

**Solutions to Exam Questions on Differential Equations 3**

$$1. \quad \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 4 \frac{dy}{dx} + 5y = 0$$

Note that this is a homogeneous differential equation (RHS = 0), so it is not necessary to consider a particular integral.

$$\text{Auxiliary Equation: } m^2 + 4m + 5 = 0$$

$$a = 1, b = 4, c = 5 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = 4^2 - 4(1)(5) = -4$$

$b^2 - 4ac < 0$ , so the equation has non-real roots and the roots can be found using the quadratic formula.

$$m = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2(1)} = \frac{-4 \pm 2i}{2} = -2 \pm i$$

Hence the general solution is  $y = e^{-2x}(A \sin x + B \cos x)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} y = 3 \text{ when } x = 0 &\Rightarrow 3 = e^{-2(0)}(A \sin 0 + B \cos 0) \\ &\Rightarrow 3 = e^0(A(0) + B(1)) \\ &\Rightarrow 3 = 1(B) \\ &\Rightarrow B = 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y = e^{-\pi} \text{ when } x = \frac{\pi}{2} &\Rightarrow e^{-\pi} = e^{-2\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)}\left(A \sin \frac{\pi}{2} + B \cos \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \\ &\Rightarrow e^{-\pi} = e^{-\pi}(A(1) + B(0)) \\ &\Rightarrow e^{-\pi} = Ae^{-\pi} \\ &\Rightarrow A = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the particular solution is  $y = e^{-2x}(\sin x + 3 \cos x)$ .

$$2. \quad 4 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - 4 \frac{dy}{dx} + y = 0$$

Note that this is a homogeneous differential equation (RHS = 0), so it is not necessary to consider a particular integral.

$$\text{Auxiliary Equation: } 4m^2 - 4m + 1 = 0$$

$$a = 4, b = -4, c = 1 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = (-4)^2 - 4(4)(1) = 0$$

$b^2 - 4ac = 0$ , so the equation has two real and equal roots.

$$4m^2 - 4m + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow (2m - 1)(2m - 1) = 0 \Rightarrow m = \frac{1}{2}, m = \frac{1}{2}$$

Hence the general solution is  $y = (Ax + B)e^{\frac{1}{2}x}$ .

$$y = 4 \text{ when } x = 0 \Rightarrow 4 = (A(0) + B)e^{\frac{1}{2}(0)} \Rightarrow 4 = Be^0 \Rightarrow 4 = B(1) \Rightarrow B = 4$$

To differentiate  $y = (Ax + B)e^{\frac{1}{2}x}$ , use the **product rule** as  $y$  is the product of two functions of  $x$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = (Ax + B) \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{1}{2}x} + e^{\frac{1}{2}x} (A) \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{1}{2}x} (Ax + B) + Ae^{\frac{1}{2}x}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3 \text{ when } x = 0 \Rightarrow 3 = \frac{1}{2} e^{\frac{1}{2}(0)} (A(0) + B) + Ae^{\frac{1}{2}(0)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 = \frac{1}{2} e^0 (B) + Ae^0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 = \frac{1}{2} (1)(B) + A(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 = \frac{1}{2} B + A$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 = \frac{1}{2} (4) + A$$

$$\Rightarrow 3 = 2 + A$$

$$\Rightarrow A = 1$$

Hence the particular solution is  $y = (x + 4)e^{\frac{1}{2}x}$ .

$$3. \quad \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 2 \frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 0$$

Note that this is a homogeneous differential equation (RHS = 0), so it is not necessary to consider a particular integral.

$$\text{Auxiliary Equation: } m^2 + 2m + 2 = 0$$

$$a = 1, b = 2, c = 2 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = 2^2 - 4(1)(2) = -4$$

$b^2 - 4ac < 0$ , so the equation has non-real roots and the roots can be found using the quadratic formula.

$$m = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{-4}}{2(1)} = \frac{-2 \pm 2i}{2} = -1 \pm i$$

Hence the general solution is  $y = e^{-x}(A \sin x + B \cos x)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{When } x = 0, y = 0 &\Rightarrow 0 = e^0(A \sin 0 + B \cos 0) \\ &\Rightarrow 0 = 1(A(0) + B(1)) \\ &\Rightarrow 0 = B \end{aligned}$$

To differentiate  $y = e^{-x}(A \sin x + B \cos x)$ , use the **product rule** as  $y$  is the product of two functions of  $x$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= e^{-x}(A \cos x - B \sin x) + (A \sin x + B \cos x)(-e^{-x}) \\ \frac{dy}{dx} &= e^{-x}(A \cos x - B \sin x) - e^{-x}(A \sin x + B \cos x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{When } x = 0, \frac{dy}{dx} = 2 &\Rightarrow 2 = e^0(A \cos 0 - B \sin 0) - e^0(A \sin 0 + B \cos 0) \\ &\Rightarrow 2 = 1(A(1) - B(0)) - 1(A(0) + B(1)) \\ &\Rightarrow 2 = 1(A) - 1(B) \\ &\Rightarrow 2 = A - B \\ &\Rightarrow 2 = A - 0 \\ &\Rightarrow A = 2 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the particular solution is  $y = e^{-x}(2 \sin x + 0 \cos x) \Rightarrow y = 2e^{-x} \sin x$

4.  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 6\frac{dy}{dx} + 9y = e^{2x}$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 + 6m + 9 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = 6, c = 9 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = 6^2 - 4(1)(9) = 0$$

$b^2 - 4ac = 0$ , so the equation has two real and equal roots.

$$m^2 + 6m + 9 = 0 \Rightarrow (m + 3)(m + 3) = 0 \Rightarrow m = -3, m = -3$$

Hence the CF is  $y = (Ax + B)e^{-3x}$ .

**PI** Let  $y = ae^{2x} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = 2ae^{2x}$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 4ae^{2x}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 6\frac{dy}{dx} + 9y = e^{2x} &\Rightarrow 4ae^{2x} + 6(2ae^{2x}) + 9(ae^{2x}) = e^{2x} \\ &\Rightarrow 4ae^{2x} + 12ae^{2x} + 9ae^{2x} = e^{2x} \\ &\Rightarrow 25ae^{2x} = e^{2x} \end{aligned}$$

Equating coefficients of  $e^{2x} \Rightarrow 25a = 1 \Rightarrow a = \frac{1}{25}$

Hence the PI is  $y = \frac{1}{25}e^{2x}$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = (Ax + B)e^{-3x} + \frac{1}{25}e^{2x}$ .

5.  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 6x - 1$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 + 2m - 3 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = 2, c = -3 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = 2^2 - 4(1)(-3) = 16$$

$b^2 - 4ac > 0$ , so the equation has two real and distinct roots.

$$m^2 + 2m - 3 = 0 \Rightarrow (m + 3)(m - 1) = 0 \Rightarrow m = -3, m = 1$$

Hence the CF is  $y = Ae^{-3x} + Be^x$ .

**PI** Let  $y = ax + b \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = a$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dx} - 3y = 6x - 1 &\Rightarrow 0 + 2(a) - 3(ax + b) = 6x - 1 \\ &\Rightarrow 2a - 3ax - 3b = 6x - 1 \end{aligned}$$

Equating coefficients of  $x \Rightarrow -3a = 6 \Rightarrow a = -2$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Equating constants} &\Rightarrow 2a - 3b = -1 \\ &\Rightarrow 2(-2) - 3b = -1 \\ &\Rightarrow -4 - 3b = -1 \\ &\Rightarrow -3b = 3 \\ &\Rightarrow b = -1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the PI is  $y = -2x - 1$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = Ae^{-3x} + Be^x - 2x - 1$ .

6.  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3\frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 2x^2$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 - 3m + 2 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = -3, c = 2 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = (-3)^2 - 4(1)(2) = 1$$

$b^2 - 4ac > 0$ , so the equation has two real and distinct roots.

$$m^2 - 3m + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow (m-1)(m-2) = 0 \Rightarrow m = 1, m = 2$$

Hence the CF is  $y = Ae^x + Be^{2x}$ .

**PI** Note that the RHS of the differential equation is a quadratic which suggests using  $y = ax^2 + bx + c$  as the PI.

$$\text{Let } y = ax^2 + bx + c \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = 2ax + b \text{ and } \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 2a$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3\frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 2x^2 &\Rightarrow 2a - 3(2ax + b) + 2(ax^2 + bx + c) = 2x^2 \\ &\Rightarrow 2a - 6ax - 3b + 2ax^2 + 2bx + 2c = 2x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Equating coefficients of } x^2 \Rightarrow 2a = 2 \Rightarrow a = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Equating coefficients of } x &\Rightarrow -6a + 2b = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow -6(1) + 2b = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow -6 + 2b = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow 2b = 6 \\ &\Rightarrow b = 3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Equating constants} &\Rightarrow 2a - 3b + 2c = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow 2(1) - 3(3) + 2c = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow 2 - 9 + 2c = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow -7 + 2c = 0 \Rightarrow 2c = 7 \Rightarrow c = \frac{7}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Hence the PI is  $y = x^2 + 3x + \frac{7}{2}$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = Ae^x + Be^{2x} + x^2 + 3x + \frac{7}{2}$ .

$$y = Ae^x + Be^{2x} + x^2 + 3x + \frac{7}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}y = \frac{1}{2} \text{ when } x = 0 &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = Ae^0 + Be^{2(0)} + 0^2 + 3(0) + \frac{7}{2} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = Ae^0 + Be^0 + \frac{7}{2} \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = A(1) + B(1) + \frac{7}{2} \\ &\Rightarrow A + B = -3 \quad \dots(1)\end{aligned}$$

$$y = Ae^x + Be^{2x} + x^2 + 3x + \frac{7}{2} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = Ae^x + 2Be^{2x} + 2x + 3$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 \text{ when } x = 0 &\Rightarrow 1 = Ae^0 + 2Be^{2(0)} + 2(0) + 3 \\ &\Rightarrow 1 = Ae^0 + 2Be^0 + 3 \\ &\Rightarrow 1 = A(1) + 2B(1) + 3 \\ &\Rightarrow A + 2B = -2 \quad \dots(2)\end{aligned}$$

Solving equations (1) and (2) gives  $A = -4$  and  $B = 1$ .

Hence the particular solution is  $y = -4e^x + e^{2x} + x^2 + 3x + \frac{7}{2}$ .

### **Note**

A common error in this question is to incorrectly use  $y = ax^2$  as the PI.

7.  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 4\frac{dy}{dx} + 4y = e^x$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 - 4m + 4 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = -4, c = 4 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = (-4)^2 - 4(1)(4) = 0$$

$b^2 - 4ac = 0$ , so the equation has two real and equal roots.

$$m^2 - 4m + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow (m - 2)(m - 2) = 0 \Rightarrow m = 2, m = 2$$

Hence the CF is  $y = (Ax + B)e^{2x}$ .

**PI** Let  $y = ae^x \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = ae^x$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = ae^x$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 4\frac{dy}{dx} + 4y = e^x &\Rightarrow ae^x - 4(ae^x) + 4(ae^x) = e^x \\ &\Rightarrow ae^x - 4ae^x + 4ae^x = e^x \\ &\Rightarrow ae^x = e^x \end{aligned}$$

Equating coefficients of  $e^x \Rightarrow a = 1$

Hence the PI is  $y = e^x$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = (Ax + B)e^{2x} + e^x$ .

$$\begin{aligned} y = 2 \text{ when } x = 0 &\Rightarrow 2 = (A(0) + B)e^{2(0)} + e^0 \\ &\Rightarrow 2 = Be^0 + e^0 \\ &\Rightarrow 2 = B(1) + 1 \\ &\Rightarrow B = 1 \end{aligned}$$

To differentiate  $y = (Ax + B)e^{2x} + e^x$ , use the **product rule** to differentiate  $(Ax + B)e^{2x}$  as this term is the product of two functions of  $x$ . Remember to also differentiate the term  $e^x$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = (Ax + B)2e^{2x} + e^{2x}(A) + e^x \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = 2e^{2x}(Ax + B) + Ae^{2x} + e^x$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 \text{ when } x = 0 &\Rightarrow 1 = 2e^{2(0)}(A(0) + B) + Ae^{2(0)} + e^0 \\
&\Rightarrow 1 = 2e^0(B) + Ae^0 + e^0 \\
&\Rightarrow 1 = 2(1)(B) + A(1) + 1 \\
&\Rightarrow 1 = 2B + A + 1 \\
&\Rightarrow 1 = 2(1) + A + 1 && \text{[substituting } B = 1\text{]} \\
&\Rightarrow 1 = 3 + A \\
&\Rightarrow A = -2
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the particular solution is  $y = (-2x + 1)e^{2x} + e^x$  or  $y = (1 - 2x)e^{2x} + e^x$ .

**8.**  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 5\frac{dy}{dx} + 6y = 12x^2 + 2x - 5$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 + 5m + 6 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = 5, c = 6 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = 5^2 - 4(1)(6) = 1$$

$b^2 - 4ac > 0$ , so the equation has two real and distinct roots.

$$m^2 + 5m + 6 = 0 \Rightarrow (m + 3)(m + 2) = 0 \Rightarrow m = -3, m = -2$$

Hence the CF is  $y = Ae^{-3x} + Be^{-2x}$ .

**PI** Let  $y = ax^2 + bx + c \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = 2ax + b$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 2a$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 5\frac{dy}{dx} + 6y = 12x^2 + 2x - 5 &\Rightarrow 2a + 5(2ax + b) + 6(ax^2 + bx + c) = 12x^2 + 2x - 5 \\ &\Rightarrow 2a + 10ax + 5b + 6ax^2 + 6bx + 6c = 12x^2 + 2x - 5 \end{aligned}$$

Equating coefficients of  $x^2 \Rightarrow 6a = 12 \Rightarrow a = 2$

Equating coefficients of  $x \Rightarrow 10a + 6b = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow 10(2) + 6b = 2 \\ &\Rightarrow 20 + 6b = 2 \\ &\Rightarrow 6b = -18 \\ &\Rightarrow b = -3 \end{aligned}$$

Equating constants  $\Rightarrow 2a + 5b + 6c = -5$

$$\begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow 2(2) + 5(-3) + 6c = -5 \\ &\Rightarrow 4 - 15 + 6c = -5 \\ &\Rightarrow -11 + 6c = -5 \\ &\Rightarrow 6c = 6 \\ &\Rightarrow c = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the PI is  $y = 2x^2 - 3x + 1$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = Ae^{-3x} + Be^{-2x} + 2x^2 - 3x + 1$ .

$$y = Ae^{-3x} + Be^{-2x} + 2x^2 - 3x + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}y = -6 \text{ when } x = 0 &\Rightarrow -6 = Ae^{-3(0)} + Be^{-2(0)} + 2(0)^2 - 3(0) + 1 \\&\Rightarrow -6 = Ae^0 + Be^0 + 1 \\&\Rightarrow -6 = A(1) + B(1) + 1 \\&\Rightarrow A + B = -7 \quad \dots(1)\end{aligned}$$

$$y = Ae^{-3x} + Be^{-2x} + 2x^2 - 3x + 1 \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = -3Ae^{-3x} - 2Be^{-2x} + 4x - 3$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} = 3 \text{ when } x = 0 &\Rightarrow 3 = -3Ae^{-3(0)} - 2Be^{-2(0)} + 4(0) - 3 \\&\Rightarrow 3 = -3Ae^0 - 2Be^0 - 3 \\&\Rightarrow 3 = -3A(1) - 2B(1) - 3 \\&\Rightarrow -3A - 2B = 6 \quad \dots(2)\end{aligned}$$

Solving equations (1) and (2) gives  $A = 8$  and  $B = -15$ .

Hence the particular solution is  $y = 8e^{-3x} + Be^{-2x} + 2x^2 - 3x + 1$ .

**9.**  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dx} + 10y = 3e^{2x}$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 + 2m + 10 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = 2, c = 10 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = 2^2 - 4(1)(10) = -36$$

$b^2 - 4ac < 0$ , so the equation has non-real roots and the roots can be found using the quadratic formula.

$$m = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{-36}}{2(1)} = \frac{-2 \pm 6i}{2} = -1 \pm 3i$$

Hence the CF is  $y = e^{-x}(A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x)$ .

**PI** Let  $y = ae^{2x} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = 2ae^{2x}$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 4ae^{2x}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dx} + 10y = 3e^{2x} &\Rightarrow 4ae^{2x} + 2(2ae^{2x}) + 10(ae^{2x}) = 3e^{2x} \\ &\Rightarrow 4ae^{2x} + 4ae^{2x} + 10ae^{2x} = 3e^{2x} \\ &\Rightarrow 18ae^{2x} = 3e^{2x} \end{aligned}$$

Equating coefficients of  $e^{2x} \Rightarrow 18a = 3 \Rightarrow a = \frac{1}{6}$

Hence the PI is  $y = \frac{1}{6}e^{2x}$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = e^{-x}(A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x) + \frac{1}{6}e^{2x}$ .

When  $x = 0, y = 1 \Rightarrow 1 = e^0(A \sin 3(0) + B \cos 3(0)) + \frac{1}{6}e^{2(0)}$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = 1(A \sin 0 + B \cos 0) + \frac{1}{6}e^0$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = A(0) + B(1) + \frac{1}{6}(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = B + \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\Rightarrow B = \frac{5}{6}$$

To differentiate  $y = e^{-x}(A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x) + \frac{1}{6}e^{2x}$ , use the **product rule** to differentiate  $e^{-x}(A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x)$  as this term is the product of two functions of  $x$ . Remember to also differentiate the term  $\frac{1}{6}e^{2x}$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = e^{-x}(3A \cos 3x - 3B \sin 3x) + (A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x)(-e^{-x}) + \frac{1}{6}(2e^{2x})$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3e^{-x}(A \cos 3x - B \sin 3x) - e^{-x}(A \sin 3x + B \cos 3x) + \frac{1}{3}e^{2x}$$

When  $x = 0$ ,  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 3e^0(A \cos 3(0) - B \sin 3(0)) - e^0(A \sin 3(0) + B \cos 3(0)) + \frac{1}{3}e^{2(0)}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 3(1)(A \cos 0 - B \sin 0) - 1(A \sin 0 + B \cos 0) + \frac{1}{3}(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 3(A(1) - B(0)) - 1(A(0) + B(1)) + \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = 3(A) - 1(B) + \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3A - B + \frac{1}{3} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3A - \frac{5}{6} + \frac{1}{3} = 0 \quad \text{[substituting } B = \frac{5}{6}\text{]}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3A - \frac{1}{2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 3A = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{6}$$

Hence the particular solution is  $y = e^{-x}\left(\frac{1}{6} \sin 3x + \frac{5}{6} \cos 3x\right) + \frac{1}{6}e^{2x}$ .

### **Note**

The particular solution can also be written as  $y = \frac{1}{6}e^{-x}(\sin 3x + 5 \cos 3x) + \frac{1}{6}e^{2x}$

or  $y = \frac{1}{6}(e^{-x}(\sin 3x + 5 \cos 3x) + e^{2x})$  but there is no need to simplify the particular solution.

**10.**  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 6\frac{dy}{dx} + 9y = 8\sin x + 19\cos x$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 - 6m + 9 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = -6, c = 9 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = (-6)^2 - 4(1)(9) = 0$$

$b^2 - 4ac = 0$ , so the equation has two real and equal roots.

$$m^2 - 6m + 9 = 0 \Rightarrow (m - 3)(m - 3) = 0 \Rightarrow m = 3, m = 3$$

Hence the CF is  $y = (Ax + B)e^{3x}$ .

**PI** Let  $y = a \sin x + b \cos x \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = a \cos x - b \sin x$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -a \sin x - b \cos x$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 6\frac{dy}{dx} + 9y = 8\sin x + 19\cos x$$

$$\Rightarrow -a \sin x - b \cos x - 6(a \cos x - b \sin x) + 9(a \sin x + b \cos x) = 8\sin x + 19\cos x$$

$$\Rightarrow -a \sin x - b \cos x - 6a \cos x + 6b \sin x + 9a \sin x + 9b \cos x = 8\sin x + 19\cos x$$

Equating coefficients of  $\sin x \Rightarrow -a + 6b + 9a = 8 \Rightarrow 8a + 6b = 8 \dots(1)$

Equating coefficients of  $\cos x \Rightarrow -b - 6a + 9b = 19 \Rightarrow -6a + 8b = 19 \dots(2)$

Solving equations (1) and (2) gives  $a = -\frac{1}{2}$  and  $b = 2$ .

Hence the PI is  $y = -\frac{1}{2}\sin x + 2\cos x$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = (Ax + B)e^{3x} - \frac{1}{2}\sin x + 2\cos x$ .

$$y = 7 \text{ when } x = 0 \Rightarrow 7 = (A(0) + B)e^{3(0)} - \frac{1}{2}\sin 0 + 2\cos 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 7 = (B)e^0 - \frac{1}{2}(0) + 2(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 7 = (B)(1) + 2$$

$$\Rightarrow B = 5$$

To differentiate  $y = (Ax + B)e^{3x} - \frac{1}{2}\sin x + 2\cos x$ , use the **product rule** to differentiate  $(Ax + B)e^{3x}$  as this term is the product of two functions of  $x$ . Remember to also differentiate the other two terms.

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = (Ax + B)(3e^{3x}) + e^{3x}(A) - \frac{1}{2}\cos x - 2\sin x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 3e^{3x}(Ax + B) + Ae^{3x} - \frac{1}{2}\cos x - 2\sin x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ when } x = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = 3e^{3(0)}(A(0) + B) + Ae^{(0)} - \frac{1}{2}\cos 0 - 2\sin 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = 3e^0(B) + Ae^0 - \frac{1}{2}(1) - 2(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = 3(1)(B) + A(1) - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = 3(5) + A - \frac{1}{2} \quad [\text{substituting } B = 5]$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = 15 + A$$

$$\Rightarrow A = -14$$

Hence the particular solution is  $y = (-14x + 5)e^{3x} - \frac{1}{2}\sin x + 2\cos x$

$$\text{or } y = (5 - 14x)e^{3x} - \frac{1}{2}\sin x + 2\cos x.$$

**11.**  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3\frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 20\sin x$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 - 3m + 2 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = -3, c = 2 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = (-3)^2 - 4(1)(2) = 1$$

$b^2 - 4ac > 0$ , so the equation has two real and distinct roots.

$$m^2 - 3m + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow (m - 1)(m - 2) = 0 \Rightarrow m = 1, m = 2$$

Hence the CF is  $y = Ae^x + Be^{2x}$ .

**PI** Let  $y = a \sin x + b \cos x \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = a \cos x - b \sin x$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -a \sin x - b \cos x$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 3\frac{dy}{dx} + 2y = 20\sin x$$

$$\Rightarrow -a \sin x - b \cos x - 3(a \cos x - b \sin x) + 2(a \sin x + b \cos x) = 20 \sin x$$

$$\Rightarrow -a \sin x - b \cos x - 3a \cos x + 3b \sin x + 2a \sin x + 2b \cos x = 20 \sin x$$

Equating coefficients of  $\sin x \Rightarrow -a + 3b + 2a = 20 \Rightarrow a + 3b = 20 \quad \dots(1)$

Equating coefficients of  $\cos x \Rightarrow -b - 3a + 2b = 0 \Rightarrow -3a + b = 0 \quad \dots(2)$

Solving equations (1) and (2) gives  $a = 2$  and  $b = 6$ .

Hence the PI is  $y = 2 \sin x + 6 \cos x$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = Ae^x + Be^{2x} + 2 \sin x + 6 \cos x$ .

$$y = 0 \text{ when } x = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = Ae^0 + Be^{2(0)} + 2 \sin 0 + 6 \cos 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = Ae^0 + Be^0 + 2(0) + 6(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = A(1) + B(1) + 6$$

$$\Rightarrow A + B = -6 \quad \dots(1)$$

$$y = Ae^x + Be^{2x} + 2 \sin x + 6 \cos x \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = Ae^x + 2Be^{2x} + 2 \cos x - 6 \sin x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \text{ when } x = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = Ae^0 + 2Be^{2(0)} + 2 \cos 0 - 6 \sin 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = Ae^0 + 2Be^0 + 2(1) - 6(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = A(1) + 2B(1) + 2$$

$$\Rightarrow A + 2B = -2 \quad \dots(2)$$

Solving equations (1) and (2) gives  $A = -10$  and  $B = 4$ .

Hence the particular solution is  $y = -10e^x + 4e^{2x} + 2 \sin x + 6 \cos x$

$$\text{or } y = 4e^{2x} - 10e^x + 2 \sin x + 6 \cos x .$$

### **Note**

A common error in this question is to incorrectly use  $y = a \sin x$  as the PI.

**12.**  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} - 2y = e^x + 12$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 - m - 2 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = -1, c = -2 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = (-1)^2 - 4(1)(-2) = 9$$

$b^2 - 4ac > 0$ , so the equation has two real and distinct roots.

$$m^2 - m - 2 = 0 \Rightarrow (m+1)(m-2) = 0 \Rightarrow m = -1, m = 2$$

Hence the CF is  $y = Ae^{-x} + Be^{2x}$ .

**PI** Let  $y = ae^x + b \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = ae^x$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = ae^x$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} - 2y = e^x + 12 &\Rightarrow ae^x - ae^x - 2(ae^x + b) = e^x + 12 \\ &\Rightarrow -2ae^x - 2b = e^x + 12 \end{aligned}$$

Equating coefficients of  $e^x \Rightarrow -2a = 1 \Rightarrow a = -\frac{1}{2}$

Equating constants  $\Rightarrow -2b = 12 \Rightarrow b = -6$

Hence the PI is  $y = -\frac{1}{2}e^x - 6$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = Ae^{-x} + Be^{2x} - \frac{1}{2}e^x - 6$ .

$$\begin{aligned} y = -\frac{3}{2} \text{ when } x = 0 &\Rightarrow -\frac{3}{2} = Ae^0 + Be^{2(0)} - \frac{1}{2}e^0 - 6 \\ &\Rightarrow -\frac{3}{2} = Ae^0 + Be^0 - \frac{1}{2}e^0 - 6 \\ &\Rightarrow -\frac{3}{2} = A(1) + B(1) - \frac{1}{2}(1) - 6 \\ &\Rightarrow -1 = A + B - 6 \\ &\Rightarrow A + B = 5 \quad \dots(1) \end{aligned}$$

$$y = Ae^{-x} + Be^{2x} - \frac{1}{2}e^x - 6 \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = -Ae^{-x} + 2Be^{2x} - \frac{1}{2}e^x$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{2} \text{ when } x=0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = -Ae^0 + 2Be^{2(0)} - \frac{1}{2}e^0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = -Ae^0 + 2Be^0 - \frac{1}{2}e^0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} = -A(1) + 2B(1) - \frac{1}{2}(1)$$

$$\Rightarrow -A + 2B = 1 \quad \dots(2)$$

Solving equations (1) and (2) gives  $A = 3$  and  $B = 2$ .

Hence the particular solution is  $y = 3e^{-x} + 2e^{2x} - \frac{1}{2}e^x - 6$ .

**13.**  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dx} + 5y = 4\cos x$

**CF** Auxiliary Equation:  $m^2 + 2m + 5 = 0$

$$a = 1, b = 2, c = 5 \Rightarrow b^2 - 4ac = 2^2 - 4(1)(5) = -16$$

$b^2 - 4ac < 0$ , so the equation has non-real roots and the roots can be found using the quadratic formula.

$$m = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{-16}}{2(1)} = \frac{-2 \pm 4i}{2} = -1 \pm 2i$$

Hence the CF is  $y = e^{-x}(A \sin 2x + B \cos 2x)$ .

**PI** Let  $y = a \sin x + b \cos x \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = a \cos x - b \sin x$  and  $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -a \sin x - b \cos x$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 2\frac{dy}{dx} + 5y = 4\cos x$$

$$\Rightarrow -a \sin x - b \cos x + 2(a \cos x - b \sin x) + 5(a \sin x + b \cos x) = 4 \cos x$$

$$\Rightarrow -a \sin x - b \cos x + 2a \cos x - 2b \sin x + 5a \sin x + 5b \cos x = 4 \cos x$$

Equating coefficients of  $\sin x \Rightarrow -a - 2b + 5a = 0 \Rightarrow 4a - 2b = 0$  ..(1)

Equating coefficients of  $\cos x \Rightarrow -b + 2a + 5b = 4 \Rightarrow 2a + 4b = 4$  ...(2)

Solving equations (1) and (2) gives  $a = \frac{2}{5}$  and  $b = \frac{4}{5}$ .

Hence the PI is  $y = \frac{2}{5} \sin x + \frac{4}{5} \cos x$ .

**GS** The general solution is  $y = e^{-x}(A \sin 2x + B \cos 2x) + \frac{2}{5} \sin x + \frac{4}{5} \cos x$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
y(0) = 0, \text{ so when } x = 0, y = 0 &\Rightarrow 0 = e^0(A \sin 2(0) + B \cos 2(0)) + \frac{2}{5} \sin 0 + \frac{4}{5} \cos 0 \\
&\Rightarrow 0 = 1(A \sin 0 + B \cos 0) + \frac{2}{5} \sin 0 + \frac{4}{5} \cos 0 \\
&\Rightarrow 0 = A(0) + B(1) + \frac{2}{5}(0) + \frac{4}{5}(1) \\
&\Rightarrow 0 = B + \frac{4}{5} \\
&\Rightarrow B = -\frac{4}{5}
\end{aligned}$$

To differentiate  $y = e^{-x}(A \sin 2x + B \cos 2x) + \frac{2}{5} \sin x + \frac{4}{5} \cos x$ , use the **product rule** to differentiate  $e^{-x}(A \sin 2x + B \cos 2x)$  as this term is a product of two functions of  $x$ . Remember to also differentiate the other two terms.

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{dy}{dx} &= e^{-x}(2A \cos 2x - 2B \sin 2x) + (A \sin 2x + B \cos 2x)(-e^{-x}) + \frac{2}{5} \cos x - \frac{4}{5} \sin x \\
\frac{dy}{dx} &= 2e^{-x}(A \cos 2x - B \sin 2x) - e^{-x}(A \sin 2x + B \cos 2x) + \frac{2}{5} \cos x - \frac{4}{5} \sin x
\end{aligned}$$

$$y'(0) = 1, \text{ so when } x = 0, \frac{dy}{dx} = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\Rightarrow 1 &= 2e^0(A \cos 2(0) - B \sin 2(0)) - e^0(A \sin 2(0) + B \cos 2(0)) + \frac{2}{5} \cos 0 - \frac{4}{5} \sin 0 \\
\Rightarrow 1 &= 2(1)(A \cos 0 - B \sin 0) - 1(A \sin 0 + B \cos 0) + \frac{2}{5} \cos 0 - \frac{4}{5} \sin 0 \\
\Rightarrow 1 &= 2(A(1) - B(0)) - 1(A(0) + B(1)) + \frac{2}{5}(1) - \frac{4}{5}(0) \\
\Rightarrow 1 &= 2(A) - 1(B) + \frac{2}{5} \\
\Rightarrow 1 &= 2A - \left(-\frac{4}{5}\right) + \frac{2}{5} \quad [\text{substituting } B = -\frac{4}{5}] \\
\Rightarrow 1 &= 2A + \frac{6}{5} \\
\Rightarrow 2A &= -\frac{1}{5} \Rightarrow A = -\frac{1}{10}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence the particular solution is  $y = e^{-x} \left( -\frac{1}{10} \sin 2x - \frac{4}{5} \cos 2x \right) + \frac{2}{5} \sin x + \frac{4}{5} \cos x$ .

### Note

A common error in this question is to incorrectly use  $y = a \cos x$  as the PI.