

Find the general solution to each of the following differential equations.

1. $y''' - 3y'' + y' - 3y = 0$

The characteristic equation is

$$r^3 - 3r^2 + r - 3 = (r - 3)(r^2 + 1) = 0.$$

Therefore the general solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{3t} + c_2 \cos t + c_3 \sin t.$$

2. $y''' - 3y'' + y' - 3y = e^{3t}$

We will look for a particular solution $y_p = ate^{3t}$. We have

$$y'_p = ae^{3t}(3t + 1)$$

$$y''_p = ae^{3t}(9t + 6)$$

$$y'''_p = ae^{3t}(27t + 27).$$

Then we have that $10a = 1$, so $y_p = \frac{1}{10}te^{3t}$. Therefore the general solution is

$$y = \frac{1}{10}te^{3t} + c_1 e^{3t} + c_2 \cos t + c_3 \sin t.$$