

Other types of linear equations

II. Cauchy-Euler equations

This is an equation of the form

$$a_n x^n y^{(n)} + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1 x y' + a_0 y = f(x)$$

Linear, non-homogeneous (if $f \neq 0$), but with non-constant coefficients.

Make the change of variable

$$x = e^t \text{ if } x > 0 \quad | \quad x = -e^t \text{ if } x < 0$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dt}{dx} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dt}{dx} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$dx = e^t dt = x dt$$

$$dx = \underbrace{-e^t}_{x} dt = x dt$$

$$\frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dt} \quad (\Rightarrow) \quad \frac{d}{dx} = \frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dt}$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{dy}{dt} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{x^2} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{x^2} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{1}{x} \left(\frac{1}{x} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right) \right) \rightarrow \frac{1}{x^2} \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2}$$