



1. Which of the following is a solution of  $x^2y''(x) + xy'(x) + (4x^2 - 3)y(x) = 0$ , for  $x > 0$ :

- (a)  $J_2(\sqrt{3}x)$  (b)  $J_4(\sqrt{3}x)$  (c)  $Y_3(4x)$  (d)  $J_{\sqrt{3}}(2x)$  (e)  $J_{\sqrt{3}}(4x)$

**Solution:** (d). Note that  $\lambda^2 = 4$  and  $\nu^2 = 3$ ,  $\Rightarrow \lambda = 2$  and  $\nu = \sqrt{3}$ . Hence

$$y_1(x) = J_{\sqrt{3}}(2x), \quad y_2(x) = J_{-\sqrt{3}}(2x).$$

2. Which of the following is a solution of  $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + 30y = 0$ :

- (a)  $P_1(x)$  (b)  $P_2(x)$  (c)  $P_3(x)$  (d)  $P_4(x)$  (e)  $P_5(x)$

**Solution:** (e).

$$n(n+1) = 30 \Rightarrow n = 5, -6, \Rightarrow y_1 = P_5(x).$$

3. Let  $f(x) = 7x^4$ ,  $-1 < x < 1$ . The Fourier-Legendre expansion is

$$f(x) \approx c_0 P_0(x) + c_1 P_1(x) + c_2 P_2(x) + c_3 P_3(x) + c_4 P_4(x) + \cdots .$$

Find  $c_0$ .

- (a) 3.3 (b) 1.4 (c) 2.6 (d) 3.4 (e) 5.6

**Solution:** (b).

From  $P_4(x) = \frac{1}{8}(35x^4 - 30x^2 + 3)$  we imply that

$$7x^4 = \frac{1}{5}(8P_4(x) + 30x^2 - 3) = \frac{8}{5}P_4(x) + 6x^2 - \frac{3}{5}.$$

By  $P_2(x) = \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 1)$ , we have

$$3x^2 = 2P_2(x) + 1 \Rightarrow 6x^2 = 4P_2(x) + 2.$$

Thus

$$7x^4 = \frac{8}{5}P_4(x) + 4P_2(x) + 2 - \frac{3}{5}, \Rightarrow c_4 = \frac{8}{5}, c_2 = 4, c_0 = 2 - \frac{3}{5} = 1.4.$$

4. Let  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{for } x \in [-\pi, 0); \\ 1, & \text{for } x \in [0, \pi). \end{cases}$  and let  $f(x)$  be  $2\pi$ -periodic. The Fourier series of  $f(x)$  is given by

$$\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [a_n \cos(nx) + b_n \sin(nx)].$$

Find  $b_2$ .

- (a)  $\frac{2}{\pi^2}$  (b)  $\frac{1}{\pi^2}$  (c)  $\frac{1}{\pi}$  (d)  $-\frac{1}{\pi}$  (e) 0

**Solution:** (e).

$$\begin{aligned} b_2 &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(x) \sin(2x) dx = \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^0 0 \sin(2x) dx + \int_0^{\pi} 1 \sin(2x) dx \right) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \cos(2x) \Big|_0^{\pi} \\ &= -\frac{\cos(2\pi) - 1}{2\pi} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $b_2 = 0$ .

5. Let  $f(x) = 1 - x$ ,  $0 < x < 2$ . Let  $\frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{2}\right)$  be the Fourier cosine series of  $f(x)$ . Find  $a_2$ .

- a)  $\frac{2}{\pi^2}$  (b)  $\frac{1}{\pi^2}$  (c)  $\frac{1}{\pi}$  (d)  $-\frac{1}{\pi}$  (e) 0

**Solution:** (e).

$$\begin{aligned} a_2 &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \int_0^2 (1-x) \cos(\pi x) dx \\ &= \left[ \frac{1}{\pi} (1-x) \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{\pi^2} \cos(\pi x) \right]_0^2 \\ &= -\frac{1}{\pi^2} [\cos(2\pi) - \cos 0] = 0. \end{aligned}$$

6. [4 points] Let  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$  be the series solution of the differential equation

$$y'' + xy' + y = 0$$

about  $x = 0$ . Find the coefficient recursive relation, i.e., the relation between  $a_{n+2}$  and  $a_n$ .

**Solution:** From  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$  we have

$$y' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1}, \quad y'' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n(n-1) a_n x^{n-2}.$$

Substitute them into the differential equation,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n(n-1) a_n x^{n-2} + x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = 0,$$

i.e.,

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1) a_n x^{n-2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n x^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = 0,$$

i.e.,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} x^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+1) a_n x^n = 0,$$

i.e.,

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [(n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} + (n+1) a_n] x^n = 0.$$

Thus

$$a_{n+2} = -\frac{(n+1)a_n}{(n+2)(n+1)} = -\frac{a_n}{n+2}.$$

7. [6 points] Consider the following differential equation:

$$2xy'' + y' - y = 0, \quad x > 0.$$

(i) (2 points) Construct and solve the indicial equation.

(ii) (4 points) Let  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$  be a solution of the differential equation. Find the recursive relation for  $c_n$ .

**Solution:** (i) We rewrite the DE as

$$y'' + \frac{1}{2x}y' - \frac{1}{x}y = 0.$$

Then

$$xp(x) = 0.5, \quad x^2q(x) = -x.$$

Thus  $p_0 = 0.5, q_0 = 0$ . The indicial equation is:

$$r^2 + (p_0 - 1)r + q_0 = 0. \Rightarrow r^2 - 0.5r = 0. \Rightarrow r_1 = 0.5, r_2 = 0.$$

(ii) From

$$y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r} \Rightarrow y' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)c_n x^{n+r-1}, y'' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)(n+r-1)c_n x^{n+r-2}.$$

Substitute them into the differential equation, we have

$$2x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)(n+r-1)c_n x^{n+r-2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)c_n x^{n+r-1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r} = 0, \Rightarrow$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2(n+r)(n+r-1)c_n x^{n+r-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)c_n x^{n+r-1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r} = 0. \Rightarrow$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)(2n+2r-1)c_n x^{n+r-1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r} = 0, \Rightarrow$$

$$r(2r-1)c_0 x^{r-1} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+r)(2n+2r-1)c_n x^{n+r-1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r} = 0, \Rightarrow$$

$$r(2r-1)c_0 x^{r-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r+1)(2n+2r+1)c_{n+1} x^{n+r} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r} = 0, \Rightarrow$$

$$r(2r-1)c_0 x^{r-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [(n+r+1)(2n+2r+1)c_{n+1} - c_n] x^{n+r} = 0, \Rightarrow$$

$$c_{n+1} = \frac{c_n}{(n+r+1)(2n+2r+1)}, \quad n \geq 0.$$

8. [5 points] Consider the Sturm-Liouville equation:

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0, y(\pi) = 0.$$

Assume that  $\lambda > 0$ . Find the eigenvalues and the eigenfunctions.

**Solution:** Since  $\lambda > 0$ . Let  $\lambda = \nu^2$ ,  $\nu > 0$ . Then we have

$$y'' + \nu^2 y = 0.$$

The solution is

$$y = c \cos \nu x + d \sin \nu x, \Rightarrow y' = -c\nu \sin \nu x + d\nu \cos \nu x.$$

Now we consider the two initial conditions:

$$y'(0) = 0, d\nu = 0, \Rightarrow d = 0, \Rightarrow y = c \cos \nu x;$$

$$y(\pi) = 0, \Rightarrow c \cos \nu\pi = 0,$$

and this can be satisfied with  $c \neq 0$  provided that

$$\cos \nu\pi = 0, \Rightarrow \nu\pi = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi, \nu = \frac{2n+1}{2}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Take  $c = 1$ . Then

$$y_n(x) = \cos\left(\frac{2n+1}{2}x\right).$$

Hence the eigenfunctions are

$$y(x) = \cos\left(\frac{2n+1}{2}x\right), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

and the eigenvalues are

$$\lambda = \left(\frac{2n+1}{2}\right)^2, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

**MAT3320 Midterm Formula**

Legendre's equation:  $(1 - x^2)y'' - 2xy' + n(n + 1)y = 0$ .

Legendre polynomial: For  $-1 < x < 1$ ,

$$P_0(x) = 1, \quad P_1(x) = x, \quad P_2(x) = \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 1), \quad P_3(x) = \frac{1}{2}(5x^3 - 3x),$$

$$P_4(x) = \frac{1}{8}(35x^4 - 30x^2 + 3), \quad P_5(x) = \frac{1}{8}(63x^5 - 70x^3 + 15x).$$

Bessel's equation:  $x^2y''(x) + xy'(x) + (\lambda^2x^2 - \nu^2)y(x) = 0$ .

Sturm-Liouville equation:  $[r(x)y']' + [q(x) + \lambda p(x)]y = 0$ .