

Ordinary Differential Equations (ODE)

General Form:
$$\sum_{k=0}^n f_k(x, y) \frac{d^k y}{dx^k} = G(x, y). \quad \left(\frac{d^0 y}{dx^0} \equiv y \right).$$

For convenience, it is usually reduced to $f_n(x, y) = 1$. This is implied in this text.

First-Order ODEs:
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = F(x, y), \quad (\text{i.e. } F(x, y) = G(x, y) - f_0(x, y)y).$$

Separable:
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)g(y). \quad \text{Solution: } \int \frac{dy}{g(y)} = \int f(x)dx + c.$$

Linear:
$$\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x). \quad (\text{i.e. } f_0(x, y) = P(x), \quad G(x, y) = Q(x), \quad \text{both independent of } y.)$$

Integrating factor $I = e^{\int P(x)dx}$. Solution:
$$\frac{d}{dx} (Iy) = I \frac{dy}{dx} + IP(x)y = IQ(x), \quad y = \frac{1}{I} \left(\int IQ(x)dx + c \right).$$

Second-Order ODEs:
$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + f_1(x, y) \frac{dy}{dx} + f_0(x, y)y = G(x, y).$$

Homogeneous ($G(x, y) = 0$) with Constant Coefficients:
$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + a \frac{dy}{dx} + by = 0.$$

Solutions form a 2-dimensional vector space: $y = \alpha_1 y_1(x) + \alpha_2 y_2(x),$

where y_1 and y_2 are linearly independent. If they are linearly dependent, $y = (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 x)y_1(x).$

Function $y = e^{\lambda x}$ will make $\lambda^2 e^{\lambda x} + a\lambda e^{\lambda x} + be^{\lambda x} = 0. \quad \lambda^2 + a\lambda + b = 0.$

For two distinct real roots: $y = \alpha_1 e^{\lambda_1 x} + \alpha_2 e^{\lambda_2 x}.$ For two equal real roots $\left(\lambda = \frac{-a}{2} \right): y = (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 x)e^{\frac{-ax}{2}}.$

For two complex roots $\left(\frac{-a}{2} \pm iw, \text{ where } w = \sqrt{b - \frac{a^2}{4}} \right): y = \alpha_1 e^{(\frac{-a}{2} + iw)x} + \alpha_2 e^{(\frac{-a}{2} - iw)x}.$

$y = e^{\frac{-ax}{2}} (\alpha_1 e^{iw x} + \alpha_2 e^{-iw x}) = e^{\frac{-ax}{2}} (\alpha_1 (\cos(wx) + i \sin(wx)) + \alpha_2 (\cos(wx) - i \sin(wx))).$

$y = e^{\frac{-ax}{2}} (\beta_1 \cos(wx) + \beta_2 \sin(wx)),$ where β_1 and β_2 are two arbitrary complex numbers.

Free Oscillations: Force = - friction - elasticity, $ma = -cv - ky,$ or $m \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + c \frac{dy}{dt} + ky = 0, \quad (m, c, k > 0).$

Overdamping (large friction $c^2 > 4mk$): $y = Ae^{\lambda_1 t} + Be^{\lambda_2 t}. \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y = 0.$

Critical damping ($c^2 = 4mk$): $y = (A + Bt)e^{-\frac{ct}{2m}}. \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} y = 0.$

Underdamping ($c^2 < 4mk$): $y = (A \cos(\Omega t) + B \sin(\Omega t)) e^{-\alpha t},$ where $\alpha = \frac{c}{2m}$ and $\Omega = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m} - \frac{c^2}{4m^2}}.$

For a right angle triangle with sides $A, B,$ and angle δ between R and $A, R = \sqrt{A^2 + B^2}$ and $\tan(\delta) = \frac{B}{A}.$

$y = R \left(\frac{A}{R} \cos(\Omega t) + \frac{B}{R} \sin(\Omega t) \right) e^{-\alpha t} = R (\cos(\delta) \cos(\Omega t) + \sin(\delta) \sin(\Omega t)) e^{-\alpha t}.$

$y = R e^{-\alpha t} \cos(\Omega t - \delta),$ a decaying oscillation if $c > 0.$

If $c = 0$ (no friction), $y = R \cos(\Omega_0 t - \delta),$ where $\Omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}.$ The period is $\frac{2\pi}{\Omega_0}.$