

C. Higher order Differential Equations:

How to find roots of an equation:

Let $x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + a_2x^{n-2} + \dots + a_n = 0$ be an eq. of degree n , we denote this eq. by $f(x) = 0$ then:

- 1) r is a root of the eq. $f(x) = 0$ if $f(r) = 0$.
- 2) r is repeated root of the eq. $f(x) = 0$ if $f'(r) = 0$.
- 3) If r is a root of the eq. $f(x) = 0$, then r must be a factor of a_n .
- 4) If r is a root of the eq. $f(x) = 0$, then $(x - r)$ divides $f(x)$.

Ex.: Find all roots of $x^3 + 4x^2 - 3x - 18 = 0$

Solution: $a_n = 18 : \mp 1, \mp 2, \mp 3, \mp 6, \mp 9, \mp 18$

$$f(2) = 8 + 16 - 6 - 18 = 0, 2 \text{ is a root of the eq.}$$

There are two methods to factorize $f(x)$: *long division & fast division*.

First method: Fast division

	1	4	-3	-18
2	↓	2	12	18
	1	6	9	0

$$\Rightarrow x^2 + 6x + 9 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - 2)(x^2 + 6x + 9) = 0$$

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

$$x_1 = 2, \quad x_2 = -3, \quad x_3 = -3$$

The roots are 2, -3, -3

Second method: long division

$$x^3 + 4x^2 - 3x - 18 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (x - 2)(x^2 + 6x + 9) = 0$$

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

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \overline{x^2 + 6x + 9} \\
 (x - 2) \overline{) x^3 + 4x^2 - 3x - 18} \\
 \underline{\mp x^3 \pm 2x^2} \\
 6x^2 - 3x \\
 \underline{\mp 6x^2 \pm 12x} \\
 9x - 18 \\
 \underline{\mp 9x \pm 18} \\
 \mathbf{0}
 \end{array}$$

Higher order linear Differential Equations:

The general form with constant coefficient is:

$$y^{(n)} + a_1 y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_{n-1} y + a_n y = F(x) \quad \dots (1)$$

If $F(x) = 0$ then (1) is called *homogenous*, otherwise (1) is called *nonhomogenous*.

The general solution

The methods of solving second order homogenous D.Eqs. with constant coefficients can be extended to solve higher order homogenous and nonhomogenous D.Eq. with constant coefficients.

a) Homogenous: the characteristic equation of nth order homogenous D. Eq.:

$$y^{(n)} + a_1 y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_{n-1} y + a_n y = 0 \text{ is:}$$

$$r^n + a_1 r^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1} r + a_n = 0$$

Let $r_1, r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n$ be the roots of characteristic equation then:

1) If r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n are all distinct then the solution is:

$$y_h = c_1 e^{r_1 x} + c_2 e^{r_2 x} + \dots + c_n e^{r_n x}$$

2) If r_1 repeated m times, then y_h will contain the terms:

$$c_1 e^{r_1 x} + c_2 x e^{r_1 x} + \dots + c_m x^{m-1} e^{r_1 x}$$

3) If some of roots are complex ($r = \alpha \mp i\beta$) then y_h will contain

$$(c_1 \cos \beta x + c_2 \sin \beta x) e^{\alpha x}$$

Ex.1: solve $y''' - 3y'' + 2y' = 0$

Solution:

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

$$r(r-2)(r-1) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r_1 = 0, r_2 = 2, r_3 = 1$$

are all distinct

$$\Rightarrow y_h = c_1 e^{r_1 x} + c_2 e^{r_2 x} + c_3 e^{r_3 x}$$

$$y_h = c_1 + c_2 e^{2x} + c_3 e^x$$

Ex.2:

$$y^{(4)} - 3y''' + 3y'' - y' = 0$$

$$r^4 - 3r^3 + 3r^2 - r = 0 \Rightarrow r(r^3 - 3r^2 + 3r - 1) = 0$$

$$r(r-1)^3 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow r_1 = 0, r_2 = r_3 = r_4 = 1 \Rightarrow m = 3$$

$$\Rightarrow y_h = c_1 e^{r_1 x} + (c_2 x^{m-3} + c_3 x^{m-2} + c_4 x^{m-1}) e^{r_2 x}$$

$$y_h = c_1 + c_2 e^x + c_3 x e^x + c_4 x^2 e^x$$

Ex.3:

$$y^{(4)} - 3y''' - 2y'' + 2y' + 12y = 0$$

$$r^4 - 3r^3 - 2r^2 + 2r + 12 = 0$$

$$r = 2 \text{ is a root} \Rightarrow (r - 2) \text{ is a factor}$$

	1	-3	-2	2	12
2	↓	2	-2	-8	-12
	1	-1	-4	-6	0

$$\Rightarrow r^3 - r^2 - 4r - 6 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (r - 2)(r^3 - r^2 - 4r - 6) = 0, r = 3 \text{ root} \Rightarrow (r - 3) \text{ is a factor}$$

	1	-1	-4	-6
3	↓	3	6	6
	1	2	2	0

$$\Rightarrow r^2 + 2r + 2 = 0$$

$$(r - 2)(r - 3)(r^2 + 2r + 2) = 0$$

$$r_1 = 2, r_2 = 3, r = -1 \mp i \quad \alpha = -1, \beta = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow y_h = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 e^{3x} + (c_3 \cos x + c_4 \sin x) e^{-x}$$

b) Nonhomogenous: the general form of n th order nonhomogenous differential equation is:

$$y^{(n)} + a_1 y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_{n-1} y + a_n y = F(x) \quad \dots (1)$$

The general solution is $y_g = y_h + y_p$

Methods of finding y_p :

1) Undetermined coefficients

We can extend the methods of solving *second order* non homogenous D.Eqs. with constant coefficients to solve higher order nonhomogenous D.Eq. with constant coefficients.

Ex.1: $y^{(4)} - 8y'' + 16y = -18\sin x$

Solution:

$$y_g = y_h + y_p$$

$$y^{(4)} - 8y'' + 16y = 0$$

$$r^4 - 8r^2 + 16 = 0 \Rightarrow (r^2 - 4)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow r^2 = 4 \Rightarrow r = \pm 2$$

$$y_h = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 x e^{2x} + c_3 e^{-2x} + c_4 x e^{-2x}$$

$$\text{let } y_p = A \cos x + B \sin x, \quad y'_p = -A \sin x + B \cos x, \quad y''_p = -A \cos x - B \sin x$$

$$y'''_p = A \sin x - B \cos x, \quad y^{(4)}_p = A \cos x + B \sin x$$

$$A \cos x + B \sin x + 8A \cos x + 8B \sin x + 16A \cos x + 16B \sin x = -18 \sin x$$

$$25A \cos x + 25B \sin x = -18 \sin x$$

$$25A = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0$$

$$25B = -18 \Rightarrow B = -18/25$$

$$y_g = c_1 e^{2x} + c_2 x e^{2x} + c_3 e^{-2x} + c_4 x e^{-2x} - \frac{18}{25} \sin x$$

2) Variation of parameters

In this method, the particular solution y_p has the form $y_p = v_1 u_1 + v_2 u_2 + \dots + v_n u_n$

Where u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n are taken from $y_h = c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 + \dots + c_n u_n$.

To find v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n , we must solve the following linear eqs. For v'_1, v'_2, \dots, v'_n :

$$v'_1 u_1 + v'_2 u_2 + \dots + v'_n u_n = 0$$

$$v'_1 u'_1 + v'_2 u'_2 + \dots + v'_n u'_n = 0$$

⋮

$$v'_1 u_1^{(n-2)} + v'_2 u_2^{(n-2)} + \dots + v'_n u_n^{(n-2)} = 0$$

$$v'_1 u_1^{(n-1)} + v'_2 u_2^{(n-1)} + \dots + v'_n u_n^{(n-1)} = f(x)$$

Ex2: solve $y'''+y'=\sec x$

Solution:

Let $y'''+y'=0$

$$r^3+r=0 \Rightarrow r(r^2+1)=0 \Rightarrow r=0, r^2=-1 \Rightarrow r1=0, r=\pm i$$

$$y_h=c_1+c_2\cos x+c_3\sin x$$

$$u_1=1, u_2=\cos x, u_3=\sin x, f(x)=\sec x$$

$$v_1' + v_2'\cos x + v_3'\sin x = 0$$

$$v_1'(0) + v_2'(-\sin x) + v_3'(\cos x) = 0$$

$$v_1'(0) + v_2'(-\cos x) - v_3'(\sin x) = \sec x$$

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \cos x & \sin x \\ 0 & -\sin x & \cos x \\ 0 & -\cos x & -\sin x \end{vmatrix} = \sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$$

$$D_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & \cos x & \sin x \\ 0 & -\sin x & \cos x \\ \sec x & -\cos x & -\sin x \end{vmatrix} = \sec x(\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x) = \sec x$$

$$D_2 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & \sin x \\ 0 & 0 & \cos x \\ 0 & \sec x & -\sin x \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & \cos x \\ \sec x & -\sin x \end{vmatrix} = -\cos x \sec x = -1$$

$$D_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & \cos x & 0 \\ 0 & -\sin x & 0 \\ 0 & -\cos x & \sec x \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -\sin x & 0 \\ -\cos x & \sec x \end{vmatrix} = -\sin x \sec x = -\tan x$$

$$v_1' = \frac{D_1}{D} = \sec x \Rightarrow v_1 = \int \sec x dx = \ln(\sec x + \tan x)$$

$$v_2' = \frac{D_2}{D} = -1 \Rightarrow v_2 = \int -1 dx = -x$$

$$v_3' = \frac{D_3}{D} = -\tan x \Rightarrow v_3 = -\int \tan x dx = \ln \cos x$$

$$y_p = \ln(\sec x + \tan x) - x \cos x - \ln \cos x \sin x$$

$$y_g = c_1 + c_2 \cos x + c_3 \sin x + \ln(\sec x + \tan x) - x \cos x - \ln \cos x \sin x$$

Exercise: Solve

1) $y''' - 6y'' + 12y' - 8y = 0$

2) $y''' - y = 0$

3) $y^{(5)} - 2y^{(4)} + y''' = 0$

4) $y''' - 6y'' + 2y' + 36y = 0$

5) $y^{(4)} + 8y''' + 24y'' + 32y' + 16y = 0$

6) $y^{(4)} - 4y'' + 4y = 0$

Problems: Find the general solution $y''' - 6y'' + 12y' - 8y = 0$

1) $y^{(4)} + 8y'' + 16y = 0$

2) $y^{(4)} + y = x + 1$

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

4) $y^{(4)} - 16y = 0$

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

References:

1- Calculus & Analytic Geometry (Thomas).

2- Calculus (Howard Anton).

3- Advanced Mathematics for Engineering Studies (أ. رياض احمد عزت)

4- Modern Introduction Differential Equations, Schaum's Outline Series.