

ex 3  $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 4e^{-t}$

Again, find. set of solutions to  $y'' - 2y' - 3y = 0$

is  $c_1 e^{3t} + c_2 e^{-t}$ .

Caution: Here  $-1$  is a root of char. eqn. of homogeneous part so we cannot assume

$$\mathcal{F}(t) = Ae^{-t}$$

It is already part of  $c_1 e^{3t} + c_2 e^{-t}$ .

We fix this by setting  $s=1$ , and  $\mathcal{F}(t) = At e^{-t}$

---

ex 4  $y'' - 4y' + 4 = 12e^{2t}$ . Here  $r=2$  is the only solution to  $r^2 - 4r + 4 = 0$

Find. set of solns to homogeneous part is

$$c_1 e^{2t} + c_2 t e^{2t}$$

Here,  $g(t) = 12e^{2t}$ , so assume  $\mathcal{F}(t) = At^2 e^{2t}$

( $s=2$  since  $r=2$  is a double root to  $r^2 - 4r + 4 = 0$ .)

ex 5  $y'' - 4y' + 4y = 3t^3 e^{-2t}$

Here  $\mathcal{Y}(t) = t^2(A t^3 + B t^2 + C t + D) e^{2t}$

---

This method is useful but limited in scope

- ① LHS must have constant coefficients
  - ② RHS must be nice
- 

Here is a more general idea: Variation of parameters

- ① Is a form of reduction of order
- ② Works for any 2<sup>nd</sup> order linear nonhomogeneous ODE
- ③ Relies on two assumptions.

Given  $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t)$ , suppose  $c_1 y_1(t) + c_2 y_2(t)$  is a fundamental set of solutions to  $Ly = 0$ .

Assumption 1 Assume  $\boxed{Y(t) = u_1(t)y_1(t) + u_2(t)y_2(t)}$  solves  $Ly = g(t)$ , for  $u_1, u_2$  unknown fncs. (compare to reduction of order technique).

$$\text{Then } Y'(t) = u_1' y_1 + u_1 y_1' + u_2' y_2 + u_2 y_2'$$

Notes: This is messy, but a good assumption.  
We can make this easier to handle.

Assumption 2 Assume  $\boxed{u_1' y_1 + u_2' y_2 = 0}$

$$\text{Then } Y'(t) = u_1 y_1' + u_2 y_2', \text{ and}$$

$$Y''(t) = u_1' y_1' + u_1 y_1'' + u_2' y_2' + u_2 y_2''$$

Substitute these into  $L[y] = g(t)$  and get

$$(u_1' y_1' + u_1 y_1'' + u_2' y_2' + u_2 y_2'') + p(u_1 y_1' + u_2 y_2') + q(u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2) = g(t)$$

Rearrange to get

$$u_1 \underbrace{(y_1'' + p y_1' + q y_1)}_0 + u_2 \underbrace{(y_2'' + p y_2' + q y_2)}_0 + u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2' = g(t)$$

$$\boxed{u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2' = g(t)}$$

Here, Assumption 2 is a good one since

- Ⓐ First assumption allows a lot of freedom since 2 unknown functions are present.
- Ⓑ Second assumption allows for no second derivatives of  $u_1, u_2$  in ODE.

Both assumptions, within ODE yield the system

$$u_1' y_1 + u_2' y_2 = 0$$

$$u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2' = g(t)$$

Solve this for  $u_1'$  and  $u_2'$ , integrate each to

find  $u_1(t)$  and  $u_2(t)$ . Are there solutions?

Solving, we get

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

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

Hence

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

With these,  $\mathbb{F}(t) = u_1 y_1 + u_2 y_2$  is one particular solution, and

$$y(t) = c_1 y_1(t) + c_2 y_2(t) + \mathbb{F}(t)$$

is the general solution to  $y'' + p y' + q y = g$

What does this look like in practice?

ex 3.6.14 Knowing  $y_1(t) = t$ , and  $y_2(t) = te^t$  V

both solve  $t^2 y'' - t(t+2)y' + (t+2)y = 0$   
on  $t > 0$ , find the general solution to  
 $t^2 y'' - t(t+2)y' + (t+2)y = 2t^3$ .

Strategy: We use the Variation of Parameters method

$$\begin{aligned} \text{with } \mathbb{Y}(t) &= u_1(t)y_1(t) + u_2(t)y_2(t) \\ &= u_1 t + u_2 t e^t \end{aligned}$$

Note: Here,  
 $g(t) = 2t$ , not  
 $2t^3$

Solution: Given this assumption for  $\mathbb{Y}(t)$ , we

obtain the system  $u_1' y_1 + u_2' y_2 = 0$ ,  $u_1' y_1' + u_2' y_2' = g(t)$ ,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u_1' t + u_2' t e^t &= 0 \\ u_1' + u_2' (e^t + t e^t) &= 2t \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{array}{l} (-t) \times \text{eqn 2} \\ \text{and add} \end{array} \left\{ \begin{aligned} u_1' t + u_2' t e^t &= 0 \\ -u_1' t - u_2' t (e^t + t e^t) &= -2t \end{aligned} \right.$$

Add eqn 1 to eqn 2 to get  $-u_2' t^2 e^t = -2t^2$

or  $u_2' = 2e^{-t}$ , so  $u_2(t) = -2e^{-t}$

Then, using eqn 1,  $u_1' t + (2e^{-t}) t e^t = 0$ , or  $u_1' = -2$

so  $u_1(t) = -2t$

Then  $\mathbb{Y}(t) = -2t(t) + (-2e^{-t}) t e^t = -2t^2 - 2t$

So general solution is  $y(t) = c_1 t + c_2 t e^t - 2t^2 - 2t$

$$\text{or } y(t) = k_1 t + c_2 t e^t - 2t^2$$

Note: We could proceed directly to the general form for  $u_1, u_2$ :  $w(t, te^t) = \begin{vmatrix} t & te^t \\ 1 & e^t + te^t \end{vmatrix} = t^2 e^t$  on  $t > 0$

$$u_1(t) = \int \frac{-y_2 g}{w(y_1, y_2)} dt = \int \frac{-(te^t) 2t}{t^2 e^t} dt = -\int 2 dt = -2t$$

$$u_2(t) = \int \frac{y_1 g}{w(y_1, y_2)} dt = \int \frac{t(2t)}{t^2 e^t} dt = 2 \int e^{-t} dt = -2e^{-t}$$

Question: So why are there no constants of integration here?