

## Sep. ODE

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

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

$$\int g(y) dy = \int h(x) dx$$

## Inter. by subst. (C)



$$\int f(y(x)) \frac{dy}{dx} dx$$

$$\int f(y) dy \quad ; \quad \text{subst:} \\ y = y(x)$$

Example:

$$I = \int 7 \exp\left(-\frac{y^2}{2}\right) dy$$

subst:

$$x = -\frac{y^2}{2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{\left(\frac{dx}{dy}\right)} = \frac{1}{-y}$$

$$I = \int 7 \exp(x) \frac{dy}{dx} dx$$

$$= \int 7 \exp(x) \frac{1}{-y} dx$$

$$= - \int \exp(x) dx = -\exp(x) + C$$

$$= -\exp\left(-\frac{y^2}{2}\right)$$

# Linear 1<sup>st</sup> order ODEs

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$$y' + p(x)y = q(x)$$

(Integrating factor)

Ex:

$$y' - \underbrace{x}_p(x) y = \underbrace{x}_q(x)$$

∴

$$y(x) = -1 + C \exp\left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right)$$

⌋ one arbitrary constant.

Observation:

Recall  $y' - \underbrace{x}_p(x) y = \underbrace{x}_q(x)$

Note: The gen. soln. has two parts:

$$y = y_p + y_H$$

$y_p = a(x)$  particular soln. (2)  
of the full eqn.

$y_H$  = general soln. of the  
homog. ODE, i.e.  
the ODE with  $q(x) = 0$ .

In our case:

•  $y_p = -1$  ;  $y_p' = 0$

check:  $y_p' - x y_p = x$

$0 - x(-1) \stackrel{?}{=} x \checkmark$

•  $y_H = C \exp\left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right)$

~~is~~ is the gen. soln. of homog. ODE

$$y_H' - x y_H = 0$$

$$\frac{dy_H}{dx}$$

Sep:

$$\int \frac{1}{y_H} dy_H = \int x dx$$

$$e^{n/y_H} = \frac{1}{2} x^2 + A$$

$$y_H = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} x^2 + A\right) \quad ; \quad C = \exp(A)$$

$$y_H = C \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} x^2\right)$$


Always true even for higher order ODEs.

§3 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODEs

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$$F(x, y, y', y'') = 0$$

+ 2 BC or 2 IC

Linear 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODEs

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

If  $a(x) \neq 0$

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = r(x)$$

## Some theory for *linear* 2nd order ODEs

### Existence and Uniqueness

Consider the *linear* second-order ODE

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = r(x), \quad (1)$$

subject to the initial conditions

$$y(X) = Y, \quad y'(X) = Z, \quad (2)$$

where the constants  $X, Y$  and  $Z$ , and the functions  $p(x)$ ,  $q(x)$  and  $r(x)$  are given.

### Theorem

If the functions  $p(x)$ ,  $q(x)$  and  $r(x)$  are continuous functions of  $x$  in an interval  $I$ , and if  $X \in I$  then there **exists exactly one** solution to the initial value problem defined by (1) and (2) in the entire interval  $I$ .

### Notes:

- This is the promised extension of the statement for first-order problems. The extension to even higher-order linear ODEs should be obvious...
- If the functions  $p(x)$ ,  $q(x)$  and  $r(x)$  are “well-behaved” (no jumps, singularities, etc.), the theorem guarantees the existence of a unique solution for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- However, the statement still only applies to initial value problems!

## The homogeneous ODE & superposition of its solutions

If we set  $r(x) = 0$  in the *inhomogeneous* ODE

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = r(x), \quad (\text{I})$$

we obtain the corresponding *homogeneous* ODE

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = 0. \quad (\text{H})$$

### A trivial (?) but useful observation

If  $y_1(x)$  and  $y_2(x)$  are two solutions of (H) then the linear combination

$$y_3(x) = A y_1(x) + B y_2(x)$$

is also a solution, for any values of the constants  $A$  and  $B$ .

### Linear independence

To see why this is a useful observation, we need to define the concept of linear independence: Two nonzero functions  $y_1(x)$  and  $y_2(x)$  are linearly independent if

$$A y_1(x) + B y_2(x) = 0 \quad \forall x \quad \iff \quad A \equiv B \equiv 0$$

(...just as in linear algebra...).

#### Examples:

- $y_1(x) = x$  and  $y_2(x) = 3x^2$  are linearly independent.
- $y_1(x) = x$  and  $y_2(x) = 3x$  are linearly dependent – they're just multiples of each other.

$$y'' + py' + qy = 0$$

(H)

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Have two solutions:  $y_1, y_2$

Claim: ~~A~~  $Ay_1 + By_2$  is also a soln.

Proof: into ODE:

$$\underbrace{Ay_1'' + By_2''}_{y''} + p \underbrace{(Ay_1' + By_2')}_{y'} \stackrel{?}{=} q \underbrace{(Ay_1 + By_2)}_{y}$$

$$A \underbrace{(y_1'' + py_1' + qy_1)}_0 +$$

$$B \underbrace{(y_2'' + py_2' + qy_2)}_0 \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

□



Lin. independence:

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Ex:

$$f_1 = x$$

$$f_2 = 3x^2$$

$$A f_1 + B f_2 = 0 \quad \forall x$$

$$\Rightarrow A = B = 0$$

$$Ax + B 3x^2 = 0$$

Can't check for all values of  $x$

Check at:

$$x = 1$$

$$A + 3B = 0$$

$$x = -1$$

$$-A + 3B = 0$$

$$\Sigma = 6B = 0 \Rightarrow B = 0$$

$$A = 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  lin. indep!

Ex:  $y_1 = x$      $y_2 = 3x$

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$$Ay_1 + By_2 = 0 \quad \forall x$$

$$Ax + B3x = 0$$

$$x(A + 3B) = 0$$

$$A = -3B$$

$$A = -3$$

$$B = 1$$

$\Rightarrow$  lin. dep.

## Fundamental solutions of the homogeneous ODE

### Theorem

Any solution of the homogeneous ODE

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = 0. \quad (\text{H})$$

can be written as a linear combination of *any* two non-zero, linearly independent solutions,  $y_1(x)$  and  $y_2(x)$ , say:

$$y(x) = A y_1(x) + B y_2(x).$$

The two non-zero, linearly independent solutions  $\{y_1(x), y_2(x)\}$  are called “fundamental solutions” of the homogeneous ODE (H).

### Notes:

- The set of fundamental solutions is not unique!

## The general solution of the inhomogeneous ODE

### Theorem

The *general* solution of the inhomogeneous ODE

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = r(x) \quad (I)$$

can be written as

$$y(x) = y_p(x) + A y_1(x) + B y_2(x),$$

where:

- $A$  and  $B$  are arbitrary constants.
- $y_p(x)$  is any particular solution of the inhomogeneous ODE.
- $y_1(x)$  and  $y_2(x)$  are fundamental solutions of the corresponding homogeneous ODE.

### Notes:

- Note the similarities between the structure of the solution of the linear ODE and the structure of the solution of the linear (algebraic) equation  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ . This is not accidental! There are deep connections between the two fields – matrices and the homogeneous part of a linear ODE are both “linear operators”.
- The values of the constants  $A$  and  $B$  are determined by the boundary or initial conditions.

Example:

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$$y'' + \underbrace{\frac{1}{x}}_{p(x)} y' - \underbrace{\frac{1}{x^2}}_{q(x)} y = \underbrace{-\frac{1}{x^2}}_{r(x)}$$

IC:  $y(1) = 1$   
 $y'(1) = 1$

$$x = 1$$

$$y = 1$$

$$z = 1$$

$$p(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$q(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2}$$

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

continuous fcts  
of  $x$  in

$$I_1 = \mathbb{R}^-$$

$$I_2 = \mathbb{R}^+ \quad (\text{not zero})$$

$$x \in I_2$$

$\Rightarrow$  Exists a unique soln.  
to IVP for  $x \in I_2 = \mathbb{R}^+$

• particular soln:

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$$\underline{y_p = 1}$$

check:  $y_p' = y_p'' = 0$   
into ODE:

$$0 + 0 - \frac{1}{x^2} (1) \stackrel{?}{=} -\frac{1}{x^2} \quad \checkmark$$

$y_p$  not unique:

$$y_p = 1 + x \quad \text{works too.}$$

• solns. of the homog. ODE

$$y'' + \frac{1}{x}y' - \frac{1}{x^2}y = 0 \quad (H)$$

$$y_1(x) = x \quad \checkmark$$

$$y_2(x) = \frac{1}{x} \quad \checkmark$$

both solve (H); nonzero;  
lin. indep.

So the general soln of the full eqn is

$$y(x) = \underbrace{1}_{y_p} + A \underbrace{x}_{y_1} + B \underbrace{\frac{1}{x}}_{y_2}$$

Apply ICs:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} y(x=1) &= 1 \\ y'(x=1) &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} A &= \frac{1}{2} \\ B &= -\frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{\underline{y(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{2x}}}$$

is the unique soln of IVP.

Note: soln. only exists for  $x > 0$ .

what happens if we had chosen different fcts for  $y_p, y_1$  &  $y_2$

E.f.

$$y_p = 1 + x$$

$$y_1 = x$$

$$y_2 = x + \frac{2}{x}$$

Solves full eqn

both solve (H) & are non zero & lin. indep.

The general soln is:

$$y(x) = \underbrace{1+x}_{y_p} + C \underbrace{x}_{y_1} + D \underbrace{\left(x + \frac{2}{x}\right)}_{y_2}$$

Now apply IC:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} y(x=1) &= 1 \\ y'(x=1) &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\} C = D = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$y(x) = \underline{1+x} - \frac{1}{4}x - \frac{1}{4}\left(x + \frac{2}{x}\right)$$

$$y(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{2x} \quad \underline{\underline{\text{Same!}}}$$



Note: soln. is

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singular at  $x=0$ ,  
"as expected"

(recall  $p(x)$ ,  $q(x)$ ,  $r(x)$  were  
all singular at  $x=0$ ).

But this is not necessarily  
the case: for instance, if  
the ICs are:

$$y(1) = \frac{3}{2} \quad y'(1) = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x$$

This is not singular!