

Thus  $y_p = \frac{1}{2} \sin(x) - \frac{1}{2} \cos(x)$  is a particular solution.

The general solution is gotten by adding to this the general solution of the homogeneous equation  $(D^2 + D + 2)y = 0$

$$r^2 + r + 2 = 0 \quad r = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1-8}}{2} = \frac{-1 \pm i\sqrt{7}}{2}$$

$$\text{Solutions } y_c = e^{-\frac{1}{2}x} \left( C_1 \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{7}}{2}x\right) + C_2 \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{7}}{2}x\right) \right)$$

General solution of  $(D^2 + D + 2)y = \sin(x)$  is

$$y = \underbrace{e^{-\frac{1}{2}x} \left( C_1 \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{7}}{2}x\right) + C_2 \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{7}}{2}x\right) \right)}_{y_c} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sin(x) - \frac{1}{2} \cos(x)}_{y_p}$$

$$p(D)(y_c + y_p) = p(D)y_c + p(D)y_p = 0 + \sin(x) \quad \checkmark$$

We can make this "trial and error" method more systematic, but the question is "What am I supposed to try?"

Somewhat imprecise but useful suggestion:

"Try a linear combination of all the terms that appear in the derivatives of the nonhomogeneous term."

Let's consider  $p(D) = D^2 + D + 2$  again, but now we want to solve  $p(D)y = x^3$