

# Method of variation of parameters

$$y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_2(x)y = g(x)$$

(1) Suppose  $y_1(x)$  and  $y_2(x)$  are solutions to homogeneous problem.

$$y'' + a_1(x)y' + a_2(x)y = 0.$$

(2) Assume  $y_p(x) = u_1(x)y_1(x) + u_2(x)y_2(x)$  is

a particular solution such that

$$y_p'' + a_1(x)y_p' + a_2(x)y_p = g(x).$$

$$y_p' = u_1'y_1 + u_1y_1' + u_2'y_2 + u_2y_2'$$

$$y_p'' = u_1''y_1 + 2u_1'y_1' + u_1y_1'' + u_2''y_2 + 2u_2'y_2' + u_2y_2''$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p'' + a_1(x)y_p' + a_2(x)y_p =$$

$$u_1''y_1 + 2u_1'y_1' + u_1y_1'' + u_2''y_2 + 2u_2'y_2' + u_2y_2''$$

$$+ a_1(x)(u_1'y_1 + u_1y_1' + u_2'y_2 + u_2y_2') + a_2(x)(u_1y_1 + u_2y_2)$$

$$= u_1(y_1'' + a_1(x)y_1' + a_2(x)y_1) + u_2(y_2'' + a_1(x)y_2' + a_2(x)y_2)$$

$$+ (u_1'y_1 + u_2'y_2)a_1(x) + (u_1''y_1 + u_1'y_1' + u_2''y_2 + u_2'y_2')$$

$$+ u_1'y_1' + u_2'y_2' = g(x)$$

$$\begin{cases} u_1' y_1 + u_2' y_2 = 0 & (1) \\ u_1 y_1' + u_2 y_2' = g(x) & (2) \end{cases}$$

$$(1) \times y_2' - (2) \times y_2 \Rightarrow (y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2) u_1' = -g(x) y_2$$

$$(1) \times y_1' - (2) \times y_1 \Rightarrow (y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2) u_2' = -g(x) y_1$$

$$\Rightarrow (y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2) u_2' = g(x) y_1$$

$\Rightarrow$  Define Wronskian determinant as

$$W(x) = y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2$$

If  $W(x) \neq 0$ , we say  $y_1, y_2$  are linear independent which means that above eqn is solvable.

$$u_1' = -\frac{g(x) y_2}{W(x)}, \quad u_2' = \frac{g(x) y_1}{W(x)}$$

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$$\Rightarrow y_p(x) = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2 = -y_1 \int \frac{g(x) y_2}{W(x)} dx + y_2 \int \frac{g(x) y_1}{W(x)} dx$$

Solve homogeneous problem,  $y_h = c_1 y_1 + c_2 y_2$

Step 1: Get two linear independent solution  $y_1$  and  $y_2$

Step 2: Rewrite eqn as  $y' + a(x)y + b(x)y = g(x)$

$$\text{calculate } W(x) = y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2$$

then obtain  $u_1' = -\frac{y_2 g}{W}$ ,  $u_2' = \frac{y_1 g}{W}$ , do the integrals

and obtain  $y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$ , finally  $y = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2 + y_p$

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$$(11) y'' - y' - 6y = 6e^x \text{ solve}$$

$$\text{Step 1: } r^2 - r - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow (r-3)(r+2) = 0$$

$$r_1 = 3, r_2 = -2, y_h = C_1 e^{3x} + C_2 e^{-2x}$$

$$\text{Let } y_1 = e^{3x}, y_2 = e^{-2x}$$

$$\text{Step 2: } y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$$

$$W(x) = y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2 = -5e^x$$

$$\Rightarrow u_1' = -\frac{y_2 g}{W} = -\frac{e^{-2x} \cdot 6e^x}{-5e^x} = \frac{6}{5} e^{-2x}$$

$$u_2' = \frac{y_1 g}{W} = \frac{6e^x \cdot e^{3x}}{-5e^x} = -\frac{6}{5} e^{3x}$$

$$y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2 = \int \frac{6}{5} e^{-2x} dx - \int \frac{6}{5} e^{3x} dx$$

$$\Rightarrow u_1 = -\frac{3}{5} e^{-2x}, u_2 = -\frac{2}{5} e^{3x}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2 = -\frac{3}{5} e^{-2x} e^{3x} - \frac{2}{5} e^{3x} e^{-2x} = -\frac{5}{5} e^x = -e^x$$

$$\Rightarrow y = y_h + y_p = C_1 e^{3x} + C_2 e^{-2x} - e^x$$

$$x_1 = 3, x_2 = -2, x_3 = 1$$

$$x = 3, x = -2, x = 1$$

$$1 = 0, 1 = 1, 1 = 1$$



Euler - Type  $\lambda^2 + a_1 \lambda + a_2 = 0$  (1)

$$x^2 y'' + a_1 x y' + a_2 y = 0$$

Let  $y = x^r = e^{r \ln x}$ ,  $y' = r x^{r-1}$ ,  $y'' = r(r-1) x^{r-2}$

$$(r^2 + (a_1 - 1)r + a_2) x^r = (r^2 + (a_1 - 1)r + a_2) e^{rz} = 0$$

$$z = \ln x$$

$$r_{1,2} = \frac{-(a_1 - 1) \pm \sqrt{(a_1 - 1)^2 - 4a_2}}{2}$$

Case 1:  $r_1, r_2$  two different real sol.  
 $y = C_1 x^{r_1} + C_2 x^{r_2} = C_1 e^{r_1 z} + C_2 e^{r_2 z}$

Case 2:  $r_1 = r_2$ ,  $y = C_1 x^r + C_2 \ln x \cdot x^r = C_1 e^{rz} + C_2 z e^{rz}$

Case 3:  $r_1, r_2$  two complex,  $y = x^\alpha (C_1 \sin(\beta \ln x) + C_2 \cos(\beta \ln x))$   
 $r_{1,2} = \alpha \pm i\beta$

(2)  $x y'' + y' = x$ ,  $y(1) = 1$ ,  $y'(1) = -1$

Step 1:  $x^2 y'' + x y' = x^2$

$$r^2 + (1-1)r = 0 \Rightarrow r_1 = r_2 = 0$$

$$y_h = C_1 + C_2 \ln x, y_1 = 1, y_2 = \ln x$$

Step 2:  $w(x) = y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2 = \frac{1}{x}$

Rewrite  $y'' + \frac{1}{x} y' = 1, g(x) = 1$

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$$u_1' = -\frac{y_2 g}{w} = -\frac{\ln x}{x} = -x \ln x = \frac{1}{4} \ln$$

$$u_2' = \frac{y_1 g}{w} = \frac{1}{x} = x = \frac{1}{4} \ln$$

$$u_1 = \int_1^x -s \ln s \, ds = -\frac{1}{2} s^2 \ln s \Big|_1^x + \frac{1}{2} \int_1^x s^2 \cdot \frac{1}{s} \, ds$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} x^2 \ln x + \frac{1}{4} x^2 - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$u_2 = \int_1^x s \, ds = \frac{1}{2} x^2 - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2 = \frac{1}{4} x^2 - \frac{1}{2} \ln x - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\text{step 3: } y = y_h + y_p = (c_1 + (c_2 - \frac{1}{2}) \ln x) + \frac{1}{4} x^2 - \frac{1}{4}$$

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

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

$$1 = y = 1 + \frac{3}{2} \ln x + \frac{1}{4} x^2 - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$(3) \quad x^2 y'' + 4xy' + 2y = \frac{1}{x}, \quad y(1) = y'(1) = 0$$

$$\text{step 1: } r^2 + (4-1)r + 2 = r^2 + 3r + 2 = (r+2)(r+1) = 0$$

$$r_1 = -1, \quad r_2 = -2, \quad y_h = c_1 x^{-1} + c_2 x^{-2}$$

$$y_1 = x^{-1}, \quad y_2 = x^{-2}$$

$$\text{step 2: } y'' + \frac{4}{x} y' + \frac{2}{x^2} y = \frac{1}{x^3} \quad g = \frac{1}{x^3}$$

$$w(x) = y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2 = -2x^{-4} + x^{-4} = -x^{-4}$$

$$u_1' = x^{-1} \frac{y_2 g}{W} = \frac{x^{-1}}{x} = \frac{x^{-2} \cdot x^3}{-x^{-4}} = -x^{-1} = -\frac{1}{x}$$

$$u_2' = \frac{y_1 g}{W} = \frac{x}{-x^{-4}} = -x^5 = -\frac{1}{x^5}$$

$$dx \cdot \left( \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x^6} \right) = \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x^6} = \frac{x^4 + 1}{x^6} = \frac{1}{x^6} \cdot (x^4 + 1) = \frac{1}{x^6} \cdot x^4 + \frac{1}{x^6} = \frac{1}{x^2} + \frac{1}{x^6}$$

$$\Rightarrow u_1 = -\frac{1}{x} \ln x, u_2 = -\frac{1}{x^5}$$

$$y_p = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2 = -\frac{1}{x} \ln x - \frac{1}{x^5}$$

$$\text{Step 3: } y = y_h + y_p = C_1 x^{-1} + C_2 x^{-5} - \frac{1}{x} \ln x$$

$$y'(x) = -C_1 x^{-2} - 5C_2 x^{-6} - \frac{1}{x^2} \ln x - \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$y(1) = C_1 + C_2 = 0$$

$$y'(1) = -C_1 - 5C_2 - 1 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow C_1 + C_2 = 0$$

$$0 = -C_1 - 5C_2 - 1 \Rightarrow C_1 = -C_2 - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow C_2 = 1, C_1 = -1$$

$$y = -x^{-1} + x^{-5} - \frac{1}{x^2} \ln x - \frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$y = -\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x^5} - \frac{1}{x^2} \ln x - \frac{1}{x^2}$$

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