

4.1 #11

Verify that the given two-parameter family of functions is the general solution of the nonhomogeneous differential equation on the indicated interval.

$$2x^2y'' + 5xy' + y = x^2 - x;$$

$$y = c_1x^{-1/2} + c_2x^{-1} + \frac{1}{15}x^2 - \frac{1}{6}x, \quad (0, \infty)$$

Pay Attention!

The functions $x^{-1/2}$ and x^{-1} satisfy the differential equation and are linearly independent since

$$W(x^{-1/2}, x^{-1}) = -\frac{1}{2x^{3/2}} \neq 0 \text{ for } 0 < x < \infty. \text{ So the functions } x^{-1/2} \text{ and } x^{-1} \text{ form a fundamental set}$$

of solutions of the associated homogeneous equation, and $y_p = y_p = \frac{1}{15}x^2 - \frac{1}{6}x$ is a particular solution of the nonhomogeneous equation.

Check: $y = c_1x^{-1/2} + c_2x^{-1}$
 $\rightarrow y' = -\frac{1}{2}x^{-3/2} - c_2x^{-2}$
 $\rightarrow y'' = \frac{3}{4}x^{-5/2} + 2c_2x^{-3}$

Right-click and download Maple work for confirming they are solutions.

See PDF of the Maple work.

y_p : Assume soln is of the form $c_1x^2 + c_2x = y$

$$2x^2y'' + 5xy' + y$$

$$y' = 2c_1x + c_2$$

$$y'' = 2c_1$$

$$2x^2(2c_1) + 5x(2c_1x + c_2) + c_1x^2 + c_2x = x^2 - x$$

Find c_1, c_2 :

$$\begin{aligned} x^2: \quad (4c_1 + 10c_2)x^2 &= x^2 \rightarrow 4c_1x^2 = x^2 \rightarrow 4c_1 = 1 \rightarrow c_1 = \frac{1}{4} \\ x: \quad (5c_2 + c_2)x &= -x \rightarrow 6c_2 = -1 \rightarrow c_2 = -\frac{1}{6} \end{aligned}$$

$$y_p = \frac{1}{15}x^2 - \frac{1}{6}x$$

$$c_1 = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$c_2 = -\frac{1}{6}$$

$$2x^2(2c_1) + 5x(2c_1x + c_2) + c_1x^2 + c_2x = x^2 - x \rightarrow$$

$$4c_1x^2 + 10c_2x^2 + 5c_2x + c_1x^2 + c_2x = x^2 - x \rightarrow$$

$$4c_1x^2 + 10c_2x^2 + c_1x^2 = x^2 \quad \text{at would've/could've} \\ 5c_2x + c_2x = -x \quad \text{eliminated some mistakes.}$$

Write much. Think little.