

## Undetermined Coefficients - Part II.

Last time: non-homogeneous linear ODEs:

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = g(x)$$

The general solution is

$$y = y_c + y_p$$

where  $(y_c)$  is the complementary sol. (to the associated homogeneous eqn.) and  $(y_p)$  is a particular solution to the non-homogeneous eqn.

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Focus on second order equations w/ constant coefficients:

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

When  $g(x)$  has certain forms:

- polynomial (or constant)
- $e^{ax}$
- $\sin(bx)$  or  $\cos(bx)$
- Sums & products of these

We can use the method of undetermined coefficients to find  $y_p$ :

- Main idea: make an assumption about the form of  $y_p$  (based on  $g(x)$ ) with undetermined coefficients.

- $(y_p) =$  linear combination of all distinct (linearly indep.) functions generated by  $g(x)$ ,  $g'(x)$  &  $g''(x)$ .

Examples from last time:

$$\textcircled{1} y'' + 4y' - 2y = 2x^2 - 3x + 6$$

$$y_c = c_1 e^{(-2-\sqrt{6})x} + c_2 e^{(-2+\sqrt{6})x}$$

$$y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C \text{ (polynomial of same degree as } g)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p = -x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x - 9$$

$$\textcircled{2} y'' - y' + y = 2 \sin(3x)$$

$$y_c = c_1 e^{x/2} \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}x}{2}\right) + c_2 e^{x/2} \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}x}{2}\right)$$

$$y_p = A \sin(3x) + B \cos(3x)$$

$$y_p = -\frac{16}{73} \sin(3x) + \frac{6}{73} \cos(3x)$$

$$\textcircled{3} y'' - 2y' - 3y = \underbrace{4x-5}_{Ax+B} + \underbrace{6xe^{2x}}_{(Cx+D)e^{2x}} \text{ Superposition}$$

$$y_p = (Ax+B) + (Cx+D)e^{2x}$$

$$y_c = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-x}$$

$$\textcircled{4} y'' - 5y' + 4y = 8e^x$$

$$y_c = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{4x}$$

Case 1: No function in the assumed  $y_p$  duplicates any part of  $y_c$

$g(x)$	$y_p$
Polynomial of degree $k \geq 0$	General Polynomial of degree $k$
$g(x) = x + 1$	$y_p = Ax + B$
$g(x) = x^3 + x - 4$	$y_p = Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx + D$
$g(x) = 2$	$y_p = A$
Exponential $e^{\alpha x}$	$Ae^{\alpha x}$
$g(x) = 2e^{9x}$	$y_p = Ae^{9x}$
$\sin(\beta x)$ or $\cos(\beta x)$	$A \sin(\beta x) + B \cos(\beta x)$
$g(x) = 3 \sin(2x)$	$y_p = A \sin(2x) + B \cos(2x)$
$g(x) = \cos(9x)$	$y_p = A \sin(9x) + B \cos(9x)$
(deg. $k$ polynomial) $e^{\alpha x}$	(general $k$ degree polynomial) $e^{\alpha x}$
$g(x) = (x^2 + 1)e^{3x}$	$y_p = (Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{3x}$
(deg. $k$ poly.) $\sin(\beta x)$ or (deg. $k$ poly.) $\cos(\beta x)$	(general deg. $k$ poly.) $\sin(\beta x)$ + (general deg. $k$ poly.) $\cos(\beta x)$
$g(x) = (x - 1) \sin(2x)$	$y_p = (Ax + B) \sin(2x) + (Cx + D) \cos(2x)$
$g(x) = x^2 \cos(3x)$	$y_p = (Ax^2 + Bx + C) \sin(3x) + (Dx^2 + Ex + F) \cos(3x)$
$e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)$ or $e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x)$	$Ae^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x) + Be^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x)$
$g(x) = e^{2x} \sin(7x)$	$y_p = Ae^{2x} \sin(7x) + Be^{2x} \cos(7x)$
(deg. $k$ poly) $e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)$ or (deg. $k$ poly) $e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x)$	(general deg. $k$ poly.) $e^{\alpha x} \sin(\beta x)$ + (general deg. $k$ poly.) $e^{\alpha x} \cos(\beta x)$
$g(x) = (x + 1)e^{2x} \cos(3x)$	$y_p = (Ax + B)e^{2x} \cos(3x) + (Cx + D)e^{2x} \sin(3x)$

Case 2: Suppose  $g(x) = g_1(x) + \dots + g_k(x)$ , where each function  $g_j(x)$  is of the type previously discussed, with corresponding  $y_{p_j}$  in its particular solution. If any  $y_{p_j}$  contains a function in  $y_c$ , then multiply this  $y_{p_j}$  by  $x$  (possibly twice for 2<sup>nd</sup> order)

Example:

$$y'' - 2y' + y = g(x)$$

Char. Eqn.:  $m^2 - 2m + 1 = 0$ ;  $(m-1)^2 = 0$ ;  $m_1 = m_2 = 1$  (repeated root)

$$y_c = c_1 e^x + c_2 x e^x$$

$g(x) = 3e^{2x} \Rightarrow y_p = A e^{2x}$  (no duplication)

$g(x) = 3x^2 e^{3x} \Rightarrow y_p = (Ax^2 + Bx + c) e^{3x}$  (no duplication)

$g(x) = 3x^2 e^x$

$y_p \stackrel{?}{=} (Ax^2 + Bx + c) e^x = Ax^2 e^x + Bx e^x + c e^x$   
 both duplicate  $y_c$

Multiply by  $x$ : is that enough?

$Ax^3 e^x + Bx^2 e^x + c x e^x$

Still duplicates part of  $y_c$

$\Rightarrow$  Multiply by  $x^2$ :  $y_p = (Ax^2 + Bx + c) x^2 e^x$

(no more duplication)

(\*) Look at what happens if we only multiplied by one  $x$ ,  
 and took  $y_p = Ax^3e^x + Bx^2e^x + Cxe^x = (Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx)e^x$   
 Plug back into  $y'' - 2y' + y = 3x^2e^x$ :

$$y_p' = (3Ax^2 + 2Bx + C)e^x + (Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx)e^x$$

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

$$y_p'' = (3Ax^2 + (6A+2B)x + (2B+C))e^x$$

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

$$= (Ax^3 + (6A+B)x^2 + (6A+4B+C)x + (2B+2C))e^x$$

$$y_p'' - 2y_p' + y_p = \left( (A - 2A + A)x^3 + (6A+B - 6A - 2B + B)x^2 \right. \\ \left. + (6A+4B+C - 4B - 2C + C)x + (2B+2C - 2C) \right) e^x$$

$$= (6Ax + 2B)e^x$$

$$= 3x^2e^x$$

$6Ax + 2B$  cannot equal  $3x^2e^x$ !

And if we try  $y_p = (Ax^4 + Bx^3 + Cx^2)e^x$ ? (after multiplying  
 again by  $x$ )

$$y_p' = (4Ax^3 + 3Bx^2 + 2Cx + Ax^4 + Bx^3 + Cx^2)e^x$$

$$= (Ax^4 + (4A+B)x^3 + (3B+C)x^2 + 2Cx)e^x$$

$$y_p'' = (4Ax^3 + (12A+3B)x^2 + (6B+2C)x + 2C +$$

$$+ Ax^4 + (4A+B)x^3 + (3B+C)x^2 + 2Cx)e^x$$

$$= (Ax^4 + (8A+B)x^3 + (12A+6B+C)x^2 + (6B+4C)x + 2C)e^x$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p'' - 2y_p' + y_p = \left[ (A - 2A + A)x^4 + (8A + B - 2A - 2B + B)x^3 + (12A + 6B + C - 6B - 2C + C)x^2 + (6B + 4C - 4C)x + 2C \right] e^x$$

$$= \left[ 12Ax^2 + 6Bx + 2C \right] e^x$$

$$= 3x^2 e^x$$

$$\begin{cases} 12A = 3 \\ 6B = 0 \\ 2C = 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} A = 1/4 \\ B = 0 \\ C = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$y_p = \frac{1}{4} x^2 e^x$$

Example:  $y'' - y' - 2y = g(x)$ ,  $y_c = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 e^{-x}$

$$g(x) = e^{7x}$$

$$y_p = A e^{7x} \quad (\text{no duplication})$$

$$g(x) = 3e^{2x}$$

$$y_p = A x e^{2x} \quad (\text{duplicates } e^{2x})$$

$$g(x) = 2e^{-x} + \sin(8x)$$

$$y_p = A x e^{-x} + B \sin(8x) + C \cos(8x)$$

duplication  
Superposition.

Remark:

$$y_p = (A e^{-x} + B \sin(8x) + C \cos(8x)) x$$

is INCORRECT



$$g(x) = \sin(3x) e^{2x}$$

$$y_p = A \sin(3x) e^{2x} + B \cos(3x) e^{2x}$$

(no duplication!)

$$g(x) = x^2 e^{-x} + e^{ex}$$

$$y_p = (A x^2 + B x + C) x e^{-x} + D e^{ex}$$