



BESSEL FUNCTIONS

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Consider the following differential equation:

$$t^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + t \frac{dy}{dt} + (\lambda^2 t^2 - \nu^2) y = 0$$

Which is called Bessel differential equation of order ν and of parameter λ .

$$\text{Let } \lambda t = x \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{dy}{dx} \times \frac{dx}{dt} \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dt} = \lambda \frac{dy}{dx} \equiv \lambda y'$$

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{dy}{dt} \right) \times \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{d}{dx} (\lambda y') \times \lambda = \lambda^2 y''$$

Substitute in the differential equation

$$t^2 \lambda^2 y'' + t \lambda y' + (\lambda^2 t^2 - \nu^2) y = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 y'' + x y' + (x^2 - \nu^2) y = 0$$

Which is also Bessel differential equation of order ν and of parameter 1.

$x = 0$ is a regular singular point

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

Substitute in the differential equation

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

Step 1

Shifting the index of the third summation so that the powers of x are the same in all summations.

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

Step 2



$$a_0 \left(s(s-1) + s - v^2 \right) x^s + a_1 \left((s+1)s + (s+1) - v^2 \right) x^{s+1} \\ + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \left(a_n [(n+s)(n+s-1) + (n+s) - v^2] + a_{n-2} \right) x^{n+s} = 0$$

$$\text{Coefficient of } x^s = 0 \Rightarrow a_0 \left(s(s-1) + s - v^2 \right) = 0$$

$$a_0 \left(s^2 - v^2 \right) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow s^2 = v^2 \quad \Rightarrow s_1 = v \quad \& \quad s_2 = -v$$

Step 3

$$\text{Coefficient of } x^{s+n} = 0$$

$$a_n \left((n+s)(n+s-1) + (n+s) - v^2 \right) + a_{n-2} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow a_n = \frac{-1}{(n+s)^2 - v^2} a_{n-2}$$

$$a_n = \frac{-1}{((n+s)-v)((n+s)+v)} a_{n-2}, \quad n \geq 2$$

Step 4

For $s_1 = \nu$

$$\Rightarrow a_n = \frac{-1}{n(2\nu + n)} a_{n-2}, \quad n \geq 2$$

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

$$a_4 = \frac{-1}{(4)(2\nu + 4)} a_2 = \frac{(-1)^2}{(2)(4)(2\nu + 2)(2\nu + 4)} a_0$$

$$a_6 = \frac{-1}{(6)(2\nu + 6)} a_4 = \frac{(-1)^3}{(2)(4)(6) \times (2\nu + 2)(2\nu + 4)(2\nu + 6)} a_0$$

$$a_{2n} = \frac{(-1)^n}{(2 \times 4 \times 6 \times \dots \times 2n)[(2\nu + 2)(2\nu + 4) \dots (2\nu + 2n)]} a_0, \quad n \geq 1$$

$$a_{2n} = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n \times n! \times 2^n \times (\nu + 1)(\nu + 2) \dots (\nu + n)} a_0, \quad n \geq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{2n} = \frac{(-1)^n \Gamma(\nu + 1)}{2^{2n} \times n! \times \Gamma(n + \nu + 1)} a_0, \quad n \geq 0$$

Step 5 - 1

$$\therefore y_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(\nu) x^{n+\nu} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_{2n}(\nu) x^{2n+\nu}$$

$$y_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \Gamma(\nu+1) x^{2n+\nu}}{2^{2n} \times n! \times \Gamma(n+\nu+1)} a_0$$

Take $2^\nu \Gamma(\nu+1) a_0 = 1 \Rightarrow y_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n \Gamma(\nu+1) x^{2n+\nu} 2^\nu}{2^{2n+\nu} \times n! \times \Gamma(n+\nu+1)} a_0$

$$y_1 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(n!) \Gamma(n+\nu+1)} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^{2n+\nu} \equiv J_\nu(x)$$

This is the first solution for Bessel Differential equation

Step 6 - 1

Solving the recurrence relation for $s_2 = -\nu$, we will find another solution

$$y_2 = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(n!) \Gamma(n - \nu + 1)} \left(\frac{x}{2} \right)^{2n - \nu} \equiv J_{-\nu}(x)$$

Step 6 - 2

Note that $J_{\nu}(x)$ and $J_{-\nu}(x)$ are called Bessel functions of the first kind

If ν is a fraction, the two solutions $J_{\nu}(x)$ and $J_{-\nu}(x)$ are linearly independent, hence,

$$y_{gs}(x) = C_1 J_{\nu}(x) + C_2 J_{-\nu}(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_{gs}(t) = C_1 J_{\nu}(\lambda t) + C_2 J_{-\nu}(\lambda t)$$

If $\nu = N$ is an integer, $J_{-N}(x) = (-1)^N J_N(x)$, hence, $C_1 J_N(x) + C_2 J_{-N}(x)$ doesn't represent the general solution but only one independent solution and we need another linearly independent solution

Consider
$$Y_\nu(x) = \frac{J_\nu(x) \cos \nu\pi - J_{-\nu}(x)}{\sin \nu\pi}$$

The second linearly independent solution is

$$Y_N(x) = \lim_{\nu \rightarrow N} \frac{J_\nu(x) \cos \nu\pi - J_{-\nu}(x)}{\sin \nu\pi}$$

Which is called Bessel functions of the second kind

At which

$$y_{gs}(x) = C_1 J_N(x) + C_2 Y_N(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_{gs}(\lambda t) = C_1 J_N(\lambda t) + C_2 Y_N(\lambda t)$$