

①

W-1 
$$Ly = \frac{d}{dx} \left( p(x) \frac{dy}{dx} \right) + q(x)y = f(x)$$

over the range  $a \leq x \leq b$  subject to homogeneous boundary condition at  $x=a$  and  $x=b$ .  
Our Green's function needs to satisfy the b.c

$$L G(x, t) = \delta(x-t)$$

so that  $y(x)$  the solution

$$y(x) = \int_a^b G(x, t) f(t) dt$$

$$L y(x) = \int_a^b L G(x, t) f(t) dt = \int_a^b \delta(x-t) f(t) dt = \underline{f(x)}$$

We continue with the study of problems on an interval  $(a, b)$  with one homogeneous boundary condition at each endpoint of the interval.

Given a value of  $t$ , it is necessary for  $x$  in the range  $a \leq x < t$  that  $G(x, t)$  have an  $x$  dependence  $h(x)$  that is a solution to the homogeneous eq<sup>n</sup>  $Lh = 0$  and that also satisfies the boundary cond. at  $x=a$

The most general  $G(x, t)$  satisfying these conditions must have the form

$$G(x, t) = y_1(x) h_1(t) \quad x < t$$

conversely  $t \leq x \leq b$

$$G(x, t) = y_2(x) h_2(t) \quad x > t$$

where  $y_2$  is a solution of  $L = 0$  that satisfies the boundary condition at  $x = b$ .

$$G(x, t) = G(t, x)^* \quad \text{---}$$

from this we get  $h_2^* = A y_1$ ,  $h_1^* = A y_2$

$A$  is a constant to be determined.

$$G(x, t) = \begin{cases} A y_1(x) y_2(t) & x < t \\ A y_2(x) y_1(t) & x > t \end{cases}$$

$A$  is determined by

$$A [y_2'(t) y_1(t) - y_1'(t) y_2(t)] = \frac{1}{p(t)},$$

$$y(x) = A y_2(x) \int_a^x y_1(t) p(t) dt + A y_1(x) \int_x^b y_2(t) p(t) dt$$

## Example

(2)

Consider the ODE  $-y'' = f(x)$

with boundary condition  $y_0(0) = 0 = y(1)$ .

the corresponding homogeneous eq  $-y'' = 0$  has general solution  $y_0 = C + Dx$

$y_1 = x$  that satisfies  $y_1(0) = 0$ .

$y_2 = 1 - x$   $y_2(1) = 0$

For this ODE, the coefficient  $b(t) = -1$

$$y_1'(x) = 1, \quad y_2'(x) = -1,$$

$$A = [(-1)[(-1)(x) - (1)(1-x)]]^{-1} = 1.$$

Our Green's function is therefore

$$G(x, t) = \begin{cases} x(1-t) & 0 \leq x < t \\ t(1-x) & t < x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

let  $f(x) = \sin \pi x$ ,

$$y_2(x) = \int_0^1 G(x, t) \sin \pi t \, dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (1-x) \int_0^x t \sin \pi t \, dt + x \int_x^1 (1-t) \sin \pi t \, dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi^2} \sin \pi x \end{aligned}$$

10.1.2  $Ly = \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + y = f(x).$

with the initial conditions  $y(0) = 0$  and  $y'(0) = 0$ .

this operator  $L$  has  $\beta(x) = 1$ .

We start by noting the homogeneous eq<sup>n</sup>  $Ly = 0$  has two linearly independent solutions

$$y_1 = \sin x \quad \text{and} \quad y_2 = \cos x$$

However the only linear combination that satisfies the b.c at  $x=0$  is  $y=0$ , so

$$G(x,t) = 0 \quad \text{for } x < t,$$

for  $x > t$  there are no boundary conditions

$$\therefore G(x,t) = G_1(t) \sin x + G_2(t) \cos x \quad \underline{x > t}$$

impose the requirement

$$G(t_+, t) = G(t_-, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = G_1(t) \sin t + G_2(t) \cos t$$

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(t_+, t) - \frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(t_-, t) = \frac{1}{\beta(t)} = 1$$

$$G_1(t) \cos t - G_2(t) \sin t = 1.$$

$$\Rightarrow G_1(t) = \cos t, \quad G_2(t) = -\sin t$$

$$G(x,t) = \cos t \sin x - \sin t \cos x = \sin(x-t) \quad \underline{x > t}$$



$$87 \quad G(x, t) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < t \\ \sin(x-t) & x > t \end{cases}$$

$$y(x) = \int_0^x G(x, t) f(t) dt \\ = \int_0^x \sin(x-t) f(t) dt$$

10.1.3  $\left(\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + k^2\right) y(x) = g(x),$

the general solution with  $g=0$  is spanned by two functions:  $y_1 = e^{-ikx}$  and  $y_2 = e^{ikx}$

for large positive  $x$ , we must have solution  $y_2$ , while for large negative  $x$  the solution is  $y_1$

$$G(x, x') = \begin{cases} A y_1(x') y_2(x) & x > x' \\ A y_2(x') y_1(x) & x < x' \end{cases}$$

$\psi(x) = 1.$   $A = \frac{1}{y_2'(x) y_1(x) - y_1'(x) y_2(x)} = -\frac{i}{2k}.$

$$G(x, t) = -\frac{i}{2k} \exp(i|x-t|)$$

## Legendre Polynomial

①

15.1.1 Derive the Legendre ODE by manipulating the Legendre polynomial recurrence relations

$$\Rightarrow (1-x^2) P_n'(x) = n P_{n-1}(x) - nx P_n(x)$$

$\Rightarrow$  differentiating

$$(1-x^2) P_n''(x) - 2x P_n'(x) = n P_{n-1}'(x) - n P_n'(x) - nx P_n'(x)$$

Now we also have  $P_{n-1}'(x) = -n P_n(x) + x P_n'(x)$ ,

replacing  $P_{n-1}'(x)$ , we get the required form

15.1.2 Derive the following closed formula for the Legendre polynomial  $P_n(x)$ ,

$$P_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} (-1)^k \frac{(2n-2k)!}{2^n k! (n-k)! (n-2k)!} x^{n-2k}$$

where  $\lfloor n/2 \rfloor$  stands for the integer part of  $n/2$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Expand  $(-2xt + t^2)^n$  as

$$g(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \binom{-1/2}{n} \sum_{j=0}^n \binom{n}{j} t^{2j} (-2xt)^{n-j}$$

Now change the summation variable  $n$  to  $m = n+j$   
the range of  $m$  will be from zero to infinity  
but the range of  $j$  will now only include

~~n~~ larger than  $n/2$ .

②

15.1.4 The shifted Legendre polynomials, designated by the symbol  $P_n^*(x)$  are orthogonal with unit weight  $[0, 1]$ , with normalization integral

$$\langle P_n^* | P_m^* \rangle = \frac{1}{2n+1}$$

- (a) find the recurrence relation satisfied by  $P_n^*(x)$   
(b) show that all the co-efficients of the  $P_n^*$  are integers.

$\Rightarrow$  If we set  $P_n^*(x) = P(y)$  where  $y = 2x-1$ , then

$$\int_0^1 P_n^*(x) P_m^*(x) dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 P_n(y) P_m(y) dy = \frac{1}{2} \frac{2}{2n+1} \delta_{nm}$$

this equation confirms the orthogonality and normalization of the  $P_n^*(x)$ .

- (a) replacing  $n$  by  $2x-1$  in the  $P_n$  recurrence formula, we find,

$$(n+1) P_{n+1}^*(x) - (2n+1)(2x-1) P_n^*(x) + n P_{n-1}^*(x) = 0,$$

- (b) By examination of the first few  $P_n^*$ , we guess that they are given by the general formula

$$P_n^*(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^{n-k} \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k} x^k.$$

this formula is easily proved by mathematical induction, using the recurrence formula (2)

$$P_{n+1}^*(x) = \frac{1}{n+1} (2n+1)(2x-1) \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k} (-1)^{n-k} x^k \\ - \frac{n}{n+1} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{k} \binom{n+k-1}{k} (-1)^{n-1-k} x^k.$$

15-1.6 By differentiating the generating function  $g(x,t)$  w.r.t  $t$ , multiplying by  $2t$ , and then adding  $g(x,t)$ , show that

$$\frac{1-t^2}{(1-2xt+t^2)^{3/2}} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2n+1) P_n(x) t^n$$

$$\Rightarrow 2t \frac{\partial g(x,t)}{\partial t} + g = \frac{1-t^2}{(1-2xt+t^2)^{3/2}} \\ = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2n P_n t^n + P_n t^n) \\ = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (2n+1) P_n t^n$$



15.1.7 (a) Prove  $(1-x^2)P'_n(x) = (n+1)xP_n(x) - (n+1)P_{n+1}(x)$ .

⇒ We have  $nP_{n+1}(x) = (2n+1)xP_n(x) - (n+1)P_{n+1}(x)$  — (1)

and  $(1-x^2)P'_n(x) = nP_{n+1}(x) - nxP_n(x)$  — (2)

put  $nP_{n+1}(x)$  from (1) into (2), we get

$$\begin{aligned}(1-x^2)P'_n(x) &= (2n+1)xP_n(x) - (n+1)P_{n+1}(x) - nxP_n(x) \\ &= (n+1)P_n(x) - (n+1)P_{n+1}(x),\end{aligned}$$

15.1.8 Prove that  $P'_n(1) = \frac{d}{dx} P_n(x) \Big|_{x=1} = \frac{1}{2} n(n+1)$ .

⇒ For  $n=1$ , we establish  $P'_1(1) = 1 \cdot 2/2 = 1$  as the first step of a proof by mathematical induction. Now assuming  $P'_n(1) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$  and using eq<sup>n</sup>.

$$P'_{n+1}(x) = (n+1)P_n(x) + xP'_n(x)$$

$$P'_{n+1}(1) = (n+1)P_n(1) + P'_n(1)$$

$$= (n+1) + \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = \frac{1}{2}(n+1)(n+2),$$

which proves our assumed formula for  $n+1$

15.19 Show that  $P_n(x) = (-1)^n P_n(-x)$  by ②  
 use of the recurrence relation relating  $P_n$ ,  $P_{n+1}$  and  $P_{n-1}$  and your knowledge of  $P_0$  and  $P_1$ .

→ For a proof by mathematical induction we start by verifying that  $P_0(x) = P_0(-x) = 1$  and then  $P_1(-x) = -P_1(x) = -x$ . We need to show that if  $P_m(-x) = (-1)^m P_m(x)$  for  $m = n-1$  and  $m = n$ , the relationship holds for  $m = n+1$ , now we have, -

$$(2n+1)x P_n(x) = (n+1)P_{n+1}(x) + nP_{n-1}(x) \quad \text{--- ①}$$

x replace by  $(-x)$ , -

$$-(2n+1)x P_n(-x) = (n+1)P_{n+1}(-x) + nP_{n-1}(-x) \quad \text{--- ②}$$

$$(-1)^{n+1}(2n+1)x P_n(x) = (n+1)P_{n+1}(-x) + (-1)^{n-1}nP_{n-1}(x) \quad \text{--- ③}$$

Here relationship for  $P_n$  and  $P_{n+1}$  are used.

comparing ② with ①, we get

$$P_{n+1}(-x) = (-1)^{n+1} P_{n+1}(x),$$

15.1.14 Show that  $\int_{-1}^1 x^m P_n(x) dx = 0$  when  $m < n$

$$\Rightarrow x^m = \sum_{\lambda \leq m} a_{\lambda} P_{\lambda}(x).$$

Now orthogonality gives  $\int_{-1}^1 x^m P_n(x) dx = 0$   
 $m < n$

15.1.15 Show that  $\int_{-1}^1 x^n P_n(x) dx = \frac{2n!}{(2n+1)!!}$

$\Rightarrow$  following the direction in the exercise to use Rodrigues formula and perform integration by parts,

$$\begin{aligned} F_n &= \int_{-1}^1 x^n P_n(x) dx = \frac{1}{2^n n!} \int_{-1}^1 x^n \left( \frac{d}{dx} \right)^n (x^2-1)^n dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2^n n!} \left[ x^n \left( \frac{d}{dx} \right)^{n-1} (x^2-1)^n \right]_{-1}^1 - \int_{-1}^1 n x^{n-1} \left( \frac{d}{dx} \right)^{n-1} (x^2-1)^n dx \end{aligned}$$

A second integration by parts yields

$$F_n = \frac{1}{2^n n!} \int_{-1}^1 n(n-1) x^{n-2} \left( \frac{d}{dx} \right)^{n-2} (x^2-1)^n dx \quad \left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{first} \\ \text{term} \\ \text{vanishes} \end{array} \right]$$

(4)

Further integrations by parts until the differentiation within the integral has been completely removed lead to, -

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_n &= \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n n!} \int_{-1}^1 n! (x^2-1)^n dx \\
 &= 2^{-n} \left[ 2 \int_0^1 (1-x^2)^n dx \right] \\
 &\quad \text{Beta function } B\left(\frac{1}{2}, n+1\right) \\
 &= \frac{2^{n+1} n!}{(2n+1)!!}
 \end{aligned}$$

(5.2.1) Using Rodrigues formula, show that  $P_n(x)$  are orthogonal and that, -

$$\int_{-1}^1 [P_n(x)]^2 dx = \frac{2}{2n+1}.$$

⇒ for  $n \neq m$

$$\int_{-1}^1 P_m P_n dx = \frac{1}{2^{m+n} m! n!} \int_{-1}^1 \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^m (x^2-1)^m \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^n (x^2-1)^n dx = 0$$

$$\text{because } \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^{m+n} (x^2-1)^m = 0$$

for  $n \leq m$ , the repeated integration by parts yields



$$\frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} n! n!} \int_{-1}^1 (x^2-1)^n \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^{2n} (x^2-1)^n dx = \frac{(2n)!}{2^{2n} n! n!} \int_{-1}^1 (1-x^2)^n dx$$

$$= \frac{2n!}{2^{2n} n! n!} B\left(\frac{1}{2}, n+1\right) = \frac{2n!}{2^{2n} n! n!} \frac{2^{n+1} \pi!}{(2n+1)!}$$

$$= \frac{2}{2n+1}$$

15.2.7 Verify the Dirac delta function expansion

⇒ ~~insert the expansion to be~~

$$\delta(1-x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2n+1}{2} P_n(x)$$

$$\delta(1+x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{2n+1}{2} P_n(x)$$

⇒ insert the expansion to be verified, and then note that the expansion of  $f(x)$  in Legendre polynomials takes the form,

$$f(x) = \sum_n a_n P_n(x), \quad a_n = \frac{2n+1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 f(x) P_n(x) dx$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) \delta(1-x) dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2n+1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 f(x) P_n(x) dx$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n P_n(1) = f(1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \delta(1+x) dx &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{2n+1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 f(x) P_n(x) dx \\
 &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n a_n \\
 &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n P_n(-1) = \underline{f(-1)}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{5}$$

15.25 Neutrons are being scattered by a nucleus of mass  $A$  ( $A \gg 1$ ), in the centre-of-mass system the scattering is isotropic, then in the laboratory system the average of the cosine of the angle of deflection of the neutron is

$$\langle \cos \theta \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\pi \frac{A \cos \theta + 1}{(A^2 + 2A \cos \theta + 1)^{3/2}} \sin \theta d\theta$$

Show by expansion of the denominator, that

$$\langle \cos \theta \rangle = 2/3A$$

$$\Rightarrow (A^2 + 2A \cos \theta + 1)^{-3/2} = \frac{1}{A} \left( 1 + \frac{2}{A} \cos \theta + \frac{1}{A^2} \right)^{-3/2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{A} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_n(\cos \theta) \left( -\frac{1}{A} \right)^n;$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle \cos \theta \rangle &= \frac{1}{2A} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left( -\frac{1}{A} \right)^n \int_0^\pi (A \cos \theta + 1) P_n(\cos \theta) \sin \theta d\theta \\
 &= \frac{1}{2A} \cdot \left( 2 - \frac{2}{3} \right) = \frac{2}{3A}
 \end{aligned}$$