

§3.5 Undetermined Coeff's.

Problem: To solve

$$ay'' + by' + cy = g$$

→ Variation of parameters is a lot of work  
(for a simple answer)

→ Variation of parameters is terrible for  
order > 2 (i.e.  $ay''' + by'' + cy' + dy = g$ )

Undetermined Coefficients is a simpler  
method... BUT

→ ONLY works for constant coefficients

→ ONLY works for nice functions  $g(t)$

$$g = \begin{cases} \text{exponential} \\ \text{polynomial} \\ \text{sin / cos} \end{cases} \quad (\text{or products of these})$$

Idea:  $ay'' + by' + cy = g$

Think of this as an "operator" ← "function of functions"

$$L[f] = af'' + bf' + cf$$

input is a function

output is another function

We know that solution has the form

$$y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + Y$$

fundamental solutions of homogeneous eqn

one "particular" solution to non-homog. eqn

$$\begin{cases} L[y_1] = 0 \\ L[y_2] = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$L[Y] = g$$

When we did variation of parameters,  $Y$  was composed of anti-derivatives

$$Y = \left( \int \frac{y_1 \cdot g}{w} dt \right) y_2 - \left( \int \frac{y_2 \cdot g}{w} dt \right) y_1$$

Remark: If you are bored one day, it is fun to compute  $L\left[\left(\int \frac{y_1 \cdot g}{w} dt\right) y_2 - \left(\int \frac{y_2 \cdot g}{w} dt\right) y_1\right]$  using the product rule and Fund. Thm. of Calc. to see how it gives  $g$ .

Plan: Instead of computing anti-derivatives to get  $Y$ , let's just try to guess  $Y$ ...  
or at least, guess the form of  $Y$ .

Ex: What is the form of the particular solution  $Y$  for

$$y'' + 3y' + 2y = \underline{4t^2 + 3} \quad ?$$

$L[Y] =$  polynomial of degree 2

$\Rightarrow Y$  might be a polynomial of degree 2

$$Y = A\underline{t^2} + B\underline{t} + C$$

$\rightarrow$  Let's solve the problem completely.

Ex: Solve  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = \underline{4t^2 + 2}$  (2)

char. eqn.

$$r^2 + 3r + 2 = 0$$

$$(r+2)(r+1) = 0 \quad r = \underline{-1, -2}$$

$$\underline{y_1 = e^{-t}} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{y_2 = e^{-2t}}$$

General solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + \underline{Y}$$

$$2 \cdot Y = 2A\underline{t^2} + 2B\underline{t} + 2C$$

$$3 \cdot Y' = 3 \cdot 2A\underline{t} + 3 \cdot B$$

$$+ 1 \cdot Y'' = 1 \cdot 2A$$

plug into DE & solve for A, B, C

$$L[Y] = 2A\underline{t^2} + (6A+2B)\underline{t} + (2A+3B+2C)$$

$4t^2 + 2$  To make these polynomials equal, we equate coefficients:

$$(t^2) \quad 4 = 2A \quad \rightarrow \underline{A = 2}$$

$$(t) \quad 0 = 6A + 2B \quad \rightarrow 0 = 6 \cdot 2 + 2B$$

$$(t^0) \quad 2 = 2A + 3B + 2C \quad \underline{B = -6}$$

$$2 = 2 \cdot 2 + 3(-6) + 2C$$

$$\underline{C = 8}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + (2t^2 - 6t + 8)$$

EX: Solve  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 20 \cos 2t$

General solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + Y$$

$L[Y] = 20 \cos 2t$

$$\begin{aligned} 2. Y &= 2 \cdot A \cos 2t + 2 \cdot B \sin 2t \\ 3. Y' &= 3 \cdot 2B \cos 2t - 3 \cdot 2A \sin 2t \\ + 1. Y'' &= -4A \cos 2t - 4B \sin 2t \end{aligned}$$

Because  $\frac{d}{dt} \cos 2t = -\sin 2t$ ,  
 $L[\cos 2t]$  will have a  $\sin 2t$  term!  
 $\Rightarrow Y$  must include a  $\sin 2t$  term too

$$L[Y] = (-2A + 6B) \cos 2t + (-6A - 2B) \sin 2t$$

$20 \cos 2t$  [Equate coefficients of  $\sin 2t$  and  $\cos 2t$ :]

$$(\cos 2t) \quad 20 = -2A + 6B$$

$$(\sin 2t) + 3(0 = -6A - 2B)$$

$$20 = -20A \Rightarrow \underline{A = -1}$$

$$0 = -6(-1) - 2B \Rightarrow \underline{B = 3}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + (-\cos 2t + 3 \sin 2t)$$

Note: Using variation of parameters would have required  $\int e^{2t} \cos 2t dt$  and  $\int e^t \cos 2t dt$  (circular integration by parts)

EX: Solve  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 24t^2 e^{2t} + 16t e^{2t}$  (3)

General Solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + Y$$

$L[Y] = (24t^2 + 16t) e^{2t}$

Try:  $Y = (\text{polynomial of deg 2}) \cdot e^{2t}$

$$2 \cdot Y = 2 \cdot A t^2 e^{2t} + 2 \cdot B t e^{2t} + 2 \cdot C e^{2t}$$

$$3 \cdot Y' = 3 \cdot 2A t e^{2t} + 3 \cdot (2A + 2B) t e^{2t} + 3 \cdot (B + 2C) e^{2t}$$

$$+ 1 \cdot Y'' = 2(2A) t^2 e^{2t} + \left( \frac{2(2A)}{+2(2A+2B)} \right) t e^{2t} + \left( \frac{(2A+2B)}{+2(B+2C)} \right) e^{2t}$$

$$L[Y] = 12A t^2 e^{2t} + (14A + 12B) t e^{2t} + (2A + 7B + 12C) e^{2t} = 24 t^2 e^{2t} + 16 t e^{2t}$$

[Equate coefficients of  $t^2 e^{2t}$ ,  $t e^{2t}$ ,  $e^{2t}$ :]

$$(t^2 e^{2t}) \quad 24 = 12A \Rightarrow \underline{A = 2}$$

$$(t e^{2t}) \quad 16 = 14A + 12B \Rightarrow 16 = 14 \cdot 2 + 12B \Rightarrow \underline{B = -1}$$

$$(e^{2t}) \quad 0 = 2A + 7B + 12C \Rightarrow 0 = 2 \cdot 2 + 7(-1) + 12C \Rightarrow \underline{C = -1/4}$$

Solution:

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + (2t^2 e^{2t} - t e^{2t} - 1/4 e^{2t})$$

Note: Work is simpler if you arrange computations of  $Y'$  and  $Y''$  into columns

EX:  $Y = A t^2 e^{-3t} + B t e^{-3t} + C e^{-3t}$

$$Y' = -3A t^2 e^{-3t} + \boxed{\dots} t e^{-3t} + \boxed{\dots} e^{-3t}$$

$$Y'' = 9A t e^{-3t} + \boxed{\dots} t e^{-3t} + \boxed{\dots} e^{-3t}$$

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

EX:  $Y = A t \cos 2t + B t \sin 2t + C \cos 2t + D \sin 2t$

$$Y' = 2B t \cos 2t - 2A t \sin 2t + \boxed{\dots} \cos 2t + \boxed{\dots} \sin 2t$$

$$Y'' = \boxed{\dots} t \cos 2t + \boxed{\dots} t \sin 2t + \boxed{\dots} \cos 2t + \boxed{\dots} \sin 2t$$

$t \cos 2t$        $t \sin 2t$        $\cos 2t$        $\sin 2t$

Note: Computation of  $Y'$  tells how to compute  $Y''$

EX:  $Y = A t e^{2t} \cos 3t + B t e^{2t} \sin 3t + C e^{2t} \cos 3t + \dots$

$$Y' = \begin{pmatrix} 2A \\ +3B \end{pmatrix} t e^{2t} \cos 3t + \begin{pmatrix} 2B \\ -3A \end{pmatrix} t e^{2t} \sin 3t + \begin{pmatrix} A \\ +2C \\ -3D \end{pmatrix} e^{2t} \cos 3t + \dots$$

$$Y'' = \begin{pmatrix} 2(2A+3B) \\ +3(2B-3A) \end{pmatrix} t e^{2t} \cos 3t + \begin{pmatrix} 2(2B-3A) \\ -3(2A+3B) \end{pmatrix} t e^{2t} \sin 3t + \dots$$

(You can think of  $Y'$  as  $M \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  then  $Y''$  is  $M^2 \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix}$ )

General Rule to guess  $Y$  from  $g(t)$ :

- $g(t) = \text{polynomial} \rightarrow Y = \text{polynomial}$
- $g(t) = (\text{polynom.}) e^t \rightarrow Y = (\text{polynom.}) \cdot e^t$
- $g(t) = (\text{polynom.}) (\sin \text{ or } \cos) \rightarrow Y = (\text{polynom.}) \cdot \cos + (\text{polynom.}) \cdot \sin$
- etc.

Simple formulation:

$Y$  has general terms matching (highest order terms of)  $g(t)$  as well as

- $\rightarrow$  any term with cos must be written also with sin
- $\rightarrow$  any term with sin must be written also with cos
- $\rightarrow$  any term with  $t^n$  must be written also with  $t^{n-1}$  (and  $t^{n-2}$ , ...,  $t$ ,  $1$ )

EX: Solve  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 10t \sin t$

General solution is

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + Y$$

$$2 \cdot Y = 2 \cdot A t \sin t + 2 \cdot B t \cos t + 2C \sin t + 2D \cos t$$

$$3 \cdot Y' = 3 \cdot B t \sin t + 3 \cdot A t \cos t + 3 \begin{pmatrix} A \\ -D \end{pmatrix} \sin t + 3 \begin{pmatrix} B \\ +C \end{pmatrix} \cos t$$

$$+ Y'' = -A t \sin t - B t \cos t + \begin{pmatrix} (-B) \\ -(B+C) \end{pmatrix} \sin t + \begin{pmatrix} A \\ +(A-D) \end{pmatrix} \cos t$$

$$L[Y] = (A-3B)t \sin t + (3A-2B+C-3D) \sin t + (3A+B)t \cos t + (2A+3B+3C+D) \cos t$$

10 t sin t [Equate coefficients of t sin t, t cos t, sin t, cos t:]

$$\begin{array}{l} (t \sin t) \quad 10 = A - 3B \\ (t \cos t) \quad +3(0 = 3A + B) \\ \hline 10 = 10A \Rightarrow A = 1 \\ 0 = 3 \cdot 1 + B \Rightarrow B = -3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} (\sin t) \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} 0 = 3A - 2B + C - 3D \\ 0 = 2A + 3B + 3C + D \end{array} \right. \\ (\cos t) \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} -9 = C - 3D \\ +3(7 = 3C + D) \end{array} \right. \\ \hline 12 = 10C \\ \hookrightarrow C = 6/5 \\ \text{and} \\ D = 17/5 \end{array}$$

Solution:

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + t \sin t - 3t \cos t + 6/5 \sin t + 17/5 \cos t$$

EX: Solve  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = 20t e^t \sin t$

(This is going to get ugly...)

$$2Y = 2A t e^t \cos t + 2C e^t \cos t + 2B t e^t \sin t + 2D e^t \sin t$$

$$3Y' = 3(A+B) t e^t \cos t + 3(A+C+D) e^t \cos t + 3(-A+B) t e^t \sin t + 3(B-C+D) e^t \sin t$$

$$+ Y'' = \begin{pmatrix} A+B \\ +(-A+B) \end{pmatrix} t e^t \cos t + \begin{pmatrix} (A+B) \\ +(A+C+D) \\ +(B-C+D) \end{pmatrix} e^t \cos t + \begin{pmatrix} -(A+B) \\ +(-A+B) \end{pmatrix} t e^t \sin t + \begin{pmatrix} -(A+B) \\ -(A+C+D) \\ +(B-C+D) \end{pmatrix} e^t \sin t$$

$$L[Y] = (5A+5B) t e^t \cos t + (5A+2B+5C+5D) e^t \cos t + (-5A+5B) t e^t \sin t + (-2A+5B-5C+5D) e^t \sin t$$

20 t e^t sin t [Equate coefficients:]

$$\begin{array}{l} (t e^t \cos t) \quad 0 = 5A + 5B \\ (t e^t \sin t) \quad +20 = -5A + 5B \\ \hline 20 = 10B \Rightarrow B = 2 \\ \Rightarrow A = -2 \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} (e^t \cos t) \quad 0 = 5A + 2B + 5C + 5D \\ (e^t \sin t) \quad 0 = -2A + 5B - 5C + 5D \end{array} \right\} \text{plus in} \rightarrow \begin{array}{l} 6 = 5C + 5D \\ +14 = -5C + 5D \\ \hline 20 = 10D \Rightarrow D = 2 \\ \Rightarrow C = -4/5 \end{array}$$

Solution:

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} - 2t e^t \cos t + 2t e^t \sin t - 4/5 e^t \cos t + 2 e^t \sin t$$

There is one more important twist:

## Shifting Y

EX: Solve  $y'' + 3y' + 2y = te^{-t}$

General Solution

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + Y$$

Plugging in  $Y = Ate^{-t} + Be^{-t}$  does not work...

$$2 \cdot Y = 2Ate^{-t} + 2Be^{-t}$$

$$3 \cdot Y' = 3Ate^{-t} + 3(A-B)e^{-t}$$

$$+ Y'' = Ate^{-t} + (-6A+3B)e^{-t}$$

$$L[Y] = 0 - 3Ae^{-t}$$

!!! No B ???

Notes: Highest order term  $te^{-t}$  vanished.

→ it is  $tL[e^{-t}] = t \cdot 0$

because  $e^{-t}$  is fundamental soln.

All of the B coefficients disappeared.

→  $L[Be^{-t}] = 0$

because  $e^{-t}$  is fundamental soln.

① To get a  $te^{-t}$  term in  $L[Y]$  you must have  $Y = \underline{At^2e^{-t}} + \dots$

② Since  $e^{-t}$  is a fundamental solution,  $Y$  should not have an  $e^{-t}$  term

(EX continued)

→  $Y$  should be shifted (once) because  $e^{-t}$  is a fund. soln (once)

$$Y = (Ate^{-t} + Be^{-t})t$$

↓

$$2 \cdot Y = 2At^2e^{-t} + 2Bte^{-t}$$

$$3 \cdot Y' = 3Ate^{-t} + 3(2A-B)te^{-t} + 3Be^{-t}$$

$$+ Y'' = Ate^{-t} + (-4A+B)te^{-t} + (2A-2B)e^{-t}$$

$$L[Y] = 0te^{-t} + 2Ate^{-t} + (2A+B)e^{-t}$$

te<sup>-t</sup>

highest order term must be 0 because  $e^{-t}$  is fund. soln.

( $te^{-t}$ )  $1 = 2A \rightarrow A = 1/2$

( $e^{-t}$ )  $0 = 2A + B \rightarrow B = -1$

Solution:

$$y = c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t} + \left( \frac{1}{2} t^2 e^{-t} - t e^{-t} \right)$$

alt. organization

$$y = \left( \frac{1}{2} t^2 - t + c_1 \right) e^{-t} + c_2 e^{-2t}$$

(6)

You must shift guesses when they contain the fund. solns.  $y_1$  and/or  $y_2$

EX: Solve  $y'' - 2y' + y = 12te^t + e^t$

Char. eqn:  $r^2 - 2r + 1 = 0$

$(r-1)^2 = 0 \quad r = 1, 1$

General Soln is  $y = c_1 e^t + c_2 t e^t + Y$

$\rightarrow e^t$  is a fundamental solution - twice  
 $\Rightarrow e^t$  terms in  $Y$  must be shifted - twice

$Y = (Ate^t + Be^t) t^2$

$Y = At^3e^t + Bt^2e^t$  te<sup>t</sup> and e<sup>t</sup> are both fundamental solutions

$-2Y' = -2Ate^t + 2(3A+B)t^2e^t + 22Bte^t$

$+ Y'' = Ate^t + (6A+B)t^2e^t + (6A+4B)te^t + 2Be^t$

$L[Y] = \underline{0}t^3e^t + \underline{0}t^2e^t + 6Ate^t + 2Be^t$

$12te^t + e^t$  TWO highest order  $e^t$  terms must be 0 because  $e^t$  is a fund. soln. TWICE

(EX continued)

$(te^t) \quad 12 = 6A \rightarrow A = 2$

$(e^t) \quad 1 = 2B \rightarrow B = 1/2$

Solution:

$y = c_1 e^t + c_2 t e^t + (2t^3 e^t + 1/2 t^2 e^t)$

alternate organization:

$y = (c_1 + c_2 t + 1/2 t^2 + 2t^3) e^t$

DO NOT shift parts of  $Y$  that don't include a fundamental soln

EX: What is the form of the particular solution  $Y$  for the DE

$y'' - 4y' + 3y = te^{3t} + \cos 2t ?$

Char. eqn:  $r^2 - 4r + 3 = 0$

$(r-3)(r-1) = 0 \quad r = 3, 1$

Fund. solns:  $y_1 = e^t$  and  $y_2 = e^{3t}$

$Y = (Ate^{3t} + Be^{3t})t + C \cos 2t + D \sin 2t$

$g = te^{3t} + \cos 2t$