

Section 4.6 Variation of Parameters

Introduction : Variation of Parameters

Consider the $ay'' + by' + cy = g(t)$ and let $y_1(t)$ and $y_2(t)$ be two L.I. solutions for $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$. Then we know that a general solution is $y_h(t) = c_1 y_1(t) + c_2 y_2(t)$.

Let $y_p(t) = v_1(t)y_1(t) + v_2(t)y_2(t)$

$$\Rightarrow y_p'(t) = \underbrace{(v_1' y_1 + v_2' y_2)}_{\text{set 0}} + (v_1 y_1' + v_2 y_2')$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p''(t) = (v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2') + (v_1 y_1'' + v_2 y_2'')$$

$$\Rightarrow a(v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2') + a(v_1 y_1'' + v_2 y_2'') + b(v_1 y_1' + v_2 y_2') + c(v_1 y_1 + v_2 y_2) = g$$

$$\Rightarrow a(v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2') + v_1 \underbrace{(ay_1'' + by_1' + cy_1)}_{=0} + v_2 \underbrace{(ay_2'' + by_2' + cy_2)}_{=0} = g$$

$$\Rightarrow a(v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2') = g \quad \text{or}$$

$$\Rightarrow (v_1' y_1' + v_2' y_2') = \frac{g}{a}$$

Method of Variation of Parameters

To determine a particular solution to $ay'' + by' + cy = g$:

1. Find two L.I. solutions $\{y_1(t), y_2(t)\}$ to the $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$ and take

$$y_p(t) = v_1(t)y_1(t) + v_2(t)y_2(t).$$

2. Determine $v_1(t)$ and $v_2(t)$ by solving the system
$$\begin{cases} y_1 v_1' + y_2 v_2' = 0 \\ y_1' v_1' + y_2' v_2' = \frac{g}{a} \end{cases}$$
 for $v_1'(t)$ and $v_2'(t)$

and integrating.

3. Substitute $v_1(t)$ and $v_2(t)$ into the expression for $y_p(t)$ to obtain a particular solution.

◇ Find a general solution to the differential equation using the method of variation of parameters.

2. $y'' + 4y = \tan 2t$

Sol.

$$r^2 + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm 2i$$

$$\therefore y_h(t) = c_1 \cos 2t + c_2 \sin 2t$$

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

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1' \cos 2t + v_2' \sin 2t = 0 & (\times 2 \sin 2t) \\ -2v_1' \sin 2t + 2v_2' \cos 2t = \tan 2t & (\times \cos 2t) \end{cases}$$

$\tan 2t = \frac{\sin 2t}{\cos 2t}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2v_1' \sin 2t \cos 2t + 2v_2' \sin^2 2t = 0 \\ -2v_1' \sin 2t \cos 2t + 2v_2' \cos^2 2t = \sin 2t \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2v_2' = \sin 2t \\ v_1' = -v_2' \cdot \frac{\sin 2t}{\cos 2t} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_2' = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t \\ v_1' = -\frac{\sin^2 2t}{2 \cos 2t} = -\frac{(1 - \cos^2 2t)}{2 \cos 2t} = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\cos 2t} - \cos 2t \right) = -\frac{1}{2} (\sec 2t - \cos 2t) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_2 = \frac{1}{2} \int \sin 2t dt = -\frac{1}{4} \cos 2t \\ v_1 = -\frac{1}{2} \int (\sec 2t - \cos 2t) dt = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \ln |\sec 2t + \tan 2t| - \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t \right) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p = \left(-\frac{1}{4} \ln |\sec 2t + \tan 2t| + \frac{1}{4} \sin 2t \right) \cos 2t - \frac{1}{4} \cos 2t \sin 2t \\ = -\frac{1}{4} \ln |\sec 2t + \tan 2t| \cos 2t$$

$$\therefore y(t) = y_h + y_p = c_1 \cos 2t + c_2 \sin 2t - \frac{1}{4} \ln |\sec 2t + \tan 2t| \cos 2t$$

4. $y'' - 2y' + y = t^{-1}e^t$

Sol.

$$r^2 - 2r + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow r = 1 \quad (\text{重根})$$

$$\therefore y_h(t) = c_1 e^t + c_2 t e^t$$

Let $y_p(t) = v_1 e^t + v_2 t e^t$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1' e^t + v_2' t e^t = 0 \\ v_1' e^t + v_2' (e^t + t e^t) = t^{-1} e^t \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_2' e^t = t^{-1} e^t \\ v_1' = -v_2' t \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_2' = t^{-1} \\ v_1' = -1 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_2 = \ln |t| \\ v_1 = -t \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p = -t e^t + t e^t \ln |t|$$

$$\therefore y(t) = c_1 e^t + c_2 t e^t - t e^t + t e^t \ln |t|$$

$$\int \sec at dt = \frac{1}{a} \ln |\sec at + \tan at| + C$$

$$\int \csc at dt = \frac{-1}{a} \ln |\csc at + \cot at| + C$$

8. $y'' + 4y = \csc^2(2t)$

Sol.

$$r^2 + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm 2i$$

$$\therefore y_h(t) = c_1 \cos 2t + c_2 \sin 2t$$

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

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1' \cos 2t + v_2' \sin 2t = 0 & (\times 2 \cos 2t) \\ -2v_1' \sin 2t + 2v_2' \cos 2t = \underbrace{\csc^2 2t}_{=\frac{1}{\sin^2 2t}} & (\times \sin 2t) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2v_1' \cos^2 2t + 2v_2' \sin 2t \cos 2t = 0 \\ -2v_1' \sin^2 2t + 2v_2' \sin 2t \cos 2t = \frac{1}{\sin 2t} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2v_1' = -\frac{1}{\sin 2t} = -\csc 2t \\ v_2' = -v_1' \cdot \frac{\cos 2t}{\sin 2t} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1' = -\frac{1}{2} \csc 2t \\ v_2' = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\cos 2t}{\sin^2 2t} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1 = -\frac{1}{2} \int \csc 2t dt = -\frac{1}{2} \left[-\frac{1}{2} \ln |\csc 2t + \cot 2t| \right] = \frac{1}{4} \ln |\csc 2t + \cot 2t| \\ v_2 = \frac{1}{2} \int \frac{\cos 2t}{\sin^2 2t} dt = \frac{1}{2} \left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sin 2t} \right) = -\frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{\sin 2t} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p = \frac{1}{4} \cos 2t \ln |\csc 2t + \cot 2t| - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\therefore y(t) = c_1 \cos 2t + c_2 \sin 2t + \frac{1}{4} \cos 2t \ln |\csc 2t - \cot 2t| - \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int \frac{\cos 2t}{\sin^2 2t} dt \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} u = \sin 2t \\ du = 2 \cos 2t dt \end{array} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int u^{-2} du \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} u^{-1} + C \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{\sin 2t} + C \end{aligned}$$

◇ Find a general solution to the differential equation.

15. $y'' + y = 3 \sec t - t^2 + 1$

Sol.

$$y'' + y = 3 \sec t - t^2 + 1 = 3 \sec t - (t^2 - 1)$$

$$r^2 + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm i$$

$$\therefore y_h = c_1 \cos t + c_2 \sin t$$

(i) $3 \sec t$

Let $y_{p_1} = v_1 \cos t + v_2 \sin t$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1' \cos t + v_2' \sin t = 0 & (\times \sin t) \\ -v_1' \sin t + v_2' \cos t = \underbrace{3 \sec t}_{=\frac{3}{\cos t}} & (\times \cos t) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1' \sin t \cos t + v_2' \sin^2 t = 0 \\ -v_1' \sin t \cos t + v_2' \cos^2 t = 3 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_2' = 3 \\ v_1' = -v_2' \cdot \frac{\sin t}{\cos t} = -3 \cdot \frac{\sin t}{\cos t} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_2 = 3t \\ v_1 = 3 \ln |\cos t| \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_{p_1} = 3 \cos t \ln |\cos t| + 3t \sin t$$

(ii) $t^2 - 1$ ($m = 2, r = 0 \rightarrow s = 0$)

Let $y_{p_2} = At^2 + Bt + C$

$$y_{p_2}' = 2At + B$$

$$y_{p_2}'' = 2A$$

$$\Rightarrow 2A + At^2 + Bt + C = t^2 - 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} A = 1 \\ B = 0 \\ 2A + C = -1 \Rightarrow C = -3 \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore y_{p_2} = t^2 - 3$$

$$\therefore y(t) = y_h + y_{p_1} - y_{p_2} = c_1 \cos t + c_2 \sin t + 3 \cos t \ln |\cos t| + 3t \sin t - t^2 + 3$$

17. $\frac{1}{2}y'' + 2y = \tan 2t - \frac{1}{2}e^t$

Sol.

$$\frac{1}{2}y'' + 2y = \tan 2t - \frac{1}{2}e^t$$

$$\Rightarrow y'' + 4y = 2 \tan 2t - e^t$$

$$r^2 + 4 = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm 2i$$

$$\therefore y_h = c_1 \cos 2t + c_2 \sin 2t$$

(i) $2 \tan 2t$

Let $y_{p_1} = v_1 \cos 2t + v_2 \sin 2t$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_1' \cos 2t + v_2' \sin 2t = 0 & (\times 2 \sin 2t) \\ -2v_1' \sin 2t + 2v_2' \cos 2t = \underbrace{2 \tan 2t}_{\frac{2 \sin 2t}{\cos 2t}} & (\times \cos 2t) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2v_1' \sin 2t \cos 2t + 2v_2' \sin^2 2t = 0 \\ -2v_1' \sin 2t \cos 2t + 2v_2' \cos^2 2t = 2 \sin 2t \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2v'_2 = 2 \sin 2t \\ v'_1 = -v'_2 \cdot \frac{\sin 2t}{\cos 2t} \end{cases} \\
&\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v'_2 = \sin 2t \\ v'_1 = -\frac{\sin^2 2t}{\cos 2t} = -\frac{(1 - \cos^2 2t)}{\cos 2t} = \left(\cos 2t - \frac{1}{\cos 2t} \right) = \cos 2t - \sec 2t \end{cases} \\
&\Rightarrow \begin{cases} v_2 = \int \sin 2t dt = -\frac{1}{2} \cos 2t \\ v_1 = \int (\cos 2t - \sec 2t) dt = \frac{1}{2} \sin 2t - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\sec 2t + \tan 2t| \end{cases} \\
&\Rightarrow y_{p_1} = \left(\frac{1}{2} \sin 2t - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\sec 2t + \tan 2t| \right) \cos 2t - \frac{1}{2} \cos 2t \sin 2t \\
&\quad = -\frac{1}{2} \ln |\sec 2t + \tan 2t| \cos 2t
\end{aligned}$$

(ii) e^t ($m=0, r=1 \rightarrow s=0$)

$$\text{Let } y_{p_2} = Ae^t$$

$$y'_{p_2} = y''_{p_2} = Ae^t$$

$$\Rightarrow Ae^t + 4Ae^t = e^t$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$\therefore y_{p_2} = \frac{1}{5} e^t$$

$$\therefore y(t) = y_h + y_{p_1} - y_{p_2} = c_1 \cos 2t + c_2 \sin 2t - \frac{1}{2} \cos 2t \ln |\sec 2t + \tan 2t| - \frac{1}{5} e^t$$