

Math 2250-1
Monday 10/24

7.3 cont'd: complex roots!

finding the general soltn to

$$L(y) := y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1y' + a_0y = 0$$

need n solutions for a basis. (n independent soltns.)

Try $y = e^{rx} \rightarrow p(r) = r^n + a_{n-1}r^{n-1} + \dots + a_1r + a_0$ characteristic polynomial

Case I n distinct roots to $p(r) = 0 \rightarrow y_H(x) = c_1e^{r_1x} + c_2e^{r_2x} + \dots + c_ne^{r_nx}$

Case II repeated roots \rightarrow if $(r-r_i)^k$ is a factor of $p(r)$,
get soltns $e^{r_ix}, xe^{r_ix}, \dots, x^{k-1}e^{r_ix}$
amalgamate these to get y_H basis

Case III complex roots:

exponential functions still work - you just need to learn Euler's formula

Recall Taylor-Maclaurin formula from Calculus

$$f(x) \sim f(0) + f'(0)x + \frac{f''(0)}{2}x^2 + \dots + \frac{f^{(n)}(0)}{n!}x^n + \dots$$

$P_n(x)$
[notice that the partial sum matches
 $f(0), f'(0), f''(0), \dots, f^{(n)}(0)$
" " " " " "
 $p(0) p'(0) p''(0) \dots p^{(n)}(0)$.]

Exercise 1: Use Taylor-Maclaurin series for recalling

$$\cos x =$$

$$\sin x =$$

$$e^x =$$

Exercise 2 Use the Taylor series on the previous page, substitute $i\theta$ into the exponential series, to motivate Euler's formula

$$e^{i\theta} := \cos\theta + i\sin\theta$$



From Euler's formula, it makes sense to define

$$e^{a+bi} := e^a e^{bi} = e^a (\cos b + i\sin b) = e^a \cos b + i e^a \sin b \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

So $e^{(a+bi)x} = e^{ax + ibx} = e^{ax} (\cos bx + i\sin bx) = e^{ax} \cos bx + i e^{ax} \sin bx \quad \& x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$e^{(a+bi)x} := e^{ax} \cos bx + i e^{ax} \sin bx$$

for a complex function $f(x) + i g(x)$

$$\text{define } \frac{d}{dx} (f(x) + i g(x)) := f'(x) + i g'(x).$$

Exercise 3 Use the definitions above to check

$$\frac{d}{dx} (e^{(a+bi)x}) = (a+bi) e^{(a+bi)x}$$

i.e. $\frac{d}{dx} e^{rx} = r e^{rx}$ even if r is complex.

Now return to finding $y(x)$ s.t.

$$L(y) = y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1y' + a_0y = 0.$$

and consider

$$y(x) = f(x) + i g(x).$$

$$L(y) = L(f) + i L(g)$$

since $\frac{d}{dx}$ and L are linear.

if r is a complex root of $p(r)$, i.e. $r = a + bi$,

$$\text{then } \frac{d}{dx} e^{rx} = r e^{rx} \quad (\text{previous page})$$

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} e^{rx} = r^2 e^{rx}$$

⋮

$$\text{So } L(e^{rx}) = \underbrace{(r^n + a_{n-1}r^{n-1} + \dots + a_1r + a_0)}_{= 0 \text{ if } r \text{ is a complex root.}} e^{rx}$$

just as before

Thus if $p(a+bi) = 0$,

$$L(e^{(a+bi)x}) = 0 = 0 + 0i$$

$$L(e^{ax} \cos bx + i e^{ax} \sin bx) = 0 + 0i$$

$$L(e^{ax} \cos bx) + i L(e^{ax} \sin bx) = 0 + 0i$$



upshot if $a+bi$ is a complex root of the characteristic polynomial,

$$e^{ax} \cos bx, e^{ax} \sin bx$$

are two linearly independent real function solutions

($a-bi$ will also be a root, gives an equivalent basis for this 2-d subspace.)

multiple roots

if $(r - (a+bi))^k$ is a factor of $p(r)$ then

$$e^{ax} \cos bx, x e^{ax} \cos bx, \dots, x^{k-1} e^{ax} \cos bx$$

$$e^{ax} \sin bx, x e^{ax} \sin bx, \dots, x^{k-1} e^{ax} \sin bx$$

are $2k$ independent real sol'ns.

($p(r)$ will also have the factor

$(r - (a-bi))^k$, which gives an equivalent basis for this $2k$ -dimensional subspace.)

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Exercise 4 Recover $\{\cos 2x, \sin 2x\}$ as a basis for the solution space to

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

using the characteristic poly and Euler's formula

Exercise 5 Find the general solution to

$$y'' + 2y' + 5y = 0.$$

Exercise 6 Find the general sol'n to

$$y''' - y'' - y' - 15y = 0$$

Hint: $r^3 - r^2 - r - 15 = (r-3)(r^2 + 2r + 5)$

Exercise 7 What if L is 4th order, with characteristic polynomial $p(r) = (r^2 + 25)^2$?

Find a basis for the sol'n space to $L(y) = 0$

What is L ?