

Series Solutions:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + p(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + q(x)y = r(x)$$

Taylor expanding y about x_0 gives us

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

$$y'(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n (x-x_0)^{n-1}$$

$$y''(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n(n-1) a_n (x-x_0)^{n-2}$$

Plugging them Back into the equation

we get

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n(n-1) a_n (x-x_0)^{n-2} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n (x-x_0)^{n-1} \cdot p(x) + q(x) \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n = r(x)$$

By treating

$$i) \quad p(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (x-x_0)^n$$

$$ii) \quad q(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x-x_0)^n$$

$$iii) \quad r(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d_n (x-x_0)^n$$

So the differential equation becomes

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n(n-1)a_n (x-x_0)^n + \left[\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n (x-x_0)^n \right] \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n (x-x_0)^{n-1} + \left[\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (x-x_0)^n \right] \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} d_n (x-x_0)^n$$

The unknown is a_n

Legendre ODE Problem

The equation is

$$(1-x^2) \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - 2x \frac{dy}{dx} + k(k+1)y = 0,$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} - \frac{2x}{(1-x^2)} \frac{dy}{dx}}_{\lambda=0, p(x)=0} + \underbrace{\frac{k(k+1)}{(1-x^2)} y}_{\lambda=0, q(x)=k(k+1)} = 0$$

Using the series about $x_0=0$

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

$$y' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1}$$

$$y'' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} n(n-1) a_n x^{n-2}$$

So the equation Becomes

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

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

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left[a_{n+2} (n+2)(n+1) - a_n n(n-1) - 2n a_n + k(k+1) a_n \right] x^n = 0$$

Meaning

$$a_{n+2} (n+2)(n+1) - a_n n(n-1) - 2n a_n + k(k+1) a_n = 0$$

$$\therefore a_{n+2} = \frac{a_n [n(n-1) + 2n - k(k+1)]}{(n+2)(n+1)}$$

$$\therefore a_{n+2} = \frac{a_n (n-k)(n+k+1)}{(n+2)(n+1)}$$

Even index

$$a_1, a_3 = \frac{a_1 (1-k)(2+k)}{3 \cdot 2}$$

$$a_5 = \frac{a_3 (3-k)(4+k)}{5 \cdot 4}$$

$$= \frac{a_1 (k-3)(k-1)(k+2)(k+4)}{5!}$$

Odd index

$$a_0, a_2 = \frac{a_0 (-k)(k+1)}{2 \cdot 1}$$

$$a_4 = \frac{a_2 (2-k)(3+k)}{4 \cdot 3}$$

$$= \frac{(k-2)k(k+1)(k+3) a_0}{4!}$$

for both solutions,

$$y_{\text{odd}} = a_1 x = a_1 P(x)$$

For $k=2$

$$a_2 = \frac{a_0 \cdot (-2)(3)}{2} = -3a_0, a_4 = 0$$

$$y_{\text{even}} = a_0 - 3a_0x^2 = a_0(1-3x^2) = \frac{1}{2}(3x^2-1) \\ \text{for } a_0 = -\frac{1}{2}$$

For $k=3$

$$y_{\text{odd}} = -\frac{5}{3}a_1x^3 + a_1x = \frac{1}{2}(5x^3-3x) \\ = P_3(x) \text{ for } a_1 = -\frac{3}{2}$$

Ground Rule.

\therefore Even $k \rightarrow$ Even Series Terminates

Odd $k \rightarrow$ Odd Series Terminates

Hence P_1, P_2, P_3 are Legendre Polynomials.

Rodriguez' Formula:

$$a_{n+2} = \frac{a_n(n-k)(n+k+1)}{(n+2)(n+1)}$$

Two possible solutions for positive integer k :

- i) infinite Series Solution
- ii) Polynomial Solution: $y = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{k-1}x^{k-1} + a_kx^k$

Related to
Legendre Polynomials.

To find these values:

Set a_k to Calculate a_{k-2}

$$a_k = \frac{(2k)!}{2^k (k!)^2} \downarrow$$

Simplify the Legendre polynomial

$$P_k(x=1) = 1$$

$$a_n = \frac{a_{n+2}(n+2)(n+1)}{(n-k)(n+k+1)}$$

$$a_{k-2} = \frac{a_k k(k-1)}{(-2)(2k-1)}$$

Plug in a_k

$$a_{k-2} = \frac{(-1)(2k-2)!}{2^k (k-1)!(k-2)!}$$

induced Surface Charge:

$$\sigma = -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial n}$$

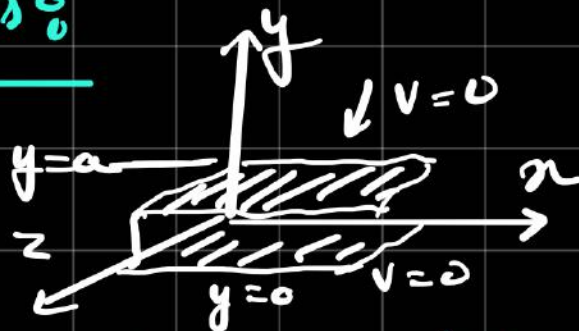
where n is the normal direction.

$$\sigma = -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial n} = -\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial V}{\partial z}$$

if normal direction
is in the z direction

Separation of Variables:

$$\frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} = 0$$



with the following Boundary Conditions:

- i) $v=0$, when $y=0$,
- ii) $v=0$, when $y=a$,
- iii) $v=v_0(y)$ when $x=0$,
- iv) $v \rightarrow 0$ as $x \rightarrow \infty$

Separating the variables gives us

$$v(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$$

$$\text{So } Y \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x^2} + X \frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{X} \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x^2} = - \frac{1}{Y} \frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial y^2} = k^2$$

Which mean

$$\frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x^2} = k^2 X$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial y^2} = -k^2 Y$$

$$Y(y) = C \sin(ky) + D \cos(ky)$$

$$\therefore x(n) = Ae^{kn} + Be^{-kn}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } v(n, y) &= x(n) Y(y) \\ &= \underline{(Ae^{kn} + Be^{-kn})} (C \sin(ky) + D \cos(ky)) \end{aligned}$$

Now $v = 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$
 Meaning $Ae^{kn} + Be^{-kn} = 0$

Now $0 + \infty \neq 0$ unless $A = 0$,

Meaning

$$v(n) = e^{-kn} (C \cos(ky) + D \sin(ky))$$

$v = 0$ when $y = 0$.

$$\therefore C \cos 0 + D \sin 0 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow C = 0$$

$$\therefore v(n, y) = D e^{-kn} \sin ky.$$

And ii) yields the fact that

$$k = \frac{\pi n}{a}; n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Since Laplace's Equation is linear

it can make any linear combination

$$\nabla^2 v = \alpha_1 \nabla^2 v_1 + \alpha_2 \nabla^2 v_2 + \dots = 0$$

$$\nabla(\nabla v) = -\vec{E}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 v = -\nabla \cdot \vec{E}$$

$$\therefore \nabla^2 v = 0$$

By exploiting the above relation
we can say that

$$v(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n e^{-n\pi x/a} \sin(n\pi y/a)$$

$$\text{and } v(0, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin(n\pi y/a) = v_0(y)$$

$$\text{Now } \int_0^a v_0 \sin(n'\pi y/a) dy$$

$$= \int_0^a \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin(n\pi y/a) \sin(n'\pi y/a) dy$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \left(\frac{a}{2}\right) \delta_{nn'}$$

$$\Rightarrow \therefore C_n = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a v_0(y) \sin(n\pi y/a) dy$$

Symmetry :

Laplace's equation yields

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \phi^2} = 0$$

Azimuthal Symmetry means V is independent of ϕ

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} \right) = 0$$

The solution of which looks like

$$V(r, \theta) = R(r) \Theta(\theta)$$

We get the following by differentiating

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) + \frac{1}{\Theta \sin \theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{R} \frac{d}{dn} \left(n^2 \frac{dR}{dn} \right) = l(l+1)$$

$$\text{and } \frac{1}{\Theta \sin \Theta} \frac{d}{d\Theta} \left(\sin \Theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\Theta} \right) = -l(l+1)$$

$$\frac{d}{dn} \left(n^2 \frac{dR}{dn} \right) = l(l+1)R$$

$$R(n) = A n^l + \frac{B}{n^{l+1}}$$

$$\Theta(\theta) = P_l(\cos \theta) \text{ Legendre Polynomial.}$$

$$\text{Where } P_l(n) = \frac{1}{2^l l!} \left(\frac{d}{dn} \right)^l (n^2 - 1)^l$$

$$\therefore V(n, \theta) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} \left(A_l n^l + \frac{B_l}{n^{l+1}} \right) P_l(\cos \theta)$$

