

Chapter 4 Section 4 Higher Order Differential Equations
Nonhomogeneous Equations - Undetermined Coefficients Method - Solutions
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Solve the given nonhomogeneous differential equations by the method of undetermined coefficients.

1. Solve the DE by undetermined coefficients method: $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 6$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

Set $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 0$. Then $m^2 + 3m + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow m = -1, m = -2$

$$\Rightarrow y_c = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{-2x}$$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = 6$, assume $y_p = A$. Since this is not a duplication with any solution of y_c , we proceed with the assumed y_p . Then $y'_p = 0$, $y''_p = 0$. Plug into DE.

$$0 + 3(0) + 2(A) = 6 \Rightarrow A = 3 \Rightarrow y_p = 3$$

$$\therefore y = y_c + y_p = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{-2x} + 3$$

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2. Solve the DE by undetermined coefficients method: $4y'' + 9y = 15$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

Set $4y'' + 9y = 0$. Then $4m^2 + 9 = 0 \Rightarrow m = \pm \frac{3}{2}i$

$$\Rightarrow y_c = c_1 \cos\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) + c_2 \sin\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right)$$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = 15$, assume $y_p = A$. Since this is not a duplication with any solution of y_c , we proceed with the assumed y_p . Then $y'_p = 0$, $y''_p = 0$. Plug into DE.

$$4(0) + 9(A) = 15 \Rightarrow A = 15/9 = 5/3 \Rightarrow y_p = 5/3$$

$$\therefore y = y_c + y_p = c_1 \cos\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) + c_2 \sin\left(\frac{3}{2}x\right) + 5/3$$

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3. Solve the DE by undetermined coefficients method: $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 30x + 3$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

Set $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 0$. Then $m^2 - 10m + 25 = 0 \Rightarrow m = 5, m = 5$

$$\Rightarrow y_c = c_1 e^{5x} + c_2 x e^{5x}$$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = 30x + 3$, assume $y_p = Ax + B$. Since this is not a duplication with any solution of y_c , we proceed with the assumed y_p . Then $y'_p = A$, $y''_p = 0$. Plug into DE.

$$0 - 10(A) + 25(Ax + B) = 30x + 3 \Rightarrow 25Ax + (-10A + 25B) = 30x + 3$$

Equating the like coefficients, we have $25A = 30$; $-10A + 25B = 3$;

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{6}{5}; B = \frac{3}{5} \Rightarrow y_p = \frac{6}{5}x + \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\therefore y = y_c + y_p = c_1 e^{5x} + c_2 x e^{5x} + \frac{6}{5}x + \frac{3}{5}$$

4. Solve the DE by undetermined coefficients method: $y'' + y' - 6y = 2x$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

Set $y'' + y' - 6y = 0$. Then $m^2 + m - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow m = -3, m = 2$

$$\Rightarrow y_c = c_1 e^{-3x} + c_2 e^{2x}$$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = 2x$, assume $y_p = Ax + B$. Since this is not a duplication with any solution of y_c , we proceed with the assumed y_p . Then $y'_p = A$, $y''_p = 0$. Plug into DE.

$$0 + A - 6(Ax + B) = 2x \Rightarrow -6Ax + (A - 6B) = 2x$$

Equating the like coefficients, we have $-6A = 2$; $A - 6B = 0$;

$$\Rightarrow A = -\frac{1}{3}; B = -\frac{1}{18} \Rightarrow y_p = -\frac{1}{3}x - \frac{1}{18}$$

$$\therefore y = y_c + y_p = c_1 e^{-3x} + c_2 e^{2x} - \frac{1}{3}x - \frac{1}{18}$$

5. Solve the DE by undetermined coefficients method: $\frac{1}{4}y'' + y' + y = x^2 - 2x$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

Set $\frac{1}{4}y'' + y' + y = 0$. Then $\frac{1}{4}m^2 + m + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow m = -2, m = -2$

$$\Rightarrow y_c = c_1 e^{-2x} + c_2 x e^{-2x}$$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = x^2 - 2x$, assume $y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C$. Since this is not a duplication with any solution of y_c , we proceed with the assumed y_p . Then $y'_p = 2Ax + B$, $y''_p = 2A$. Plug into DE.

$$\frac{1}{4}(2A) + (2Ax + B) + (Ax^2 + Bx + C) = x^2 - 2x \Rightarrow Ax^2 + (2A + B)x + (\frac{1}{2}A + B + C) = x^2 - 2x$$

Equating the like coefficients, we have $A = 1$; $2A + B = -2$; $\frac{1}{2}A + B + C = 0$;

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{A = 1; \quad B = -4; \quad C = \frac{7}{2}} \Rightarrow \boxed{y_p = x^2 - 4x + \frac{7}{2}}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{y = y_c + y_p = c_1 e^{-2x} + c_2 x e^{-2x} + x^2 - 4x + \frac{7}{2}}$$

6. $y'' - 8y' + 20y = 100x^2 - 26xe^x$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

Set $y'' - 8y' + 20y = 0$. Then $m^2 - 8m + 20 = 0 \Rightarrow m = \frac{8 \pm \sqrt{-16}}{2} = 4 \pm 2i$

$$\Rightarrow y_c = e^{4x} [c_1 \cos 2x + c_2 \sin 2x]$$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = 100x^2 - 26xe^x$, assume $y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C + (Dx + E)e^x$. Since this is not a duplication with any solution of y_c , we proceed with the assumed y_p .

$$y'_p = 2Ax + B + (Dx + E)e^x + De^x = 2Ax + B + [Dx + (D + E)]e^x$$

$$y''_p = 2A + [Dx + (D + E)]e^x + De^x = 2A + [Dx + (2D + E)]e^x. \text{ Plug into DE.}$$

$$2A + [Dx + (2D + E)]e^x - 8[2Ax + B + [Dx + (D + E)]e^x] + 20[Ax^2 + Bx + C + (Dx + E)e^x]$$

$$= 100x^2 - 26xe^x$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2(20A) + x(-16A + 20B) + (2A - 8B + 20C) + xe^x(D - 8D + 20D) + e^x(2D + E - 8D - 8E + 20E) = 100x^2 - 26xe^x$$

Setting the like coefficients equal, we get

$$20A = 100, -16A + 20B = 0, 2A - 8B + 20C = 0, 13D = -26, -6D + 13E = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow A = 5, B = 4, C = \frac{11}{10}, D = -2, E = \frac{12}{13}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p = 5x^2 + 4x + \frac{11}{10} + \left(-2x + \frac{12}{13}\right) e^x$$

$$\Rightarrow y = e^{4x} [c_1 \cos 2x + c_2 \sin 2x] + 5x^2 + 4x + \frac{11}{10} + \left(-2x + \frac{12}{13}\right) e^x$$

7. Solve the DE by undetermined coefficients method: $y'' + 3y = -48x^2 e^{3x}$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

Set $y'' + 3y = 0$. Then $m^2 + 3 = 0 \Rightarrow m = \pm\sqrt{3}i$

$$\Rightarrow y_c = c_1 \cos(\sqrt{3}x) + c_2 \sin(\sqrt{3}x)$$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = -48x^2 e^{3x}$, assume $y_p = (Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{3x}$. Since this is not a duplication with any solution of y_c , we proceed with the assumed y_p .

$$\text{Then } y'_p = 3(Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{3x} + (2Ax + B)e^{3x} = [3Ax^2 + (2A + 3B)x + (B + 3C)] e^{3x},$$

$$y''_p = 3[3Ax^2 + (2A + 3B)x + (B + 3C)] e^{3x} + [6Ax + (2A + 3B)] e^{3x}$$

$$= [9Ax^2 + (12A + 9B)x + (2A + 6B + 9C)] e^{3x}.$$

Plug into DE.

$$[9Ax^2 + (12A + 9B)x + (2A + 6B + 9C)] e^{3x} + 3(Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{3x} = -48x^2 e^{3x}$$

$$\Rightarrow [12Ax^2 + (12A + 12B)x + (2A + 6B + 12C)] e^{3x} = -48x^2 e^{3x}$$

Equating the like coefficients, we have $12A = -48$; $12A + 12B = 0$; $2A + 6B + 12C = 0$;

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{A = -4; \quad B = 4; \quad C = -\frac{4}{3}} \Rightarrow \boxed{y_p = \left(-4x^2 + 4x - \frac{4}{3}\right) e^{3x}}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{y = y_c + y_p = c_1 \cos(\sqrt{3}x) + c_2 \sin(\sqrt{3}x) + \left(-4x^2 + 4x - \frac{4}{3}\right) e^{3x}}$$

8. Solve the DE by undetermined coefficients method: $4y'' - 4y' - 3y = \cos 2x$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

Set $4y'' - 4y' - 3y = 0$. Then $4m^2 - 4m - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow 4m^2 - 6m + 2m - 3 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow (2m + 1)(2m - 3) = 0 \Rightarrow m = -1/2, 3/2 \quad \Rightarrow y_c = c_1 e^{-x/2} + c_2 e^{3x/2}$$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = \cos 2x$, assume $y_p = A \cos 2x + B \sin 2x$. Since this is not a duplication with any solution of y_c , we proceed with the assumed y_p .

Then $y'_p = -2A \sin 2x + 2B \cos 2x \Rightarrow y''_p = -4A \cos 2x - 4B \sin 2x$. Plug into DE.

$$4[-4A \cos 2x - 4B \sin 2x] - 4[-2A \sin 2x + 2B \cos 2x] - 3[A \cos 2x + B \sin 2x] = \cos 2x$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos 2x[-16A - 8B - 3A] + \sin 2x[-16B + 8A - 3B] = \cos 2x$$

Equating the like coefficients, we have $-19A - 8B = 1, \quad 8A - 19B = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{A = -19/425; \quad B = -8/425} \Rightarrow \boxed{y_p = \frac{-19}{425} \cos 2x - \frac{8}{425} \sin 2x}$$

$$\therefore \boxed{y = y_c + y_p = c_1 e^{-x/2} + c_2 e^{3x/2} - \frac{19}{425} \cos 2x - \frac{8}{425} \sin 2x}$$

9. Solve the DE by undetermined coefficients method: $y'' - y' = -3$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

$$\text{Set } y'' - y' = 0. \text{ Then } m^2 - m = 0 \Rightarrow m = 0, 1 \quad \Rightarrow y_c = c_1 + c_2 e^x$$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = -3$, assume $y_p = A$.

But this is a duplication with c_1 in y_c . So, we re-assume $y_p \therefore \boxed{y_p = Ax}$.

Now there is no duplication with any solution of y_c .

Then $y'_p = A \Rightarrow y''_p = 0$. Plug into DE.

$$0 - A = -3 \Rightarrow \boxed{A = 3} \quad \boxed{y_p = 3x} \therefore \boxed{y = y_c + y_p = c_1 + c_2 e^x + 3x}$$

10. Solve the DE by undetermined coefficients method: $y'' + 2y' = 2x + 5 - e^{-2x}$.

Solution:

To find the complementary solution y_c :

Set $y'' + 2y' = 0$. Then $m^2 + 2m = 0 \Rightarrow m = 0, -2 \Rightarrow y_c = c_1 + c_2e^{-2x}$

To find the particular solution y_p :

Since $g(x) = 2x + 5 - e^{-2x}$, assume $y_p = y_{p1} + y_{p2} = Ax + B + Ce^{-2x}$.

Please note that we have two separate parts of $g(x)$: $g_1(x) = 2x + 5$; $g_2(x) = -e^{-2x}$.

Thus we have two corresponding particular solutions: $y_{p1} = Ax + B$, $y_{p2} = Ce^{-2x}$.

Observe that there are two sorts of duplication:

$B \in y_{p1}$ is a duplication of c_1 and $Ce^{-2x} \in y_{p2}$ is a duplication of c_2e^{-2x} in y_c .

So, we re-assume $y_p \therefore y_p = xy_{p1} + xy_{p2} = Ax^2 + Bx + Cxe^{-2x}$.

Now there is no duplication with any solution of y_c .

Then $y'_p = 2Ax + B + C[-2xe^{-2x} + e^{-2x}] = 2Ax + B - 2Cxe^{-2x} + Ce^{-2x}$

$\Rightarrow y''_p = 2A - 2C[-2xe^{-2x} + e^{-2x}] + -2Ce^{-2x} = 2A + 4Cxe^{-2x} - 4Ce^{-2x}$.

Plug into DE.

$2A + 4Cxe^{-2x} - 4Ce^{-2x} + 2[2Ax + B - 2Cxe^{-2x} + Ce^{-2x}] = 2x + 5 - e^{-2x}$

$\Rightarrow 4Ax + (2A + 2B) + xe^{-2x}[4C - 4C] + e^{-2x}[-4C + 2C] = 2x + 5 - e^{-2x}$

$\Rightarrow 4A = 2; 2A + 2B = 5; -2C = -1 \Rightarrow A = 1/2; B = 2; C = 1/2$

$\Rightarrow y_p = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x + \frac{1}{2}xe^{-2x} \therefore y = y_c + y_p = c_1 + c_2e^{-2x} + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + 2x + \frac{1}{2}xe^{-2x}$

In the following problems, we are given the complementary solution y_c and $g(x)$. Find the particular solution y_p . Be sure to detect duplication(s) and re-assume y_p .

1. $y_c = c_1 + c_2x + c_3x^2$; $g(x) = 2x + 3$

Solution:

$y_p = Ax + B$ - Duplication (Ax with c_2x and B with c_1). So, re-assume.

$y_p = Ax^2 + Bx$ - Duplication (Bx with c_2x and Ax^2 with c_3x^2). So, re-assume.

$y_p = Ax^3 + Bx^2$ - Duplication (Bx^2 with c_3x^2). So, re-assume

$y_p = Ax^4 + Bx^3$ - No duplications

2. $y_c = c_1 + c_2x + c_3x^2$; $g(x) = 4x + e^x$

Solution:

Here $g(x) = g_1(x) + g_2(x) = (4x) + (e^x)$

$y_p = y_{p1} + y_{p2} = (Ax + B) + (Ce^x)$ - Duplication (Ax with c_2x and B with c_1).

So, re-assume.

$$y_p = (Ax^2 + Bx) + (Ce^x) - \text{Duplication } (Bx \text{ with } c_2x).$$

Notice that we multiplied only $Ax + B$ by x and not Ce^x . This is because the duplication is with a term in y_{p1} and not in y_{p2} .

$$\text{So, re-assume. } y_p = (Ax^3 + Bx^2) + (Ce^x) - \text{Duplication } (Bx^2 \text{ with } c_3x^2)$$

So, re-assume.

$$\boxed{y_p = (Ax^4 + Bx^3) + (Ce^x)} - \text{No duplications.}$$

$$3. y_c = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x; \quad g(x) = x + 3 \sin x$$

Solution:

$$\text{Here } g(x) = g_1(x) + g_2(x) = (x) + (3 \sin x)$$

$$y_p = y_{p1} + y_{p2} = (Ax + B) + (C \cos x + D \sin x) - \text{Duplication } (D \sin x \text{ with } c_2 \sin x).$$

$$\text{So, re-assume. } \boxed{y_p = (Ax + B) + x(C \cos x + D \sin x)} - \text{No duplication.}$$

$$4. y_c = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x; \quad g(x) = 2 \cos x + 3 \sin x$$

Solution:

$$\text{Here } g(x) = 2 \cos x + 3 \sin x \text{ (No need to split this into } g_1 \text{ and } g_2.)$$

$$y_p = A \cos x + B \sin x - \text{Duplication } (A \cos x \text{ with } c_1 \cos x \text{ and } B \sin x \text{ with } c_2 \sin x).$$

$$\text{So, re-assume. } \boxed{y_p = x(A \cos x + B \sin x)} - \text{No duplication.}$$

$$5. y_c = c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x; \quad g(x) = x \cos x$$

Solution:

$$\text{Here } g(x) = x \cos x \text{ (No need to split this into } g_1 \text{ and } g_2.)$$

$$y_p = (Ax + B) \cos x + (Cx + D) \sin x - \text{Duplication } (B \cos x \text{ with } c_1 \cos x \text{ and } D \sin x \text{ with } c_2 \sin x).$$

$$\text{So, re-assume. } \boxed{y_p = x[(Ax + B) \cos x + (Cx + D) \sin x]} - \text{No duplication.}$$

$$6. y_c = c_1 e^{-6x} + c_2 e^{4x}; \quad g(x) = 16 - (x + 2)e^{4x}$$

Solution:

$$\text{Here } g(x) = g_1(x) + g_2(x) = (16) - [(x + 2)e^{4x}]$$

$$y_p = y_{p1} + y_{p2} = (A) + [(Bx + C)e^{4x}] - \text{Duplication } (Ce^{4x} \text{ with } c_2 e^{4x}).$$

$$\text{So, re-assume. } \boxed{y_p = (A) + [x(Bx + C)e^{4x}]} - \text{No duplication.}$$
