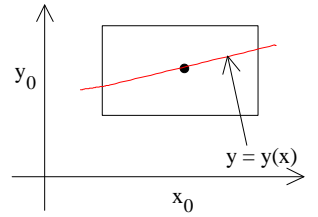


Introductory Lecture

(1) **Simplest:** $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)$. Solution: $y = \int f(x)dx + c$. We assume that we can integrate functions or get numerical estimates. (2) **Separable:** $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)g(y)$. Solution: $\int \frac{1}{g(y)}dy = \int f(x)dx + c$. (3) **Existence of solution Picard's Theorem:** If $f(x,y)$ and $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$ are continuous over a rectangle containing point (x_0, y_0) , then \exists a **unique** solution curve through (x_0, y_0) of the differential equation (d.e.) $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x,y)$. (4) **Retarded Fall:** If a body falls under gravity, g , with a resistance proportional to velocity, then $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = g - c\frac{dy}{dt}$, or $\frac{dv}{dt} = g - cv$, where y is distance fallen, and v is the speed. So $\int dt = \int \frac{dv}{g - cv}$, and $g - cv = Ae^{-ct}$. Initially, $t = 0$ and $v = 0$, so $A = g$; $v = \frac{g}{c}(1 - e^{-ct})$. Terminal velocity = $\frac{g}{c}$.



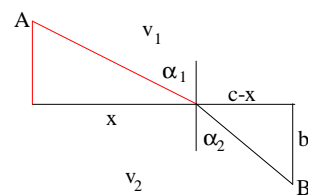
Pendulum: Mass m , length a , swing $\pm \alpha$. K.E. = P.E.; $\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = mg(a\cos\theta - a\cos\alpha)$. $v = \frac{ds}{dt}$, where $s = a\theta$, arc length. This $\Rightarrow (\frac{d\theta}{dt})^2 = 2g(\cos\theta - \cos\alpha)/a$. So $dt = -\sqrt{\frac{a}{2g}} \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{\cos\theta - \cos\alpha}}$ (as θ is \downarrow as t is \uparrow). The period T is $T = 4\sqrt{\frac{a}{2g}} \int_0^\alpha \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{\cos\theta - \cos\alpha}}$. Put $k = \sin(\alpha/2)$, so $T = 2\sqrt{\frac{a}{g}} \int_0^\alpha \frac{d\theta}{\sqrt{k^2 - \sin^2(\theta/2)}}$. Put $\sin\phi = \frac{1}{k}\sin(\theta/2)$, so $T = 4\sqrt{\frac{a}{g}} \int_0^{\pi/2} \frac{d\phi}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 \sin^2\phi}}$. These are **Elliptic Integrals of the First Kind**. THEY ARE



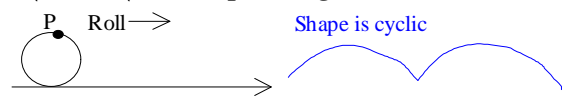
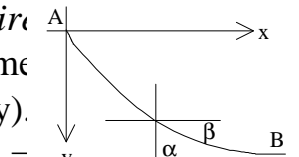
TABULATED. Pendulum: Approximation: $(\frac{d\theta}{dt})^2 = 2g(\cos\theta - \cos\alpha)/a$. So $2\frac{d\theta}{dt} \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} = -2g\sin\theta/a \frac{d\theta}{dt}$; $\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} = -\frac{g\sin\theta}{a}$. Approximate $\sin\theta$ by θ if the amplitude α of the swing is **small**. So $\frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} = -\frac{g\theta}{a}$; $\theta = a\cos\sqrt{(g/a)}t$. The period is $2\pi\sqrt{(a/g)}$, which is the limit of the elliptic integral value as $\alpha \rightarrow 0$.

Brachistochrone; The Ring Problem

Snell's law of refraction. Light travels from A to B with speed v_1 above the axis and v_2 below the axis. Describe the path, assuming that it takes the **quickest** route. The time is $T = \frac{\sqrt{a^2+x^2}}{v_1} + \frac{\sqrt{b^2+(c-x)^2}}{v_2}$. We want $\frac{dT}{dx} = 0$, $\Rightarrow \frac{x}{v_1\sqrt{a^2+x^2}} = \frac{c-x}{v_2\sqrt{b^2+(c-x)^2}}$, or $\frac{\sin\alpha_1}{v_1} = \frac{\sin\alpha_2}{v_2}$. If light moves through several parallel layers, then $\frac{\sin\alpha_1}{v_1} = \frac{\sin\alpha_2}{v_2} = \frac{\sin\alpha_3}{v_3} = \dots$, so **$\frac{\sin\alpha}{v} = \text{constant}$** .



Brachistochrone. Consider a curve from A to B in which to bend wire around, so that a ring can slide down it with no friction in the **shortest** time possible. (1693, Bernoulli). Mechanics: $\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = mgy \Rightarrow v = \sqrt{2gy}$. **Geometry:** $\sin\alpha = \cos\beta = \frac{1}{\sec\beta} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+\tan^2\beta}} \Rightarrow \sin\alpha = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+(dy/dx)^2}}$. **Optics:** $\frac{\sin\alpha}{v} = \text{constant } c$ for the shortest speed. Differential equation: $y[1+(\frac{dy}{dx})^2] = \text{constant}$; $(\frac{dy}{dx})^2 = \frac{c-y}{y}$; $x = \int (\frac{y}{c-y})^{1/2} dy$. Put $y = c\sin^2\phi$, so $x = \int c(1-\cos 2\phi)d\phi$, so $x = \frac{c}{2}(2\phi - \sin 2\phi)$. Or, putting $a = \frac{c}{2}$ and $\theta = 2\phi$, we get the standard equation of a cycloid: $x = a(\theta - \sin\theta)$; $y = a(1 - \cos\theta)$.



First Order Linear

Standard Form: $\frac{dy}{dx} + P(x)y = Q(x)$.

General Solution: $e^{\int Pdx} y = \int Qe^{\int Pdx} dx + c$, where the *integrating factor* is $e^{\int Pdx}$.

Tutorial: Linear, Constant Coefficient, Homogeneous

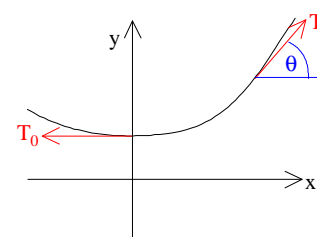
We have an **index** equation. For example, $D^2y - Dy - 2y = 0$ becomes $m^2 - m - 2 = 0$ ($y \rightarrow 1$, $Dy \rightarrow m$, $D^2y \rightarrow m^2$). Solving $m^2 - m - 2 = 0$, we get $m = 2$ and $m = -1$. (Distinct, Real roots). Solution: $y = Ae^{m_1x} + Be^{m_2x} = Ae^{2x} + Be^{-x}$. If we have a **repeated** root ($m_1 = m_2$), then we have $y = Ae^{m_1x} + xBe^{m_1x}$. If we have **complex** roots ($m_1 = \alpha + i\beta$; $m_2 = \alpha - i\beta$), then we have $y = Ae^{\alpha x} \cos \beta x + Be^{\alpha x} \sin \beta x$.

Examples. Q: $D^2y + 10y + 21y = 0$. A: Index equation $m^2 + 10m + 21 = 0$; $(m+3)(m+7) = 0$. So $y = Ae^{-2x} + Be^{-7x}$. Q: $D^2y - 6Dy + 25y = 0$. A: Index equation $m^2 - 6m + 25 = 0$. Using the quadratic equation, $m = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{(36-100)}}{2} = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{-64}}{2} = \frac{6 \pm 8i}{2} = 3 \pm 4i$. So $y = Ae^{3x} \cos 4x + Be^{3x} \sin 4x$. Q: $D^3y - 6D^2y + 11Dy - 6y = 0$. A: Index equation $m^3 - 6m^2 + 2m + 36 = 0$. Factor $m = -2$. Now use long division to get $m^3 - 6m^2 + 2m + 36 = (m+2)(m^2 - 8m + 18)$. We have a **solution** $m = -2$, and use the quadratic equation to get the two other solutions: $m = 4 \pm \sqrt{(2)}i$. So $y = Ae^{-2x} + Be^{4x} \cos \sqrt{(2)}x + Ce^{4x} \sin \sqrt{(2)}x$.

9th February 2000

Hanging Chain

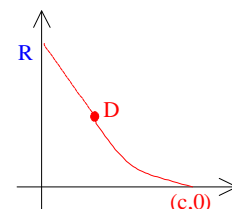
Find the *shape of the chain of variable density* hanging from its ends. Take the y-axis through its **lowest** point. Let s be the arc length from here; let $w(s)$ be the density at s ; and let T be the **tension**. Horizontally, $T \cos \theta = T_0$. Vertically, $T \sin \theta = \int_0^s w(s) ds$. So $\tan \theta = \frac{dy}{dx} \Rightarrow T_0 \tan \theta = \int_0^s w(s) ds$. $\frac{ds}{dx} \frac{dy}{dx} = \int_0^s w(s) ds \Rightarrow T_0 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{d}{dx} [\int_0^s w(s) ds] = \frac{d}{ds} [\int_0^s w(s) ds] \frac{ds}{dx}$. So $T_0 \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = w(s) \frac{ds}{dx} = w(s) \sqrt{1 + (\frac{dy}{dx})^2}$.



Hanging Chain: we have *uniform density* w . So $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = a \sqrt{1 + (\frac{dy}{dx})^2}$, where $a = w/T_0$. Substitute $p = \frac{dy}{dx}$, so $\frac{dp}{dx} = a \sqrt{1 + p^2} \Rightarrow ax = \int \frac{dp}{\sqrt{1 + p^2}} \Rightarrow ax = \log[p + \sqrt{1 + p^2}] \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dx} = p = \frac{1}{2}(e^{ax} - e^{-ax})$. Place on the x-axis so that $y = 1/a$ when $x = 0$, so we get $y = \frac{1}{2a}[e^{ax} + e^{-ax}] = \frac{1}{a} \cosh(x)$. This is the **Catenary**.

Dog & Rabbit

A **Rabbit** starts at $(0,0)$ with speed a . A **Dog** starts at $(c,0)$ with speed b . Let $R = (0, at)$ and $D = (x,y)$. So $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{y-at}{x}$, $\frac{ds}{dt} = b$. And $at = y - x \frac{dy}{dx}$, so $a \frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{dy}{dx} - [\frac{dy}{dx} + x \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}]$; $a \frac{dt}{dx} = -x \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$. **Also**, $\frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{dt}{ds} \frac{ds}{dx} = \frac{1}{b} \sqrt{1 + (\frac{dy}{dx})^2}$. We have the Differential Equation $x \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{a}{b} \sqrt{1 + (\frac{dy}{dx})^2}$, which can be solved.



Second Order Linear

Consider $D^2y + P(x)Dy + Q(x)y = R(x)$ (---(1)). **Existence & Uniqueness Theorem:** If P , Q and R are continuous on $[a,b]$; if $x_0 \in [a,b]$; and if y_0 and y_0' are any two numbers, then *there exists an unique* solution of the Differential Equation (D.E.) over all of the interval $[a,b]$, with $y(x_0) = y_0$ and $Dy(x_0) = y_0'$. Now $R(x) \equiv 0 \Leftrightarrow$ *Homogenous*. **Theorem:** If y is a solution of the D.E. (1), and z is *another* solution, then $(y-z)$ is a solution of the *homogenous* D.E.

Theorem: The general solution of (1) is the sum of a *particular* solution y_p of (1) and the *general* solution of the *homogenous* D.E. $D^2y+P(x)Dy+Q(x)y = 0$. (---(2)). **Theorem:** The *general* solution of (2) is of form $c_1y_1(x)+c_2y_2(x)$ for *arbitrary* constants c_1 and c_2 , where y_1 and y_2 are *two independent* solutions of (2).

Proof. Suppose that y, y_1 and y_2 are *solutions* of (2). Then y and $c_1y_1+c_2y_2$ are solutions of (2). By the *uniqueness* theorem, we want an x_0 with $y(x_0) = c_1y_1(x_0)+c_2y_2(x_0)$ and $Dy(x_0) = c_1Dy_1(x_0)+c_2Dy_2(x_0)$. **Any** x_0 will do if we can *choose* or *solve equations* for c_1 and c_2 , i.e. if
$$\begin{vmatrix} y_1(x_0) & y_2(x_0) \\ Dy_1(x_0) & Dy_2(x_0) \end{vmatrix} \neq 0$$

Definition: The *Wronskian* is $W(y_1, y_2) = y_1Dy_2-y_2Dy_1$. **Theorem:** Either $W(y_1, y_2)$ is always zero or never zero. **Proof:** $DW = y_1D^2y_2-y_2D^2y_1$; $D^2y_1+PDy_1+Qy_1 = 0$; $y_2D^2y_1+y_2PDy_1+y_2Qy_1 = 0$; $y_1D^2y_2+y_1PDy_2+y_1Qy_2 = 0$ (*subtract*). Now $DW+PW = 0 \Rightarrow W = ke^{-\int P(x)dx}$. So either $k = 0$ and $W = 0$ **always**, or $k \neq 0$ and $W \neq 0$ **always**.

Second Solution of the Homogenous D.E.

Suppose that $y_1 (= z)$ satisfies (2). Then $D^2z+P(x)Dz+Q(x)z = 0$. **Try** $y_2 = vy_1 = vz$ as the *second* solution. Put $y = vz$ in $D^2y+P(x)Dy+Q(x)y = 0$ to get $v(D^2z+P(x)Dz+Q(x)z) + D^2v.z+Dv(2Dz+P(x)z) = 0$. **Hence** DV satisfies $zD(Dv) + (2Dz+P(x)z)Dv = 0$, or $D(Dv)/Dv + 2Dz/z + P(x) = 0$, so that $\log(Dv)+2\log z + \int P(x)dx = 0$. Now $DV = 1/z e^{-\int P(x)dx}$, and subject to *integration*, DV (and **hence** v) can be *calculated*.

Constant Coefficients

Consider $D^2y+pDy+qy = 0$ (---(2)). The *auxiliary equation* is $m^2+pm+q = 0$ (---(3)). Consider that we have **roots** m_1 and m_2 . Solutions: (Distinct, Real): $y = c_1e^{m_1x}+c_2e^{m_2x}$. (Distinct, Complex): $y = e^{ax}(c_1\cos bx+c_2\sin bx)$ ($m = a \pm ib$). (Equal): $y = c_1e^{mx}+c_2xe^{mx}$.

Variation of Parameters

Assume that $c_1y_1(x)+c_2y_2(x)$ is the *general* solution of the homogeneous D.E. $D^2y+P(x)Dy+Q(x)y = 0$. **Try** $y = v_1y_1+v_2y_2$ as the *solution* of $D^2y+P(x)Dy+Q(x)y = R(x)$. **Now** $Dy = (v_1Dy_1+v_2Dy_2)+(y_1Dv_1+y_2Dv_2)$. *Assume* also that $y = v_1y_1+v_2y_2$ and $y_1Dv_1+y_2Dv_2 = 0$. Then $Dy = v_1Dy_1+v_2Dy_2$, and $D^2y = v_1D^2y_1+v_2D^2y_2+Dv_1Dy_1+Dv_2Dy_2$.

Substitute in the **D.E.** to get $v_1(D^2y_1+P(x)Dy_1+Q(x)y_1) (= 0) + v_2(D^2y_2+P(x)Dy_2+Q(x)y_2) (= 0) + Dv_1Dy_1+Dv_2Dy_2 = R(x)$. This gives *two conditions* for Dv_1 and Dv_2 , namely $y_1Dv_1+y_2Dv_2 = 0$ and $Dy_1Dv_1+Dy_2Dv_2 = R(x)$. **Hence** $Dv_1 = -y_2R(x)/W(y_1, y_2)$, using the *Wronskian*. **Except** for the problems of integration, this gives v_1 . Similarly, we can obtain v_2 , and hence the *particular solution* of the **D.E.**

Tutorial

Q: Use the **Wronskian** to verify that the functions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ are *linearly independent*. Show that they are **solutions** of the differential equation, and find the solution satisfying the stated initial conditions. (i) $D^2+Dy-2y = 0$; $y_1(x) = e^x$; $y_2(x) = e^{-2x}$; $y(0) = 8$; and $Dy(0) = 2$. (ii) $D^2+5Dy+6y = 0$; $y_1(x) = e^{-2x}$; $y_2(x) = e^{-3x}$; $y(0) = 1$; and $Dy(0) = 1$.

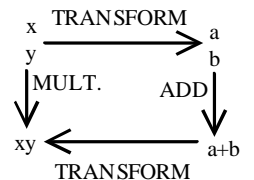
A: (i) The **Wronskian** is $w(y_1, y_2) = e^x(-2e^{-2x}) - e^{-2x}e^x = -2e^xe^{-2x} - e^xe^{-2x} = -3e^{-x} < 0 \Rightarrow$ linearly independent. Now **substituting** $y = e^x$ in $D^2y+Dy-2y = 0$, we get $e^x+e^x-2e^x = 0$ (*correct*). **Substituting** $y = e^{-2x}$, we get $4e^{-2x}-2e^{-2x}-2e^{-2x} = 0$ (*correct*). Now we use $y(x_0) = c_1y_1(x_0)+c_2y_2(x_0)$ and $Dy(x_0) = c_1Dy_1(x_0)+c_2Dy_2(x_0)$ to get *two* equations: $8 = c_1+c_2$; $2 = c_1-2c_2$. **Solving** these equations gives $c_1 = 6$ and $c_2 = 2$, so the *general solution* is $y = 6e^x-2e^{-2x}$.

(ii) $w(y_1, y_2) = e^{-2x}(-3e^{-3x}) - e^{-3x}(-2e^{-2x}) = -e^{-3x}e^{-2x} = -e^{-5x} < 0 \Rightarrow$ linearly independent. Solution 1: $4e^{-2x}-10e^{-2x}+6e^{-2x} = 0$, *correct*. **Similarly** for solution 2. Now $1 = A+B$ and $1 = -2A-3B \Rightarrow A = 4$ and $B = -3$, so the *general solution* is $y = 4e^{-2x}-3e^{-3x}$.

Q: $y_1(x) = x$ is a *solution* of $x^2D^2y+xDy-y = 0$. Find a **second** solution $y_2(x) = vx$. **A:** Check that it *is* a solution: $x^2(0)+x(1)-x = x-x = 0$, *correct*. Now find a **second** solution using $y_2(x) = vx$. We have $D^2y+1/xDy-y/x^2 = 0$, so $Dv = 1/z^2e^{-\int p(x)dx} = 1/z^2e^{-\int(1/x)dx} = 1/z^2e^{-\ln x} = 1/z^2x$. *Integrate* to get v , and thus $y_2(x) = vx$ is the **second** solution.

Laplace Transforms

[Log Tables: Problem: *multiply* $x \times y$ (for large x and y). **Process:** convert x to a and y to b ; add a and b ; and convert *back*. We require the diagram shown to be commutative: either way around gives the **same** answer. This is based on $e^{a+b} = e^ae^b$: If $x = e^a$ and $y = e^b$, then $x \times y = e^{a+b}$. So we find $a = \log(x)$ and $b = \log(y)$, so that $x \times y = e^{a+b}$].



The *Laplace* transform converts certain functions f of parameter t into **other** functions $L(f)$ of a *new parameter* s . We want the transform to be **one-one**, i.e. knowing $L(f)$, we can find f . We want it to have good properties: (i) Linear; (ii) Changes differential equations into polynomials. Definition: $L(f)(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}f(t)dt$.

This **assumes** that f is of an *appropriate* type to do the integral. We usually require f to be *piecewise continuous* (to have a finite number of jumps); require f to be **defined** for $t \geq 0$; and require f to be of **exponential** order, i.e. $|f(t)| \leq Ce^{\alpha t}$ for *constants* C and α . For **such** functions, $\int_0^\infty e^{-st}f(t)dt = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^N e^{-st}f(t)dt$ exists for $s > \alpha$.

Example: $f(t) = 1$ for all $t \geq 0$. So $Lf(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}.1dt = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^N e^{-st}dt$. But $\int_0^N e^{-st} = [-e^{-st}/s]_0^N = 1/s - (e^{-sN}/s) \rightarrow 1/s$ if $s > 0$, so $Lf(s) = 1/s$ for $s > 0$. **Now** let $f(t) = t$ for all $t \geq 0$. It follows that $Lf(s) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^N e^{-st}.tdt = (-e^{-st}/s)t - \int(-e^{-st}/s)1dt = (-e^{-st}/s) - (e^{-st}/s^2)$. So $\int_0^N e^{-st}.tdt = 1/s^2 - (e^{-sN}N/s) - (e^{-sN}/s^2)$. The *last two terms* $\rightarrow 0$ as $N \rightarrow \infty$ (if $s > 0$), so the **Laplace transform** of $f(t) = t$ is $L(f)(s) = 1/s^2$.

Suppose that $f(t) = e^{kt}$. Then $L(f)(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{kt}e^{-st}dt = \int_0^\infty e^{(k-s)t}dt = 1/(s-k)$ for $s > k$. **Example:** $f(t) = \cos kt$. Then $Lf(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}\cos kt dt = [e^{-st}(k\sin kt - s\cos kt)/(k^2+s^2)]_0^\infty$. So $L(\cos kt)(s) = s/(k^2+s^2)$ for $s > 0$. Similarly, $L(\sin kt)(s) = k/(k^2+s^2)$.

The Laplace Transformation is **Linear**: $L(f+g) = L(f)+L(g)$; $L(\lambda f) = \lambda L(f)$. **Proof:** $L(f)+L(g) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}f(t)dt + \int_0^\infty e^{-st}g(t)dt = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}(f(t)+g(t))dt = L(f+g)$. **Formula:** $L(Df)(s) = sL(f)(s)-f(0)$. **Proof:** $L(Df)(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}df/dtdt = [e^{-st}f(t)]_0^\infty - \int_0^\infty (-s)e^{-st}f(t)dt = 0 - e^0f(0) + s\int_0^\infty e^{-st}f(t)dt = -f(0) + sL(f)$.

Summary so far: $L(f)(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{-st}f(t)dt$ is defined for all $s > \alpha$. $f(t) = 1$ has transform $L(f)(s) = 1/s$. $f(t) = t$ has transform $L(f)(s) = 1/s^2$. $f(t) = e^{at}$ has transform (for all $s > \alpha$) $L(f)(s) = 1/(s-a)$. $f(t) = \cos(at)$ has transform $L(f)(s) = s/(a^2+s^2)$. $f(t) = \sin(at)$ has transform $L(f)(s) = a/(a^2+s^2)$. It is a **linear** operator, $L(f+g) = L(f)+L(g)$, and $L(kf) = kL(f)$. $L(Df)(s) = sL(f)(s)-f(0)$, and for higher derivatives, $L(D^n(f))(s) = s^nL(f)(s)-s^{n-1}f(0)-s^{n-2}D(f)(0)-s^{n-3}D^2(f)(0)-\dots-D^{n-1}(f)(0)$. Hence $f(t) = t^n$ has transform $L(f)(s) = n!/s^{n+1}$.

Assignment 1: Set 16/2; In 25/2; Back 10/3

Q: Find the *general solution* of the differential equation $D^2y+8Dy+25y = 0$, and the *particular solution* satisfying $y(0) = 4$ and $Dy(0) = -1$. **A:** The *differential equation* $D^2y+8Dy+25y = 0$ has index equation $m^2+8m+25 = 0 = (m+4)^2+3^2$. Hence the **general** solution is $y = Ae^{-4x}\cos(3x)+Be^{-4x}\sin(3x)$. The initial conditions are $4 = y(0) = A$, and $-1 = Dy(0) = -4A+3B$. Therefore, $A = 4$ and $B = 5$. It follows that the *particular solution* is $y = 4e^{-3x}\cos(3x)+5e^{-4x}\sin(3x)$. (Or we can use the *quadratic equation* to get the roots, which are $-4\pm 3i$, and so $m_1 = -4+3i$; and $m_2 = -4-3i$).

Q: Assume that $y_1(x) = e^{-x}$ and $y_2(x) = e^{2x}$ are *solutions* of the differential equation $D^2y-Dy-2y = 0$. Calculate the **Wronskian**, and thus deduce that they are *independent* solutions. Use the method of **variation** of parameters to find the solution of the *non homogenous* equation $D^2y-Dy-2y = e^{-2x}$, with *initial conditions* $y(0) = 0$ and $Dy(0) = 0$.

A: $D^2y-Dy-2y = 0$ has two independent solutions ($y_1(x) = e^{-x}$ and $y_2(x) = e^{2x}$) because the Wronskian is $W = \begin{vmatrix} y_1(x) & y_2(x) \\ Dy_1(x) & Dy_2(x) \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} e^{-x} & e^{2x} \\ -e^{-x} & 2e^{2x} \end{vmatrix} = e^{3x} \neq 0$. (This comes from $e^x > 0$ for all x). Now assume that $y = y_1(x)v_1(x)+y_2(x)v_2(x)$ satisfies the non-homogeneous equation $D^2y-Dy-2y=e^{-2x} = R(x)$. It follows that $Dv_1(x) = -y_2(x)R(x)/W = -e^{2x}e^{-2x}/3e^x = -1/3e^x$. Integrating gives $v_1(x) = (e^{-x}/3) + C_1$. Note the *constant*!

Similarly, $Dv_2(x) = +y_1(x)R(x)/W = e^{-x}e^{-2x}/3e^x = +e^{-4x}/3$. So $v_2(x) = -(e^{-4x}/12) + C_2$; and thus the *general solution* of the non-homogeneous equation is $y = e^{-x}(e^{-x}/3)+C_1+e^{2x}(-(e^{-4x}/12)+C_2) = C_1e^{-x}+C_2e^{2x}+(e^{-2x}/4)$. The *initial conditions* give $0 = y(0) = C_1+C_2+1/4$, and $0 = Dy(0) = -C_1+2C_2-1/2$. Thus $C_1 = -1/3$ and $C_2 = 1/12$. The *particular solution* satisfying the initial conditions is $y = -1/3e^{-x}+1/12e^{2x}+(e^{-2x}/4)$.

Note: Be sure that you know whether initial conditions apply to the *overall* solution or to the *homogenous* equation. In this question, the initial conditions *only* apply to the overall solution — and **not** to the homogenous solution. Therefore, you cannot use them when finding the solution to the *associated* homogenous equation.

In my solution, I said that the *general solution* of $D^2y - Dy - 2y = e^{-2x}$ was the sum of the **general** solution of $D^2y - Dy - 2y = 0$ and a particular solution of $D^2y - Dy - 2y = e^{-2x}$. But we cannot use the *initial* conditions in $y(x_0) = c_1y_1(x_0) + c_2y_2(x_0)$ and $Dy(x_0) = c_1Dy_1(x_0) + c_2Dy_2(x_0)$, the *uniqueness* theorem.

Q: Assume that $y_1(x) = e^x \cos(x/2)$ and $y_2(x) = e^x \sin(x/2)$ are *solutions* of the differential equation $4D^2y - 8Dy + 5y = 0$. Calculate the **Wronskian** and deduce that they are *independent* solutions. Convert the equation to **standard** form, and using the method of *variation of parameters*, find the solution of the non homogenous equation $4D^2y - 8Dy + 5y = e^x$.

A: The *differential* equation $4D^2y - 8Dy + 5y = 0$ has **two** solutions: $y_1(x) = e^x \cos(x/2)$, $y_2(x) = e^x \sin(x/2)$. These are *independent* because the Wronskian W is $\begin{vmatrix} y_1(x) & y_2(x) \\ Dy_1(x) & Dy_2(x) \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \exp(x)\cos(x/2) & \exp(x)\sin(x/2) \\ \exp(x)[\cos(x/2) - (1/2)\sin(x/2)] & \exp(x)[\sin(x/2) + (1/2)\cos(x/2)] \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}e^{2x} \neq 0$. The solution, $y = y_1(x)v_1(x) + y_2(x)v_2(x)$, of the *non homogeneous* differential equation, in **normal** form, $D^2y - 2Dy + \frac{5}{4}y = \frac{1}{4}e^x = R(x)$, has $Dv_1(x) = -\frac{y_2(x)R(x)}{W} = -\frac{1}{2}\sin(x/2)$, and so $v_1(x) = \cos(x/2) + C_1$.

Similarly, $Dv_2(x) = \frac{y_1(x)R(x)}{W} = \frac{1}{2}\cos(x/2)$, and so $v_2(x) = \sin(x/2) + C_2$. Thus $y = C_1e^x \cos(x/2) + C_2e^x \sin(x/2) + e^x$. The **initial** conditions give $0 = y(0) = C_1 + 1$; and $0 = Dy(0) = C_1 + (C_2/2) + 1$. Thus $C_1 = -1$ and $C_2 = 0$; and the *solution* is therefore $y = -e^x \cos(x/2) + e^x$.

Q: Show that $z = e^{2x}$ is *one solution* of the differential equation $(x+2)D^2y - (2x+5)Dy + 2y = 0$. Find a **second** solution of the form zv for some function v . (Hint: having *found* Dv , it may be useful to know the derivative of the **function** $(2x+5)e^{-2x}$).

A: Substituting $z = e^{2x}$, $Dz = 2e^{2x}$, and $D^2z = 4e^{2x}$ shows that $(x+2)D^2y - (2x+5)Dy + 2y = (4(x+2) - 2(2x+5) + 2)e^{2x} = 0$, and so z satisfies the *differential equation*. To find the second solution, $y = zv$, write the **differential equation** in normal form: $D^2y + P(x)Dy + Q(x)y = 0$, so that $D^2y - \frac{2x+5}{x+2}Dy + \frac{2}{x+2}y = 0$, with $P(x) = -\frac{2x+5}{x+2} = -2 - \frac{1}{x+2}$.

Trying $y_2 = vx = ve^{2x}$ as the *second* solution, v can be calculated using $Dv = \frac{1}{ze} \int P(x) dx$. Hence $\int P = -2x - \ln(x+2)$, and $e^{-\int P} = e^{2x + \ln(x+2)} = (x+2)e^{2x}$. Finally, use the *equation* $Dv = e^{-\int P} / z^2 = (x+2)e^{2x} / (e^{2x})^2 = (x+2)e^{-2x}$. **Hence** $v = -\frac{1}{4}(2x+5)e^{-2x}$ (hard integration), and so $y = zv = -\frac{2x+5}{4}e^{-2x}$. **Note:** Always read the question *carefully*. If it says “assume”, do not prove it. If it says “show that”, remember to *do this!*

17th February 2000

An Application

Q: Solve $D^4y + 3D^3y + D^2y - 3Dy - 2y = t$ with *boundary condition* $y(0) = Dy(0) = D^2y(0) = D^3y(0) = 0$. Put $L = L(y)$. Then $L(Dy) = sL - 0$, and $L(D^2y) = s^2L$, etc. **Also**, $L(t) = \frac{1}{s^2}$. The *transform* is linear, hence $s^4L + 3s^3L + s^2L - 3sL - 2L = \frac{1}{s^2}$; $(s^4 + 3s^3 + s^2 - 3s - 2)L = \frac{1}{s^2}$. *Factorise* the quartic, giving $(s-1)(s+1)^2(s+2)L = \frac{1}{s^2}$. **Hence** $L = \frac{1}{(s-1)(s+1)^2s^2(s+2)}$.

Split as a **sum** using *partial fractions*: $\frac{A}{s-1} + \frac{B}{s+1} + \frac{C}{(s+1)^2} + \frac{D}{s} + \frac{E}{s^2} + \frac{F}{(s+2)}$. Multiply *through* by the **denominator**, giving $1 = A(s+1)^2s^2(s+2) + B(s-1)(s+1)s^2(s+2) + C(s-1)s^2(s+2) + D(s-1)(s+1)^2s(s+2) + E(s-1)(s+1)^2(s+2) + F(s-1)(s+1)^2s^2$. **Put $s = 1$** to get $1 = 12A$ so that $A = \frac{1}{12}$; **put $s = -1$** to get $1 = -2C$ so that $C = -\frac{1}{2}$; **put $s = -2$** to get $1 = -12F$ so that $F = -\frac{1}{12}$; and **put $s = 0$** to get $1 = -2E$ so that $E = -\frac{1}{2}$.

Now either compare *coefficients* or try *other values* to find the remaining terms. We get out the following: $L = \frac{3}{4}s^{-1} - \frac{1}{2}s^{-2} - \frac{3}{4}(s+1)^{-1} + \frac{1}{12}(s-1)^{-1} - \frac{1}{12}(s+2)^{-1}$. Now look for *functions* with these **transforms**, and obtain $y = \frac{3}{4} - \frac{1}{2}t - \frac{3}{4}e^{-t} + (\frac{1}{12})e^{-t} - \frac{1}{12}e^{-2t}$.

18th February 2000

Tutorial

Q: Calculate the **Laplace** transform of $\sin^2(at)$. **A:** As $\sin^2(at) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \cos(2at)) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{\cos(2at)}{2}$, then $L(f)(s) = \frac{1}{2s} - \frac{s}{2(s^2+4a^2)} = \dots = \frac{4a^2}{2s^3+8sa^2}$. **Q:** Find the **Laplace** transform of $f(t) = 2e^{3t} - \sin(5t)$. **A:** It is $\frac{2}{s-3} - \frac{5}{25+s^2} = \frac{2(25+s^2) - 5(s-3)}{(s-3)(25+s^2)}$.

Q: Express $g(s) = \frac{1}{s^4+s^2}$ as a sum of *partial fractions*. Hence find a function $f(t)$ whose Laplace transform is $g(s)$. **A:** $g(s) = \frac{1}{s^2(s^2+1)} = \frac{A}{s} + \frac{B}{s^2} + \frac{Cs+D}{s^2+1}$. So $1 = As(s^2+1) + B(s^2+1) + (Cs+D)s^2$. **Put $s = 0$** to get $1 = B$. The *coefficient* of s^2 gives $0 = B+D \Rightarrow D = -1$. The *coefficient* of s gives $0 = A$. And the *coefficient* of s^3 gives $0 = A+C \Rightarrow C = 0$. So $g(s) = \frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{1}{s^2+1}$; $f(t) = t - \sin(t)$.

23rd February 2000

Examples

Q: Solve $Dy + y = \sin x$ with $y(0) = 1$. **A:** Put $L =$ the Laplace transform of y , so that $L = L(y)$. Then the transform of Dy is $sL(y) - y(0)$, i.e. $sL = 1$. The *transform* of $\sin x$ is $\frac{1}{1+s^2}$. Transform the *equation*, giving $(sL-1)+L = \frac{1}{1+s^2}$. Solve for L : $(s+1)L = 1 + \frac{1}{1+s^2}$; $L = \frac{1}{1+s} + \frac{1}{(1+s^2)(1+s)}$.

Partial fractions gives $L = \frac{1}{1+s} + \frac{A}{1+s} + \frac{Bs+C}{1+s^2}$. So $1 = A(1+s^2) + (Bs+C)(1+s)$. Now $s = -1$ gives $A = \frac{1}{2}$; the *coefficient* of s^2 gives $A+B = 0 \Rightarrow B = -\frac{1}{2}$; and the *constant* term gives $A+C = 1 \Rightarrow C = \frac{1}{2}$. So $L = \frac{1}{1+s} + \frac{1/2}{1+s} - \frac{(1/2)s}{1+s^2} + \frac{1/2}{1+s^2}$. Now *invert* the transformation, **giving** $y(x) = e^{-x} + \frac{1}{2}e^{-x} - \frac{1}{2}\cos x + \frac{1}{2}\sin x$.

Q: Solve $D^2y + 4y = 0$ with $y(0) = 2$ and $Dy(0) = 2$. **A:** Put $L =$ the Laplace transform of y . The transform of D^2y is $s^2L - sy(0) - Dy(0)$. Hence $(s^2L - s \cdot 2 - 2) + 4L = 0$. **Solve for L** , giving $(s^2+4)L = 2(1+s)$; $L = \frac{2(1+s)}{s^2+4} = \frac{2}{s^2+4} + \frac{2s}{s^2+4}$. So $y(x) = \sin 2x + 2\cos 2x$.

Q: Solve $D^3y + Dy = e^x$ with $y(0) = Dy(0) = D^2y(0) = 0$. **A:** Let $L =$ the Laplace transform of y . The transform of Dy is $sL - y(0) = sL$. The transform of D^3y is $s^3L - s^2y(0) - sDy(0) - D^2y(0) = s^3L$. And the *transform* of e^x is $\frac{1}{s-1}$. So transforming the *equation* gives $s^3L + sL = \frac{1}{s-1}$; $L = \frac{1}{(s-1)s(s^2+1)}$. Again do *partial fractions*, and get out in $L = \frac{A}{s-1} + \frac{B}{s} + \frac{Cs+D}{s^2+1}$ that $B = -1$, $A = \frac{1}{2}$, $C = \frac{1}{2}$ and $D = -\frac{1}{2}$. Therefore, $y(x) = \frac{1}{2}e^x - 1 + \frac{1}{2}\cos x - \frac{1}{2}\sin x$.

Laplace Handout: Summary

$L(\int_a^t f(x)dx)(s) = 1/sL(f) - 1/s\int_0^a f(x)dx$. In *particular*, $L(\int_0^t f(x)dx)(s) = 1/sL(f)$. Denote the Laplace transform of f by ϕ , i.e. $\phi(s) = L(f)(s)$. **Then** $L(t^n f)(s) = (-1)^n(D^n)\phi(s)$. **Further**, $L(e^{at}f)(s) = \phi(s-a)$. **Example:** $L(e^{at}\cos bt) = (s-a)/b^2+(s-a)^2$. When partial fractions *doesn't* work, use convolution: the convolution of 2 functions f & g is the *function* $f*g$ defined **by** $(f*g)(t) = \int_0^t f(t-x)g(x)dx$.

Theorem: $L(f*g)(s) = L(f)(s)L(g)(s)$. The *step function*, u_a , switches on at value $t = a$. It is given by $u_a(t) = 0$ if $t < a$, and $u_a(t) = 1$ if $t \geq a$. For any *function* g , and any *number* a , we can define a **phase shifted switch** on function f , by $f(t) = u_a(t)g(t-a)$. Thus $f(t) = 0$ for $t < a$, and $f(t) = g(t-a)$ for $t \geq a$. **Theorem:** If $a > 0$, then $L(f) = e^{-as}L(g)$.

Systems of Equations

Suppose that y , z and w are all *functions* of x , with **initial** conditions $y(0) = 1$, $z(0) = 1$, and $w(0) = 0$. Let $D = d/dx$. Suppose that we have a system of D.E.'s: $Dw+y = \sin x$; $Dy-z = e^x$; and $Dz+w+y = 1$. *Transform* these equations: **Let** $Y = L(y)$ [$= \int_0^\infty e^{-sx}y(x)dx$], $W = L(w)$, and $Z = L(z)$. **Then** $L(Dy) = sY-y(0) = sY-1$; $L(Dw) = sW$; and $L(Dz) = sZ-1$.

Transform the equations, giving $sW+Y = 1/(1+s^2)$, $sY-1-Z = 1/s-1$, and $sZ-1+W+Y = 1/s$. Thus we have a system of *linear equations* in Y , Z and W : $sW+Y = 1/(1+s^2)$, $sY-Z = 1/s-1$, and $W+Y+sZ = 1/s+1$. *Solve* this set of **algebraic** equations, and get out that $W = -1/s(s-1) = 1/s-1/s-1$; $Y = s^2+s/(s-1)(s^2+1) = 1/s-1+1/s^2+1$; and $Z = s/s^2+1$. Therefore, $w(x) = 1-e^{-x}$; $y(x) = e^x+\sin x$; and $z(x) = \cos x$.

24th February 2000

Frobenius Method

First, let us *summarise* the Power Series: $\sum_{n=0}^\infty a_n x^n = a_0+a_1x+a_2x^2+\dots$ (---(1)) is a *power series* in x . Series (1) converges at a *point* x if $\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=0}^m a_n x^n = \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} (a_1+a_1x+\dots+a_mx^m)$ exists. This limit is called the *sum of series* at x . Series (1) converges at $x = 0$. Three cases: (a) The series **converges** for all x ; (b) the series **diverges** for all x ($x \neq 0$); (c) there exists an $R > 0$, and the series *converges* for $|x| < R$, and *diverges* for $|x| > R$. Note: the behaviour is **unknown** for $|x| = R$. ($R = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |a_n/a_{n+1}|$, if the limit *exists*).

If $|x| < R$, define the **function** f by $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty a_n x^n$. Now f is *continuous* for $|x| < R$, and f is infinitely differentiable. Differentiation is term by term, so $Df(x) = a_1+2a_2x+3a_3x^2+\dots = \sum_{n=1}^\infty n a_n x^{n-1}$. Hence $a_n = D^n f(0)/n!$. (Compare with *Taylor series*). If $g(x) = \sum b_n x^n$ is *another* power series, also converging for $|x| < R$, then $f(x)+g(x) = \sum (a_n+b_n)x^n$; $f(x)-g(x) = \sum (a_n-b_n)x^n$; $f(x)g(x) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty c_n x^n$, where $c_n = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i b_{n-i} = a_0 b_n + \dots + a_n b_0$.

25th February 2000

Frobenius Method. Consider the D.E. $2x^2 D^2 y + x(2x+1)Dy - y = 0$. (*Second order*). It has 2 **independent** solutions. Suppose that a solution y can be *written as* $y = \sum_{n=0}^\infty a_n x^n$, and so $Dy = \sum a_n n x^{n-1}$ and $D^2 y = \sum a_n n(n-1)x^{n-2}$. Substitute in the D.E. and get $\sum_{n \geq 0} a_n n(n-1)2x^n + \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n 2x^{n+1} + \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n n x^n - \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n = 0$.

i.e. $\sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n \{2n(n-1) + n - 1\} + \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n 2n x^{n+1} = 0$, i.e. $\sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n (n-1)(2n+1) + \sum_{m \geq 1} 2(m-1)a_{m-1} x^m = 0$ (putting $m = n+1$); i.e. $\sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n (n-1)(2n+1) + \sum_{n \geq 1} 2(n-1)a_{n-1} x^n = 0$ (putting $n = m$). **Summary:** The D.E. implies that $\sum_{n \geq 0} x^n (n-1)[(2n+1)a_n + 2a_{n-1}] = 0$. The numbers a_0, a_1 , etc. in $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n$ must be chosen so that the coefficient of x^n is zero for all n , i.e. $(n-1)[(2n+1)a_n + 2a_{n-1}] = 0$ ($n \geq 1$). **Also**, for $n = 0$, $a_0(-1)(1) = 0$, i.e. $a_0(-1)(1) = 0$, so that $a_0 = 0$. And if $n \neq 1$, we have $(2n+1)a_n + 2a_{n-1} = 0$. **Solution:** $a_0 = 0$; $a_1 = \text{anything}$; ($n = 2$) $5a_2 + 2a_1 = 0$, so that $a_2 = -2/5 a_1$; ($n = 3$) $7a_3 + 2a_2 = 0$, so that $a_3 = -2/7 a_2 = 4/35 a_1$. **Solution:** $y = a_1 [x^{-2/5} x^{2+4/35} x^{3-8/315} x^4 + \dots]$. We have found a series solution of the D.E. But there is one unknown constant a_1 ; the D.E. has a **singularity** at $x = 0$; and there is only 1 solution as a power series.

To find two **independent** solutions, use the *Frobenius* method. Assume that $y = [\sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n] x^c$ for some index $c \in \mathbf{R}$. Assume also that $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^{n+c}$, $Dy = \sum a_n (n+c) x^{n+c-1}$, and $D^2y = \sum a_n (n+c)(n+c-1) x^{n+c-2}$. **Substitute:** $2x^2 D^2y + 2x^2 Dy + xDy - y = \sum a_n 2(n+c)(n+c-1) x^{n+c} + \sum a_n 2(n+c) x^{n+c+1} + \sum a_n (n+c) x^{n+c} - \sum a_n x^{n+c} = 0$. ($n \geq 0$).

Look at the *lowest power of x*. In this case, it is x^c . Look at the **coefficient** of x^c : $a_0 2(0+c)(0+c-1) + a_0(0+c) - a_0$, i.e. $[2c(c-1) + c - 1]a_0 = 0$. This is called the index equation. Always assume that $a_0 \neq 0$, so that we can divide through by it, giving, in this case, $2c(c-1) + c - 1 = 0$. So we have 2 solutions: $c = 1$ and $c = -1/2$. Now look at a **general** term x^{m+c} , with coefficient $a_m 2(m+c)(m+c-1) + a_{m-1} 2(m+c-1) + a_m(m+c) - a_m = 0$ for $m \geq 1$ (putting $n = m-1$). Hence $a_m [2(m+c)(m+c-1) + (m+c-1)] + a_{m-1} [2(m+c-1)] = 0$, i.e. $(m+c-1) \{a_m (2m+2c+1) + a_{m-1} 2\} = 0$. **Either** $m+c-1 = 0$, which is not possible *this time* as $c = 1$ or $c = -1/2$ and $m \geq 1$; **or** $a_m = -2a_{m-1}/(2m+2c+1)$. **Cases:** $c = 1$ gives $a_m = -2a_{m-1}/(2m+3)$; and $c = -1/2$ gives $a_m = -a_{m-1}/m$. So $y = a_0 x^{-1/2} [1 - x + 1/2 x^2 - 1/6 x^3 + \dots]$.

1st March 2000

Frobenius Method (Examples)

Consider $(2x+x^3)D^2y - Dy - 6xy = 0$. Assume that $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+c}$, with $a_0 \neq 0$. Then $y = a_1 x^c + a_1 x^{c+1} + a_2 x^{c+2} + \dots$, $Dy = ca_0 x^{c-1} + (c+1)a_1 x^c + (c+2)a_2 x^{c+1} + \dots$, and $D^2y = c(c-1)a_0 x^{c-2} + c(c+1)a_1 x^{c-1} + (c+2)(c+1)a_2 x^c + \dots$. **Now** $6xy$ starts at x^{c+1} ; Dy at x^{c-1} ; $x^3 D^2y$ at x^{c+1} ; and $2x D^2y$ at x^{c-1} . The lowest power of x is x^{c-1} , with coefficient $2c(c-1)a_0 - ca_0 = 0$. Now $a_0 \neq 0$, so we have $2c(c+1) - c = 0$. *Solve the index equation* to get $c = 0$ or $2c = 3$. There are two possible solutions: one beginning at $c = 0$, and the other beginning at $c = 3/2$.

Coefficient of x^c : $2(c+1)ca_1 - (c+1)a_1 = 0$, so either $c+1 = 0$ (*not true*), or $2c-1 = 0$ (*not true*), or $a_1 = 0$. The x^{c+1} term **occurs as** $2x(c+2)(c+1)a_2 x^c$ (From $D^2 a_2 x^{c+2}$) + $x^3 c(c-1)a_0 x^{c-2}$ (From $D^2 a_0 x^c$) - $(c+2)a_2 x^{c+1}$ (From $Da_2 x^{c+2}$) - $6xa_0 x^c$ (From $a_0 x^c$). So $2(c+2)(c+1)a_2 + c(c-1)a_0 - (c+2)a_2 - 6a_0 = 0$; $(c+2)a_2 [2c+2-1] + (c^2-c-6)a_0 = 0$; $(c+2)(2c+1)a_2 + (c+2)(c-3)a_0 = 0$. Now $c \neq -2$, so $a_2 = (3-c)a_0/(2c+1)$. There are *similar equations* for the coefficients of x^{c+2} , x^{c+3} , etc.: $(2c+1)a_2 + (c-3)a_0 = 0$; $(2c+3)a_3 + (c-2)a_1 = 0$; $(2c+5)a_4 + (c-1)a_0 = 0$. **Hence** $a_0 \neq 0$ by definition; $a_1 = 0$; $a_2 = (3-c)a_0/(2c+1)$; $a_3 = (2-c/2c+3)a_1$ (so $a_3 = 0$); $a_4 = (1-c/2c+5)a_2 = (1-c)(3-c)/(2c+1)(2c+5)a_0$; etc. In general, $a_{2n}(2c+4n-3) = a_{2n-2}(5-c-2n)$. **Summary:** $a_0 \neq 0$, $a_1 = 0$. Hence $a_3 = a_5 = a_7 = \dots = 0$. Now $c = 0$ or $c = 3/2$. If $c = 0$, then $y = a_0 [1 + 3x^2 + 3/5 x^4 - 1/15 x^6 + \dots]$. If $c = 3/2$, then $y = a_0 x^{3/2} [1 + 3/8 x^2 - 3/8 \times 16 x^4 + \dots]$.

Example: Solve $4xD^2y+2Dy+y = 0$ by the *Frobenius method*. A: Put $y = a_0x^c+a_1x^{c+1}+\dots$. The lowest power in the D.E. is $\min \{1+c-2, c-1, c\}$. The coefficient of x^{c-1} is $4a_0c(c-1)+2a_0c = 0$. Assuming that $a_0 \neq 0$, the index equation is $2c[2(c+1)+1] = 0$. So $c = 0$ or $c = 1/2$. Now consider the general term x^{c+n} in the D.E. The term is $a_nx^{c+n} + 2a_{n+1}(n+1+c)x^{c+n} + 4xa_{n+1}(n+1+c)(n+c)x^{c+n-1} = 0$. (The terms come from y , Dy and $4xD^2y$ respectively).

2nd March 2000

Solve $2x^2D^2y+(7x^2+7x)Dy-3y = 0$. A: Assume that $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_nx^{n+c}$, with $a_0 \neq 0$. The lowest term is x^c . Substitute, and get $x^c[2c(c-1)a_0+7ca_0-3a_0] + x^{c+1}[2(c+1)ca_1+7ca_0+7(c+1)a_1-3a_1] + \dots$. We have general term $x^{c+n}[2(c+n)(c+n-1)a_n+7(c+n-1)a_{n-1}+7(c+n)a_n-3a_n] = 0$. Look at the lowest term, x^c . The coefficient of x^c must be **zero**. But $a_0 \neq 0$, hence $2c(c-1)+7c-3 = 0$, i.e. $2c^2+5c-3 = 0$; $(2c-1)(c+3) = 0$; $c = -3$ or $c = 1/2$. **General case:** coefficient x^{c+n} , $n > 0$. This must be zero, so that $a_n[2(c+n)(c+n-1)+7(c+n)-3] + 7a_{n-1}[c+n-1] = 0$. Note: $2(c+n)(c+n-1)+7(c+n)-3$ is a *quadratic* in $(c+n)$: $2x(x-1)+7x-3$, so factorise to get $(c+n+3)(2(c+n)-1)$, so that $a_n = -\frac{7(c+n-1)}{(c+n+3)(2(c+n)-1)}a_{n-1}$. Therefore, all the a_n are determined by the a_0 .

Case 1: $c = -3$: $a_n = -\frac{7(n-4)}{n(2n-7)}a_{n-1}$, so that $a_1 = -\frac{21}{5}a_0$, $a_2 = -\frac{14}{6}a_1 = \frac{49}{5}a_0$, etc. **Case 2:** $c = 1/2$: $a_n = -\frac{7(2n-1)}{2n(2n+7)}a_{n-1}$, so that $a_1 = -\frac{7}{18}a_0$, $a_2 = \frac{147}{492}a_0$, etc. *General solution:* $y = A_0x^{-3}(1-\frac{21}{5}x+\frac{49}{5}x^2-\dots) + B_0x^{1/2}(1-\frac{7}{18}x+\frac{147}{492}x^2-\dots)$. The *Frobenius method* works for certain D.E.'s, namely those of the **form** $D^2y+P(x)Dy+Q(x)y = 0$ which have a Regular Singular Point at $x = 0$.

For example, the equation above has form $D^2y+\frac{(7x^2+7x)}{2x^2}Dy-\frac{3}{2x^2}y = 0$, so that $P(x) = \frac{7(x+1)}{2x}$ and $Q(x) = -\frac{3}{2x^2}$. If P and Q are *defined* and *continuous* at $x = 0$, we have a **regular point**, and the solution is an ordinary series. (Taylor). If P and Q are not defined, we have a **singularity**. A D.E. is said to be *regular singular* at $x = 0$ if $xP(x)$ and $x^2Q(x)$ are defined and continuous at $x = 0$. Example: $xP(x) = \frac{7(x+1)}{2}$; $x^2Q(x) = -\frac{3}{2}$.

Assignment 2: Set 2/3; In 13/3; Back 24/3

Q: Using *Laplace transforms* and *partial fractions*, solve the differential equation $D^2y+2Dy+y = e^t$ with initial conditions $y(0) = 0$ and $Dy(0) = 0$. A: Let Y denote the *Laplace transform* of the function. Then the Laplace transform satisfies the equation $s^2Y+2sY+Y = \frac{1}{s-1}$. Hence $Y = \frac{1}{(s-1)(s+1)^2}$, and use partial fractions to give $\frac{1}{(s-1)(s+1)^2} = \frac{A}{s-1} + \frac{B}{s+1} + \frac{C}{(s+1)^2}$, so that $y(t) = Ae^t+Be^{-t}+Cte^{-t}$. Multiplying out the partial fraction gives $1 = A(s+1)^2+B(s-1)(s+1)+C(s-1)$, so that $A = 1/4$, $C = -1/2$, and $B = -1/4$, and therefore $y(t) = \frac{1}{4}e^t - \frac{1}{4}e^{-t} - \frac{1}{2}te^{-t}$.

Q: Let $Y(s)$ denote the *Laplace transform* of the function $y(t)$. Find an expression for Y if y satisfies the differential equation $D^2y-Dy-2y = 0$, with **initial** conditions $y(0) = 4$ and $Dy(0) = 4$. Hence find the *solution* $y(t)$. A: Let Y denote the *Laplace transform* of the function. The transform of D^2y is $s^2Y-sy(0)-Dy(0) = s^2Y-s(4)-4 = s^2Y-4s-4$.

The transform of Dy is $sY-y(0) = sY-4$. Therefore, the Laplace transform satisfies the equation $s^2Y-4s-4-sY+4-sY = 0$. Hence $(s^2-s-2)Y = 4s$, or $Y = \frac{4s}{(s-2)(s+1)}$. Use partial fractions to give $\frac{4s}{(s-2)(s+1)} = \frac{A}{s-2} + \frac{B}{s+1}$, so that $y(t) = Ae^{2t}+Be^{-t}$. Multiplying out the partial fraction gives $4s = A(s+1)+B(s-2)$, so that $A = \frac{8}{3}$ and $B = \frac{4}{3}$. Therefore, $y(t) = \frac{8}{3}e^{2t} + \frac{4}{3}e^{-t}$. We can *check* this by **substitution**.

Q: Use the Frobenius method to solve the D.E. $2xD^2y - Dy + 4x^3y = 0$. A: To solve using the **Frobenius** method, substitute $y = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^{n+c}$, so $Dy = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n(n+c)x^{n+c-1}$ and $D^2y = \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n(n+c)(n+c-1)x^{n+c-2}$. Hence $\sum_{n \geq 0} 2xa_n(n+c)(n+c-1)x^{n+c-2} - \sum_{n \geq 0} a_n(n+c)x^{n+c-1} + \sum_{n \geq 0} 4x^3a_nx^{n+c} = 0$. The lowest power of x is x^{c-1} , and the term is $2xa_0c(c-1)x^{n-2} - a_0cx^{c-1}$. Hence, as we assume that $a_0 \neq 0$, we have the index equation $2c(c-1) - c = 0$, so $c = 0$ or $2c = 3$.

The x^c term has coefficient $2a_1(1+c)(1+c-1) - a_1(1+c) = 0$, and substituting the possible values of c gives $a_1 = 0$. Similarly, the x^{c+1} term has coefficient $2a_2(2+c)(2+c-1) - a_2(2+c) = 0$, and the x^{c+2} term has coefficient $2a_3(3+c)(3+c-1) - a_3(3+c) = 0$, so that again we deduce that $a_2 = a_3 = 0$. For $n \geq 4$, we have the x^{c+n-1} term, with coefficient $2a_n(n+c)(n+c-1) - a_n(n+c) + 4a_{n-4} = 0$. So $a_n = -(4a_{n-4}) / ((n+c)(2n+2c-3))$; and thus $a_4 = -4/(4+c)(2c+5)a_0$ and $a_8 = -4/(8+c)(2c+13)a_4$. For $c = 0$, we have $y = a_0\{1 - 1/5x^4 + 1/130x^8 - \dots\}$. For $c = 3/2$, we have $y = a_0x^{3/2}\{1 - 1/11x^4 + 1/418x^8 - \dots\}$.

Q: Use the Frobenius method to solve the D.E. $2x^2D^2y - xDy + y - xy = 0$, giving the first 3 terms of each series. A: In standard form, the D.E. is $D^2y - Dy/2x + y(1-x)/2x^2 = 0$, i.e. $P(x) = -1/2x$ and $Q(x) = 1-x/2x^2$. As $xP(x) = -1/2$ and $x^2Q(x) = 1-x$ are defined and continuous at $x = 0$, the differential equation is **regular singular**.

Applying the substitutions as in the previous question gives $\sum_{n \geq 0} 2x^2a_n(n+c)(n+c-1)x^{n+c-2} - \sum_{n \geq 0} xa_n(n+c)x^{n+c-1} + \sum_{n \geq 0} a_nx^{n+c} - \sum_{n \geq 0} xa_nx^{n+c} = 0$. Writing out the first few coefficients of x enables us to get the general term in the sequence as $x^{c+n}[2(x+n)(c+n-1)a_n - (c+n)a_n + a_n - a_{n-1}]$. The lowest power of x is x^c , and the term is $2x^2a_0c(c-1)x^{n-2} - xa_0cx^{c-1} + a_0x^c$. Hence, as we assume that $a_0 \neq 0$, we have the index equation $2c(c-1) - c + 1 = 0$ — so $c = 1$ or $2c = 1$.

The x^{c+1} term has coefficient $2a_1(1+c)(1+c-1) - a_1(1+c) + a_1 - a_0 = 0$, so $a_1 = 1/(2c-1)(1+c)+1 a_0$. For $n \geq 1$, the x^{c+n} term has coefficient $2a_n(n+c)(n+c-1) - a_n(n+c) + a_n - a_{n-1} = 0$, so $a_n = 1/((n+c)(2n+2c-3)+1) a_{n-1} = 1/(2n+2c-1)(n+c-1) a_{n-1}$. For $c = 1$, we have $a_n = 1/((n+1)(2n-1)+1) a_{n-1} = 1/(2n+1)n a_{n-1}$; $y = a_0x\{1 + 1/3x + 1/30x^2 + \dots\}$. For $2c = 1$, we have $a_n = 1/((2n+1)(n-1)+1) a_{n-1} = 1/n(2n-1) a_{n-1}$; $y = a_0x^{1/2}\{1 + x + 1/6x^2 + \dots\}$. We can check these by (complicated) substitutions.

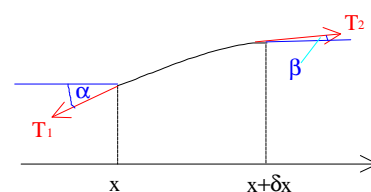
3rd March 2000

Tutorial

To solve e.g. $3x^2D^2y - xDy + y = 0$ using the *Frobenius* method, (1) Check Regular Singular; (2) Find the *index equation*; (3) Find the values of c ; (4) Find **solutions**; (5) **Check the solutions**. The coefficient of the lowest term, e.g. x^c , is the index equation, from which you get your values of c . If you get a *general* term e.g. $x^{c+n}[3a_n(c+n)(c+n-1) - a_n(c+n) + a_n]$, its coefficient must be zero. Here, $(3a_n(c+n)(c+n-1) - a_n(c+n) + a_n) = 0$, so $a_n[3(c+n)(c+n-1) - (c+n) + 1] = 0$. Substitute your c values in, e.g. for $c = 1$, we get $a_n(n(3n+2)) = 0$. As $n > 0$ and as $n \neq -2/3$, then a_n must be zero, i.e. for the first part of the solution, $y = Ax^1[1+0+0+\dots]$.

8th March 2000

Take a position on a *plucked string*, x . Move to $y = y(x,t)$, where the displacement y depends on the distance along the string, x , and the time, t . **Model the movement** of the string: take a small section. Tensions are along the *tangents* at angles α and β to the horizontal. **Resolve the forces**. There is no movement in the x -direction, so $T_1 \cos \alpha = T_2 \cos \beta$. Let the constant along the string be T , say.



The *force* in the y -direction is $T_2 \sin \beta - T_1 \sin \alpha$. But $T_1 = T / \cos \alpha$, so the force in the y -direction is $T \tan \beta - T \sin \alpha$. Now $F = ma$, where $a = \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}$ and $m = \text{density} \times \text{length} (\rho \delta x)$; so $T \tan \beta - T \sin \alpha = \rho \delta x \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}$; ($\tan \alpha = \text{gradient at } x$, so...); $T \left\{ \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)_{x+\delta x} - \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)_x \right\} - \rho \delta x \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}$. So $\left[\left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)_{x+\delta x} - \left(\frac{dy}{dx} \right)_x \right] / \delta x = \frac{\rho}{T} \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}$, i.e. $\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{\rho}{T} \frac{d^2y}{dt^2}$. Note that the derivatives are **partial**. This gives the 1-D wave equation, $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$, for some constant c . (Note that $\frac{\rho}{T} > 0$). How do we solve this?

Separation of Variables

To find *possible functions* $y(x,t)$, try y as a product of a function of x by a function of t . We have *boundary conditions* $y(0,t) = 0$; $y(A,t) = 0$; and $y(x,0) = \text{some initial function}$. Write $y = y(x,t) = f(x)g(t)$. Then $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = f(x) \frac{d^2 g}{dt^2}$, and $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} g(t)$. So $f(x) \frac{d^2 g}{dt^2} = c^2 g(t) \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2}$, i.e. $\frac{1}{c^2 g(t)} \frac{d^2 g}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{f(x)} \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = k$. The LHS is a function of t only; and the RHS is a function of x only. So both sides must be constant.

9th March 2000

We have a **pair** of ordinary differential equations: $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} - kf = 0$ and $\frac{d^2 g}{dt^2} - c^2 kg = 0$. The boundary conditions are $0 = y(0,t) = f(0)g(t)$ and $0 = y(A,t) = f(A)g(t)$. So *either* $g(t) = 0$ always (ignore this: $y \equiv 0$), or $f(0) = f(A) = 0$. **Solve** $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} - kf = 0$ with $f(0) = f(A) = 0$. What is the *constant* k ?

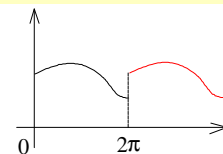
If $k = 0$, then $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = 0 \Rightarrow f = \alpha x + \beta$. *Boundary conditions*: $f(0) = f(A) = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = \beta = 0$ (**ignore!**). If $k > 0$, $k = p^2$, then $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = p^2 f$ has *solution* $f(x) = \alpha e^{px} + \beta e^{-px}$. But $f(0) = f(A) = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = \beta = 0$. Finally, *try* $k = -p^2$, then $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} + p^2 f = 0$. **Solution**: $f(x) = \alpha \sin px + \beta \cos px$. But $f(0) = 0$, so $\beta = 0$. And $f(A) = 0$, so $\alpha \sin pA = 0$. So p only has *possible* values $p = \frac{n\pi}{A}$.

Summary: If $y = f(x)g(t)$, then $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} + p^2 f = 0$, with $p = \frac{n\pi}{A}$ for some *integer* n , and $f(x) = \alpha \sin(\frac{n\pi x}{A})$. Further, $g(t)$ *satisfies* $\frac{d^2 g}{dt^2} + p^2 c^2 g = 0$. So $g(t) = \gamma \sin(pct) + \delta \cos(pct)$. The **only** solutions of $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$ are of the form $y = f(x)g(t)$, with $y(0,t) = y(A,t) = 0$ as **sums** of $\sin(\frac{n\pi x}{A}) \sin(\frac{n\pi ct}{A})$ or $\sin(\frac{n\pi x}{A}) \cos(\frac{n\pi ct}{A})$.

We can therefore have a **solution** of the form $y = \sum_{n \geq 1} b_n \sin(\frac{n\pi x}{A}) \sin(\frac{n\pi ct}{A}) + \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n \sin(\frac{n\pi x}{A}) \cos(\frac{n\pi ct}{A})$. The *final* boundary condition concerns the behaviour at $t = 0$, i.e. we require $\sum a_n \sin(\frac{n\pi x}{A})$ to be the *initial* shape. This leads to **Fourier Series**.

15th March 2000

Problem: Write a function given over a given *interval* from $x = 0$ to $x = A$ as a sum of sine and cosine terms. Suppose that a function $f(x)$ is defined for $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$. Also assume that f is **periodic**, of period 2π , i.e. $f(x+2\pi) = f(x)$.

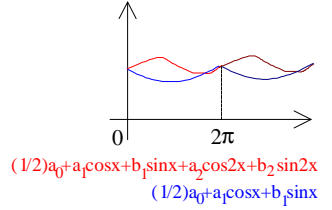


Fourier Series of $f(x)$

Series: $\frac{1}{2} a_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$. **Coefficients**: $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx$; $a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \cos nx dx$; and $b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx$. This assumes that f is **periodic**: $f(x+2\pi) = f(x)$. **Definition**: f is **Bounded** if $|f(x)| \leq \text{a constant } M$. f has *jump discontinuity* at x_0 if $f(x_0^-) \neq \lim_{x \rightarrow x_0, x < x_0} f(x)$ and $\lim_{x \rightarrow x_0, x > x_0} f(x) = f(x_0^+)$ both exist, so that **left** and **right** limits exist.

Dirichlet Theorem

If f is *bounded* on $[0, 2\pi]$, and continuous except for a *finite* number of jump discontinuities, then the **Fourier Series** converges point wise to the average of the left and right hand limits, $\frac{1}{2}[f(x_{0-})+f(x_{0+})]$. *Convergence in the mean*. A sequence of functions $S_n(x)$ converges in MEAN to $f(x)$ if $E_n = \int_0^{2\pi} (f(x)-S_n(x))^2 dx \rightarrow 0$. We write $f(x) = \text{L.I.M.}_{n \rightarrow \infty} S_n(x)$. (L.I.M. = *Limit in Mean*).



Theorem: The *Fourier Series* of f converges in mean to f . Orthonormal functions. The sequence of functions $\phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_k, \dots$ is *orthonormal* if $\int_0^{2\pi} \phi_k(x)\phi_l(x)dx = 0$ if $k \neq l$, and 1 if $k = l$. **Theorem:** The sequence $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{\cos x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{\sin x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{\cos 2x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{\sin 2x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \dots$ is *orthonormal*. **Theorem:** If $S_N = \sum_{i=1}^N c_i \phi_i(x)$, where the c_i are *Fourier coefficients* of f , then $E_n = \int_0^{2\pi} f(x)^2 dx - \sum_{i=1}^N c_i^2$.

16th March 2000

Bessel's Inequality. If the C_i are the *Fourier coefficients* of f w.r.t. orthonormal functions ϕ_i ($C_i = \int_0^{2\pi} f(x)\phi_i(x)dx$), then $\sum_{i=1}^N C_i^2 \leq \int_0^{2\pi} f(x)^2 dx$. **Parsaval's Identity.** If ϕ_i is the *orthonormal* sequence of ordinary Fourier series, $\dots, \frac{\cos ix}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{\sin ix}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \dots$, then $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} C_i^2 = \int_0^{2\pi} f(x)^2 dx$. So the series *converges in mean* to f .

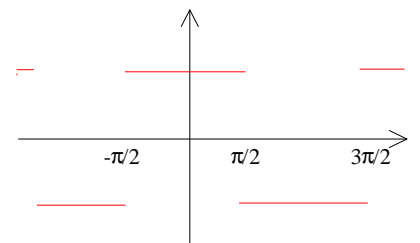
Even & Odd Functions

Let f be periodic: $f(x+2\pi) = f(x)$. We can **consider** f over an interval $[-\pi, \pi]$, with $a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x)\cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)\cos nx dx$. Even function: $f(-x) = f(x) \Rightarrow b_n = 0$. Only *cosine* series. Odd function: $f(-x) = -f(x) \Rightarrow a_n = 0$. Only *sine* series. Consider $a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x)\cos nx dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)\cos nx dx$.

Substitute $u = -x$ in $\int_{-\pi}^0 f(x)\cos nx dx = \int_{\pi}^0 f(-u)\cos(-nu)(-du) = -\int_{\pi}^0 f(-u)\cos(nu)du = \int_0^{\pi} f(-u)\cos(nu)du$. So $a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(-u)\cos(nu)du + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(u)\cos nx dx$. If f is ODD: $f(-u) = -f(u)$, then $a_n = 0$. If f is EVEN: $f(-u) = f(u)$, then $a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(u)\cos n u du$.

Change of Period Interval: $f(x+2L) = f(x)$. **Series** $\frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} (a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L})$; $a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^{2L} f(x)\cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$.

Example. Find the *Fourier series* of $f(x) = 1$ when $-\pi/2 < x < \pi/2$; and $f(x) = -1$ when $\pi/2 < x < 3\pi/2$. *Periodic*, $f(x+2\pi) = f(x)$. The function f is **even**, so $b_n = 0$. To find a_n , use $\pi a_0 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)dx = \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} 1 dx + \int_{\pi/2}^{3\pi/2} -1 dx = \pi - \pi = 0$, so that $a_0 = 0$. **For** $n \geq 1$, $\pi a_n = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)\cos nx dx = \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} \cos nx dx + \int_{\pi/2}^{3\pi/2} -\cos nx dx = [\frac{\sin nx}{n}]_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} - [\frac{\sin nx}{n}]_{\pi/2}^{3\pi/2} = \frac{4 \sin(n\pi/2)}{n}$. So $a_{2n} = 0$, and $a_{2n+1} = 4(-1)^n / (2n+1)\pi$.



Hence the *Fourier series* is $\frac{4}{\pi} [\cos x - \frac{\cos 3x}{3} + \frac{\cos 5x}{5} - \frac{\cos 7x}{7} + \dots]$. This series converges *point-wise*. At $x = 0$, it converges to $f(0) = 1$. At $x = \pi/2$, it converges to 0 ($0 = [f(\pi/2+) + f(\pi/2-)]/2$). Also, $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x)^2 dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 1 dx = 2\pi$. **Hence** we have the following: $\sum a_n^2 = \frac{1}{\pi}(2\pi)$; $\sum \frac{16}{(2n+1)^2 \pi^2} = 2$; and $\sum \frac{1}{(2n+1)^2} = \pi^2/8$.

Assignment 3: Set 15/3; In 29/3; Back 13/4

Recap: The Fourier series of the function $f(x)$ is $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n \cos(nx) + \sum_{n \geq 1} b_n \sin(nx)$, where $a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos(nx) dx$, and $b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin(nx) dx$. Useful calculations: $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos(nx) dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(nx) dx = 0$; $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \sin(nx) dx = -\frac{x \cos(nx)}{n} + \frac{\sin(nx)}{n^2}$; $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos(nx) dx = \frac{x \sin(nx)}{n} + \frac{\cos(nx)}{n^2}$; $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x \cos(nx) dx = 0$; $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \sin(nx) dx = 0$; and $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \cos(nx) dx = \frac{x^2 \sin(nx)}{n} + \frac{2x \cos(nx)}{n^2} - \frac{2 \sin(nx)}{n^3}$.

Q: Find the **Fourier series** of the function $f(x) = x^2$, for $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$. Deduce *formulae* for the sum of the two series $\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{n^2} + \dots$ and $\frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} - \dots + \frac{1}{n^2} - \dots$. **A:** The function $f(x) = x^2$ is **even**, so the Fourier coefficients b_n are all zero. Now $a_0 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x^2 dx = \frac{2\pi^2}{3}$. For $n > 0$, the *coefficients* a_n are given by the **formula** $a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \cos(nx) dx$. Hence $a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \left(\frac{x^2 \sin(nx)}{n} + \frac{2x \cos(nx)}{n^2} - \frac{2 \sin(nx)}{n^3} \right) \Big|_0^{\pi}$. Evaluating, we have $a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{2\pi^2}{n^2} ((-1)^n - 1)$, so $a_{2n} = 0$ and $a_{2n+1} = -\frac{8}{(2n+1)^2}$. At each *point* where the Fourier series of $f(x)$ **converges**, we have $f(x) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} a_n \cos(nx)$, so $x^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{3} - \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{8}{(2n+1)^2} \cos(2n+1)x$.

To *deduce* the formula, we must revise the question. **Define** $f(x) = 0$ for $-\pi \leq x \leq 0$, and $f(x) = x^2$ for $0 \leq x \leq \pi$: neither an *even* nor an *odd* function. Get out at the end that the Fourier series of f is $f(x) = \frac{\pi^2}{6} + 2 \sum_{n \geq 1} (-1)^n \frac{\cos nx}{x^2} + \pi \sum_{n \geq 1} (-1)^{n+1} \frac{\sin nx}{n} - \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\sin(2n-1)x}{(2n-1)^3}$. *Substituting* $x = \pi$ in the series gives $\frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} - \dots + \frac{1}{n^2} - \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{12}$. *Similarly*, $x = 0$ gives $\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{9} + \dots + \frac{1}{n^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{6}$.

Q: Find the *Fourier series* of the function f defined by $f(x) = \pi$ for $-\pi \leq x \leq \frac{\pi}{2}$, and $f(x) = 0$ elsewhere. **A:** $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi/2} \pi dx = \frac{3\pi}{2}$. *Similarly*, $a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \cos(nx) dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi/2} \cos(nx) dx$, and $b_n = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi/2} \sin(nx) dx$. So $a_n = \frac{\sin(n\pi/2)}{n}$; $a_{2n} = 0$; and $a_{2n+1} = (-1)^n$. *Similarly*, $b_n = \frac{1}{n} (\cos(n\pi) - \cos(n\pi/2))$, so $b_{4n} = 0$; $b_{4n+1} = -\frac{1}{4n+1}$; $b_{4n+2} = \frac{2}{4n+2}$; and $b_{4n+3} = -\frac{1}{4n+3}$.

Q: Which of the **following** functions are (a) *even*; (b) *odd*; (c) *neither*: $x+x^2$, $|x|$, e^{x^2} , $x \cos(x)$, $\sin(x)+\cos(x)$, $\sin^2(x)+\cos^2(x)$ and $x|x|$. **A:** e^{x^2} , $|x|$ and $\sin^2(x)+\cos^2(x)$ are all *even*; $x \cos(x)$ and $x|x|$ are *odd*; and $x+x^2$, e^{2x} and $\sin(x)+\cos(x)$ are *neither* odd nor even.

Q: Find the Fourier **sine** series of the function f defined by $f(x) = 1$ for $0 \leq x \leq \pi$. **A:** Here, $b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin(nx) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin(nx) dx = \frac{2}{n\pi} (1 - (-1)^n)$. Hence $b_{2n} = 0$ and $b_{2n+1} = \frac{4}{(2n+1)\pi}$. The series is $\sum_{n \geq 1} b_n \sin(nx)$, or $\sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{4}{(2n+1)\pi} \sin(2n+1)x$.

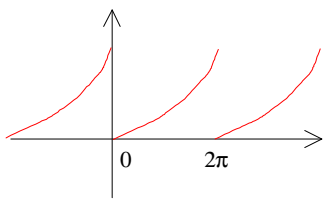
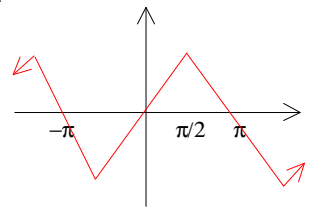
Q: Find the Fourier half range sine and *cosine* series of the function f defined by $f(x) = x$ for $0 \leq x \leq \pi$. **A:** Here, (sine) $b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin(nx) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \left(-\frac{x \cos(nx)}{n} + \frac{\sin(nx)}{n^2} \right) \Big|_0^{\pi}$. Hence $b_{2n} = -\frac{2}{2n}$ and $b_{2n+1} = \frac{2}{2n+1}$. The *series* is $\sum_{n \geq 1} b_n \sin(nx)$, or $-\sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{2}{n} (-1)^n \sin(nx)$. The half range Fourier *cosine* series has **coefficients** $a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \cos(nx) dx$. Hence $a_0 = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{\pi^2}{2}$ and $a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} [(-1)^n - 1/n^2]$. Hence $a_{2n} = 0$ and $a_{2n+1} = -\frac{4}{\pi(2n+1)^2}$. The *series* is $\frac{\pi}{2} - \sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{4}{\pi(2n+1)^2} \cos(2n+1)x$.

Examples of Fourier Series

Let $f(x) = 1$ if $x > 0$, and $f(x) = -1$ if $x < 0$, defined on $[-\pi, \pi]$. If we have an **odd** function, then $a_n = 0$. Now $b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin nx dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \sin nx dx$ (**odd**) $= \frac{2}{\pi} [-\cos nx]_0^{\pi} = \frac{2}{\pi} (-1)^n$. So $b_n = 0$ if n is *even*, and $b_n = \frac{4}{\pi}$ if n is *odd*. So the **Fourier series** of $f(x)$ is $\sum_{n \geq 1} b_n \sin nx$, or $\frac{4}{\pi} [\sin x / 1 + \sin 3x / 3 + \sin 5x / 5 + \dots] = \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sin(2k-1)x / (2k-1)$.

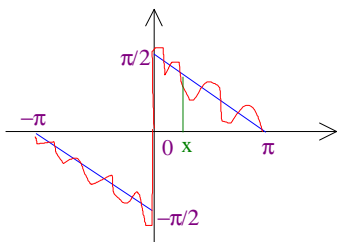
The series converges *point-wise*. If $x > 0$, e.g. $x = \pi/2$, the series converges to 1. If $x = -\pi/2$, the series converges to -1. If $x = 0$, the series converges to $1^{-1/2} = 0$. **So**, with $x = \pi/2$ we get $1 = \frac{4}{\pi} [\sin(\pi/2) + \sin(3\pi/2)/3 + \dots]$; $1 = \frac{4}{\pi} [1^{-1/3} + 1/5^{-1/7} + \dots]$; $\pi = 4 [1^{-1/3} + 1/5^{-1/7} + \dots]$; and if $x = \pi/4$, we get $1 = \frac{4}{\pi} [\sqrt{2}/2 + \sqrt{2}/2 \times 3^{-1/2} - \sqrt{2}/2 \times 5^{-1/2} + \sqrt{2}/2 \times 7^{-1/2} + \dots]$, so that $\pi = 2\sqrt{2} [1 + 1/3^{-1/2} - 1/5^{-1/2} + 1/7^{-1/2} + 1/9^{-1/2} + \dots]$.

Example: $f(x) = x$ for $-\pi/2 < x < \pi/2$, and $f(x) = \pi - x$ for $\pi/2 < x < 3\pi/2$. f is **odd**, so that $a_n = 0$. Now $b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi/2} x \sin nx dx + \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\pi/2}^{\pi} (\pi - x) \sin nx dx - \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{\pi}^{3\pi/2} x \sin nx dx$. To do this, we need some *facts on integrals*: $\int \sin nx dx = -\cos nx / n$; $\int x \sin nx dx = \text{quoted} = -x \cos nx / n + \sin nx / n^2$. **Hence** $(\pi b_n / 2) = [-x \cos nx / n + \sin nx / n^2]_{\pi/2}^0 - [-x \cos nx / n + \sin nx / n^2]_{\pi}^{\pi/2} + [-x \sin nx / n]_{\pi}^{\pi/2} \Rightarrow b_n = \frac{4 \sin(n\pi/2)}{\pi n^2}$. **So** $b_{2n} = 0$, and $b_{2n+1} = \frac{4(-1)^n}{\pi(2n+1)^2}$. (*Dodgy?*). The series is $\frac{4}{\pi} [\sin x - \sin 3x / 9 + \sin 5x / 25 - \dots]$.



Example: $f(x) = x^2$ for $0 \leq x \leq 2\pi$. Here, $a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x^2 dx = \frac{8\pi^3}{3}$. **Now** $\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} x^2 \cos nx dx = [\frac{x^2 \sin nx}{n}]_0^{2\pi} - \int_0^{2\pi} 2x \sin nx / n dx = 0 - \frac{2}{n} [-x \cos nx / n + \sin nx / n^2]_0^{2\pi} = \frac{4\pi}{n^2} \cos 2\pi n = \frac{4\pi}{n^2}$. **So** $a_n = \frac{4}{n^2}$ for $n \geq 1$. Similarly, $b_n = -\frac{4\pi}{n}$. The series converges in the *mean*: $\sum a_n^2 + \sum b_n^2 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(x)^2 dx$; $(64\pi^4/18) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (16/n^4) + 16\pi^2/n^2 = (32\pi^4/5)$.

Gibbs Phenomenon

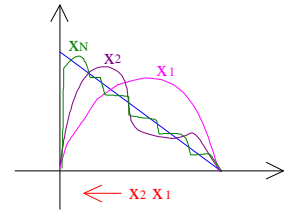


Let $f(x) = \pi/2$ for $x < 0$; $f(x) = -\pi/2$ for $x > 0$; and $f(x) = 0$ for $x = 0$. **Fourier Series:** It is odd, so $a_n = 0$. Now $b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (\pi/2) \sin nx dx = \frac{1}{n}$. **Fourier Series:** $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin nx$. Let us draw a curve of the *partial sum*, $S_N(x) = \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{n} \sin nx$, and **compare** it with $f(x)$. (Shown **red** in the diagram). $S_N(x)$ *overshoots* the value $\pi/2$ near $x = 0$.

The series **converges** point-wise. If we fix $x \neq 0$, with x *near to* 0, then the values of $S_N(x)$ (for fixed x and varying N) approach a **straight** line. The peak will move *towards* $x = 0$ as N increases, but there will always be an overshoot.

How big is the error? Consider $\pi/2 + S_N(x) = \pi/2 + \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{k} \sin kx = \int_0^x \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^N \cos kx dx = \int_0^x \frac{\sin(N+1/2)t}{2 \sin 1/2 t} dt$ (that was *using* $2 \sin 1/2 t \times \cos kt = \dots$) $= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^x \frac{\sin(N+1/2)t}{\sin 1/2 t} dt + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^x (1/\sin 1/2 t - 1/2t) \sin(N+1/2)t dt =$ (using $u = (N+1/2)t$) $= \int_0^{(N+1/2)x} \frac{\sin u}{u} du + (\dots)$. The *2nd* integral tends to **zero** as $x \rightarrow 0$ (by l'Hopital's rule *twice*); so $1/\sin 1/2 t - 1/2t \rightarrow 0$ as $t \rightarrow 0$.

Summary so far: $\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{k} \sin kx$ is approximately $\int_0^{(N+1/2)x} \frac{\sin u}{u} du$. As $N \rightarrow \infty$, can we find an $x_N \rightarrow 0$ so that $\int_0^{(N+1/2)x_N} \frac{\sin u}{u} du$ takes substantial values? Can we also find the x_N so that the value of $\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{k} \sin kx$ is approximately $\int_0^\infty \frac{\sin u}{u} du$? Consider the maximum value of $\int_0^b \frac{\sin u}{u} du$. Choose x_N with $(N+1/2)x_N = \pi$, then $(\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{k} \sin kx)$ approximates to $\int_0^\pi \frac{\sin u}{u} du = \frac{\pi}{2}(1.089490\dots)$.

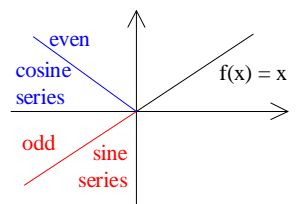


Summary: For all N , we can find an x_N near to zero with the value of the series overshooting $\frac{\pi}{2}$ by a factor of 1.089490... This is true for **any** function with a discontinuity. The jump in the function is less than the *difference* between the maximum and the minimum of the series near the discontinuity — by the **factor**.

24th March 2000

Half Range Series

Let $f(x) = x$ for $x \geq 0$. Now extend $f(x)$ to the values < 0 to make f : (1) Odd; (2) Even. If we put $f(-x) = +f(x)$, we get an *even* function with Fourier series having $b_n = 0$ and $a_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi f(x) \cos nx dx$. This is the Fourier half range cosine series. Similarly for sine series.



29th March 2000

Legendre Polynomials: Summary Sheet

Let V denote the *vector space* of all Piecewise Continuous functions f defined on the interval $[-1, 1]$, with inner product defined by $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 f(x)g(x)dx$. The Legendre polynomials can be defined by the *Rodrigués* formula $P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n n!} D^n((x^2-1)^n)$. **Hence** $P_0(x) = 1$ and $P_1(x) = x$, etc. The functions $P_n(x)$ are *polynomials*. $P_n(x)$ contains only **even** powers of x if n is **even**, and only **odd** powers of x if n is **odd**.

The *polynomial* P_n is a solution of the *differential equation* $(1-x^2)D^2y - 2xDy + n(n+1)y = 0$. The functions $P_n(x)$ satisfy the condition $\int_{-1}^1 P_n(x)P_m(x)dx = 0$ for $m \neq n$. This is *summarised* by the statement that they are **orthogonal**: the polynomial $xP_n(x)$ is orthogonal to $P_k(x)$ for $k < n-1$.

The **Legendre** polynomials satisfy a *recurrence* relation of the form $xP_n(x) = \alpha P_{n+1}(x) + \beta P_{n-1}(x)$. More *specifically*, $(2n+1)xP_n(x) = (n+1)P_{n+1}(x) + nP_{n-1}(x)$. Notes: $P_n(0) = 1$; $P_n(-1) = (-1)^n$; $P_n(x)$ has n distinct **roots** in the interval $-1 < x < 1$; and the Legendre polynomials are the result of applying the *Gram Schmidt process* to the polynomials $1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots$

Lecture notes on the above. Inner Products: $f.g$ or $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 f(x)g(x)dx$, where $f.g = g.f$; $(f_1+f_2).g = f_1.g + f_2.g$; $(\lambda f).g = \lambda(f.g)$ (last two \Rightarrow *linear*); $f.f \geq 0$; and $f.f = 0 \Leftrightarrow f = 0$. Therefore, we have the idea of “**orthogonal**”: $f.g = 0$; and of “**size**”: $\|f\| = \sqrt{f.f}$.

In the *equation* $P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n n!} D^n((x^2-1)^n)$, for $\underline{n=0}$, we have $\frac{1}{2^0 0!} D^0((x^2-1)^0) = \frac{1}{1} D^0(1) = 1$; for $\underline{n=1}$, we have $\frac{1}{2^1 1!} D^1((x^2-1)^1) = \frac{1}{2} D(2x) = x$; for $\underline{n=2}$, we have $\frac{1}{2^2 2!} D^2((x^2-1)^2) = \frac{1}{8} D^2(x^4 - 2x^2 + 1) = \frac{1}{8}(12x^2 - 4) = \frac{3x^2 - 1}{2}$; and so on. $P_n(x)$ are polynomials of *degree* n . $(x^2-1)^n$ is of degree $2n$; we differentiate n times to get a polynomial of degree $2n-n$. $P_{2n-1}(x)$ has only **odd** powers of x because $(x^2-1)^n$ has only *even* powers of x .

Proposition: $P_n(x)$ satisfies the D.E. $(1-x^2)D^2y-2xDy+n(n+1)y = 0$. **Proof.** Put $w = (x^2-1)^n$. Differentiating, $Dw = n(x^2-1)^{n-1} \cdot 2x$; so $(x^2-1)Dw = 2nxw$. We want **information** on $D^n w$. Use Liebnitz's theorem to differentiate a product: $D(uv) = uDv+vDu$; $D^2(uv) = uD^2v+2DuDv+vD^2u$; $D^n(uv) = uD^n v + \binom{n}{1} DuD^{n-1}v + \dots + \binom{n}{r} D^r u D^{n-r}v + \dots + vD^n u$. Use *Liebnitz* as follows:

Differentiate the equation $[(x^2-1)Dw = 2nxw]$ $(n+1)$ times; so that we have $D^{n+1}[(x^2+1)Dw] = 2nD^{n+1}[xw]$. **RHS** = $2n[xD^{n+1}w+(n+1)DxD^n w+0]$. **LHS** = $(x^2-1)D^{n+2}w+(n+1)D(x^2-1)D^{n+1}w + \binom{n+1}{2}D^2(x^2-1)D^n w$, i.e. $2nxD^{n+1}w+2n(n+1)D^n w = (x^2-1)D^{n+2}w+2x(n+1)D^{n+1}w+(n+1)nD^n w$, i.e. $(x^2-1)D^{n+2}w+2x(n+1)D^{n+1}w-n(n+1)D^n w = 0$.

30th March 2000

Put $P_n(x) = (1/2^n n!)D^n w$ to get $(1-x^2)D^2P-2xDP+n(n+1)P = 0$. (D.E. of *Legendre Polynomials*). Laplace equation: $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = 0$. Look for solutions having some *symmetry*. **Spherical** Polars: $z = r \cos \phi$; $x = r \sin \phi \cos \theta$; and $y = r \sin \phi \sin \theta$. This changes the *Laplace* equation to $\frac{\partial}{\partial r}(r^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial r}) + \frac{1}{\sin \phi} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi}(\sin \phi \frac{\partial u}{\partial \phi}) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \phi} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} = 0$.

Assume the *independence* from θ , and then assume that $u = F(r)G(\phi)$. The **LHS** depends on r , and the **RHS** on ϕ , so both sides are *constant*. Separate variables and get 2 ordinary D.E.'s: $r^2 \frac{d^2 F}{dr^2} + 2r \frac{dF}{dr} - \lambda F = 0$ (---(1)), and $\frac{1}{\sin \phi} \frac{d}{d\phi}(\sin \phi \frac{dG}{d\phi}) + \lambda G = 0$ (---(2)), depending on λ . (1) has solutions of the form $f = r^{-\frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\lambda + (1/4)}}$. Assume that $-\frac{1}{2} + \sqrt{\lambda + (1/4)}$ is an *integer*. $n \geq 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = n(n+1)$. This makes the behaviour near $r = 0$ acceptable. Substitute $\lambda = n(n+1)$ and $x = \cos \phi$ in (2) to get Legendre's D.E., $(1-x^2) \frac{d^2 G}{dx^2} - 2x \frac{dG}{dx} + n(n+1)G = 0$.

Result: $\int_{-1}^1 P_n(x)P_m(x)dx = 0$ if $n \neq m$, and $\langle P_n, P_m \rangle = 0$. **Proof:** use the D.E.'s $(1-x^2)D^2P_n - 2xD_nP_n + n(n+1)P_n = 0$ and $(1-x^2)D^2P_m - 2xD_mP_m + m(m+1)P_m = 0$. Multiply the *first* by P_m , and the *second* by P_n ; subtract, and obtain $(1-x^2)(P_n D^2 P_m - P_m D^2 P_n) - 2x(P_n D P_m - P_m D P_n) + (n(n+1) - m(m+1))P_n P_m = 0$, i.e. $D\{(1-x^2)(P_n D P_m - P_m D P_n)\} + (n(n+1) - m(m+1))P_n P_m = 0$. Now *integrate* from -1 to 1 to get $[(1-x^2)(P_n D P_m - P_m D P_n)]_{-1}^1 + (n(n+1) - m(m+1)) \int_{-1}^1 P_n(x)P_m(x)dx = 0$. As $1-x^2 = 0$ at the *limits*, and as $n \neq m$, we have $\int_{-1}^1 P_n(x)P_m(x)dx = 0$.

Recurrence Relation

$P_i(x)$ is a polynomial of *degree* i . Hence P_0, P_1, \dots, P_n form a **basis** for all polynomials of degree $\leq n$. So any polynomial f of *degree* n can be written as $f = \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i P_i$ for some α_i . Further, the P_i are orthogonal, so that $\langle f, P_i \rangle = \alpha_i \langle P_i, P_i \rangle$, and $\alpha_i = \langle f, P_i \rangle / \langle P_i, P_i \rangle$. Now $f = \sum_{i=0}^n (\langle f, P_i \rangle / \langle P_i, P_i \rangle) P_i$, and $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n (\langle f, P_i \rangle / \langle P_i, P_i \rangle) P_i(x)$, where f is of degree $\leq n$.

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We want to *show that* $xP_n = \binom{n+1}{2n+1}P_{n+1} + \binom{n}{2n+1}P_{n-1}$. **Continuation** of Proof: Apply the above to a *polynomial* of degree $(n+1)$, namely $f = xP_n$. **Note:** $\langle xP_n, P_i \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 xP_n(x)P_i(x)dx = \langle P_n, xP_i \rangle$ by simple *rearrangement* in the integral. xP_i is a polynomial of **degree** $(i+1)$, and so if $i < n-1$, then it is of degree $< n$; and it is *orthogonal* to P_n . **Summary:** $\langle xP_n, P_i \rangle = \langle P_n, xP_i \rangle = 0$ if $i < n-1$. Hence in the formula for $f = xP_n$, we get only **3** terms. So $f = xP_n = \sum_{i=n-1}^{n+1} (\langle xP_n, P_i \rangle / \langle P_i, P_i \rangle) P_i$; and there *exists* a recurrence relation of the **form** $xP_n = \alpha P_{n+1} + \beta P_n + \gamma P_{n-1}$. Further, P_{n+1}, P_{n-1} and xP_n have the **same** parity — and **opposite** to P_n . Remember that P_n involves either **all even** powers of x or **all odd** powers of x . Hence $\beta = 0$, and so $xP_n(x) = \alpha P_{n+1}(x) + \gamma P_{n-1}(x)$.

Stop here — in fact find α by *comparing* the coefficients of x^{n+1} . Similarly for γ . Substituting $x = 1$, $P_n(1) = 1$. **Proof:** $P_0(1) = P_1(1) = 1$ by *calculation*. Then use induction on the recurrence relation: $P_{n+1}(x) = \left(\frac{2n+1}{n+1}\right)xP_n(x) - \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right)P_{n-1}(x)$; so $\left(\frac{2n+1}{n+1}\right) - \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\right) = 1$. Similarly, $P_n(-1) = (-1)^n$. Exercise: Prove that the polynomial $P_n(x)$ does **not** have repeated roots. Method for answering the question: assume that it does have repeated roots, and then use the D.E.

Theorem: $P_n(x) = 0$ has n roots in $(-1, 1)$. **Proof:** Obvious for $n = 0$. Assume true for $n \geq 1$. (A) $P_n(x) = 0$ has a root in $(-1, 1)$. $\int_{-1}^1 P_n(x)dx = \int_{-1}^1 P_n(x)P_0(x)dx = \langle P_n, P_0 \rangle = 0$, by *orthogonality*. Hence $P_n(x)$ cannot *always be positive*, or *always be negative*, in $[-1, 1]$. So we **must** change sign; and we must therefore be a root in $[-1, 1]$. (B) $P_n(x) = 0$ has n roots in $(-1, 1)$. Suppose in fact that it has m roots in $(-1, 1)$. Now we must have $m \leq n$ as P_n is of degree n ; and $1 \leq m$ by the above. We also know that the roots are *distinct*. Form $Q(x) = (x-x_1)(x-x_2)\dots(x-x_m)$, where the x_i are these m roots. The **function** $Q(x)P_n(x)$ is of the same sign *throughout* $(-1, 1)$. When $P_n(x)$ changes sign at a distinct root, so does $Q(x)$. Hence $\int_{-1}^1 Q(x)P_n(x)dx \neq 0$, i.e. $\langle P_n, Q \rangle \neq 0$. However, if $m < n$, then Q is a *polynomial of degree m* , so $Q = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i P_i$; and $\langle Q, P_n \rangle = 0$ by *orthogonality*. We have a **contradiction**, and hence $m = n$.

Gram Schmidt Process

When applied to *polynomials* $1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n$, the Gram Schmidt process produces an *orthogonal set of polynomials* R_0, R_1, \dots, R_n , with R_i being of degree i . **Theorem:** $R_n(x) = \frac{2^n n!}{(2n)!} P_n(x)$. **Proof:** Show that R_n is a *multiple* of P_n . Then compare the **coefficients** of x^n .

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Theorem: Let $R_i(x)$ be a sequence of *polynomials of degree i* which are orthogonal, then $R_i(x)$ is a multiple of $P_i(x)$. **Proof:** The polynomials R_i form an *orthogonal basis* for a set of all polynomials of degree $\leq n$. Hence any polynomial of **degree n** can be written as $f(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \alpha_i R_i(x)$, where $\alpha_i = \frac{\langle f(x), R_i(x) \rangle}{\langle R_i(x), R_i(x) \rangle}$.

Take $f(x)$ to be $P_n(x)$: $P_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{\langle P_n(x), R_i(x) \rangle}{\langle R_i(x), R_i(x) \rangle} R_i(x) = \frac{\langle P_n, R_n \rangle}{\langle R_n, R_n \rangle} R_n$ (because $\langle P_n(x), R_i(x) \rangle = 0$ for $i < n$). This *follows* from the following: the set of functions P_j is also a **basis**. Hence any function can be written in *terms* of the P_j . So $R_i(x) = \sum_{j=0}^i \beta_j P_j(x)$ (summing to i), as $R_i(x)$ is of *degree i* . **Therefore**, $\langle P_n, R_i \rangle = \langle P_n, \sum_{j=0}^i \beta_j P_j \rangle = \sum_{j=0}^i \beta_j \langle P_n, P_j \rangle = 0$, as $\langle P_n, P_j \rangle = 0$ for $j \leq i < n$.

Assignment 4: Set 5/4; In 12/5

Q: Calculate the *Legendre Polynomial* $P_6(x)$. A: $P_n(x) = (1/2^n n!) D^n((x^2-1)^n)$; $P_6(x) = (1/2^6 6!) D^6((x^2-1)^6)$. Work out that $(x^2-1)^6 = x^{12} - 6x^{10} + 15x^8 - 20x^6 + 15x^4 - 6x^2 + 1$. *Differentiate* this 6 times to get $D^6((x^2-1)^6) = 665280x^6 - 907200x^4 + 302400x^2 - 14400$. Dividing *through* by $2^6 6!$, we obtain $P_6(x) = 1/16(231x^6 - 315x^4 + 105x^2 - 5)$.

Q: Let $w = (x^2-1)^n$. Prove that $w(x)$ and its *derivatives* $Dw(x), D^2w(x), \dots, D^{n-1}w(x)$ (up to order $n-1$) vanish when $|x| = 1$. Use *integration by parts* to show that $\int_{-1}^1 x^m P_n(x) dx = 0$ for $0 < m < n$. Use the *above result* to deduce that the Legendre polynomials are mutually **orthogonal**. A: (see over).

A: Let $w(x) = (x^2-1)^n$; $Dw(x) = n(x^2-1)^{n-1} \cdot 2x$; $D^2w(x) = n(n-1)(x^2-1)^{n-2}2x + 2n(x^2-1)^{n-1}$; and so on. In order for $D^m w(x)$ to vanish, $D^m w(x)$ must have a **factor** of (x^2-1) . If it does, then $D^m w(x)$ vanishes as (x^2-1) *vanishes* when $|x| = 1$. However, this factor must be in all of the terms. The minimum order of the term (x^2-1) in $D^m w(x)$ is $n-m$. Therefore, for $0 < m < n-1$, $D^m w(x)$ will contain a *factor* of (x^2-1) and will vanish. For $m \geq n$ however, $D^m w(x)$ does not vanish, as each part of the sequence does not **contain** the factor (x^2-1) .

Now we **know** that $P_n(x) = (1/2^n n!) D^n((x^2-1)^n) = (1/2^n n!) D^n w(x)$; so $\int_{-1}^1 x^m P_n(x) dx = (1/2^n n!) \int_{-1}^1 x^m D^n w(x) dx$. Integration by parts: Let $u = x^m$ so that $du/dx = mx^{m-1}$; and let $dv/dx = D^n w(x)$ so that $v = D^{n-1} w(x)$. Therefore, $(1/2^n n!) \int_{-1}^1 x^m D^n w(x) dx = (1/2^n n!) \{ [x^m D^{n-1} w(x)]_{-1}^1 - \int_{-1}^1 mx^{m-1} D^{n-1} w(x) dx \}$. The first part is *zero* because $D^{n-1} w(1) = D^{n-1} w(-1) = 0$. So $(1/2^n n!) \int_{-1}^1 x^m D^n w(x) dx = (1/2^n n!) [-\int_{-1}^1 mx^{m-1} D^{n-1} w(x) dx]$. The result now follows from *induction*: repeat using the same method on the **new** integral. Eventually, the integral will disappear, and all evaluation points disappear *anyway*. Note that x^m will disappear before $D^n w(x)$, as $0 < m < n$. So we can **say** that $\int_{-1}^1 x^m P_n(x) dx = 0$ for $0 < m < n$.

Now we must **show** that $\int_{-1}^1 P_n(x) P_m(x) dx = 0$. (For $m \neq n$). Take $n < m$. Now $P_n(x)$ is a polynomial which can be **expressed** as $\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i$. (Some of the a_i (*even* or *odd*) will be zero). So $\int_{-1}^1 P_n(x) P_m(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 (\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i) P_m(x) dx = \sum_{i=0}^n \int_{-1}^1 a_i x^i P_m(x) dx$. But from the **above**, we know that $\int_{-1}^1 a_i x^i P_m(x) dx = 0$ for $i < m$. So we have our **conclusion**.

Q: Write $P_{n+1}(x) = (1/2^{n+1}) (\frac{1}{2^n n!}) D^{n+1}((x^2-1)(x^2-1)^n)$, and apply *Leibnitz* to deduce that $DP_{n+1} = (1/2^{n+1})(x^2-1)D^2P_n + (n^2/2^{n+1})xDP_n + (n^2/2)P_n$. Use the *knowledge* of the differential equation satisfied by P_n to deduce that $DP_{n+1} = xDP_n + (n+1)P_n$. A: Let $P_{n+1}(x) = uv$, where $u = 1/2^{n+1}[1/(2^n n!)]$, and $v = D^{n+1}((x^2-1)(x^2-1)^n)$. Then, using *Liebnitz*, $DP_{n+1}(x) = uDv + vDu = 1/2^{n+1}[1/2^n n!] D^{n+2}((x^2-1)(x^2-1)^n) + 0$. (u is a *constant*, so $Du = 0$).

Let us now apply **Liebnitz** to $D^{n+2}((x^2-1)(x^2-1)^n)$, with $u = (x^2-1)$ and $v = (x^2-1)^n$. So $D^{n+2}(uv) = uD^{n+2}(v) + DuD^{n+1}(v) + \dots + (n^2/r)Du^r D^{(n+2)-r}(v) + \dots + vD^{n+2}u$. But we *know* that $D^n(u) = 0$ for $n \geq 3$, [$u = (x^2-1)$; $Du = 2x$; $D^2u = 2$; $D^3u = 0$; ...], so we only need the first **three** terms of the series: $D^{n+2}(uv) = uD^{n+2}(v) + (n^2/1)DuD^{n+1}(v) + (n^2/2)D^2uDv = (x^2-1)D^{n+2}((x^2-1)^n) + (n+2)(2x)D^{n+1}((x^2-1)^n) + (n^2)(n+1)/2(2)D^n((x^2-1)^n)$.

So we can *deduce* that $DP_{n+1}(x) = 1/2^{n+1}[1/2^n n!]\{(x^2-1)D^{n+2}((x^2-1)^n) + (n+2)(2x)D^{n+1}((x^2-1)^n) + (n+2)(n+1)D^n((x^2-1)^n)\}$; $DP_{n+1}(x) = (x^2-1)/2^{n+1}[1/2^n n!]D^{n+2}((x^2-1)^n) + (n+2)(2x)/2^{n+1}[1/2^n n!]D^{n+1}((x^2-1)^n) + (n+2)(n+1)/2^{n+1}[1/2^n n!]D^n((x^2-1)^n)$. Now *as* $P_n(x) = [1/2^n n!]D^n((x^2-1)^n)$, and using *Liebnitz*, like earlier, we obtain $DP_n(x) = [1/2^n n!]D^{n+1}((x^2-1)^n)$; $D^2P_n(x) = [1/2^n n!]D^{n+2}((x^2-1)^n)$. Therefore, *we can deduce that* $DP_{n+1}(x) = (x^2-1)/2^{n+1}D^2P_n(x) + (n+2)x/2^{n+1}DP_n + (n+2)/2P_n$. **QED**.

Now the D.E. *satisfied* by P_n is $(1-x^2)D^2P_n - 2xDP_n + n(n+1)P_n = 0$; $-2xDP_n + n(n+1)P_n = (x^2-1)D^2P_n$. **Substituting** for $(x^2-1)D^2P_n$ in $DP_{n+1} = 1/2^{n+1}(x^2-1)D^2P_n + (n^2/2^{n+1})xDP_n + (n^2/2)P_n$, we obtain $DP_{n+1} = 1/2^{n+1}[-2xDP_n + n(n+1)P_n] + (n^2/2^{n+1})xDP_n + (n^2/2)P_n = -xDP_n/(n+1) + nP_n/2 + (n^2/2^{n+1})xDP_n + n^2/2P_n = xDP_n(-1/(n+1) + n^2/2^{n+1}) + P_n(n/2 + n^2/2) = xDP_n(-1 + n^2/2^{n+1}) + P_n(n + n^2/2) = xDP_n(n^{n+1}/2^{n+1}) + P_n(2^{n+2}/2) = xDP_n(1) + P_n(2^{n+1}/2) = xDP_n + (n+1)P_n$. **QED**.

Q: Prove that the *Legendre polynomials* do not have **repeated** roots. A: Consider that $P_n(x)$ has a **double** root at $x = a$. Therefore, $(x-a)^2$ divides $P_n(x)$, and $P_n(x)$ can be written in the form $P_n(x) = (x-a)^2 Q_n(x)$, where $Q_n(x)$ is a *polynomial* of degree $n-2$. So $DP_n(x) = 2(x-a)Q_n(x) + (x-a)^2 DQ_n(x)$, **and** $D^2P_n(x) = 2Q_n(x) + 2(x-a)DQ_n(x) + 2(x-a)DQ_n(x) + (x-a)^2 D^2Q_n(x)$. From the *above*, $P_n(a) = 0$, $DP_n(a) = 0$, and $D^2P_n(a) \neq 0$, as $Q_n(x)$ does **not** have the factor $(x-a)$.

Now $P_n(x)$ satisfies the D.E $(1-x^2)D^2P_n(x) - 2xDP_n(x) + n(n+1)P_n(x) = 0$. Substituting in $x = a$, we *obtain* $(1-a^2)D^2P_n(a) - 2aDP_n(a) + n(n+1)P_n(a) = 0$, where the **red** segments are zero. *Therefore*, $(1-a^2)D^2P_n(a) = 0$. As $D^2P_n(a) \neq 0$, we can **divide** through by it, giving $(1-a^2) = 0$, or $|a| = 1$. But $P_n(x)$ only has roots in the range $(-1, 1)$. This *contradicts* the above statement, and the root 'a' cannot be -1 or 1 as suggested. **Conclusion:** Legendre polynomials cannot have double roots.

Now *consider* that $P_n(x)$ has a **repeated** root of order r at $x = a$, $(1 < r \leq n)$, so that $P_n(x) = (x-a)^r Q_n(x)$, where $Q_n(x)$ is a polynomial of **degree** $n-r$. In the same way as before, we can say that $P_n(a) = 0$; $DP_n(a) = 0$; ...; $D^{r-1}P_n(a) = 0$, where $D^r P_n(a) \neq 0$. Now, if $P_n(x)$ satisfies the D.E. $(1-x^2)D^2P_n(x) - 2xDP_n(x) + n(n+1)P_n(x) = 0$, then it must *satisfy* all of its derivatives as well.

For **example**, differentiating once, $P_n(x)$ must *satisfy* $(1-x^2)D^3P_n(x) - 4xD^2P_n(x) + [n(n+1)-2]DP_n(x) = 0$. Differentiating $r-2$ times, we obtain an *expression* of the form $(1-x^2)D^r P_n(x) + (\alpha(x))D^{r-1}P_n(x) + (\beta(x))D^{r-2}P_n(x) = 0$. Substituting $x = a$ into the *above* equation, we obtain $(1-a^2)D^r P_n(a) + (\alpha(a))D^{r-1}P_n(a) + (\beta(a))D^{r-2}P_n(a) = 0$, i.e. $(1-a^2)D^r P_n(a) = 0$.

We are now in the **same** situation as before, in that we must have $|a| = 1$, because $D^r P_n(a) \neq 0$. But $|a|$ cannot be 1, so we have a *contradiction*, and we therefore **conclude** that there is no such root 'a' such that $(x-a)^r$ is a **repeated** root of $P_n(x)$.

Exam Paper: May 2000

SECTION 1 (Compulsory)

- (1) (a) Define the Wronskian W of two independent solutions $y_1(x)$ and $y_2(x)$ of the differential equation $D^2y + P(x)Dy + Q(x)y = 0$. Show that $y = v_1y_1 + v_2y_2$ is a particular solution of $D^2y + P(x)Dy + Q(x)y = R(x)$ where $Dv_1 = -y_2R/W$ and $Dv_2 = y_1R/W$. **[10 marks]**
- (b) Show that $y_1(x) = x$ and $y_2(x) = e^x$ are solutions of the differential equation $(x-1)D^2y - xDy + y = 0$. By calculating the Wronskian $W = W(y_1, y_2)$ and by converting the non-homogeneous differential equation $(x-1)D^2y - xDy + y = (x-1)^2e^x$ into standard form, find its general solution. **[10 marks]**

SECTION 2 (Answer 2 out of 4 questions)

- (2) Explain what is meant by the term “regular singular point” and show that the origin is a regular singular point of the differential equation $3xD^2y + 4Dy + y = 0$. Use the method of Frobenius to find the indicial equation and a recurrence relation for the coefficients of the series solutions of this differential equation. Hence find the general solution giving the first 3 terms of each series. **[15 marks]**
- (3) Let the Legendre polynomials be defined by the Rodrigués formula $P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n n!} D^n((x^2 - 1)^n)$. Show that P_n satisfies the differential equation $(1-x^2)D^2y - 2xDy + n(n+1)y = 0$. **[5 marks]**
- Deduce that the functions $P_n(x)$ satisfy $\int_{-1}^1 P_n(x)P_m(x)dx = 0$ for $m \neq n$. **[4 marks]**
- Show that the polynomial $xP_n(x)$ is orthogonal to $P_k(x)$ for $k < n-1$. Deduce that there is a recurrence relation of the form $xP_n(x) = \alpha P_{n+1}(x) + \beta P_{n-1}(x)$. **[6 marks]**
- (4) Define the Laplace transform $Y(s)$ of $y(t)$. Let D denote differentiation with respect to the dependent variable, $D = d/dt$.
- (a) Use the method of Laplace transforms to solve the differential equation $D^2x + 4x = \sin t$, where $x(0) = Dx(0) = 0$. **[6 marks]**
- (b) Use the method of Laplace transforms to solve the simultaneous differential equations $D^2y + z + y = 0$ and $Dy + Dz = 0$, where $y(0) = Dy(0) = 0$ and where $z(0) = 1$. **[7 marks]**
- (5) Find the Fourier half-range sine and half-range cosine series for the function f defined by: $f(x) = \pi - x$, $0 \leq x \leq \pi$. Show that $\frac{1}{1} - \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - \dots = \frac{\pi}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{1^2} + \frac{1}{3^2} + \frac{1}{5^2} + \dots = \frac{\pi^2}{8}$. **[15 marks]**

(Questions done: 1, 2, 4)