

# Lecture 5

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- Associated Legendre Functions

- For  $l = 0, 1, 2, 3 \dots$

$$\left[ (1 - z^2) \frac{d^2}{dz^2} - 2z \frac{d}{dz} + l(l + 1) - \frac{m^2}{1 - z^2} \right] P_l(z) = 0$$

- With:

$$P_l^m(z) = P_l^{-m}(z) = (1 - z^2)^{m/2} \frac{d^m}{dz^m} P_l(z)$$

- Since  $P_l(z)$  is an  $l$ -th order polynomial, then  $P_l^m(z)$  vanishes if  $m > l$

- Properties of  $P_l^m(z)$ :

- \*  $P_l^m(z) = 0$  if  $|m| > l$

- \*  $P_l^m(z) = P_l^{-m}(z)$

- \*  $P_l^m(\pm 1) = 0$  for  $m \neq 0$

- \*  $P_l^m(-z) = (-1)^{l-m} P_l^m(z)$

- \*  $\int_{-1}^1 P_l^m(z) P_q^m(z) dz = \frac{2}{2l + 2} \cdot \frac{(l + m)!}{(l - m)!} \delta_{lq}$

- We can obtain our  $\Theta(\theta)$  function as:

$$\Theta_l^m(\theta) = (-1)^m \frac{(2l + 1)}{2} \frac{(l - m)!}{(l + m)!} P_l^k(\cos(\theta)), \quad m \geq 0$$

And:

$$\Theta_l^{-m}(\theta) = (-1)^m \Theta_l^m(\theta)$$

– Here, we arrive at a point where the associated Legendre Functions are needed:

$$\begin{aligned}
P_0^o &= 1 \\
P_1^o &= \cos(\theta) \\
P_1^1 &= \sin(\theta) \\
P_2^o &= \frac{1}{2}(3\cos^3(\theta) - 1) \\
P_3^o &= \frac{1}{2}(5\cos^5(\theta) - 3\cos(\theta))
\end{aligned}$$

– Spherical Harmonics

$$\begin{aligned}
Y_l^m(\theta, \phi) &= (-1)^{(m+|m|)/2} \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)}{4\pi} \frac{(l-|m|)!}{(l+|m|)!}} P_l^m(\cos(\theta)) e^{im\phi} \\
Y_l^m(\theta, \phi) &= (-1)(Y_l^m(\theta, \phi))^*
\end{aligned}$$

Our first few values may be written as:

$$\begin{aligned}
Y_0^o(\theta, \phi) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \\
Y_1^o(\theta, \phi) &= \sqrt{\frac{3}{4\pi}} \cos(\theta) \\
Y_1^{\pm 1}(\theta, \phi) &= \mp \sqrt{\frac{3}{8\pi}} \sin(\theta) e^{\pm i\phi}
\end{aligned}$$

– Important Properties:

\* Orthonormality:

$$\langle l_1 m_1 | l_2 m_2 \rangle = \delta_{l_1 l_2} \delta_{m_1 m_2}$$

\* Completeness:

$$\begin{aligned}
\psi(\theta, \phi) &= \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-l}^l C_{lm} Y_l^m(\theta, \phi) \\
C_{lm} &= \langle lm | \psi \rangle = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\pi} (Y_l^m(\theta, \phi))^* \psi(\theta, \phi) d\Omega
\end{aligned}$$

\* Parity:

$$Y_l^m(\pi - \theta, \phi + \pi) = (-1)^l Y_l^m(\theta, \phi)$$