

2nd Order ODE: Undetermined Coefficients

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Second-Order Differential Equations

Learning Objective:

1. To apply Undetermined Coefficients to Non Homogeneous 2nd order ODE
2. To identify the types of 2nd order Ordinary Differential Equation



Second-Order Differential Equations

Chapter Contents:

- **Preliminary Theory on Linear Equations**
- **Reduction of Order**
- **Homogeneous Linear Equations with Constant Coefficients**
- Undetermined Coefficients
- Variation of Parameters
- Cauchy-Euler Equation



Second-Order Differential Equations

- **Reduction of Order**
- **Homogeneous Linear Equations with Constant Coefficients**

To solve
Homogeneous Second
Order DE

- Undetermined Coefficients
- Variation of Parameters
- Cauchy-Euler Equation

To solve
Nonhomogeneous Second
Order DE



Second-Order Differential Equations

Undetermined Coefficients



Undetermined Coefficients

Undetermined Coefficients – Superposition Approach

To solve a nonhomogeneous linear differential equation,

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = g(x)$$

we must do 2 things:

1. Find the complementary function, $y_c = c_1y_1 + c_2y_2$
2. Find the particular solution y_p of the nonhomogeneous equation.



Undetermined Coefficients

Undetermined Coefficients – Superposition Approach

Thus, we can obtain the general solution:

$$y = y_c + y_p$$

$$y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + y_p$$



Undetermined Coefficients

Undetermined Coefficients – Superposition Approach

The disadvantage of this method is that it is limited to linear differential equations, such as:

- the coefficients are constant, and
- $g(x)$ is a:
 1. Constant k ,
 2. Polynomial function
 3. Exponential function ($e^{\alpha x}$)
 4. Sine or cosine function

Undetermined Coefficients

Undetermined Coefficients – Superposition Approach

Some examples of functions that are appropriate for this method:

$$g(x) = 10$$

$$g(x) = \sin 3x - 5x \cos 2x$$

$$g(x) = x^2 - 5x$$

$$g(x) = 15x - 6 + 8e^{-x}$$

$$g(x) = xe^x \sin x + (3x^2 - 1)e^{-4x}$$



Undetermined Coefficients

Undetermined Coefficients – Superposition Approach

Some examples of functions that are **NOT** applicable for this method:

$$g(x) = \ln x$$

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$g(x) = \tan x$$

$$g(x) = \sin^{-1} x$$



Undetermined Coefficients

Example 1:

Find the general solution for $y''+4y'-2y = 2x^2 - 3x + 6$

Solution:

Step 1 Solve the associated homogeneous equation $y''+4y'-2y = 0$
Find the roots of the auxiliary equation $m^2 + 4m - 2 = 0$.

Using formula, $m = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ found that, $m_1 = -2 - \sqrt{6}$ and $m_2 = -2 + \sqrt{6}$

Thus, complementary function is $y_c = c_1 e^{(-2-\sqrt{6})x} + c_2 e^{(-2+\sqrt{6})x}$.

Step 2 Because $g(x)$ is a quadratic polynomial, let's *assume a particular solution that is also in the form of a quadratic polynomial*: $y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C$

We need to find the specific coefficients A , B and C for which y_p is a solution of the differential equation $y''+4y'-2y = 2x^2 - 3x + 6$.



Undetermined Coefficients

Solution (continue...):

Step 2 (cont.) Differentiate $y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C$ twice:

$$y_p' = 2Ax + B$$

$$y_p'' = 2A$$

Substitute y_p and its derivative into differential equation:

$$y'' + 4y' - 2y = 2x^2 - 3x + 6$$

$$2A + 4(2Ax + B) - 2(Ax^2 + Bx + C) = 2x^2 - 3x + 6$$

Rearrange: $-2Ax^2 + (8A - 2B)x + (2A + 4B - 2C) = 2x^2 - 3x + 6$

From the last equation we observe that:

$$\boxed{-2A}x^2 + \boxed{(8A - 2B)}x + \boxed{(2A + 4B - 2C)} = \boxed{2}x^2 - \boxed{3}x + \boxed{6}$$

Undetermined Coefficients

Solution (continue...):

Step 2 So, $-2A = A$, $8A - 2B = -3$, $2A + 4B - 2C = 6$
(cont.) Solve $A = -1$, $8(-1) - 2B = -3$ $2(-1) + 4(-5/2) - 2C = 6$
 $B = -5/2$ $-2 - 10 - 2C = 6$
 $C = -9$

Thus, from $y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C$

The particular solution is $y_p = -x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x - 9$

Step 3 The general solution of the given differential solution is

$$y = y_c + y_p$$

$$y = c_1 e^{(-2-\sqrt{6})x} + c_2 e^{(-2+\sqrt{6})x} - x^2 - \frac{5}{2}x - 9$$



Undetermined Coefficients

Example 2:

Find the particular solution for $y'' - y' + y = 2 \sin 3x$

Solution:

To find particular solution means we are only interested in y_p .

Because twice differentiation of $\sin 3x$ produce $3\cos 3x$ and $-9\sin 3x$, we assume that the particular solution is

$$y_p = A \cos 3x + B \sin 3x$$

Differentiate y_p twice gives: $y_p' = -3A \sin 3x + 3B \cos 3x$

$$y_p'' = -9A \cos 3x - 9B \sin 3x$$

Substitute into DE:

$$y'' - y' + y = 2 \sin 3x$$

$$-9A \cos 3x - 9B \sin 3x + 3A \sin 3x - 3B \cos 3x + A \cos 3x + B \sin 3x = 2 \sin 3x$$

$$(-9A - 3B + A) \cos 3x + (-9B + 3A + B) \sin 3x = 2 \sin 3x$$

$$(-8A - 3B) \cos 3x + (-8B + 3A) \sin 3x = 2 \sin 3x$$

Undetermined Coefficients

Solution:

From the last equation

$$\boxed{(-8A - 3B)} \cos 3x + \boxed{(-8B + 3A)} \sin 3x = \boxed{0} \cos 3x + \boxed{2} \sin 3x$$

$$-8A - 3B = 0$$

$$-8B + 3A = 2$$

Solving gives, $A = \frac{6}{73}$ and $B = -\frac{16}{73}$

Thus, a particular solution $y_p = A \cos 3x + B \sin 3x$

$$y_p = \frac{6}{73} \cos 3x - \frac{16}{73} \sin 3x$$

Undetermined Coefficients

Example 3:

Find the general solution for $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 4x - 5 + 6xe^{2x}$

Solution:

Step 1 Find the solution for the associated homogeneous equation:

$$y'' - 2y' - 3y = 0$$

The auxiliary equation $m^2 - 2m - 3 = 0$

$$b^2 - 4ac = (-2)^2 - 4(1)(-3) = 16 > 0 \text{ (Case I)}$$

Find m_1 and m_2 : $m^2 - 2m - 3 = (m + 1)(m - 3) = 0$

Thus, $m_1 = -1$ and $m_2 = 3$

For Case I, $y_c = c_1 e^{m_1 x} + c_2 e^{m_2 x}$

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



Undetermined Coefficients

Solution (continue...):

Step 2 For DE $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 4x - 5 + 6xe^{2x}$
Notice that the nonhomogeneous part consists of 2 type of functions,

$$g(x) = \boxed{4x - 5} + \boxed{6xe^{2x}}$$

Polynomial

Exponentials

In other words,

$$g(x) = 4x - 5 + 6xe^{2x}$$
$$g(x) = g_1(x) + g_2(x)$$
$$g(x) = \text{polynomials} + \text{exp onentials}$$

Correspondingly, the superposition principle for the nonhomogeneous equations suggest that we can find the particular solution such that

$$y_p = y_{p_1} + y_{p_2}$$

where $y_{p_1} = Ax + B$ and $y_{p_2} = Cxe^{2x} + De^{2x}$

Undetermined Coefficients

Solution (continue...):

Step 2 Thus,
(cont.) Differentiate twice,

$$\begin{aligned}y_p &= Ax + B + Cxe^{2x} + De^{2x} \\y_p' &= A + Ce^{2x} + 2Cxe^{2x} + 2De^{2x} \\y_p' &= A + (C + 2D)e^{2x} + 2Cxe^{2x} \\y_p'' &= 2(C + 2D)e^{2x} + 2Ce^{2x} + 4Cxe^{2x} \\y_p'' &= 4(C + D)e^{2x} + 4Cxe^{2x}\end{aligned}$$

Substitute y_p and its derivatives into DE

$$\begin{aligned}y'' - 2y' - 3y &= 4x - 5 + 6xe^{2x} \\-3Ax + (-2A - 3B) + (-3C)xe^{2x} + (2C - 3D)e^{2x} &= 4x - 5 + 6xe^{2x}\end{aligned}$$

which gives $-3A = 4$, $-2A - 3B = -5$, $-3C = 6$, $2C - 3D = 0$

Solve $A = -\frac{4}{3}$, $B = \frac{23}{9}$, $C = -2$, $D = -\frac{4}{3}$



Undetermined Coefficients

Solution (continue...):

Step 2 *Particular solution*
(cont.)

$$y_p = Ax + B + Cxe^{2x} + De^{2x}$$
$$y_p = -\frac{4}{3}x + \frac{23}{9} - 2xe^{2x} - \frac{4}{3}e^{2x}$$

Step 3 *The general solution*

$$y = y_c + y_p$$

$$y = c_1e^{-x} + c_2e^{3x} - \frac{4}{3}x + \frac{23}{9} - 2xe^{2x} - \frac{4}{3}e^{2x}$$

Undetermined Coefficients

Undetermined Coefficients – Superposition Approach

Some examples of $g(x)$ and the corresponding form of the particular solutions:

$g(x)$	Form of y_p
1. 1 (any constant)	A
2. $5x + 7$	$Ax + B$
3. $3x^2 - 2$	$Ax^2 + Bx + C$
4. $x^3 - x + 1$	$Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx + E$
5. $\sin 4x$	$A \cos 4x + B \sin 4x$
6. $\cos 4x$	$A \cos 4x + B \sin 4x$
7. e^{5x}	Ae^{5x}
8. $(9x - 2)e^{5x}$	$(Ax + B)e^{5x}$
9. x^2e^{5x}	$(Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{5x}$
10. $e^{3x} \sin 4x$	$Ae^{3x} \cos 4x + Be^{3x} \sin 4x$
11. $5x^2 \sin 4x$	$(Ax^2 + Bx + C) \cos 4x + (Ex^2 + Fx + G) \sin 4x$
12. $xe^{3x} \cos 4x$	$(Ax + B)e^{3x} \cos 4x + (Cx + E)e^{3x} \sin 4x$



Undetermined Coefficients

Example 4:

From the table in previous slide, determine the form of a particular solution y_p for:

(a) $y'' - 8y' + 25y = 5x^3 e^{-x} - 7e^{-x}$

(b) $y'' + 4y = x \cos x$

(c) $y'' - 9y' + 14y = 3x^2 - 5 \sin 2x + 7xe^{6x}$

(d) $y'' - 2y' + y = e^x$

Undetermined Coefficients

Solution:

$$(a) \quad y'' - 8y' + 25y = 5x^3 e^{-x} - 7e^{-x}$$

$$\text{Rewrite } g(x) = 5x^3 e^{-x} - 7e^{-x}$$

$$g(x) = (5x^3 - 7)e^{-x}$$

Refer to Item (9) in table, $y_p = (Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx + E)e^{-x}$

No duplication between y_p and y_c as y_c found to be $y_c = e^{4x}(c_1 \cos 3x + c_2 \sin 3x)$

$$(b) \quad y'' + 4y = x \cos x$$

Function $g(x) = x \cos x$

Refer to Item (11) in table, $y_p = (Ax + B) \cos x + (Cx + E) \sin x$

No duplication between y_p and y_c as y_c found to be $y_c = c_1 \cos 2x + c_2 \sin 2x$



Undetermined Coefficients

Solution:

$$(c) \quad y'' - 9y' + 14y = 3x^2 - 5\sin 2x + 7xe^{6x}$$

We know $y_p = y_{p_1} + y_{p_2} + y_{p_3}$

Thus, for $g(x) = 3x^2$ $y_{p_1} = Ax^2 + Bx + C$

$g(x) = -5\sin 2x$ $y_{p_2} = E \cos 2x + F \sin 2x$

$g(x) = 7xe^{6x}$ $y_{p_3} = (Gx + H)e^{6x}$

The assumption for the particular solution is then

$$y_p = y_{p_1} + y_{p_2} + y_{p_3}$$

$$y_p = Ax^2 + Bx + C + E \cos 2x + F \sin 2x + (Gx + H)e^{6x}$$

No duplication between y_p and y_c as y_c found to be $y_c = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 e^{7x}$



Undetermined Coefficients

Solution:

$$(d) \quad y'' - 2y' + y = e^x$$

The complementary function $y_c = c_1 e^x + c_2 x e^x$

So, we cannot use the assumption that $y_p = A e^x$ as this will duplicate y_c .

Also, we cannot use $y_p = A x e^x$ as again, this will duplicate y_c .

So, let's try $y_p = A x^2 e^x$

Differentiate y_p twice will gives $y_p' = 2A x e^x + A x^2 e^x$

$$y_p'' = 2A e^x + 4A x e^x + A x^2 e^x$$

Substitute y_p and its derivatives into DE and solve gives $A = \frac{1}{2}$.

Thus the particular solution is $y_p = \frac{1}{2} x^2 e^x$

