

5.4 Euler Equations; Regular Singular Points

- Recall that the point x_0 is an ordinary point of
- ① $P(x)y'' + Q(x)y' + R(x)y = 0$ if

$$p(x) = \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} \quad \text{and} \quad q(x) = \frac{R(x)}{P(x)} \quad \text{are analytic at } x_0.$$

Otherwise x_0 is a singular point.

- If P, Q, R are polynomials with no common factors, then the singular points of the DE ① are the points where $P(x) = 0$.

- How to solve eq. ① in the neighborhood of a singular point.

Euler Equation is a simple DE that has a singular point (at 0)

$$\text{②} \dots L[y] = x^2 y'' + \alpha x y' + \beta y = 0 \quad \alpha, \beta \text{ constant and real.}$$

- $P(x) = x^2$, so $x=0$ is the only singular point
- all other points are ordinary points.

Assume ② has a solution of the form $y = x^r$.

$$\Rightarrow y' = r x^{r-1} \quad \text{and} \quad y'' = r(r-1) x^{r-2}$$

$$\text{② becomes} \quad x^2 r(r-1) x^{r-2} + \alpha x r x^{r-1} + \beta x^r = 0$$

$$x^r [r(r-1) + \alpha r + \beta] = 0$$

Case 1 $x > 0$
Case 2 $x < 0$

$$\text{③} \dots r^2 + (\alpha-1)r + \beta = 0$$

- If r is a root for ③, then $y = x^r$ is a solution of ②

- The roots of ③ are $r_1, r_2 = \frac{-(\alpha-1) \pm \sqrt{(\alpha-1)^2 - 4\beta}}{2}$

So, we have three cases: If

① The roots r_1 and r_2 are real and different) then the general solution^{of ②} is $y(x) = c_1 |x|^{r_1} + c_2 |x|^{r_2}$

② the roots r_1 and r_2 are real and equal ($r_1 = r_2$), then the general solution^{of ②} is $y(x) = c_1 |x|^{r_1} + c_2 \ln|x| |x|^{r_2}$

③ the roots r_1 and r_2 are complex conjugates ($r_1, r_2 = \lambda \pm \mu i$) then the general solution^{of ②} is $y(x) = c_1 |x|^\lambda \cos(\mu \ln|x|) + c_2 |x|^\lambda \sin(\mu \ln|x|)$

Example ①

* If r_1 and r_2 are real roots with $r_1 \neq r_2$, then $y_1(x) = x^{r_1}$ and $y_2(x) = x^{r_2}$ are solutions for ②. Since

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

which y_1 and y_2 are linearly indep.

is not zero for $r_1 \neq r_2$ and $x > 0$. Thus^{and} the general solution of ② in this case is $y = c_1 x^{r_1} + c_2 x^{r_2}$, $x > 0$

~~② see the pages on the back; ③ see the pages on the back~~

Example: Solve $2x^2 y'' + 3xy' - y = 0$, $x > 0$.

Substitute $y = x^r$, $y' = r x^{r-1}$, $y'' = r(r-1) x^{r-2}$

$$x^r [2r(r-1) + 3r - 1] = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad 2r^2 + r - 1 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (2r-1)(r+1) = 0. \text{ Hence } r_1 = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } r_2 = -1,$$

So the general solution is $y = c_1 x^{\frac{1}{2}} + c_2 x^{-1}$, $x > 0$.

* $t = \ln x \Rightarrow e^t = e^{\ln x} = x \Rightarrow e^{rt} = x^r$

* see Q34 and Q35-41 page 165

(2) * If $r_1 = r_2$ are real, then we have one solution $y_1(x) = x^{r_1}$

To get the second solution, we use the reduction of order, or instead, we consider an alternative method:

Euler equation: $[y] = x^2 y'' + \alpha x y' + \beta y = 0$

$t = \ln x \Rightarrow e^t = x$
 $\Rightarrow e^t = x$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{r}{x} = e^{rt}$

$\Rightarrow \frac{r}{x} = \frac{r \ln x}{e}$
 $\frac{\partial}{\partial r} x^r = \ln x \frac{r \ln x}{e}$
 $= \ln x x^r$

$y = x^r \Rightarrow$
 $L[x^r] = x^r [r(r-1) + \alpha r + \beta]$
 $= x^r [r^2 + (\alpha-1)r + \beta]$
 $= x^r F(r)$
 $= x^r F(r)$

when F has repeated roots "double roots" \Rightarrow

$F(r) = (r-r_1)^2$ with $F'(r_1) = 0$
 r_1 forces F and F' to be zero

$\Rightarrow L[x^r] = x^r F(r) = x^r (r^2 + (\alpha-1)r + \beta) = x^r (r-r_1)^2$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} L[x^r] = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} x^r (r-r_1)^2$

$L[x^r \ln x] = x^r \ln x (r-r_1)^2 + 2(r-r_1) x^r$

$\Rightarrow y_2(x) = x^{r_1} \ln x, x > 0$

when $r=r_1$
 $x^r \ln x$ is solution for all $x > 0$ for e.g. (2) when $x > 0$

$\Rightarrow W(y_1, y_2) = \begin{vmatrix} x^{r_1} & x^{r_1} \ln x \\ r_1 x^{r_1-1} & x^{r_1-1} (r_1 \ln x + 1) \end{vmatrix} = x^{2r_1-1} \neq 0$

Thus, y_1 and y_2 are linearly independent and the general solution is $y(x) = c_1 x^{r_1} + c_2 x^{r_1} \ln x = (c_1 + c_2 \ln x) x^{r_1}, x > 0$

③ If $F(r)$ has a complex roots $r = \lambda \pm i\mu$ with $\mu \neq 0$, then

$$\begin{aligned} x^r &= e^{\ln x^r} = \frac{r \ln x}{e} = e^{(\lambda + i\mu) \ln x} \\ &= e^{\lambda \ln x} e^{i\mu \ln x} \\ &= e^{\lambda \ln x} \frac{i\mu \ln x}{e} \\ &= x^\lambda \left[\cos(\mu \ln x) + i \sin(\mu \ln x) \right], \underline{x > 0} \end{aligned}$$

• Thus, x^r is defined for complex r and it can be shown that $y(x) = c_1 x^{\lambda + i\mu} + c_2 x^{\lambda - i\mu}$, $x > 0$ is the general solution.

• However, the solution is complex, and we seek to real valued solution, so it can be shown that

$$y_1(x) = \underline{x^\lambda \cos(\mu \ln x)} \quad \text{and} \quad y_2(x) = \underline{x^\lambda \sin(\mu \ln x)} \quad \text{are solutions as well.}$$

• Using the Wronskian, it can be shown that $w(y_1, y_2)(x) \neq 0$. Thus, y_1, y_2 are linearly independent. and the general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 x^\lambda \cos(\mu \ln x) + c_2 x^\lambda \sin(\mu \ln x), \quad x > 0$$

Example solve $x^2 y'' + 5xy' + 4y = 0, x > 0$.

substituting $y = x^r, y' = r x^{r-1}, y'' = r(r-1)x^{r-2}$

$$x^r [r(r-1) + 5r + 4] = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^r [r^2 + 4r + 4] = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (r+2)^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow r_1 = r_2 = -2$$

Thus, the general solution is $y(x) = c_1 x^{-2} + c_2 x^{-2} \ln x, x > 0$

Example: Solve $x^2 y'' + xy' + y = 0$

Substitute $y = x^r, y' = r x^{r-1}, y'' = r(r-1)x^{r-2}$

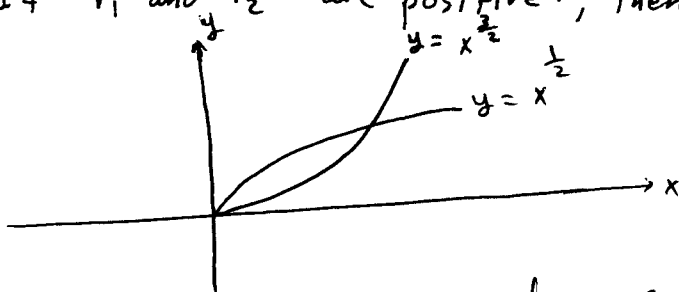
$$x^r [r(r-1) + r + 1] = 0 \Leftrightarrow x^r (r^2 + 1) = 0$$

$r_{1,2} = \pm i, \lambda = 0$ and $\mu = 1$. Thus, the general solution is $y(x) = c_1 \cos(\ln x) + c_2 \sin(\ln x), x > 0$

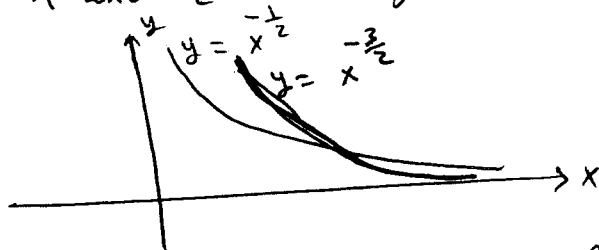
Here $x^1 = x$

• Qualitative behavior of the solutions of Euler Equation (2) near the singular point $x=0$ depends totally on r_1 and r_2 :

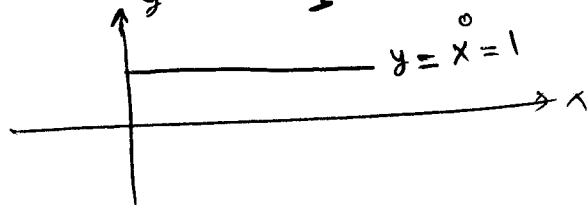
1) If r_1 and r_2 are positive real, then $x^r \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$



2) If r_1 and r_2 are negative real, then $x^r \rightarrow \infty$ as $x \rightarrow 0$



3) If $r_1 = r_2 = 0$, then $y = x^0 = 1$, and so

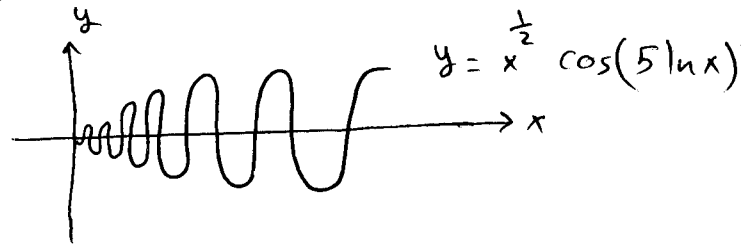


$x^r \rightarrow 1$ as $x \rightarrow 0$

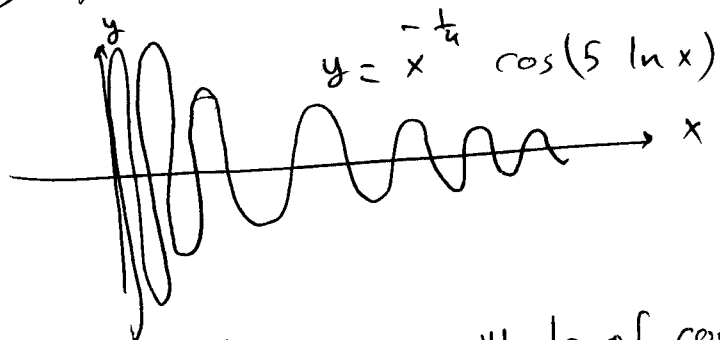
4) If r_1 and r_2 are complex: $r_{1,2} = \lambda \pm Mi$

Then we have 3 cases:

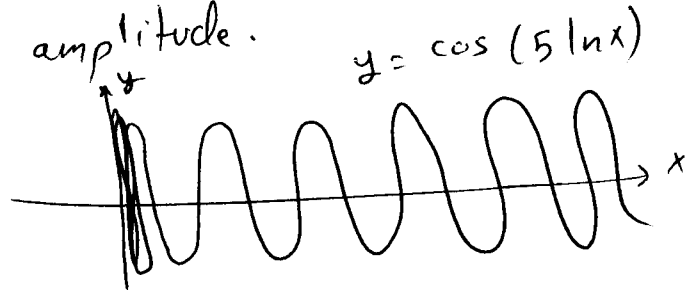
1) $\lambda > 0 \Rightarrow$ the solution $y \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$



2) $\lambda < 0 \Rightarrow$ the solution $y \rightarrow \infty$ as $x \rightarrow 0$



3) $\lambda = 0 \Rightarrow$ the solution y oscillate of constant amplitude.



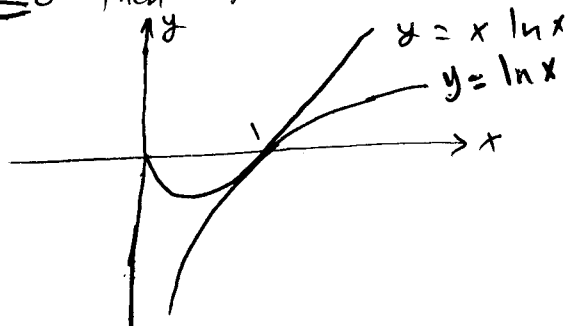
goes with 3)

5) If $r_1 = r_2$ are real repeated then ~~one~~ ^{second} solution

is $y_2 = x^r \ln x$

a) If $r > 0$ then the solution $y \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow 0$

b) If $r \leq 0$ then the solution $y \rightarrow \infty$ as $x \rightarrow 0$



see one more example or quiz

Example Solve the IVP:

$x > 0$

$$2x^2 y'' + 6xy' + 10y = 0$$

$$y(1) = 1, \quad y'(1) = 1$$

Substitute $y = x^r$, $y' = r x^{r-1}$, $y'' = r(r-1)x^{r-2}$

$$x^r [2r(r-1) + 6r + 10] = 0 \Leftrightarrow 2r^2 + 4r + 10 = 0 \Leftrightarrow r^2 + 2r + 5 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow r = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4-20}}{2} = \frac{-1 \pm 2i}{1 \pm i}$$

The general solution is

$$y(x) = c_1 |x|^{-1} \cos(2 \ln|x|) + c_2 |x|^{-1} \sin(2 \ln|x|)$$

$$y(x) = \frac{c_1}{x} \cos(2 \ln x) + \frac{c_2}{x} \sin(2 \ln x) \quad \text{since } \underline{x_0 = 1}$$

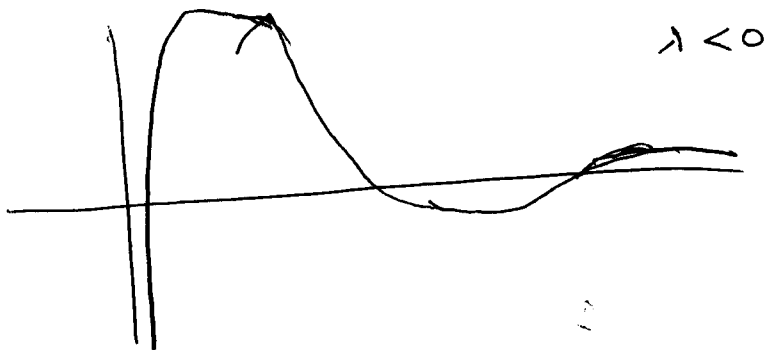
$$y(1) = 1 \Rightarrow \boxed{c_1 = 1}$$

$$y'(1) = 1 \Rightarrow 2c_2 = c_1 \Leftrightarrow \boxed{c_2 = 1}$$

Thus, the general solution is

$$y(x) = \frac{\cos(2 \ln x) + \sin(2 \ln x)}{x}$$

$x=0$ is
a singular point



as $x \rightarrow 0$, the solution
y oscillates
and becomes
unbounded

Solution Behavior and Singular points:

(*)

* Bessel Equation $x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - \nu^2)y = 0$
of order ν

- The point $x=0$ is a singular point since $P(x) = x^2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x=0$.
- All other points are ordinary points.

* Legendre Equation: $(1-x^2)y'' - 2xy' + \alpha(\alpha+1)y = 0$

- The points $x = \pm 1$ are singular points since $P(x) = 1-x^2$ is zero there.
All other points are ordinary points.

↓
If we try to find a series solution (like in the preceding two sections) to solve the DE in a neighborhood of a singular point x_0 , we will find that it's not possible.

→ Because the solution may not be analytic at x_0 , and hence will not have Taylor series expansion about x_0 .

→ Thus, without more information about $\frac{Q}{P}$ and $\frac{R}{P}$ in the neighborhood of a singular point x_0 , it may be impossible to describe solution's behavior near x_0 .

* Classifying Singular Points:

- Our goal is to extend the methods already developed for solving $P(x)y'' + Q(x)y' + R(x)y = 0$ near an ordinary point so that it applies to the neighborhood of a singular point x_0 .
- To do so, we restrict ourselves to cases in which singularities in $\frac{Q}{P}$ and $\frac{R}{P}$ at x_0 are not too severe. That is "weak singularities".

Consider the DE: $P(x)y'' + Q(x)y' + R(x)y = 0$

- If P and Q, R are polynomials, then a singular point x_0 is called regular if

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} (x-x_0) \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} \text{ is finite and } \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} (x-x_0)^2 \frac{R(x)}{P(x)} \text{ is finite.}$$

- If P and Q, R are more general functions than polynomials, then a singular point x_0 is called regular if

$$(x-x_0) \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} \text{ and } (x-x_0)^2 \frac{R(x)}{P(x)} \text{ are analytic at } x=x_0$$

- A singular point that is not regular is called irregular singular point.

Example: Determine the singular points of the Bessel equation $x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - \nu^2)y = 0$ and determine whether they are regular or irregular?

The point $x=0$ is a regular singular point since the following two limits are finite

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (x-x_0) \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \frac{x}{x^2} = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(x) &= x^2 \\ Q(x) &= x \\ R(x) &= x^2 - \nu^2 \end{aligned} \quad \text{Polynomials}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} (x-x_0)^2 \frac{R(x)}{P(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \left(\frac{x^2 - \nu^2}{x^2} \right) = -\nu^2$$

Example: Determine the singular points of the Legendre equation $(1-x^2)y'' - 2xy' + \alpha(\alpha+1)y = 0$ and determine whether they are regular or irregular?

$$P(x) = 1-x^2, \quad Q(x) = -2x, \quad R(x) = \alpha(\alpha+1) \quad \text{Polynomials}$$

$$x = \pm 1 \quad \text{singular points. } \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x-x_0) \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x-1) \frac{-2x}{1-x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} \frac{2x}{x+1} = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x=1 \text{ is regular singular point since the two limits are finite. Similarly } x=-1 \text{ is a regular singular point.}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x-x_0)^2 \frac{R(x)}{P(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x-1)^2 \left(\frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{1-x^2} \right) = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x-1) \left(\frac{\alpha(\alpha+1)}{x+1} \right) = 0$$

Example: Determine the singular points of the DE

$$2x(x-2)^2 y'' + 3xy' + (x-2)y = 0$$

and classify them as regular or irregular.

Divide by $2x(x-2)^2 \Rightarrow$

$$y'' + \frac{3x}{2x(x-2)^2} y' + \frac{1}{2x(x-2)} y = 0$$

P and Q
are polynomials

$$p(x) = \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} = \frac{3}{2(x-2)^2} \quad \text{and} \quad q(x) = \frac{R(x)}{P(x)} = \frac{1}{2x(x-2)}$$

The singular points are $x=0$ and $x=2$ (where $P(x)=0$)

$\rightarrow x=0$ is a regular singular point because

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} (x-x_0) \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \frac{3}{2(x-2)^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3x}{2(x-2)^2} = 0 < \infty$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} (x-x_0)^2 \frac{R(x)}{P(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^2 \frac{1}{2x(x-2)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{x}{2(x-2)} = 0 < \infty$$

$\rightarrow x=2$ is irregular singular point since the following limit does not exist

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0} (x-x_0) \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} (x-2) \frac{3}{2(x-2)^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 2} \frac{3}{2(x-2)}$$

Example:

Determine the singular points of $(x - \frac{\pi}{2})^2 y'' + \cos x y' + \sin x y = 0$ and classify them as regular or irregular.

$x = \frac{\pi}{2}$ is the only singular point.

$$P = (x - \frac{\pi}{2})^2$$

$$Q = \cos x \quad \text{not polynomial}$$

• We consider the function

$$(x-x_0) \frac{Q(x)}{P(x)} = (x - \frac{\pi}{2}) \frac{\cos x}{(x - \frac{\pi}{2})^2} = \frac{\cos x}{x - \frac{\pi}{2}} \quad \text{and}$$

$$(x-x_0)^2 \frac{R(x)}{P(x)} = (x - \frac{\pi}{2})^2 \frac{\sin x}{(x - \frac{\pi}{2})^2} = \sin x$$

we need to show that these functions are analytic about $x_0 = \frac{\pi}{2}$.

* Using methods of calculus, we can show that the Taylor series of $\cos x$ about $\frac{\pi}{2}$ is

$$\cos x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(2n+1)!} \left(x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{2n+1}$$

Thus,

$$\frac{\cos x}{x - \frac{\pi}{2}} = -1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(2n+1)!} \left(x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{2n}$$

which converges for all x .

Hence, it's analytic at $\frac{\pi}{2}$

* Similarly, $\sin x$ is analytic at $\frac{\pi}{2}$ with

Taylor series $\sin x = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n)!} \left(x - \frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{2n}$

* Thus $\frac{\pi}{2}$ is a regular singular point of the DE.
