

Solutions to some exercises

of the book
“Introduction to Perturbation Methods”
by Mark H. Holmes

1 Introduction to Asymptotic Approximations

Exercise 1.32. Find a two-term asymptotic expansion, for small ε , of the solution of the following problems:

- (a) $y'' + \varepsilon y' - y = 1$, where $y(0) = 0$ and $y(1) = 1$.

Solution. We assume $y(\tau) \sim y_0(\tau) + \varepsilon y_1(\tau) + o(\varepsilon)$. Substituting this into the ODE yields

$$y_0''(\tau) + \varepsilon y_1''(\tau) + \varepsilon y_0'(\tau) - y_0 - \varepsilon y_1 + o(\varepsilon) = 1 \quad (1)$$

and from the initial values $y(0) = 0$ and $y(1) = 1$ we get

$$y_0(0) + \varepsilon y_1(0) + o(\varepsilon) = 0 \text{ and } y_0(1) + \varepsilon y_1(1) + o(\varepsilon) = 1. \quad (2)$$

Now by equating like powers of ε , we obtain the following problems:

$O(1)$

$$y_0''(\tau) - y_0(\tau) = 1,$$

$$y_0(0) = 0, y_0(1) = 1.$$

The solution to this problem is given by

$$y_0(\tau) = \frac{1}{2}\tau^2 + \frac{e^{-1}}{2}e^\tau - 1. \quad (3)$$