## 3.1 - 3.4: Homogeneous linear differential equation



Thm 3.2.2: If  $y = \phi_1(t)$  and  $y = \phi_2(t)$  are two solutions to a <u>homogeneous</u> linear differential equation, then

$$y = c_1 \phi_1(t) + c_2 \phi_2(t)$$

is also a solution to this homogeneous linear differential equation.

Proof of thm 3.2.2: Plug  $y = c_1\phi_1(t) + c_2\phi_2(t)$  to see that it satisfies the homogeneous linear differential equation.

To solve homogeneous linear differential equation with constant coefficients

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0$$

Guess  $y = e^{rt}$  for HOMOGENEOUS equation and plug in:

$$y' = re^{rt}, y'' = r^2 e^{rt}$$

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0$$

$$ar^2 e^{rt} + bre^{rt} + ce^{rt} = 0 \implies e^{rt}(ar^2 + br + c) = 0$$

$$e^{rt} \neq 0, \text{ thus can divide both sides by } e^{rt}: ar^2 + br + c$$

Suppose  $r = r_1, r_2$  are solutions to  $ar^2 + br + c = 0$ 

$$r_1, r_2 = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

= 0

If  $r_1 \neq r_2$ , then  $b^2 - 4ac \neq 0$ . Hence a general solution is  $y = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 e^{r_2 t}$ 

If  $b^2 - 4ac > 0$ , general solution is  $y = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 e^{r_2 t}$ .

If  $b^2 - 4ac < 0$ , change format to linear combination of real-valued functions instead of complex valued functions by using Euler's formula.

general solution is 
$$y = c_1 e^{xt} \cos(yt) + c_2 e^{xt} \sin(yt)$$
 where  $r = x \pm iy$ 

If  $b^2 - 4ac = 0$ ,  $r_1 = r_2$ , so need 2nd (independent) solution:  $te^{r_1 t}$ 

Hence general solution is  $y = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 t e^{r_1 t}$ .

Example 1:  $4y'' + y' = 0 \Rightarrow 4r^2 + r = 0$  $4r^2 + r = r(4r + 1) = 0$ . Thus  $r = 0, -\frac{1}{4}$ Hence  $y = e^{0t} = 1$  and  $y = e^{-\frac{1}{4}t}$  are both solutions. Thus the general solution is  $y = c_1(1) + c_2(e^{-\frac{t}{4}})$ Example 2:  $4y'' + y = 0 \implies 4r^2 + 1 = 0$  $4r^2 + 1 = 0 \implies 4r^2 = -1$ . Thus  $r = \pm \frac{i}{2} = 0 \pm \frac{1}{2}i$ Thus the general solution is  $y = c_1(cos(\frac{t}{2})) + c_2(sin(\frac{t}{2}))$ Example 3:  $4y'' + 2y' + y = 0 \implies 4r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0$ Thus  $r = \frac{-2\pm\sqrt{2^2-4(4)(1)}}{2(4)} = \frac{-2\pm\sqrt{2^2[1-(4)(1)]}}{2(4)}$  $= \frac{-2\pm 2\sqrt{-3}}{2(4)} = \frac{2(-1\pm i\sqrt{3})}{2(4)} = \frac{-1\pm i\sqrt{3}}{4} = \frac{-1}{4} \pm i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}$ Thus the general solution is  $y = c_1(e^{\frac{-t}{4}}\cos(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}t)) + c_2(e^{\frac{-t}{4}}\cos(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}t))$ Example 4:  $4y'' + 4y' + y = 0 \implies 4r^2 + 4r + 1 = 0$  $4r^2 + 4r + 1 = (2r+1)(2r+1) = 0$ . Thus  $r = -\frac{1}{2}, -\frac{1}{2}$ Hence  $y = e^{-\frac{1}{2}t}$  is a solution.

NEED 2 linearly independent solutions for a 2nd order linear homogeneous DE.

To get 2nd solution in repeated root case: multiply by t

Thus 2 solutions are  $y = e^{-\frac{1}{2}t}$  and  $y = te^{-\frac{1}{2}t}$ 

Thus the general solution is  $y = c_1(e^{-\frac{1}{2}t}) + c_2(te^{-\frac{1}{2}t})$ 

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