

## SECOND ORDER (inhomogeneous)

**Graham S McDonald**

A Tutorial Module for learning to solve 2nd order (inhomogeneous) differential equations

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# 1 Theory

This Tutorial deals with the solution of second order linear o.d.e.'s with constant coefficients ( $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$ ), i.e. of the form:

$$a \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + b \frac{dy}{dx} + cy = f(x) \quad (*)$$

The first step is to find the general solution of the homogeneous equation [i.e. as  $(*)$ , except that  $f(x) = 0$ ]. This gives us the “complementary function”  $y_{CF}$ .

The second step is to find a particular solution  $y_{PS}$  of the full equation  $(*)$ . Assume that  $y_{PS}$  is a more general form of  $f(x)$ , having undetermined coefficients, as shown in the following table:

$f(x)$	Form of $y_{PS}$
$k$ (a constant)	$C$
linear in $x$	$Cx + D$
quadratic in $x$	$Cx^2 + Dx + E$
$k \sin px$ or $k \cos px$	$C \cos px + D \sin px$
$ke^{px}$	$Ce^{px}$
sum of the above	sum of the above
product of the above	product of the above

(where  $p$  is a constant)

Note: If the suggested form of  $y_{PS}$  already appears in the complementary function then multiply this suggested form by  $x$ .

Substitution of  $y_{PS}$  into (\*) yields values for the undetermined coefficients ( $C$ ,  $D$ , etc). Then,

$$\boxed{\text{General solution of } (*) = y_{CF} + y_{PS}} \quad .$$

## 2 Exercises

Find the general solution of the following equations. Where boundary conditions are also given, derive the appropriate particular solution.

Click on [EXERCISE](#) links for full worked solutions (there are 13 exercises in total)

$$\left[ \text{Notation: } y'' = \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}, \quad y' = \frac{dy}{dx} \right]$$

[EXERCISE 1.](#)  $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 6$

[EXERCISE 2.](#)  $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 2x$

[EXERCISE 3.](#) (a)  $y'' + 5y' - 9y = x^2$   
(b)  $y'' + 5y' - 9y = \cos 2x$   
(c)  $y'' + 5y' - 9y = e^{4x}$   
(d)  $y'' + 5y' - 9y = e^{-2x} + 2 - x$

[EXERCISE 4.](#)  $y'' - \lambda^2y = \sin 2x$

● [THEORY](#) ● [ANSWERS](#) ● [DERIVATIVES](#) ● [FINDING  \$y\_{CF}\$](#)  ● [TIPS](#)

EXERCISE 5.  $y'' - y = e^x$

EXERCISE 6.  $y'' + y' - 2y = e^{-2x}$

EXERCISE 7.  $y'' - 2y' + y = e^x$

EXERCISE 8.  $y'' + 8y' + 17y = 2e^{-3x}$  ;  $y(0) = 2$  and  $y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$

EXERCISE 9.  $y'' + y' - 12y = 4e^{2x}$  ;  $y(0) = 7$  and  $y'(0) = 0$

EXERCISE 10.  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 10 \cos 2x$  ;  $y(0) = 1$  and  $y'(0) = 0$

EXERCISE 11.  $y'' + 4y' + 5y = 2e^{-2x}$  ;  $y(0) = 1$  and  $y'(0) = -2$

EXERCISE 12.  $\frac{d^2x}{d\tau^2} + 4\frac{dx}{d\tau} + 3x = e^{-3\tau}$  ;  $x = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{dx}{d\tau} = -2$  at  $\tau = 0$

EXERCISE 13.  $\frac{d^2y}{d\tau^2} + 4\frac{dy}{d\tau} + 5y = 6 \sin \tau$

● THEORY ● ANSWERS ● DERIVATIVES ● FINDING  $y_{CF}$  ● TIPS

### 3 Answers

1.  $y = Ae^{-x} + Be^{3x} - 2,$

2.  $y = Ae^{-2x} + Be^{-3x} + \frac{x}{3} - \frac{5}{18},$

3. General solutions are  $y = y_{CF} + y_{PS}$ 

where  $y_{CF} = Ae^{m_1x} + Be^{m_2x}$  ( $m_{1,2} = -\frac{5}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{61}$ )

and (a)  $y_{PS} = -\frac{1}{9}x^2 - \frac{10}{81}x - \frac{68}{729}$

(b)  $y_{PS} = -\frac{13}{269} \cos 2x + \frac{10}{269} \sin 2x$

(c)  $y_{PS} = \frac{1}{27}e^{4x}$

(d)  $y_{PS} = -\frac{1}{15}e^{-2x} + \frac{1}{9}x - \frac{13}{81},$

4.  $y = Ae^{+\lambda x} + Be^{-\lambda x} - \frac{\sin 2x}{4+\lambda^2},$

5.  $y = Ae^x + Be^{-x} + \frac{1}{2}xe^x,$

$$6. y = Ae^x + Be^{-2x} - \frac{1}{3}xe^{-2x},$$

$$7. y = (A + Bx)e^x + \frac{1}{2}x^2e^x,$$

$$8. y = e^{-4x}(A \cos x + B \sin x) + e^{-3x};$$
$$y = e^{-4x}(\cos x - e^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin x) + e^{-3x},$$

$$9. y = Ae^{3x} + Be^{-4x} - \frac{2}{3}e^{2x};$$
$$y = \frac{32}{7}e^{3x} + \frac{65}{21}e^{-4x} - \frac{2}{3}e^{2x},$$

$$10. y = Ae^{-2x} + Be^{-x} - \frac{1}{2} \cos 2x + \frac{3}{2} \sin 2x;$$
$$y = \frac{3}{2}e^{-2x} - \frac{1}{2} \cos 2x + \frac{3}{2} \sin 2x,$$

$$11. y = e^{-2x}(A \cos x + B \sin x) + 2e^{-2x};$$
$$y = e^{-2x}(2 - \cos x),$$

$$12. x = Ae^{-3\tau} + Be^{-\tau} - \frac{1}{2}\tau e^{-3\tau};$$
$$x = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \tau)e^{-3\tau},$$

$$13. y = e^{-2\tau}(A \cos \tau + B \sin \tau) - \frac{3}{4}(\cos \tau - \sin \tau).$$



## 4 Standard derivatives

$f(x)$	$f'(x)$	$f(x)$	$f'(x)$
$x^n$	$n x^{n-1}$	$[g(x)]^n$	$n[g(x)]^{n-1}g'(x)$
$\ln x$	$\frac{1}{x} \quad (x > 0)$	$\ln g(x)$	$\frac{1}{g(x)}g'(x) \quad (g(x) > 0)$
$e^x$	$e^x$	$a^x$	$a^x \ln a \quad (a > 0)$
$\sin x$	$\cos x$	$\sinh x$	$\cosh x$
$\cos x$	$-\sin x$	$\cosh x$	$\sinh x$
$\tan x$	$\sec^2 x$	$\tanh x$	$\operatorname{sech}^2 x$
$\operatorname{cosec} x$	$-\operatorname{cosec} x \cot x$	$\operatorname{cosech} x$	$-\operatorname{cosech} x \coth x$
$\sec x$	$\sec x \tan x$	$\operatorname{sech} x$	$-\operatorname{sech} x \tanh x$
$\cot x$	$-\operatorname{cosec}^2 x$	$\coth x$	$-\operatorname{cosech}^2 x$

$f(x)$	$f'(x)$	$f(x)$	$f'(x)$
$\tan^{-1} x$	$\frac{1}{1+x^2}$	$\tanh^{-1} x$	$\frac{1}{1-x^2} \quad (-1 < x < 1)$
$\cos^{-1} x$	$-\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \quad (-1 < x < 1)$	$\cosh^{-1} x$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2-1}} \quad (x > 1)$
$\sin^{-1} x$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \quad (-1 < x < 1)$	$\sinh^{-1} x$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+1}}$

where

$\operatorname{cosec} x = 1/\sin x$ , $\sec x = 1/\cos x$ , $\cot x = 1/\tan x$ $\operatorname{cosech} x = 1/\sinh x$ , $\operatorname{sech} x = 1/\cosh x$ , $\operatorname{coth} x = 1/\tanh x$
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## 5 Finding $y_{CF}$

One considers the differential equation with  $\text{RHS} = 0$ . Substituting a trial solution of the form  $y = Ae^{mx}$  yields an “auxiliary equation”:

$$am^2 + bm + c = 0.$$

This will have two roots ( $m_1$  and  $m_2$ ).

The general solution  $y_{CF}$ , when  $\text{RHS} = 0$ , is then constructed from the possible forms ( $y_1$  and  $y_2$ ) of the trial solution. The auxiliary equation may have:

i) real different roots,

$$m_1 \text{ and } m_2 \rightarrow y_{CF} = y_1 + y_2 = Ae^{m_1x} + Be^{m_2x}$$

or ii) real equal roots,

$$m_1 = m_2 \rightarrow y_{CF} = y_1 + xy_2 = (A + Bx)e^{m_1x}$$

or iii) complex roots,

$$p \pm iq \rightarrow y_{CF} = y_1 + y_2 \equiv e^{px}(A \cos qx + B \sin qx)$$

## 6 Tips on using solutions

- When looking at the THEORY, ANSWERS, DERIVATIVES, FINDING  $y_{CF}$  or TIPS pages, use the [Back](#) button (at the bottom of the page) to return to the exercises
  
- Use the solutions intelligently. For example, they can help you get started on an exercise, or they can allow you to check whether your intermediate results are correct
  
- Try to make less use of the full solutions as you work your way through the Tutorial

## Full worked solutions

**Exercise 1.**  $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 6$

Auxiliary equation (A.E.) from the homogeneous equation

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

is  $m^2 - 2m - 3 = 0$

i.e.  $(m - 3)(m + 1) = 0$  i.e.  $m_1 = 3, m_2 = -1$ .

Real different roots : homogeneous equation has general solution

$$y = Ae^{m_1x} + Be^{m_2x}$$

i.e.  $y_{CF} = Ae^{-x} + Be^{3x}$  (complementary function).

$f(x) = 6$  suggests form of particular solution

$y_{PS} = C$  ( $C =$  undetermined constant)

$y''_{PS} = y'_{PS} = 0$  when  $y_{PS} =$  constant

substitute  $y_{PS} = C : 0 + 0 - 3C = 6$  i.e.  $C = -2$ .

General solution,  $y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = Ae^{-x} + Be^{3x} - 2$ .

[Return to Exercise 1](#)

**Exercise 2.**  $y'' + 5y' + 6y = 2x$

A.E. is  $m^2 + 5m + 6 = 0$  i.e.  $(m + 2)(m + 3) = 0$

i.e.  $m_1 = -2, m_2 = -3,$   $y_{CF} = Ae^{-2x} + Be^{-3x} .$

$f(x) = 2x$  suggests substitution of  $y_{PS} = Cx + D$  ( $C, D$  are undetermined constants)

$y'_{PS} = C, y''_{PS} = 0,$  substitution gives

$$0 + 5C + 6(Cx + D) = 2x \text{ i.e. } 5C + 6D + 6Cx = 2x$$

Constant term :  $5C + 6D = 0$

Coefficient of  $x$ :  $6C = 2$

i.e.  $C = \frac{1}{3}$

and  $D = -\frac{5C}{6} = -\frac{5}{18}$

General solution,  $y = y_{CF} + y_{PS}$

$$\text{i.e. } y = Ae^{-2x} + Be^{-3x} + \frac{1}{3}x - \frac{5}{18} .$$

[Return to Exercise 2](#)



**Exercise 3.** Parts (a)-(d) have same homogeneous equation

i.e.  $y'' + 5y' - 9y = 0$  with A.E.  $m^2 + 5m - 9 = 0$

i.e.  $m = \frac{1}{2} \left( -5 \pm \sqrt{25 - (-36)} \right)$

i.e.  $m = -\frac{5}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{61}$

Real different roots:  $y_{CF} = Ae^{m_1x} + Be^{m_2x}$ ,

where  $m_1 = -\frac{5}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{61}$

$m_2 = -\frac{5}{2} - \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{61}$ .

(a)  $y'' + 5y' - 9y = x^2$

Try  $y_{PS} = Cx^2 + Dx + E$ ,  $\frac{dy_{PS}}{dx} = 2Cx + D$ ,  $\frac{d^2y_{PS}}{dx^2} = 2C$

$$\text{Substitution: } 2C + 5(2Cx + D) - 9(Cx^2 + Dx + E) = x^2$$

$$\text{i.e. } 2C + 5D - 9E = 0 \quad (\text{constant term})$$

$$10Cx - 9Dx = 0 \quad (\text{terms in } x)$$

$$-9Cx^2 = x^2 \quad (\text{terms in } x^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad -9C = 1 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad C = -\frac{1}{9}$$

$$10C - 9D = 0 \quad \text{gives} \quad D = \frac{10C}{9} = -\frac{10}{81}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2C + 5D - 9E = 0 \quad \text{gives} \quad E &= \frac{1}{9}(2C + 5D) \\ &= \frac{1}{9}\left(-\frac{2}{9} - \frac{50}{81}\right) = \frac{1}{9}\left(-\frac{68}{81}\right) \\ &= -\frac{68}{729} \end{aligned}$$

General solution is:

$$y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = Ae^{m_1x} + Be^{m_2x} - \frac{1}{9}x^2 - \frac{10}{81}x - \frac{68}{729}.$$

$$(b) \quad y'' + 5y' - 9y = \cos 2x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Try} \quad y_{PS} &= C \cos 2x + D \sin 2x \\ y'_{PS} &= -2C \sin 2x + 2D \cos 2x \\ y''_{PS} &= -4C \cos 2x - 4D \sin 2x \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Substitute:} \quad -4C \cos 2x - 4D \sin 2x + 5 \cdot (-2C \sin 2x + 2D \cos 2x) \\ -9(C \cos 2x + D \sin 2x) = \cos 2x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad (-4C + 10D - 9C) \cos 2x - (4D + 10C + 9D) \sin 2x = \cos 2x$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad (-13C + 10D) \cos 2x - (13D + 10C) \sin 2x = \cos 2x$$

$$\text{Coefficients of } \cos 2x: \quad -13C + 10D = 1 \quad (i)$$

$$\text{Coefficients of } \sin 2x: \quad 13D + 10C = 0 \quad (ii)$$

$$(ii) \text{ gives } D = -\frac{10C}{13} \text{ then (i) gives } -13C - \frac{100C}{13} = 1$$

$$\text{i.e. } -\frac{13 \cdot 13 - 100}{13} = \frac{1}{C}$$

$$\text{i.e. } -\frac{13}{269} = C$$

$$\text{then } D = -\frac{10}{13} \cdot \left(-\frac{13}{269}\right) = +\frac{10}{269}$$

$$\text{i.e. } y_{PS} = -\frac{13}{269} \cos 2x + \frac{10}{269} \sin 2x$$

General solution is:

$$y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = Ae^{m_1x} + Be^{m_2x} + \frac{1}{269}(10 \sin 2x - 13 \cos 2x).$$

$$(c) \quad y'' + 5y' - 9y = e^{4x}$$

Try  $y_{PS} = Ce^{4x}$

i.e.  $y'_{PS} = 4Ce^{4x}$

$$y''_{PS} = 16Ce^{4x}$$

Substitute:  $16Ce^{4x} + 20Ce^{4x} - 9Ce^{4x} = e^{4x}$

i.e.  $(16C + 20C - 9C)e^{4x} = e^{4x}$

i.e.  $27C = 1$

i.e.  $C = \frac{1}{27}$

(by comparing coefficients of  $e^{4x}$ )

i.e.  $y_{PS} = \frac{1}{27}e^{4x}$

General solution is:

$$y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = Ae^{m_1x} + Be^{m_2x} + \frac{1}{27}e^{4x}.$$

$$(d) \quad y'' + 5y' - 9y = e^{-2x} + 2 - x$$

Try  $y_{PS} = Ce^{-2x} + Dx + E$  (i.e. sum of the forms “ $ke^{px}$ ” and “linear in  $x$ ”)

$$\text{i.e. } y'_{PS} = -2Ce^{-2x} + D$$

$$y''_{PS} = +4Ce^{-2x}$$

$$\text{Substitute: } 4Ce^{-2x} - 10Ce^{-2x} + 5D - 9Ce^{-2x} - 9Dx - 9E = e^{-2x} + 2 - x$$

$$\text{Coeff. } e^{-2x} : \quad 4C - 10C - 9C = 1 \quad \rightarrow \quad C = -\frac{1}{15}$$

$$\text{Coeff. } x : \quad \quad \quad -9D = -1 \quad \rightarrow \quad D = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\text{Coeff. } x^0 : \quad \quad \quad 5D - 9E = 2 \quad \rightarrow \quad 5\left(\frac{1}{9}\right) - 9E = 2$$

$$\text{i.e. } E = -\frac{13}{81}$$

$$\text{i.e. } y_{PS} = -\frac{1}{15}e^{-2x} + \frac{1}{9}x - \frac{13}{81}$$

General solution is:

$$y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = Ae^{m_1x} + Be^{m_2x} - \frac{1}{15}e^{-2x} + \frac{1}{9}x - \frac{13}{81} .$$

[Return to Exercise 3](#)

**Exercise 4.**  $y'' - \lambda^2 y = \sin 2x$ 

A.E. is  $m^2 - \lambda^2 = 0$  i.e.  $m = \pm\lambda$  (real different roots)

$$\underline{y_{CF} = Ae^{\lambda x} + Be^{-\lambda x}}$$

$f(x) = \sin 2x$  suggests trying  $y_{PS} = A \sin 2x + B \cos 2x$

$$\text{i.e. } y'_{PS} = 2A \cos 2x - 2B \sin 2x$$

$$y''_{PS} = -4A \sin 2x - 4B \cos 2x$$

Substitute:

$$-4A \sin 2x - 4B \cos 2x - \lambda^2 A \sin 2x - \lambda^2 B \cos 2x = \sin 2x$$

$$\text{i.e. } (-4A - \lambda^2 A) \sin 2x + (-4B - \lambda^2 B) \cos 2x = \sin 2x$$

$$\text{Coeff. } \cos 2x : -4B - \lambda^2 B = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } B = 0$$

$$\text{Coeff. } \sin 2x : -4A - \lambda^2 A = 1 \quad \text{i.e. } A = -\frac{1}{4+\lambda^2}$$

$$\text{i.e. } y_{PS} = -\frac{\sin 2x}{4+\lambda^2} ;$$

$$\text{general solution } y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = Ae^{\lambda x} + Be^{-\lambda x} - \frac{\sin 2x}{4+\lambda^2} .$$

[Return to Exercise 4](#)



**Exercise 5.**  $y'' - y = e^x$ 

A.E. is  $m^2 - 1 = 0$  i.e.  $m = \pm 1$ ,  $y_{CF} = Ae^x + Be^{-x}$

$f(x) = e^x$  suggests trying  $y_{PS} = Ce^x$  BUT THIS ALREADY APPEARS IN  $y_{CF}$ , therefore multiply this trial form by  $x$ .

Try  $y_{PS} = Cxe^x$ ,  $y'_{PS} = Cxe^x + Ce^x = C(1+x)e^x$

$$y''_{PS} = C(1+x)e^x + Ce^x = C(2+x)e^x$$

Substitute:  $C(2+x)e^x - Cxe^x = e^x$

Coeff.  $e^x$ :  $C(2+x) - Cx = 1$  i.e.  $2C = 1$  i.e.  $C = \frac{1}{2}$

$\therefore y_{PS} = \frac{1}{2}xe^x$  and general solution is

$$y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = Ae^x + Be^{-x} + \frac{1}{2}xe^x.$$

[Return to Exercise 5](#)

**Exercise 6.**  $y'' + y' - 2y = e^{-2x}$

A.E. is  $m^2 + m - 2 = 0$  i.e.  $(m + 2)(m - 1) = 0$

i.e.  $m = 1$  or  $m = -2$  i.e.  $\underline{y_{CF} = Ae^x + Be^{-2x}}$

Try  $y_{PS} = Ce^{-2x}$ ? No. This already appears in  $y_{CF}$

Try  $y_{PS} = Cxe^{-2x}$  (i.e. multiply trial solution by  $x$ , until it does not appear in  $y_{CF}$ )

i.e.  $y'_{PS} = -2Cxe^{-2x} + Ce^{-2x} = (1 - 2x)Ce^{-2x}$

$$y''_{PS} = -2(1 - 2x)Ce^{-2x} + (-2)Ce^{-2x} = (-4 + 4x)Ce^{-2x}$$

$$\text{Substitute: } (-4 + 4x)Ce^{-2x} + (1 - 2x)Ce^{-2x} - 2Cxe^{-2x} = e^{-2x}$$

$$\text{Coeff. } e^{-2x}: -4C + 4xC + C - 2xC - 2Cx = 1$$

$$\text{i.e. } C = -\frac{1}{3}, \quad \text{i.e. } y_{PS} = -\frac{1}{3}xe^{-2x}$$

General solution is  $y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = Ae^x + Be^{-2x} - \frac{1}{3}xe^{-2x}$  .

[Return to Exercise 6](#)

**Exercise 7.**  $y'' - 2y' + y = e^x$

A.E. is  $m^2 - 2m + 1 = 0$  i.e.  $(m - 1)^2 = 0$

i.e.  $m = 1$  (twice) i.e.  $y_{CF} = (A + Bx)e^x$

Try  $y_{PS} = Ce^x$ ? No, it's in  $y_{CF}$

Try  $y_{PS} = Cxe^x$ ? No. Also in  $y_{CF}$ !

Try  $y_{PS} = Cx^2e^x$ .

$$y'_{PS} = 2xCe^x + Cx^2e^x, \quad y''_{PS} = (2+2x)Ce^x + (2x+x^2)Ce^x$$

$$\text{i.e. } y'_{PS} = (2x + x^2)Ce^x = (2 + 4x + x^2)Ce^x$$

$$\text{Substitute: } (2 + 4x + x^2)Ce^x - 2(2x + x^2)Ce^x + Cx^2e^x = e^x$$

$$\text{Coeff. } e^x : (2 + 4x + x^2 - 4x - 2x^2 + x^2)C = 1 \quad \text{i.e. } C = \frac{1}{2}$$

$\therefore y_{PS} = \frac{1}{2}x^2e^x$  and general solution is

$$y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = (A + Bx)e^x + \frac{1}{2}x^2e^x.$$

[Return to Exercise 7](#)

**Exercise 8.**  $y'' + 8y' + 17y = 2e^{-3x}$  ;  $y(0) = 2$  and  $y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0$

A.E. is  $m^2 + 8m + 17 = 0$  i.e.  $m = \frac{1}{2}(-8 \pm \sqrt{64 - 68}) = -4 \pm i$

i.e.  $y_{CF} = e^{-4x}(A \cos x + B \sin x)$ .

$f(x) = 2e^{-3x}$ , so try  $y_{PS} = Ce^{-3x}$

i.e.  $y'_{PS} = -3Ce^{-3x}$ ,  $y''_{PS} = 9Ce^{-3x}$

Substitute:  $9Ce^{-3x} + 8 \cdot (-3)Ce^{-3x} + 17Ce^{-3x} = 2e^{-3x}$

Coeff.  $e^{-3x}$  :  $9C - 24C + 17C = 2$  i.e.  $C = 1$

$y_{PS} = e^{-3x}$ , general solution

$$y = y_{CF} + y_{PS} = e^{-4x}(A \cos x + B \sin x) + e^{-3x} .$$

Now use the boundary conditions.

$$y(0) = 2 \quad \text{means } y = 2 \text{ when } x = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } 2 = e^0(A \cos 0 + B \sin 0) + e^0$$

$$\text{i.e. } 2 = A + 1 \quad \text{i.e. } A = 1$$

$$y\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = 0 \quad \text{means } y = 0 \text{ when } x = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{i.e. } 0 = e^{-2\pi}\left(A \cos \frac{\pi}{2} + B \sin \frac{\pi}{2}\right) + e^{-\frac{3\pi}{2}}$$

$$\cos \frac{\pi}{2} = 0$$

$$\sin \frac{\pi}{2} = 1$$

$$\text{i.e. } 0 = e^{-2\pi}(0 + B) + e^{-\frac{3\pi}{2}}$$

$$\text{i.e. } 0 = e^{-2\pi}B + e^{-\frac{3\pi}{2}}$$

(multiply both sides by  $e^{2\pi}$ )

$$\text{i.e. } 0 = B + e^{-\frac{3\pi}{2}} \cdot e^{2\pi}$$

$$\text{i.e. } 0 = B + e^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \quad \text{i.e. } B = -e^{\frac{\pi}{2}}$$

Required particular solution is

$$y = e^{-4x} \left( \cos x - e^{\frac{\pi}{2}} \sin x \right) + e^{-3x} .$$

[Return to Exercise 8](#)

**Exercise 9.**  $y'' + y' - 12y = 4e^{2x}$  ;  $y(0) = 7$  and  $y'(0) = 0$

$$\text{A.E. is } m^2 + m - 12 = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } (m - 3)(m + 4) = 0$$

$$\text{i.e. } m = 3 \text{ or } m = -4 \quad \text{i.e. } \underline{y_{CF} = Ae^{3x} + Be^{-4x}}$$

$$\text{Try } y_{PS} = Ce^{2x}, \quad y'_{PS} = 2Ce^{2x}, \quad y''_{PS} = 4Ce^{2x}$$

$$\text{Substitute: } 4Ce^{2x} + 2Ce^{2x} - 12Ce^{2x} = 4e^{2x}$$

$$\text{Coeff. } e^{2x} : \quad 4C + 2C - 12C = 4 \quad \text{i.e. } C = -\frac{2}{3}$$

$$y_{PS} = -\frac{2}{3}e^{2x}, \quad \boxed{\text{general solution is } y = Ae^{3x} + Be^{-4x} - \frac{2}{3}e^{2x} .}$$

Apply boundary conditions to general solution (as always)

$$y(0) = 7 \quad \text{means } y = 7 \text{ when } x = 0 \quad \text{i.e. } 7 = Ae^0 + Be^0 - \frac{2}{3}e^0$$
$$\text{i.e. } 7 = A + B - \frac{2}{3}$$
$$\text{i.e. } \boxed{21 = 3A + 3B - 2} \quad (\text{i})$$

$$y'(0) = 0 \quad \text{means } y' = 0 \text{ when } x = 0,$$

$$\text{where } y' \equiv \frac{dy}{dx} = 3Ae^{3x} - 4Be^{-4x} - \frac{4}{3}e^{2x}$$
$$\text{i.e. } 0 = 3Ae^0 - 4Be^0 - \frac{4}{3}e^0$$
$$\text{i.e. } \boxed{\frac{4}{3} = 3A - 4B} \quad (\text{ii})$$



Solve equations (i) and (ii) simultaneously to find  $A$  and  $B$

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$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)-(ii) gives} \quad 21 - \frac{4}{3} &= 7B - 2 & \text{i.e. } (23 - \frac{4}{3}) \cdot \frac{1}{7} &= B \\ & & \text{i.e. } \frac{65}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{7} &= B & \text{i.e. } B &= \frac{65}{21}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then (ii) gives} \quad 3A &= \frac{4}{3} + 4B & \text{i.e. } \frac{4}{3} + \frac{260}{21} &= \frac{288}{21} = 3A \\ & & \text{i.e. } A &= \frac{96}{21} = \frac{32}{7}. \end{aligned}$$

Particular solution is

$$y = \frac{32}{7}e^{3x} + \frac{65}{21}e^{-4x} - \frac{2}{3}e^{2x}.$$

[Return to Exercise 9](#)

**Exercise 10.**  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 10 \cos 2x$ ;  $y(0) = 1$  and  $y'(0) = 0$

A.E. is  $m^2 + 3m + 2 = 0$  i.e.  $(m + 2)(m + 1) = 0$

i.e.  $m = -2$  or  $m = -1$  i.e.  $y_{CF} = Ae^{-2x} + Be^{-x}$

Try  $y_{PS} = C \cos 2x + D \sin 2x$  i.e.  $y'_{PS} = -2C \sin 2x + 2D \cos 2x$   
 $y''_{PS} = -4C \cos 2x - 4D \sin 2x$

Substitute:

$$\begin{aligned} -4C \cos 2x - 4D \sin 2x + 3(-2C \sin 2x + 2D \cos 2x) \\ + 2(C \cos 2x + D \sin 2x) = 10 \cos 2x \end{aligned}$$

Coeff.  $\cos 2x$ :  $-4C + 6D + 2C = 10$  i.e.  $-2C + 6D = 10$  (i)

Coeff.  $\sin 2x$ :  $-4D - 6C + 2D = 0$  i.e.  $-2D - 6C = 0$  (ii)

Solve (i) and (ii) for  $C$  and  $D$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 (-3) \text{ times (i) gives} & +6C - 18D = -30 & \text{(i)} \\
 \text{ADD} & \underline{-6C - 2D = 0} & \text{(ii)} \\
 & \underline{-20D = -30} & \text{i.e. } D = \frac{3}{2},
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{(ii) then gives} \quad -2\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) - 6C &= 0 & \text{i.e.} \quad -3 - 6C &= 0 \\
 & & \text{i.e.} \quad C &= -\frac{1}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore y_{PS} = -\frac{1}{2} \cos 2x + \frac{3}{2} \sin 2x;$$

general solution is:  $y = Ae^{-2x} + Be^{-x} - \frac{1}{2} \cos 2x + \frac{3}{2} \sin 2x$

Boundary condition  $y(0) = 1$  gives  $1 = A + B - \frac{1}{2}$  i.e.  $A+B = \frac{3}{2}$  (iii)

$$y' = -2Ae^{-2x} - Be^{-x} + \sin 2x + 3 \cos 2x$$

$\therefore y'(0) = 0$  gives  $0 = -2A - B + 3$  i.e.  $2A+B=3$  (iv)

Solve (iii) and (iv) to find  $A$  and  $B$     (iv)-(iii) gives  $A = 3 - \frac{3}{2} = \frac{3}{2}$ .

Then, (iv) gives  $2\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + B = 3$  i.e.  $B = 0$

Particular solution is  $y = \frac{3}{2}e^{-2x} - \frac{1}{2}\cos 2x + \frac{3}{2}\sin 2x$ .

[Return to Exercise 10](#)

**Exercise 11.**  $y'' + 4y' + 5y = 2e^{-2x}$ ;  $y(0) = 1$  and  $y'(0) = -2$

A.E. is  $m^2 + 4m + 5 = 0$  i.e.  $m = \frac{1}{2}(-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 20}) = -2 \pm i$

i.e.  $y_{CF} = e^{-2x}(A \cos x + B \sin x)$

Try  $y_{PS} = Ce^{-2x}$ ,  $y'_{PS} = -2Ce^{-2x}$ ,  $y''_{PS} = 4Ce^{-2x}$

Substitute:  $4Ce^{-2x} - 8Ce^{-2x} + 5Ce^{-2x} = 2e^{-2x}$

Coeff.  $e^{-2x}$ :  $4C - 8C + 5C = 2$  i.e.  $C = 2$ .

$y_{PS} = 2e^{-2x}$ , general solution is

$$y = e^{-2x}(A \cos x + B \sin x) + 2e^{-2x}$$

Boundary condition  $y(0) = 1$ :  $1 = A \cos 0 + B \sin 0 + 2$

i.e.  $1 = A + 2$  i.e.  $A = -1$

$$y' = -2e^{-2x}(A \cos x + B \sin x) + e^{-2x} \cdot (-A \sin x + B \cos x) - 4e^{-2x}$$

$y'(0) = -2$  gives

$$-2 = -2 \cdot (-1 + 0) + (0 + B) - 4$$

i.e.  $-2 = 2 + B - 4$  i.e.  $B = 0$ .

Particular solution is

$$y = e^{-2x} \cdot (-\cos x + 0) + 2e^{-2x}$$

i.e.  $y = e^{-2x}(2 - \cos x)$ .

[Return to Exercise 11](#)

**Exercise 12.**  $\frac{d^2x}{d\tau^2} + 4\frac{dx}{d\tau} + 3x = e^{-3\tau}$  ;  $x = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{dx}{d\tau} = -2$  at  $\tau = 0$

A.E. is  $m^2 + 4m + 3 = 0$  i.e.  $(m + 3)(m + 1) = 0$

i.e.  $m = -3$  or  $m = -1$  i.e.  $\underline{x_{CF} = Ae^{-3\tau} + Be^{-\tau}}$

Try  $x_{PS} = Ce^{-3\tau}$ ? No. Already in  $x_{CF}$

Try  $x_{PS} = C\tau e^{-3\tau}$ ,  $\frac{dx_{PS}}{d\tau} = Ce^{-3\tau} - 3\tau Ce^{-3\tau}$   
 $= (1 - 3\tau)Ce^{-3\tau}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d^2x_{PS}}{d\tau^2} &= -3Ce^{-3\tau} - 3(1 - 3\tau)Ce^{-3\tau} \\ &= (9\tau - 6)Ce^{-3\tau}\end{aligned}$$

Substitute:  $(9\tau - 6)Ce^{-3\tau} + 4(1 - 3\tau)Ce^{-3\tau} + 3C\tau e^{-3\tau} = e^{-3\tau}$

Coeff.  $e^{-3\tau}$ :  $9\tau C - 6C + 4C - 12\tau C + 3C\tau = 1$

i.e.  $C = -\frac{1}{2}$

$x_{PS} = -\frac{1}{2}\tau e^{-3\tau}$ , general solution is

$$x = x_{CF} + x_{PS} = Ae^{-3\tau} + Be^{-\tau} - \frac{1}{2}\tau e^{-3\tau}$$

Boundary conditions  $x = \frac{1}{2}$  when  $\tau = 0$  :  $\frac{1}{2} = A + B$  (i)

$$\frac{dx}{d\tau} = -3Ae^{-3\tau} - Be^{-\tau} + \frac{3}{2}\tau e^{-3\tau} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-3\tau}$$

$$\frac{dx}{d\tau} = -2 \text{ when } \tau = 0 : -2 = -3A - B - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{i.e. } -\frac{3}{2} = -3A - B \quad \text{(ii)}$$

Solve (i) and (ii) for  $A$  and  $B$ : (i)+(ii) gives  $\frac{1}{2} - \frac{3}{2} = A - 3A$  i.e.  $A = \frac{1}{2}$

Then, (i) gives  $B = 0$ .

Particular solution is

$$x = \frac{1}{2}e^{-3\tau} - \frac{1}{2}\tau e^{-3\tau} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \tau)e^{-3\tau}.$$

[Return to Exercise 12](#)



**Exercise 13.**  $\frac{d^2y}{d\tau^2} + 4\frac{dy}{d\tau} + 5y = 6 \sin \tau$

A.E. is  $m^2 + 4m + 5 = 0$  i.e.  $m = \frac{1}{2}(-4 \pm \sqrt{16 - 20}) = -2 \pm i$

$y_{CF} = e^{-2\tau}(A \cos \tau + B \sin \tau)$

[Since  $e^{-2\tau}$  multiplies  $\sin \tau$  in  $y_{CF}$ ,  $\sin \tau$  is an independent function with respect to the components of  $y_{CF}$ ].

Try  $y_{PS} = C \cos \tau + D \sin \tau$

$$y'_{PS} = -C \sin \tau + D \cos \tau$$

$$y''_{PS} = -C \cos \tau - D \sin \tau \quad (\text{each dash denoting } \frac{d}{d\tau}, \text{ here})$$

Substitute:  $-C \cos \tau - D \sin \tau + 4(-C \sin \tau + D \cos \tau)$

$$+ 5(C \cos \tau + D \sin \tau) = 6 \sin \tau$$

$$\text{Coeff. } \cos \tau: \quad -C + 4D + 5C = 0 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad C + D = 0 \quad \text{(i)}$$

$$\text{Coeff. } \sin \tau: \quad -D - 4C + 5D = 6 \quad \text{i.e.} \quad -C + D = \frac{3}{2} \quad \text{(ii)}$$

$$\text{ADD} \quad \frac{2D = \frac{3}{2}}{\hline}$$

$$\text{i.e.} \quad D = \frac{3}{4} \text{ and}$$

$$C = -\frac{3}{4}$$

General solution:  $y = e^{-2\tau}(A \cos \tau + B \sin \tau) - \frac{3}{4}(\cos \tau - \sin \tau)$  .

[Return to Exercise 13](#)