

1 Method

So far we have done till a 7th-degree polynomial. The way we have done it is -
(1) Let's say we take n^{th} order polynomial for y

$$y = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots + a_nx^n$$

and use it in the differential equation

$$1 + (y')^2 + 2yy'' = 0$$

And then we equate the coefficients to 0, we get $2n - 1$ equations. We take the first $n - 1$ equations of these $2n - 1$ equations. We also have 2 other equations

$$\begin{array}{ll} (\text{i}) a_0 = 1 & (\text{ii}) \sum_{i=0}^n a_i = 0 \end{array}$$

arising from the conditions

$$(\text{i}) y(0) = 1 \quad (\text{ii}) y(1) = 0$$

So we have $n + 1$ equations and $n + 1$ variables. In the $n - 1$ equations we got from coefficient matching, a_i appears for the first time in the $i - 1^{\text{th}}$ equation. So we represent a_i as a function of $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{i-1}$. Finally, we represent each one of a_i s ($i > 1$) as a function of a_1 : $a_2 = f_2(a_1)$, $a_3 = f_3(a_1)$, \dots , $a_n = f_n(a_1)$.

Using $\sum_{i=0}^n a_i = 0$, we get

$$1 + a_1 + f_2(a_1) + \dots + f_n(a_1) = 0$$

This is an n^{th} degree polynomial in a_1 . We solve this numerically and substitute values to get all the coefficients.

2 Example (7th-degree polynomial)

For $n = 7$, we get these:

(1) The first 6 of the 13 equations we get from coefficient matching:

$$1 + 4a_0a_2 + (a_1)^2 = 0$$

$$12a_0a_3 + 8a_1a_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{2} (48a_0a_4 + 36a_1a_3 + 16(a_2)^2) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{6} (240a_0a_5 + 192a_1a_4 + 168a_2a_3) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{24} (1440a_0a_6 + 1200a_1a_5 + 1056a_2a_4 + 504(a_3)^2) = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{120} (10080a_0a_7 + 8640a_1a_6 + 7680a_2a_5 + 7200a_3a_4) = 0$$

(2) a_i s as functions of a_1 :

$$a_2 = -\frac{1}{4} (1 + a_1^2)$$

$$a_3 = \frac{1}{6}a_1 (1 + a_1^2)$$

$$a_4 = \frac{1}{48} (-(1 + a_1^2)^2 - 6a_1^2(1 + a_1^2))$$

$$a_5 = \frac{1}{240} (7(1 + a_1^2)^2a_1 - 4a_1 (-(1 + a_1^2)^2 - 6a_1^2(1 + a_1^2)))$$

$$a_6 = \frac{1}{1440} \left(\frac{11}{2} (1 + a_1^2) \left(-(1 + a_1^2)^2 - 6a_1^2 (1 + a_1^2) \right) - 14 (1 + a_1^2)^2 a_1^2 - 5a_1 (7 (1 + a_1^2)^2 a_1 - 4a_1 (-(1 + a_1^2)^2 - 6a_1^2(1 + a_1^2))) \right)$$

Using $1 + a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_7 = 0$, we get

$$\frac{2089}{2880} + \frac{773}{630}a_1 - \frac{479}{960}a_1^2 + \frac{139}{280}a_1^3 - \frac{367}{960}a_1^4 + \frac{9}{20}a_1^5 - \frac{91}{576}a_1^6 + \frac{13}{72}a_1^7 = 0$$

which gives $a_1 = -0.45043$, further we get these:

$$a_2 = -0.30072, \quad a_3 = -0.09030, \quad a_4 = -0.06065, \quad a_5 = -0.04086, \quad a_6 = -0.03156, \quad a_7 = -0.02546$$

Using these coefficients, we get our 7th degree polynomial.

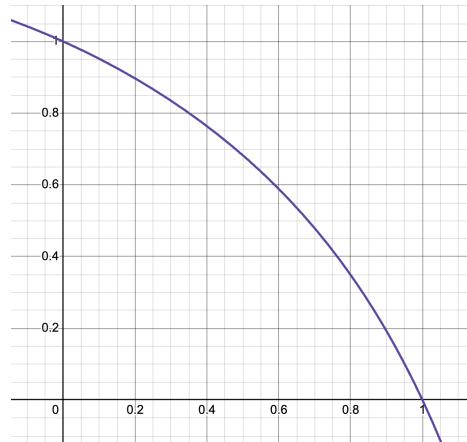


Figure 1: 7th degree polynomial plot