

Oct 21, 2019

Last time:

Model DE:

$$Lu = P(t)u'' + Q(t)u' + R(t)u = 0$$

If P, Q, R are polynomials in t , then look for a solution u of the form $u(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^n$.

$$\Rightarrow \left(\sum p_n t^n \right) \left(\sum n(n-1) a_n t^{n-2} \right) + \left(\sum q_n t^n \right) \left(\sum n a_n t^{n-1} \right) + \left(\sum r_n t^n \right) \left(\sum a_n t^n \right) = 0$$

Collect terms with t^n factor, determine recurrence relationship

for the a_n 's: Note: Initial conditions determine a_0, a_1 :

$$u(0) = \sum a_n (0)^n = a_0$$

$$u'(0) = \sum n \cdot a_n (0)^{n-1} = a_1$$

Next topic: Singular Points

Euler's Equation: $t^2 y'' + \alpha t y' + \beta y = 0$

at $t=0$, these terms disappear. Can we still apply the series solution method?

If $y = t^r$, then both $ty' \sim t^r$ and $t^2 y'' \sim t^r$.

Ansatz: $y = t^r$.

$$\Rightarrow r(r-1)t^r + \alpha r t^r + \beta t^r = 0$$

$$(r^2 - r + \alpha r + \beta) t^r = 0$$

$$(r^2 + (\alpha-1)r + \beta) t^r = 0$$

The solutions are:

$$r = -\frac{1}{2} \left((\alpha-1) \pm \sqrt{(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta} \right)$$

Once again, there are three cases:

Case 1 $(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta > 0$

\Rightarrow Two distinct real roots, solution is $y(t) = c_1 t^{r_1} + c_2 t^{r_2}$

Case 2 $(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta = 0$

\Rightarrow Repeated roots, use Method of Reduction of Order to show that general solution is

$$y(t) = c_1 t^r + c_2 t^r \log t$$

Alternative calculation to show that $t^r \log t$ is a solution. Since the roots are repeated:

$$\mathcal{L} t^r = (r - r_1)^2 t^r$$

$$\text{and } \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (\mathcal{L} t^r) = \mathcal{L} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r} t^r \right) = \mathcal{L} (\log t t^r)$$

$$= 2(r - r_1) t^r + (r - r_1)^2 \log t t^r$$

$$= 0 \text{ if } r = r_1$$

$\Rightarrow \log t t^r$ is a solution.

Case 3 $(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta < 0$

\Rightarrow Two distinct complex roots $r = \lambda \pm i\mu$.

What is $t^{\lambda + i\mu}$?

$$t^{i\mu} : (e^{\log t})^{i\mu} = e^{i\mu \log t} = \cos(\mu \log t) + i \sin(\mu \log t)$$

\Rightarrow Real-valued general solution is $y(t) = c_1 t^\lambda \cos(\mu \log t) + c_2 t^\lambda \sin(\mu \log t)$.

If $y = t^r$, then
 $\log y = r \log t$
 $\frac{\partial}{\partial r} (\log y) = \frac{1}{y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial r}$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} = \log t$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} = y \log t = t^r \log t$

Case of negative t ($t \in (-\infty, 0)$).

$t^2 y'' + \alpha t y' + \beta y = 0$ seems to make sense for $t < 0$, but often t^r does not stay real valued.

Ex: $r = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow (-1)^{1/2} = i$, not real valued

$r = i\mu \Rightarrow \cos(\mu \log(-1))$ not defined (unless done very carefully).

These problems can be fixed with a change of variable:

Let $t = -x$, $x > 0$

$$\text{Then } \frac{du}{dt} = \frac{du}{dx} \frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{du}{dx}$$

$$\frac{d^2 u}{dt^2} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(-\frac{du}{dx} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(-\frac{du}{dx} \right) \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2}$$

Under this change of variable we have:

$$t^2 u'' + \alpha t u' + \beta u \rightarrow x^2 u'' + \alpha x u' + \beta u = 0 \quad \text{Exactly the same equation!}$$

\Rightarrow Solutions $u(x)$ are the same.

Since $x = -t = |t|$ if $t < 0$, we have that the solutions are of the form:

$$(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta > 0 : u = c_1 |t|^{r_1} + c_2 |t|^{r_2}$$

$$(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta = 0 : u = c_1 |t|^r + c_2 \log|t| |t|^r$$

$$(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta < 0 : u = c_1 |t|^\lambda \cos \mu \log|t| + c_2 |t|^\lambda \sin \mu \log|t|$$

Next The Frobenius Method

More general class of singular ODEs than the Euler equation

$$t^2 u'' + \tilde{p}(t) u' + \tilde{q}(t) u = 0$$

↑ ↑
polynomials

Dividing by t^2 we have:

$$u'' + p(t)u' + q(t)u = 0 \quad (*)$$

with p, q have expansions:

$$p(t) = \frac{p_0}{t} + p_1 + p_2 t + p_3 t^2 + \dots$$

$$q(t) = \frac{q_0}{t^2} + \frac{q_1}{t} + q_2 + q_3 t + \dots$$

If this is the case, $(*)$ is said to have a Regular Singular Point at $t=0$.

Example: Bessel's equation:

$$t^2 u'' + t u' + (t^2 - \nu) u = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u'' + \underbrace{\frac{1}{t}}_p u' + \underbrace{\left(1 - \frac{\nu}{t^2}\right)}_q u = 0$$

$\Rightarrow t=0$ is a regular singular point.

Example $t^3 u'' + u' + u = 0$

$$\Rightarrow u'' + \frac{1}{t^2} u' + \frac{1}{t^3} u = 0$$

\hookrightarrow irregular singular point

Back to $u'' + p(t)u' + q(t)u = 0$, $p(t) = \frac{p_{-1}}{t} + p_0 + p_1 t + p_2 t^2 \dots$

Ansatz: Look for solution of

$$q(t) = \frac{q_{-1}}{t} + q_0 + q_1 t + \dots$$

the form $u(t) = t^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^n$

\uparrow
from Euler
solutions

\uparrow
from general
series solutions