

**Method of Undetermined Coefficients**

To find a particular solution to

$$ay'' + by' + cy = P_m(t)e^{rt}$$

where  $P_m(t)$  is a polynomial of degree  $m$ , use the form

$$y_p(t) = t^s (A_m t^m + \cdots + A_1 t + A_0) e^{rt};$$

if  $r$  is not a root of the associated auxiliary equation, take  $s = 0$ ; if  $r$  is a simple root, take  $s = 1$ ; and if  $r$  is a double root, take  $s = 2$ .

To find a particular solution to

$$ay'' + by' + cy = P_m(t)e^{\alpha t} \cos \beta t + Q_n(t)e^{\alpha t} \sin \beta t$$

where  $P_m(t)$  and  $Q_n(t)$  are polynomials of degree  $m$  and  $n$ , respectively, use the form

$$y_p(t) = t^s (A_k t^k + \cdots + A_1 t + A_0) e^{\alpha t} \cos \beta t + t^s (B_k t^k + \cdots + B_1 t + B_0) e^{\alpha t} \sin \beta t;$$

where  $k$  is the larger of  $m$  and  $n$ . If  $\alpha + i\beta$  is not a root of the associated auxiliary equation, take  $s = 0$ ; if so take  $s = 1$ .

1. For each of the following, specify the form of a particular solution suggested by the Method of Undetermined Coefficients. **DO NOT SOLVE FOR THE CONSTANTS.**

(a) 2  $y'' + 9y = 2t + 8 \sin 3t$

$$r^2 + 9 = 0$$

$$r = \pm 3i$$

$$y_p = (At + B) + Ct \cos 3t + Dt \sin 3t$$

(b) 2  $y'' - 2y' + y = 2te^t - t^2 e^{2t}$

$$r^2 - 2r + 1 = 0$$

$$(r-1)^2 = 0$$

$$r = 1, \text{ double}$$

$$y_p = t^2 (At + B) e^t + (Ct^2 + Dt + E) e^{2t}$$

2. [6] Find a general solution for

$$y'' + 4y = 10te^t.$$

$$r^2 + 4 = 0$$

so  $y_h = C_1 \cos 2t + C_2 \sin 2t$  solves the homogeneous

$$y_p = (At + B)e^t$$

$$y_p' = (A + At + B)e^t$$

$$y_p'' = (2A + At + B)e^t$$

$$y_p'' + 4y_p = (At + 2A + B)e^t + (4At + 4B)e^t = 10te^t$$

$$te^t: 5A = 10 \quad \text{so } A = 2$$

$$e^t: 2A + 5B = 0 \quad \text{so } B = -\frac{4}{5}$$

$y_p = (2t - \frac{4}{5})e^t$  is a particular solution

A general solution is then

$$y = C_1 \cos 2t + C_2 \sin 2t + (2t - \frac{4}{5})e^t$$