

# MAT303: Calc IV with applications

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Lecture 18 - April 12 2021

**So far this class:**

- Looking at single differential equations

**Rest of the class:**

- Systems of differential equations (analogous to systems of algebraic equations)

## Method 1: Turning a system into a higher order equation

Consider the system

$$x' = 4x - 3y \quad (1)$$

$$y' = 6x - 7y \quad (2)$$

Analogously to algebraic systems, we can try eliminating one of the variables:

Rearrange 2nd eqn:

$$6x = 7y + y' \Rightarrow x = \frac{7}{6}y + \frac{y'}{6} \quad (3)$$

$$x' = \frac{7}{6}y' + \frac{y''}{6}$$

Sub into (1):

$$\frac{7}{6}y' + \frac{y''}{6} = 4\left(\frac{7}{6}y + \frac{y'}{6}\right) - 3y$$

$$7y' + y'' = 28y + 4y' - 18y$$

$$\Rightarrow y'' + 3y' - 10y = 0.$$

$$\text{So } r^2 + 3r - 10$$

$$\text{So } r_{1,2} = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{49}}{2} = \frac{-3 \pm 7}{2}$$

$$\text{So } y = c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 e^{r_2 t}.$$

Plug this into (3)

to get

$$x = \frac{7}{6}(c_1 e^{r_1 t} + c_2 e^{r_2 t})$$

$$+ \frac{1}{6}(r_1 c_1 e^{r_1 t} + r_2 c_2 e^{r_2 t}).$$

Consider the constant coefficient linear equation

$$\boxed{a_n y^{(n)} + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_2 y'' + a_1 y' + a_0 y} \quad (1)$$

We can rewrite this as

$$Ly$$

where  $L = a_n D^n + a_{n-1} D^{n-1} + a_{n-2} D^{n-2} + \dots + a_0$  is an **operator**

where  $D = \frac{d}{dx}$  is the **derivative operator**

Examples of operator notation:

E.g.  $Df = f'$

$$D^2 f = f''$$

$$a_0 Df = a_0 f'$$

$$(D+3)f = f' + 3f.$$

$$f(x) = x \rightarrow 1 + 3x$$

"Multiplication" of differential operators

$L_1 L_2 f$  means  $L_1(L_2 f)$   $\rightarrow$  do  $L_2$  first, then  $L_1$ .

Constant coefficient polynomial differential operators are commutative:

$$L_2 L_1 = L_1 L_2$$

E.g.

$$L_1 = D + 3$$

$$L_2 = D + 4$$

$$\begin{aligned} L_1 L_2 f &= (D+3)(D+4)f \\ &= (D^2 + 7D + 12)f \\ &= f'' + 7f' + 12f \end{aligned}$$

Consider the system

$$x' = 4x - 3y$$

$$y' = 6x - 7y$$

We will solve this more systemically, using differential operators.

Rewrite this as:

$$-4x + x' + 3y = 0$$

$$-6x + 7y + y' = 0$$

Rewrite this as:

$$(-4 + D)x + 3y = 0$$

$$-6x + (7 + D)y = 0$$

Rewrite this as:

$$L_1 x + L_2 y = 0$$

$$L_3 x + L_4 y = 0$$

Where

$$L_1 = D - 4,$$

$$L_2 = 3,$$

$$L_3 = -6,$$

$$L_4 = D + 7$$

"D" means "Take derivative of".

$$-4x + \overbrace{D}^{\text{"D" means "Take derivative of"}}x + 3y = 0$$

$$-6x + 7y + Dy = 0.$$

Operate on top equation by  $L_3$  and bottom equation by  $L_1$ :

$$L_3 L_1 x + L_3 L_2 y = 0$$

$$L_1 L_3 x + L_1 L_4 y = 0$$

Subtract top equation from bottom:

$$L_1 L_3 y - L_1 L_2 y = 0$$

This is a single variable equation which we can solve.

$$(D - 4)(D + 7)y - (-6)(3)y = 0$$

$$(D^2 + 3D - 28)y + 18y = 0.$$

$$\text{So } D_y^2 + 3D_y - 28y + 18y = 0$$

$$\text{So } y'' + 3y' - 10y = 0.$$

Same as what we had before.

In the previous example, the key milestone was rewriting the equation in the form

$$L_1x + L_2y = 0$$

$$L_3x + L_4y = 0$$

$$Ly_1 + Ly_2 = 0$$

$$L_3y_1 + L_4y_2 = 0$$

In general, whenever we can write our system in the form

$$L_1x + L_2y = f_1(t)$$

$$L_3x + L_4y = f_2(t)$$

we can do the same trick:

- Operate on top equation by  $L_3$  and bottom equation by  $L_1$  :

$$L_3L_1x + L_3L_2y = L_3f_1(t)$$

$$L_1L_3x + L_1L_4y = L_1f_2(t)$$

Subtract top equation from bottom:

$$L_1L_4y - L_3L_2y = L_1f_2(t) - L_3f_1(t)$$

This is a single variable equation which we can solve for y.

(only 1 unknown function).

- Operate on top equation by  $L_4$  and bottom equation by  $L_2$  :

$$L_4L_1x + L_4L_2y = L_4f_1(t)$$

$$L_2L_3x + L_2L_4y = L_2f_2(t)$$

Subtract bottom equation from top:

$$L_4L_1x - L_2L_3x = L_4f_1(t) - L_2f_2(t)$$

This is a single variable equation which we can solve for x.

### Summary:

The solution to

$$L_1x + L_2y = f_1(t)$$

$$L_3x + L_4y = f_2(t)$$

is given by solving

$$(L_4L_1 - L_2L_3)x = L_4f_1(t) - L_2f_2(t)$$

and

$$(L_1L_4 - L_3L_2)y = L_1f_2(t) - L_3f_1(t)$$

Example: suppose want to solve the system

$$\begin{aligned}x' - 4x + 3y &= 0 \\ -6x + y' + 7y &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Rewrite in terms of differential operators:

$$\begin{aligned}Dx - 4x + 3y &= 0 \\ -6x + Dy + 7y &= 0\end{aligned} \quad \equiv \quad \begin{aligned}L_1 \overbrace{(D-4)}^{L_2} x + 3y &= 0 \\ -6x + \underbrace{(D+7)}_{L_4} y &= 0\end{aligned}$$

According to what we just did:  
(on the right)

$$\begin{aligned}\neq L_4 L_1 - L_2 L_3 &= (D+7)(D-4) - (-6)(3) \\ &= D^2 + 3D - 10\end{aligned}$$

So the 2 eqns we need to solve are

$$\begin{cases} (D^2 + 3D - 10)x = 0 \\ (D^2 + 3D - 10)y = 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x'' + 3x' - 10x = 0 \\ y'' + 3y' - 10y = 0. \end{cases}$$

**Summary:**

The solution to

$$L_1 x + L_2 y = f_1(t)$$

$$L_3 x + L_4 y = f_2(t)$$

is given by solving

$$\underline{(L_4 L_1 - L_2 L_3)} x = L_4 f_2(t) - L_2 f_1(t)$$

and

$$\underline{(L_1 L_4 - L_3 L_2)} y = L_1 f_2(t) - L_3 f_1(t)$$

To solve 2x2 linear equation:

$$ax + by = p$$

$$cx + dy = q$$

We can use Cramer's rule:

$$x = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} p & b \\ q & d \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}}$$

$$y = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} a & p \\ c & q \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}}$$

$$x = \frac{pd - qb}{ad - bc}, \quad y = \frac{aq - cp}{ad - bc}$$

← very similar. →

**Summary (to solve 2x2 first order system):**

The solution to

$$L_1x + L_2y = f_1(t)$$

$$L_3x + L_4y = f_2(t)$$

is given by solving

$$(L_4L_1 - L_2L_3)x = L_4f_2(t) - L_2f_1(t)$$

$$(L_1L_4 - L_3L_2)y = L_1f_2(t) - L_3f_1(t)$$



Today:

- Solving systems of first order equations by elimination
- Using polynomial differential operators

Next time: Chapter 5.1

- Better methods for larger systems