



MATH 285

Midterm 2 Review

CARE

Disclaimer

- These slides were prepared by tutors that have taken Math 285. We believe that the concepts covered in these slides could be covered in your exam.
- HOWEVER, these slides are NOT comprehensive and may not include all topics covered in your exam. These slides should not be the only material you study.
- While the slides cover general steps and procedures for how to solve certain types of problems, there will be exceptions to these steps. Use the steps as a general guide for how to start a problem but they may not work in all cases.



Topics

- I. Linear Independence + Wronskian
- II. Linear Constant Coefficient DE's
- III. Solving Particular Solutions
 - I. Undetermined Coefficients
 - II. Annihilators
 - III. Variation of Parameters
 - IV. Laplace Transformations
- IV. Oscillations
 - I. Mechanical
 - II. Electrical

Linear Independence and the Wronskian

- In order to form a “complete” solution to a differential equation, we want to create a **linear combination of solutions**
- We need to have **n solution equations**, where **n is the order** of the differential equation
- The Wronskian is a tool for determining if our solutions are linearly independent

The Wronskian

$$W(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)(t) = \begin{vmatrix} y_1(t) & y_2(t) & y_3(t) \dots & y_n(t) \\ y_1'(t) & y_2'(t) & y_3'(t) \dots & y_n'(t) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)}(t) & y_2^{(n-1)}(t) & y_3^{(n-1)}(t) \dots & y_n^{(n-1)}(t) \end{vmatrix}$$

- Calculate the determinant of the matrix built with solution functions and their derivatives
- Results
 - **If $W = 0$, the solutions are linearly dependent**
 - **If $W \neq 0$, the solutions are linearly independent**

Abel's Theorem

- If the Wronskian is non-zero, then it will solve the first order linear differential equation:

$$W' + a_{n-1}(t)W = 0$$

Linear Constant Coefficient 2nd Order ODEs

- General Form:

$$Ay'' + By' + Cy = g(t)$$

- Solving:

- Set up the **characteristic equation** $Ar^2 + Br + C = 0$
- **Solve the roots** of the characteristic equation
- Write the solution as $y_h = C_1e^{r_1} + C_2e^{r_2}$
- Use initial conditions to **solve the constants**

Three Specific Cases:

- Two distinct, real roots (r_1, r_2):

$$y_h = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$$

- One distinct, real root (r_1):

$$y_h = C_1 t e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_1 t}$$

- Two distinct, imaginary roots ($a + bi, a - bi$):

$$y_h = e^{at} (C_1 \cos(bt) + C_2 \sin(bt))$$

Solutions to Non-homogenous Equations

- If you have a linear non-homogenous DE:

$$\mathcal{L}y = f(t)$$

- Its general solution is given by:

$$y(t) = y_{part}(t) + y_{homog}(t)$$

$y_{homog}(t)$ - homogeneous solution

$y_{part}(t)$ - particular solution

The Method of Undetermined Coefficients

- A way to solve certain **non-homogenous linear DEs**
- Can be used when $f(t)$ is an exponential, sin or cos, or polynomial

$f(t)$	$y(t)$
$f(t) = t^k$	$y(t) = A_0 + A_1t + A_2t^2 \dots A_k t^k = P_k(t)$
$f(t) = e^{\sigma t}$	$y(t) = A e^{\sigma t}$
$f(t) = \sin \omega t$ or $f(t) = \cos \omega t$	$y(t) = A \sin \omega t + B \cos \omega t$
$f(t) = t^k \sin \omega t$ or $f(t) = t^k \cos \omega t$	$y = P_k(t) \sin \omega t + Q_k(t) \cos \omega t$
$f(t) = e^{\sigma t} \sin \omega t$ or $f(t) = e^{\sigma t} \cos \omega t$	$y(t) = A e^{\sigma t} \sin \omega t + B e^{\sigma t} \cos \omega t$
$f(t) = t^k e^{\sigma t}$	$y = P_k(t) e^{\sigma t}$
$f(t) = t^k e^{\sigma t} \sin \omega t$ or $f(t) = t^k e^{\sigma t} \cos \omega t$	$y = P_k(t) e^{\sigma t} \sin \omega t + Q_k(t) e^{\sigma t} \cos \omega t$

Using Method of Undetermined Coefficients

1. **Initial Differential Equation:**

$$y'' + 6y' + 8y = e^t$$

2. **Guess** in the same form:

$$y = Ae^t$$

3. **Plug into** the initial equation:

$$Ae^t + 6Ae^t + 8Ae^t = e^t$$

4. **Solve for the constants:**

$$15A = 1$$

5. Write the **particular solution:**

$$y_p = \frac{1}{15}e^t$$

The Method of Undetermined Coefficients Contd.

- If **guess functions appear in the homogenous solution, multiply by the lowest power of t** such that the guess no longer solves the homogenous equation
- Example:
 - If e^t appears in the homogenous solution and $f(t) = e^t$, guess $Ate^t + Be^t$

Annihilators

- Annihilators are **another method for solving non-homogenous differential equations**
- Look for an operator that “annihilates” the right-hand side

$f(t)$	Annihilator
1	$\frac{d}{dt}$
$P_k(t)$	$\frac{d^{k+1}}{dt^{k+1}}$
e^{at}	$\frac{d}{dt} - a$
$A \sin \omega t + B \cos \omega t$	$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} + \omega^2$
$Ae^{at} \sin \omega t + Be^{at} \cos \omega t$	$(\frac{d}{dt} - a)^2 + \omega^2$
$P_k(t) \sin \omega t + Q_k(t) \cos \omega t$	$(\frac{d^2}{dt^2} + \omega^2)^{k+1}$
$P_k(t)e^{at} \sin \omega t + Q_k(t)e^{at} \cos \omega t$	$((\frac{d}{dt} - a)^2 + \omega^2)^{k+1}$

Annihilators Contd.

- How to use annihilators to solve particular solutions:
 - Solve the homogenous equation
 - Pick the right annihilator
 - Apply the annihilator to the left-hand side
 - Find the solutions to the new homogenous equation
 - Identify the solutions that are not part of the original homogenous solution
 - Plug in your guess and solve for the coefficients

Variation of Parameters

$$y_p(t) = y_2(t) \int_0^t \frac{y_1(s)f(s)}{W(s)} ds - y_1(t) \int_0^t \frac{y_2(s)f(s)}{W(s)} ds$$

W : Wronskian

y_1 and y_2 : homogenous solutions

f is the non-homogenous part

- Process:
 - **Find two solutions** to the homogenous equation (could be given)
 - **Calculate the Wronskian**
 - **Plug and chug**

Using Laplace Transformations

1. **Initial Differential Equation:**

$$y' = e^t \quad y(0) = 2$$

2. **Apply Laplace transform** to both sides:

$$sY(s) - 2 = \frac{1}{s-1}$$

3. Algebraically **isolate the Laplacian:**

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s(s-1)} + \frac{2}{s}$$

4. **Rewrite terms** to match Laplace tables
* in this case, partial fraction decomposition

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s-1} + \frac{1}{s}$$

5. **Inverse Laplace transform:**

$$y(t) = e^t + 1$$

Laplace Transforms Tables

Function	Laplace Transform
$f(t)$	$F(s)$
1	$\frac{1}{s}$
t^k	$\frac{k!}{s^{k+1}}$
$t^k e^{-at}$	$\frac{k!}{(s+a)^{k+1}}$
$\sin(bt)$	$\frac{b}{b^2+s^2}$
$\cos(bt)$	$\frac{s}{s^2+b^2}$
$e^{-at} \sin(bt)$	$\frac{b}{b^2+(s+a)^2}$
$e^{-at} \cos(bt)$	$\frac{s+a}{b^2+(s+a)^2}$

$f(t)$	$F(s)$
$f(t) + g(t)$	$F(s) + G(s)$
$f'(t)$	$sF(s) - f(0)$
$f''(t)$	$s^2F(s) - sf(0) - f'(0)$
$\frac{d^k f}{dt^k}$	$s^k F(s) - s^{k-1} f(0) - s^{k-2} f'(0) - \dots - f^{(k-1)}(0)$
$tf(t)$	$-F'(s)$
$t^k f(t)$	$(-1)^k F^{(k)}(s)$
$e^{at} f(t)$	$F(s-a)$
$\frac{1}{t} f(t)$	$\int_s^\infty F(\sigma) d\sigma$

Mechanical Oscillators

- Derived from fundamental physics:

$$my'' + \gamma y' + ky = f(t)$$

- Can be solved as a **standard 2nd order constant coefficient DE**
- Frequently may see **"natural frequency"** $\omega_n = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}$

Mechanical Oscillators Contd.

- Use the radical part of the quadratic equation to assess cases:

$$\sqrt{\gamma^2 - 4mk}$$

Criteria	Solution	Physical Scenario
$\gamma^2 = 0$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• roots = $\pm bi$• $y_h = C_1 \cos(bt) + C_2 \sin(bt)$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Undamped• Oscillates forever
$\gamma^2 < 4mk$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• roots = $a \pm bi$• $y_h = e^{at}(C_1 \cos(bt) + C_2 \sin(bt))$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Underdamped• Oscillations die away slowly
$\gamma^2 = 4mk$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• roots = a• $y_h = C_1 t e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_1 t}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Critically damped• Oscillations die away quickly
$\gamma^2 > 4mk$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• roots = $a \pm b$• $y_h = C_1 e^{r_1 t} + C_2 e^{r_2 t}$	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overdamped• Oscillations mostly die away quickly

Electrical Oscillators

- Derived from circuit laws (for series RLC circuits specifically):

$$LI'' + RI' + \frac{1}{C}I = \frac{dV(t)}{dt}$$

- **Direct analogues** can be drawn from mechanical to electrical oscillators
 - $L = m$ (inductance)
 - $R = \gamma$ (resistance)
 - $\frac{1}{C} = k$ (inverse capacitance)
- **Same cases and implications** as mechanical oscillators

Thanks for
Coming!

