

Nonhomogeneous Linear Second Order Differential Equations

We will be looking at equations of the form

$$ay'' + by' + cy = g(x).$$

In 3.5 we develop the method of Undetermined Coefficients

Easy, but
does not
always
apply.

In 3.6 we develop the method of Variation of Parameters

Harder, but
always works.

3.5

Method of Undetermined Coefficients

Ex Solve $y' = xe^x$, that is find $y = \int xe^x dx$.

Assume you are too lazy to look up integration by parts, but you remember that the answer is in form $(Ax+B)e^x$.

Then

$$y' = Ae^x + Axe^x + Be^x = xe^x + 0e^x$$

Thus $A=1$ and $B=-1$. We get,

$$y = (x-1)e^x + C.$$

Ex Solve $y' = x^3 e^x$, re. $y = \int x^3 e^x dx$.

It seems reasonable that the answer will be in the form

$$y = (Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx + D)e^x,$$

Then

$$y' = Ax^3 e^x + 3Ax^2 e^x + Bx^2 e^x + 2Bx e^x + Cx e^x + C e^x + D e^x.$$

We need

$$Ax^3 e^x + (3A+B)x^2 e^x + (2B+C)x e^x + (C+D)e^x =$$

$$1x^3 e^x + 0x^2 e^x + 0x e^x + 0e^x.$$

That is

$$A = 1$$

$$3A + B = 0 \Rightarrow B = -3$$

$$2B + C = 0 \Rightarrow C = 6$$

$$C + D = 0 \Rightarrow D = -6$$

Then our solution is

$$y(x) = x^3 e^x + 3x^2 e^x + 6x e^x - 6e^x + C$$

Ex Compute $y = \int x \cos x \, dx$.

Sol It seems reasonable that

$$y = A x \cos x + B x \sin x + C \cos x + D \sin x.$$

$$y' = -A x \sin x + A \cos x + B x \cos x + B \sin x \\ + C \sin x + D \cos x$$

~~$$A x \sin x + A \cos x$$~~

$$B x \cos x - A x \sin x + (A + D) \cos x + (B + C) \sin x$$

$$= 1 \cdot x \cos x + 0 \cdot x \sin x + 0 \cos x + 0 \sin x.$$

$$B = 1$$

$$A = 0$$

$$A = 0$$

$$A + D = 0$$

$$D = 0$$

$$B + C = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow C = -1$$

Thus

$$y = x \sin x + \cos x + C$$

Now we go back to second order eq's.

Ex Consider $y'' - y' - 2y = 0$. (homogeneous)

$$r^2 - r - 2 = (r-2)(r+1) = 0$$

$$y = C_1 e^{2x} + C_2 e^{-x}$$

Ex What if $y'' - y' - 2y = 1$ (nonhomogeneous)

Notice $y = -\frac{1}{2}$ works.

Then any function of the form

$$y(x) = \underbrace{C_1 e^{2x} + C_2 e^{-x}}_{y_h} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}}_{y_p}$$

will work. $y_h = \text{homogeneous sol}$ $y_p = \text{particular sol.}$

Ex What if $y'' - y' - 2y = x$.

$$\text{Try } y = -\frac{1}{2}x. \quad 0 - \frac{1}{2} + x \neq x.$$

$$\text{Try } y = -\frac{1}{2}x + B.$$

$$0 - \frac{1}{2} + x - 2B = x$$

$$\text{Then } B = \frac{1}{4}.$$

$$\text{Thus } y_p = -\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{4}$$

$$y = C_1 e^{2x} + C_2 e^{-x} - \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{4}$$

Ex:

$$y'' + 2y' + y = 3x + 1$$

$$(r+1)^2 \quad r = -1$$

$$y_h = C_1 e^{-x} + C_2 x e^{-x}$$

$$\text{Try } y_p = Ax + B$$

$$y_p' = A$$

$$y_p'' = 0$$

$$0 + 2A + Ax + B = 3x + 1$$

$$A = 3$$

$$2A + B = 1$$

$$6 + B = 1 \Rightarrow B = -1$$

$$y = y_h + 3x - 1$$

Ex

$$y'' + 2y' - 3y = x^2$$

$$y_h = C_1 e^{-3x} + C_2 e^x$$

$$\text{Try } y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C$$

$$y_p' = 2Ax + B$$

$$y_p'' = 2A$$

$$2A + 4Ax + 2B - 3Ax^2 - 3Bx - 3C = x^2$$

$$-3A = 1$$

$$A = -\frac{1}{3}$$

$$(4A - 3B)x = 0 \quad -\frac{4}{3} = 3B \quad B = -\frac{4}{9}$$

$$2B + 2A - 3C = 0$$

$$-\frac{8}{9} - \frac{2}{3} = 3C \quad C = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{-14}{9} = -\frac{14}{27}$$

$$y_p = -\frac{1}{3}x^2 - \frac{4}{9}x - \frac{14}{27} \quad y = y_h + y_p$$

$$\underline{E+} \quad y'' + 2y' - 3y = 2 \sin 3x.$$

$$y_h = C_1 e^{-3x} + C_2 e^x.$$

$$\text{Let } y = y_p = A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x.$$

$$y' = 3A \cos 3x - 3B \sin 3x$$

$$y'' = -9A \sin 3x - 9B \cos 3x.$$

plug in:

$$(-9A \sin 3x - 9B \cos 3x) + 2(3A \cos 3x - 3B \sin 3x) - 3(A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x)$$

$$(-9A - 6B - 3A) \sin 3x + (-9B + 6A - 3B) \cos 3x = \underline{2 \sin 3x}.$$

$$-12A - 6B = 2$$

$$-6A - 3B = 1$$

$$6A - 12B = 0$$

$$\underline{6A - 12B = 0}$$

$$-15B = 1$$

$$B = -1/15$$

$$A = 2B = -2/15.$$

$$y_p = -\frac{2}{15} \sin(3x) - \frac{1}{15} \cos(3x)$$

$$y = y_h + y_p \quad \rightarrow \text{general solution.}$$

Ex

$$y'' + y = \sin x$$

$$y_h = C_1 \sin x + C_2 \cos x$$

Try $y_p = A x \sin x + B x \cos x$

You can show that $A=0$, $B=-\frac{1}{2}$.

Ex

$$y'' + y = e^x$$

$$y_p = A e^x$$

$$y_p'' = A e^x$$

$$A e^x + A e^x = e^x$$

$$A = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y = C_1 \sin x + C_2 \cos x + \frac{1}{2} e^x$$

Ex

$$y'' + 2y' + y = e^{-x}$$

$$y_h = C_1 e^{-x} + C_2 x e^{-x}$$

$$y_p = A x^2 e^{-x}$$

You can show that $A = \frac{1}{2}$.

Ex

$$y'' + 2y' - 3y = 2e^{3x}$$

Sol

Try $y_p = Ae^{3x}$

$$9Ae^{3x} + 6Ae^{3x} + 3Ae^{3x} = 2e^{3x}$$

$$9A + 6A - 3A = 2$$

$$12A = 2$$

$$A = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$y_p = \frac{1}{6} e^{3x}$$

General solution: $y = C_1 e^{-3x} + C_2 e^x + \frac{1}{6} e^{3x}$

Ex

$$y'' + 2y' - 3y = 5e^x$$

Now $y_p = Ae^x$ won't work since we know $y_p'' + 2y_p' - 3y_p = 0$.

Try $y_p = Axe^x$.

$$y_p' = Ae^x + Axe^x$$

$$y_p'' = 2Ae^x + Axe^x$$

plug in.

$$2Ae^x + Axe^x + 2Ae^x + 2Axe^x - 3Axe^x = 0xe^x + 5e^x$$

$$(A + 2A - 3A)xe^x + (2A + 2A)e^x = 0xe^x + 5e^x$$

$= 0$

$$4A = 5$$

$$A = 5/4$$

$$y_p = \frac{5}{4}xe^x$$

$$y = C_1 e^{3x} + C_2 e^x + \frac{5}{4}xe^x$$

Discuss Table 3.5.1