

Quiz 6, March 21, 2017, 11:40 class

Find a particular solution of $y'' - y' - 6y = 2 \sin 3x$.

Answer: We look for a solution of the form $y = A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x$. We compute:

$$y' = 3A \cos 3x - 3B \sin 3x$$

$$y'' = -9A \sin 3x - 9B \cos 3x$$

Plug our candidate into the DE to obtain:

$$(-9A \sin 3x - 9B \cos 3x) - (3A \cos 3x - 3B \sin 3x) - 6(A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x) = 2 \sin 3x.$$

Equate the coefficients of $\sin 3x$ and the coefficients of $\cos 3x$. We hope to solve

$$-9A + 3B - 6A = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad -9B - 3A - 6B = 0$$

We hope to solve

$$\begin{cases} -15A + 3B = 2 \\ -3A - 15B = 0 \end{cases}$$

Divide E2 by -3 :

$$\begin{cases} -15A + 3B = 2 \\ A + 5B = 0 \end{cases}$$

$E1 \rightarrow E1 + 15E2$

$$\begin{cases} +78B = 2 \\ A + 5B = 0 \end{cases}$$

$B = 1/39, A = -5/39$. We have calculated that $y = -5/39 \sin 3x + 1/39 \cos 3x$ is a solution of the differential equation.

Check: Plug

$$\begin{cases} y = (1/39)(-5 \sin 3x + 1 \cos 3x) \\ y' = (1/39)(-3 \sin 3x - 15 \cos 3x) \\ y'' = (1/39)(+45 \sin 3x - 9 \cos 3x) \end{cases}$$

into the DE to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} (1/39)((+45 \sin 3x - 9 \cos 3x) - (-3 \sin 3x - 15 \cos 3x) - 6(-5 \sin 3x + 1 \cos 3x)) \\ (1/39)(78 \sin 3x + 0 \cos 3x) = 2 \sin 3x. \checkmark \end{aligned}$$