Homework 6 Solutions

Section 5.3 — Problem 1 — 10 points

Find the general solutions to the complementary equation.

The complementary equation is

$$y'' + 5y' - 6y = 0.$$

The characteristic equation is $r^2 + 5r - 6 = 0$. The roots are r = 1 and r = 5. So the general solution of the complementary equation is

$$y_h(x) = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{5x}.$$

Find a particular solution.

We have a degree 2 polynomial on the right-hand side of the ODE. We therefore suggest

$$y_{par}(x) = Ax^2 + Bx + C.$$

We have y' = 2Ax + B and y'' = 2A. Therefore, after pluging in the ODE:

$$2A + 5(2Ax + B) + Ax^2 + Bx + C = 22 + 18x - 18x^2$$
.

Gathering similar terms, we obtain the equation

$$2A + 5B + C + (10A + B)x + Ax^{2} = 22 + 18x - 18x^{2}.$$

We therefore get A = -18, 10A + B = 18, and 2A + 5B + C = -18. So

$$B = 18 + 180 = 198.$$

Finally, C = 36 - 990 = -954. Therefore, the particular solution we were seeking for is

$$y_{par}(x) = -18x^2 + 198x - 954.$$

General solution.

Combining y_h and y_{par} , we get

$$y(x) = y_h(x) + y_{par}(x) = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{5x} - 18x^2 + 198x - 954.$$

Section 5.3 — Problem 3 — 10 points

Find the general solution to the complementary equation.

The complementary equation is

$$y'' + 8y' + 7y = 0.$$

The characteristic equation is $r^2 + 8r + 7 = 0$. The roots are r = -1 and r = -7. Therefore, the general solution to the complementary equation is

$$y_h(x) = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{-7x}.$$

Find a particular solution.

We have a degree three polynomial on the right-hand side of the polynomial. We therefore suggest

$$y_{par}(x) = Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx + D.$$

We have $y'(x) = 3Ax^2 + 2Bx + C$ and y''(x) = 6Ax + 2B. After plugging in the ODE, we get

$$6Ax + 2B + 8(3Ax^{2} + 2Bx + C) + 7(Ax^{3} + Bx^{2} + Cx + D) = -8 - x + 24x^{2} + 7x^{3}.$$

Collecting the terms with the same power of x, we get

$$2B + 8C + 7D + (6A + 16B + 7C)x + (24A + 7B)x^{2} + 24Ax^{3} = -8 - x + 24x^{2} + 7x^{3}.$$

Therefore, we see that 24A = 7, 24A + 7B = 24, 6A + 16B + 7C = -1, and 2B + 8C + 7D = -8. After the dominous effect, we find that

$$A = 7/24, B = 17/7, C = -1165/196, D = 1700/343.$$

A particular solution is

$$y_{par}(x) = (7/24)x^3 + (17/7)x^2 - (1165/196)x + (1700/343).$$

General solution.

The general solution is therefore

$$y(x) = y_h(x) + y_{par}(x) = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{-7x} + (7/24)x^3 + (17/7)x^2 - (1165/196)x + (1700/343).$$

Section 5.3 — Problem 7 — 5 points

Suppose that we could find a particular solution of the form $y_{par}(x) = A + Bx + Cx^2$. Replacing in the ODE y' and y'', we find

$$2C + B + 2Cx = 1 + 2x + x^2 \iff (2C + B) + (2C)x + 0x^2 = 1 + 2x + x^2.$$

But, 0 in front of the x^2 on the left-hand side can't be equal to the 1 in front of the x^2 on the right-hand side. Therefore, the particular solution can't be of the form $A + Bx + Cx^2$.

Section 5.3 — Problem 15 — 5 points

Suppose that $y_{par}(x) = Ax^{\alpha}$, where A is a non-zero constant. To be a solution, the function y_{par} should satisfy the ODE. We have

$$y' = A\alpha x^{\alpha - 1}$$
 and $y'' = A\alpha(\alpha - 1)x^{\alpha - 2}$.

Substituting in the ODE, we get

$$ax^{2}(A\alpha(\alpha-1)x^{\alpha-2}) + bx(A\alpha x^{\alpha-1}) + cAx^{\alpha} = Mx^{\alpha}.$$

After simplifying, we obtain

$$aA\alpha(\alpha - 1)x^{\alpha} + bA\alpha x^{\alpha} + cAx^{\alpha} = Mx^{\alpha}.$$

Dividing through Ax^{α} , we get

$$a\alpha(\alpha - 1) + b\alpha + c = M/A.$$

Since $M/A \neq 0$, then $a\alpha(\alpha - 1) + b\alpha + c$ can't be zero. This was the claim made.

In the other direction, if $a\alpha(\alpha-1)+b\alpha+c\neq 0$, then there is some constant $M\neq 0$ such that

$$a\alpha(\alpha-1) + b\alpha + c = M.$$

Multiplying by x^{α} , we obtain

$$a\alpha(\alpha - 1)x^{\alpha} + b\alpha x^{\alpha} + cx^{\alpha} = Mx^{\alpha}$$

which can be rewritten as

$$ax^{2}\alpha(\alpha-1)x^{\alpha-2} + bx\alpha x^{\alpha} + cx^{\alpha} = Mx^{\alpha}.$$

Letting $y(x) = x^{\alpha}$, we therefore see that

$$ax^2y'' + bxx' + cy = Mx^{\alpha}.$$

Therefore, $y = x^{\alpha}$ is a particular solution (here, with A = 1).

Section 5.4 — Problem 15 — 10 points

Find the general solution to the complementary equation.

The complementary equation is

$$y'' - 3y' + 2y.$$

The characteristic equation is $r^2 - 3r + 2 = 0$. Therefore, the roots are r = 1 and r = 2. So, the general solution to the complementary equation is

$$y_h(x) = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{2x}$$
.

Find a particular solution.

The right-hand side if of the form exponential times a polynomial. Also, one of the root does not appear in the exponential. We therefore suggest

$$y_{par}(x) = Ae^{3x} + Bxe^{3x}.$$

We have

$$y' = 3Ae^{3x} + Be^{3x} + 3Bxe^{3x}$$
 and $y'' = 9Ae^{3x} + 3Be^{3x} + 9Bxe^{3x} + 3Be^{3x}$.

Replacing this in the ODE, we find

$$9Ae^{3x} + 3Be^{3x} + 9Bxe^{3x} + 3Be^{3x} - 3(3Ae^{3x} + Be^{3x} + 3Bxe^{3x}) + 2(Ae^{3x} + Bxe^{3x}) = e^{3x} + xe^{3x}.$$

Collecting similar terms together, we get

$$(2A+3B)e^{3x} + (2B)xe^{3x} = e^{3x} + xe^{3x}$$

We should have the same number of e^{3x} and xe^{3x} on both sides. Therefore, we find that

$$2B = 1$$
 and $2A + 3B = 1$.

We find that B = 1/2 and A = -1/4. The particular solution is therefore

$$y_{par}(x) = -\frac{e^{3x}}{4} + \frac{xe^{3x}}{2}.$$

General solution.

The general solution is therefore

$$y(x) = y_h(x) + y_{par}(x) = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{2x} - \frac{e^{3x}}{4} + \frac{xe^{3x}}{2}.$$

Section 5.4 — Problem 19 — 10 points

Find the general solution to the complementary equation.

The characteristic equation is $r^2 - 2r + 1 = 0$. There is only one root, r = 1. Therefore, the solution is

$$y_h(x) = c_1 e^x + c_2 x e^x.$$

Find a particular solution.

We have that both e^x and xe^x are solutions to the complementary equation. Therefore, based on the lecture notes, we suggest

$$y_{par}(x) = x^2 e^x (Ax + B) = Ax^3 e^x + Bx^2 e^x.$$

We have

$$y' = 3Ax^{2}e^{x} + Ax^{3}e^{x} + 2Bxe^{x} + Bx^{2}e^{x}$$
$$y'' = Ax^{3}e^{x} + (6A + B)x^{2}e^{x} + (6A + 4B)xe^{x} + 2Be^{x}$$

We plug this in the ODE:

$$Ax^{3}e^{x} + (6A + B)x^{2}e^{x} + (6A + 4B)xe^{x} + 2Be^{x} - 2(3Ax^{2}e^{x} + Ax^{3}e^{x} + 2Bxe^{x} + Bx^{2}e^{x}) + Ax^{3}e^{x} + Bx^{2}e^{x} = 2e^{x} - 12xe^{x}.$$

Collecting similar terms, we obtain

$$6Axe^x + 2Be^x = 2e^x - 12xe^x$$
.

We must have 6A = 2 and 2B = -12. Therefore, we conclude that A = 1/3 and B = -6. A particular solution to the ODE is

$$y_{par}(x) = \frac{1}{3}x^3e^x - 6x^2e^x.$$

General solution.

The general solution is

$$y(x) = y_h(x) + y_{par}(x) = c_1 e^x + c_2 x e^x + \frac{x^3 e^x}{3} - 6x^2 e^x.$$