

**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

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

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

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

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  $s = 1$ .

Use the Method of Undetermined Coefficients to find a particular solution for the following.

1. 2  $y'' - 8y = (t+8)e^{3t}$   $y_p = (t+2)e^{3t}$

$$y_p = (A + Bt) e^{3t}$$

$$y_p' = (A + 3At + 3B) e^{3t}$$

$$y_p'' = (3A + 3A + 9At + 9B) e^{3t}$$

so  $y_p = (t+2)e^{3t}$

$$y_p'' - 8y_p = [6A + 9At + 9B] e^{3t} - [8At + 8B] e^{3t} = (t+8) e^{3t}$$

so  $9A - 8A = 1 \Rightarrow A = 1$      $6A - 9B - 8B = 8 \Rightarrow B = 2$

2. 2  $y'' + 3y' + 12y = -50 \sin 2t$

try  $y_p = A \cos 2t + B \sin 2t$

$$y_p' = -2A \sin 2t + 2B \cos 2t$$

$$y_p'' = -4A \cos 2t - 4B \sin 2t$$

so  $[-4A \cos 2t - 4B \sin 2t]$

$+ [-6A \sin 2t + 6B \cos 2t]$

$+ [12A \cos 2t + 12B \sin 2t] = -50 \sin 2t$

$\cos 2t : -4A + 6B + 12A = 0$

$8A + 6B = 0$

$4A + 3B = 0$

$\sin 2t : -4B - 6A + 12B = 0$

~~$8B - 6A = -50$~~

$8B - 6A = -50$

so  $12A + 9B = 0$

$-12A + 16B = -100$

$25B = -100$  so  $B = -4$ ,  
 $A = 3$

so  $y_p = 3 \cos 2t - 4 \sin 2t$

3. [3]  $y'' - y' - 6y = (40t + 23)e^{3t} - 12t + 4$

$y_p = t(At + B)e^{3t} + (Ct + D)$

$y_p' = (2At + B + 3At^2 + 3Bt)e^{3t} + C$

$y_p'' = (2A + 6At + 3B + 6At + 3B + 9At^2 + 9Bt)e^{3t}$

$y_p = (4t^2 + 3t)e^{3t} + (2t - 1)$

so

$$\begin{aligned} & [9At^2 + (12A + 9B)t + 2A + 6B]e^{3t} + [-3At^2 - (2A + 3B)t - B]e^{3t} + [-6At^2 - 6Bt]e^{3t} - C - 6Ct - 6t \\ & = (40t + 23)e^{3t} - 12t + 4 \end{aligned}$$

$t^0: -6C = -12 \Rightarrow C = 2$

$t^1: -C - 6D = 4 \Rightarrow D = -1$

$t^2 e^{3t}: 12A + 9B - 2A - 3B - 6B = 40 \Rightarrow 10A = 40 \Rightarrow A = 4$

$t^1 e^{3t}: 2A + 6B - B = 23 \Rightarrow B + 5B = 23 \Rightarrow B = 3$

4. [3]  $y'' - y' - 6y = -250t \cos t$

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

so  $y_p = (35t - 2) \cos t + (5t - 11) \sin t$

$y_p' = A \cos t - (At + B) \sin t + C \sin t + (Ct + D) \cos t$   
 $= [Ct + D + A] \cos t + [C - At - B] \sin t$

$y_p'' = C \cos t + [Ct + D + A] \sin t - A \sin t + [C - At - B] \cos t$   
 $= [2C - At - B] \cos t + [-Ct - D - 2A] \sin t$

so  $[2C - At - B] \cos t + [-Ct - D - 2A] \sin t + [-Ct - D - A] \cos t + [-C + At + B] \sin t + [-6At - 6B] \cos t + [-6Ct - 6D] \sin t = -250t \cos t$

$t \cos t: -A - C - 6A = -250$

so  $7A + C = 250$

$t \sin t: -C + A - 6C = 0$

so  $7C - A = 0 \Rightarrow 49C - 7A = 0 \Rightarrow 7C = A$

$\left. \begin{aligned} 7A + C &= 250 \\ 7C - A &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} 50C &= 250 \\ \text{so } C &= 5, A = 35 \end{aligned}$

$t^0 \cos t: 2C - B - D - A - 6B = 0$

so  $10 - 7B - D - 35 = 0 \Rightarrow 7B + D = -25$

$t^0 \sin t: -D - 2A - C + B - 6D = 0$

so  $-D - 70 - 5 + B - 6D = 0 \Rightarrow B - 7D = 75$

$\left. \begin{aligned} 49B + 7D &= -175 \\ B - 7D &= 75 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{so } B = -100 \text{ so } B = -2, D = -11$