

# Bessel's Eqn and the gamma fn:

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In the following we solve a general version of problem 4 from HW#1, spring 2012.

This Eqn is important in the study of linear PDE in polar settings but to do generally requires 2 tools from math:

- 1) Frobenius Method (used for solving ODE with non-analytic coeff.)
- 2) Gamma fn (used to generalize the factorial)

The first of these has the associated theorem: [Page 180 from E.K. 10th Ed]

Theorem (Frobenius): Let  $b(x), c(x)$  be any analytic fn at  $x=0$ . Then the ODE

$$(*) \quad y'' + \frac{b(x)}{x} y' + \frac{c(x)}{x^2} y = 0$$

has at least 1 soln of the form

$$(**) \quad y(x) = x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

where  $r \in \mathbb{R}$  is chosen so that  $a_0 \neq 0$ .

Proof of this is technical and a matter of analysis.

a continuous fn whose derivative at all orders is also continuous.

while the second will be discussed when needed in the derivation of Bessel's  $J_n$  of the first kind.

Note:

- Since this is more general than problem 4, I will highlight along the way the differences.

We begin with the 2<sup>nd</sup> order, homogeneous ODE w/ variable coeff. known as Bessel's Eqn of order  $\nu$  [nu] (Page 187 E.K. 10<sup>th</sup> ed.)

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - \nu^2)y = 0, \quad \nu \in \mathbb{R}$$

which is of Frobenius form (\*) at  $x=0$

where  $b(x) = 1$ ,  $c(x) = x^2 - \nu^2$  are the analytic fns of the hypothesis. Thus, we search for soln of the form (\*\*).

$$x^2 y'' + x y' + (x^2 - \nu^2) y =$$

Note: (Purple)

$$= \underline{x^2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \underbrace{(n+\nu)(n+\nu-1)}_{(n+\nu)(n+\nu) - (n+\nu)} x^{n+\nu-2} +$$

• These multiplications all lead to  $x^{n+\nu}$  terms.

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

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \left[ \underline{(n+\nu)^2} - (n+\nu) + (n+\nu) - \nu^2 \right] \underline{x^{n+\nu}} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+\nu+2} =$$

$$= a_0 (\nu^2 - \nu^2) x^\nu + a_1 [(\nu+1)^2 - \nu^2] x^{1+\nu} +$$

$$\underbrace{\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_{n-2} x^{n+\nu}}$$

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

Again, since power fn are linearly independent the only way to satisfy this Relation is to make all coeff. vanish (i.e.  $\rightarrow 0$ ). However  $\nu$  must be chosen so  $a_0 \neq 0$  thus, if  $\nu = -\nu$  then

In Prob. 4  $\nu = 0$

$\Rightarrow \nu = 0 \Rightarrow$  Power

Series guess will both work!

$$\left\{ \nu^2 - \nu^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \nu = \pm |\nu| \right. \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} y(x) \rightarrow \infty \\ \text{as} \\ x \rightarrow 0. \end{array} \right.$$

for physical reasons Choose  $\nu = |\nu|$

while this is important it will not be useful to us.

If  $r=0$  then we see

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 [(0+1)^2 - 0^2] &= a_1 [0^2 + 2(0)+1 - 0^2] = \\ &= a_1 \underbrace{[2(0)+1]}_{\neq 0} = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{a_1 = 0} \quad \text{* Same in prob 4.} \end{aligned}$$

Lastly, we have the recursion formula

$$* \quad a_n = \frac{-a_{n-2}}{(n+r)^2 - v^2} = \frac{-a_{n-2}}{(n+v)^2 - v^2} =$$

or

$$a_{n+2} = \frac{-a_n}{(n+2)^2} = \frac{-a_{n-2}}{n^2 + v^2 + 2nv - v^2} = \frac{-a_{n-2}}{n(n+2v)}, \quad n=2,3,4,$$

We are now ready to calculate coeff. For case of notation, let's assume  $v \in \mathbb{R}^+$ , then

$$a_n = \frac{-a_{n-2}}{n(n+2v)} \quad \text{and since } a_1 = 0 \Rightarrow a_3 = 0 \Rightarrow a_{2k+1} = 0$$

If  $n=2$  ,  $n=4$

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_0}{2(2+2v)}$$

$$a_4 = \frac{-a_2}{4(4+2v)} = \frac{+a_0}{4 \cdot 2 \cdot (2+2v)(4+2v)}$$

$$n=6,$$

$$a_6 = \frac{-a_4}{6(6+2v)} = \frac{a_0}{\underbrace{6 \cdot 4 \cdot 2}_{2 \cdot 3} \cdot \underbrace{(6+2v)(4+2v)(2+2v)}_{2 \cdot 2 \cdot 2 (3+v)(2+v)(1+v)}} =$$

$$= \frac{-a_0}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 2^6 (v+3)(v+2)(v+1)}$$

This generalizes to

$$a_{2k} = \frac{(-1)^k a_0}{k! \cdot 2^{2k} \underbrace{(v+k)(v+k-1)(v+k-2) \cdots (v+1)}}_{(*)}$$

(\*) If  $v=0$  then this is  $k!$

\* For prob. 4 this becomes

$$a_{2k} = \frac{(-1)^k a_0}{(k!)^2 2^{2k}}$$

Q: If  $v \neq 0$  or if  $v$  is not a positive whole number then what is (\*)?

Defn: (Gamma fn) Let  $v \in \mathbb{R}^+$  then define

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$$\Gamma(v+1) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^v dt.$$

Properties:

•  $\Gamma(1) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} dt = 1$

•  $\Gamma(v+1) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-t} t^v dt$

$u = e^{-t} \quad dv = e^{-t} dt$   
 $du = -e^{-t} dt \quad v = -e^{-t}$

$$= -e^{-t} t^v \Big|_0^{\infty} - \int_0^{\infty} -e^{-t} t^v dt =$$

by L. Hôpital's rule

$$= \int_0^{\infty} v e^{-t} t^{v-1} dt = v \Gamma(v)$$

Point!  $\Gamma(v+1) = v \Gamma(v)$

Recursion structure of factorials!

Thus if  $v$  is a positive integer, we get

$$\Gamma(n+1) = n \Gamma(n) = n(n-1) \Gamma(n-1) = \dots = n(n-1)(n-2) \Gamma(n-2) \dots = n(n-1)(n-2) \dots \cdot 1 \Gamma(1) =$$

$= n!$  \* This fn  $\Gamma$  generalizes the factorial fn to non-integer inputs!

Now we can say

$$(v+k)(v+k-1)(v+k-2) \cdots (v+1) \Gamma(v+1) = \\ = \Gamma(v+k+1)$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$(v+k)(v+k-1)(v+k-2) \cdots (v+1) = \frac{\Gamma(v+k+1)}{\Gamma(v+1)}$$

and

$$a_{2k} = \frac{(-1)^k a_0 \Gamma(v+1)}{k! 2^{2k} \Gamma(v+k+1)}$$

which defines Bessel's  $J_n$  of the first kind of order  $\nu$ .

\*  $\nu=0$  then

$$J_0(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{2^{2n} (n!)^2}$$

Convention

$$J_\nu(x) = y(x) = x^\nu \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n x^{2n}}{2^{2n+\nu} n! \Gamma(\nu+n+1)}$$

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where  $a_0 \in \mathbb{R}$  is chosen to be  $a_0 = \frac{1}{2^\nu \Gamma(\nu+1)}$

Convention. Remember

$a_0$  could be anything  
and any multiple of  $y$  is again a soln to ODE.