

B 4.5 Non homogeneous Equations : The Method of Undetermined Coefficients

• Suppose we have $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 3e^{2t}$

• Up to this point, we're used to having constants as our coefficients, and this kind of equation set equal to 0.

If we call y_h the homogeneous solution to $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 0$ and y_p the particular solution to $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 3e^{2t}$, then we refer to y_g as the general solution for the equation

$$y_g = y_h + y_p$$

1) Solve the Homogeneous Equation

- Use methods from B 4.2 to B 4.4

2) Look at the RHS and find a solution by using an undetermined coefficient

- we go about guessing what the undetermined coefficient is

3) Solve for the general solution

• Substitute back into part 2) and use that to solve for y_p

What kind of guess should we use for part 2?

RHS: e^{rt}

$$Ae^{rt}$$

$$\sin(rt) \text{ or } \cos(rt)$$

$$A \sin(rt) + B \cos(rt)$$

$$\text{Degree } n \text{ polynomial}$$

$$A_0 + A_1 t + \dots + A_n t^n$$

Note that when we have the case when we observe the multiplication between 2 non-homogeneous terms, we only need to reference 1 part of the coefficient

If we observe the nonhomogeneous contains part of the homogeneous, we multiply by a factor of t .

Example: $y'' - 9y = te^t + \sin(2t)$

$$\rightarrow y_g = y_h + y_{p1} + y_{p2}$$

$$r^2 - 9 = 0 \rightarrow (r+3)(r-3) \rightarrow y_h = C_1 e^{-3t} + C_2 e^{3t}$$

$$\text{Let } y_{p1} = (At + B) \cdot e^t, \quad y'_{p1} = Ae^t + (At + B)e^t$$

$$y''_{p1} = Ae^t + Ae^t + (At + B)e^t = 2Ae^t + (At + B)e^t$$

$$\text{So, } y''_{p1} - 9y_{p1} = 2Ae^t + (At + B)e^t - 9(At + B)e^t$$

$$= 2Ae^t - 8(At + B)e^t = te^t$$

$$= 2Ae^t - 8Ate^t - 8Be^t = te^t$$

$$-8Ate^t + 2Ae^t - 8Be^t = te^t$$

$$\begin{cases} -8A = 1 \Rightarrow A = -\frac{1}{8} & 2(-\frac{1}{8}) - 8(B) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$-8B = \frac{1}{4} \Rightarrow B = -\frac{1}{32}$$

$$\text{So } y_{p1} = \left(-\frac{1}{8}t - \frac{1}{32}\right)e^t$$

$$\text{Let } y_{p2}(t) = E \sin(2t) + D \cos(2t)$$

$$\text{So, } y'_{p2}(t) = 2E \cos(2t) - 2D \sin(2t)$$

$$y''_{p2}(t) = -4E \sin(2t) - 4D \cos(2t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} y''_{p2} - 9y_{p2} &= -4E \sin(2t) - 4D \cos(2t) - 9(E \sin(2t) + D \cos(2t)) \\ &= -13E \sin(2t) - 13D \cos(2t) = \sin(2t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow E = -\frac{1}{13}, D = 0$$

$$\text{So } y_{p2} = -\frac{1}{13} \sin(2t)$$

$$\text{Thus, The general solution is: } \boxed{C_1 e^{3t} + C_2 e^{-3t} - \left(\frac{1}{8}t + \frac{1}{32}\right)e^t - \frac{1}{13} \sin(2t)}$$

A simpler Example:

$$y'' + 5y' + 6y = t^2$$

$$\hookrightarrow r^2 + 5r + 6 = 0$$

$$\hookrightarrow (r+2)(r+3) = 0 \rightarrow r = -2, -3 \quad \text{so } y_h = C_1 e^{-3t} + C_2 e^{-2t}$$

$$y_p = At^2 + Bt + C \quad y'' + 5y' + 6y = 2A + 5(2At + B) + 6(At^2 + Bt + C) = t^2$$

$$\hookrightarrow y'_p = 2At + B$$

$$y''_p = 2A$$

$$\hookrightarrow 2A + 10At + 5B + 6At^2 + 6Bt + 6C = t^2$$

$$6At^2 + (10A + 6B)t + (2A + 5B + 6C) = t^2$$

so

$$\boxed{y = C_1 e^{-3t} + C_2 e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{6}t^2 - \frac{10}{36}t - \frac{36}{216}}$$

$$\hookrightarrow A = \frac{1}{6}, B = -\frac{10}{36}, C = -\frac{36}{216}$$