

## 2-Nonhomogeneous linear equations with constant coefficients

A second order nonhomogeneous equation with constant coefficients is written as

$$ay'' + by' + cy = R(x) \quad \dots (1)$$

where  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  are constant  $a \neq 0$ ,  $R(x) \neq 0$ .

### I- Undetermined Coefficients

We use the method of undetermined coefficients for finding particular solutions  $y_p$  when  $R(x)$  is one of the forms shown in table.

$R(x)$	Notes	Form of $y_p$
$ax^n$	$n \geq 0$	$A_n x^n + A_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + A_2 x^2 + A_1 x + A_0$
$ae^{rx}$	$r \neq m_1 \neq m_2$	$Ae^{rx}$
	$r = m_1$ or $r = m_2$	$Axe^{rx}$
	$r = m_1 = m_2$	$Ax^2 e^{rx}$
$a \sin kx$ or	$k \neq \beta$	$A \sin kx + B \cos kx$
	$k = \beta$	$x(A \sin kx + B \cos kx)$

We write the general solution of (1) as the sum of the homogeneous  $y_h$  and particular solutions  $y_p$ .  $y = y_h + y_p$

**Example 1:** Solve  $y'' - y' - 12y = 36x - 15$

**Solution:** First, we solve the homogeneous equation. The characteristic equation is

$$m^2 - m - 12 = 0 \Rightarrow (m + 3)(m - 4) = 0 \Rightarrow m_1 = -3, \quad m_2 = 4 \square$$

$$y_h = c_1 e^{-3x} + c_2 e^{4x} \square$$

Second, let  $y_p = Ax + B$  then  $y_p' = A$  and  $y_p'' = 0 \square$

Upon substitution into the differential equation, we have

$$0 - A - 12(Ax + B) = 36x - 15 \Rightarrow \underbrace{-12Ax}_{36x} \underbrace{-A - 12B}_{-15} = \underbrace{36x}_{36x} \underbrace{-15}_{-15} \quad \square$$

$$-12A = 36 \Rightarrow A = -3 \quad \text{and} \quad -A - 12B = -15 \Rightarrow B = 1$$

$$\text{So} \quad y_p = -3x + 1$$

$$\text{Then} \quad y = y_h + y_p = c_1 e^{-3x} + c_2 e^{4x} - 3x + 1 \square$$

**Example 2:** Solve  $y'' - 2y' + 5y = 10x^2 + 7x$

**Solution:** First, we solve the homogeneous equation. The characteristic equation is

$$m^2 - 2m + 5 = 0 \quad \square$$

$$m = \frac{-b \mp \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-(-2) \mp \sqrt{(2)^2 - 4 \times 1 \times 5}}{2 \times 1} = 1 \mp 2i$$

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

Second, let  $y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C$  then  $y_p' = 2Ax + B$  and  $y_p'' = 2A$   $\square$

Upon substitution into the differential equation, we have

$$2A - 4Ax - 2B + 5Ax^2 + 5Bx + 5C = 10x^2 + 7x \square$$

$$\underline{5Ax^2} + \underline{(-4A + 5B)x} + (2A - 2B + 5C) = \underline{10x^2} + \underline{7x} + 0 \square$$

Equating coefficient  $x^2$  on the left side with the coefficient  $x^2$  in the right side we get

$$5A = 10 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad A = 2$$

By the same way equate coefficient  $x$ :  $-4A + 5B = 7 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad B = 3$

And  $2A - 2B + 5C = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad C = 2/5$

So  $y_p = 2x^2 - 3x + 2/5$

$$\therefore y = y_h + y_p = e^x(c_1 \sin 2x + c_2 \cos 2x) + 2x^2 - 3x + 2/5 \square$$

**Example 3:** Solve  $y'' - y' - 6y = 8e^{2x}$

**Solution:** First, we solve the homogeneous equation. The characteristic equation is

$$m^2 - m - 6 = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad (m - 3)(m + 2) = 0 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad m_1 = 3 \quad , \quad m_2 = -2 \square$$

$$y_h = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-2x}$$

Second, we find a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation. The form of the particular solution is chosen such that the exponential will cancel out of both sides of the differential equation. We choose

$$y_p = Ae^{2x} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad y_p' = 2Ae^{2x} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad y_p'' = 4Ae^{2x}$$

$$4A - 2A - 6A = 8 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad A = -2$$

So  $y_p = -2e^{2x}$

Then  $y = y_h + y_p = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-2x} - 2e^{2x}$

**Example 4:** Solve  $y'' - 5y' + 6y = 2e^{3x}$

**Solution:**  $m^2 - 5m + 6 = 0 \Leftrightarrow (m - 3)(m - 2) = 0 \Leftrightarrow m_1 = 3, m_2 = 2$

$$y_h = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{2x} \square$$

$$m_1 = r = 3 \text{ so } y_p = Axe^{3x}$$

$$y_p' = 3Axe^{3x} + Ae^{3x}$$

$$y_p'' = 9Axe^{3x} + 3Ae^{3x} + 3Ae^{3x} = 9Axe^{3x} + 6Ae^{3x}$$

$$9Axe^{3x} + 6Ae^{3x} - 15Axe^{3x} - 5Ae^{3x} + 6Axe^{3x} = 2e^{3x}$$

$$A = 2$$

$$\text{So } y_p = 2e^{3x}$$

$$\text{Then } y = y_h + y_p = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{2x} + 2e^{3x}$$

**Example 5:** Solve  $y'' - 3y' - 4y = 2 \sin 2x$

**Solution:** The characteristic equation is  $m^2 - 3m - 4 = 0 \Leftrightarrow m_1 = 4, m_2 = -1$

$$y_h = c_1 e^{4x} + c_2 e^{-x} \square$$

$$\text{Now let } y_p = A \sin 2x + B \cos 2x \quad \square$$

$$y_p' = 2A \cos 2x - 2B \sin 2x \quad \text{and} \quad y_p'' = -4A \sin 2x - 4B \cos 2x$$

Upon substitution into the differential equation, we obtain

$$\underline{-4A \sin 2x} \underline{-4B \cos 2x - 6A \cos 2x} + \underline{6B \sin 2x - 4A \sin 2x} \underline{-4B \cos 2x} = \underline{2 \sin 2x}$$

$$-8A + 6B = 2 \Leftrightarrow -4A + 3B = 1 \quad \square$$

$$-6A - 8B = 0 \Leftrightarrow -3A - 4B = 0$$

$$A = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -4 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} -4 & 3 \\ -3 & -4 \end{vmatrix}} = -\frac{4}{25} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} -4 & 1 \\ -3 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} -4 & 3 \\ -3 & -4 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{3}{25}$$

$$y_p = -\frac{4}{25} \sin 2x + \frac{3}{25} \cos 2x$$

$$\text{So that } y = y_h + y_p = c_1 e^{4x} + c_2 e^{-x} - \frac{4}{25} \sin 2x + \frac{3}{25} \cos 2x \square$$

**Example 6:** Solve  $y'' - 8y' + 16y = 23 \cos x - 7 \sin x$

**Solution:** The characteristic equation is  $m^2 - 8m + 16 = 0 \Rightarrow m_1 = m_2 = 4$

$$y_h = (c_1x + c_2)e^{4x} \square$$

Now let  $y_p = A \sin x + B \cos x$   $\square$

$$y_p' = A \cos x - B \sin x \quad \text{and} \quad y_p'' = -A \sin x - B \cos x$$

$$-A \sin x - B \cos x - 8A \cos x + 8B \sin x + 16A \sin x + 16B \cos x$$

$$= 23 \cos x - 7 \sin x$$

$$15A + 8B = -7 \quad \text{and} \quad -8A + 15B = 23 \square$$

$$A = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} -7 & 8 \\ 23 & 15 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 15 & 8 \\ -8 & 15 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{-289}{289} = -1 \quad \text{and} \quad B = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 15 & -7 \\ -8 & 23 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 15 & 8 \\ -8 & 15 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{289}{289} = 1$$

$$y_p = -\sin x + \cos x$$

$$y = y_h + y_p = (c_1x + c_2)e^{4x} - \sin x + \cos x \square$$

**Example 7:** Solve  $y'' - 6y' + 13y = 2 \sin x - 3 \cos x$

**Solution:**  $m^2 - 6m + 13 = 0$

$$m = \frac{-b \mp \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-(-6) \mp \sqrt{(-6)^2 - 4 \times 1 \times 13}}{2 \times 1} = 3 \mp 4i$$

$$y_h = e^{3x}(c_1 \sin 4x + c_2 \cos 4x)$$

Now let  $y_p = A \sin x + B \cos x$   $\square$

$$y_p' = A \cos x - B \sin x \quad \text{and} \quad y_p'' = -A \sin x - B \cos x$$

$$-A \sin x - B \cos x - 6A \cos x + 6B \sin x + 13A \sin x + 13B \cos x = 2 \sin x - 3 \cos x$$

$$12A + 6B = 2 \Rightarrow 6A + 3B = 1$$

$$-6A + 12B = -3 \Rightarrow -2A + 4B = -1$$

$$A = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ -1 & 4 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 6 & 3 \\ -2 & 4 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{7}{30} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 6 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 6 & 3 \\ -2 & 4 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{-4}{30} = -\frac{2}{15}$$

$$y_p = (7/30) \sin x - (2/15) \cos x$$

$$y = y_h + y_p = e^{3x}(c_1 \sin 4x + c_2 \cos 4x) + (7/30) \sin x - (2/15) \cos x$$

**Example 8:** Solve  $y'' + y = 4\sin x$

**Solution:**  $m^2 + 1 = 0 \rightarrow m = \pm i$

$$y_h = c_1 \sin x + c_2 \cos x$$

$$k = \beta = 1$$

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} y_p'' &= x(-A \sin x - B \cos x) + A \cos x - B \sin x + A \cos x - B \sin x \\ &= -x(A \sin x + B \cos x) + 2A \cos x - 2B \sin x \end{aligned}$$

Upon substitution into the differential equation, we obtain

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

$$2A \cos x - 2B \sin x = 4\sin x \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad A = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad -2B = 4 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad B = -2$$

$$y_p = -2x \cos x$$

$$y = y_h + y_p = c_1 \sin x + c_2 \cos x - 2x \cos x$$

### Exercises

For each of the following problem solve the differential equation

(1)  $y'' - 2y' + y = x^2 - x - 3$

(2)  $y'' + 7y' + 12y = 4e^{2x}$

(3)  $y'' + 8y' + 12y = 3 \cos x$

(4)  $y'' - 2y' + 10y = 54e^{-2x}$

(5)  $y'' + 2y' + 2y = \sin 2x + 5 \cos 2x$

(6)  $y'' - 6y' + 9y = 4 \sin x - 3 \cos x$

(7)  $y'' + 4y' + 3y = 4e^{-x}$

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