

Section 3.5. **Nonhomogeneous equations; Method of undertermined coefficients**

Given a nonhomogeneous linear equation

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t)$$

Procedure for solving nonhomogeneous equations.

To solve $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t)$:

Step 1. Determine the general solution $c_1y_1(t) + c_2y_2(t)$ of the corresponding homogeneous equation.

Step 2. Find the particular solution $y_p(t)$ of the given nonhomogeneous equation.

Step 3. Form the sum of the particular solution and a general solution to the homogeneous equation

$$y(t) = y_p(t) + c_1y_1(t) + c_2y_2(t),$$

to obtain the general solution to the given equation.

Method of undetermined coefficients.

$$ay'' + by' + cy = g(t)$$

where $g(t)$ is of a special form. The corresponding auxiliary equation is

$$ar^2 + br + c = 0$$

1. $g(t) = e^{\alpha t}(p_0 t^m + p_1 t^{m-1} + p_2 t^{m-2} + \dots + p_{m-1} t + p_m)$. Then

- $y_p(t) = e^{\alpha t}(At^m + Bt^{m-1} + Ct^{m-2} + \dots + Dt + F)$, if $r = \alpha$ is **not** a root to the auxiliary equation.
- $y_p(t) = e^{\alpha t}t(At^{m-1} + Bt^{m-2} + Ct^{m-3} + \dots + Dt + F)$, if $r = \alpha$ is **one of two** roots of the auxiliary equation
- $y_p(t) = e^{\alpha t}t^2(At^{m-2} + Bt^{m-3} + Ct^{m-4} + \dots + Dt + F)$, if $r = \alpha$ is a **repeated** root to the auxiliary equation.

Example 1. Find the general solution to the following equations

(a) $y'' - 2y' = 2e^{-2t}$

corresponding homogeneous equation: $y'' - 2y' = 0$
 auxiliary equation: $r^2 - 2r = 0$
 $r(r-2) = 0 \Rightarrow r_1 = 0, r_2 = 2$

general solution of the homogeneous equation is: $y_h(t) = C_1 e^{0 \cdot t} + C_2 e^{2t}$
 $y_h(t) = C_1 + C_2 e^{2t}$

particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation

$y_p(t) = Ae^{-2t}$, A is an unknown constant.

Plug $y_p(t)$ back into the nonhomogeneous equation.

$$y_p'(t) = -2Ae^{-2t}, \quad y_p''(t) = 4Ae^{-2t}$$

$$\underbrace{4Ae^{-2t}}_{y_p''} - 2 \underbrace{(-2Ae^{-2t})}_{y_p'} = 2e^{-2t}$$

$$8A = 2 \text{ or } A = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$y_p(t) = \frac{1}{4}e^{-2t}$$

General solution of the nonhomogeneous equation: $y(t) = C_1 + C_2 e^{2t} + \frac{1}{4}e^{-2t}$

(b) $y'' - 4y' + 4y = 16t^2e^{2t}$

corresponding homogeneous equation: $y'' - 4y' + 4y = 0$

auxiliary equation: $r^2 - 4r + 4 = 0$
 $(r-2)^2 = 0$ $r=2$ repeated root

general solution of the homogeneous equation: $y_h(t) = (C_1 + C_2t)e^{2t}$

Particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation:

$y_p(t) = e^{2t}(At^2 + Bt + C)$ t^2
 polynomial of degree 2 with unknown coefficients
 2 is the repeated root of the auxiliary equation.

$y_p(t) = e^{2t}(At^4 + Bt^3 + Ct^2)$

$y_p'(t) = 2e^{2t}(At^4 + Bt^3 + Ct^2) + e^{2t}(4At^3 + 3Bt^2 + 2Ct)$

$y_p''(t) = 4e^{2t}(At^4 + Bt^3 + Ct^2) + 2e^{2t}(4At^3 + 3Bt^2 + 2Ct) + 2e^{2t}(4At^3 + 3Bt^2 + 2Ct) + e^{2t}(12At^2 + 6Bt + 2C)$

$y_p''(t) = 4e^{2t}(At^4 + Bt^3 + Ct^2) + 4e^{2t}(4At^3 + 3Bt^2 + 2Ct) + e^{2t}(12At^2 + 6Bt + 2C)$

$4e^{2t}(At^4 + Bt^3 + Ct^2) + 4e^{2t}(4At^3 + 3Bt^2 + 2Ct) + e^{2t}(12At^2 + 6Bt + 2C)$

$-4[2e^{2t}(At^4 + Bt^3 + Ct^2) + e^{2t}(4At^3 + 3Bt^2 + 2Ct)]$

$+ 4e^{2t}(At^4 + Bt^3 + Ct^2) = 16t^2e^{2t}$

Equate coefficients to the corresponding powers of t :

$t^2: 12A = 16$ $A = \frac{16}{12} = \frac{4}{3}$

$t: 6B = 0$ $B = 0$

$1: 2C = 0$ $C = 0$

$y_p(t) = \frac{4}{3}e^{2t}t^4$

General solution of the nonhomogeneous equation: $y(t) = (C_1 + C_2t)e^{2t} + \frac{4}{3}t^4e^{2t}$

2. $g(t) = (p_0 t^{m_1} + p_1 t^{m_1-1} + p_2 t^{m_1-2} + \dots + p_{m_1-1} t + p_{m_1}) \cos(\beta t) + (q_0 t^{m_2} + q_1 t^{m_2-1} + q_2 t^{m_2-2} + \dots + q_{m_2-1} t + q_{m_2}) \sin(\beta t)$. Then

• $y_p(t) = (A_0 t^m + A_1 t^{m-1} + A_2 t^{m-2} + \dots + A_{m-1} t + A_m) \cos(\beta t) + (B_0 t^m + B_1 t^{m-1} + B_2 t^{m-2} + \dots + B_{m-1} t + B_m) \sin(\beta t)$,

if $i\beta$ is not a root to the auxiliary equation. Here $m = \max\{m_1, m_2\}$.

• $y_p(t) = t(A_0 t^{m-1} + A_1 t^{m-2} + A_2 t^{m-3} + \dots + A_{m-1} t + A_m) \cos(\beta t) + t(B_0 t^{m-1} + B_1 t^{m-2} + B_2 t^{m-3} + \dots + B_{m-1} t + B_m) \sin(\beta t)$,

if $i\beta$ is one of two roots of the auxiliary equation.

Example 2. Find the solution to the initial value problem

$$y'' - 3y' + 2y = 4t \sin t, \quad y(0) = 3, \quad y'(0) = 2.$$

homogeneous equation: $y'' - 3y' + 2y = 0$

auxiliary equation: $r^2 - 3r + 2 = 0$
 $(r-2)(r-1) = 0 \Rightarrow r_1 = 2, r_2 = 1$

general solution of the auxiliary equation

$$y_h(t) = C_1 e^t + C_2 e^{2t}$$

particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation

$$y_p(t) = (At+B) \sin t + (Ct+D) \cos t$$

$$y_p'(t) = A \sin t + (At+B) \cos t + C \cos t - (Ct+D) \sin t$$

$$y_p''(t) = A \cos t + A \cos t - (At+B) \sin t - C \sin t - C \sin t - (Ct+D) \cos t$$

$$= 2A \cos t - (At+B) \sin t - 2C \sin t - (Ct+D) \cos t$$

$$2A \cos t - (At+B) \sin t - 2C \sin t - (Ct+D) \cos t - 3 [A \sin t + (At+B) \cos t + C \cos t - (Ct+D) \sin t] + 2(At+B) \sin t + 2(Ct+D) \cos t = 4t \sin t$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} t \cos t: & -C - 3A + 2C = 0 \\ \cos t: & 2A - D - 3B - 3C + 2D = 0 \\ t \sin t: & -A + 3C + 2A = 4 \\ \sin t: & -B - 2C - 3A + 3D + 2B = 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\begin{cases} C - 3A = 0 \Rightarrow C = 3A \\ A + 3C = 4 \Rightarrow 10A = 4 \Rightarrow A = \frac{4}{10} = \frac{2}{5} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} A = \frac{4}{10} = \frac{2}{5} \\ C = \frac{6}{5} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} D - 3B = 3C - 2A = \frac{18}{5} - \frac{4}{5} = \frac{14}{5} \\ B + 3D = 2C + 3A = \frac{12}{5} + \frac{6}{5} = \frac{18}{5} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} D - 3B = \frac{14}{5} \\ B + 3D = \frac{18}{5} \end{cases} \Rightarrow D = 3B + \frac{14}{5}$$

$$B + 9B + \frac{42}{5} = \frac{18}{5}$$

$$10B = -\frac{24}{5}, \quad B = -\frac{24}{50} = -\frac{12}{25}$$

$$D = \frac{-36}{25} + \frac{14}{5} = \frac{34}{25} = D$$

$$y_p(t) = \left(\frac{2}{5}t - \frac{12}{25}\right) \sin t + \left(\frac{6}{5}t + \frac{34}{25}\right) \cos t$$

General solution of the nonhomogeneous equation:

$$y(t) = C_1 e^t + C_2 e^{2t} + \left(\frac{2}{5}t - \frac{12}{25}\right) \sin t + \left(\frac{6}{5}t + \frac{34}{25}\right) \cos t$$

Example.

Find the form of a particular solution for the equation

$$y'' - 2y' - 3y = g(t), \text{ where}$$

corresponding homogeneous equation: $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 0$

auxiliary equation: $r^2 - 2r - 3 = 0$
 $r_1 = +3, r_2 = -1$

general solution of the homogeneous equation

$$y_h(t) = C_1 e^{-t} + C_2 e^{3t}$$

1. $g(t) = t^2 e^t$

$$y_p(t) = e^t (At^2 + Bt + C)$$

$$t^2 \rightarrow At^2 + Bt + C$$

$$t \rightarrow At + B$$

$$4 \rightarrow A$$

$$t^3 \rightarrow At^3 + Bt^2 + Ct + D$$

2. $g(t) = t^3 e^{-t}$

$$y_p(t) = e^{-t} (At^3 + Bt^2 + Ct + D)t$$

3. $g(t) = \cos t + t^2 \sin t$

$$y_p(t) = \cos t (At^2 + Bt + C) + \sin t (Dt^2 + Et + F)$$

$$y'' + 2y' + y = 4e^{-t}$$

homogeneous equation

$$y'' + 2y' + y = 0$$

auxiliary equation

$$r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0$$

$$(r+1)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$r = -1$ repeated root

$$y_p(t) = Ae^{-t} t^2$$

$$y_h(t) = (C_1 + C_2 t) e^{-t}$$

$g(t) = Ae^{rt}$	
homogeneous equation	particular solution
$y_h(t) = C_1 e^{rt} + C_2 e^{st}$	$y_p(t) = t(\dots) e^{rt}$
$y_h(t) = C_1 e^{rt} + C_2 t e^{rt}$	$y_p(t) = t^2(\dots) e^{rt}$

$$y'' + 9y = g(t)$$

homogeneous equation:

$$y'' + 9y = 0$$

auxiliary equation

$$r^2 + 9 = 0$$

$$r = \pm 3i, \quad \operatorname{Re}(r) = 0, \quad \operatorname{Im}(r) = \pm 3$$

$$y_h(t) = C_1 \cos 3t + C_2 \sin 3t$$

1. $g(t) = t e^{3t}$

$$y_p(t) = (At + B) e^{3t}$$

2. $g(t) = 5 \sin 2t$

$$y_p(t) = A \sin 2t + B \cos 2t$$

3. $g(t) = t \cos 3t$

$$y_p(t) = [(At + B) \cos 3t + (Ct + D) \sin 3t] t$$

3. $g(t) = e^{\alpha t}[(p_0 t^{m_1} + p_1 t^{m_1-1} + p_2 t^{m_1-2} + \dots + p_{m_1-1} t + p_{m_1}) \cos(\beta t) + (q_0 t^{m_2} + q_1 t^{m_2-1} + q_2 t^{m_2-2} + \dots + q_{m_2-1} t + q_{m_2}) \sin(\beta t)]$. Then

- $y_p(t) = e^{\alpha t}[(A_0 t^m + A_1 t^{m-1} + A_2 t^{m-2} + \dots + A_{m-1} t + A_m) \cos(\beta t) + (B_0 t^m + B_1 t^{m-1} + B_2 t^{m-2} + \dots + B_{m-1} t + B_m) \sin(\beta t)]$,

if $\alpha + i\beta$ is not a root to the auxiliary equation. Here $m = \max\{m_1, m_2\}$.

- $y_p(t) = e^{\alpha t}[(A_0 t^m + A_1 t^{m-1} + A_2 t^{m-2} + \dots + A_{m-1} t + A_m) \cos(\beta t) + (B_0 t^m + B_1 t^{m-1} + B_2 t^{m-2} + \dots + B_{m-1} t + B_m) \sin(\beta t)]$,

if $\alpha + i\beta$ is one of two roots of the auxiliary equation, then the particular solution is

Example 3. Find the general solution of the equation

$$y'' - 9y = e^{3t} \cos t.$$

homogeneous equation $y'' - 9y = 0$
 auxiliary equation $r^2 - 9 = 0$ or $r = \pm 3$

$$y_h(t) = C_1 e^{-3t} + C_2 e^{3t}$$

Particular solution:

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

$$y_p'(t) = 3e^{3t} (A \cos t + B \sin t) + e^{3t} (-A \sin t + B \cos t)$$

$$y_p''(t) = 9e^{3t} (A \cos t + B \sin t) + 3e^{3t} (-A \sin t + B \cos t) + 3e^{3t} (-A \sin t + B \cos t) + e^{3t} (-A \cos t - B \sin t)$$

$$y_p''(t) = 9e^{3t} (A \cos t + B \sin t) + 6e^{3t} (-A \sin t + B \cos t) + e^{3t} (-A \cos t - B \sin t)$$

$$9e^{3t} (A \cos t + B \sin t) + 6e^{3t} (-A \sin t + B \cos t) + e^{3t} (-A \cos t - B \sin t) - 9e^{3t} (A \cos t + B \sin t) = e^{3t} \cos t$$

cos t: $6B - A = 1$

sin t: $-6A - B = 0 \Rightarrow B = -6A$

$$-37A = 1 \Rightarrow \boxed{A = -\frac{1}{37}} \quad \boxed{B = \frac{6}{37}}$$

$$y_p = \frac{e^{3t}}{37} (-\cos t + 6 \sin t)$$

General solution $\boxed{y(t) = C_1 e^{-3t} + C_2 e^{3t} + \frac{e^{3t}}{37} (-\cos t + 6 \sin t)}$

Particular solutions to $ay'' + by' + cy = g(t)$

Type	$g(t)$	$y_p(t)$
I	$p_0t^k + p_1t^{k-1} + \dots + p_k$	$t^s(At^k + Bt^{k-1} + \dots + F)$
II	$de^{\alpha t}$	$t^s Ae^{\alpha t}$
III	$e^{\alpha t}(p_0t^k + \dots + p_k)$	$t^s e^{\alpha t}(At^k + Bt^{k-1} + \dots + F)$
IV	$d \cos(\beta t) + f \sin(\beta t)$	$t^s [A \cos(\beta t) + B \sin(\beta t)]$
V	$P_{m_1}(t) \cos(\beta t) + Q_{m_2}(t) \sin(\beta t)$	$t^s [(A_0t^m + \dots + A_m) \cos(\beta t) + (B_0t^m + \dots + B_m) \sin(\beta t)]$
VI	$e^{\alpha t} [d \cos(\beta t) + f \sin(\beta t)]$	$t^s e^{\alpha t} [A \cos(\beta t) + B \sin(\beta t)]$
VII	$e^{\alpha t} [P_{m_1}(t) \cos(\beta t) + Q_{m_2}(t) \sin(\beta t)]$	$t^s e^{\alpha t} [(A_0t^m + \dots + A_m) \cos(\beta t) + (B_0t^m + \dots + B_m) \sin(\beta t)]$

In this table

- $s = 0$, when $\alpha + i\beta$ is not a root to the auxiliary equation
- $s = 1$, when $\alpha + i\beta$ is one of two roots to the auxiliary equation
- $s = 0$, when $\beta = 0$ and α is a repeated root to the auxiliary equation;
- $m = \max\{m_1, m_2\}$
- $P_{m_1}(t) = p_0t^{m_1} + p_1t^{m_1-1} + p_2t^{m_1-2} + \dots + p_{m_1-1}t + p_{m_1}$
- $Q_{m_2}(t) = q_0t^{m_2} + q_1t^{m_2-1} + q_2t^{m_2-2} + \dots + q_{m_2-1}t + q_{m_2}$

Example 4. Using Table, find the form for a particular solution $y_p(t)$ to

$$y'' + y' - 2y = g(t),$$

where $g(t)$ equals

(a) $g(t) = (2t^2 + 3)e^{-2t} + t$

$$y_p(t) = e^{-2t}(At^2 + Bt + C)t + (Dt + E)$$

(b) $g(t) = t \sin 2t + \cos 3t$

$$y_p(t) = (At + B)\sin 2t + (Ct + D)\cos 2t + E \cos 3t + F \sin 3t$$

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homogeneous equation: $y'' + y' - 2y = 0$

auxiliary equation: $r^2 + r - 2 = 0$

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

$$r_1 = -2, r_2 = 1$$

$$y_h(t) = C_1 e^{-2t} + C_2 e^t$$

(c) $g(t) = e^t + \cos 3t$

$$y_p(t) = e^t \cdot At + B \cos 3t + C \sin 3t$$