MA-207 Differential Equations II S1 - Lecture 5

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Recall: Consider $x^2y'' + xB(x)y' + C(x)y = 0$

$$B(x) = \sum_{i \ge 0} b_i x^i$$
 and $C(x) = \sum_{i \ge 0} c_i x^i$

analytic at 0. Put

$$y(x,r) = x^r \sum_{n\geq 0} a_n(r) x^n, \ a_0(r) = 1$$

Coefficient of x^r gives "Indicial equation"

$$I(r) := r(r-1) + b_0 r + c_0 = 0$$

For $n \ge 1$, the coefficient of x^{n+r} gives

$$a_n(r)I(n+r) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} b_{n-i}(i+r)a_i(r) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c_{n-i}a_i(r) = 0$$

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$$a_n(r) = -\frac{\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} b_{n-i} (i+r) a_i(r) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c_{n-i} a_i(r)}{I(n+r)}$$

is a rational function of r.

• Let $r_1 \ge r_2$ be real roots of I(r) = 0. Then

$$y_1(x) = y(x, r_1) = \sum_{n>0} a_n(r_1)x^{n+r_1}$$

is the first solution.

• If $r_1 - r_2 \notin \mathbb{Z}$, then second solution is

$$y_2(x) = y(x, r_2) = \sum_{n \ge 0} a_n(r_2) x^{n+r_2}$$

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• If $r_1 = r_2$. Then the second solution is

$$y_2(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(x^r \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n(r) x^n \right) \Big|_{r=r_1}$$
$$= y_1(x) \ln x + x^{r_1} \sum_{n\geq 1} a'_n(r_1) x^n$$

Example. Let us solve Bessel equation

$$x^{2}y'' + xy' + (x^{2} - p^{2})y = 0, \quad p \ge 0$$

Frobenius solution

$$y(x,r) = x^r \sum_{n\geq 0} a_n(r) x^n, \quad a_0(r) = 1$$

exists on $(0, \infty)$. Indicial equation (coefficient of x^r)

$$I(r) = r(r-1) + r - p^2 = r^2 - p^2 = (r-p)(r+p)$$

Roots are $r_1 = p$, $r_2 = -p$. Coefficient of x^{n+r} is

$$I(n+r)a_n(r) + a_{n-2}(r) = 0$$

$$a_{-1}(r) = 0 \implies a_{2n+1}(r) = 0, \quad n \ge 0$$

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$$I(n+r)a_n(r) + a_{n-2}(r) = 0$$

$$\implies a_{2n}(r) = -\frac{a_{2n-2}(r)}{I(2n+r)} = \frac{(-1)^n}{\prod_{i=1}^n I(2i+r)}$$

• Assume $r_1 - r_2 = p - (-p) = 2p \notin \mathbb{Z}$, we get two Frobenius solutions for r_1 and r_2 .

$$I(2i+p) = (2i+p+p)(2i+p-p) = 2^{2}(i+p)i,$$

$$I(2i - p) = (2i - p + p)(2i - p - p) = 2^{2}i(i - p)$$

$$a_{2n}(p) = \frac{(-1)^n}{\prod_{i=1}^n 2^2 i(i+p)} = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} n! (1+p) \dots (n+p)}$$

$$a_{2n}(-p) = \frac{(-1)^n}{\prod_{i=1}^n 2^2 i(i-p)} = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} n! (1-p) \dots (n-p)}$$

First solution is (r = p)

$$y_1(x) = y(x,p) = \sum_{n\geq 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n}n!(1+p)\dots(n+p)} x^{2n+p}$$

The second solution is (r = -p)

$$y_2(x) = y(x, -p) = \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} n! (1-p) \dots (n-p)} x^{2n-p}$$

Next we consider repeated root case, i.e.

$$p = -p \implies p = 0.$$

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Assume p = 0. Then Bessel equation is

$$x^2y'' + xy' + x^2y = 0$$

 $I(r) = r(r-1) + r = r^2$ has repeated roots 0, 0.

$$a_{2n}(r) = -\frac{a_{2n-2}(r)}{I(2n+r)} = -\frac{a_{2n-2}(r)}{(2n+r)^2} = \frac{(-1)^n}{\prod_{i=1}^n (2i+r)^2}$$

$$a_{2n}(0) = \frac{(-1)^n}{\prod_{i=1}^n (2i)^2} = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} (n!)^2}$$

So Frobenius solution is

$$y_1(x) = y(x,0) = \sum_{n>0} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n}(n!)^2} x^{2n}$$

The second solution is

$$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \ln x + \sum_{n>1} a'_{2n}(0)x^n$$

$$a_{2n}(r) = \frac{(-1)^n}{\prod_{i=1}^n (2i+r)^2} = \frac{(-1)^n}{[(r+2)(r+4)\dots(r+2n)]^2}$$

$$a_{2n}(r)' = -2a_{2n}(r)\left(\frac{1}{r+2} + \frac{1}{r+4} + \dots + \frac{1}{r+2n}\right)$$

$$a'_{2n}(0) = \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{2^{2n}(n!)^2} H_n, \quad H_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}$$

The second solution is

$$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \ln x - \sum_{n>1} \frac{(-1)^n H_n}{2^{2n} (n!)^2} x^{2n}$$

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Second solution: $r_1 - r_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$

Consider ODE

$$x^{2}y'' + xB(x)y' + B(x)y = 0$$

$$B(x) = \sum_{i \ge 0} b_i x^i$$
 and $B(x) = \sum_{i \ge 0} c_i x^i$ analytic at 0 .

Then x = 0 is a regular singular point.

Assume
$$I(r)=r(r-1)+b_0r+c_0=0$$
 has roots $r_1>r_2$ with $r_1-r_2=N$ an integer.

First solution is given by

$$y_1(x) = y(x, r_1) = x^{r_1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(r_1) x^n, \quad a_0 = 1$$

where $a_n(r)$ $(n \ge 1)$ are determined inductively by

$$I(n+r)a_n(r) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} b_{n-i}(i+r)a_i(r) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} c_{n-i}a_i(r) = 0$$

This can be solved since $I(n+r_1) \neq 0$ for $n \geq 1$. Each $a_n(r)$ is a rational function in r and

$$a_n(r) \prod_{i=1}^n I(i+r)$$

is a polynomial in r. The polynomial

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} I(i+r) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} (i+r-r_1)(i+r-r_2)$$

evaluated at r_2 vanishes if and only if $n \ge N$. For $n \ge N$ it vanishes at r_2 to order exactly 1.

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Thus if we define $A_n(r) := a_n(r)(r - r_2)$ Then $A_n(r)$ is analytic at r_2 for every $n \ge 0$. Consider the function of two variables

$$\psi(x,r) := (r - r_2)y(x,r) = \sum_{n \ge 0} A_n(r)x^{n+r}$$

$$Ly(x,r) = I(r)x^r \implies L\psi(x,r) = (r-r_2)I(r)x^r.$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r}(L\psi(x,r)) = \frac{\partial}{\partial r}\left((r-r_2)I(r)x^r\right)$$

$$\implies L\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r}(\psi(x,r))\right) = I(r)x^r + (r-r_2)\left(I(r)x^r\right)'$$

RHS vanishes at $r = r_2$. Hence

Second solution: $r_1 - r_2 \in \mathbb{Z}$

The second solution is

$$y_2(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (\psi(x, r_2)|_{r=r_2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\sum_{n\geq 0} A_n(r) x^{n+r} \right) \Big|_{r=r_2}$$

$$= \sum_{n\geq 0} A'_n(r_2)x^{n+r_2} + \sum_{n\geq 0} A_n(r_2)x^{n+r_2} \log x$$

Since $A_n(r_2) = 0$ for $n \leq N - 1$.

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n \ge 0} A'_n(r_2) x^{n+r_2} + \sum_{n \ge N} A_n(r_2) x^{n+r_2} \log x$$

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Example

Consider the ODE xy'' - (4+x)y' + 2y = 0

Multiplying with x, we get x=0 is a regular singular point.

Indicial equation for $x^2y'' - x(4+x)y' + 2xy = 0$ is

$$I(r) = r(r-1) - 4r + 0 = r(r-5) = 0$$

with the roots $r_1 = 5, r_2 = 0$ and $N = r_1 - r_2 = 5$.

Put
$$y(x,r) = x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(r) x^n$$
, $a_0(r) = 1$,

the coefficient of x^{n+r} for $n \ge 1$ gives

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

For
$$n \ge 1$$
, $a_n(r) = \frac{(n+r-3)}{(n+r)(n+r-5)} a_{n-1}$
$$= \frac{(n+r-3)\dots(r-2)}{(n+r)\dots(1+r)(n+r-5)\dots(r-4)} a_0$$

For the first solution, set $r = r_1 = 5$, we get

$$a_n(5) = \frac{(n+2)\dots(3)}{(n+5)\dots6.n\dots1} = \frac{(n+2)!/2}{(n!)(n+5)!/5!}$$
$$= \frac{60}{n!(n+5)(n+4)(n+3)}$$

Thus
$$y_1(x) = \sum_{n>0} \frac{60}{n!(n+5)(n+4)(n+3)} x^{n+5}$$

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Recall $N=r_1-r_2=5-0$ is integer, so the second solution is

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n\geq 0} A'_n(r_2)x^{n+r_2} + \sum_{n\geq 5} A_n(r_2)x^{n+r_2} \log x$$

where $r_2 = 0$ and $A_n(r) = a_n(r)(r - r_2) = ra_n(r)$.

$$a_n(r) = \frac{(n+r-3)\dots(r-2)}{(n+r)\dots(1+r)(n+r-5)\dots(r-4)}$$

Note that $a_n(r)$ is analytic at 0 for all n.

For $n \geq 5$, r in the numerator and denominator gets cancellaed.

So
$$A_n(0) = 0$$
 for $n \ge 0$.

$$A'_n(0) = (a'_n(r).r + a_n(r))|_{r=0} = a_n(0)$$

as $a_n(r)$ is analytic at 0, so $a'_n(0)$ exists.

So we need to compute $a_n(0)$.

$$a_n(r) = \frac{(n+r-3)\dots(r-2)}{(n+r)\dots(1+r)(n+r-5)\dots(r-4)}$$

$$a_1(0) = \frac{-2}{1.(-4)} = \frac{1}{2}, \quad a_2(0) = \frac{(-1)(-2)}{2!.(-3)(-4)} = \frac{1}{12}$$

$$a_3(0) = 0, \qquad a_4(0) = 0,$$

For $n \geq 5$,

$$a_n(0) = \frac{(n-3)! \cdot 2}{n!(n-5)! \cdot 4!} = \frac{1}{12 \cdot (n-5)! n(n-1)(n-2)}$$

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The second solution is

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n>0} A'_n(0)x^n + \sum_{n>5} A_n(0)x^n \log x$$

Recall $A_n(0) = 0$ and $A'_n(0) = a_n(0)$.

$$y_2(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{12}x^2 + \sum_{n>5} \frac{x^n}{12(n-5)!n(n-1)(n-2)}$$

$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{12}x^2 + \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{1}{12 \cdot n! (n+5)(n+4)(n+3)} x^{n+5}$$
$$= 1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{12}x^2 + \frac{1}{60 \cdot 12}y_1(x)$$

Therefore, we can take $y_2(x) = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{12}x^2$

Summary

While solving an ODE around a regular singular point by the Frobenius method, the cases encountered are

- roots not differing by an integer
- repeated roots
- roots differing by a positive integer

The larger root always gives a Frobenius solution. In 2nd and 3rd cases, second solution may involve a \log term.

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Remark

- We also have a solution to the ODE in the interval $(-\rho,0)$.
- Put x = -x' in the ODE to get a new ODE in the variable x'.
- Using the above method, solve the new ODE in the interval $(0, \rho)$
- Let $w_1(x'), w_2(x')$ denote the solutions of the new ODE in the interval $(0, \rho)$
- Then $y_i(x) := w_i(-x)$ is a solution of the original ODE in the interval $(-\rho, 0)$.

Define for all p > 0, the Gamma function

$$\Gamma(p) := \int_0^\infty t^{p-1} e^{-t} dt$$

There is a problem if p < 0, as the integral is divergent.

$$\Gamma(1) = \int_0^\infty e^{-t} dt = 1$$

For p > 0, $\Gamma(p) =$

$$\lim_{x \to \infty} \int_0^x t^{p-1} e^{-t} dt = \frac{1}{p} \left(\lim_{x \to \infty} \int_0^x t^p e^{-t} dt \right) = \frac{1}{p} \Gamma(p+1)$$

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$$\Gamma(p) = \frac{\Gamma(p+1)}{p} \tag{*}$$

Use (*) to define $\Gamma(p)$ for all real $p \neq 0, -1, -2, \ldots$

For $-1 , <math>\Gamma(p+1)$ is defined; use (*) to define $\Gamma(p)$.

Proceed like this for $p \in (-2, -1)$, then for $p \in (-3, -2)$, ...

For example,

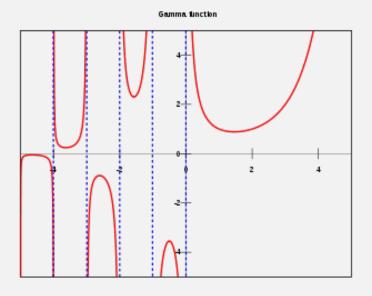
$$\Gamma(-\frac{5}{2}) = \frac{\Gamma(-\frac{3}{2})}{-\frac{5}{2}} = \frac{\Gamma(-\frac{1}{2})}{(-\frac{5}{2})(-\frac{3}{2})} = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})(=\sqrt{\pi})}{(-\frac{5}{2})(-\frac{3}{2})(-\frac{1}{2})}$$

Further

$$\lim_{p \to 0} \Gamma(p) = \lim_{p \to 0} \frac{\Gamma(p+1)}{p} = \pm \infty$$

according as $p \to 0$ from right or left.

The graph of Gamma function is shown below.



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Though the gamma function is now defined for all real numbers (except for $0, -1, -2, \ldots$), the integral representation is valid only for p > 0. It is useful to rewrite

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(p)} = \frac{p}{\Gamma(p+1)}$$

This holds for all p if we impose the condition

$$\frac{1}{\Gamma(n)} = 0, \qquad n = 0, -1, -2, \dots$$

$$\Gamma(1/2)=\int_0^\infty t^{-1/2}e^{-t}dt=2\int_0^\infty e^{-s^2}ds=\sqrt{\pi}$$
 use the substitution $t=s^2$.

By translating,

$$\Gamma(1/2) = \sqrt{\pi} \approx 1.772$$

$$\Gamma(-1/2) = \frac{\Gamma(1/2)}{-1/2} = -2\sqrt{\pi} \approx -3.545$$

$$\Gamma(-3/2) = \frac{\Gamma(-1/2)}{-3/2} = \frac{4}{3}\sqrt{\pi} \approx 2.363$$

$$\Gamma(3/2) = \frac{1}{2}\Gamma(1/2) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\pi} \approx 0.886$$

$$\Gamma(5/2) = \frac{3}{2}\Gamma(3/2) = \frac{3}{4}\sqrt{\pi} \approx 1.329$$

$$\Gamma(7/2) = \frac{5}{2}\Gamma(5/2) = \frac{15}{8}\sqrt{\pi} \approx 3.323$$

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Bessel functions

Bessel equation is the ODE

$$x^{2}y'' + xy' + (x^{2} - p^{2})y = 0, p \ge 0 (*)$$

Its solutions are called Bessel functions.

Frobenius solution at x=0 is called Bessel function of first kind.

The second linearly independent solution is called Bessel function of second kind.

We have already solved this equation when either $2p \notin \mathbb{Z}$ or p = 0. Let us recall the solutions.

$$y_1(x) = \sum_{n>0} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} n! (1+p) \dots (n+p)} x^{2n+p}$$

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n>0} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} n! (1-p) \dots (n-p)} x^{2n-p}$$

$$J_p(x) = \frac{y_1(x)}{2^p \Gamma(1+p)} = \sum_{n>0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n! \Gamma(n+p+1)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+p}$$

$$J_{-p}(x) = \frac{y_2(x)}{2^{-p}\Gamma(1-p)} = \sum_{n\geq 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!\,\Gamma(n-p+1)} \,\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n-p}$$

 $J_p(x)$ and $J_{-p}(x)$ are Bessel functions of first and second kind of order p.

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p = 0: Repeated root case

Frobenius solution is

$$y_1(x) = J_0(x) = \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n}(n!)^2} x^{2n}$$

The second solution is

$$y_2(x) = J_0(x) \ln x - \sum_{n>1} \frac{(-1)^n H_n}{2^{2n} (n!)^2} x^{2n}$$

It is defined on $(0, \infty)$.

Recall the first Bessel function of order p is

$$J_p(x) := \sum_{n>0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n! \, \Gamma(n+p+1)} \, \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+p}, \ x \in (0, \infty).$$

The Bessel functions of order 0 and 1 are

$$J_0(x) = \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!n!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n}$$

$$= 1 - \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2!2!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^4 - \frac{1}{3!3!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^6 + \dots$$

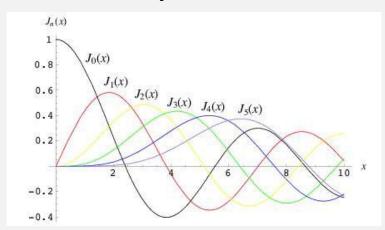
$$J_1(x) = \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!(n+1)!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+1}$$

$$= \frac{x}{2} - \frac{1}{1!2!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^3 + \frac{1}{2!3!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^5 + \dots$$

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Both $J_0(x)$ and $J_1(x)$ have a damped oscillatory behavior having an infinite number of zeroes which occurs alternately like $\cos x$ and $\sin x$.



Further, they satisfy derivative identities similar to $\cos x$ and $\sin x$.

$$J_0'(x) = -J_1(x),$$
 $[xJ_1(x)]' = xJ_0(x)$

$2p = 2l + 1 \in \mathbb{Z}$: odd positive integer

Note $a_{2n+1} = 0$ and $I(2n+r)a_{2n} + a_{2n-2} = 0$.

Since $I(r) = (r^2 - p^2) = (r + p)(r - p)$,

for r = -p, $I(2n - p) = 2n(2n - 2p) \neq 0$.

So for r = -p we get a second Frobenius solution

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n>0} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} n! (1-p) \dots (n-p)} x^{2n-p}$$

 $\frac{y_2(x)}{2^{-p}\Gamma(1-p)}$ gives second Bessel function

$$J_{-p}(x) := \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n! \, \Gamma(n-p+1)} \, \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n-p}, \quad x > 0.$$

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2p = 2N: even positive integer

The second solution is

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n\geq 0} A'_n(-p)x^{n-p} + \sum_{n\geq 2N} A_n(-p)x^{n-p} \log x$$

$$A_n(r)=(r+p)a_n(r)$$
, so $A_{2n+1}(r)=0=A'_{2n+1}(r)$. For $2n<2N$, $a_{2n}(r)$ is analytic at $-p$ and

$$a_{2n}(r) = \frac{-a_{2n-2}}{(2n+r+p)(2n+r-p)}$$
$$= \frac{(-1)^n}{\prod_{i=1}^n ((r+2i+p)(r+2i-p))}$$

$$\implies A'_{2n}(-p) = a_{2n}(-p) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n}n!(1-p)\dots(n-p)}$$

Assume
$$2n \ge 2N = 2p$$
, then

$$A_{2n}(r) = (r+p) \frac{(-1)^n}{\prod_{i=1}^n ((r+2i+p)(r+2i-p))}$$

$$= \frac{(-1)^n}{(\prod_{i=1}^n (r+2i+p)) (\prod_{i=1,i\neq p}^n (r+2i-p))}$$

$$A_{2n}(-p) = \frac{(-1)^n}{(2^n n!) (2^{n-1}(1-p)\dots(-1)\cdot 1\cdots(n-p))}$$

$$= \frac{2(-1)^{n-p+1}}{2^{2n} n! (p-1)! (n-p)!}$$

$$A'_{2n}(r) = -A_{2n}(r) \frac{\left[(\prod_{i=1}^n (r+2i+p)) (\prod_{i=1,i\neq p}^n (r+2i-p))\right]'}{(\prod_{i=1}^n (r+2i+p)) (\prod_{i=1,i\neq p}^n (r+2i-p))}$$

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$$A'_{2n}(r) = -A_{2n}(r) \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{r+2i+p} + \sum_{i=1, i \neq p}^{n} \frac{1}{r+2i-p} \right]$$

$$A'_{2n}(-p) = -A_{2n}(-p) \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{2i} + \sum_{i=1, i \neq p}^{n} \frac{1}{2(i-p)} \right]$$

$$= -A_{2n}(-p) \left[\frac{H_n}{2} - \frac{H_{p-1}}{2} + \frac{H_{n-p}}{2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{2(-1)^{n-p}}{2^{2n}n!(p-1)!(n-p)!} \left[\frac{H_n}{2} - \frac{H_{p-1}}{2} + \frac{H_{n-p}}{2} \right]$$
where $H_0 = 0$, $H_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}$

Thus, we get

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n\geq 0} A'_n(-p)x^{n-p} + \sum_{n\geq 2N} A_n(-p)x^{n-p} \log x$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{1}{2^{2n}n!(p-n)!}x^{2n-p} +$$

$$\sum_{n\geq p} \frac{(-1)^{n-p}}{2^{2n}n!(p-1)!(n-p)!} \Big(H_n - H_{p-1} + H_{n-p}\Big)x^{2n-p}$$

$$-\sum_{n\geq p} \frac{2(-1)^{n-p}}{2^{2n}n!(p-1)!(n-p)!}x^{2n-p} \log x$$

is a second solution of Bessel equation.

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Summary of p = 1/2

For p = 1/2, two independent solutions are $J_{1/2}(x)$ and $J_{-1/2}(x)$. These can be expressed in terms of the trigonometric functions (Exercise):

$$J_{\frac{1}{2}}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} \sin x \text{ and } J_{-\frac{1}{2}}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi x}} \cos x$$

Both exhibit singular behavior at 0.

Near 0, $J_{1/2}(x)$ is bounded but does not have a bounded derivative,

while $J_{-1/2}(x)$ is unbounded near 0.