

5.4 Euler Equations.

Consider

$$x^2 y'' + \alpha x y' + \beta y = 0, \quad x > 0. \quad (1.1)$$

This equation has a singular point at $x_0 = 0$.

So a solution in the form of a power series at $x_0 = 0$ may not exist.

Consider our previous experience with constant coefficients homogeneous linear second order equations

$$ay'' + by' + cy = 0$$

where we look for solutions as

$$y(x) = e^{rx}$$

and we arrive to a characteristic polyn.

$$ar^2 + br + cr = 0$$

Then, we consider the three cases:

i) $r_1 \neq r_2$ real and different

ii) $r_1 = r_2$ real repeated.

iii) $r_1 = \alpha + i\beta$, $r_2 = \alpha - i\beta$.

Also, consider that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx}(x^r) &= \frac{d}{dx}((e^{\ln x})^r) = \frac{d}{dx}(e^{r \ln x}) \\ &= r(\ln x)^1 e^{r \ln x} = \frac{r}{x} e^{r \ln x} = \frac{r}{x} x^r \\ &= r x^{r-1}.\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{d^2}{dx^2}(x^r) = \frac{d}{dx}(r x^{r-1}) = r(r-1) x^{r-2}.$$

Therefore, if we propose a soln. for (1.1)

$$\text{as } y(x) = x^r$$

We will arrive to

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= x^2 y'' + \alpha x y' + \beta y \\ &= x^2 (r(r-1) x^{r-2}) + \alpha x (r x^{r-1}) + \beta x^r \\ &= [r(r-1) + \alpha r + \beta] x^r\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the equation (1.1) is satisfied by $y(x) = x^r$ if

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

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

or
$$r_{1,2} = \frac{-(\alpha-1) \pm \sqrt{(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta}}{2}$$

Three cases arise:

i) $(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta > 0 \Rightarrow r_1 \neq r_2$ real.

ii) $(\alpha-1)^2 = 4\beta \Rightarrow r_1 = r_2$ real.

iii) $(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta < 0 \Rightarrow$
 $r_1 = \lambda + i\mu$
 $r_2 = \lambda - i\mu.$

Case (i) There are two solutions in the form

$$y(x) = x^r.$$

$$y_1(x) = x^{r_1} \quad \text{and} \quad y_2(x) = x^{r_2}$$

It can be easily proved that they are linearly indep. or that they form a fund. set by considering their Wronskian.

$$W(y_1, y_2)(x) = \begin{vmatrix} x^{r_1} & x^{r_2} \\ r_1 x^{r_1-1} & r_2 x^{r_2-1} \end{vmatrix} = (r_2 - r_1) x^{r_1+r_2-1} \neq 0$$

Since $r_1 \neq r_2$.

As a consequence, the general soln. can be written as

$$y(x) = C_1 x^{r_1} + C_2 x^{r_2}.$$

Case (ii) Repeated roots $r_1 = r_2$

One solution: $y_1(x) = x^{r_1}$,

Second solution can be obtained applying reduction order: $y_2(x) = \ln(x) x^{r_1}$

It can be easily prove that they form a fund. set

Therefore, general soln can be written as

$$y(x) = C_1 x^{r_1} + C_2 \ln(x) x^{r_1}.$$

Case (iii) Complex Conjugate roots

$$r_1 = \lambda + i\mu, \quad r_2 = \lambda - i\mu.$$

Two complex solns:

$$z_1(x) = X^{r_1} = X^{\lambda + i\mu} = e^{\ln x (\lambda + i\mu)}$$

$$= e^{\lambda \ln x} \cdot e^{i\mu \ln x}$$

$$= e^{\lambda \ln x} \left(\cos(\mu \ln x) + i \sin(\mu \ln x) \right) \quad (5.1)$$

Similarly,

$$z_2(x) = e^{\lambda \ln x} \left(\cos(\mu \ln x) - i \sin(\mu \ln x) \right) \quad (5.2)$$

Two real solns y_1 and y_2 can be obtained from complex linear combination of $\underset{z_1}{(5.1)}$ and $\underset{z_2}{(5.2)}$.

They are

$$y_1(x) = e^{\lambda \ln x} \cos(\mu \ln x), \quad y_2(x) = e^{\lambda \ln x} \sin(\mu \ln x)$$

Computing their wronskian is possible to prove that they are linearly indep. Therefore,

General Soln:

$$y(x) = C_1 e^{\lambda \ln x} \cos(\mu \ln x) + C_2 e^{\lambda \ln x} \sin(\mu \ln x)$$

or

$$y(x) = C_1 X^\lambda \cos(\mu \ln x) + C_2 X^\lambda \sin(\mu \ln x).$$

Euler Equation

Some problems: $x^2 y'' - \alpha x y' + \beta y = 0$

Exercise #12) $x^2 y'' - 4x y' + 4y = 0, \quad x > 0.$

$$\alpha = -4, \quad \beta = 4.$$

The Characteristic eqn. is

$$r^2 + (\alpha - 1)r + \beta = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad r^2 + (-5)r + 4 = 0$$

$$r_{1,2} = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 16}}{2} = \begin{cases} 8/2 = 4 \\ 2/2 = 1 \end{cases}$$

Therefore, $\overbrace{y(x) = C_1 X^4 + C_2 X.}^{\text{General soln.}}$

Ex. 9) $x^2 y'' - 5x y' + 9y = 0, \quad \alpha = -5, \beta = 9$
 $x > 0$

ch. eqn: $r^2 + (-6)r + 9 = 0$

$$r_{1,2} = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36 - 36}}{2} = \frac{6}{2} = 3 \text{ only root}$$

So $y_1(x) = X^3, \quad y_2(x) = \ln(x) X^3$

Gener. soln. $y(x) = C_1 X^3 + C_2 \ln(x) X^3$

Ex. 14) $4x^2 y'' + 8xy' + 17y = 0, \quad x > 0$

Find a soln as: $y(x) = x^r$

$$4r(r-1)x^r + 8rx^r + 17x^r = 0$$

$$x^r (4r^2 - 4r + 8r + 17) = 0$$

or $4r^2 + 4r + 17 = 0$

$$r_{1,2} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 272}}{8} = \frac{-4 \pm i\sqrt{16}}{8}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 16 \\ 17 \\ \hline 112 \\ 16 \\ \hline 272 \end{array}$$

or $r_{1,2} = -\frac{1}{2} \pm \frac{4}{8}i = -\frac{1}{2} \pm 2i$

Therefore, the

$$y(x) = C_1 x^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cos(2 \ln x) + C_2 x^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sin(2 \ln x)$$

If Ics: $y(1) = 2, \quad y'(1) = -3$

Then, $C_1(1)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \cos(2 \ln(1)) + C_2(1)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \sin(2 \ln(1)) = 2$

$$C_1 + 0 = 2 \Rightarrow \boxed{C_1 = 2}$$

Also,

$$y'(x) = -\frac{1}{2} C_1 x^{-3/2} \cos(2 \ln x) - C_1 \frac{2}{x} x^{-1/2} \sin(2 \ln x) \\ - \frac{1}{2} C_2 x^{-3/2} \sin(2 \ln x) + C_2 \frac{2}{x} x^{-1/2} \cos(2 \ln x)$$

or

$$y'(x) = -\frac{1}{2} C_1 x^{-3/2} \cos(2 \ln x) - C_1 2 x^{-3/2} \sin(2 \ln x) \\ - \frac{1}{2} C_2 x^{-3/2} \sin(2 \ln x) + C_2 2 x^{-3/2} \cos(2 \ln x)$$

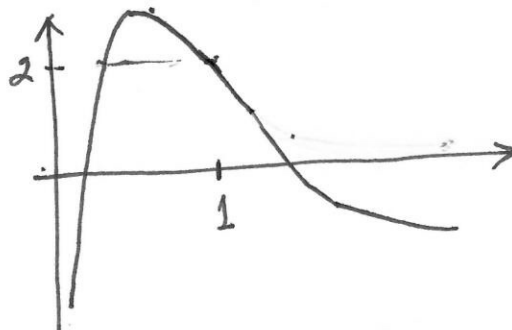
Using IC. : $y'(1) = -3$

$$-\frac{1}{2} C_1 + 2C_2 = -3$$

Since $C_1 = 2 \Rightarrow 2C_2 = -3 + 1 = -2$
 $\boxed{C_2 = -1}$

and the soln is

$$\boxed{y(x) = 2 x^{-1/2} \cos(2 \ln x) - x^{-1/2} \sin(2 \ln x)}$$



Theorem 5.5.1

The general solution of the Euler equation (1),

$$x^2 y'' + \alpha x y' + \beta y = 0,$$

in any interval not containing the origin is determined by the roots r_1 and r_2 of the equation

$$F(r) = r(r - 1) + \alpha r + \beta = 0.$$

If the roots are real and different, then

$$y = c_1 |x|^{r_1} + c_2 |x|^{r_2}. \quad (24)$$

If the roots are real and equal, then

$$y = (c_1 + c_2 \ln |x|) |x|^{r_1}. \quad (25)$$

If the roots are complex conjugates, then

$$y = |x|^\lambda [c_1 \cos(\mu \ln |x|) + c_2 \sin(\mu \ln |x|)], \quad (26)$$

where $r_1, r_2 = \lambda \pm i\mu$.