

Today

- Finish up undetermined coefficients (on the midterm, on WW3)
- Physics applications - mass springs (not on midterm, (on WW4)
- Undamped, over/under/critically damped oscillations (maybe Thurs)

Method of undetermined coefficients

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- **Example 4.** Define the operator $L[y] = y'' + 2y' - 3y$. Find the general solution to $L[y] = e^{2t}$. That is, $y'' + 2y' - 3y = e^{2t}$.

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- Step 1: Solve the associated homogeneous equation

$$y'' + 2y' - 3y = 0.$$

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- $L[y_p(t)] = L[Ae^{2t}] = \begin{cases} \text{(A) } 5e^{2t} & \text{(C) } 4e^{2t} \\ \text{(B) } 5Ae^{2t} & \text{(D) } 4Ae^{2t} \end{cases}$

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- Try $y_p(t) = Ae^{2t}$.

$$L[y_p(t)] = L[Ae^{2t}] = \begin{cases} \text{(A) } 5e^{2t} & \text{(C) } 4e^{2t} \\ \star \text{(B) } 5Ae^{2t} & \text{(D) } 4Ae^{2t} \end{cases}$$

- A is an **undetermined coefficient** (until you determine it).

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 - Summarizing:

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- We know that, for any C_1 and C_2 ,

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- We know that, for any C_1 and C_2 ,

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- So what's left to do to find our general solution? Pick $A = 1/5$.

Method of undetermined coefficients

- **Example 5.** Find the general solution to the equation $y'' - 4y = e^t$.

- What is the solution to the **associated homogeneous equation**?

(A) $y_h(t) = C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 e^{-2t}$

(B) $y_h(t) = C_1 \cos(2t) + C_2 \sin(2t)$

(C) $y_h(t) = C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 t e^{2t}$

(D) $y_h(t) = C_1 \cos(2t) + C_2 \sin(2t) + e^t$

(E) Don't know.

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- **Example 5.** Find the general solution to the equation $y'' - 4y = e^t$.

- What is the form of the particular solution?

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(D) $y_p(t) = Ate^t$

(E) Don't know

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Method of undetermined coefficients

- **Example 5.** Find the general solution to the equation $y'' - 4y = e^t$.
 - What is the value of A that gives the particular solution (Ae^t) ?
 - (A) $A = 1$
 - (B) $A = 3$
 - (C) $A = 1/3$
 - (D) $A = -1/3$
 - (E) Don't know.

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Same as the last example

(D) $y_h(t) = C_1 e^{2t} + C_2 e^{-2t} + e^t$

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- **Example 7.** Find the general solution to the equation $y'' - 4y = e^{2t}$.

- What is the form of the particular solution?

(A) $y_p(t) = Ae^{2t}$

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- **Example 7.** Find the general solution to the equation $y'' - 4y = e^{2t}$.

- What is the form of the particular solution?

(A) $y_p(t) = Ae^{2t}$

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- Simpler example in which the RHS is a solution to the homogeneous problem.

$$y' - y = e^t$$

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$$y' - y = e^t$$
$$e^{-t}y' - e^{-t}y = 1$$

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$$y = te^t + Ce^t$$

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- General rule: when your guess at y_p makes LHS=0, try multiplying it by t.

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- **Example 7.** Find the general solution to the equation $y'' - 4y = e^{2t}$.
 - What is the value of A that gives the particular solution (Ate^{2t}) ?
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Need: $= e^{2t}$

Method of undetermined coefficients

- **Example 8.** Find the general solution to $y'' - 4y = \cos(2t)$.

- What is the form of the particular solution?

(A) $y_p(t) = A \cos(2t)$

(B) $y_p(t) = A \sin(2t)$

(C) $y_p(t) = A \cos(2t) + B \sin(2t)$

(D) $y_p(t) = t(A \cos(2t) + B \sin(2t))$

(E) $y_p(t) = e^{2t}(A \cos(2t) + B \sin(2t))$

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Challenge: What small change to the DE makes (D) correct?

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Method of undetermined coefficients

- **Example 9.** Find the general solution to $y'' - 4y = t^3$.

- What is the form of the particular solution?

(A) $y_p(t) = At^3$

(B) $y_p(t) = At^3 + Bt^2 + Ct$

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Method of undetermined coefficients

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waste of time including
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Method of undetermined coefficients

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For each wrong answer, for what DE is it the correct form?

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 - If you can't, your guess is most likely missing a term(s).