

# Lesson 4

# Homogeneous 2<sup>nd</sup> Order Differential Equations

Homogeneous 2<sup>nd</sup> Order:

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = 0$$

We will discuss Linear ODEs, & The principle of superposition or The linearity principle

Superposition:

if  $y_1$  &  $y_2$  are <sup>linearly independent</sup> solutions to a linear, 2<sup>nd</sup> order diff eq, then  $C_1y_1 + C_2y_2$  <sup>is</sup> a solution

Superposition ex:

$$y'' + y = 0$$

$$\begin{matrix} y_1 = \cos x \\ y_2 = \sin x \end{matrix} \left. \vphantom{\begin{matrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{matrix}} \right\} \begin{matrix} \text{verify on} \\ \text{your own!} \end{matrix}$$

is  $C_1 \cos x + C_2 \sin x$  a solution?

$$\begin{aligned} y &= C_1 \cos x + C_2 \sin x \\ y'' &= -C_1 \cos x - C_2 \sin x \end{aligned}$$

$$y + y'' = 0 \quad \checkmark \quad \text{so the linear combo is a solution}$$

in fact the sol  $y = C_1 \cos x + C_2 \sin x$ , covers all possible solutions & is called a Basis

Basis

A basis of solutions of a linear ODE on an open interval  $I$  is a set of linearly independent solutions of the ODE on  $I$ .

Constant Coefficient Linear ODEs

$$y'' + ay' + by = 0$$

From MA205!

when we had

$$y' + ky = 0, \quad \text{we had a sol}$$

$$y = ce^{-kx}$$

will this work for the 2<sup>nd</sup> order case?

Let

$$y = e^{\lambda x};$$

$$y' = \lambda e^{\lambda x}$$

$$y'' = \lambda^2 e^{\lambda x}, \quad \text{then}$$

$$\lambda^2 e^{\lambda x} + a\lambda e^{\lambda x} + be^{\lambda x} = 0$$

since  $e^{\lambda x} > 0$  for all  $x$ ,

$$\lambda^2 + a\lambda + b = 0$$

solve for  $\lambda$ :

$$\lambda_{1,2} = \frac{-a \pm \sqrt{a^2 - 4b}}{2}$$

Three Cases!

Case I: Two real roots,  $a^2 - 4b > 0$

then: the Basis is:

$$y = C_1 e^{\lambda_1 x} + C_2 e^{\lambda_2 x}$$

Case II: Repeated roots  $a^2 - 4b = 0$

(through reduction of order, see pg 55)

the Basis is

$$y = (C_1 + C_2 x) e^{-ax/2}$$

Case III: Two imaginary roots

$$\lambda_{1,2} = -\frac{1}{2}a \pm i\omega, \quad \omega^2 = b - \frac{1}{4}a^2$$

so our solution is

$$e^{(-\frac{1}{2}a + i\omega)x} + e^{(-\frac{1}{2}a - i\omega)x}$$

which is

$$e^{-\frac{1}{2}ax} e^{i\omega x} + e^{-\frac{1}{2}ax} e^{-i\omega x}$$

$$= e^{-\frac{1}{2}ax} (e^{i\omega x} + e^{-i\omega x})$$

but what is  $e^{i\omega x}$ ?

$$\left. \begin{aligned} e^{i\omega x} &= \cos \omega x + i \sin \omega x \\ e^{-i\omega x} &= \underline{+ \cos \omega x - i \sin \omega x} \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Euler's} \\ \text{two solutions} \\ \text{but we want real} \end{array}$$

$$y_1 = \frac{1}{2} C_1 (2 \cos \omega x)$$

$$y_1 = C_1 \cos \omega x \text{ or } A \cos \omega x$$

$$- \begin{array}{l} \cos \omega x + i \sin \omega x \\ \underline{\cos \omega x - i \sin \omega x} \end{array}$$

$$y_2 = -\frac{1}{2i} C_2 (-2i \sin \omega x)$$

$$y_2 = C_2 \sin \omega x \text{ or } B \sin \omega x$$

the Basis is:

$$y = e^{-\frac{ax}{2}} (A \cos \omega x + B \sin \omega x)$$