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General solution  $y = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t}$  where  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are arbitrary constants



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**Case 3**  $b^2 - 4ac < 0$      $\lambda_1 = \alpha + \beta i$ ,     $\lambda_2 = \alpha - \beta i$     where  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\beta \neq 0$

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Complex-valued functions     $z_1(t) = e^{(\alpha + \beta i)t} = e^{\alpha t}(\cos \beta t + i \sin \beta t)$

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Let  $\varphi : (a, b) \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a complex-valued function.

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- Hence  $z_1(t)$  and  $z_2(t)$  satisfy  $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$     (\*)



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**Proposition** Suppose  $\varphi$  is a complex-valued function satisfying a *linear homogeneous DE*

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- $y_1(t) = e^{\alpha t} \cos \beta t$ ,  $y_2(t) = e^{\alpha t} \sin \beta t$
- Linear combinations **over**  $\mathbb{R}$  of  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  are also solutions.

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**Conclusion** General solution to DE      $y(t) = c_1 e^{\alpha t} \cos \beta t + c_2 e^{\alpha t} \sin \beta t$

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where  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 = \alpha \pm \beta i$ .

## Solution Space and Wronskian

Consider the DE  $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0, \quad a < t < b$  (1)

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**Theorem** The *general solution* for

$$y' + p(t)y = 0, \quad a < t < b,$$

where  $p \in C(a, b)$ , is

$$y(t) = Ce^{-H(t)}, \quad a < t < b,$$

where  $H$  is a primitive for  $p$  on  $(a, b)$ .

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For (2), need condition(s) on  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  so that

- they are linearly independent,
- they span the whole solution space.

## Existence and Uniqueness Theorem (for 2nd order linear IVP)

Consider the IVP

$$\begin{cases} y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t), & a < t < b, \\ y(t_0) = y_0, \quad y'(t_0) = y_1 \end{cases}$$

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$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} y(t) \\ z(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -q(t) & -p(t) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y(t) \\ z(t) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g(t) \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} y(t_0) \\ z(t_0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Existence and Uniqueness Theorem (for 2nd order linear IVP)

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$$\begin{cases} y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t), & a < t < b, \\ y(t_0) = y_0, \quad y'(t_0) = y_1 \end{cases}$$

where  $t_0 \in (a, b)$  and  $y_0, y_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Suppose  $p, q$  and  $g$  are continuous on  $(a, b)$ . Then the IVP has a unique solution in  $(a, b)$ .

*Idea of proof* Transform the DE to a system of two DE

- Introduce an unknown function  $z = y'$

- System 
$$\begin{cases} y'(t) = z(t) \\ z'(t) = -p(t)z(t) - q(t)y(t) + g(t) \end{cases}$$
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**Corollary** Suppose  $\varphi_1$  and  $\varphi_2$  are *solutions* to a DE

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where  $p, q, g \in C(a, b)$  and  $\exists t_0 \in (a, b)$  such that

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**Theorem** The solution space for the second order linear homogeneous DE

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