

**Section 4.4: Constant Coefficient - Non-Homogeneous nth order DE**  
**The method of Undetermined Coefficients: Annihilators**

**Def:** Given  $a_n y^{(n)} + a_{n-1} y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1 y' + a_0 y = g(x) \Rightarrow L(D) = g(x)$

**Note:** To solve this DE, we solve as follows:

**Step 1:** Solve the homogeneous DE:  $L(D) = 0$ . Namely, find the set of fundamental solutions,

$$\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}$$

Then the general solution for the homogeneous DE:  $y_h = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2 + \dots + C_n y_n$

i.e.  $L(y_i) = 0$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

**Step 2:** Solve the non-homogeneous DE  $\rightarrow$  particular solution:  $L(D) = g(x)$  which means we

need to find a function  $y_p$ , such that  $L(y_p) = g(x)$ .

**Step 3:** The general solution:  $y(x) = y_h + y_p = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2 + \dots + C_n y_n + y_p$

Ex: Solve:  $y'' - y' - 20y = 40x^2 + 16x - 17$ ;  $y(0) = 1$ ;  $y'(0) = -3$

Homogeneous solution:

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - \lambda - 20 = 0 \Rightarrow (\lambda - 5)(\lambda + 4) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 5, -4 \Rightarrow y_h = C_1 e^{5x} + C_2 e^{-4x}$$

Given a particular solution:  $y_p = 2x^2 + x - 1$

Then the general solution is:

How to find particular solution  $y_p$  such that  $L(y_p) = g(x) \rightarrow$  We use method of undetermined coefficients for polynomial, exponential, sine and cosine functions.

1.  $g(x) = \text{polynomial}$

Ex: Solve the following DE:

a)  $y'' + 2y' - 15y = 30x^2 - 23x + 10$

b)  $y'' - 6y' + 13y = 39x^2 + 29x - 115, \quad y(0) = 1; y'(0) = -2$

2.  $g(x)$  is exponential functions.

c)  $6y'' + 5y' - 6y = 220e^{4x}$

e)  $y''' - 3y'' - y' + 3y = 15e^{-2x}$

f)  $y'' - y' - 2y = 10 \sin x; y(0) = 0; y'(0) = 1$

g)  $6y'' - 7y' - 3y = 69\sin(2x) - 67\cos(2x)$ ,  $y(0) = 1$ ,  $y'(0) = 2$

h)  $y'' - y' - 20y = 8(1 - 4x)e^{4x}$



***Duplicated root of homogeneous solutions***

Ex: Solve the following:

a)  $2y'' - 5y' - 3y = 14e^{3x}$

b)  $y'' + 9y = 36 \cos(3x) - 12 \sin(3x)$

f)  $3y'' - 5y' - 2y = 3e^{2x} + 4e^{-x/3}$

g)  $y'' - 4y' + 29y = 104\sin(5x)$  (Not duplicated homogeneous roots)

Multiple non-homogeneous DE:

$$\text{Given } L(D) = g_1(x) + g_2(x) \text{ then solve } \begin{cases} L(D) = 0 \text{ for homogeneous solution } \Rightarrow y_h \\ L(D) = g_1(x) \text{ for particular solution } g_1(x) \Rightarrow y_{p_1} \\ L(D) = g_2(x) \text{ for particular solution } g_2(x) \Rightarrow y_{p_2} \end{cases}$$

Then the general solution of the DE is  $y = y_h + y_{p_1} + y_{p_2}$

Ex: Solve the following DE:

a)  $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 6x + 7 + 6xe^{2x}$

Ex: Solve the following DE:

a)  $6y'' + 7y' - 3y = 14e^{-2x} - 6x^2 + 43x - 23$

b)  $y'' + 4y = 7 \sin(2x) - 5 \cos(2x) + 3e^{3x}$