

Question

Find the general solution of the differential equation:

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 4x = 1 + \sin 2t$$

Answer

Need general solution of

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 4x = 1 + \sin 2t$$

Complementary Function: $m^2 + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow m = \pm 2j$

Hence the general solution is $\Rightarrow x_c(t) = A \cos 2t + B \sin 2t$

For the particular integral for $\frac{d^2x_1^*}{dt^2} + 4x_1^* = 1$

$$\text{Try } x_1^* = c \Rightarrow \frac{d^2x_1^*}{dt^2} = 0 \Rightarrow 4c = 1 \Rightarrow c = \frac{1}{4}$$

Find a particular integral for $\frac{d^2x_2^*}{dt^2} + 4x_2^* = \sin 2t$

We can not try the obvious $x_2^* = P \cos 2t + Q \sin 2t$ because this is the same as the complementary function. So instead we will try

$$x_2^* = t(P \cos 2t + Q \sin 2t)$$

then we shall try to find P and Q

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx_2^*}{dt} &= (P \cos 2t + Q \sin 2t) + t(-2P \sin 2t + 2Q \cos 2t) \\ &= (2Qt + P) \cos 2t + (-2Pt + Q) \sin 2t \\ \frac{d^2x_2^*}{dt^2} &= (-4Pt + 2Q + 2Q) \cos 2t + (-4Qt - 2P - 2P) \sin 2t \\ \frac{d^2x_2^*}{dt^2} + 4x_2^* &= 4\{\cos 2t(Q - Pt + Pt) + \sin 2t(-Qt - P + Qt)\} \\ &\equiv \sin 2t \end{aligned}$$

Hence $Q = 0$ and $-4P = 1 \Rightarrow P = -\frac{1}{4}$

Hence $x_2^* = -\frac{1}{4}t \cos 2t$

The General Solution is:

$$\begin{aligned} x &= x_c + x_1^* + x_2^* \\ &= \left(A - \frac{1}{4}t\right) \cos 2t + B \sin 2t + \frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$