

**09.29.2014, Question 1:** We are testing the function  $f(x)=C_0e^{2x} + C_1e^{-2x}$  as a possible solution to a DE. After we substitute the function and its derivative into the DE we get  $2C_0e^{2x} - 2C_1e^{-2x} = -2(C_0e^{2x} + C_1e^{-2x}) + 3e^{2x}$ . What value of  $C_0$  will allow this function to work as a solution?

- (a)  $C_0 = \frac{3}{4}$       (c)  $C_0 = 3$       (e) Any value of  $C_0$  will work.  
(b)  $C_0 = \frac{3}{2}$       (d)  $C_0 = 2$       (f) No value of  $C_0$  will work.

**Look at the coefficients of the  $\exp(2x)$ :**

$$2C_0 = -2C_0 + 3 \rightarrow 4C_0 = 3 \rightarrow C_0 = 3/4.$$

**Just for fun, look at coefficients of  $\exp(-2x)$ :**

$$-2C_1 = 2C_1 \rightarrow 4C_1 = 0 \rightarrow C_1 = 0.$$

**This is called the method of undetermined coefficients and is a very powerful solution technique**

**09.29.2014, Question 2:** When we have  $y' = 7y + 2x$  we should conjecture  $y = C_0 e^{7x} + C_1 x + C_2$ . Why include the  $C_2$ ?

- (a) Because the  $7y$  becomes a constant 7 when we take the derivative and we need a term to cancel this out.
- (b)** Because when we take the derivative of  $C_1 x$  we get a constant  $C_1$  and we need a term to cancel this out.
- (c) Because this will allow us to match different initial conditions.
- (d) This does not affect the equation because it goes away when we take the derivative.

**B**  $y' = 7y$  is the homogeneous DE which has  $\exp(7x)$  as it's solution. The non-homogeneous function is  $2x$  so our guess is  $C_1 x + C_2$ . Plug this in to  $y' = 7y + 2x$ :

$$(C_1 x + C_2)' = 7(C_1 x + C_2) + 2x$$

$$C_1 = 7C_2 \text{ \& } 0 = 7C_1 x + 2x \rightarrow C_1 = -2/7, C_2 = -2/49$$

As you can see the  $C_1 x$  gets balanced by  $C_2$ .

**09.29.2014, Question 3:** We have the equation  $y' = 2y + \sin(3t)$ . What should our conjecture for  $y(t)$  be?

(a)  $y = C_0 e^{2t} + \sin 3t$

(d)  $y = C_0 e^{2t} + C_1 \sin 3t + C_2 \cos 3t$

(b)  $y = C_0 e^{2t} + \sin 3t + \cos 3t$

(e)  $y = C_0 e^{2t} + C_1 e^{-2t} + C_2 \sin 3t + C_3 \cos 3t$

(c)  $y = C_0 e^{2t} + C_1 \sin 3t$

(f) None of the above

**D** Since the non-homogeneous term is  $\sin(3t)$  the conjecture for  $y_p$  should look like  $C_1 \cos(3t) + C_2 \sin(3t)$  while  $y_h$  is  $C_0 \exp(2t)$ .

**09.29.2014, Question 4:** Which of the following is **NOT** a solution to  $y'(t)=5y+3t$ ?

(a)  $y = 8e^{5t}$

(d) All are solutions.

(b)  $y = -\frac{3}{5}t - \frac{3}{25}$

(e) More than one of (a) - (c) are not solutions.

(c)  $y = 8e^{5t} - \frac{3}{5}t - \frac{3}{25}$

**A**

Clearly (a) is a solution to the homogeneous DE  $y'=5y$  since  $A \exp(5t)$  is  $y_h$ . However  $y_p$  is (b) since  $(-\frac{3}{5}t - \frac{3}{25})' = -\frac{3}{5} = LHS$ .

$$RHS = 5(-\frac{3}{5}t - \frac{3}{25}) + 3t = -3t - \frac{3}{5} + 3t = -\frac{3}{5} = LHS.$$

(c) is also a solution since it is  $y_h + y_p$ .

Since (a) is **NOT** a solution to the non-homogeneous problem  $y'=5y+3t$  the answer is (a).