

mth 235 L 13

Plan: * $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t)$

* Method of Variation
of parameters

* Examples.

(3.6)

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* Variation of parameters

- This is a general method to find solutions to non-homogeneous eqs.

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = g(x).$$

(Non-homogeneous, variable coefficients, function g continuous but otherwise arbitrary.)

- The method can be applied to more general equations than the undetermined coefficients method.

Thm:

Let $p, q, g : (t_1, t_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be continuous functions and let y_1, y_2 be fundamental solutions of the homogeneous eq.

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0.$$

Introduce the functions

$$u_1(t) = - \int \frac{y_2 g}{W_{y_1, y_2}} dt$$

$$u_2(t) = \int \frac{y_1 g}{W_{y_1, y_2}} dt.$$

Then, the function

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

is solution of the non-homogeneous eq.

$$y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t). \quad (1)$$

Furthermore, the general sol. of (1) is

$$y(t) = c_1 y_1(t) + c_2 y_2(t) + y_p(t),$$

with $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$.

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Example. Find the general sol. of

$$y'' - 5y' + 6y = 2e^t.$$

Sol:

Notice: - Undetermined coefficients method could be used.

- Now we use variation of parameters.

First: We need y_1, y_2 fundamental sol. of

$$y'' - 5y' + 6y = 0.$$

$$P(r) = r^2 - 5r + 6 = 0$$

$$r = \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{25 - 24}}{2} = \frac{5 \pm 1}{2}$$

$$r_1 = 3$$

$$r_2 = 2$$

$$y_1(t) = e^{3t}$$

$$y_2(t) = e^{2t}$$

second: We need the Wronskian:

$$W_{y_1, y_2} = \begin{vmatrix} e^{3t} & 3e^{3t} \\ e^{2t} & 2e^{2t} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 2e^{5t} - 3e^{5t}$$

$$W_{y_1, y_2} = -e^{5t}$$

Recall the source function

$$g(t) = 2e^t$$

Third: compute functions u_1, u_2 .

Notice that:

$$u_1' = -\frac{y_2 g}{W_{y_1, y_2}}, \quad u_2' = \frac{y_1 g}{W_{y_1, y_2}}$$

$$u_1' = - \frac{y_2 g}{w_{y_1, y_2}} = - \frac{e^{2t} 2e^t}{(-e^{5t})}$$

$$u_1' = 2 e^{(3t-5t)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{u_1' = 2 e^{-2t}}$$

$$u_2' = \frac{y_1 g}{w_{y_1, y_2}} = \frac{e^{3t} 2e^t}{(-e^{5t})}$$

$$u_2' = -2 e^{(4t-5t)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{u_2' = -2 e^{-t}}$$

Therefore

$$u_1 = \int 2 e^{-2t} dt \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{u_1 = -e^{-2t}}$$

$$u_2 = \int -2 e^{-t} dt \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{u_2 = 2 e^{-t}}$$

Fourth: compute y_p .

$$\begin{aligned}y_p(t) &= u_1(t) y_1(t) + u_2(t) y_2(t) \\&= (-e^{-2t}) e^{3t} + (2e^{-t}) e^{2t} \\&= -e^t + 2e^t\end{aligned}$$

$$y_p(t) = e^t$$

(compare with
guessing method.)

The fundamental solution is:

$$y(t) = c_1 e^{3t} + c_2 e^{2t} + e^t$$

Proof of Thm:

y_1, y_2 satisfy the eqs.

$$y_1'' + p(t) y_1' + q(t) y_1 = 0$$

$$y_2'' + p(t) y_2' + q(t) y_2 = 0$$

Introduce the function

$$y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$$

where u_1, u_2 are functions to be computed later on.

compute

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

$$y_p'' = u_1'' y_1 + 2 u_1' y_1' + u_1 y_1'' + u_2'' y_2 + 2 u_2' y_2' + u_2 y_2''$$

y_p, y_p', y_p'' into the eq. $y_p'' + P y_p' + Q y_p = g$

and then find the eqs. for u_1, u_2 .

$$\begin{aligned}
g = & (u_1'' y_1 + 2 u_1' y_1' + \overbrace{u_1 y_1''} \\
& + u_2'' y_2 + 2 u_2' y_2' + \overbrace{u_2 y_2''}) \\
& + P (u_1 y_1 + \overbrace{u_1 y_1'} + u_2 y_2 + \overbrace{u_2 y_2'}) \\
& + Q (\overbrace{u_1 y_1} + \overbrace{u_2 y_2})
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
g = & u_1 (y_1'' + P y_1' + Q y_1) \\
& + u_2 (y_2'' + P y_2' + Q y_2) \\
& + u_1'' y_1 + u_2'' y_2 + 2 (u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2') \\
& + P (u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2)
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
g = & u_1'' y_1 + u_2'' y_2 + 2 (u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2') \\
& + P (u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2) \tag{2}
\end{aligned}$$

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key idea: Look for $u_1(t)$, $u_2(t)$ sol. of

$$u_1' \gamma_1 + u_2' \gamma_2 = 0 \quad (3)$$

- So, the third term in (2) vanishes for such u_1, u_2 .

- Any solution of (3) must satisfy

$$0 = (u_1' \gamma_1 + u_2' \gamma_2)'$$

that is

$$0 = u_1'' \gamma_1 + u_1' \gamma_1' + u_2'' \gamma_2 + u_2' \gamma_2' \quad (4)$$

Eqs. (2) and (4) imply

$$u_1' \gamma_1' + u_2' \gamma_2' = q \quad (5)$$

If u_1, u_2 solve (3) and (5), then γ_p is solution of

$$\gamma_p'' + P \gamma_p' + Q \gamma_p = q$$

Find $u_1(t)$, $u_2(t)$ solution of

$y_1 u_1' + y_2 u_2' = 0$	(3)
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$y_1' u_1 + y_2' u_2 = g$	(5)
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Algebraic equations for u_1' , u_2' .

$u_2' = -\frac{y_1}{y_2} u_1'$

introduce it in (3).

$$y_1' u_1 + y_2' \left(-\frac{y_1}{y_2}\right) u_1' = g$$

$$\frac{(y_1' y_2 - y_1 y_2')}{y_2} u_1' = g$$

$$-W_{y_1, y_2} \frac{u_1'}{y_2} = g$$

$$u_1' = - \frac{y_2 q}{W_{y_1, y_2}}$$

$$u_2' = - \frac{y_1}{y_2} u_1'$$

$$u_2' = \frac{y_1 q}{W_{y_1, y_2}}$$

Therefore:

$$u_1 = \int - \frac{y_2 q}{W_{y_1, y_2}} dt$$

$$u_2 = \int \frac{y_1 q}{W_{y_1, y_2}} dt.$$

and $y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$

satisfies

$$y_p'' + P y_p' + Q y_p = q.$$



Example

Find a particular solution of

$$t^2 y'' - 2y = 3t^2 - 1$$

knowing that

$$y_1 = t^2$$

,

$$y_2 = \frac{1}{t}$$

are fundamental sols. of

$$t^2 y'' - 2y = 0.$$

Sol:

Find

$$W_{y_1, y_2} = \begin{vmatrix} t^2 & 2t \\ \frac{1}{t} & -\frac{1}{t^2} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= t^2 \left(-\frac{1}{t^2}\right) - \frac{1}{t} (2t)$$

$$= -1 - 2$$

$$W_{y_1, y_2}(t) = -3$$

Notice: $g(t) \neq 3t^2 - 1$

$$t^2 y'' - 2y = 3t^2 - 1$$

$$y'' - \frac{2}{t^2} y = 3 - \frac{1}{t^2}$$

$$g(t) = 3 - \frac{1}{t^2}$$

Find u_1, u_2 knowing:

$$y_1 = t^2 \quad y_2 = \frac{1}{t}, \quad W_{y_1, y_2} = -3, \quad g = 3 - \frac{1}{t^2}$$

$$u_1' = - \frac{y_2 g}{W_{y_1, y_2}} = - \frac{1}{t} \left(3 - \frac{1}{t^2} \right) \frac{1}{(-3)}$$

$$u_1' = t^{-1} - \frac{t^{-3}}{3}$$

$$u_1 = \ln(t) + \frac{1}{6} t^{-2}$$

$$u_2' = \frac{y_1 g}{W_{y_1, y_2}} = t^2 \left(3 - \frac{1}{t^2} \right) \frac{1}{(-3)}$$

$$u_2' = -t^2 + \frac{1}{3}$$

$$u_2 = -\frac{t^3}{3} + \frac{t}{3}$$

compute the particular solution

$$y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$$

$$= \left(\ln(t) + \frac{t^{-2}}{6} \right) t^2 + \frac{1}{3} (-t^3 + t) \frac{1}{t}$$

$$= \ln(t) t^2 + \frac{1}{6} - \frac{t^2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}$$

$$y_p = t^2 \ln(t) + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} t^2$$

Notice : $y_1 = t^2$, so

$$y_p = t^2 \ln(t) + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} y_1(t)$$

Denoting $q : L(y) = y'' - \frac{2}{t^2} y$,

recall : $0 = L(y_1)$

and $q = L(y_p)$
 $= L(t^2 \ln(t) + \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} y_1)$
 $= L(t^2 \ln(t) + \frac{1}{2}) - \frac{1}{3} L(y_1)$

$$q = L(t^2 \ln(t) + \frac{1}{2})$$

so : $\tilde{y}_p = t^2 \ln(t) + \frac{1}{2}$

is another particular sol. of

$$L(\tilde{y}_p) = q.$$