

defⁿ impt.

general
examples

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solution methods

12.1 Introduction

Some DE's can't be solved w/ elementary fⁿ's

DE's will be linear w/ coefficients as fⁿ's of x : $y'' + f(x)y' + g(x)y = 0$

Example 1

$$y' = 2xy$$

assume solⁿ is of power series form

$$y = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots + a_nx^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_nx^n$$

$$\rightarrow y' = a_1 + 2a_2x + 3a_3x^2 + \dots + na_nx^{n-1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} na_nx^{n-1}$$

$$a_1 + 2a_2x + 3a_3x^2 + \dots + na_nx^{n-1} = 2x \cdot (a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots + a_nx^n)$$

$$a_1 + 2a_2x + 3a_3x^2 + \dots + na_nx^{n-1} = 2a_0x + 2a_1x^2 + 2a_2x^3 + 2a_3x^4 + \dots + 2a_nx^{n+1}$$

$$\rightarrow a_1 = 0$$

$$a_2 = a_0$$

$$a_3 = \frac{2}{3}a_1 = 0$$

$$a_4 = \frac{1}{2}a_0$$

in general: $na_n = 2a_{n-2}$

$$a_n = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{odd } n \\ \frac{2}{n} a_{n-2} & \text{even } n \end{cases}$$

allow $n = 2m$

$$a_{2m} = \frac{2}{2m} a_{2m-2} = \frac{1}{m} a_{2m-2} = \frac{1}{m} \frac{1}{m-1} a_{2m-4} = \dots = \frac{1}{m!} a_0$$

$$y = a_0 + a_0x^2 + \frac{1}{2}a_0x^4 + \dots + \frac{1}{m!}a_0x^{2m} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} a_0 \frac{x^{2m}}{m!}$$

if there is a solution which can be represented by a convergent power series, this finds it

12.2 Legendre's Equation

Legendre DE: $(1-x^2)y'' - (2x)y' + \overset{\text{constant}}{\ell(\ell+1)}y = 0$

pops up in QM, EM, heat, ...

most useful solⁿs are polynomials \rightarrow Legendre Polynomials

one way to find them is to assume a series solⁿ & show series terminates after finite # of terms

$$y = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3 + \dots + a_nx^n$$

$$y' = a_1 + 2a_2x + 3a_3x^2 + \dots + na_nx^{n-1}$$

$$y'' = 2a_2 + 6a_3x + 12a_4x^2 + \dots + n(n-1)a_nx^{n-2}$$

from Legendre

	constant	x	x ²	x ³	x ⁿ
y''	2a ₂	6a ₃	12a ₄	20a ₅	(n+2)(n+1)a _{n+2}
-x ² y''			-2a ₂	-6a ₃	-n(n-1)a _n
-2xy'		-2a ₁	-4a ₂	-6a ₃	-2na _n
ℓ(ℓ+1)y	ℓ(ℓ+1)a ₀	ℓ(ℓ+1)a ₁	ℓ(ℓ+1)a ₂	ℓ(ℓ+1)a ₃	ℓ(ℓ+1)a _n

Set total coefficient of each power of x equal to zero

$$2a_2 + \ell(\ell+1)a_0 = 0$$

$$\text{or } a_2 = -\frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{2}a_0$$

$$6a_3 + (\ell^2 + \ell - 2)a_1 = 0$$

$$\text{or } a_3 = -\frac{(\ell-1)(\ell+2)}{6}a_1$$

$$12a_4 + (\ell^2 + \ell - 6)a_2 = 0$$

$$\text{or } a_4 = -\frac{(\ell-2)(\ell+3)}{12}a_2 = \frac{\ell(\ell+1)(\ell-2)(\ell+3)}{4!}a_0$$

$$(\ell+2)(\ell+1)a_{n+2} + (\ell^2 + \ell - n^2 - n)a_n = 0$$

$$\ell^2 - n^2 + \ell - n = (\ell-n)(\ell+n) + (\ell-n) = (\ell-n)(\ell+n+1)$$

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

$$\rightarrow y = a_0 \left[1 - \frac{\ell(\ell+1)}{2}x^2 + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)(\ell-2)(\ell+3)}{4!}x^4 - \dots \right] + a_1 \left[x - \frac{\ell(\ell-1)(\ell+2)}{3!}x^3 + \frac{(\ell-1)(\ell+2)(\ell-3)(\ell+4)}{5!}x^5 + \dots \right]$$

12.6 Complete Sets of Orthogonal Functions

2 vectors $\vec{A} \neq \vec{B}$ are \perp if: $\sum_i A_i B_i = 0$

can say 2 fns $A(x) \neq B(x)$ are orthogonal on (a,b) if: $\int_a^b A(x) B(x) dx = 0$

if $A(x) \neq B(x)$ are complex:

$A(x) \neq B(x)$ are orthogonal on (a,b) if

$$\int_a^b A^*(x) B(x) dx = 0$$

$A^*(x)$ is complex conjugate of $A(x)$

if we have set of fns $A_n(x)$, $n=1,2,3, \dots$ $\int_a^b A_n^*(x) A_m(x) dx = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \\ \text{const.} \neq 0 & \text{if } m = n \end{cases}$

$\rightarrow A_n(x)$ is a set of orthogonal fns

Use of sets of fns: Fourier series

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(mx) \sin(nx) dx = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \\ \pi & \text{if } m = n \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

$\rightarrow \sin(nx)$ is a set of orthogonal fns on $(-\pi, \pi)$

\rightarrow same w/ $\cos(nx)$

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \sin(mx) \cos(nx) dx = 0 \quad \text{for any } m, n$$

\rightarrow whole set of $\cos(nx) \neq \sin(nx)$ is set of orthogonal fns

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (e^{inx})^* (e^{imx}) dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{-inx} e^{imx} dx = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } m \neq n \\ 2\pi & \text{if } m = n \end{cases}$$

complete set if no other fns orthogonal to all of them