

3.6 Variation of Parameters

another way to solve $y'' + p(t)y' + g(t)y = f(t)$ nonhomogeneous

solution: $y = \underbrace{c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2}_{\text{complementary}}$ particular

solution to $y'' + p(t)y' + g(t)y = 0$

undetermined coeff: Y resembles $g(t)$

Y keeps its form after differentiation

$$y'' + y' = \sec(t) \quad Y = ?$$

can't handle
this with
undetermined
coeff!

if we tried $Y = A \sec(t)$

$$Y' = A \underbrace{\sec(t) \tan(t)}_{\text{changed form!}}$$

what if $Y = A \sec(t) + B \tan(t)$

$$Y' = A \sec(t) \tan(t) + B \sec^2(t)$$

Variation of parameters: solution is of the form

$$y = u_1(t)y_1 + u_2(t)y_2$$

"parameters" complementary

if we can find $u_1(t)$ and $u_2(t)$, we can separate out the particular solution Y .

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t)$$

solution: $y = u_1(t)y_1 + u_2(t)y_2$ sub into

$$y' = u_1 y_1' + u_1' y_1 + u_2 y_2' + u_2' y_2$$

$$y'' = u_1 y_1'' + u_1' y_1' + u_1 y_1'' + u_1'' y_1 + u_2 y_2'' + u_2' y_2' + u_2 y_2'' + u_2'' y_2$$

if we sub these into $y'' + py' + qy = g$, eventually

we will have TWO 2nd-order eqs. for u_1 and u_2

Two unknowns (u_1, u_2), one eq: $y'' + py' + qy = g$

→ we can impose one condition

so, we will impose the condition that eliminates the 2nd-order eqs. (so just u_1' and u_2')

$$\rightarrow \boxed{u_1' y_1 + u_2' y_2 = 0}$$

update the eqs:

$$y = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$$

$$y' = u_1 y_1' + u_2 y_2'$$

$$y'' = u_1 y_1'' + u_1' y_1' + u_2 y_2'' + u_2' y_2'$$

} sub into
 $y'' + p y' + q y = f$

$$u_1 y_1'' + u_1' y_1' + u_2 y_2'' + u_2' y_2' + p u_1 y_1' + p u_2 y_2' + q u_1 y_1 + q u_2 y_2 = f$$

$$u_1 (\underbrace{y_1'' + p y_1' + q y_1}_0) + u_2 (\underbrace{y_2'' + p y_2' + q y_2}_0) + u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2' = f$$

because y_1 is
a complementary
solution

$$(y'' + p y' + q y = 0)$$

same reason

so, $\boxed{u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2' = f}$

solve the two boxed eqs
for u_1' and u_2'
then integrate to find u_1, u_2

example $y'' + y = \sec(t)$

complementary: $y'' + y = 0$ $r^2 + 1 = 0$ $r = \pm i$

$$y_1 = \cos(t)$$

$$y_2 = \sin(t)$$

$$y = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$$

solve $u_1' y_1 + u_2' y_2 = 0$

$$u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2' = g(t) = \sec(t)$$

$$u_1' \cos(t) + u_2' \sin(t) = 0$$

$$-u_1' \sin(t) + u_2' \cos(t) = \sec(t)$$

$\rightarrow u_1' = -\frac{\sin(t)}{\cos(t)} u_2'$ sub into 2nd eq.

$$u_2' \frac{\sin^2(t)}{\cos(t)} + u_2' \cos(t) = \sec(t) \quad \text{mult. by } \cos(t)$$

$$u_2' [\sin^2(t) + \cos^2(t)] = 1$$

$$u_2' = 1 \rightarrow \boxed{u_2 = t + C_2}$$

$$u_1' = -\frac{\sin(t)}{\cos(t)} u_2'$$

$$u_1' = -\frac{\sin(t)}{\cos(t)} \rightarrow \boxed{u_1 = \ln|\cos(t)| + C_1}$$

general solution to $y'' + y = \sec(t)$ is then

$$y = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$$

$$= (\ln|\cos(t)| + C_1) \cos(t) + (t + C_2) \sin(t)$$

$$= \underbrace{C_1 \cos(t) + C_2 \sin(t)}_{\text{complementary}} + \underbrace{\cos(t) \ln|\cos(t)| + t \sin(t)}_{\text{particular (Y)}}$$

$$u_1' y_1 + u_2' y_2 = 0$$

$$u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2' = g$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1' \\ u_2' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_1' \\ u_2' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{vmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} y_2' & -y_2 \\ -y_1' & y_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix}$$

← Wronskian

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_1' \\ u_2' \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{W} \begin{bmatrix} -y_2 g \\ y_1 g \end{bmatrix}$$

$$u_1' = - \frac{y_2 g}{w}$$

$$u_2' = \frac{y_1 g}{w}$$

undetermined coeff : multiply by t if ~~particular~~ right side
copies y_1 or y_2

variation of parameters takes care of that automatically