + c_2 L(y_2)$$

- for L in (2) (example),

$$L(c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2)$$

$$= \frac{d^2}{dt^2} (c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2) + p(t) \frac{d}{dt} (c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2)$$

$$+ q(t) (c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2)$$

$$= c_1 \frac{d^2}{dt^2} y_1 + c_1 p(t) \frac{d}{dt} y_1 + c_1 q(t) y_1$$

$$+ c_2 \frac{d^2}{dt^2} y_2 + c_2 p(t) \frac{d}{dt} y_2 + c_2 q(t) y_2$$

$$= c_1 [y_1'' + p(t)y_1' + q(t)y_1] + c_2 [\dots]$$

$$= c_1 L(y_1) + c_2 L(y_2)$$

- this leads to the principle of superposition for homogeneous equations:

let $y_1(t)$ and $y_2(t)$ be solutions of the homog. eqn $L(y) = 0$

[i.e., $L(y_1) = L(y_2) = 0$]. Then

$y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$ is also a soln

proof: $L(y) = L(c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2)$

$$= c_1 L(y_1) + c_2 L(y_2) = c_1 \cdot 0 + c_2 \cdot 0 = 0$$

EX $y_1 = \cos mt$ and $y_2 = \sin mt$
are solutions of the second order
ODE

$$y'' = -m^2 y \quad (3)$$

verify: $\frac{d}{dt} \cos mt = -m \sin mt$.

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \cos mt = -m^2 \cos mt$$

(that is, 2 deriv's of $\cos mt$
gives $-m^2$ times itself)

then $y = C_1 \cos mt + C_2 \sin mt$

for any C_1, C_2 is a solution of
(3).

- notice also that

$$y_1 = e^{imt} \quad \text{and} \quad y_2 = e^{-imt}$$

also solve (3)

$$\begin{aligned} y_1' &= im e^{imt} & y_1'' &= (im)(im) e^{imt} \\ & & &= -m^2 e^{imt} \\ & & &= -m^2 y_1 \end{aligned}$$

then we have

$$\begin{aligned} c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 &= c_1 (\cos mt + i \sin mt) \\ &+ c_2 (\cos mt - i \sin mt) \end{aligned}$$

$$= (c_1 + c_2) \cos mt + i(c_1 - c_2) \sin mt.$$

$$\left(\text{let } A = c_1 + c_2, \quad B = i(c_1 - c_2) \right)$$

$$\rightarrow = A \cos mt + B \sin mt$$

to fix A, B , require $y(a)$ and
and $y'(a)$ to be specified

note: no condition on y''

Ex let $y(0) = 1, y'(0) = 2$

then

$$y(0) = 1 = A \Rightarrow A = 1$$

$$y'(0) = 2 = mB \Rightarrow B = \frac{2}{m}$$

then $y(t) = 1 \cdot \cos mt + \frac{2}{m} \sin mt$.

claim: this is then only soln

Existence and uniqueness for second

order linear equations:

consider the IVP

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = f(t) \quad (4)$$

where $y(a) = b_0, y'(a) = b_1$

where p, q, f are continuous on
some interval I $\alpha < t < \beta$ that

contains a. Then (4) has

one and only one solution on I .

↑
existence

↑ uniqueness

proof: simple extension of proof for first order ODE's (posted on website)

Ex on what interval does a unique solution to the IVP below exist?

$$y'' + \frac{1}{t}y' + t^2y = 0, \quad y(1) = 0, \quad y'(1) = 1$$

$p(t) = \frac{1}{t}$ continuous on $-\infty < t < 0$
 $0 < t < \infty$.

$q(t) = t^2$ cont's everywhere,

$f(t) = 0$ " " "

~~so~~ so soln exists and is unique

on $0 < t < \infty$

Linear independence

let $L \equiv \frac{d^2}{dt^2} + p(t) \frac{d}{dt} + q(t)$

suppose $L(y_1) = 0$
 $L(y_2) = 0$ | p, q cont's
on interval I .

can we express the soln of the IVP

$L(y) = 0, y(a) = b_0, y'(a) = b_1,$

as a linear combination of y_1 and y_2

for any a, b_0, b_1 ?

answer: only if y_1 and y_2 are linearly independent (l.i)

- two functions $f(t)$ and $g(t)$ are linearly independent (l.i) if there exist

c_1 and c_2 not both 0 s.t.

$$c_1 f + c_2 g = 0$$

for all t .

(that is, f is not a constant multiple of g)

Ex

$f(x) = x$, $g(x) = 3x$ are linearly dependent (l. d.) since

$$\frac{g(x)}{f(x)} = 3 \text{ is a constant.}$$

$f(x) = \sin x$, $g(x) = \cos x$ are l. i.

since $\frac{g(x)}{f(x)} = \cot x \neq \text{constant.}$

Wronskian of solution S

suppose $L(y_1) = L(y_2) = 0$

and consider the Wronskian

$$W = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{vmatrix} = y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1'$$

\uparrow
 $W(y_1, y_2; x)$ \uparrow determinant

- if y_1, y_2 are l.d. on I , then $W \equiv 0$
on I (notice if $y_1 = ky_2$, then

$$W = ky_2 y_2' - y_2 \cdot ky_2' = 0$$

- if y_1, y_2 are l.i on I , $W \neq 0$
everywhere on I (show later)

i.e. W is either always 0,
or never 0

Motivation for definition of W :

try to solve IVP $L(y) = 0$, $y(a) = b_0$, $y'(a) = b$, $(*)$

to see if

$$y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$$

is a viable solution, try to solve

for c_1, c_2 ($L(y_1) = L(y_2) = 0$)

if we can solve for c_1 and c_2 ,

then solution of (*) may be expressed

as a linear combination of y_1 and

y_2 . otherwise it cannot.

IC's:

$$y(a) = b_0 \Rightarrow c_1 y_1(a) + c_2 y_2(a)$$

cont'd next time.