

### Overview of Topics:

#### ① Linear ODEs w/ Forcing

$$\ddot{x} + 3\dot{x} + 2x = f(t)$$

- Method 1: undetermined coefficients
- Method 2: variation of parameters  
(very powerful)

#### ② What does "Linear" mean

- Linear superposition
- Convolution.

# Differential equations with forcing

(forcing may be disturbance or control)

$$(*) \quad \ddot{x} + 3\dot{x} + 2x = 0 \quad \text{'homogeneous'}$$

$$(**) \quad \ddot{x} + 3\dot{x} + 2x = \underbrace{f(t)}_{\text{forcing}} \quad \text{'inhomogeneous'}$$

Example:  $f(t) = e^{-3t}$

Part 1: Solution to the (\*) is called the homogeneous sol<sup>n</sup>

$$(*) \rightarrow x(t) = k_1 e^{-t} + k_2 e^{-2t}$$

$k_1, k_2$  determined by initial conditions...

Part 2: Find particular sol<sup>n</sup> to (\*\*) using method of undetermined coefficients:

$$\text{Assume } x_p(t) = K e^{-3t} \Rightarrow \dot{x} = -3K e^{-3t}, \ddot{x} = 9K e^{-3t}$$

$$[9K - 3^2 K + 2K] e^{-3t} = e^{-3t} \Rightarrow \underline{\underline{K = \frac{1}{2}}}$$

$$x_p = \frac{1}{2} e^{-3t}$$

Part 3: Add two sol<sup>n</sup>:  $x(t) = k_1 e^{-t} + k_2 e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{2} e^{-3t}$

[Only possible for LINEAR ODEs!]

$$\ddot{x} + 3\dot{x} + 2x = 0$$

$$x(t) = k_1 e^{-t} + k_2 e^{-2t}$$



Variation of  
Parameters  
(very general)

$$(*) \quad \begin{aligned} x(t) &= u_1(t) e^{-t} + u_2(t) e^{-2t} \\ \dot{x} &= -u_1 e^{-t} - 2u_2 e^{-2t} + \dot{u}_1 e^{-t} + \dot{u}_2 e^{-2t} \\ \ddot{x} &= u_1 e^{-t} + 4u_2 e^{-2t} - \dot{u}_1 e^{-t} - 2\dot{u}_2 e^{-2t} = (u_1 - \dot{u}_1) e^{-t} + (4u_2 - 2\dot{u}_2) e^{-2t} \end{aligned}$$

Condition 1

Set = 0 (Big assumption?)

$$\text{Now, to solve } \underline{\text{forced eqn}} \quad \ddot{x} + 3\dot{x} + 2x = e^{-3t}$$

plug in (\*);

$$\ddot{x} + 3\dot{x} + 2x = \underbrace{[u_1 - 3u_1 + 2u_1]}_{=0} e^{-t} + \underbrace{[4u_2 - 6u_2 + 2u_2]}_{=0} e^{-2t}$$

$$+ [-\dot{u}_1] e^{-t} + [-2\dot{u}_2] e^{-2t} = \underbrace{e^{-3t}}_{\text{forcing}}$$

Condition 2

$$\dot{u}_1 e^{-t} + \dot{u}_2 e^{-2t} = 0 \implies \dot{u}_2 = -\dot{u}_1 e^t$$

$$-\dot{u}_1 e^{-t} - 2\dot{u}_2 e^{-2t} = e^{-3t} \implies \dot{u}_1 \underbrace{[-e^{-t} + 2e^{-2t}]}_{e^{-t}} = e^{-3t}$$

$$x(t) = \left[ -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2t} + k_1 \right] e^{-t} + [e^{-t} + k_2] e^{-2t}$$

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{2} e^{-3t} + k_1 e^{-t} + k_2 e^{-2t}$$

Finally!

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \dot{u}_1 &= e^{-2t} \implies u_1 = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-2t} + k_1 \\ \dot{u}_2 &= -\dot{u}_1 e^t \\ &= -e^{-t} \implies u_2 = e^{-t} + k_2 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Linear ODE:  $\dot{\underline{x}} = \underline{A} \underline{x}$

In the absence of initial conditions, there may be many "solutions" (in fact, one for each  $\lambda = \text{eig}(A)$ ).

Just as in  $\ddot{x} + 3\dot{x} + 2x = 0$ , both  $\underline{x}_1(t) = e^{-t}$  and  $\underline{x}_2(t) = e^{-2t}$  are solutions.

For a linear system, if  $\underline{x}_1$  and  $\underline{x}_2$  are both solutions, then  $k_1 \underline{x}_1 + k_2 \underline{x}_2$  is a solution for any real  $k_1$  or  $k_2$  (or complex  $k_1, k_2$ !):

$$\text{First, } \frac{d}{dt}(k_1 \underline{x}_1 + k_2 \underline{x}_2) = k_1 \dot{\underline{x}}_1 + k_2 \dot{\underline{x}}_2$$

$$\text{Next, } \underline{A}(k_1 \underline{x}_1 + k_2 \underline{x}_2) = k_1 \underline{A} \underline{x}_1 + k_2 \underline{A} \underline{x}_2$$

So  $\underline{x} = k_1 \underline{x}_1 + k_2 \underline{x}_2$  is a solution!

This is called the superposition principle.