

Linear Differential Equations with constant coefficients

The general linear differential equation of order n is of the form

$$\frac{d^n y}{dx^n} + a_1 \frac{d^{n-1} y}{dx^{n-1}} + \dots + a_n y = f(x)$$

where a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n are real constants. This equation can also be written in operator as

$$(D^n + a_1 D^{n-1} + \dots + a_n)y = f(x) \rightarrow (1)$$

The solution of (1) consists of two parts viz

- i) complementary function
- ii) particular integral

i.e. $y = y_c + y_p$ where y_c is a complementary function and y_p is particular integral.

To complete complementary function:

To find complementary function we have to form the auxiliary equation which is obtained by putting $D = m$ and $f(x) = 0$

therefore the auxiliary equation of

$$i) \text{ i) } (m^n + a_1 m^{n-1} + a_2 m^{n-2} + \dots + a_n) = 0 \rightarrow (2)$$

Equation (2) is an ordinary algebraic equation in m of degree 'n' by solving this equation we get n roots or values,

for m_1 , say m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n

Case (i)

If all the roots m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n are real and different then the complementary function

$$y_c = Ae^{m_1 x} + Be^{m_2 x} + Ce^{m_3 x} + \dots$$

Case (ii)

If any two roots are equal say $m_1 = m_2 = m$ then the complementary function is given

$$y = (Ax + B)e^{mx}$$

Case (iii):

If any three roots are equal say $m_1 = m_2 = m_3 = m$ then the complementary function

$$\text{is } y = (Ax^2 + Bx + C)e^{mx}$$

Case (iv):

If the roots are imaginary say

$m_1 = \alpha + i\beta$, $m_2 = \alpha - i\beta$, then the complementary function is $y_c = e^{\alpha x}$

$$(A \cos \beta x + B \sin \beta x)$$

To find particular integral (P.I)

Type I :

If $f(x) = e^{ax}$, then the particular integral is given by

$$P.I = \frac{1}{\phi(a)} e^{ax}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\phi(a)} e^{ax} \text{ provided } \phi(a) \neq 0$$

If $\phi(a) = 0$ then $P.I = \frac{1}{\phi'(a)} e^{ax}$

$$= x \frac{1}{\phi'(a)} e^{ax}$$

where $\phi'(a)$ means derivatio of $\phi(a)$

with respect to a

$$= x \frac{1}{\phi'(a)} e^{ax} \text{ provided } \phi'(a) \neq 0$$

If $\phi(a) = 0$, then $P.I = \frac{1}{\phi''(a)} e^{ax}$

$$= x^2 \frac{1}{\phi''(a)} e^{ax} \text{ provided } \phi''(a) \neq 0$$

If $\phi''(a) = 0$ then P.I. = $x^3 \frac{1}{\phi'''(D)} e^{ax}$

$$= x^3 \frac{1}{\phi'''(a)} e^{ax} \text{ provided}$$

$\phi'''(a) \neq 0$ and so on

Finding of particular Integral using this method

is very clear from the following example.

Type II

If $f(x) = \sin ax$ (or) $\cos ax$, then

particular integral is given by

$$P.I. = \frac{1}{\phi(D)} \sin ax \text{ (or) } \cos ax$$

In $\phi(D)$ replacing D^2 by a^2 , provided

$\phi(D) \neq 0$

If $\phi(D) = 0$, when we replacing D^2 by a^2 then

$$P.I. = x \cdot \frac{1}{\phi(D)} \sin ax \text{ (or) } \cos ax$$

Again replace D^2 by a^2 in $\phi(D)$ provided ϕ

$\phi(D) \neq 0$, then

$$P.I = x^2 \frac{1}{\phi''(D)} \sin ax \text{ (or) } \cos ax$$

and this process may be repeated if $\phi''(D) \neq 0$ and $\rightarrow 0$ on

Type III :

$$\text{If } f(x) = a_0 x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$$

where $a_0 x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$ is a pure algebraic function then

$$P.I = \frac{1}{\phi(D)} a_0 x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$$

Expand $[\phi(D)]^{-1}$ by using binomial theorem in ascending powers of D and then operate on $a_0 x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$

Type IV :

If $f(x) = e^{ax} x$ where x is same function of x , then $P.I = \frac{1}{\phi(D)} e^{ax} x$

$$= \frac{e^{ax}}{\phi(D+a)^x}$$

Type V

To find particular integral when $f(x) = x^n \sin ax$

(or) $x^n \cos ax$.

Soln:

$$P.I = \frac{1}{F(D)} x^n \sin ax \quad \text{(or)} \quad x^n \cos ax$$

Now

$$\frac{1}{F(D)} x^n (\cos ax + i \sin ax)$$

$$= \frac{1}{F(D)} x^n \cdot e^{iax}$$

$$= e^{iax} \frac{1}{F(D+ia)} x^n$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{F(D)} x^n \sin ax = \text{imaginary part}$$

$$\text{of } e^{iax} \frac{1}{F(D+ia)} x^n$$

$$\frac{1}{F(D)} x^n \cos ax = \text{Real part of}$$

$$e^{iax} \frac{1}{F(D+ia)} x^n$$