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科目 _____

系級 _____

學號 _____

姓名 P54

Step 1: Express the solution as

$$y = x^r (C_0 + a_1 x + C_2 x + \dots) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_k x^{k+r}$$

Step 2: plug in the series to the ODE

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

$$x^2(\quad) + x(\quad) + (x^2 - v^2)(\quad) = 0$$

Step 3: Find the indicial eq and the roots: r_1, r_2

$$r(r-1) + a_0 r + b_0 = 0$$

\Rightarrow

Step 4: For each r , find the recurrence relation

(Note: After matching the coefficients,

$$\text{For } r_1 = \quad, \quad C_{2k} = \frac{(-1)^k C_0}{2^{2k} k! (1+v)(2+v)(3+v) \dots (k+v)}, \quad k=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\text{For } r_2 = \quad, \quad C_{2k} = \frac{(-1)^k C_0}{2^{2k} k! (1-v)(2-v)(3-v) \dots (k-v)}, \quad k=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Step 5: Plug in the coefficients and obtain the general solution

$$\text{For } r_1 = \quad \rightarrow y_1 = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_{2k} x^{2k+v} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k! \Gamma(1+v+k)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2k+v}$$

$$\text{For } r_2 = \quad \rightarrow y_2 = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} C_{2k} x^{2k-v} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k! \Gamma(1-v+k)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2k-v}$$

About "gamma function $\Gamma(x)$ " (in Appendix A):

Def: $\Gamma(x) = \int_0^{\infty} t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt$ (Check out the graph of $\Gamma(x)$ in Fig A.1)

properties of $\Gamma(x)$: ① $\Gamma(x+1) = x\Gamma(x)$ ② $\Gamma(n+1) = n!$ when $n = \text{positive integer}$

③ $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \sqrt{\pi}$, $\Gamma(-\frac{1}{2}) = -2\sqrt{\pi}$ ④ $\Gamma(n) \rightarrow \infty$ when $n = 0$ or negative integer

However, depending on the value of " ν ", there are two possible cases:

1) If ν is

$\Rightarrow J_\nu$ and $J_{-\nu}$ are

So, general solution $y =$

2) If ν is

$J_{-\nu}(x) =$, which means J_ν and $J_{-\nu}$ are

We first need to find out the 2nd

Q: How to find the 2nd linearly independent solution if one solution is given? \rightarrow By

So, given one solution $y_1 = J_\nu$, we can use to find the 2nd solution as

$\Rightarrow J_\nu$ and Y_ν are

So, general solution $y =$

In the following, let's do some examples with specific order ν to see how Bessel functions look like:

Bessel's eq of order 0: $x^2 y'' + x y' + x^2 y = 0$ ($\nu = 0$)

general solution $\Rightarrow y =$

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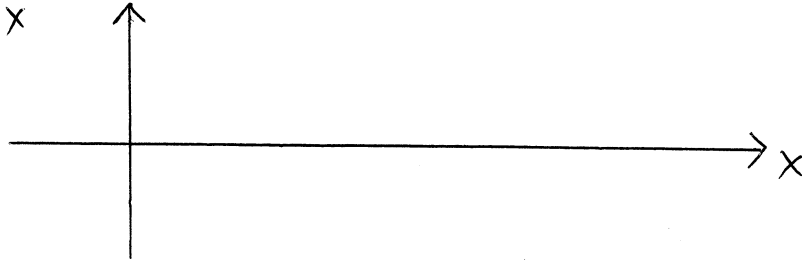
科目 _____

系級 _____

學號 _____

姓名 p56

Plot $J_0(x)$ v.s. x
 $Y_0(x)$



Properties of J_0

- As $x \rightarrow 0$, J_0
- As $x \rightarrow \infty$, J_0

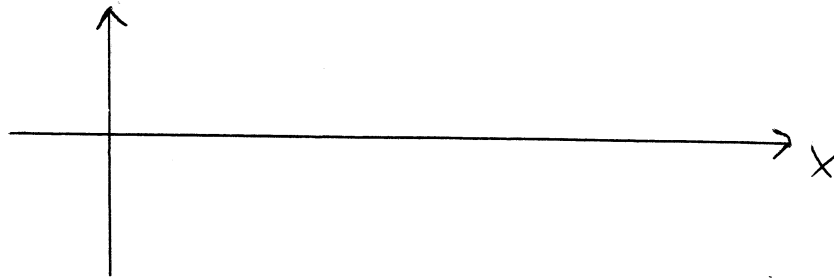
Properties of Y_0

- As $x \rightarrow 0$
- As $x \rightarrow \infty$

Bessel's eq of order $\frac{1}{2}$: $x^2 y'' + x y' + (x^2 - \frac{1}{4}) y = 0$ ($\nu = \frac{1}{2}$)

general solution $\Rightarrow y =$

Plot



Properties of

- As $x \rightarrow 0$,
- For $x > 0$,

Properties of

- As $x \rightarrow 0$
- For $x > 0$

Compared to the order 0 ($\nu=0$), except a phase shift of

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科目 _____

系級 _____

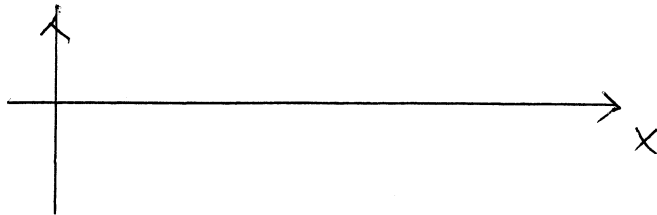
學號 _____

姓名 P57

Bessel's eq of order 1: $x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - 1)y = 0$ ($\nu = 1$)

general solution $\Rightarrow y =$

Plot



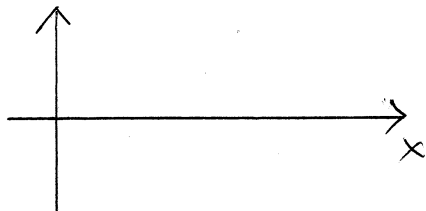
Properties of

- As $x \rightarrow 0$
- As x is large

Properties of

- As $x \rightarrow 0$
- As x is large

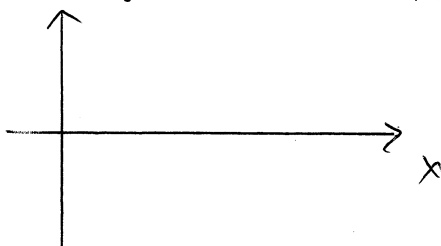
★ Comparing J_ν (Bessel functions of the first kind) of different orders:



Properties of J_ν

- 1) $J_{-\nu}(x) =$
- 2) $J_\nu(-x)$
- 3) $J_\nu(0) =$
- 4) When x is large,

★ Comparing Y_ν (Bessel functions of the second kind) of different orders:



Properties of Y_ν

- 1) As $x \rightarrow 0$
- 2) When x is large,

A final remark:

From the general solution of Bessel's equation $y =$

Note that $Y_\nu \rightarrow$ at the origin ($x=0$).

In many cases, we are interested in solutions of Bessel's eq that are