

**Practice with judicious guessing**

In the problems below, you will work with the differential equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = f(t)$$

for various choices of the nonhomogeneous term  $f(t)$ .

1. Solve the related homogeneous problem  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 0$ .
2. Solve the nonhomogeneous problem  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 6$ . Hint: Try  $y_p = A$ .
3. Solve the nonhomogeneous problem  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 3t$ . Hint: Try  $y_p = A + Bt$ .
4. Solve the nonhomogeneous problem  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = -2e^{2t}$ . Hint: Try  $y_p = Ae^{2t}$ .
5. Solve the nonhomogeneous problem  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = e^{4t}$ . Hint: First try  $y_p = Ae^{4t}$ .  
When this doesn't work, articulate what is going on here. Then try  $y_p = Ate^{4t}$ .
6. Solve the nonhomogeneous problem  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 6\cos(3t)$ . Come up with your own judicious guess.
7. Solve the nonhomogeneous problem  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 6e^{3it}$ . Come up with your own judicious guess.
8. From your particular solution in Problem 7, extract a particular solution for Problem 6.
9. From your particular solution in Problem 7, extract a particular solution for  $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dt} + 4y = 6\sin(3t)$ .