

Week 5a:

Chapter 6, Section 1, 2, 3 and 6.5

6.1 Higher Order DE

6.2 Constant Coef, Homogeneous DE

6.3 Nonhomogeneous DE (undetermined coef)

6.5 Springs

General Solution: (1) to solve the 2nd order

linear DE $y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = 0$

find two linearly independent solutions y_1 and y_2 ,

then the general solution is $y_H = c_1y_1 + c_2y_2$.

(2) to solve the non-homogeneous 2nd order

linear DE $y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = F$,

find a particular solution y_p , then the general solution is $y = y_H + y_p$, where y_H is the solution of (1).

Problem 1:

Determine all values r so $y = e^{rx}$ is a

solution to $y'' - 4y' + 3y = 0$.

Find the general solution.

Solution:

For $y = e^{rx}$, we have $y' = re^{rx}$ and $y'' = r^2e^{rx}$.

Substitution in the DE gives

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= y'' - 4y' + 3y = r^2e^{rx} - 4re^{rx} + 3e^{rx} \\ &= (r^2 - 4r + 3)e^{rx}. \end{aligned}$$

Now $r^2 - 4r + 3 = (r - 3)(r - 1) = 0$ has roots $r_1 = 1$

and $r_2 = 3$, so we get solutions $y_1 = e^x$ and $y_2 = e^{3x}$,

so the general solution is $y = c_1e^x + c_2e^{3x}$.

Constant Coef, Homogeneous DE

When the DE $y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = 0$ has

coefficients a_1 and a_2 that are constant,

the two linearly independent solutions y_1 and y_2

in the general solution $y_H = c_1y_1 + c_2y_2$ may

be determined using the roots of the characteristic

polynomial $P(r) = r^2 + a_1r + a_2$.

Three cases:

(1) For distinct real roots r_1 and r_2 ,

$$y = c_1e^{r_1x} + c_2e^{r_2x}.$$

(2) For a repeated real root r_1 the 2nd independent

solution is $y_2 = xe^{r_1x}$, and $y = c_1e^{r_1x} + c_2xe^{r_1x}$.

(3) For a pair of complex roots $r = a + bi$ and $r = a - bi$

with a and b real, $b > 0$,

$$y = c_1e^{ax} \cos(bx) + c_2e^{ax} \sin(bx).$$

Recitation on 6.2.

Problem 2:

Solve $y'' - 6y' + 34y = 0$.

Solution:

The characteristic polynomial is $r^2 - 6r + 34$,

so the quadratic formula gives roots $\frac{6 \pm \sqrt{6^2 - 4 \cdot 34}}{2}$

$$= 3 \pm 5i. \text{ (why?)}$$

So $y = e^{3x}(c_1 \cos 5x + c_2 \sin 5x)$ is the general solution.

***Postscript:** We may

solve Example 5 with the IVP $y'' + 4y' + 4y = 0$, $y(0) = 1$, $y'(0) = 4$.

We also may solve other IVP problems (time

permitting). In any case, the calculation of constants

c_1 and c_2 to solve an IVP look rather different in

(at least) four cases: the three types of roots in the

homogeneous DE, and

(fourth) the non-homogeneous DE.

6.3 Undetermined Coefficients

Problem 3.

Solve $y'' - 4y' + 3y = 6e^{2x}$.

Solution:

(a) Find the general solution y_H of the homogeneous equation $y'' - 4y' + 3y = 0$.

$$(a) y_H = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{3x}.$$

(b) Determine the value of the constant A_0 so

$y_p = A_0 e^{2x}$ is a particular solution.

$$y_p = A_0 e^{2x}, y_p' = A_0(2e^{2x}), y_p'' = 4A_0 e^{2x}, \text{ so}$$

$$6e^{2x} = 4A_0 e^{2x} - 4(2A_0 e^{2x}) + 3(A_0 e^{2x})$$

$$= -A_0 e^{2x}, \text{ so } A_0 = -6, y_p = -6e^{2x}.$$

(c) Determine the general solution.

$$y = y_H + y_p = c_1 e^x + c_2 e^{3x} - 6e^{2x}.$$

Compare 3d: If $F = 3x^2$, find constants a_0, a_1 and a_2

$$\text{so } y_p = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2.$$

$y'_p = a_1 + 2xa_2$, $y''_p = 2a_2$ gives polynomial equation

$$3x^2 = 2a_2 - 4(a_1 + 2xa_2) + 3(a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2) \text{ all } x.$$

$$\mathbf{x^2\text{-coef:}} \quad 3 = 3a_2, \text{ so } a_2 = 1.$$

$$\mathbf{x\text{-coef:}} \quad 0 = -4(2a_2) + 3a_1 \text{ with } a_2 = 1, \text{ so } a_1 = \frac{8}{3}.$$

$$\mathbf{constant term:} \quad 0 = 2a_2 - 4(a_1) + 3(a_0), \text{ so } a_0 = \frac{26}{9}.$$

$$\text{So } y_p = \frac{26}{9} + \frac{8}{3}x + x^2.$$

We have one more **linearity property**:

If $y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = F_1$ and $y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = F_2$

have particular solutions y_{p1} and y_{p2} , then

$y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = F$, for $F = F_1 + F_2$, has

particular solution $y_p = y_{p1} + y_{p2}$.

Example: $y'' - 4y' + 3y = 6e^{2x} + 3x^2$ has

$$\text{solution } y_p = -6e^{2x} + \frac{26}{9} + \frac{8}{3}x + x^2.$$

Problem 4:

$$\text{Solve } y'' + 4y' + 5y = 24 \sin x.$$

Solution:

The usual trial function for $F(x) = 24 \sin x$ is

$y_p = A_0 \cos x + B_0 \sin x$. Before attempting to compute y'_p and y''_p to find A_0 and B_0 (the “undetermined coefficients”), we check y_H for

repetition. The homogeneous equation $y'' + 4y' + 5y = 0$

has characteristic polynomial $P(r) = r^2 + 4r + 5$. The quadratic formula gives roots $-2 \pm i$, say $r_1 = -2 + i$ and $r_2 = -2 - i$ (why?). But the “driving force”

$F(x) = 24 \sin x$ occurs as a solution of the DE with

roots $\pm i$, that is, $a \pm bi$ with $a = 0, b = 1$, which do not coincide with r_1, r_2 : the **usual**

$y_p = A_0 \cos x + B_0 \sin x$ is the correct choice.

Now with $y_p = A_0 \cos x + B_0 \sin x$, we have

$$y'_p = -A_0 \sin x + B_0 \cos x, \text{ and}$$

$$y''_p = -A_0 \cos x - B_0 \sin x. \text{ Substitution in the DE}$$

gives $24 \sin x = y''_p + 4y'_p + 5y_p$

$$= (-A_0 \cos x - B_0 \sin x) + 4(-A_0 \sin x + B_0 \cos x) + 5(A_0 \cos x + B_0 \sin x).$$

Equating like terms

$$\text{coef of } \cos x : -A_0 + 4B_0 + 5A_0 = 0, \text{ so } B_0 = -A_0.$$

$$\text{coef of } \sin x : -B_0 + 4(-A_0) + 5B_0 = 24,$$

so $-4A_0 + 4(B_0) = -8A_0 = 24$, gives $A_0 = -3, B_0 = 3$,

then $y_p = -3 \cos x + 3 \sin x$, and

$$y = y_H + y_p = e^{-2x}(c_1 \cos x + c_2 \sin x) - 3 \cos x + 3 \sin x.$$

Preliminaries on applications:

The above solution $y = y_H + y_p =$

$$e^{-2t}(c_1 \cos t + c_2 \sin t) - 3 \cos t + 3 \sin t$$

has a typical property found in our applications to springs and circuits. For physical reasons, y_H usually has an exponential decay as $t \rightarrow \infty$, so y_H is referred to as the **transient solution** and we get $y = y_H + y_p \rightarrow y_p$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$. We call y_p the **steady-state solution** because of this property.

Question: How does the behavior of y_p differ in the usual trial solution, as compared with the modified solution? (resonance)

Problem 4b:

Solve $y'' + 16y = 24 \cos(4x)$.

Solution:

There are several problems here. Taking $y_p = A \cos(4x)$ may not be enough, as $y'_p = -4A \sin(4x)$. So we might try $y_p = A \cos(4x) + B \sin(4x)$. While that would be the correct trial function for a problem like Solve $y'' + 2y' + 16y = 24 \cos(4x)$, it doesn't work here. The reason: the above equation has general homog solution $y_H = c_1 \cos 4x + c_2 \sin 4x$, so for any A and B we'd have $y_H + y_p = y_H$, with no new independent solutions.

Let's try again. **Problem 4b:**

$$\text{Solve } y'' + 16y = 24 \cos(4x).$$

Solution:

$$\text{Take } y_p = x(A \cos 4x + B \sin 4x).$$

$$\text{So } y'_p = (A \cos 4x + B \sin 4x) + x(-4A \sin 4x + 4B \cos 4x),$$

$$\text{and } y''_p =$$

$$= 2(-4A \sin 4x + 4B \cos 4x) + x(-16A \cos 4x - 16B \sin 4x),$$

So "equating like terms" in

$$24 \cos 4x = y''_p + 16y_p$$

$$= [2(-4A \sin 4x + 4B \cos 4x) +$$

$$x(-16A \cos 4x - 16B \sin 4x)] + 16(x(A \cos 4x + B \sin 4x))$$

$$\text{gives } 24 = 8B, 0 = -8A. \text{ So the above } y_p = 3x \sin(4x).$$

Recall **General Solution:** (2) to solve a 2nd order

non-homogeneous 2nd linear DE $y'' + a_1y' + a_2y = F$,

find a particular solution y_p , then the general

solution is $y = y_H + y_p$, where y_H is the general

solution of the homogeneous equation (same coef, $F = 0$).

Also recall that we have a collection of functions that

occur as solutions of (second order?) homogeneous DE:

$$(1) e^{ax}; (2) xe^{ax}; (3) x^2 \text{ (for } a = 0, y''' = 0);$$

$$\text{or, (4) } e^{ax} \cos(bx) \text{ or } e^{ax} \sin(bx).$$