

MIDTERM 2 REVIEW SOLUTIONS

**Problem 1.** Determine a suitable form for  $Y_p(t)$ , the particular solution, if the method of undetermined coefficients is to be used. *You don't need to find the coefficients, just write down the form.*

(a)  $y'' + 3y' = 2t^3 + t^2e^{-3t} + 4\sin(3t)$

**Solutions:**

- (1) Find the solution to the homogeneous equation  $y'' + 3y' = 0$ :  
The characteristic polynomial is given by

$$r^2 + 3r = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad r(r + 3) = 0.$$

Hence, the roots of the polynomial are given by  $r = 0$  and  $r = -3$ . These are distinct real roots so the solution is

$$y = c_1e^{0t} + c_2e^{-3t} = c_1 + c_2e^{-3t}.$$

- (2) Break the problem into separate differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned} (a) \quad & y'' + 3y' = 2t^3 \\ (b) \quad & y'' + 3y' = t^2e^{-3t} \\ (c) \quad & y'' + 3y' = 4\sin(3t) \end{aligned}$$

- (3) Guess the form for each of the differential equations:

For (a)  $Y_p = t^s(A_3t^3 + A_2t^2 + A_1t + A_0)$

For (b)  $Y_p = t^s(B_2t^2 + B_1t + B_0)e^{-3t}$

For (c)  $Y_p = t^s\left(C\sin(3t) + D\cos(3t)\right)$

- (4) Determine  $s$ :

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For (a):

- If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = (A_3t^3 + A_2t^2 + A_1t + A_0)$  which contains a multiple of the homogeneous equation
- If  $s = 1$ , then  $Y_p = t(A_3t^3 + A_2t^2 + A_1t + A_0)$  which doesn't contain a multiple

$$\text{Therefore, } Y_p = t(A_3t^3 + A_2t^2 + A_1t + A_0)$$

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For (b):

- If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = (B_2t^2 + B_1t + B_0)e^{-3t}$  which contains a multiple of the homogeneous equation
- If  $s = 1$ , then  $Y_p = t(B_2t^2 + B_1t + B_0)e^{-3t}$  which doesn't contain a multiple

$$\text{Therefore, } Y_p = t(B_2t^2 + B_1t + B_0)e^{-3t}$$

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For (c):

- If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = C \sin(3t) + D \cos(3t)$  which is not a multiple.

$$\text{Therefore, } Y_p = C \sin(3t) + D \cos(3t).$$

The form of the particular solution is then

$$\text{For (a)} \quad Y_p = t^1(A_3t^3 + A_2t^2 + A_1t + A_0)$$

$$\text{For (b)} \quad Y_p = t^1(B_2t^2 + B_1t + B_0)e^{-3t}$$

$$\text{For (c)} \quad Y_p = C \sin(3t) + D \cos(3t)$$

(b)  $y'' + 2y' + 2y = 3e^{-t} + e^{-t} \cos(2t) + 4t^2 e^{-t} \sin(t)$

**Solutions:**

- (1) Find the solution to the homogeneous equation  $y'' + 2y' + 2y = 0$ :  
The characteristic polynomial is given by

$$r^2 + 2r + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 4(2)}}{2} = -1 \pm i.$$

These are complex roots so the solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} \cos(t) + c_2 e^{-t} \sin(t).$$

- (2) Break the problem into separate differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned} (a) \quad & y'' + 2y' + 2y = 3e^{-t} \\ (b) \quad & y'' + 2y' + 2y = e^{-t} \cos(2t) \\ (c) \quad & y'' + 2y' + 2y = 4t^2 e^{-t} \sin(t) \end{aligned}$$

- (3) Guess the form for each of the differential equations:

For (a)  $Y_p = t^s A e^{-t}$

For (b)  $Y_p = t^s (B e^{-t} \cos(2t) + C e^{-t} \sin(2t))$

For (c)  $Y_p = t^s \left( (D_2 t^2 + D_1 t + D_0) e^{-t} \sin(t) + (F_2 t^2 + F_1 t + F_0) e^{-t} \cos(t) \right)$

- (4) Determine  $s$ :

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For (a):

- If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = A e^{-t}$  does not contain a multiple of the homogeneous equation.

$$\text{Therefore, } Y_p = A e^{-t}$$

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For (b):

- If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = B e^{-t} \cos(2t) + C e^{-t} \sin(2t)$  which does not contain a multiple.

$$\text{Therefore, } Y_p = B e^{-t} \cos(2t) + C e^{-t} \sin(2t)$$

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For (c):

- If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = (D_2 t^2 + D_1 t + D_0) e^{-t} \sin(t) + (F_2 t^2 + F_1 t + F_0) e^{-t} \cos(t)$  which is a multiple of the homogeneous so  $s \neq 0$

- If  $s = 1$ ,  $Y_p = t \left( (D_2 t^2 + D_1 t + D_0) e^{-t} \sin(t) + (F_2 t^2 + F_1 t + F_0) e^{-t} \cos(t) \right)$  which is not a multiple of the homogeneous.

Therefore,

$$Y_p = t \left( (D_2 t^2 + D_1 t + D_0) e^{-t} \sin(t) + (F_2 t^2 + F_1 t + F_0) e^{-t} \cos(t) \right)$$

The form of the particular solution is then

For (a)  $Y_p = Ae^{-t}$

For (b)  $Y_p = Be^{-t} \cos(2t) + Ce^{-t} \sin(2t)$

For (c)  $Y_p = t \left( (D_2t^2 + D_1t + D_0)e^{-t} \sin(t) + (F_2t^2 + F_1t + F_0)e^{-t} \cos(t) \right)$

(c)  $y'' + 2y' + y = t \cos(2t) + e^{-t} \sin(t) + e^{-t}$

**Solutions:**

(1) Find the solution to the homogeneous equation  $y'' + 2y' + y = 0$ :

The characteristic polynomial is given by

$$r^2 + 2r + 1 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad (r + 1)^2 = 0.$$

Hence the roots are  $r = -1$ . This is a repeated root so the solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 t e^{-t}.$$

(2) Break the problem into separate differential equations:

(a)  $y'' + 2y' + y = t \cos(2t)$

(b)  $y'' + 2y' + y = e^{-t} \sin(t)$

(c)  $y'' + 2y' + y = e^{-t}$

(3) Guess the form for each of the differential equations:

For (a)  $Y_p = t^s ((A_1 t + A_0) \cos(2t) + (B_1 t + B_0) \sin(2t))$

For (b)  $Y_p = t^s (C e^{-t} \cos(t) + D e^{-t} \sin(t))$

For (c)  $Y_p = t^s F e^{-t}$

(4) Determine  $s$ :

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For (a):

- If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = ((A_1 t + A_0) \cos(2t) + (B_1 t + B_0) \sin(2t))$  does not contain a multiple of the homogeneous equation.

Therefore,  $Y_p = (A_1 t + A_0) \cos(2t) + (B_1 t + B_0) \sin(2t)$

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For (b):

- If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = C e^{-t} \cos(t) + D e^{-t} \sin(t)$  which does not contain a multiple.

Therefore,  $Y_p = C e^{-t} \cos(t) + D e^{-t} \sin(t)$

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For (c):

- If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = F e^{-t}$  which is a multiple of the homogeneous so  $s \neq 0$
- If  $s = 1$ ,  $Y_p = t F e^{-t}$  which is a multiple of the homogeneous so  $s \neq 1$
- If  $s = 2$ ,  $Y_p = t^2 F e^{-t}$  which is not a multiple of the homogeneous so  $s = 2$ .

Therefore,  $Y_p = t^2 F e^{-t}$

The form of the particular solution is then

For (a)  $Y_p = (A_1 t + A_0) \cos(2t) + (B_1 t + B_0) \sin(2t)$

For (b)  $Y_p = C e^{-t} \cos(t) + D e^{-t} \sin(t)$

For (c)  $Y_p = t^2 F e^{-t}$

**Problem 2.** Find the general solution to

$$y'' - y' + y = te^t$$

**Solution:**

- (1) Find the solution to the homogeneous equation,  $y'' - y' + y = 0$ . The characteristic polynomial is  $r^2 - r + 1 = 0$ . Hence by the quadratic formula

$$r = \frac{1 \pm \sqrt{1 - 4(1)(1)}}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \pm i\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}.$$

Hence, the general solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{t/2} \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}t\right) + c_2 e^{t/2} \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}t\right)$$

- (2) Guess the particular solution.

$$Y_p = t^s(A_1 t + A_0)e^t.$$

- (3) Determine  $s$ :

If  $s = 0$ , then  $Y_p = (At + A_0)e^t$  and it is not a solution to the homogeneous.

- (4) Find the coefficients:

First, one computes the derivatives

$$\begin{aligned} Y_p' &= A_1 e^t + (A_1 t + A_0)e^t \\ Y_p'' &= A_1 e^t + A_1 e^t + (A_1 t + A_0)e^t. \end{aligned}$$

Plugging this into the differential equation, one has

$$te^t = y'' - y' + y = A_1 e^t + A_1 e^t + (A_1 t + A_0)e^t - (A_1 e^t + (A_1 t + A_0)e^t) + (A_1 t + A_0)e^t.$$

This leads to following system:

$$\begin{aligned} (A_1 + A_1 + A_0 - A_1 - A_0 + A_0)e^t &= 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad A_1 + A_0 = 0 \\ (A_1 - A_1 + A_1)te^t &= te^t \quad \Rightarrow \quad A_1 = 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $A_0 = -1$ .

The general solution is given by

$$y = c_1 e^{t/2} \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}t\right) + c_2 e^{t/2} \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}t\right) + (t - 1)e^t.$$