

4.6 Variation of Parameters

Applying method to 2nd order DE:

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

$p(x)$ & $q(x)$ are functions of x .

For this to work, need fundamental set of solutions y_1 & y_2 to associated homogeneous equation

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

General solution is $y_h = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$ C_1, C_2 constant

Replace C_1 & C_2 w/ unknown functions $v_1(x)$ & $v_2(x)$

$$y_p = v_1 y_1 + v_2 y_2$$

$$y_p' = v_1' y_1 + v_1 y_1' + v_2' y_2 + v_2 y_2'$$

$$= (v_1' y_1 + v_2' y_2) + (v_1 y_1' + v_2 y_2')$$

set to 0 so we can impose constraint $v_1' y_1 + v_2' y_2 = 0$

and obtain simplified expression:

$$y_p' = v_1 y_1' + v_2 y_2'$$

After substituting y_p, y_p', y_p'' , we expect 1 equation on v_1, v_2 + their 1st 2 derivatives.

~~1~~ 1 equation and 2 unknown leads to many choices of v_1 & v_2 that works. We solve this by imposing condition so we get 2 equations and 2 unknowns.

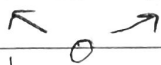
$$y_p'' = v_1' y_1' + v_1 y_1'' + v_2' y_2' + v_2 y_2''$$

$$= v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2' + v_1 y_1'' + v_2 y_2''$$

SUB INTO $y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = g(x)$

$$= (v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2' + v_1 y_1'' + v_2 y_2'') + p(x)(v_1 y_1' + v_2 y_2') + q(x)(v_1 y_1 + v_2 y_2)$$

$$= v_1 (y_1'' + p(x)y_1' + q(x)y_1) + v_2 (y_2'' + p(x)y_2' + q(x)y_2) + v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2'$$



Because y_1 & y_2 are solutions, so

$$g(x) = v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2'$$

$$v_1' y_1 + v_2' y_2 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1' \\ v_2' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ g(x) \end{pmatrix} \text{ can solve if } \det \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$$

$$v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2' = g(x)$$

$$\text{Recall Wronskian } W(x) = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{vmatrix} = y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2$$

$W(x) \neq 0$ bc y_1, y_2 are linearly independent bc y_1, y_2 form fundamental set of solutions.

$\therefore \det \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{vmatrix} \neq 0$ and can be used to solve for v_1, v_2

$$v_1' = \frac{-y_2 g}{y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2} \quad \& \quad v_2' = \frac{y_1 g}{y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2}$$

Integrate: $v_1(t) = \int \frac{-y_2(t) g(t)}{y_1(t) y_2'(t) - y_1'(t) y_2(t)} dt$ $v_2(t) = \int \frac{y_1(t) g(t)}{y_1(t) y_2'(t) - y_1'(t) y_2(t)} dt$

Solution: $y_p = v_1 y_1 + v_2 y_2$

To use the method,

1) Find fundamental set of solutions y_1, y_2 to $y'' + py' + qy = 0$

2) Form $y_p = v_1 y_1 + v_2 y_2$, $\left. \begin{matrix} v_1 = v_1(t) \\ v_2 = v_2(t) \end{matrix} \right\} \text{ functions TBD}$

3) Find v_1 & v_2

or REMEMBER FORMULAS

Follow procedure:

i) Differentiate y_p :

$$y_p' = \underbrace{(v_1' y_1 + v_2' y_2)}_{\text{set to 0}} + v_1 y_1' + v_2 y_2'$$

$$v_1' y_1 + v_2' y_2 = 0$$

ii) Take 2nd Derivative of y_p

Sub y_p, y_p', y_p'' into $y'' + py' + qy = g(t)$

Simplify using y_1, y_2 solutions to $y'' + py' + qy = 0$

and set $v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2' = g(t)$

iii) Solve System

$$\text{Solve } v_1' y_1 + v_2' y_2 = 0$$

$$v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2' = g(t)$$

for v_1' and v_2'

iv) Integrate to find v_1 & v_2

↑
exactly what it sounds like

v) Sub v_1 & v_2 into

$$y_p = v_1 y_1 + v_2 y_2$$

Success of method depends on being able to find fundamental set of solutions to $y'' + py' + qy = 0$ and compute integrals.

Ex: Find particular solution to $y'' + 4y = 3\csc t$

$g(t) = 3\csc t$ is not one of forcing terms handled by method of undetermined coefficients

Variation of Parameters:

1) $y'' + 4y = 0$

can show $y_1 = \cos 2t$, $y_2 = \sin 2t$ fundamental set of solutions

2) $y_p = v_1 \cos 2t + v_2 \sin 2t$ $v_1 = v_1(t)$

3) $y_p' = v_1' \cos 2t - 2v_1 \sin 2t + v_2' \sin 2t + 2v_2 \cos 2t$ $v_2 = v_2(t)$

$$= \underbrace{(v_1' \cos 2t + v_2' \sin 2t)}_{\text{set } = 0} + (-2v_1 \sin 2t + 2v_2 \cos 2t)$$

set = 0

$$y_p' = -2v_1 \sin 2t + 2v_2 \cos 2t$$

$$y_p'' = -2v_1' \sin 2t - 4v_1 \cos 2t + 2v_2' \cos 2t - 4v_2 \sin 2t$$

Substitute: $(-2v_1' \sin 2t - 4v_1 \cos 2t + 2v_2' \cos 2t - 4v_2 \sin 2t) + 4(v_1 \cos 2t + v_2 \sin 2t) = 3\csc t$
 $-2v_1' \sin 2t + 2v_2' \cos 2t = 3\csc t$

$$v_1' \cos 2t + v_2' \sin 2t = 0$$

$$-2v_1' \sin 2t + 2v_2' \cos 2t = 3\csc t$$



$$v_1' = -3\cos t \quad v_2' = \frac{3}{2}\csc t - 3\sin t$$

$$v_1(t) = -3\sin t + C_1 \quad v_2(t) = \frac{3}{2} \ln |\csc t - \cot t| + 3\cos t + C_2$$

If you're looking for a particular solution, take $C_1 = C_2 = 0$

4) $y_p = v_1 y_1 + v_2 y_2$
 $= -3\sin t \cos 2t + \frac{3}{2} \ln |\csc t - \cot t| \sin 2t + 3\cos t \sin 2t$

$$y_h = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$$

$$y(t) = y_p + y_h = -3\sin t \cos 2t + \frac{3}{2} \ln |\csc t - \cot t| \sin 2t + 3\cos t \sin 2t + C_1 \cos 2t + C_2 \sin 2t$$