

{ Higher order equation:

Def: • n-th order linear equation:

$$(1) \dots \boxed{y^{(n)} + p_{n-1}(t)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + p_1(t)y' + p_0(t)y = r(t)}$$

where  $p_i(t)$ ,  $r(t)$  continuous function on  $I = (a, b)$ .

IVP:  $y(t_0) = x_0, \dots, y^{(n-1)}(t_0) = x_{n-1}$

• It is called homogeneous if  $r(t) \equiv 0$

Thm: (Existence and uniqueness)

For the IVP problem, there is 1! solution  $y(t)$  defined on the whole  $I$ .

Prop: (Superposition principle)

Let  $y_1(t)$ ,  $y_2(t)$  solution to

$$y_i^{(n)} + p_{n-1}(t)y_i^{(n-1)} + \dots + p_1(t)y'_i + p_0(t)y_i = r_i(t)$$

then  $y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$  for constants  $c_1, c_2$

Solution to:

$$y^{(n)} + p_{n-1}(t)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + p_0(t)y = c_1 r_1 + c_2 r_2$$

- In particular, if both  $y_1, y_2$  solution to homogeneous equation (i.e.  $r_i \equiv 0$ )  
 $\Rightarrow y$  is again a solution to homogeneous eqt.

Pf:

$$\begin{aligned} & c_1(y_1^{(n)} + p_{n-1}(t)y_1^{(n-1)} + \dots + p_0(t)y_1) = c_1 r_1(t) \\ & + c_2(y_2^{(n)} + p_{n-1}(t)y_2^{(n-1)} + \dots + p_0(t)y_2) = c_2 r_2(t) \\ \hline & = y^{(n)} + p_{n-1}(t)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + p_0(t)y = c_1 r_1 + c_2 r_2 \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Cor: If we consider homogeneous eqt:

(\*\*\*) ...  $y^{(n)} + p_{n-1}(t)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + p_0(t)y = 0$

Then the set of solution

$\mathcal{S} := \{y \mid y \text{ satisfy } (***)\}$   
is a  $\mathbb{R}$  vector space.

meaning: we have operation

$$+ : \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S} \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}$$

$\cdot : \mathbb{R} \times \mathcal{S} \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}$  like what we  
have for vectors.

Abstractly: A  $\mathbb{R}$ -vector space  $\mathcal{V}$  is

$$+ : \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V} \longrightarrow \mathcal{V}$$

$$\cdot : \mathbb{R} \times \mathcal{V} \longrightarrow \mathcal{V}$$

They should satisfy:

1.) (Exist 0) There exist  $0 \in \mathcal{V}$  s.t.  
 $0 + v = v + 0 = v.$

2) (commutative)  
of +  $v_1 + v_2 = v_2 + v_1$

3) (associativity)  
of +  $v_1 + (v_2 + v_3) = (v_1 + v_2) + v_3$

4) (existence of inverse of +)  
For any  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ , there is  
an element  $w$  s.t  $v + w = 0$

5) (associativity)  
of scalar  $\cdot$   $r(sv) = (rs)v$  for  
 $r, s \in \mathbb{R}, v \in \mathcal{V}$

6) (distributive)  
of scalar  $\cdot$   $(r+s)v = rv + sv$   
 $r, s \in \mathbb{R}, v \in \mathcal{V}$

7) (distributive)  
of vector +  $r(v_1 + v_2) = rv_1 + rv_2$   
 $r \in \mathbb{R}, v_1, v_2 \in \mathcal{V}$

8) (1 acts as identity)  
 $1 \cdot v = v$   
for  $v \in \mathcal{V}$ .

Def: (linear independence)

For  $y_1, \dots, y_k \in \mathcal{Y}$ , i.e. solution to  $(*)$  is said to be linearly independent if they satisfy:

{ For any  $c_1, \dots, c_k \in \mathbb{R}$  with  
 $c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_k y_k = 0$   
then we must have  $c_1 = 0, \dots, = c_k$

Rk: If  $y_1, \dots, y_k$  is linearly dependent

$\Rightarrow \exists c_1, \dots, c_k$  NOT all zero s.t.

$$c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_k y_k = 0$$

omitting this term!

Say  $c_j \neq 0$ :

$$y_j = \frac{-1}{c_j} (c_1 y_1 + \dots \overset{\text{c}_j y_j}{\cancel{+}} \dots + c_k y_k)$$

i.e.  $y_j$  can be expressed as a linear combination of other  $y_i$ 's,

Eg.: Assume we have  $y_1 = 1, y_2 = t, y_3 = t^2$  in  $\mathcal{Y}$  then they are linearly independent!

To see that: if  $c_1y_1 + c_2y_2 + c_3y_3 = 0$

Let  $t=0$ :  $c_1 = 0$

Let  $t=1$ :  $c_1 + c_2 + c_3 = 0$

Let  $t=-1$ :  $c_1 - c_2 + c_3 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow c_1 = 0 = c_2 = 0 = c_3.$$

Def: • For  $y_1, \dots, y_k \in \mathcal{S}$ , we let

$$\text{Span}(y_1, \dots, y_k) := \left\{ y \mid y = c_1y_1 + \dots + c_ky_k \right\} \quad c_i \in \mathbb{R}$$

the be the subset called the Span of

$y_1, \dots, y_k$

•  $y_1, \dots, y_k$  is called basis of  $\mathcal{S}$

1)  $\text{Span}(y_1, \dots, y_k) = \mathcal{S}$

2) linearly independent.

Def: If  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  are solution to  $(*)$ , we define their Wronskian  $W(y_1, \dots, y_n)(t)$  as

$$W(y_1, \dots, y_n)(t) := \det \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & \dots & y_n \\ y_1^{(1)} & y_2^{(1)} & \dots & y_n^{(1)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)} & y_2^{(n-1)} & \dots & y_n^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix}$$

Thm: Let  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  solution to (\*\*), then TFAE:

- 1)  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  basis for  $\mathcal{S}$
- 2)  $W(y_1, \dots, y_n)(t_0) \neq 0$

Pf: 2)  $\Rightarrow$  1)

Assume  $c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_n y_n = 0$ , then evaluation at  $t_0$  we have

then: 
$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1(t_0) & \dots & y_n(t_0) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)}(t_0) & \dots & y_n^{(n-1)}(t_0) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

then since the matrix is invertible

$$\Rightarrow c_1 = 0 \dots = c_n = 0$$

1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) Assume that we have  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  linearly independent.

Span( $y_1, \dots, y_n$ ) =  $\mathcal{S}$ :

then let  $y \in \mathcal{S}$ , we want to find

$$c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_n y_n = y$$

consider the initial value:

$$x_0 = y(t_0), \dots, x_{n-1} = y^{(n-1)}(t_0)$$

by  $W(y_1, \dots, y_n)(t_0) \neq 0$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1(t_0) & \dots & y_n(t_0) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)}(t_0) & \dots & y_n^{(n-1)}(t_0) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_0 \\ \vdots \\ x_{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

has an unique sol  $c_1, \dots, c_n$ .

1)  $\Rightarrow$  2) if  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  basis for  $\mathcal{S}$ ,

we consider solution to initial value problem

$$z_0(t_0) = 1, z_1^{(1)}(t_0) = 0, \dots, z_n^{(n-1)}(t_0) = 0$$

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$$z_{n-1}(t_0) = 0, z_{n-1}^{(n)}(t_0) = 0, \dots, z_{n-1}^{(n-1)}(t_0) = 1$$

$\Rightarrow$  For each  $z_i$  we have

$$c_1 y_1 + \dots + c_n y_n = z_i$$

and hence taking the evaluation of the derivatives at  $t_0$  we get:

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_1(t_0) & \dots & y_n(t_0) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)}(t_0) & \dots & y_n^{(n-1)}(t_0) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{1,0} & & c_{1,n-1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{n,0} & & c_{n,n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow W(y_1, \dots, y_n)(t_0) \neq 0$

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Thm: Consider (\*\*), we let  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  be solution to (\*\*), and if we let

$$W(t) := W(y_1, \dots, y_n)(t),$$

then:

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

$$\Rightarrow W(t) = C e^{-\int p_{n-1}(t) dt} \quad \text{for } C \text{ independent}$$

of  $t$ . (only depend on  $y_1, \dots, y_n$ )

Claim:

Pf: ( $n=3$ ) we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left[ \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \right] = \det \begin{pmatrix} a'_1 & a'_{12} & a'_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$+ \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a'_{21} & a'_{22} & a'_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} + \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a'_{31} & a'_{32} & a'_{33} \end{pmatrix}$$

Case  $n = 2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{d}{dt} (a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}) \\ &= a'_{11}a_{22} - a'_{12}a_{21} + a_{11}a'_{22} - a_{12}a'_{21} \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} a'_{11} & a'_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} + \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a'_{21} & a'_{22} \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Induction Step: use  $n=2$  to prove  $n=3$

$$\begin{aligned} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} &= a_{11} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \\ &\quad - a_{12} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} + a_{13} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{pmatrix} \\ \frac{d}{dt} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} &= \boxed{a'_{11} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} - a'_{12} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} + a'_{13} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{pmatrix}} \\ &\quad + \boxed{a_{11} \det \begin{pmatrix} a'_{22} & a'_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} - a_{12} \det \begin{pmatrix} a'_{21} & a'_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} + a_{13} \det \begin{pmatrix} a'_{21} & a'_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{pmatrix}} \\ &\quad + \boxed{a_{11} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a'_{32} & a'_{33} \end{pmatrix} - a_{12} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a'_{31} & a'_{33} \end{pmatrix} + a_{13} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a'_{31} & a'_{32} \end{pmatrix}} \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} a'_{11} & a'_{12} & a'_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} + \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a'_{21} & a'_{22} & a'_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} + \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a'_{31} & a'_{32} & a'_{33} \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

In general true for  $n \times n$  matrix:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & & & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & & \vdots \\ & & \ddots & \\ a_{n1} & & & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} a'_{11} & \cdots & a'_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ & \ddots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} +$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} + \dots + \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a'_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

Back to Abel's thm:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \det \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & \dots & y_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)} & \dots & y_n^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} y_1^{(0)} & \dots & y_1^{(1)} \\ y_1^{(0)} & \dots & y_1^{(1)} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)} & \dots & y_n^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix} + \dots + \det \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & \dots & y_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n)} & \dots & y_n^{(n)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & \dots & y_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1 & \dots & y_n \\ y'_1 & \dots & y'_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -P_{n-1}y_1^{(n-1)} - \dots - P_0y_1 & \dots & -P_{n-1}y_n^{(n-1)} - \dots - P_0y_n \end{pmatrix} = -P_{n-1} \det \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & \dots & y_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ y_1^{(n-1)} & \dots & y_n^{(n-1)} \end{pmatrix} = -P_{n-1}(t) W(t)$$

Cor: If  $W(y_1, \dots, y_n)(t_0) \neq 0 \Rightarrow W(y_1, \dots, y_n)(t) \neq 0$   
for all  $t \in I$ .