

§3.6 Nonhomogeneous Linear DE  
(Variation of Parameters)

→ Convert the vector DE variation of parameters formula from chapter 7 to work for high order:

Setup:  $y'' + py' + qy = g$

[ Where homog. eqn.  $y'' + py' + qy = 0$   
has solution  
 $y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$  ]

$(y')' = y'' = -qy - py' + g$

$\begin{cases} x_1 = y \\ x_2 = y' \end{cases}$   
 $x' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -q & -p \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix}$

[ Where homog. system  $x' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -q & -p \end{bmatrix} x$   
has solution  $x = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_1' \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} y_2 \\ y_2' \end{bmatrix}$  ]

$\Rightarrow \Phi = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{bmatrix}$

$\det \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{bmatrix} = y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1'$   
 $= W(y_1, y_2)$  the "Wronskian"

Variation of Parameters Formula (Ch. 7)

$x = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_1' \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} y_2 \\ y_2' \end{bmatrix} + \Phi \left( \int \Phi^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix} \right)$

→ y is the top row of this.

$\Phi^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{W(y_1, y_2)} \begin{bmatrix} y_2' & -y_2 \\ -y_1' & y_1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix}$   
 $= \frac{1}{W(y_1, y_2)} \begin{bmatrix} -y_2' g \\ y_1 g \end{bmatrix}$

(Explain with Cramer's Rule instead??)

Variation of Parameters Formula:

$y'' + py' + qy = g$

has general solution

$y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + \left( \int \frac{y_1 g}{W} dt \right) y_2 - \left( \int \frac{y_2 g}{W} dt \right) y_1$

EX: Solve  $y'' - 2y' - 8y = e^{4t} = g(t)$

Fundamental Solutions

$$y'' - 2y' - 8y = 0$$

3 char. eqn.

$$r^2 - 2r - 8 = 0$$

$$(r-4)(r+2) = 0 \quad r = -2, 4$$

$$\underline{y_1 = e^{-2t}} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{y_2 = e^{4t}}$$

Variation of Parameters

$$\begin{aligned} W(e^{-2t}, e^{4t}) &= (e^{-2t})(e^{4t})' - (e^{4t})(e^{-2t})' \\ &= (e^{-2t})(4e^{4t}) - (e^{4t})(-2e^{-2t}) \\ &= \underline{6e^{2t}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{y_1 \cdot g}{W} dt &= \int \frac{e^{-2t} \cdot e^{4t}}{6e^{2t}} dt \\ &= \int \frac{1}{6} dt = \underline{\frac{1}{6}t} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{y_2 \cdot g}{W} dt &= \int \frac{e^{4t} \cdot e^{4t}}{6e^{2t}} dt \\ &= \int \frac{1}{6} e^{6t} dt = \frac{1}{36} e^{6t} \end{aligned}$$

Answer

$$y = c_1 e^{-2t} + c_2 e^{4t} + \left(\frac{1}{6}t\right) e^{4t} - \left(\frac{1}{36}e^{6t}\right) e^{-2t}$$

EX: Solve  $y'' - 2y' + 5y = e^t = g(t)$

Fundamental Solutions

$$r^2 - 2r + 5 = 0$$

$$(r-1)^2 + 4 = 0 \quad r = 1 \pm 2i$$

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

Variation of Parameters

$$\begin{aligned} W &= (e^t \cos 2t)(e^t \sin 2t)' - (e^t \sin 2t)(e^t \cos 2t)' \\ &= (e^t \cos 2t)(\cancel{e^t \sin 2t} + 2e^t \cos 2t) \\ &\quad - (e^t \sin 2t)(\cancel{e^t \cos 2t} - 2e^t \sin 2t) \\ &= 2e^{2t}(\cos^2 2t + \sin^2 2t) = \underline{2e^{2t}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{y_1 \cdot g}{W} dt &= \int \frac{e^t \cos 2t \cdot e^t}{2e^{2t}} dt \\ &= \int \frac{1}{2} \cos 2t dt = \underline{\frac{1}{4} \sin 2t} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int \frac{y_2 \cdot g}{W} dt &= \int \frac{e^t \sin 2t \cdot e^t}{2e^{2t}} dt \\ &= \int \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t dt = \underline{-\frac{1}{4} \cos 2t} \end{aligned}$$

Answer

$$y = c_1 e^t \cos 2t + c_2 e^t \sin 2t + \left(\frac{1}{4} \sin 2t\right) e^t \sin 2t - \left(\frac{1}{4} \cos 2t\right) e^t \cos 2t$$

$$y = c_1 e^t \cos 2t + c_2 e^t \sin 2t + \frac{1}{4} e^t$$



EX: Solve  $y'' + 4y' + 4y = t + 1$

Fundamental Solutions

$$r^2 + 4r + 4 = 0$$
$$(r + 2)^2 = 0 \quad r = -2, -2$$

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

Variation of Parameters

$$W(e^{-2t}, te^{-2t}) = (e^{-2t})(te^{-2t})' - (te^{-2t})(e^{-2t})'$$
$$= e^{-2t}(e^{-2t} - 2te^{-2t}) - te^{-2t}(-2e^{-2t})$$
$$= e^{-4t}$$

$$\int \frac{y_1 \cdot g}{W} dt = \int \frac{e^{-2t}(t+1)}{e^{-4t}} dt$$
$$= \int e^{2t}(t+1) dt = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{2}te^{2t} + \frac{1}{4}e^{2t}}}$$

$$\int \frac{y_2 \cdot g}{W} dt = \int \frac{te^{-2t}(t+1)}{e^{-4t}} dt$$
$$= \int e^{2t}(t^2 + t) dt = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{2}t^2e^{2t}}}$$

Answer

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

(EX continued)

$$y = c_1 e^{-2t} + c_2 te^{-2t} + t/4$$

Variation of Parameters usually involves a lot of cancelation and simplification

→ For example  $\frac{1}{W} = \frac{1}{y_1 y_2' - y_2 y_1'}$  seems like a scary thing to integrate — but usually it simplifies to be easy

Real, distinct roots

$$W(e^{at}, e^{bt}) = (e^{at})(e^{bt})' - (e^{bt})(e^{at})'$$
$$= b e^{(a+b)t} - a e^{(a+b)t}$$
$$= \underline{\underline{(b-a)e^{(a+b)t}}}$$

Repeated roots

$$W(e^{at}, te^{at}) = (e^{at})(te^{at})' - (te^{at})(e^{at})'$$
$$= e^{at}(e^{at} + ate^{at}) - te^{at}(ae^{at})$$
$$= \underline{\underline{e^{2at}}}$$

## Complex Roots

$$\begin{aligned}W(e^{at} \cos bt, e^{at} \sin bt) &= (e^{at} \cos bt)(e^{at} \sin bt)' \\ &\quad - (e^{at} \sin bt)(e^{at} \cos bt)' \\ &= e^{at} \cos bt (ae^{at} \sin bt + be^{at} \cos bt) \\ &\quad - e^{at} \sin bt (ae^{at} \cos bt - be^{at} \sin bt) \\ &= be^{2at} (\cos^2 bt + \sin^2 bt) = \underline{\underline{be^{2at}}}\end{aligned}$$

→ ALWAYS simplify  $W$  BEFORE you try to integrate!

(EX continued)

## Homogeneous equation

$$4y'' - y = 0$$

has solution

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

→ plugging in initial values would give  $c_1 = -3/2$   $c_2 = 5/2$

These are NOT the correct constants for non homogeneous equation!!!

## Variation of Parameters

$$\begin{aligned}W(e^{-1/2t}, e^{1/2t}) &= (e^{-1/2t})(e^{1/2t})' - (e^{1/2t})(e^{-1/2t})' \\ &= 1/2 + 1/2 = \underline{\underline{1}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{DE is } y'' - 1/4y = \underbrace{1/4(t+1)}_{=g(t)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{y_1 g}{W} dt &= \int e^{-1/2t} \cdot 1/4(t+1) dt \\ &= \underline{\underline{-1/2 t e^{-1/2t} - 3/2 e^{-1/2t}}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int \frac{y_2 g}{W} dt &= \int e^{1/2t} \cdot 1/4(t+1) dt \\ &= \underline{\underline{1/2 t e^{1/2t} + 3/2 e^{1/2t}}}\end{aligned}$$

## Initial Value Problem:

Do not solve for  $c_1$  &  $c_2$  until AFTER completing variation of parameters.

EX: Solve  $4y'' - y = t + 1$  with  $\begin{cases} y(0) = 1 \\ y'(0) = 2 \end{cases}$

## Fundamental Solutions

$$4r^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$r^2 = 1/4$$

$$r = \pm 1/2$$

$$y_1 = e^{-1/2t}$$

and

$$y_2 = e^{1/2t}$$



(EX continued)

General Soln

$$y = c_1 e^{-1/2t} + c_2 e^{1/2t} + \left(-\frac{1}{2}te^{-1/2t} - \frac{3}{2}e^{-1/2t}\right) e^{1/2t} - \left(\frac{1}{2}te^{1/2t} + \frac{3}{2}e^{1/2t}\right) e^{-1/2t}$$

$$y = c_1 e^{-1/2t} + c_2 e^{1/2t} - t - 3$$

$$y' = -\frac{1}{2}c_1 e^{-1/2t} + \frac{1}{2}c_2 e^{1/2t} - 1$$

Initial Values

$$1 = y(0) = c_1 + c_2 - 3$$

$$+ 2(2 = y'(0) = -\frac{1}{2}c_1 + \frac{1}{2}c_2 - 1)$$

$$5 = 0 + 2c_2 - 5 \rightarrow \boxed{c_2 = 5}$$

$$1 = c_1 + 5 - 3 \rightarrow \boxed{c_1 = -1}$$

Answer

$$\boxed{y = -e^{-1/2t} + 5e^{1/2t} - t - 3}$$

Variation of Parameters is a lot of work, but it even works for equations which have non-constant coefficients!

(If you can get  $y_1$  &  $y_2$ ...)

EX: Solve  $t^2 y'' - 2y = 3t^2 - 1$  (5)  
if  $y_1 = t^2$  &  $y_2 = 1/t$

Note: You cannot use the characteristic eqn  $t^2 r^2 - 2 = 0$  to solve for  $y_1$  &  $y_2$ .

The characteristic equation is not magic.

Variation of Parameters

$$W(t^2, 1/t) = (t^2)(1/t)' - (1/t)(t^2)' = t^2(-1/t^2) - (1/t)(2t) = \underline{\underline{-3}}$$

DE is  $y'' - \frac{2}{t^2}y = \frac{3t^2-1}{t^2} = g(t)$

$$\int \frac{y_1 \cdot g}{W} dt = \int -\frac{1}{3}(t^2 \cdot (3 - \frac{1}{t^2})) dt = \underline{\underline{-\frac{1}{3}t^3 + \frac{1}{3}t}}$$

$$\int \frac{y_2 \cdot g}{W} dt = \int -\frac{1}{3}\left(\frac{1}{t} \cdot (3 - \frac{1}{t^2})\right) dt = \underline{\underline{-\ln t - \frac{1}{6} \frac{1}{t^2}}}$$

Answer

$$y = c_1 t^2 + c_2 \frac{1}{t} + \left(-\frac{1}{3}t^3 + \frac{1}{3}t\right) \frac{1}{t} - \left(-\ln t - \frac{1}{6} \frac{1}{t^2}\right) t^2$$

(EX continued)

$$y = c_1 t^2 + c_2 \frac{1}{t} + (\ln t - \frac{1}{3}) t^2 + \frac{1}{2}$$

If there is more time:

EX: Solve  $t^2 y'' - 3ty' + 4y = t^2 \ln t$   
if  $y_1 = t^2$  &  $y_2 = t^2 \ln t$

Variation of Parameters

$$\begin{aligned} W(t^2, t^2 \ln t) &= (t^2)(t^2 \ln t)' - (t^2 \ln t)(t^2)' \\ &= t^2(2 \ln t + t) - t^2 \ln t(2t) \\ &= \underline{t^3} \end{aligned}$$

DE is  $y'' - \frac{3}{t}y' + \frac{4}{t^2}y = \ln t = g(t)$

$$\int \frac{y_1 \cdot g}{W} dt = \int \frac{t^2 \ln t}{t^3} dt = \int \frac{\ln t}{t} dt = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{2}(\ln t)^2}}$$

$$\int \frac{y_2 \cdot g}{W} dt = \int \frac{t^2 \ln t \cdot \ln t}{t^3} dt = \int \frac{(\ln t)^2}{t} dt = \underline{\underline{\frac{1}{3}(\ln t)^3}}$$

Answer

$$y = c_1 t^2 + c_2 t^2 \ln t + \frac{1}{6} t^2 (\ln t)^3$$

The two previous problems had the form  $\underline{a}t^2 y'' + \underline{b}t y' + cy$  (6)

Equations like this are called "Euler Equations"

They often have solutions like  $\underline{y = t^n}$

→ Plug in and solve for n:

$$at^2 y'' + bt y' + cy = 0$$

$$at^2(t^n)'' + bt(t^n)' + c(t^n) = 0$$

$$t^n (a(n)(n-1) + b(n) + c) = 0$$

$$an^2 + (b-a)n + c = 0$$

Vertical asymptote at  $t=0$ ??

EX:  $t^2 y'' - 2y = 0$

$$\Downarrow y = t^n$$

$$t^2 \cdot (n(n-1)t^{n-2}) - 2t^n = 0$$

$$t^n (n^2 - n - 2) = 0$$

$$(n-2)(n+1) = 0 \quad n = 2, -1$$

$$\underline{y_1 = t^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{y_2 = t^{-1} = 1/t}$$



If there is more time:

→ What about higher order DE?

|| Variation of parameters is still possible, but much messier...

EX 3<sup>rd</sup> order

$$y''' + p_1 y'' + p_2 y' + p_3 y = g$$

with fundamental solutions  $y_1, y_2, & y_3$ .

Vector equation is  $\begin{cases} x_1 = y \\ x_2 = y' \\ x_3 = y'' \end{cases}$

$$\underline{x}' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -p_3 & -p_2 & -p_1 \end{bmatrix} \underline{x} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix}$$

Homogeneous equation has solution

$$\underline{x} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_1' \\ y_1'' \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} y_2 \\ y_2' \\ y_2'' \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} y_3 \\ y_3' \\ y_3'' \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\Psi} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ y_1' & y_2' & y_3' \\ y_1'' & y_2'' & y_3'' \end{bmatrix}$$

this has 6 terms - one for each way of choosing who gets  $\frac{dz}{dt}$  &  $\frac{dz}{dt^2}$

Wronskian  $W(y_1, y_2, y_3) = \det \underline{\Psi}$

(EX continued)

Use Cramer's Rule to get  $\underline{\Psi}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ g \end{bmatrix}$

$$\frac{\begin{vmatrix} 0 & y_2 & y_3 \\ 0 & y_2' & y_3' \\ g & y_2'' & y_3'' \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ y_1' & y_2' & y_3' \\ y_1'' & y_2'' & y_3'' \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} y_2 & y_3 \\ y_2' & y_3' \end{vmatrix} \cdot g}{W(y_1, y_2, y_3)}$$

$W(y_2, y_3)$

$$\frac{\begin{vmatrix} y_1 & 0 & y_3 \\ y_1' & 0 & y_3' \\ y_1'' & g & y_3'' \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ y_1' & y_2' & y_3' \\ y_1'' & y_2'' & y_3'' \end{vmatrix}} = - \frac{\begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_3 \\ y_1' & y_3' \end{vmatrix} \cdot g}{W(y_1, y_2, y_3)}$$

$W(y_1, y_3)$

$$\frac{\begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & 0 \\ y_1' & y_2' & 0 \\ y_1'' & y_2'' & g \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & y_3 \\ y_1' & y_2' & y_3' \\ y_1'' & y_2'' & y_3'' \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{vmatrix} \cdot g}{W(y_1, y_2, y_3)}$$

$W(y_1, y_2)$

Integrate these and multiply by  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  to get the Variation of Parameters formula...

Variation of Parameters formula (3<sup>rd</sup> order)

$$y''' + p_1 y'' + p_2 y' + p_3 y = g$$

has general solution

$$y = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2 + c_3 y_3$$

$$+ \left( \int \frac{W(y_1, y_2) \cdot g}{W(y_1, y_2, y_3)} dt \right) \cdot y_3$$

$$- \left( \int \frac{W(y_1, y_3) \cdot g}{W(y_1, y_2, y_3)} dt \right) \cdot y_2$$

$$+ \left( \int \frac{W(y_2, y_3) \cdot g}{W(y_1, y_2, y_3)} dt \right) \cdot y_1$$

(This is beautiful and terrible  
at the same time.)

