

# MATB44 Week 11 Notes

## 1. Series Solns Near An Ordinary Point:

**E.g. 1** Determine a series soln for the following diff eqn about  $x_0 = 0$ .

$$y'' + y = 0$$

Soln:

Recall the power series summation is  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$ .

$$\text{Let } y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

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

We want both  $y$  and  $y''$  to have  $x^n$ .  
Hence, we'll have to change  $y''$ .

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

**Recall:** If you add  $s$  to the starting value, you subtract  $s$  from the formula and if you subtract  $s$  from the starting value, you add  $s$  to the function.

Now,  $y'' + y_n \stackrel{=0}{}$  looks like

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

Combining the 2 summations together, we get

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

This means that  $a_{n+2} = \frac{-a_n}{(n+2)(n+1)}$ ,  $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$

Now, let's plug some values for  $n$ .

$$n=0:$$

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_0}{2 \cdot 1}$$

$$n=1:$$

$$a_3 = \frac{-a_1}{3 \cdot 2}$$

$$n=2:$$

$$a_4 = \frac{-a_2}{4 \cdot 3}$$

$$= \frac{a_0}{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1}$$

$$n=3:$$

$$a_5 = \frac{-a_3}{5 \cdot 4}$$

$$= \frac{a_1}{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}$$

We begin to see a pattern:

$$a_{2k} = \frac{(-1)^k a_0}{(2k)!} \quad \text{and} \quad a_{2k+1} = \frac{(-1)^k a_1}{(2k+1)!}$$

$$\text{Recall that } y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n.$$

Expanding the summation, we get

$$y = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + \dots$$

$$= a_0 + a_1 x - \frac{a_0 x^2}{2} - \frac{a_1 x^3}{6} + \dots$$

$$= a_0 \left( 1 - \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots \right) + a_1 \left( x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots \right)$$

$$= a_0 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k}}{(2k)!} + a_1 \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!}$$

**E.g. 2** Determine a series soln for  $y'' - y = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

Soln:

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

$y'' - y = 0$  can be rewritten as

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

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

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

**Note:** For this eqn to be satisfied for all  $x$ , the coefficient of each power of  $x$  must be 0. Hence, we get  $a_{n+2} (n+2)(n+1) - a_n = 0 \quad n=0, 1, 2, \dots$

Recurrence Relation

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

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

Now, let's plug some values for  $n$ .

$$n=0:$$

$$a_2 = \frac{a_0}{(2)(1)}$$

$$n=1:$$

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

$$n=2:$$

$$a_4 = \frac{a_2}{4 \cdot 3} = \frac{a_0}{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1} = \frac{a_0}{4!}$$

$$n=3:$$

$$a_5 = \frac{a_3}{5 \cdot 4} = \frac{a_1}{5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2} = \frac{a_1}{5!}$$

$$n=4:$$

$$a_6 = \frac{a_4}{6 \cdot 5} = \frac{a_0}{6 \cdot 5 \cdot 4!} = \frac{a_0}{6!}$$

$$n=5:$$

$$a_7 = \frac{a_5}{7 \cdot 6} = \frac{a_1}{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 5!} = \frac{a_1}{7!}$$

We begin to see a pattern.

$$a_{2k} = \frac{a_0}{(2k)!}, \quad k=1, 2, \dots$$

$$a_{2k+1} = \frac{a_1}{(2k+1)!}, \quad k=1, 2, \dots$$

Recall that  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$ .

Expanding the summation, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} y &= a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + \dots \\ &= a_0 + a_1 x + \frac{a_0 x^2}{2!} + \frac{a_1 x^3}{3!} + \dots \\ &= a_0 \left( 1 + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \dots \right) + a_1 \left( x + \frac{x^3}{3!} + \dots \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= a_0 \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2k}}{(2k)!}}_{y_1} + a_1 \underbrace{\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!}}_{y_2}$$

**E.g. 3** Find a series soln for  $y'' + 3y' = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

Soln:

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

We want both  $y'$  and  $y''$  to have  $x^n$ . Hence, we have to rewrite the summations.

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

We can rewrite  $y'' + 3y' = 0$  as

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{n+2} (n+2)(n+1) x^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 3a_{n+1} (n+1) x^n = 0$$

Combining the summations, we get

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n [a_{n+2} (n+2)(n+1) + 3a_{n+1} (n+1)] = 0$$

Hence, we get

$$a_{n+2} (n+2)(n+1) + 3a_{n+1} (n+1) = 0$$

$$a_{n+2} = \frac{-3a_{n+1}}{n+2}$$

Now, we plug values in for  $n$ .

$$n=0:$$

$$a_2 = \frac{-3a_1}{2}$$

$$n=1:$$

$$a_3 = \frac{-3a_2}{3} = \frac{9a_1}{3 \cdot 2} = \frac{9a_1}{3!}$$

$$n=2:$$

$$a_4 = \frac{-3a_3}{4} = \frac{-3(9a_1)}{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2} = \frac{-27a_1}{4!}$$

$$n=3:$$

$$a_5 = \frac{-3a_4}{5} = \frac{81a_1}{5!}$$

We can see a pattern.

$$a_k = \frac{(-3)^k a_1}{(k+1)!}, \quad k=1, 2, \dots$$

$y_1 = 1$  ← Because we don't have  $a_0$ .

$$y_2 = a_1 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-3)^n x^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= 1 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + \dots \\ &= \underbrace{1}_{y_1} + \underbrace{a_1 x + \frac{(-3)a_1 x^2}{2!} + \frac{(-3)^2 a_1 x^3}{3!} + \dots}_{y_2} \end{aligned}$$

## 2. Series Soln Near A Regular Singular Point:

- Consider  $P(t)y'' + Q(t)y' + R(t)y = 0$ .  
to is called a **singular point** if  $P(t_0) = 0$ .
- When we want to find a series soln and we have a singular point, we let

$$y = x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

- **Note:** By convention, we assume that  $a_0 \neq 0$ .

Here's what would happen if  $a_0 = 0$ :

$$y = x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

$$= \underbrace{x^r a_0}_{=0} + x^r \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

$$= x^r \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n x^n$$

$$= x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{n+1} x^{n+1}$$

$$= x^{r+1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{n+1} x^n$$

**E.g. 4** Find a series soln for  $2x^2y'' - xy' + (1+x)y = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

Soln:

First, notice that  $x_0 = 0$  is a singular point.

$$P = 2x^2 \rightarrow P(0) = 0$$

Hence, we use

$$y = x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n \quad y' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (n+r) x^{n+r-1}$$

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

Now, we can rewrite  $2x^2y'' - xy' + \overbrace{y + xy}^{\text{Same as } (1+x)y} = 0$  as

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

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

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

$$+ \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r+1} = 0$$

We want all the summations to have  $x^{n+r}$ , so we have to change the last summation.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r+1} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^{n+r}$$

Now, we have

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

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^{n+r} = 0$$

Take  $n=0$ . We get:

$$2a_0 (r)(r-1) - a_0 (r) + a_0 = 0$$

$$a_0 (2(r^2 - r) - r + 1) = 0$$

$$a_0 (2r^2 - 2r - r + 1) = 0$$

$$a_0 (2r^2 - 3r + 1) = 0$$

Since we know  $a_0 \neq 0$ , we know that

$$2r^2 - 3r + 1 = 0. \leftarrow \text{This is called the indicial eqn.}$$

The soln is called the index or singularity exponent.

$$r = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

$$= \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 8}}{4}$$

$$= \frac{3 \pm 1}{4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}, 1$$

$r_1 = 1, r_2 = \frac{1}{2}$  **Note:** By convention, if  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are real roots, we enumerate the roots s.t.  $r_1 > r_2$ .

I.e. If we have 2 real roots, we let  $r_1$  be the bigger root and  $r_2$  be the smaller root.

Going back to the eqn. For  $n \geq 1$ , we have

$$2(n+r)(n+r-1)a_n - (n+r)a_n + a_n + a_{n-1} = 0$$

$$a_n(2(n+r)(n+r-1) - (n+r) + 1) + a_{n-1} = 0$$

$$a_n(2(n+r)^2 - 3(n+r) + 1) = -a_{n-1}$$

$$a_n = \frac{-a_{n-1}}{2(n+r)^2 - 3(n+r) + 1}$$

$$= \frac{-a_{n-1}}{(n+r-1)(2(n+r)-1)}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

**Note:** The denominator may not always factor/simplify.

Take  $r_1 = 1$ . We will plug some values for  $n$ .

$$a_1 = \frac{-a_0}{1 \times 3} = \frac{-1}{1 \cdot 3} \leftarrow n=1$$

$n=2$ :

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_1}{2 \times 5} = \frac{a_0}{1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 5} = \frac{1}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5}$$

$n=3$ :

$$a_3 = \frac{-a_2}{3 \times 7} = \frac{-a_0}{(1 \times 2 \times 3)(3 \times 5 \times 7)} = \frac{-1}{(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3)(3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7)}$$

**Note:**  $a_0 = 1$ , always

**Note:** For finding a series soln about a singular point, we just need to calculate  $a_1$ ,  $a_2$ , and  $a_3$ . We do not need to write/come up with a formula/summation.

Take  $r = \frac{1}{2}$ . We'll plug some values for  $n$ .

$$n=1:$$

$$a_1 = \frac{-a_0}{\frac{1}{2} \cdot 2} = -a_0 = -1$$

$$n=2:$$

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_1}{\frac{3}{2} \cdot 4} = \frac{-a_1}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{a_0}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3}$$

$$n=3:$$

$$a_3 = \frac{-a_2}{\frac{5}{2} \cdot 6} = \frac{-a_2}{3 \cdot 5} = \frac{-1}{(2 \cdot 3)(3 \cdot 5)}$$

Recall that

$$y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r}$$

Expanding the summation, we get

$$y = a_0 x^r + a_1 x^{r+1} + a_2 x^{r+2} + \dots$$

For  $r = \frac{1}{2}$ :

$$y_1 = x - \frac{x^2}{3} + \frac{x^3}{30} - \frac{x^4}{630} + \dots$$

For  $r_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ :

$$y_2 = x^{1/2} - x^{3/2} + \frac{x^{5/2}}{6} - \frac{x^{7/2}}{90} + \dots$$

$$y = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$$

- There are 3 cases we have deal with:

1.  $r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $r_1 - r_2 \neq n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $r_1 \neq r_2$
2.  $r_1 = r_2$ , and  $r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{R}$
3.  $r_1 - r_2 = n \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{R}$

Case 1:

The first case occurs when  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are real numbers, and they don't equal to each other and their difference is not an integer. Example 4 is an example of case 1.

**E.g. 5** Find a series soln for  $2xy'' + y' + xy = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

Soln:

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

$2xy'' + y' + xy = 0$  becomes

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

Notice that we can't get  $x^{nr}$  for the first 2 summations because if we add 1 to the function, then we have to subtract 1 from the starting value, which is 0. Hence, if we subtract 1 from 0, we get a starting value of -1. Instead, we can make the third summation also have  $x^{n+r-1}$ .

Now we have:

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

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_{n-2}x^{n+r-1} = 0$$

Take  $n=0$ . We get:

$$2a_0(r)(r-1) + a_0(r) = 0$$

$$a_0(2r(r-1) + r) = 0$$

$$a_0(2r^2 - 2r + r) = 0$$

$$a_0(2r^2 - r) = 0$$

**Recall:**  $a_0 \neq 0$

$$\text{Hence, } 2r^2 - r = 0$$

$$r(2r-1) = 0$$

$$r_1 = \frac{1}{2}, r_2 = 0$$

Notice that:

$$1. r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$2. r_1 \neq r_2$$

$$3. r_1 - r_2 = \frac{1}{2} \notin \mathbb{Z}$$

Take  $n \geq 2$ :

$$2a_n(n+r)(n+r-1) + a_n(n+r) + a_{n-2} = 0$$

$$a_n(2(n+r)(n+r-1) + (n+r)) = -a_{n-2}$$

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

Take  $r = \frac{1}{2}$ . We'll plug some values for  $n$ :

$n=2$ :

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_0}{\left(\frac{3}{2}\right)(4)} = \frac{-1}{2 \cdot 5}$$

$n=4$ :

$$a_4 = \frac{-a_2}{\left(\frac{9}{2}\right)(8)} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 9}$$

$n=6$ :

$$a_6 = \frac{-a_4}{\left(\frac{13}{2}\right)(12)} = \frac{-1}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot 9 \cdot 13}$$

**Note:** The reason why we skipped  $a_3$  and  $a_5$  is because we don't know what  $a_1$  is.

Take  $r=0$ . We'll plug some values for  $n$ :

$n=2$ :

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_0}{2 \cdot 3} = \frac{-1}{2 \cdot 3}$$

$$n=4:$$

$$a_4 = \frac{-a_2}{4 \cdot 7} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 7}$$

$$n=6:$$

$$a_6 = \frac{-a_4}{6 \cdot 11} = \frac{-1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7 \cdot 11}$$

$$\text{Recall that } y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r}$$

$$y_1 = x^{1/2} - \frac{x^2 \cdot x^{1/2}}{2 \cdot 5} + \frac{x^4 \cdot x^{1/2}}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 9} - \dots$$

$$y_2 = 1 - \frac{x^2}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{x^4}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 7} - \dots$$

$$y = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$$

**E.g. 6** Find a series soln for  $4xy'' + 2y' + y = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

Soln:

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

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

We can rewrite  $4xy'' + 2y' + y = 0$  as

$$4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (n+r)(n+r-1) x^{n+r-1} + 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (n+r) x^{n+r-1} +$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} = 0$$

To get all 3 summations to have  $x^{n+r-1}$ , we'll change the last summation.

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} \leftrightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^{n+r-1}$$

Now, we have

$$4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (n+r)(n+r-1) x^{n+r-1} + 2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (n+r) x^{n+r-1} +$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^{n+r-1} = 0$$

Take  $n=0$ . We get:

$$4a_0(r)(r-1) + 2a_0(r) = 0$$

$$a_0(4r(r-1) + 2r) = 0$$

$$a_0(4r^2 - 4r + 2r) = 0$$

$$2a_0(2r^2 - 2r + r) = 0$$

$$a_0(2r^2 - r) = 0$$

$$2r^2 - r = 0$$

$$r(2r-1) = 0$$

$$r_1 = \frac{1}{2}, r_2 = 0$$

Take  $n \geq 1$ :

$$4a_n(n+r)(n+r-1) + 2a_n(n+r) + a_{n-1} = 0$$

$$2a_n[2(n+r)(n+r-1) + (n+r)] = -a_{n-1}$$

$$a_n \frac{[(n+r)(2(n+r)-1)]}{2} = \frac{-a_{n-1}}{2}$$

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

Take  $r = \frac{1}{2}$ . We'll plug some values for  $n$ .

$n=1$ :

$$a_1 = \frac{-a_0}{2(\frac{3}{2})(2)} = \frac{-1}{2 \cdot 3}$$

$n=2$ :

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_1}{2(\frac{5}{2})(4)} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5}$$

$n=3$ :

$$a_3 = \frac{-a_2}{2(\frac{7}{2})(6)} = \frac{-1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot 7}$$

Take  $r=0$ . We'll plug some values for  $n$ .

$n=1$ :

$$a_1 = \frac{-a_0}{2} = \frac{-1}{2}$$

$n=2$ :

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_1}{4 \cdot 3} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4}$$

$n=3$ :

$$a_3 = \frac{-a_2}{6 \cdot 5} = \frac{-1}{6!}$$

Recall that  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r}$ .

Expanding the summation, we get  
 $y = a_0 x^r + a_1 x^{r+1} + a_2 x^{r+2} + \dots$

Take  $r = \frac{1}{2}$

$$y_1 = x^{1/2} - \frac{x^{3/2}}{3!} + \frac{x^{5/2}}{5!} - \frac{x^{7/2}}{7!} + \dots$$

Take  $r=0$

$$y_2 = 1 - \frac{x}{2!} + \frac{x^2}{3!} - \dots$$

$$y = C_1 y_1 + C_2 y_2$$

Case 2:

The second case occurs when we have repeated roots. We will have to use **Frobenius Method** to find the second soln.

**E.g. 7.** Find a series soln for  $xy'' + y' - y = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

Soln:

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

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

We can rewrite  $xy'' + y' - y = 0$  as

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

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} = 0$$

We can change the third summation so that it has  $x^{n+r-1}$ .

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} \leftrightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^{n+r-1}$$

Now, we have

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

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^{n+r-1} = 0$$

Take  $n=0$ :

$$a_0 [r(r-1) + r] = 0$$

$$r^2 - r + r = 0$$

$$r^2 = 0$$

$$r_1 = r_2 = 0 \leftarrow \text{Repeated Roots}$$

Take  $n \geq 1$ :

$$a_n (n+r)(n+r-1) + a_n (n+r) - a_{n-1} = 0$$

$$a_n [(n+r)(n+r-1) + (n+r)] = a_{n-1}$$

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

Take  $r=0$ . We'll plug some values for  $n$ .

$$n=1:$$

$$a_1 = \frac{a_0}{1^2} = 1$$

$$n=2:$$

$$a_2 = \frac{a_1}{2^2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$n=3:$

$$a_3 = \frac{a_2}{3^2} = \frac{1}{1^2 \cdot 2^2 \cdot 3^2} = \frac{1}{(3!)^2}$$

$$a_n = \frac{1}{(n!)^2}$$

Recall that  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r}$

Expanding the sum, we get  
 $y = a_0 x^r + a_1 x^{r+1} + a_2 x^{r+2} + \dots$

$$y_1 = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{(2!)^2} + \frac{x^3}{(3!)^2} + \dots$$

Now, we will use **Frobenius Method** to find  $y_2$ .

First, let's go back to the recurrence eqn.

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

$$y_1(r, x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(r) x^{n+r}$$

Now,  $y_2(x) = \partial_r y_1(r, x) |_{r=r_1}$

$$\partial_r y_1(r, x) = \partial_r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(r) x^{n+r}$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a'_n(r) x^{n+r} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(r) \partial_r (x^{n+r})$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a'_n(r) x^{n+r} + \log(x) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(r) x^{n+r}$$

$$= \log(x) y_1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a'_n(r) x^{n+r}$$

$$y_2 = \log(x) y_1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a'_n(r) x^{n+r} \Big|_{r=r_1}$$

Let's find a few terms for  $y_2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} a'_i &= \partial_r (a_i(r)) \\ &= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(n+r)^2} \right) \\ &= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(1+r)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{-2}{(1+r)^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$a'_i x^{n+r} \Big|_{\substack{n=1 \\ r=0}} \rightarrow -2x$$

$$a_2 = \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(1+r)^2 (2+r)^2} \right)$$

$$= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{((1+r)(2+r))^2} \right)$$

$$= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(r^2 + 3r + 2)^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{-2(r^2 + 3r + 2)(2r + 3)}{(r^2 + 3r + 2)^4}$$

$$= \frac{-2(2r + 3)}{(r^2 + 3r + 2)^3}$$

$$a_2 x^{n+r} \Big|_{r=0}^{n=2} \rightarrow \frac{-2(3)}{2^3} x^2$$

$$= \frac{-6}{8} x^2$$

$$= \frac{-3}{4} x^2$$

$$y_2 = \log x \cdot y_1 - 2x - \frac{3}{4}x^2 + \dots$$

**E.g. 8** Find a series soln to  $xy'' + y' + xy = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

Soln:

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

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

We can rewrite  $xy'' + y' + xy = 0$  as

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

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r+1} = 0$$

which is equivalent to

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

$$\sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_{n-2} x^{n+r-1} = 0$$

Take  $n=0$ :

$$a_0 (r(r-1) + r) = 0$$

$$r^2 - r + r = 0$$

$$r = 0 \rightarrow r_1 = r_2 = 0$$

Take  $n \geq 2$ :

$$a_n(n+r)(n+r-1) + a_n(n+r) + a_{n-2} = 0$$

$$a_n((n+r)(n+r-1) + (n+r)) = -a_{n-2}$$

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

Take  $r=0$ . Let's plug some values for  $n$ .

$n=2$ :

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_0}{2^2} = \frac{-1}{2^2}$$

$n=4$ :

$$a_4 = \frac{-a_2}{4^2} = \frac{1}{4^2 \cdot 2^2}$$

$n=6$ :

$$a_6 = \frac{-a_4}{6^2} = \frac{-1}{2^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 6^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_1 &= a_0 x^r + a_2 x^{r+2} + a_4 x^{r+4} + a_6 x^{r+6} \\ &= 1 - \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{x^4}{2^2 \cdot 4^2} - \frac{x^6}{2^2 \cdot 4^2 \cdot 6^2} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Now, let's find  $y_2$ .

$$Y_2 = \log(x) y_1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n^{(2)} x^{n+r} \Big|_{r=r_1}$$

$$a_2' = \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(2+r)^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{-2}{(2+r)^3}$$

$$a_2' x^{2+r} \Big|_{r=0} \rightarrow \frac{-2}{8} x^2$$

$$= \frac{-x^2}{4}$$

$$a_4' = \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(4+r)^2(2+r)^2} \right)$$

$$= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{((4+r)(2+r))^2} \right)$$

$$= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(r^2+6r+8)^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{-2(r^2+6r+8)(2r+6)}{(r^2+6r+8)^4}$$

$$a_4' x^{4+r} \Big|_{r=0} \rightarrow \frac{-2(6)}{8^3} x^4$$

$$= \frac{-12}{512} x^4$$

$$= \frac{-3x^4}{128}$$

## Case 3:

The third and final case occurs when  $r_1 - r_2$  is an integer, greater than 0. Here, we will use the Frobenius Method again. The **Frobenius Theorem** states that there is always a linearly independent soln

$$y_2 = a \log(x) y_1 + x^{r_2} \left( 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n(r_2) x^n \right) \text{ where}$$

$$a = \lim_{r \rightarrow r_2} (r - r_2) a_N(r), \quad N = R_1 - R_2$$

$$C_n = \left[ (r - r_2) a_n(r) \right]' \Big|_{r=r_2}$$

**Note:**  $a$  could be 0.

**E.g. 9** Find a series soln to  $xy'' - y = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

**Soln:**

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

We can rewrite  $xy'' - y = 0$  as

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

$$\rightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (n+r)(n+r-1) x^{n+r-1} - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^{n+r-1}$$

Take  $n=0$ :

$$a_0(r)(r-1) = 0$$

$$r_1 = 1, r_2 = 0$$

Notice that  $r_1 - r_2 = 1$ , a positive integer.

Take  $n \geq 1$ :

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

Take  $r=1$ . Let's plug some values for  $n$ .

$n=1$ :

$$a_1 = \frac{a_0}{(2)(1)} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$n=2$ :

$$a_2 = \frac{a_1}{(3)(2)} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$n=3$ :

$$a_3 = \frac{a_2}{4 \cdot 3} = \frac{1}{144}$$

Recall that  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r}$ .

Expanding the sum, we get

$$y = a_0 x^r + a_1 x^{r+1} + a_2 x^{r+2} + \dots$$

$$y_1 = x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{12} + \frac{x^4}{144} + \dots$$

$$y_2 = a \log x y_1 + x^{r_2} \left[ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n(r_2) x^n \right]$$

$$a = \lim_{r \rightarrow r_2} (r - r_2) a_n(r)$$

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} r a_1(r) \quad \text{Note: We have } a_1 \text{ because } r_1 - r_2 = 1.$$

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} r \left( \frac{a_0}{r(r+1)} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{r+1}$$

$$= 1$$

$$C_n = \left[ (r - r_2) a_n(r) \right]' \Big|_{r=r_2}$$

$$C_1 = \left[ (r - r_2) a_1(r) \right]' \Big|_{r=r_2}$$

$$= \left( \frac{r a_0}{r(r+1)} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2}$$

$$= \left( \frac{1}{r+1} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2}$$

$$= \frac{-1}{(r+1)^2} \Big|_{r=0}$$

$$= -1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_2 &= [(r-r_2)a_2(r)]' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{r a_1}{(r+1)(r+2)} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{r a_0}{r(r+1)^2(r+2)} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{1}{(r+1)^2(r+2)} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= -\frac{5}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_3 &= [(r-r_2)a_3(r)]' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{r a_2(r)}{(r+3)(r+2)} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{r a_0(r)}{r(r+1)^2(r+2)^2(r+3)} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{1}{(r+1)^2(r+2)^2(r+3)} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= -\frac{5}{18}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$y_2 = \log(x) y_1 + 1 - x - \frac{5}{4} x^2 - \frac{5}{18} x^3 \dots$$

More Examples:

**E.g. 10** Find a series soln to  $xy'' + y' - y = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

Soln:

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

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

We can rewrite  $xy'' + y' - y = 0$  as

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

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} = 0$$

We can change the last summation so that it has  $x^{n+r-1}$ .

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} \iff \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^{n+r-1}$$

Now, we have

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (n+r)(n+r-1) X^{n+r-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (n+r) X^{n+r-1} -$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} X^{n+r-1}$$

Take  $n=0$ .

$$a_0 (r(r-1) + r) = 0$$

$$r^2 - r + r = 0$$

$$r^2 = 0 \rightarrow r_1 = r_2 = 0$$

Take  $n \geq 1$

$$a_n (n+r)(n+r-1) + a_n (n+r) - a_{n-1} = 0$$

$$a_n ((n+r)(n+r-1) + (n+r)) = a_{n-1}$$

$$a_n ((n+r)^2) = a_{n-1}$$

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

Take  $r=0$ . We'll plug some values for  $n$ .

$n=1$ :

$$a_1 = \frac{a_0}{1^2} = 1$$

$n=3$ :

$$a_3 = \frac{a_2}{3^2} = \frac{1}{9 \cdot 4}$$

$$= \frac{1}{36}$$

$n=2$ :

$$a_2 = \frac{a_1}{2^2} = \frac{1}{4}$$

Recall that  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r}$ .

Expanding the sum, we get  
 $y = a_0 x^r + a_1 x^{r+1} + a_2 x^{r+2} + \dots$

$$y_1 = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{x^3}{36} + \dots$$

$$y_2 = \log(x) y_1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a'_n(r) x^{n+r} \Big|_{r=r_1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a'_1 &= \partial_r (a_1(r)) \\ &= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(n+r)^2} \right) \\ &= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(1+r)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{-2}{(1+r)^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$a'_1 x^{n+r} \Big|_{\substack{n=1 \\ r=0}} \rightarrow -2x$$

$$\begin{aligned} a'_2 &= \partial_r (a_2(r)) \\ &= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(1+r)^2 (2+r)^2} \right) \\ &= \partial_r \left( \frac{1}{(r^2 + 3r + 2)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{-2(r^2 + 3r + 2)(2r + 3)}{(r^2 + 3r + 2)^4} \\ &= \frac{-2(2r + 3)}{(r^2 + 3r + 2)^3} \end{aligned}$$

$$a_2' x^{n+r} \Big|_{\substack{n=2 \\ r=0}} \rightarrow -\frac{3}{4} x^2$$

$$y_2 = \log(x) y_1 - 2x - \frac{3}{4} x^2 + \dots$$

**E.g. 11** Find a series soln to  $xy'' + y = 0$  about  $x_0 = 0$ .

Soln:

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

$$xy'' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (n+r)(n+r-1) x^{n+r-1}$$

We can rewrite  $xy'' + y = 0$  as

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

Take  $n=0$ .

$$a_0 (r)(r-1) = 0$$

$$r_1 = 1, \quad r_2 = 0$$

Take  $n=1$ .

$$a_n (n+r)(n+r-1) + a_{n-1} = 0$$

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

Take  $r=1$ . We'll plug some values for  $n$ .

$n=1$ :

$$a_1 = \frac{-a_0}{2} = \frac{-1}{2}$$

$n=2$ :

$$a_2 = \frac{-a_1}{(3)(2)} = \frac{1}{3 \cdot 2 \cdot 2} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$n=3$ :

$$a_3 = \frac{-a_2}{4 \cdot 3} = \frac{-1}{144}$$

$$y_1 = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{12} - \frac{x^4}{144}$$

$$y_2 = a \log x y_1 + x^{r_2} \left( 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n(r_2) x^n \right)$$

$$a = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} (r-0) a_1(r)$$

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{-r}{r(r+1)} \right)$$

$$= \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{-1}{r+1} \right)$$

$$= -1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_1 &= [(r-r_2) a_1(r)]' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{r(-1)}{(r)(r+1)} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{-1}{r+1} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= 1
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 C_2 &= [(r-r_2) a_2(r)]' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{r(1)}{(r+2)(r+1)^2 r} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{1}{(r+2)(r+1)^2} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{1}{x^3 + 4x^2 + 5x + 2} \right)' \Big|_{r=r_2} \\
 &= \frac{-5}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$y_2 = -\log x y_1 + 1 + x - \frac{5x^2}{4} + \dots$$