

## Method of Undetermined Coefficients

①  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 6$

Complementary Solution :  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 0$

$$m^2 + 3m + 2 = 0$$

$$(m+1)(m+2) = 0 \Rightarrow m = -1, -2$$

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

Particular Solution :  $y_p = A \Rightarrow y_p' = y_p'' = 0$

$$\Rightarrow 2A = 6 \Rightarrow A = 3$$

$$y_p = 3$$

General Solution :  $y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 e^{-2x} + 3$

②  $y'' + 4y = 3 \sin(2x)$

Complementary Solution :  $y'' + 4y = 0$

$$m^2 + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow m = \pm 2i$$

$$y_c = c_1 \sin(2x) + c_2 \cos(2x)$$

Particular Solution : Initial guess would be  $y_p = A \sin(2x) + B \cos(2x)$

but these are contained in the complementary solution!

So take

$$y_p = Ax \sin(2x) + Bx \cos(2x)$$

$$y_p' = A \cos(2x) + 2Ax \sin(2x) + B \cos(2x) - 2Bx \sin(2x)$$

$$y_p'' = 2A \sin(2x) + 2A \cos(2x) - 4Ax \cos(2x) - 2B \cos(2x) - 2B \sin(2x) - 4Bx \sin(2x)$$

$$= 4A \cos(2x) - 4B \sin(2x) - 4Ax \cos(2x) - 4Bx \sin(2x)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p'' + 4y_p = 4A \cos(2x) - 4B \sin(2x) + (4A - 4A)x \cos(2x) + (4B - 4B)x \sin(2x) = 3 \sin(2x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 4A = 0 \\ -4B = 3 \end{cases} \Rightarrow A = 0; B = -3/4 \Rightarrow y_p = -\frac{3}{4} x \cos(2x)$$

General Solution :  $y = c_1 \sin(2x) + c_2 \cos(2x) - \frac{3}{4} x \cos(2x)$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad y'' + 2y' + y = \sin x + 3\cos(2x)$$

Complementary solution :  $y'' + 2y' + y = 0$

$$m^2 + 2m + 1 = 0$$

$$(m+1)^2 = 0$$

$$m = -1 \text{ (double root)}$$

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

Particular solution :  $y_p = A \sin x + B \cos x + C \sin(2x) + D \cos(2x)$

$$y_p' = A \cos x - B \sin x + 2C \cos(2x) - 2D \sin(2x)$$

$$y_p'' = -A \sin x - B \cos x - 4C \sin(2x) - 4D \cos(2x)$$

$$y_p'' + 2y_p' + y_p = -A \sin x - B \cos x - 4C \sin(2x) - 4D \cos(2x)$$

$$-2B \sin x + 2A \cos x - 4D \sin(2x) + 4C \cos(2x)$$

$$+ A \sin x + B \cos x + C \sin(2x) + D \cos(2x)$$

---


$$-2B \sin x + 2A \cos x + (-3C - 4D) \sin(2x) + (4C - 3D) \cos(2x)$$

$$= \sin x + 3 \cos(2x)$$

$$\begin{cases} -2B = 1 & \Rightarrow B = -1/2 \\ 2A = 0 & \Rightarrow A = 0 \\ -3C - 4D = 0 \\ 4C - 3D = 3 \end{cases}$$

$$y_p = -\frac{1}{2} \cos x + \frac{12}{25} \sin(2x) - \frac{9}{25} \cos(2x)$$

$$-12C - 16D = 0$$

$$12C - 9D = 9$$

$$/ \quad -25D = 9 \quad D = -9/25$$

$$C = \frac{3}{4}(D+1) = \frac{3}{4} \cdot \frac{16}{25} = \frac{12}{25}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{-x} + c_2 x e^{-x} - \frac{1}{2} \cos x + \frac{12}{25} \sin(2x) - \frac{9}{25} \cos(2x)$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad y'' - 10y' + 25y = 30x + 3$$

Complementary Solution:  $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 0$

$$m^2 - 10m + 25 = 0$$

$$(m - 5)^2 = 0$$

$$m = 5 \text{ (double root)}$$

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

Particular Solution:  $y_p = Ax + B$

$$y_p' = A$$

$$y_p'' = 0$$

$$y_p'' - 10y_p' + 25y_p = -10A + 25Ax + 25B$$

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

$$\begin{cases} 25A = 30 \\ 25B - 10A = 3 \end{cases}$$

$$A = 6/5$$

$$B = \frac{1}{25}(10A + 3) = \frac{1}{25} \cdot 15 \quad B = 3/5$$

$$y_p = \frac{6}{5}x + \frac{3}{5}$$

General Solution:

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

$$\textcircled{5} \quad y'' - y' = -3$$

Complementary Solution:  $y'' - y' = 0$

$$m^2 - m = 0 \Rightarrow m(m - 1) = 0 \Rightarrow m = 0, 1$$

$$y_c = c_1 + c_2 e^x$$

Particular Solution:  $y_p = Ax$  (the initial guess  $y_p = A$  is contained in  $y_c$ !)

$$y_p' = A; \quad y_p'' = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} y_p'' - y_p' &= -A \\ &= -3 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow A = 3 \Rightarrow y_p = 3x$$

General Solution:

$$y = c_1 + c_2 e^x + 3x$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad \frac{1}{4}y'' + y' + y = x^2 - 2x$$

Complementary Solution:  $\frac{1}{4}y'' + y' + y = 0$

$$\frac{1}{4}m^2 + m + 1 = 0$$

$$m^2 + 4m + 4 = 0$$

$$(m+2)^2 = 0$$

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

Particular Solution:  $y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C$

$$y_p' = 2Ax + B$$

$$y_p'' = 2A$$

$$\frac{1}{4}y_p'' + y_p' + y_p = \frac{1}{2}A + 2Ax + B + Ax^2 + Bx + C$$

$$= Ax^2 + (2A+B)x + \left(\frac{1}{2}A+B+C\right) = x^2 - 2x$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A=1 \\ 2A+B=-2 \Rightarrow 2+B=-2 \Rightarrow B=-4 \\ \frac{1}{2}A+B+C=0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(-4)+C=0 \Rightarrow C=7/2 \end{cases}$$

$$y_p = x^2 - 4x + 7/2$$

General Solution:  $y = c_1 e^{-2x} + c_2 x e^{-2x} + x^2 - 4x + 7/2$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad y'' + 3y = -48x^2 e^{3x}$$

Complementary Solution:  $y'' + 3y = 0$

$$m^2 + 3 = 0 \Rightarrow m = \pm i\sqrt{3}$$

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

Particular Solution:  $y_p = (Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{3x}$

$$y_p' = (2Ax + B)e^{3x} + 3(Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{3x}$$

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

$$y_p'' = (6Ax + (3B+2A))e^{3x} + 9(Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{3x}$$

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

$$y_p'' + 3y_p = (12Ax^2 + (12B+12A)x + (6B+2A+12C))e^{3x} = -48x^2 e^{3x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 12A = -48 \Rightarrow A = -4 \\ 12B + 12A = 0 \Rightarrow B = -A = 4 \\ 6B + 2A + 12C = 0 \Rightarrow 12C = -24 + 8 = -16 \Rightarrow C = -4/3 \end{cases}$$

$$y_p = (-4x^2 + 4x - 4/3)e^{3x}$$

General Solution:  $y = c_1 \sin(\sqrt{3}x) + c_2 \cos(\sqrt{3}x) - (4x^2 - 4x + 4/3)e^{3x}$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad y'' + y = 2x \sin x$$

Complementary Solution :  $y'' + y = 0$   
 $m^2 + 1 = 0$   
 $m = \pm i$

$$y_c = C_1 \sin x + C_2 \cos x$$

Particular Solution : Initial guess would be  $y_p = (Ax+B)\sin x + (Cx+D)\cos x$  but this duplicates the complementary solution. So, we multiply by  $x$  (and duplication is eliminated) :

$$y_p = (Ax^2+Bx)\sin x + (Cx^2+Dx)\cos x$$

$$y_p' = (2Ax+B)\sin x + (Ax^2+Bx)\cos x - (Cx^2+Dx)\sin x + (2Cx+D)\cos x$$

$$= (-Cx^2 + (2A-D)x + B)\sin x + (Ax^2 + (B+2C)x + D)\cos x$$

$$y_p'' = (-Cx^2 + (2A-D)x + B)\cos x + (-2Cx + (2A-D))\sin x + (2Ax + (B+2C))\cos x - (Ax^2 + (B+2C)x + D)\sin x$$

$$= (-Cx^2 + (4A-D)x + (2B+2C))\cos x + (-Ax^2 - (B+4C)x + (2A-2D))\sin x$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p'' + y_p = (-4Cx + (2A-2D))\sin x + (4Ax + (2B+2C))\cos x = 2x \sin x$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} -4C = 2 \\ 2A - 2D = 0 \\ 4A = 0 \\ 2B + 2C = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} C = -1/2 \\ A = 0 \\ D = 0 \\ B = 1/2 \end{cases}$$

$$y_p = \frac{1}{2}x \sin x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 \cos x$$

General Solution :

$$y = C_1 \sin x + C_2 \cos x + \frac{1}{2}x \sin x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 \cos x$$

⑨  $y'' - y' + \frac{1}{4}y = 3 + e^{x/2}$

Complementary Solution :  $y'' - y' + \frac{1}{4}y = 0$   
 $m^2 - m + \frac{1}{4} = 0$   
 $(m - 1/2)^2 = 0$

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

Particular Solution : Initial guess would be  $A + B e^{x/2}$

$y_p = A + B x^2 e^{x/2}$

↳ this part reproduces the  $y_c$ ,  
 so multiply by  $x^2$  (eliminates duplication)

$y_p' = 2Bx e^{x/2} + \frac{1}{2} B x^2 e^{x/2}$

$y_p'' = 2B e^{x/2} + Bx e^{x/2} + Bx e^{x/2} + \frac{1}{4} B x^2 e^{x/2}$

$y_p'' - y_p' + \frac{1}{4} y_p =$

$(2B + 2Bx + \frac{1}{4} B x^2) e^{x/2}$

$- (2Bx + \frac{1}{2} B x^2) e^{x/2}$

$+ \frac{1}{4} A + \frac{1}{4} B x^2 e^{x/2}$

$= \frac{1}{4} A + 2B e^{x/2}$

$= 3 + e^{x/2}$

$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4}A = 3 \\ 2B = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A = 12 \\ B = 1/2 \end{cases}$

$$y_p = 12 + \frac{1}{2} x^2 e^{x/2}$$

Q: Why didn't we also multiply the A by  $x^2$ ?

In problem (8) we had  $g(x) = 2x \sin x$  and so we multiplied the initial guess  $[(Ax+B) \sin x + (Cx+D) \cos x]$  by  $x$  → both terms were multiplied, so why not here? Because here (A) and  $(B e^{x/2})$  are actually 2 different guesses for two particular solutions - we are really doing superposition here!

#9:  $g(x) = 3 + e^{x/2}$  (sum of functions)  
 guess: A      guess:  $B e^{x/2} \cdot x^2$  to avoid  $y_c$

#8:  $g(x) = 2x \sin x$  (one function)  
 guess:  $[(Ax+B) \sin x + (Cx+D) \cos x] \cdot x$

this does have two terms, but they both come from  $g(x)$ .

If in (8)  $g(x)$  were instead  $g(x) = 2x \sin x + e^{3x}$  we would leave the guess for  $e^{3x}$  alone, i.e. we would put  $y_p = (Ax^2+Bx) \sin x + (Cx^2+Dx) \cos x + E e^{3x}$

General Solution :  $y = c_1 e^{x/2} + c_2 x e^{x/2} + \frac{1}{2} x^2 e^{x/2} + 12$



⑩  $y'' - 2y' + 5y = e^x \cos(2x)$

Complementary Solution :  $y'' - 2y' + 5y = 0$   
 $m^2 - 2m + 5 = 0$

$$\Delta = 4 - 20 = -16 \Rightarrow m = \frac{2 \pm 4i}{2} = 1 \pm 2i$$

$$y_c = e^x (c_1 \sin(2x) + c_2 \cos(2x))$$

Particular Solution : Initial guess would be :  $Ae^x \cos(2x) + Be^x \sin(2x)$   
 (multiply by  $x$  to eliminate duplication of  $y_c$ ) :

$$y_p = Axe^x \cos(2x) + Bxe^x \sin(2x)$$

$$y_p' = Ae^x \cos(2x) + Axe^x \cos(2x) - 2Axe^x \sin(2x) + Be^x \sin(2x) + Bxe^x \sin(2x) + 2Bxe^x \cos(2x)$$

$$= \left[ (A + (A+2B)x) \cos(2x) + (B + (B-2A)x) \sin(2x) \right] e^x$$

$$y_p'' = \left[ (A + (A+2B)x) \cos(2x) + (B + (B-2A)x) \sin(2x) + (A+2B) \cos(2x) - 2(A + (A+2B)x) \sin(2x) + (B-2A) \sin(2x) + 2(B + (B-2A)x) \cos(2x) \right] e^x$$

$$= \left[ (2A+4B + (4B-3A)x) \cos(2x) + (2B-4A + (-4A-3B)x) \sin(2x) \right] e^x$$

$$y_p'' - 2y_p' + 5y_p = (4B) \cos(2x) e^x + (-4A) \sin(2x) e^x = e^x \cos(2x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 4B = 1 \\ -4A = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} B = 1/4 \\ A = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$y_p = \frac{1}{4} x e^x \sin(2x)$$

General Solution :  $y = c_1 e^x \sin(2x) + c_2 e^x \cos(2x) + \frac{1}{4} x e^x \sin(2x)$

(11)  $y''' - 6y'' = 3 - \cos x$

Complementary Solution :  $y''' - 6y'' = 0$   
 $m^3 - 6m^2 = 0$   
 $m^2(m-6) = 0$

$$y_c = C_1 + C_2x + C_3e^{6x}$$

Particular Solution :  $y_p = \underbrace{Ax^2}_{\text{this comes from the constant 3,}} + \underbrace{B\cos x + C\sin x}_{\text{these come from } \cos x}$

Initial guess would be just "A" but we must multiply by  $x^2$  to eliminate duplication of the  $C_1$  and  $C_2x$  in  $y_c$ .

$$y_p = Ax^2 + B\cos x + C\sin x$$

$$y_p' = 2Ax - B\sin x + C\cos x$$

$$y_p'' = 2A - B\cos x - C\sin x$$

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

$$y_p''' - 6y_p'' = -12A + (6B - C)\cos x + (6C + B)\sin x = 3 - \cos x$$

$$\begin{cases} -12A = 3 & A = -1/4 \\ 6B - C = -1 \\ 6C + B = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$C = 6B + 1$$

$$36B + 6 + B = 0 \Rightarrow B = -6/37$$

$$\Rightarrow C = 1/37$$

$$y_p = -\frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{6}{37}\cos x + \frac{1}{37}\sin x$$

General Solution :  $y = C_1 + C_2x + C_3e^{6x} - \frac{1}{4}x^2 - \frac{6}{37}\cos x + \frac{1}{37}\sin x$



$$(12) \quad y'' + y = 8 \sin^2 x$$

Complementary Solution :  $y_c = C_1 \sin x + C_2 \cos x$

Particular Solution : How to handle  $8 \sin^2 x$ ? Trigonometric Identity :

$$\cos(2\alpha) = \cos^2 \alpha - \sin^2 \alpha = 2\cos^2 \alpha - 1 = 1 - 2\underline{\sin^2 \alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sin^2 \alpha = \frac{1 - \cos(2\alpha)}{2}$$

$$y'' + y = 4 - 4\cos(2x)$$

$$y_p = A + B \cos(2x) + C \sin(2x)$$

$$y_p' = -2B \sin(2x) + 2C \cos(2x)$$

$$y_p'' = -4B \cos(2x) - 4C \sin(2x)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} y_p'' + y_p = A - 3B \cos(2x) - 3C \sin(2x) \\ = 4 - 4\cos(2x) \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A = 4 \\ 3B = 4 \Rightarrow B = 4/3 \\ 3C = 0 \Rightarrow C = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$y_p = 4 + \frac{4}{3} \cos(2x)$$

General Solution :  $y = C_1 \sin x + C_2 \cos x + 4 + \frac{4}{3} \cos(2x)$

13)  $y'' + 4y = -2$ ;  $y(\pi/8) = 1/2$ ;  $y'(\pi/8) = 2$ .

Complementary Solution:  $y'' + 4y = 0$   
 $m^2 + 4 = 0$   
 $m = \pm 2i$

$$y_c = c_1 \sin(2x) + c_2 \cos(2x)$$

Particular Solution:  $y_p = A \Rightarrow y_p' = y_p'' = 0$

$$\Rightarrow y_p'' + 4y_p = 4A = -2$$

$$\Rightarrow A = -1/2 \quad y_p = -1/2$$

General Solution:  $y = c_1 \sin(2x) + c_2 \cos(2x) - 1/2$   
 $y' = 2c_1 \cos(2x) - 2c_2 \sin(2x)$

IVP:  $y(\pi/8) = c_1 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} + c_2 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - 1/2 = 1/2 \Rightarrow (c_1 + c_2) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} = 1 \Rightarrow c_1 + c_2 = \sqrt{2}$

$$y'(\pi/8) = 2c_1 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} - 2c_2 \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} = 2 \Rightarrow (c_1 - c_2) \sqrt{2} = 2 \Rightarrow c_1 - c_2 = \sqrt{2}$$

$$y = \sqrt{2} \sin(2x) - 1/2$$

$$2c_1 = 2\sqrt{2} \Rightarrow c_1 = \sqrt{2}; c_2 = 0$$

14)  $5y'' + y' = -6x$ ;  $y(0) = 0$ ;  $y'(0) = -10$

Complementary Solution:  $5m^2 + m = 0$   
 $m(5m + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow \{0, -1/5\}$

$$y_c = c_1 + c_2 e^{-x/5}$$

Particular Solution:  $y_p = Ax^2 + Bx$  (initial guess  $Ax + B$  duplicates  $c_1$  in  $y_c$ )  
 $y_p' = 2Ax + B$ ;  $y_p'' = 2A$

$$5y_p'' + y_p' = 10A + 2Ax + B = 2Ax + (10A + B) = -6x$$

$$\begin{cases} 2A = -6 \\ 10A + B = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$A = -3$$

$$B = 30$$

$$y_p = -3x^2 + 30x$$

General Solution:  $y = c_1 + c_2 e^{-x/5} - 3x^2 + 30x$   
 $y' = -\frac{1}{5}c_2 e^{-x/5} - 6x + 30$

IVP:  $0 = y(0) = c_1 + c_2$

$$c_1 + c_2 = 0$$

$$-10 = y'(0) = -\frac{1}{5}c_2 + 30$$

$$-\frac{1}{5}c_2 = -40 \Rightarrow c_2 = 200 \quad c_1 = -200$$

$$y = -200 + 200e^{-x/5} - 3x^2 + 30x$$

$$(15) \quad y'' + y = x^2 + 1; \quad y(0) = 5, \quad y(1) = 0$$

Complementary Solution :  $y_c = C_1 \sin x + C_2 \cos x$

Particular Solution :  $y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C$

$$y_p' = 2Ax + B$$

$$y_p'' = 2A$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_p'' + y_p &= 2A + Ax^2 + Bx + C \\ &= Ax^2 + Bx + (2A + C) \\ &= x^2 + 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{cases} A = 1 \\ B = 0 \\ 2A + C = 1 \Rightarrow C = -1 \end{cases}$$

$$y_p = x^2 - 1$$

General Solution :  $y = C_1 \sin x + C_2 \cos x + x^2 - 1$

IVP :  $5 = y(0) = C_2 - 1 \Rightarrow C_2 = 6$

$$0 = y(1) = C_1 \sin 1 + C_2 \cos 1 \Rightarrow C_1 \sin 1 = -6 \cos 1 \Rightarrow C_1 = -6 \cot(1)$$

$$y = -6 \cot(1) \sin x + 6 \cos x + x^2 - 1$$