

Series solution of second-order linear DE

(교과서 6장 급수해)

1. Review on power series (멱급수)

Power series $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$

(1) Radius of convergence

=> Apply ratio test to obtain a number $R > 0$ such that the series converges on $|x-x_0| < R$

(2) Algebra

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n, \quad g(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (x-x_0)^n$$

$$(a) (f \pm g)(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (a_n \pm b_n) (x-x_0)^n$$

$$(b) kf(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} ka_n (x-x_0)^n$$

$$(c) f(x)g(x) = a_0b_0 + (a_0b_1 + a_1b_0)(x-x_0) + (a_0b_2 + a_1b_1 + a_2b_0)(x-x_0)^2 + \dots$$

(3) Derivatives

$$f'(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} na_n (x-x_0)^{n-1}$$

$$f''(x) = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1)a_n (x-x_0)^{n-2}$$

(4) Shifting index of summation

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Example) } & \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^n \\ &= b_0 + b_1 x + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (a_{n-2} + b_n) x^n \end{aligned}$$

2. Finding power series solution of 2nd order DE around a given point.

Def) A function f is called **analytic** (해석적) at $x=c$ if f has a power series representation around the point c .

Example) $f(x)=\sin x$ is analytic everywhere. $g(x)=\frac{1}{(1-x^2)}$ is analytic except $x=1, -1$.

Theorem (Case: leading coefficient is constant)

Suppose that the functions $p(x)$, $q(x)$, $f(x)$ are real analytic around $x=c$.

Then IVP $y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = f(x)$, $y(c) = A$, $y'(c) = B$ has an analytic solution around $x=c$.

Example. $y'' + x^2y = 0$. Find a power series solution around $x=0$

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

Then $y'' + x^2y = 2a_2 + 6a_3x + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [(n+2)(n+1)a_{n+2} + a_{n-2}]x^n = 0$

$$a_2 = a_3 = 0$$

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

$$y = a_0 + a_1x - a_0/12x^4 - a_1/20x^5 + \dots$$

$$= a_0(1 - x^4/12 + x^8/(56 \times 12) + \dots) + a_1(x - x^5/20 + x^9/(72 \times 20) + \dots)$$

where a_0 and a_1 are determined by IC.

Exercise Find a power series solution around 0 for DE $y'' + x^2y' + 4y = 1 - x^2$

3. Ordinary points (보통점) (교과서 6장2절)

Def) $P(x)y'' + Q(x)y' + R(x)y = 0$ (Case: leading coefficient is not constant)

We say $x=c$ is an ordinary point if Q/P and R/P are analytic at $x=c$

Example

$$(1-x^2)y'' - 2xy' + \alpha(\alpha+1)y = 0$$

Every point except $x=1, -1$ are ordinary points.

Theorem

$P(x)y'' + Q(x)y' + R(x)y = 0$. Suppose that Q/P and R/P are analytic at $x=c$

$$\Rightarrow \text{General solution } y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-c)^n$$

$$= a_0 y_1(x) + a_1 y_2(x)$$

where a_0 and a_1 are arbitrary and y_1 and y_2 are analytic at $x=c$ and form a fundamental set of solutions.

Example (Legendre equation) $(1-x^2)y'' - 2xy' + \alpha(\alpha+1)y = 0$

(It appears when we study electric potential on spherical object)

$$y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n \Rightarrow a_{n+2} = \frac{(n+\alpha+1)(n-\alpha)}{(n+2)(n+1)} a_n, \quad n=0,1,\dots$$

(a) Consider the case $\alpha=1$

(b) What is radius of convergence?