

### 3.6 Variation of parameters

04/30/2018

Finding a particular sol.  $Y$  of a 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODE  
 linear, nonhomogeneous  $\rightarrow$  undetermined coeff [need to assume a form of  $Y$  based on  $g(t)$ ]  
 $\rightarrow$  variation of parameters - general method [but requires potentially complicated integrals]

Ex: Find the general sol. of  $y'' + 4y = 8 \tan t$  (\*)  
 $-\frac{\pi}{2} < t < \frac{\pi}{2}$

• too rhs - not a sum or product of  $\sin, \cos$   
 $\rightarrow$  undetermined coeff cannot be applied

homog. eq:  $y'' + 4y = 0 \rightarrow y_c(t) = C_1 \cos 2t + C_2 \sin 2t$

Idea: try to find a sol. of (\*) in the form  $y = u_1(t) \cos 2t + u_2(t) \sin 2t$

$$y' = -2u_1(t) \sin 2t + 2u_2(t) \cos 2t + u_1'(t) \cos 2t + u_2'(t) \sin 2t$$

Idea (Lagrange): to have two eq. on  $u_1, u_2$ , impose an auxiliary eq.  $u_1'(t) \cos 2t + u_2'(t) \sin 2t = 0$

then:  $y' = -2u_1 \sin 2t + 2u_2 \cos 2t$

$$y'' = -4u_1 \cos 2t - 4u_2 \sin 2t - 2u_1' \sin 2t + 2u_2' \cos 2t$$

$$y'' + 4y = \begin{cases} -2u_1'(t) \sin 2t + 2u_2'(t) \cos 2t & \stackrel{\text{want}}{=} 8 \tan t \\ u_1'(t) \cos 2t + u_2'(t) \sin 2t & = 0 \end{cases}$$

system of two linear eq. on  $u_1'(t), u_2'(t)$

$$u_1'(t) = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 8 \tan t & 2 \cos 2t \\ 0 & \sin 2t \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} -2 \sin 2t & 2 \cos 2t \\ \cos 2t & \sin 2t \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{8 \tan t \sin 2t}{-2} = -8 \sin^2 t$$

$$u_2'(t) = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} -2 \sin 2t & 8 \tan t \\ \cos 2t & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} -2 \sin 2t & 2 \cos 2t \\ \cos 2t & \sin 2t \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{-2 \sin 2t \cdot 8 \tan t}{-2} = 8 \sin 2t \tan t$$

$$u_1(t) = \int -8 \sin^2 t dt = \int 4 \sin t \cos t dt = 2 \sin^2 t - 4t + C_1$$

$$u_2(t) = \int 8 \sin t (2 \cos t - \frac{1}{\cos t}) dt = \int 16 \sin t \cos t dt - \int \frac{8 \sin t}{\cos t} dt = 8 \sin^2 t - 8 \ln |\cos t| + C_2$$

Thus:  $y = u_1 \cos 2t + u_2 \sin 2t = \underbrace{2 \sin^2 t \cos 2t - 4t \cos 2t + 8 \ln(\cos t) \sin 2t - 2(\sin^2 t + 1) \sin 2t}_{Y} + \underbrace{C_1 \cos 2t + C_2 \sin 2t}_{y_c - \text{sol. of homog. eq.}}$

General solution of (\*)

Generally:  $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t)$  (\*)

Assume we know the gen. sol. of  $y'' + py' + qy = 0$

$y_c = C_1 y_1(t) + C_2 y_2(t)$  of  $y'' + py' + qy = 0$  (homog. eq.)

try:  $y = u_1(t) y_1(t) + u_2(t) y_2(t)$  for (\*):

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

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

= 0 - auxiliary eq.

$$y'' + p y' + q y = u_1 (y_1'' + p y_1' + q y_1) + u_2 (y_2'' + p y_2' + q y_2)$$

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

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

$$\rightarrow u_1'(t) = -\frac{y_2(t) g(t)}{W[y_1, y_2](t)} \rightarrow u_1(t) = \int \frac{y_2 g}{W} dt + c_1$$

$$u_2'(t) = \frac{y_1(t) g(t)}{W[y_1, y_2](t)} \rightarrow u_2(t) = \int \frac{y_1 g}{W} dt + c_2$$

THM Consider eq.  $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = g(t)$  (a),  $p, q, g$  continuous on an interval  $I$

Assume  $y_1, y_2$  are a FSS of the homog. eq.  $y'' + p(t)y' + q(t)y = 0$ .

Then a particular sol. of (a) is:

$$Y(t) = -y_1(t) \int_{t_0}^t \frac{y_2(s) g(s)}{W[y_1, y_2](s)} ds + y_2(t) \int_{t_0}^t \frac{y_1(s) g(s)}{W[y_1, y_2](s)} ds \quad \text{to a chosen point in } I$$

The gen. sol. of (a) is:  $y(t) = c_1 y_1(t) + c_2 y_2(t) + Y(t)$