

# Differential Equations Week **7**

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**Problem 1** (Problem 1)

Find the general solution to the differential equation

$$y'' - 6y' + 13y = xe^{3x} \sin(2x). \quad (1.1)$$

**Solution 1.0** (Framework for solving this problem.) —

1. Find the solution to the corresponding homogenous equation.
2. Obtain a particular solution.
3. Combine to get our final result.

**Solution 1.1** (Solving corresponding homogenous equation.) — First, homogenize (1.0):

$$y'' - 6y' + 13y = 0. \quad (1.2)$$

Now, what's the characteristic polynomial? It's  $r^2 - 6r + 13$ , which produces solutions:

$$f(x) = c_1 e^{3x} \cos(2x) + c_2 e^{3x} \sin(2x). \quad (1.3)$$

**Solution 1.2** (Obtaining particular solution.) — Let's take derivatives of  $cx^k e^{3x} \sin(2x)$  and plug in! We get  $ck(k-1)x^{k-2}e^{3x} \sin(2x)$  as if  $f$  is annihilated by the  $n$ th order constant coefficient differential operator  $I$ ,  $I[f] = fg^{(n)}$  (we can prove this by decomposing into a bunch of linear expressions and then annihilating each part, but I won't do that here... probably has some special name I don't know)

So  $k = 3$ , and we have  $6cxe^{3x} \sin(2x) = xe^{3x} \sin(2x)$  and:

$$f_p(x) = \frac{1}{6}xe^{3x} \sin(2x). \quad (1.4)$$

**Solution 1.3** (Finish.) — Add the two things to get:

$$f(x) = c_1 e^{3x} \cos(2x) + c_2 e^{3x} \sin(2x) + \frac{1}{6}xe^{3x} \sin(2x). \quad (1.5)$$

**Remark.** The solutions for the corresponding homogenous equation are well-known to be linearly independent.  
Please tell me what the name of that theorem in comments!

**Problem 2 (Problem 2)**

Solve the differential equation

$$y'' + 4y' = \sin^4(x). \quad (2.1)$$

**Solution 2.1** — Substitute double angle identities:

$$\sin^4(x) \quad (2.2)$$

$$= \left( \frac{1 - \cos(2x)}{2} \right)^2 \quad (2.3)$$

$$= 1/4 \cdot (1 - 2\cos(2x) + \cos^2(2x)) \quad (2.4)$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \cos(2x) + \frac{\cos(4x) - 1}{2} \quad (2.5)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{4} - \frac{1}{2} \cos(2x) + \frac{1}{2} \cos(4x) \quad (2.6)$$

$$(2.7)$$

and using method of undetermined coefficients (the  $-1/4$  immediately becomes  $-1/16x$ ):

$$\cos(kx) = -ak^2 \sin(kx) - bk^2 \cos(kx) \quad (2.8)$$

$$+ ak \cos(kx) - bk \sin(kx) \quad (2.9)$$

$$\begin{cases} -ak^2 - bk &= 0 \\ -bk^2 + ak &= 1. \end{cases} \quad (2.10)$$

$$b = -ak \quad (2.11)$$

$$a(k^3 + k) = 1 \quad (2.12)$$

$$a = \frac{1}{k^3 + k} \quad (2.13)$$

$$b = -\frac{1}{k^2 + 1} \quad (2.14)$$

$$f_p(x) = -\frac{1}{16}x + \frac{1}{10} \cos(2x) - \frac{1}{20} \cos(2x) \quad (2.15)$$

$$- \frac{1}{17} \cos(4x) + \frac{1}{34} \cos(4x) \quad (2.16)$$

$$f(x) = c_1 + c_2 e^{4x} - \frac{1}{16}x + \frac{1}{10} \cos(2x) - \frac{1}{20} \cos(2x) \quad (2.17)$$

$$- \frac{1}{17} \cos(4x) + \frac{1}{34} \cos(4x) \quad (2.18)$$

**Problem 3** (Problem 3)

Find the general solution to

$$y'' + 4y' + 4y = e^{-2t} \log t. \quad (3.1)$$

**Solution 3.1** — Note that  $v(t)e^{-2t}$  in our differential operator is  $v''(t)e^{-2t}$ . So plugging in our particular solution the answer is:

$$f(t) = t \log t e^{-2t} + a e^{-2t} + b x e^{-2t} \quad (3.2)$$

**Problem 4** (Problem 4)

Solve the initial value problem

$$y'' - y = \frac{1}{x}, y(1) = 0, y'(1) = 2 \quad (4.1)$$

**Solution 4.1** — Let's use variation of parameters. The solutions to the corresponding homogenous equation are:

$$e^x, e^{-x} \quad (4.2)$$

so:

$$v_1' e^x + v_2' e^{-x} = 0 \quad (4.3)$$

$$v_1' e^x - v_2' e^{-x} = \frac{1}{x} \quad (4.4)$$

$$v_1' = \frac{e^{-x}}{2x} \quad (4.5)$$

$$v_2' = -\frac{e^x}{2x} \quad (4.6)$$

$$f(x) = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{-x} + e^x \int_1^x \frac{e^{-t}}{2t} dt + e^{-x} \int_1^x \frac{e^t}{2t} dt \quad (4.7)$$

Plugging in at 1, we get:

$$ec_1 + e^{-1}c_2 = 0 \quad (4.8)$$

$$ec_1 - e^{-1}c_2 = 1 \quad (4.9)$$

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{2e} \quad (4.10)$$

$$c_2 = \frac{e}{2}. \quad (4.11)$$

Thus the answer is

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left( e^{x-1} + c_2 e^{-(x-1)} \right) + e^x \int_1^x \frac{e^{-t}}{2t} dt + e^{-x} \int_1^x \frac{e^t}{2t} dt. \quad (4.12)$$

**Problem 5** (Problem 5)

Solve the following differential equation:

$$t^2 y'' - 4ty' + 6y = t^3 + 1. \quad (5.1)$$

**Solution 5.1** — Note that  $t^2, t^3$  are solutions. Ignore the  $+1$ , just add  $1/6$  to our final solution in the end. Applying variation of parameters,

$$v_1' t^2 + v_2' t^3 = 0 \quad (5.2)$$

$$2v_1' t + 3v_2' t^2 = t^2 \quad (5.3)$$

$$v_2' = 1, v_2(t) = t \quad (5.4)$$

$$v_1' = -t \quad (5.5)$$

$$v_1(t) = \frac{-t^2}{2} \quad (5.6)$$

$$f(t) = \frac{t^4}{2} + c_1 t^3 + c_2 t^2. \quad (5.7)$$