

## Section 4.1 - Forced Harmonic Oscillators

1.
  - Homogeneous - Right-hand side is zero
  - Nonhomogeneous - Right-hand side is nonzero
  - Forced harmonic oscillator (Forced equation- $f(t)$  is new, external force)  $m > 0, k > 0, b \geq 0$

$$m \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = -ky - b \frac{dy}{dt} + f(t)$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + \frac{b}{m} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{k}{m} y = \frac{f(t)}{m}$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + p \frac{dy}{dt} + qy = g(t).$$

Second-order, linear, nonhomogeneous, nonautonomous.

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$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + p \frac{dy}{dt} + qy = 0$$

is the corresponding homogeneous unforced equation.

2. Guess and Check method for solving  $\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + p \frac{dy}{dt} + qy = 0$ .

Example:  $\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + 6 \frac{dy}{dt} + 8y = 0$ .

Guess:  $y(t) = e^{st} \Rightarrow s^2 + 6s + 8 = 0$ .

This is just the characteristic polynomial, and hence the general solution is  $y(t) = k_1 e^{-2t} + k_2 e^{-4t}$ .

3. Extended Linearity Principle:

Consider a nonhomogeneous equation

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + p \frac{dy}{dt} + qy = g(t)$$

and its corresponding homogeneous equation

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + p \frac{dy}{dt} + qy = 0.$$

- If  $y_p(t)$  is a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation and  $y_h(t)$  is a solution of the homogeneous equation, then  $y_h(t) + y_p(t)$  is also a solution to the nonhomogeneous equation. (i.e. if  $k_1 y_1(t) + k_2 y_2(t)$  is the general solution to the homogeneous equation, then  $k_1 y_1(t) + k_2 y_2(t) + y_p(t)$  is a solution to the nonhomogeneous equation.)
- If  $y_p(t)$  and  $y_q(t)$  are two solutions of the nonhomogeneous equation, then  $y_p(t) - y_q(t)$  is a solution of the corresponding homogeneous equation. (i.e. Any solution to the nonhomogeneous equation can be written as  $k_1 y_1(t) + k_2 y_2(t) + y_p(t)$ .)

Hence, if  $k_1 y_1(t) + k_2 y_2(t)$  is the general solution of the homogeneous equation, then

$$k_1 y_1(t) + k_2 y_2(t) + y_p(t)$$

is the general solution of the nonhomogeneous equation. (Verify the 2 bullet points.)

4. Finding the general solution for forced harmonic oscillators:

- (1) Find the general solution of the homogeneous second-order equation.
- (2) Find *one* particular solution of the nonhomogeneous second-order equation.
- (3) Add the results of the previous two steps to obtain the general solution of the forced equation.

Observe that if the damping coefficient  $p$  is positive (as in any physical, mechanical device), then the equilibrium point at the origin is a sink, and consequently all solutions approach  $y_p(t)$  for large  $t$ .

$$\frac{-p \pm \sqrt{p^2 - 4q}}{2}$$

$p^2 - 4q < 0 \Rightarrow$  spiral sink

$p^2 - 4q = 0 \Rightarrow$  repeated negative eigenvalue (sink)

$p^2 - 4q > 0 \Rightarrow$  2 distinct negative eigenvalues (sink)

5. Steady-state solution

- $y_p(t)$  is often called the **forced response**. ( $y_p(t)$  need not be constant)
- The **steady-state response** describes the behavior of the forced response for large  $t$ .
- A solution to the unforced (homogeneous) harmonic oscillator is called the **natural response**.

6. Example: Method of Undetermined Coefficients:

Find the general solution of the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 6\frac{dy}{dt} + 8y = 2e^{-3t}.$$

$$(y_h(t) = k_1e^{-2t} + k_2e^{-4t}; \quad y_p(t) = -2e^{-3t})$$

7. Example:

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 6\frac{dy}{dt} + 8y = e^{-2t}$$

- Observe that our initial guess  $y_p(t) = e^{-t}$  does not work.
- As with repeated eigenvalue case, our next guess is  $y(t) = kte^{-2t}$ .
- We now determine  $k$ . ( $k = 1/2$ )