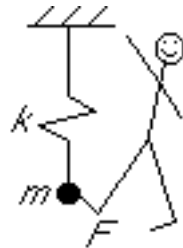


Introduction

Ordinary differential equations:

- Dynamical systems



$$m\ddot{x} + kx = F$$



$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} = 0$$

- Fluid mechanics
- Chemical reactions

$$\frac{dO_2}{dt} = -k_1[O_2][H_2] - k_2[O_2][C] + \dots$$
$$\frac{dH_2}{dt} = -2k_1[O_2][H_2] - k_3[H_2][C] + \dots$$

- Economics
- Biology
- ...

Notations:

- Ordinary differential equations: one independent variable
- Partial differential equations: more independent variables
- Order: order of the highest derivative
- Degree: highest degree of the dependent variable
- Linear: first degree

1.14

1 1.14, §1 Asked

Classify:

$$(y'')^2 - 3yy' + xy = 0$$

2 1.14, §2 Solution

$$(y'')^2 - 3yy' + xy = 0$$

- ordinary differential equation for $y(x)$;
- second order;
- nonlinear (second degree)

1.21

1 1.21, §1 Asked

Classify:

$$\frac{d^7 b}{dp^7} = 3p$$

2 1.21, §2 Solution

$$\frac{d^7 b}{dp^7} = 3p$$

- ordinary differential equation for $b(p)$;
- seventh order;
- linear (first degree)

Introduction

First order equations:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$$

Artificial form convenient for problems in the book, not real life:

$$M(x, y) dx + N(x, y) dy = 0$$

In real life, only $f = -M/N$ would be known.

Separation of Variables

Separable equation:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)g(y)$$

Solution:

$$\int \frac{dy}{g(y)} = \int f(x) dx$$

3.39

1 3.39, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{x}{t}$$

2 3.39, §2 Solution

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{x}{t}$$

The unknown is clearly $x(t)$.

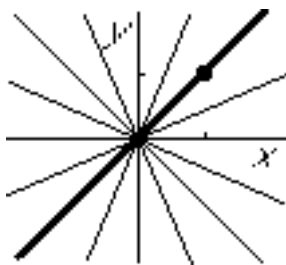
Separation of variables:

$$\frac{dx}{x} = \frac{dt}{t}$$

$$\ln |x| = \ln |t| + C$$

$$e^{\ln |x|} = e^{\ln |t| + C} \implies |x| = |t|e^C \implies x = \pm e^C t$$

$$x = Dt$$



An additional “initial” condition would be needed to find D . For example, $x = 1$ at $t = 1$.

Note: the O.D.E. applies at all positions. Initial or boundary conditions apply only to a specific point.

3.42

1 3.42, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -(x^2 + 1)y \quad y = 1 \text{ at } x = -1$$

2 3.42, §2 Solution

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -(x^2 + 1)y \quad y = 1 \text{ at } x = -1$$



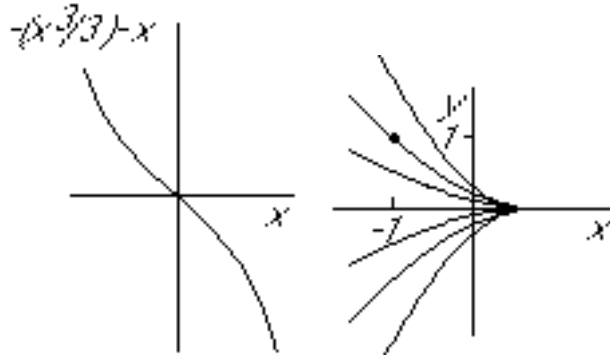
Solve the O.D.E. first:

$$\frac{dy}{y} = -(x^2 + 1) dx$$

$$\ln |y| = -\frac{1}{3}x^3 - x + C$$

$$y = \pm e^C e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3 - x}$$

$$y = D e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3 - x}$$



Since the additional condition is $y = 1$ at $x = -1$, substitute in $y = 1$ and $x = -1$ to get D:

$$1 = De^{\frac{1}{3}+1}$$

So, at any x :

$$y = e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3 - x - \frac{4}{3}}$$

Homogeneous Equations

Homogeneous equation:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$$

Solution: define a new unknown

$$u = \frac{y}{x},$$

so replace y by xu . The equation for $u(x)$ will be separable.

Note: Do not confuse this use of the word “homogeneous” for first order equations with the use of the same word for “homogeneous” for linear ODEs!

Note: To check exactness, you can replace x by tx and y by ty and see whether the ts cancel.

3.50

1 3.50, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2xy}$$

2 3.50, §2 Solution

Note that the equation is homogeneous

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2xy} & \leftarrow \text{degree 2} \\ & \leftarrow \text{degree 2} \end{aligned}$$

or alternatively,

$$\frac{(tx)^2 + (ty)^2}{2txty} = \frac{x^2 + y^2}{2xy}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1 + \left(\frac{y}{x}\right)^2}{2\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)}$$

Use new unknown $u = y/x$, i.e., replace y by xu :

$$\frac{dxu}{dx} = x \frac{du}{dx} + u = \frac{1 + u^2}{2u}$$

$$x \frac{du}{dx} = \frac{1 - u^2}{2u}$$

Separable:

$$-\frac{2u du}{1 - u^2} = -\frac{dx}{x}$$

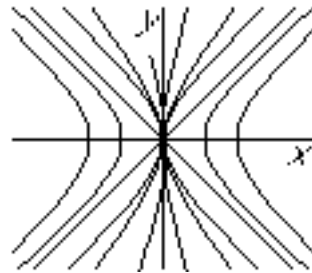
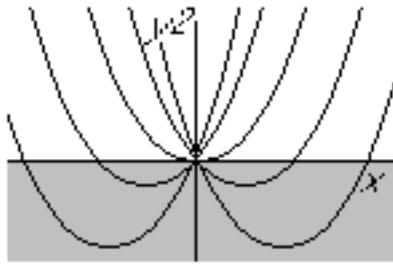
$$\ln |1 - u^2| = -\ln |x| + C$$

$$|1 - u^2| = \frac{e^C}{|x|}$$

$$u^2 = 1 \pm \frac{e^C}{x} = 1 + \frac{D}{x}$$

Get rid of u in favor of y/x :

$$y^2 = x^2 + Dx$$



Exact Equations

If for an equation of the form

$$g_1(x, y) dx + g_2(x, y) dy = 0,$$

the cross derivatives of the coefficients are equal;

$$\frac{\partial g_1}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x},$$

then the equation is exact.

The solution of an exact equation is:

$$g(x, y) = C$$

where $g(x, y)$ is found by solving

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial x} = g_1(x, y) \quad \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = g_2(x, y).$$

You do that by first solving the easier of the two, giving an integration constant that depends on the other variable. For example, solving $\partial g/\partial x = g_1(x, y)$ gives an integration constant depend on y . Next you take that solution and put it into the other equation.

If an equation is not exact, you may sometimes be able to find an “integrating factor” in a table.

4.32

1 4.32, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$-\frac{2y}{t^3} dt + \frac{1}{t^2} dy = 0$$

2 4.32, §2 Solution

$$-\frac{2y}{t^3} dt + \frac{1}{t^2} dy = 0$$

Check for exactness:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial g}{\partial t} &\stackrel{?}{=} -\frac{2y}{t^3} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{1}{t^2} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(-\frac{2y}{t^3} \right) &\stackrel{?}{=} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{1}{t^2} \right) \\ -\frac{2}{t^3} &\stackrel{!}{=} -\frac{2}{t^3}\end{aligned}$$

Integrate the easiest equation first:

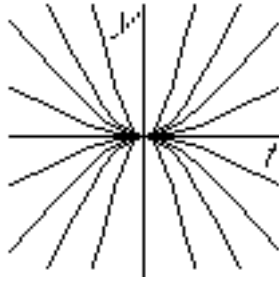
$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = \frac{1}{t^2} \implies g = \frac{y}{t^2} + C(t)$$

Put in the other equation:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial g}{\partial t} &= -\frac{2y}{t^3} + C' = -\frac{2y}{t^3} \\ g &= \frac{y}{t^2} + C\end{aligned}$$

Solution of the O.D.E.:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{y}{t^2} + C &= C_2 \\ y &= Dt^2\end{aligned}$$



In real life, you would have

$$-\frac{2y}{t} dt + dy = 0$$

Linear Equations

Linear equation:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + p(x)y = q(x)$$

The terms linear in y are the homogeneous part, the terms independent of y are the inhomogeneous terms.

Linear equations allow solutions to be added:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} y_1' + p(x)y_1 &= q_1(x) \\ y_2' + p(x)y_2 &= q_2(x) \end{aligned} \right\}$$
$$\implies (y_1 + y_2)' + p(x)(y_1 + y_2) = q_1(x) + q_2(x)$$

Solve the homogeneous equation first:

$$y' + py = 0$$

Separable:

$$\frac{dy}{y} = -p dx$$
$$y = C e^{-\int p dx}$$

Now solve the inhomogeneous equation:

Variation of parameter:

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

Put in the O.D.E. and solve for $C(x)$.

5.34

1 5.34, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$y' + x^2y = x^2$$

2 5.34, §2 Solution

$$y' + x^2y = x^2$$

The equation is linear.

Solution of the homogeneous equation:

$$\begin{aligned}y' + x^2y = 0 &\implies \frac{dy}{y} = -x^2 dx \\ \ln |y| = -\frac{1}{3}x^3 + C_1 &\implies y = Ce^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3}\end{aligned}$$

Solution of the inhomogeneous equation:

$$y = C(x)e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3}$$

into

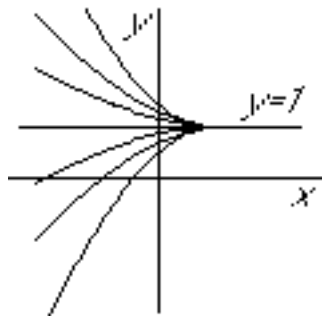
$$\begin{aligned}y' + x^2y &= x^2 \\ C'e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3} - Ce^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3}x^2 + x^2Ce^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3} &= x^2 \\ C' = x^2e^{\frac{1}{3}x^3} &\implies C = e^{\frac{1}{3}x^3} + C_0\end{aligned}$$

Solution:

$$y = C(x)e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3} = 1 + C_0e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3}$$

Note: function $y(x) = 1$ is called a particular solution. It is *one* solution that satisfies the inhomogeneous equation.

The general solution of linear equations is always: (any arbitrary particular solution) plus (the general solution of the homogeneous equation).



(What is wrong in the graph above)?

Bernoulli Equations

Bernoulli equation:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + p(x)y = q(x)y^n \quad (n \neq 0, 1)$$

Solution:

Take y^n to the other side:

$$y^{-n} \frac{dy}{dx} + p(x)y^{1-n} = q(x) \quad (n \neq 0, 1)$$

Putting $u = y^{1-n}$ gives a linear equation:

$$\frac{1}{1-n} \frac{du}{dx} + p(x)u = q(x)$$

5.38

1 5.38, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$xy' + y = xy^3$$

2 5.38, §2 Solution

$$xy' + y = xy^3$$

It is a Bernoulli equation since it has terms linear in y and a power of y .

$$xy^{-3}y' + y^{-2} = x$$

Put $u = y^{-2}$:

$$-\frac{1}{2}xu' + u = x$$

Solution of the homogeneous equation:

$$-\frac{1}{2}xu' + u = 0 \implies \frac{du}{u} = 2\frac{dx}{x} \implies u = Cx^2$$

Solution of the inhomogeneous equation:

$$u = C(x)x^2$$

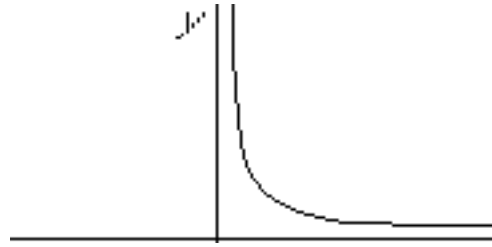
into the inhomogeneous equation:

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{2}xC'x^2 - \frac{1}{2}xC2x + Cx^2 &= x \\ C' &= -\frac{2}{x^2} \implies C = \frac{2}{x} + C_0 \\ u = C(x)x^2 &= 2x + C_0x^2 = \frac{1}{y^2} \end{aligned}$$

Solution:

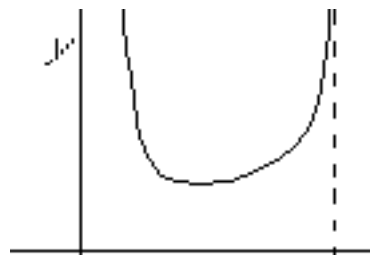
$$y = \frac{\pm 1}{\sqrt{2x + C_0x^2}}$$

For $C_0 = 0$ $y = \pm 1/\sqrt{2x}$:

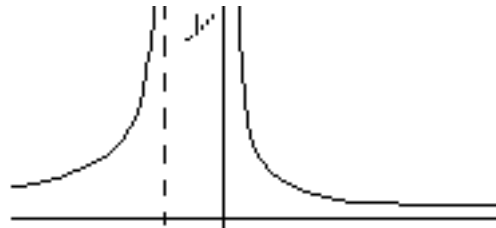


For $x = -2/C_0$, y is infinite.

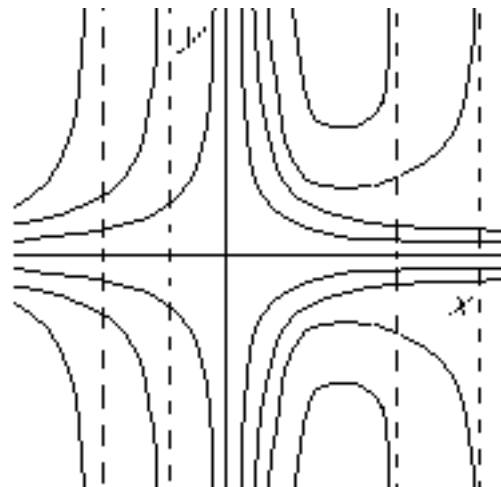
For $C_0 < 0$:



For $C_0 > 0$:



Total:



Introduction

Linear Constant Coefficient Equations:

- dynamical systems;
- vibrating systems;
- linearized systems;
- part of the solution of multidimensional problems;
- ...

General form:

$$a_0y + a_1y' + a_2y'' + a_3y^{(3)} + \dots + a_ny^{(n)} = q$$

where a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n are all constants but q can be any function of x .

Solution of the homogeneous equation:

Homogeneous equation:

$$a_0y + a_1y' + a_2y'' + a_3y^{(3)} + \dots + a_ny^{(n)} = 0$$

Special solutions are $y = e^{\lambda x}$ provided that λ is a root of the characteristic polynomial:

$$a_0 + a_1\lambda + a_2\lambda^2 + a_3\lambda^3 + \dots + a_n\lambda^n = 0$$

If all roots $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ are different, the *general* solution of the homogeneous equation is

$$y = C_1e^{\lambda_1x} + C_2e^{\lambda_2x} + \dots + C_ne^{\lambda_nx}$$

8.18

1 8.18, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$y'' - y' - 30y = 0$$

2 8.18, §2 Solution

$$y'' - y' - 30y = 0$$

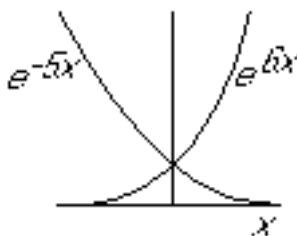
Characteristic polynomial:

$$\lambda^2 - \lambda - 30 = 0$$

has roots $\lambda_1 = 6$ and $\lambda_2 = -5$

General solution:

$$y = C_1 e^{6x} + C_2 e^{-5x}$$



8.19

1 8.19, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$y'' - 2y' + y = 0$$

2 8.19, §2 Solution

$$y'' - 2y' + y = 0$$

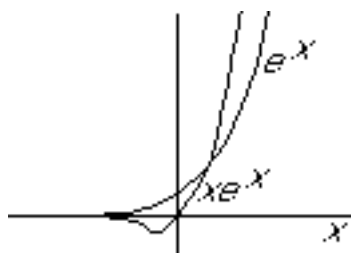
Characteristic polynomial:

$$\lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 1 = 0$$

has roots $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1$.

For multiple roots, start adding factors that are increasing powers of x : General solution:

$$y = C_1e^x + C_2xe^x$$



8.21

1 8.21, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$y'' + 2y' + 2y = 0$$

2 8.21, §2 Solution

$$y'' + 2y' + 2y = 0$$

Characteristic polynomial:

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 2 &= 0 \\ \lambda &= \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2} = -1 \pm i \quad (i = \sqrt{-1})\end{aligned}$$

General solution:

$$y = C_1 e^{(-1+i)x} + C_2 e^{(-1-i)x}$$

Cleanup of complex exponentials is required in this class:

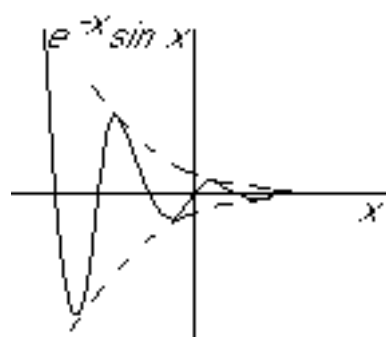
$$y = e^{-x} (C_1 e^{ix} + C_2 e^{-ix})$$

Euler:

$$\begin{aligned}e^{i\alpha} &= \cos(\alpha) + i \sin(\alpha) \\ y &= e^{-x} (C_1 [\cos x + i \sin x] + C_2 [\cos x - i \sin x]) \\ y &= e^{-x} ([C_1 + C_2] \cos x + i[C_1 - C_2] \sin x)\end{aligned}$$

Cleaned up solution:

$$y = e^{-x} (D_1 \cos x + D_2 \sin x)$$



Method of Undetermined Coefficients

Inhomogeneous equation:

$$a_0y + a_1y' + a_2y'' + a_3y^{(3)} + \dots + a_ny^{(n)} = q$$

where $q \neq 0$.

First solve the homogeneous equation, then guess a particular solution with a few undetermined coefficients:

For $q =:$	guess $y_p =:$
$e^{\alpha x}$	$Ce^{\alpha x}$
$e^{\lambda x}$	$Cx^n e^{\lambda x}$
$\cos x$	$C_1 \cos x + C_2 \sin x$
polynomial	polynomial
\dots	\dots

The general solution is any particular solution plus the general solution of the homogeneous equation.

10.45

1 10.45, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$y'' - 2y' + y = 3e^{2x}$$

2 10.45, §2 Solution

$$y'' - 2y' + y = 3e^{2x}$$

Homogeneous equation:

Characteristic polynomial:

$$\lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 1 = 0$$

has roots $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1$: General solution:

$$y_h = C_1e^x + C_2xe^x$$

Particular solution:

$$y_p'' - 2y_p' + y_p = 3e^{2x}$$

Guessing $y_p = Ce^{2x}$ produces

$$y_p'' - 2y_p' + y_p = C(4e^{2x} - 4e^{2x} + e^{2x}) = Ce^{2x}$$

so $C = 3$ and $y_p = 3e^{2x}$.

Total solution:

$$y = 3e^{2x} + C_1e^x + C_2xe^x$$

10.47

1 10.47, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$y'' - 2y' + y = 3e^x$$

2 10.47, §2 Solution

$$y'' - 2y' + y = 3e^x$$

Homogeneous equation:

$$y_h = C_1e^x + C_2xe^x$$

Particular solution:

$$y_p'' - 2y_p' + y_p = 3e^x$$

Particular solutions $y_p = e^x$ or $y_p = xe^x$ don't work. Try

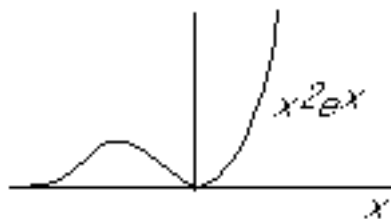
$$y_p = Ce^xx^2 \quad y_p' = Ce^x(x^2 + 2x) \quad y_p'' = Ce^x(x^2 + 4x + 2)$$

$$y_p'' - 2y_p' + y_p = Ce^x2$$

so $C = 1.5$.

Total solution:

$$y = 1.5x^2e^x + C_1e^x + C_2xe^x$$



Variation of Parameters

Works always, but is more work.

Inhomogeneous equation:

$$a_0y + a_1y' + a_2y'' + a_3y^{(3)} + \dots + a_ny^{(n)} = q$$

where $q \neq 0$.

First solve the homogeneous equation, then allow its integration constants to vary.

11.10

1 11.10, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$y'' + y = \sec x$$

2 11.10, §2 Solution

$$y'' + y = \sec x$$

Homogeneous equation:

$$\lambda^2 + 1 = 0 \implies \lambda = \pm i$$

$$y_h = A \cos x + B \sin x$$

Variation of parameters:

$$y = A \cos x + B \sin x \quad A = A(x), B = B(x)$$

$$y' = -A \sin x + B \cos x + A' \cos x + B' \sin x$$

Put the additional terms to zero:

$$A' \cos x + B' \sin x = 0 \tag{1}$$

$$y'' = -A \cos x - B \sin x - A' \sin x + B' \cos x$$

Do not put the additional terms to zero in the highest derivative. Instead, put everything into the O.D.E.:

$$\begin{aligned} y'' + y &= -A \cos x - B \sin x - A' \sin x + B' \cos x + A \cos x + B \sin x = \sec x \\ -A' \sin x + B' \cos x &= \sec x \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

The result is a system of linear equations (1), (2) for A' and B' :

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos x & \sin x & | & 0 \\ -\sin x & \cos x & | & \sec x \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} (1) \\ (2) \end{matrix}$$

Forward elimination:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos x & \sin x & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} (1) \\ (2') = \cos x(2) + \sin x(1) \end{matrix}$$

Back substitution gives $B' = 1$ and $A' = -\tan x$:

$$B = x + B_0 \quad A = \ln |\cos x| + A_0$$

Total solution $y = A \cos x + B \sin x$:

$$y = \ln |\cos x| \cos x + x \sin x + A_0 \cos x + B_0 \sin x$$

11.25

1 11.25, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$\ddot{r} - 3\dot{r} + 3r - r = \frac{e^t}{t}$$

2 11.25, §2 Solution

$$\ddot{r} - 3\dot{r} + 3r - r = \frac{e^t}{t}$$

Homogeneous equation:

$$\lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 3\lambda - 1 = 0 \implies \lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 1$$

$$r_h = C_1 e^t + C_2 t e^t + C_3 t^2 e^t$$

Variation of parameters:

$$r = C_1 e^t + C_2 t e^t + C_3 t^2 e^t$$

$$\dot{C}_1 e^t + \dot{C}_2 t e^t + \dot{C}_3 t^2 e^t = 0 \tag{1}$$

$$\dot{r} = C_1 e^t + C_2(t+1)e^t + C_3(t^2+2t)e^t$$

$$\dot{C}_1 e^t + \dot{C}_2(t+1)e^t + \dot{C}_3(t^2+2t)e^t = 0 \tag{2}$$

$$\ddot{r} = C_1 e^t + C_2(t+2)e^t + C_3(t^2+4t+2)e^t$$

$$\ddot{r} = \dot{C}_1 e^t + \dot{C}_2(t+2)e^t + \dot{C}_3(t^2+4t+2)e^t + \dots$$

Into the O.D.E.:

$$\dot{C}_1 e^t + \dot{C}_2(t+2)e^t + \dot{C}_3(t^2+4t+2)e^t + \dots = \frac{e^t}{t} \tag{3}$$

Total system of equations for unknowns \dot{C}_1, \dot{C}_2 , and \dot{C}_3 :

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & t & t^2 & 0 \\ 1 & t+1 & t^2+2t & 0 \\ t & t^2+2t & t^3+4t^2+2t & 1 \end{array} \right) \quad \begin{array}{l} (1') = e^{-t}(1) \\ (2') = e^{-t}(2) \\ (3') = te^{-t}(3) \end{array}$$

Forward elimination:

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & t & t^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2t & 0 \\ 0 & 2t & 4t^2 + 2t & 1 \end{array} \right) \quad \begin{array}{l} (1') \\ (2'') = (2') - (1') \\ (3'') = (3') - t(1') \end{array}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & t & t^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2t & 1 \end{array} \right) \quad \begin{array}{l} (1') \\ (2'') \\ (3''') = (3'') - 2t(2'') \end{array}$$

Back substitution: $\dot{C}_3 = 1/2t$, $\dot{C}_2 = -1$, $\dot{C}_1 = \frac{1}{2}t$, hence

$$C_1 = \frac{1}{4}t^2 + C_{10} \quad C_2 = -t + C_{20} \quad C_3 = \ln \sqrt{t} + C_{30}$$

Total solution:

$$r = t^2 \ln \sqrt{t} e^t + C_{10} e^t + C_{20} t e^t + C_{30}^* t^2 e^t$$

Initial Conditions

After solving the O.D.E., a finite number of unknown integration constants remain. In practical applications, these integration constants are typically found from *initial conditions* at a starting point such as $t = 0$ or from *boundary conditions* at the end points a and b of an interval $a \leq x \leq b$

12.11

1 12.11, §1 Asked

Solve:

$$y'' + y = x \quad y(1) = 0, y'(1) = 1$$

2 12.11, §2 Solution

$$y'' + y = x \quad y(1) = 0, y'(1) = 1$$

Homogeneous solution:

$$y_h = A \cos x + B \sin x$$

Guess the particular solution $Cx + D$:

$$y_p = x$$

General solution:

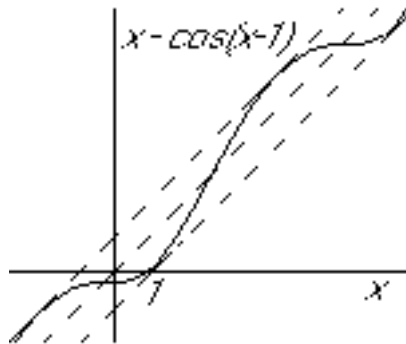
$$y = x + A \cos x + B \sin x$$

Put in the initial conditions

$$y(1) = 1 + A \cos 1 + B \sin 1 = 0 \quad y'(1) = 1 - A \sin 1 + B \cos 1 = 1$$

to find $A = -\cos 1$ and $B = -\sin 1$:

$$y = x - \cos 1 \cos x - \sin 1 \sin x = x - \cos(x - 1)$$



First Order Systems

Important for numerical work. Library subroutines usually do not solve higher order equations, but they do solve first order systems.

General First Order System:

$$\vec{y}' = \vec{f}(x, \vec{y})$$

Written out

$$\begin{aligned}y_1' &= f_1(x, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) \\y_2' &= f_2(x, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) \\&\dots \\y_n' &= f_n(x, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)\end{aligned}$$

If the functions are linear constant coefficient ones, we can rewrite this as:

$$\vec{y}' = A\vec{y} + b(x).$$

In this class, solution using eigenvalues and eigenvectors is *required*. We assume that A is diagonalizable.

Homogeneous solution:

$$y_h = C_1\vec{v}_1e^{\lambda_1x} + C_2\vec{v}_2e^{\lambda_2x} + \dots$$

where $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots$ are the eigenvalues of A and $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots$ the eigenvectors.

General solution: Guess and add a particular solution. Varying the parameters C_1, C_2, \dots also works.

22.12

1 22.12, §1 Asked

Solve as a System:

$$\ddot{x} + 2\dot{x} - 8x = 4 \quad x(0) = 1, \dot{x}(0) = 2$$

2 22.12, §2 Solution

Solve as a System:

$$\ddot{x} + 2\dot{x} - 8x = 4 \quad x(0) = 1, \dot{x}(0) = 2$$

Define new dependent variables $x_1 = x$ and $x_2 = \dot{x}$.

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= 8x_1 - 2x_2 + 4\end{aligned}$$

Matrix form $\dot{\vec{x}} = A\vec{x} + b$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 8 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Homogeneous equation:

$$\vec{x}_h = C_1 \vec{v}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + C_2 \vec{v}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t}$$

where λ_1 and λ_2 are the eigenvalues of A and \vec{v}_1 and \vec{v}_2 the eigenvectors:

$$\begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ 8 & -2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 8 = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda_2 = -4, \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Particular solution $\vec{x}_p = A\vec{x}_p + b$: guess that \vec{x}_p is constant, then $A\vec{x}_p = -\vec{b}$. Solve:

$$x_p = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Total solution:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + C_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} e^{-4t}$$

Put in the initial conditions:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} C_1 \\ 2C_1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} C_2 \\ -4C_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

which gives $C_2 = \frac{1}{6}$, $C_1 = \frac{4}{3}$.

Final solution:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{4}{3} \\ \frac{8}{3} \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{6} \\ -\frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix} e^{-4t}$$

Some Other Equations

1 §1 Introduction

Generally speaking, equations become more difficult when the order goes up.

For a first order equation, even if you cannot solve, you can always draw little line segments with the right slope in the x, y plane and then draw trajectories following those directions.

For some equations there are tricks that allow you to reduce the order.

Nonlinear equations are generally more difficult than linear ones.

2 §2 Handbooks

Look it up in a mathematical handbook. Schaum's Mathematical Handbook has some. Abramowitz and Stegun has a large collection of equations solvable by Bessel functions and other standard functions, and the properties of these function.

Avoid exact equations in Schaum's Mathematical Handbook.

3 §3 Power Series

Expand the solution in a power series, equating all powers in the O.D.E. to zero.

4 §4 Euler

$$a_0y + a_1xy' + a_2x^2y'' + a_3x^3y^{(3)} + \dots + a_nx^ny^{(n)} = q$$

where a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n are all constants but q can be any function of x .

The substitution $\xi = \ln x$ turns this into a constant coefficient equation for $y(\xi)$. Reason:

$$y' = \frac{d\xi}{dx} \frac{d}{d\xi} y = \frac{1}{x} y_\xi$$

$$y'' = -\frac{1}{x^2}y_\xi + \frac{1}{x} \frac{d\xi}{dx} \frac{d}{d\xi} y_\xi = -\frac{1}{x^2}y_\xi + \frac{1}{x^2}y_{\xi\xi}$$

$$y''' = \dots$$

5 §5 No y

If the derivatives of y , but not y itself appear, simply take y' instead of y as the unknown. A second order equation for y becomes first order for y' .

6 §6 No x

If derivatives with respect to x appear, but not x itself, use y as the new *independent* variable and y' as the new dependent variable.

$$y'' = \frac{dy'}{dy} y'$$

$$y''' = \dots$$

The order of the equation for $y'(y)$ is one less than that of the equation for $y(x)$.

7 §7 Linear

If the equation is linear and homogeneous, setting $y = e^f$ gives an equation not involving f itself:

$$y = e^f \quad y' = e^f f' \quad y'' = e^f f'^2 + e^f f'' \quad \dots$$

If the equation is linear and homogeneous, and you know a solution $y_1(x)$, setting $y = C(x)y_1(x)$ gives a *linear* equation for C not involving C itself.