

5.5 Nonhomogeneous Eqs: Undetermined Coefficients

$$y'' + ay' + by = f(x)$$

↑
↑
constants

if 0 → homogeneous (solution in 5.3)
if $\neq 0$ → nonhomogeneous

because eq. is linear → superposition applies

solution is $y = y_c + y_p$

↖ particular solution
(contribution from nonzero $f(x)$)

↖ complementary solution
(the homogeneous part, solve pretending $f(x)=0$)

The method of undetermined coeffs is one method to find y_p
effective if $f(x)$ is polynomial

exponential

sine and/or cosine

hyperbolic sine and hyp cosine

basic idea: "guess" the form of y_p based on the form of $f(x)$

example $y'' - 4y = 3x$

solution: $y = y_c + y_p$

y_c : solution to $y'' - 4y = 0$

$$r^2 - 4 = 0 \quad r = \pm 2$$

$$y_c = C_1 e^{2x} + C_2 e^{-2x}$$

y_p : "guess" a function w/ unknown coeff that
has the same form as $f(x)$

here, $f(x) = 3x \rightarrow$ first-deg polynomial

so, we "guess" $y_p = Ax + B$ 1st-deg polynomial
w/ unknown A, B

y_p is itself a solution, so we sub it into the eq. to find the undetermined coeffs.

$$y'' - 4y = 3x \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} y_p = Ax + B \\ y_p' = A \\ y_p'' = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$0 - 4(Ax + B) = 3x$$

$$\underline{-4Ax} - \underline{4B} = \underline{3x} + \underline{0}$$

$$\boxed{y_p = -\frac{3}{4}x}$$

$$-4A = 3$$

$$-4B = 0$$

$$\text{so, } A = -\frac{3}{4}, B = 0$$

$$\text{general solution: } y = y_c + y_p = \boxed{c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 e^{-2x} + \left(-\frac{3}{4}x\right)}$$

example

$$y'' - y' - 2y = 3e^x$$

$$y = y_c + y_p$$

y_c : solution to $y'' - y' - 2y = 0$

$\vdots$

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

y_p : matches the form of $f(x) = 3e^x$

$$y_p = Ae^x$$

$$y_p' = Ae^x$$

$$y_p'' = Ae^x$$

} sub into $y'' - y' - 2y = 3e^x$

$$Ae^x - Ae^x - 2Ae^x = 3e^x$$

$$-2Ae^x = 3e^x$$

$$A = -\frac{3}{2}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{2x} - \frac{3}{2} e^x$$

deriv of polynomial $\rightarrow$ polynomial

deriv of exponential $\rightarrow$ exponential

we need the derivs of y_p to keep the same form
for this method to work

if $f(x) = \cos x$ and we guess $y_p = A \cos x$

$$y_p' = -A \sin x \quad \text{NOT cosine any more!}$$

same if $f(x) = \sin x$

however, if we always guess $y_p = A \cos x + B \sin x$

$$\text{then } y_p' = -A \sin x + B \cos x$$

remains combo of cosine
and sine (great!)

so, even if right side only has cosine or sine, we

ALWAYS include both in y_p .

example $y'' - y' - 2y = \cos x$

left side same as last example

$$\text{so, } y_c = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{2x}$$

y_p needs BOTH cosine and sine

$$y_p = A \cos x + B \sin x$$

$$y_p' = -A \sin x + B \cos x$$

$$y_p'' = -A \cos x - B \sin x$$

} sub into $y'' - y' - 2y = \cos x$

$$-A \cos x - B \sin x + A \sin x - B \cos x - 2A \cos x - 2B \sin x = \cos x$$

$$(-3A - B) \cos x + (-3B + A) \sin x = 1 \cdot \cos x + 0 \cdot \sin x$$

$$-3A - B = 1$$

$$-3B + A = 0$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} -3A - B = 1 \\ -3B + A = 0 \end{array} \right\} \dots A = -\frac{3}{10} \quad B = -\frac{1}{10}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{2x} - \frac{3}{10} \cos x - \frac{1}{10} \sin x$$

example $y'' - y' - 2y = xe^{3x}$

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

$$f(x) = xe^{3x}$$

$$= xe^{3x} + 0 \cdot e^{3x} = (x + 0)e^{3x}$$

1st-order
polynomial

exponential

y_p matches form: $y_p = (Ax + B)e^{3x}$

$$y_p' = \dots$$

$$y_p'' = \dots$$

sub into $y'' - y' - 2y = xe^{3x}$

$$y_p = \left(\frac{1}{4}x - \frac{5}{16}\right)e^{3x}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{2x} + \left(\frac{1}{4}x - \frac{5}{16}\right)e^{3x}$$

problem: $f(x)$ matches the form of at least one of the functions in y_c

Example $y'' + 100y = \cos(10x)$

$$y_c: r^2 + 100 = 0 \quad r = \pm 10i$$

$$y_c = C_1 \cos(10x) + C_2 \sin(10x)$$

$$f(x) = \cos(10x)$$

guess $y_p = A \cos(10x) + B \sin(10x)$

Same!
Not indep.

fix: same as w/ repeated roots: toss x at it
until problem goes away

$$\text{correct } y_p = A x \cos(10x) + B x \sin(10x)$$

then sub into eq. as usual