

# Linear Equations with Constant Coefficients (2A)

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*Homogeneous Linear Equations  
with constant coefficients*

# Types of First Order ODEs

## A General Form of First Order Differential Equations

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

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

## Separable Equations

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = g_1(x)g_2(y)$$

$$y' = g_1(x)g_2(y)$$

$$y = f(x)$$

## Linear Equations

$$a_1(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x)$$

$$a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = g(x)$$

$$y = f(x)$$

## Exact Equations

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

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}dx + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y}dy = 0$$

$$z = f(x, y)$$

# Second Order ODEs

## First Order Linear Equations

$$a_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x)$$

$$a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = g(x)$$

## Second Order Linear Equations

$$a_2(x) \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + a_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0(x)y = g(x)$$

$$a_2(x)y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = g(x)$$

## Second Order Linear Equations with Constant Coefficients

$$a_2 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + a_1 \frac{dy}{dx} + a_0 y = g(x)$$

$$a_2 y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y = g(x)$$

$$a \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = g(x)$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = g(x)$$

# Auxiliary Equation

## Homogeneous Second Order DEs with Constant Coefficients

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = 0$$

try a solution  $y = e^{mx}$

$$a \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \{e^{mx}\} + b \frac{d}{dx} \{e^{mx}\} + c \{e^{mx}\} = 0$$

$$a \{m^2 e^{mx}\} + b \{m e^{mx}\} + c \{e^{mx}\} = 0$$

$$(a m^2 + b m + c) \cdot e^{mx} = 0$$

$$a \{e^{mx}\}'' + b \{e^{mx}\}' + c \{e^{mx}\} = 0$$

$$a \{m^2 e^{mx}\} + b \{m e^{mx}\} + c \{e^{mx}\} = 0$$

$$(a m^2 + b m + c) \cdot e^{mx} = 0$$

auxiliary equation

$$(a m^2 + b m + c) = 0$$

$$(a m^2 + b m + c) = 0$$

# Roots of the Auxiliary Equation

## Homogeneous Second Order DEs with Constant Coefficients

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = 0$$

auxiliary equation

try a solution  $y = e^{mx}$



$$(am^2 + bm + c) = 0$$

$$m_1 = (-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$

$$m_2 = (-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$

$$y_1 = e^{m_1 x}, \quad y_2 = e^{m_2 x}$$

$$y_1 = e^{m_1 x} = y_2 = e^{m_2 x}$$

$$y_1 = e^{m_1 x}, \quad y_2 = e^{m_2 x}$$



(A)  $b^2 - 4ac > 0$  Real, distinct  $m_1, m_2$



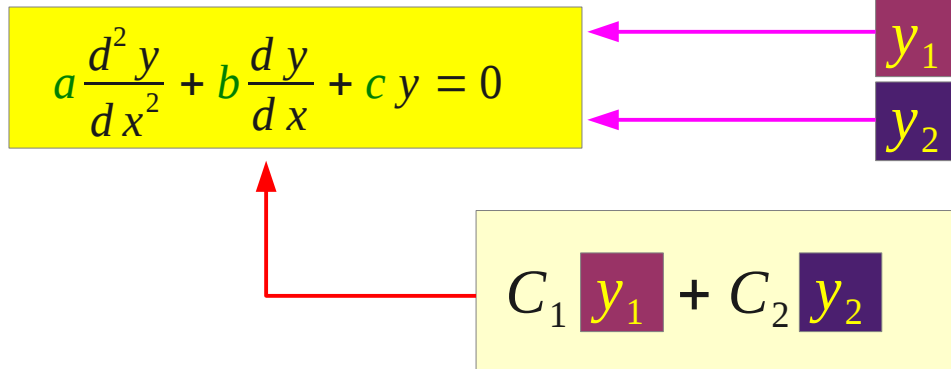
(B)  $b^2 - 4ac = 0$  Real, equal  $m_1, m_2$



(C)  $b^2 - 4ac < 0$  Conjugate complex  $m_1, m_2$

# Linear Combination of Solutions

DEQ



$$a y_1'' + b y_1' + c y_1 = 0$$

$$a y_2'' + b y_2' + c y_2 = 0$$



$$a(y_1'' + y_2'') + b(y_1' + y_2') + c(y_1 + y_2) = 0$$

$$a(y_1 + y_2)'' + b(y_1 + y_2)' + c(y_1 + y_2) = 0$$

$$y_3 = y_1 + y_2$$

$$y_4 = y_1 - y_2$$

$$y_5 = y_3 + 2y_4$$

$$y_6 = y_3 - 2y_4$$

$$a(C_1 y_1'' + C_2 y_2'') + b(C_1 y_1' + C_2 y_2') + c(C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2) = 0$$

$$a(C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2)'' + b(C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2)' + c(C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2) = 0$$



# Solutions of 2nd Order ODEs

DEQ

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$y_1$$

$$y_2$$

$$C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$$

$$\begin{cases} y_1 = e^{m_1 x} \\ y_2 = e^{m_2 x} \end{cases} \quad (D > 0)$$

$$\begin{cases} y_1 = e^{m_1 x} \\ y_2 = e^{m_2 x} \end{cases} \quad (D = 0)$$

$$\begin{cases} y_1 = e^{m_1 x} \\ y_2 = e^{m_2 x} \end{cases} \quad (D < 0)$$

$$\begin{cases} y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x} & (D > 0) \\ y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} \quad ? & (D = 0) \\ y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x} & (D < 0) \end{cases}$$

auxiliary equation

$$(a m^2 + b m + c) = 0$$

$$m_1 = (-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$

$$m_2 = (-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$

# Linear Independent Functions

$$C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2 = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad C_1 = C_2 = 0$$

always zero means all coefficients must be zero

$y_1$  and  $y_2$  are linearly independent functions

if not all zero,  $y_1$  can be represented by  $y_2$ , and vice versa.

$$C_1 \neq 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad y_1 = -\frac{C_2}{C_1} y_2 = a y_2$$

$$C_2 \neq 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad y_2 = -\frac{C_1}{C_2} y_1 = b y_1$$

$y_1$  and  $y_2$  are linearly dependent functions

$y_1$  simply a constant multiple of  $y_2$ , and vice versa.

# Linear Independent Functions Example (1)

$$y_1 = e^{2x} \quad y_2 = 3e^{2x}$$

$$\frac{y_1}{y_2} = \frac{e^{2x}}{3e^{2x}} = \frac{1}{3} = c$$

$C_1$        $C_2$       many solutions of  $C_1, C_2$

↓            ↓

$$3 \cdot \{e^{2x}\} - 1 \cdot \{3e^{2x}\} = 0$$
$$-6 \cdot \{e^{2x}\} + 2 \cdot \{3e^{2x}\} = 0$$

...            ...

~~linearly independent functions~~

$$y_1 = e^{2x} \quad y_2 = xe^{2x}$$

$$\frac{y_1}{y_2} = \frac{e^{2x}}{xe^{2x}} = \frac{1}{x} = u(x)$$

$C_1$        $C_2$       the only solution  $C_1, C_2$

↓            ↓

$$0 \{e^{2x}\} + 0 \cdot \{xe^{2x}\} = 0$$

linearly independent functions

# Linear Independent Functions Example (2)

## linearly dependent functions

$$y_1 = e^{2x} \quad y_2 = 3e^{2x}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 \cdot 3e^{2x}$$

$$y = (c_1 + 3c_2)e^{2x} = C e^{2x}$$

~~general solution~~

## linearly independent functions

$$y_1 = e^{2x} \quad y_2 = x e^{2x}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 x e^{2x}$$

general solution

$$y'' - 4y' + 4y = 0$$

$$m^2 - 4m + 4 = 0$$

$$(m - 2)^2 = 0$$

$$y_1 = e^{2x}$$

$$4y_1 = 4e^{2x}$$

$$y_1' = 2e^{2x}$$

$$-4y_1' = -8e^{2x}$$

$$y_1'' = 4e^{2x}$$

$$y_1'' = 4e^{2x}$$

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$$0$$

$$y_2 = x e^{2x}$$

$$4y_2 = 4x e^{2x}$$

$$y_2' = e^{2x} + 2x e^{2x}$$

$$-4y_2' = -4e^{2x} - 8x e^{2x}$$

$$y_2'' = 2e^{2x} + 2e^{2x} + 4x e^{2x}$$

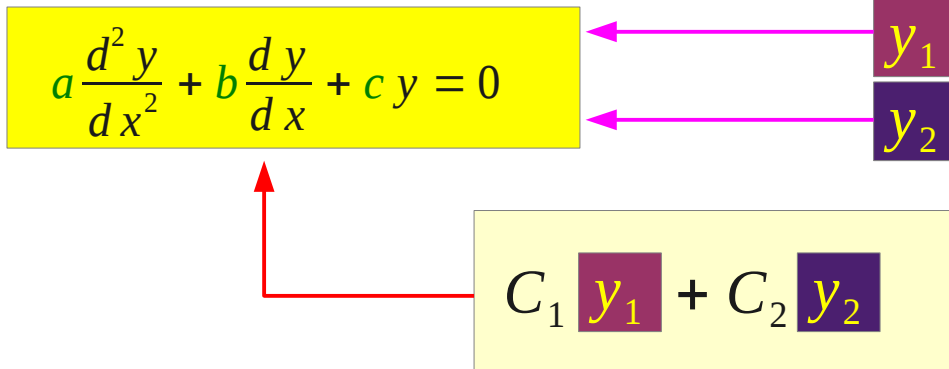
$$y_2'' = 4e^{2x} + 4x e^{2x}$$

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$$0$$

# Fundamental Set of Solutions

Second Order EQ



Functions  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  are either

- linearly independent functions or
- linearly dependent functions

$$\{y_1, y_2\}$$

Second Order

there can be at most two linearly independent functions

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 x e^{m_1 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x} = C_1 e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}$$

any  $n$  linearly independent solutions of the homogeneous linear  $n$ -th order differential equation

Fundamental Set of Solutions

# Linear Independent Functions and Wronskian

$$C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad C_1 = C_2 = 0$$

always zero means all coefficients must be zero

$y_1$  and  $y_2$  are linearly independent functions

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow C_1 y_1' + C_2 y_2' &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

If the inverse matrix exists

$$\begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{vmatrix} \neq 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

the only solution: trivial

$$W(y_1, y_2) \neq 0$$

# (A) Real Distinct Roots Case

## Homogeneous Second Order DEs with Constant Coefficients

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = 0$$

try a solution  $y = e^{mx}$



$$(a m^2 + b m + c) = 0$$

auxiliary equation

$$m_1 = (-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$

$$y_1 = e^{m_1 x}$$

$$m_2 = (-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$

$$y_2 = e^{m_2 x}$$

$$b^2 - 4ac > 0 \quad \text{Real, distinct } m_1, m_2$$

$$b^2 - 4ac = 0 \quad \text{Real, equal } m_1, m_2$$

$$b^2 - 4ac < 0 \quad \text{Conjugate complex } m_1, m_2$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 x e^{m_1 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x} = C_1 e^{(\alpha + i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha - i\beta)x}$$

## (B) Repeated Real Roots Case

### Homogeneous Second Order DEs with Constant Coefficients

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = 0$$

try a solution  $y = e^{mx}$

$$(am^2 + bm + c) = 0$$

auxiliary equation

$$m_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$m_2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$



$$b^2 - 4ac = 0$$



$$m_1 = -b/2a$$

$$m_2 = -b/2a$$

$$e^{m_1 x} = e^{m_2 x} = e^{-\frac{b}{2a} x}$$

$$b^2 - 4ac > 0 \quad \text{Real, distinct } m_1, m_2$$

$$b^2 - 4ac = 0 \quad \text{Real, equal } m_1, m_2$$

$$b^2 - 4ac < 0 \quad \text{Conjugate complex } m_1, m_2$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 x e^{m_1 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x} = C_1 e^{(\alpha + i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha - i\beta)x}$$



# (C) Complex Roots of the Auxiliary Equation

## Homogeneous Second Order DEs with Constant Coefficients

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = 0$$

try a solution  $y = e^{mx}$



$$(am^2 + bm + c) = 0$$

auxiliary equation

$$m_1 = (-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$



$$m_1 = (-b + \sqrt{4ac - b^2} i)/2a$$

$$y_1 = e^{m_1 x}$$

$$m_2 = (-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$



$$m_2 = (-b - \sqrt{4ac - b^2} i)/2a$$

$$y_2 = e^{m_2 x}$$

$$b^2 - 4ac > 0 \quad \text{Real, distinct } m_1, m_2$$

$$b^2 - 4ac = 0 \quad \text{Real, equal } m_1, m_2$$

$$b^2 - 4ac < 0 \quad \text{Conjugate complex } m_1, m_2$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 x e^{m_1 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x} = C_1 e^{(\alpha + i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha - i\beta)x}$$

# Complex Exponential Conversion

## Homogeneous Second Order DEs with Constant Coefficients

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = 0$$

$$m_1 = (-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a \quad \rightarrow \quad m_1 = (-b + \sqrt{4ac - b^2} i)/2a = \alpha + i\beta$$
$$m_2 = (-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a \quad \rightarrow \quad m_2 = (-b - \sqrt{4ac - b^2} i)/2a = \alpha - i\beta$$

$$y_1 = e^{m_1 x}$$
$$y_2 = e^{m_2 x}$$

$$b^2 - 4ac < 0 \quad \text{Conjugate complex } m_1, m_2$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x} = C_1 e^{(\alpha + i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha - i\beta)x}$$

Pick **two** homogeneous solution

$$y_1 = \{e^{(\alpha + i\beta)x} + e^{(\alpha - i\beta)x}\}/2 = e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) \quad (C_1 = +1/2, \quad C_2 = +1/2)$$

$$y_2 = \{e^{(\alpha + i\beta)x} - e^{(\alpha - i\beta)x}\}/2i = e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) \quad (C_1 = +1/2i, \quad C_2 = -1/2i)$$

$$y = C_3 e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) + C_4 e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) = e^{\alpha x} (C_3 \cos(\beta x) + C_4 \sin(\beta x))$$

# Wronskian

## Second Order EQ

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$\begin{matrix} y_1 & e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} \\ y_2 & e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x} \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{vmatrix} e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} & e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x} \\ (e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x})' & (e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x})' \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} & e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x} \\ (\alpha+i\beta)e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} & (\alpha-i\beta)e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (\alpha-i\beta)e^{2\alpha x} - (\alpha+i\beta)e^{2\alpha x} \\ &= (-i2\beta)e^{2\alpha x} \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_3 &= \frac{1}{2} y_1 + \frac{1}{2} y_2 & \{e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} + e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}\}/2 &= e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) \\ y_4 &= \frac{1}{2i} y_1 - \frac{1}{2i} y_2 & \{e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} - e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}\}/2i &= e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{vmatrix} e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) & e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) \\ (e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x))' & (e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x))' \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) & e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) \\ (\alpha e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) - \beta e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)) & (\alpha e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) + \beta e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x)) \end{vmatrix} \\ &= e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) (\alpha e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) + \beta e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x)) - e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) (\alpha e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) - \beta e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)) \\ &= e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) \beta e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) + e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) \beta e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) = \beta e^{2\alpha x} (\cos^2(\beta x) + \sin^2(\beta x)) = \beta e^{2\alpha x} \neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

# Wronskian : Linear Independent

Second Order EQ

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$\begin{matrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} \\ e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x} \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} & e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x} \\ (e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x})' & (e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x})' \end{vmatrix} \neq 0$$

linearly independent

Fundamental Set of Solutions

$$y_3 = \frac{1}{2} y_1 + \frac{1}{2} y_2$$

$$\{e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} + e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}\} / 2 = e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x)$$

$$y_4 = \frac{1}{2i} y_1 - \frac{1}{2i} y_2$$

$$\{e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} - e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}\} / 2i = e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) & e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) \\ (e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x))' & (e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x))' \end{vmatrix} \neq 0$$

linearly independent

Fundamental Set of Solutions

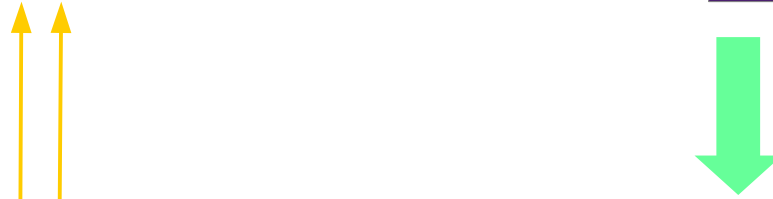
# Fundamental Set Examples (1)

Second Order EQ

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$y_1$$
$$y_2$$

$$e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x}$$
$$e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}$$



$$y_3 = \frac{1}{2} y_1 + \frac{1}{2} y_2$$

$$y_4 = \frac{1}{2i} y_1 - \frac{1}{2i} y_2$$

$$\{e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} + e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}\} / 2 = e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x)$$

$$\{e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} - e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}\} / 2i = e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)$$

# Fundamental Set Examples (2)

Second Order EQ

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$y_1$$

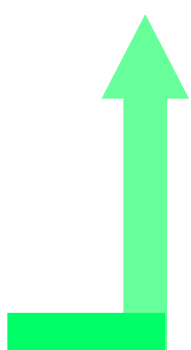
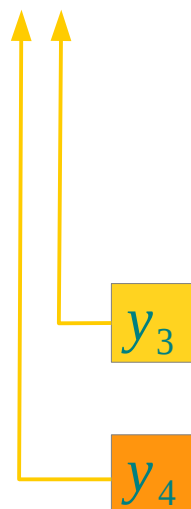
$$= y_3 + i y_4$$

$$y_2$$

$$= y_3 - i y_4$$

$$e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x}$$

$$e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}$$



$$y_3 = e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x)$$

$$y_4 = e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)$$

$$e^{\alpha x} [\cos(\beta x) + i \sin(\beta x)]$$

$$e^{\alpha x} [\cos(\beta x) - i \sin(\beta x)]$$

# General Solution Examples

## Second Order EQ

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

linearly independent  
Fundamental Set of Solutions



$$\{y_1, y_2\} = \{e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x}, e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}\}$$

$$C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$$

$$C_1 e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}$$



General Solution

linearly independent  
Fundamental Set of Solutions



$$\{y_3, y_4\} = \{e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x), e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)\}$$

$$C_3 y_3 + C_4 y_4$$

$$C_3 e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x) + C_4 e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) = e^{\alpha x} (C_3 \cos(\beta x) + C_4 \sin(\beta x))$$



General Solution

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## *General Solutions*

- Homogeneous Equation*
- Non-homogeneous Equation*



# General Solution – Homogeneous Equations

## Homogeneous Second Order DEs with Constant Coefficients

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = 0$$

auxiliary equation

$$(a m^2 + b m + c) = 0$$

$$m_1 = (-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$

$$m_2 = (-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac})/2a$$

(A)  $b^2 - 4ac > 0$  Real, distinct  $m_1, m_2$

(B)  $b^2 - 4ac = 0$  Real, equal  $m_1, m_2$

(C)  $b^2 - 4ac < 0$  Conjugate complex  $m_1, m_2$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 x e^{m_1 x}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{m_1 x} + C_2 e^{m_2 x} = C_1 e^{(\alpha+i\beta)x} + C_2 e^{(\alpha-i\beta)x}$$

# General Solution – Nonhomogeneous Equations

## Nonhomogeneous Second Order DEs with Constant Coefficients

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = g(x)$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = g(x)$$

$$y = \underbrace{c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2}_{\text{complementary function}} + \underbrace{y_p}_{\text{particular solution}}$$

complementary  
function

particular  
solution

The general solution for a nonhomogeneous linear  $n$ -th order differential equation

## Homogeneous Second Order DEs with Constant Coefficients

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$a y'' + b y' + c y = 0$$

$$y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$$

The general solution for a homogeneous linear  $n$ -th order differential equation

# Complementary Function

DEQ

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = g(x)$$

$$y_p$$

particular solution

$$y_p$$

+

$$y_c$$

general solution –  
nonhomogeneous eq

Associated DEQ

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = 0$$

$$y_1$$

$$y_2$$

complementary function

$$c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$$

general solution –  
homogeneous eq

# $y_c$ and $y_p$

DEQ

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + c y = g(x)$$

$$y_p$$

*particular solution*

$$y_c + y_p$$

*general solution –  
nonhomogeneous eq*

$$a \frac{d^2 y_c}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy_c}{dx} + c y_c \Rightarrow 0$$

*many such complementary functions  
 $c_i$  many possible coefficients*

$$a \frac{d^2 y_p}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy_p}{dx} + c y_p \Rightarrow g(x)$$

*only one particular functions  
coefficients can be determined*

## References

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