

Lemma: let φ be a solution to $L(\varphi) = 0$. Define

$$U(x) = |\varphi(x)|^2 + |\varphi'(x)|^2 + \dots + |\varphi^{(n-1)}(x)|^2 =$$

$$\text{Then } |U(x)| \leq e^{2k|x-x_0|} U(x_0), \quad k = 1 + |a_0| + \dots + |a_{n-1}|$$

Proof: $U(x) = \varphi(x) \overline{\varphi(x)} + \dots + \varphi^{(n-1)}(x) \overline{\varphi^{(n-1)}(x)}$

$$U'(x) = \varphi'(x) \overline{\varphi(x)} + \varphi(x) \overline{\varphi'(x)} + \dots + \varphi^{(n)}(x) \overline{\varphi^{(n-1)}(x)} + \varphi^{(n-1)}(x) \overline{\varphi^{(n)}(x)}$$

$$|U'(x)| \leq 2(|\varphi'(x)\varphi(x)| + \dots + |\varphi^{(n)}(x)||\varphi^{(n-1)}(x)|)$$

$$\text{and } |\varphi^{(n)}(x)| \leq |a_1||\varphi^{(n-1)}(x)| + \dots + |a_n||\varphi(x)|$$

so, using algebra, we get

$$|U'(x)| \leq 2k|U(x)|$$

note U is positive

$$\text{so } -2kU(x) \leq U'(x) \leq 2kU(x)$$

$$\text{so } U'(x) + 2kU(x) \geq 0$$

$$U'(x) - 2kU(x) \leq 0$$

$$\text{so } (e^{2kx} U(x))' \geq 0, \quad (e^{-2kx} U(x)) \leq 0$$

from here, the proof was given in a previous class.

Corollaries

1: Suppose $L(\varphi) = 0$, $\varphi(x_0) = \varphi'(x_0) = \dots = \varphi^{(n-1)}(x_0) = 0$

then $\varphi = 0$.

2: Suppose $L(\varphi) = L(\psi) = 0$, $\varphi(x_0) = \psi(x_0), \dots, \varphi^{(n-1)}(x_0) = \psi^{(n-1)}(x_0)$

then $\varphi = \psi$

Now we can prove that

3: if $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n$ are solutions to $L(y) = 0$ and are linearly independent, the Wronskian of these solutions is never 0.

Proof: Suppose $W(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)(x_0) = 0$. Then $\exists c_1, \dots, c_n$ not all 0 s.t.

$$c_1 \varphi_1(x_0) + \dots + c_n \varphi_n(x_0) = 0$$

$$c_1 \varphi'_1(x_0) + \dots + c_n \varphi'_n(x_0) = 0$$

:

$$c_1 \varphi^{(n-1)}(x_0) + \dots + c_n \varphi^{(n-1)}(x_0) = 0$$

$$\text{take } \varphi(x) = c_1 \varphi_1(x) + \dots + c_n \varphi_n(x)$$

then φ satisfies trivial initial cond, so $\varphi = 0$.

but then $\{\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n\}$ are linearly dep. \times

so $W(x) = 0 \ \forall x$.

$$L(y)=0, \quad y(x_0)=a_0, \dots, y^{(n-1)}(x_0)=a_{n-1}$$

Thm (i) every initial value problem has exactly 1 solution.

(ii) $\dim N(L) = n$.

The existence of the solution is given by the fact

that $W(\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_n)(x_0) \neq 0$ for any x_0 .

Any solution φ satisfies some initial value problem, so

\exists a linear combination of φ_i which is φ , so

$\{p_1, \dots, p_n\}$ are a basis for $N(L)$ so $\dim N(L) = n$.

If a_i are all real, then complex roots come in pairs $\sigma \pm i\tau$, so some sols are $e^{\sigma x} \sin \tau x$ and $e^{\sigma x} \cos \tau x$.