

Math 2250-1

Fri 10/21

review &  
finish p. 2-3 Wed (we were essentially done.)  
then begin § 5.3, after this superposition page

other illustrations of  $y = y_p + y_H$  for linear operators  $L$ :

Exercise 1 Consider the linear equation

$$x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 7$$

show the general solution is of the form  $\vec{x} = \vec{x}_p + \vec{x}_H$

$$L\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = [1 \ -2 \ 3] \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

special case of  
 $L(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$   
and the general  
sol'n to  
 $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$

$$\text{is } \vec{x} = \vec{x}_p + \vec{x}_H.$$

Exercise 2 Consider the 1<sup>st</sup> order linear DE for  $y(x)$

$$y' + 5y = 10$$

solve for  $y = y_p + y_H$  and compare to Chapter 1 sol'n.

$$L(y) = y' + 5y$$

### §5.3 How to solve constant coefficient homogeneous linear DE's

$$L(y) := y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1y' + a_0y = 0 \quad a_j \text{'s constant.}$$

step 1 try  $y = e^{rx}$

$$\text{then } L(y) = (r^n + a_{n-1}r^{n-1} + \dots + a_1r + a_0) e^{rx}$$

$p(r)$ , the characteristic polynomial

So any root of  $p(r)$  yields an exponential function solution

Now, there are several cases of increasing complexity.

Case I If  $p(r)$  has  $n$  distinct (different) real roots  $r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$

then  $y_H(x) = c_1e^{r_1x} + c_2e^{r_2x} + \dots + c_ne^{r_nx}$  is the general soltn.

(we've done lots of examples.)

i.e.  $\{e^{r_1x}, e^{r_2x}, \dots, e^{r_nx}\}$  is a basis for the  $n$ -dim'l soltn space.

Exercise 3 : Check the Wronskian in cases  $n=2,3 \rightarrow$  an interesting pattern emerges, which can be proven with induction, i.e. google "Vandermonde matrix"

Case II Repeated roots (real roots)

• If  $(r-a)^k$  is a factor of  $p(r)$ , then  $e^{ax}, xe^{ax}, \dots, x^{k-1}e^{ax}$  are  $k$  linearly ind. sol'ns.

• If  $p(r) = (r-r_1)^{k_1} (r-r_2)^{k_2} \dots (r-r_j)^{k_j}$   $k_1+k_2+\dots+k_j=n$

then a basis of solutions is given by

$$\left\{ \underbrace{e^{r_1 x}, xe^{r_1 x}, \dots, x^{k_1-1} e^{r_1 x}}_{k_1 \text{ fns}}, \underbrace{e^{r_2 x}, xe^{r_2 x}, \dots, x^{k_2-1} e^{r_2 x}}_{k_2 \text{ fns}}, \dots, \underbrace{e^{r_j x}, xe^{r_j x}, \dots, x^{k_j-1} e^{r_j x}}_{k_j \text{ fns}} \right\}$$

altogether,  $n$  independent functions that solve the DE!

Exercise 4: Find the general

sol'n to  $y'''' - y''' = 0$

by first finding  $v = y'''$  ( $v' - v = 0$ ).

Verify that in this case your answer agrees with the algorithm above

the text has a good explanation of why case II algorithm works, see page 316-318 "polynomial differential operators"

Case III Complex roots: Monday!!