

LECTURE OUTLINE

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Driven Harmonic Motion

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Math 15

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Goal

Driven Harmonic Motion

IHOLDES

Last Time

Let $\lambda_{\pm} = \frac{-\gamma \pm \sqrt{\gamma^2 - 4c}}{2}$. We have used the power series and factoring methods to find that $e^{\lambda_{\pm} z}$ are solutions to

$$\Delta f = D^2 f + \gamma Df + cf = (D - \lambda_+)(D - \lambda_-)f = 0,$$

and we get our needed pair of solutions provided $\gamma^2 - 4c \neq 0$. (Notation: $\gamma = \frac{\beta}{m} > 0$ and $c = \frac{k}{m} = \omega^2 > 0$.)

We are interested in solving the initial value problem $f(0) = A$ and $Df(0) = B$ for real constant A and B . Since we are good at solving linear equations, we simply use our above solutions to find two distinct real solutions.

The $\gamma^2 - 4c \neq 0$ Solutions

Case 1: If $\gamma^2 > 4c$, then $e^{\lambda \pm t}$ is real and our real solutions are in the form $f(t) = c_0 e^{\lambda+t} + d_0 e^{\lambda-t}$.

Case 2: $\gamma^2 < 4c$, we have the two real solutions

$$\frac{1}{2}(e^{\lambda+t} + e^{\lambda-t}) = \operatorname{Re}(e^{\lambda+t}) = e^{\frac{-\gamma}{2}} \cos\left(t \frac{\sqrt{4c - \gamma^2}}{2}\right)$$

$$\frac{-i}{2}(e^{\lambda+t} - e^{\lambda-t}) = \operatorname{Im}(e^{\lambda+t}) = e^{\frac{-\gamma}{2}} \sin\left(t \frac{\sqrt{4c - \gamma^2}}{2}\right),$$

and all our real solutions are in the form

$$f(t) = c_0 e^{\frac{-\gamma}{2}} \cos\left(t \frac{\sqrt{4c - \gamma^2}}{2}\right) + d_0 e^{\frac{-\gamma}{2}} \cos\left(t \frac{\sqrt{4c - \gamma^2}}{2}\right).$$

Examples

Solve

$$D^2 f + 3Df + 4f = 0$$

for $f(0) = 1$ and $Df(0) = 2$.

Solve

$$D^2 f + Df + 4f = 0$$

for $f(0) = 0$ and $Df(0) = 1$.

Driven Motion

We have been exploring how to solve

$$\Delta f = D^2 f + p(z)Df + q(z)f = 0.$$

Now we try and solve the *inhomogenous* version of this equation

$$\Delta f = G$$

for some fixed function G . The key is the following:

Main Theorem: Suppose $\Delta f_p = G$, then every solution to $\Delta f = G$ is in the form $f_p + f_h$ where f_h is a solution to $\Delta f_h = 0$.