

# **Undetermined Coefficients**

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# Agenda

1. Review HW p. 14.1 #1-23 odd
2. Determine the general solution of a nonhomogeneous second order diff. eq. using undetermined coefficients.



## **Second Order Nonhomogeneous Diff. Eq. with constant coefficients:**

$$y'' + py' + qy = r(x)$$

**Recall:** The general solution of  $y'' + py' + qy = 0$

is of the form:  $y_c(x) = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x)$

where  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  depend on solutions to characteristic equation:

$$m^2 + pm + q = 0$$



**Theorem:** The general solution  $y_g$  of the second order nonhomogeneous differential equation with constant coefficients

$$y'' + py' + qy = r(x)$$

is of the form:

$$y_g(x) = y_c(x) + y_p(x)$$

where  $y_c$  is the solution to the characteristic equation and  $y_p$  is any particular solution of the nonhomogeneous diff. eq.



## Method of Undetermined Coefficients

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

$$m^2 + 2m - 8 = 0$$

$$(m+4)(m-2) = 0$$

$$m = -4, 2$$

$$y_c = c_1 e^{-4x} + c_2 e^{2x}$$

$$\text{TRY: } y_p = Ae^{3x}$$

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

$$y_p'' = 9Ae^{3x}$$

$$9Ae^{3x} + 6Ae^{3x} - 8Ae^{3x} = e^{3x}$$

$$7Ae^{3x} = e^{3x}$$

$$7A = 1 \\ A = \frac{1}{7}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p = \frac{1}{7}e^{3x}$$

$$\therefore y_g = y_c + y_p$$



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

$$m^2 - m - 6 = 0$$

$$(m-3)(m+2) = 0$$

$$m = 3, -2$$

$$y_c = C_1 e^{3x} + C_2 e^{-2x}$$

TRY  $y_p = Ax e^{3x} \Rightarrow$  NOT independent.  
OF  $y_c$

$$y_p = Ax e^{3x}$$

$$y_p = Ax e^{3x}$$

$$y_p' = Ax \cdot 3e^{3x} + e^{3x} \cdot A = 3Ax e^{3x} + Ae^{3x}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_p'' &= 9Ax e^{3x} + 3Ae^{3x} + 3Ae^{3x} \\ &= 9Ax e^{3x} + 6Ae^{3x} \end{aligned}$$

$$\cancel{9Ax e^{3x}} + \underline{6Ae^{3x}} - \cancel{3Ax e^{3x}} - \cancel{Ae^{3x}} - \cancel{6Ae^{3x}} = e^{3x}$$

$$5Ae^{3x} = e^{3x}$$

$$5A = 1$$

$$A = 1/5$$

$$y_p = \frac{1}{5} x e^{3x}$$

$$\therefore y_g = y_c + y_p$$



## Notes:

1. If your choice for  $y_p$  is linearly dependent on  $y_c$  then you must adjust  $y_p$ .
2. Multiply by powers of  $x$  until you get what you need.



**Example:**  $y'' + y' = 4x^2$

$$m^2 + m = 0$$

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

$$m = D_1 - 1$$

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

TRY  $\cancel{y_p} = A_0 + A_1 x + A_2 x^2$

$$y_p = A_0 x + A_1 x^2 + A_2 x^3$$

\* THIS IS NOT  
INDEPENDENT  
OF  $y_c$  \*

$$y_p = A_0 x + A_1 x^2 + A_2 x^3$$

$$\cancel{y_p}' = A_0 + 2A_1 x + 3A_2 x^2$$

$$\cancel{y_p}'' = 2A_1 + 6A_2 x$$

$$\underline{2A_1} + \underline{6A_2 x} + \underline{A_0} + \underline{2A_1 x} + \underline{3A_2 x^2} = \underline{\underline{4x^2}}$$

$$2A_1 + A_0 = 0 \quad 6A_2 + 2A_1 = 0$$

$$2(-4) + A_0 = 0 \quad 8 + 2A_1 = 0$$

$$A_0 = 8$$

$$A_1 = -4$$

$$3A_2 = 4$$

$$A_2 = 4/3$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p = 8x + -4x^2 + 4/3x^3$$

$$\therefore y_g = y_c + y_p$$



**Example:**  $y'' - 2y' + y = \sin 2x$

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

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

$$y_c = C_1 e^x + C_2 x e^x$$

$$y_p = A_1 \sin 2x + A_2 \cos 2x$$

$$y_p' = 2A_1 \cos 2x - 2A_2 \sin 2x$$

$$y_p'' = -4A_1 \sin 2x - 4A_2 \cos 2x$$

$$\begin{aligned} & -4A_1 \sin 2x - 4A_2 \cos 2x - 4A_1 \cos 2x + 4A_2 \sin 2x \\ & + A_1 \sin 2x + A_2 \cos 2x = \sin 2x \end{aligned}$$

$$3(-3A_1 + 4A_2 = 1)$$

$$4(-4A_1 - 3A_2 = 0)$$

$$-25A_1 = 3$$

$$A_1 = -\frac{3}{25}$$

$$+4(+\frac{3}{25}) - 3A_2 = 0$$

$$-3A_2 = -\frac{12}{25}$$

$$A_2 = \frac{4}{25}$$

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

$$\therefore y_g = y_c + y_p$$



If  $r(x)$  is of the form...

$$ke^{ax}$$

$$a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \cdots + a_n x^n$$

$$a_1 \cos bx + a_2 \sin bx$$

make  $y_p$  of the form...

$$Ae^{ax}$$

$$A_0 + A_1 x + A_2 x^2 + \cdots + A_n x^n$$

$$A_1 \cos bx + A_2 \sin bx$$



**Homework:**

**Anton 14.2 # 1 – 23 odd**

