

### 3.4 Repeated roots. Reduction of order.

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$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0 \quad \text{char. eq. } ar^2 + br + c = 0$$

Consider the case  $r_1 = r_2$  - happens when  $b^2 - 4ac = 0$ ; then  $r_1 = r_2 = -\frac{b}{2a}$

both roots yield  $y_1 = e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t}$  how to find a second solution?

$$\underline{\text{Ex: }} y'' + 4y' + 4y = 0$$

$$r^2 + 4r + 4 = 0 \quad r_1 = r_2 = -2$$

$$y_1(t) = e^{-2t}$$

Idea: look for solutions of form  $y = v(t)y_1(t)$   $(*)$

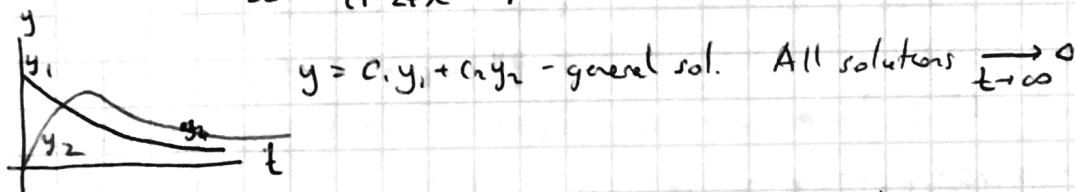
$$y = v e^{-2t} \rightarrow y' = v' e^{-2t} - 2v e^{-2t} \rightarrow y'' = v'' e^{-2t} - 2v' e^{-2t} - 2v' e^{-2t} + 4v e^{-2t}$$

$$y'' + 4y' + 4 = e^{-2t}((v'' - 4v' + 4v) + 4(v' - 2v) + 4v) = v'' e^{-2t} \stackrel{\text{WANT}}{=} 0$$

So,  $(*)$  -solution iff  $v'' = 0 \rightarrow v' = C_2 \rightarrow v = C_2 t + C_1$

$$\rightarrow y = (C_2 t + C_1) e^{-2t} + C_1 e^{-2t} \quad y_2(t) = t e^{-2t} \text{ - new solution}$$

$$W[y_1, y_2] = \begin{vmatrix} e^{-2t} & t e^{-2t} \\ -2e^{-2t} & (1-2t)e^{-2t} \end{vmatrix} = e^{-4t}(1-2t) + 2t e^{-4t} = e^{-4t} \neq 0 \quad \text{so, } \begin{cases} y_1 = e^{-2t} \\ y_2 = t e^{-2t} \end{cases} \text{ FSS}$$



Generally: assume we have a repeated root  $r_1 = r_2 = -\frac{b}{2a}$  (and  $b^2 - 4ac = 0$ )

$y_1 = e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t}$  try to find solutions of form  $y = v(t)y_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} y'' + by' + cy &= v'' y_1 + 2v' y_1 + v y_1'' \\ &= e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} v + 2e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} \left( v' - \frac{b}{2a} v \right) + e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} \left( v'' - \frac{b}{a} v' + \frac{b^2}{4a^2} v \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$ay'' + by' + cy = e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} \left( a(v'' - \frac{b}{a}v' + \frac{b^2}{4a^2}v) + b(v' - \frac{b}{2a}v) + cv \right) = e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} \left( \cancel{av''} + \cancel{(-\frac{b^2}{4a}cv)} \right) \stackrel{\text{WANT}}{=} 0$$

$$\text{So: } v''(t) = 0 \rightarrow v'(t) = C_2 \rightarrow v(t) = C_2 t + C_1$$

$$\rightarrow y = C_1 e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} + C_2 t e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t}$$

$y_1, y_2$  - FSS  $\Rightarrow$  - general sol.

$$W[y_1, y_2] = \begin{vmatrix} e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} & t e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} \\ -\frac{b}{2a} e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} & (1 - \frac{b}{2a}t) e^{-\frac{b}{2a}t} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0$$

$$\text{Ex: } y'' - y' + \frac{y}{t} = 0, \quad y(0) = 2, \quad y'(0) = \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{- solve the IVP}$$

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$$\text{Sol: } r^2 - r + \frac{1}{t} = 0 \quad r_1 = r_2 = \frac{1}{2} \quad \left( y = c_1 e^{\frac{t}{2}} + c_2 t e^{\frac{t}{2}} \right) \text{ gen. sol.}$$

$$= \left( r - \frac{1}{2} \right)^2$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{2} c_1 e^{\frac{t}{2}} + c_2 \left( 1 + \frac{t}{2} \right) e^{\frac{t}{2}}$$

$$y(0) = c_1 = 2$$

$$y'(0) = \frac{1}{2} c_1 + c_2 = \frac{1}{3} \quad \sim \begin{cases} c_1 = 2 \\ c_2 = -\frac{2}{3} \end{cases} \quad \sim y = 2e^{\frac{t}{2}} - \frac{2}{3}te^{\frac{t}{2}} \quad t \rightarrow -\infty$$

$$\text{If init. cond.: } \begin{cases} y(0) = 2 \\ y'(0) = 2 \end{cases} \sim \begin{cases} c_1 = 2 \\ c_2 = 1 \end{cases} \sim y = 2e^{\frac{t}{2}} + te^{\frac{t}{2}} \quad t \rightarrow +\infty$$



$$r > 0 \rightarrow y \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{} \pm \infty$$

$$r < 0 \rightarrow y \xrightarrow[t \rightarrow \infty]{} 0$$

r = 0 → y is a linear function of t

Summary for  $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$ . Let  $r_1, r_2$  be roots of  $ar^2 + br + c = 0$

• if  $r_1 \neq r_2$  real,  $y = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 e^{r_2 t}$  - gen. sol.

•  $r_1, r_2$  complex  $\lambda \pm i\mu$ ,  $y = c_1 e^{\lambda t} \cos(\mu t) + c_2 e^{\lambda t} \sin(\mu t)$

•  $r_1 = r_2$ ,  $y = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 t e^{r_1 t}$ .

Reduction of order more generally.

$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$  suppose we know one sol.  $y_1(t)$  (not everywhere zero).

try  $y = v(t)y_1(t)$  →  $y' = v'y_1 + vy_1'$  →  $y'' = v''y_1 + 2v'y_1' + vy_1''$

$$y'' + p y' + q y = \cancel{y''} y_1 v'' + (2y_1' + py_1)v' + (\cancel{y_1''} + py_1' + qy_1)v = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \underbrace{y_1 v'' + (2y_1' + py_1)v'}_{(*)} = 0 \quad - \underbrace{\text{1st order ODE for } v'}_{0} \sim \text{solve for } v' \rightarrow \text{integrate } v \rightarrow \text{find the sol. } y = v y_1$$

$$\text{Ex: } 2t^2 y'' + 3ty' - y = 0, \quad y_1(t) = t^{-1} \text{ is a sol.} \quad \text{integrate } v \rightarrow \text{find a FSS.}$$

$$\text{Sol: } y = v y_1 \quad y'' + \underbrace{\frac{3}{2t} y' - \frac{1}{2t^2} y}_{p \quad q} = 0 \quad y = v t^{-1} \text{ is sol. iff}$$

$$(\#): \quad t^{-1} v'' + \left( -\frac{3}{t^2} + \frac{3}{2t^2} \right) v' = 0 \quad -\frac{1}{2t^2}$$

$$v'' - \frac{1}{2t} v' = 0 \quad \text{set } v' = w$$

$$w' - \frac{1}{2t} w = 0 \sim w = C_2 e^{\frac{1}{2}t} \sim v = \frac{2}{3} C_2 t^{\frac{3}{2}} + C_1$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \ln|w| = +\frac{1}{2t} \quad v' \quad \rightarrow y = v t^{-1} = \frac{2}{3} C_2 t^{\frac{1}{2}} + C_1 t^{-1}$$

$$W[y_1, y_2] = \begin{vmatrix} t^{-1} & t^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ -t^{-2} & \frac{1}{2} t^{-\frac{1}{2}} \end{vmatrix} = \frac{3}{2} t^{-\frac{3}{2}} \neq 0 \Rightarrow y_1, y_2 \text{ are new sol.}$$