

Series Solution

Homogeneous Second Order Linear Differential Equation with variable coefficients

$$P_0(x) \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + P_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + P_2(x) y = 0$$

~~P_0, P_1, P_2~~ $P_0(x), P_1(x)$ & $P_2(x) \rightarrow$ Polynomials in powers of x

Homogeneous D.E \rightarrow R.H.S zero

Second Order \rightarrow Second Derivative

Linear D.E \rightarrow Max Power of $y, \frac{dy}{dx}, \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} \rightarrow 1$

variable Coefficients $\rightarrow \therefore P_0, P_1$ & P_2 are polynomials in x

As
$$P_0(x) \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + P_1(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + P_2(x) y = 0 \rightarrow (1)$$

So
$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + \frac{P_1(x)}{P_0(x)} \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{P_2(x)}{P_0(x)} y = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + Q(x) y = 0 \rightarrow (2)$$

Equation (2) is called Normal form/Canonical form or standard form of Homogeneous second order Linear Differential Equation with constant coefficients.

Here $P(x) = \frac{P_1(x)}{P_0(x)}$ & $Q(x) = \frac{P_2(x)}{P_0(x)}$

A series solution is a method used to solve differential equations by representing the solution as an infinite series of terms.

Example:

Solve the D.E by using Series Solution

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2}y + xy = 0 \rightarrow \textcircled{A}$$

OR

$$y'' + xy = 0$$

The given D.E \textcircled{A} is Homogeneous Second order Linear Differential Equation with variable coefficients.

Now by comparing given differential Equation \textcircled{A} with its canonical form of Homogeneous second order linear D.E with constant coefficients.

$$\text{So, } P_0(x) \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + P_1(x) \frac{d y}{dx} + P_2(x) y = 0$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 0 + xy = 0$$

$$\text{Here } P_0(x) = 1, P_1(x) = 0, P_2(x) = x$$

Now at point $x=0$

$$P_0(0) = 1, \text{ so } P_0(0) \neq 0$$

$\therefore x=0$ is an ordinary point / Mint

↓
(power series methods)

Differential Equations

Series Solution of D.E

Series solution of D.E near ordinary point

Series solution of D.E near regular singular point

① Legendre's Equation:

$$(1-x^2)y'' - 2xy' + \underbrace{n(n+1)}_{\text{consecutive numbers}}y = 0$$

Points

Singular • Singular points of Legendre's Equation occur at $x = \pm 1$

Ordinary • The points where Legendre's Equation is regular (not singular) are all points except $x = \pm 1$, these points are called ordinary points.

Method • Power series method [$P_0(x) \neq 0$]

② Bessel's Equation:

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - n^2)y = 0$$

Singular • Singular Point of Bessel's Equation occurs at $x = 0$.

Ordinary • The points where Bessel's equation is regular (not singular) are all points except $x = 0$

Method • Frobenius Series method [$P_0(x) = 0$]

③ Chebyshev's Equation:

$$(1-x^2)y'' - xy' + \underbrace{n^2}_{\text{square value of number}}y = 0$$

Points

square value of number

Singular • Singular Points of Chebyshev's equation occur at $x = \pm 1$

Ordinary • The points where Chebyshev's equation is regular (not singular) are all points except $x = \pm 1$

Method • Power Series Method [$P_0(x) \neq 0$]