

## Section 4.4 – Solution about Singular Points

### Solution about Singular Points

The Standard form  $y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0$

#### Definition (Regular and Irregular Singular Points)

A singular point  $x = x_0$  is said to be a **regular singular** point of a differential equation if the functions

$$p(x) = (x - x_0)P(x) \quad \text{and} \quad q(x) = (x - x_0)^2 Q(x) \quad \text{are both analytic at } x_0.$$

A singular point is not regular is said to be an **irregular singular point** of the equation.

The singular points are those points where  $p(x)$  or  $q(x)$  fails to be analytic, when the denominators are zero.

- If  $x - x_0$  appears at most to the first power in the denominator of  $P(x)$  and at most to the second power in the denominator of  $Q(x)$ , then  $x = x_0$  is a **regular singular point**.

#### Example

Determine the singular points for  $(x^2 - 4)^2 y'' + 3(x - 2)y' + 5y = 0$

#### Solution

$$(x - 2)^2 (x + 2)^2 y'' + 3(x - 2)y' + 5y = 0$$

$$y'' + 3 \frac{x - 2}{(x - 2)^2 (x + 2)^2} y' + \frac{5}{(x - 2)^2 (x + 2)^2} y = 0$$

$$P(x) = \frac{3}{(x - 2)(x + 2)^2} \quad Q(x) = \frac{5}{(x - 2)^2 (x + 2)^2}$$

The points are:  $x = -2, 2$

At  $x = -2$

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

$\boxed{x = -2, 2} \Rightarrow$  is not an analytic at  $x = -2$

$$q(x) = (x + 2)^2 \frac{5}{(x - 2)^2 (x + 2)^2} = \frac{5}{(x - 2)^2}$$

$\boxed{x = 2} \Rightarrow$  It is an analytic at  $x = 2$

At  $x = 2$

$$p(x) = (x-2) \frac{3}{(x-2)(x+2)^2} = \frac{3}{(x+2)}$$

$\boxed{x = -2} \Rightarrow$  It is analytic at  $x = -2$

$$q(x) = (x-2)^2 \frac{5}{(x-2)^2 (x+2)^2} = \frac{5}{(x+2)^2}$$

$\boxed{x = -2} \Rightarrow$  It is analytic at  $x = -2$

## Frobenius *Theorem*

If  $x = x_0$  is a regular singular point of the differential equation. There exists at least one solution of the form

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

$r$ : constant to be determined.

The series will converge at least on some interval  $0 < x - x_0 < R$

## The model of Frobenius

The simplest equation, of a second-order linear differential equation near the regular singular point  $x = 0$ , is the constant-coefficient *equidimensional* equation

$$x^2 y'' + p_0 x y' + q_0 y = 0$$

If  $r$  is a root of the quadratic equation

$$r(r-1) + p_0 r + q_0 = 0$$

## Example

Find the exponents in the possible Frobenius series solutions of the equation

$$2x^2(1+x)y'' + 3x(1+x)^3 y' - (1-x^2)y = 0$$

### Solution

$$y'' + \frac{3x(1+x)^3}{2x^2(1+x)} y' - \frac{(1-x)(1+x)}{2x^2(1+x)} y = 0$$

$$y'' + \frac{3(1+x)^2}{2x} y' - \frac{1-x}{2x^2} y = 0$$

Therefore;  $p_0 = \frac{3}{2}$ ,  $q_0 = -\frac{1}{2}$

The indicial equation is  $r(r-1) + \frac{3}{2}r - \frac{1}{2} = r^2 + \frac{1}{2}r - \frac{1}{2} = (r+1)\left(r - \frac{1}{2}\right) = 0$

With roots  $r_1 = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $r_2 = -1$

The two possible Frobenius series solutions are then of the forms

$$y_1(x) = x^{1/2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n \quad \text{and} \quad y_2(x) = x^{-1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^n$$

### **Theorem – Frobenius Series Solutions**

Suppose that  $x = 0$  is a regular point of the equation  $x^2 y'' + p_0 x y' + q_0 y = 0$

Let  $\rho > 0$  denote the minimum of the radii of convergence of the power series

$$p(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} p_n x^n \quad \text{and} \quad q(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} q_n x^n$$

Let  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  be the (real) roots, with  $r_1 \geq r_2$ , of the **indicial equation**  $I(x) = r(r-1) + p_0 r + q_0 = 0$ .

Then

✓ For  $x > 0$ , there exist a solution of the form

$$y_1(x) = x^{r_1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n \quad (a_0 \neq 0) \quad \text{corresponding to the larger root } r_1.$$

$$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \ln x + x^{r_1+1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^n$$

✓ If  $r_1 - r_2 = N$ , a positive integer, then the equation has two solutions  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  of the form

$$y_1(x) = x^{r_1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n \quad \text{and} \quad y_2(x) = C y_1(x) + x^{r_2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n x^n \quad (a_0, b_0 \neq 0)$$

The radii of convergence of the power series of this theorem are all at least  $\rho$ . The coefficients in these series (and the constant  $C$ ) may be determined by direct substitution of the series.

### Example

Find the general solution to the equation  $2xy'' + y' - 4y = 0$  near the point  $x_0 = 0$

### Solution

$$\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)2xy'' + \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)y' - \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)4y = 0$$

$$x^2y'' + \frac{1}{2}xy' - 2xy = 0$$

That implies to  $p(x) = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $q(x) = -2x$ , both are analytic. Hence,  $x_0 = 0$  is a regular point

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

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

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

$$2x^2y'' + xy' - 4xy = 0$$

$$2x^2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)(n+r-1) a_n x^{n+r-2} + x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r) a_n x^{n+r-1} - 4x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2(n+r)(n+r-1) a_n x^{n+r} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r) a_n x^{n+r} - 4x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [2(n+r)(n+r-1) + (n+r)] a_n x^{n+r} - 4x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [(n+r)(2n+2r-2) + (n+r)] a_n x^{n+r} - 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r+1} = 0$$

$$x^r \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [(n+r)(2n+2r-1)] a_n x^n - 4 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+1} \right) = 0$$

$$x^r \left( r(2r-1)a_0 + \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+r)(2n+2r-1) a_n x^{n-1}}_{k=n} - 4 \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+1}}_{k=n+1} \right) = 0$$

$$x^r \left( r(2r-1)a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (k+r)(2k+2r-1)a_k x^k - 4 \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_{k-1} x^k \right) = 0$$

$$x^r \left( r(2r-1)a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} [(k+r)(2k+2r-1)a_k - 4a_{k-1}] x^k \right) = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} r(2r-1)a_0 = 0 \\ (k+r)(2k+2r-1)a_k - 4a_{k-1} = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \boxed{r=0} \quad \boxed{r=\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{a_k = \frac{4}{(k+r)(2k+2r-1)} a_{k-1}}$$

$$r=0$$

$$r=\frac{1}{2}$$

$$a_k = \frac{4}{k(2k-1)} a_{k-1}$$

$$a_k = \frac{4}{\left(k+\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(2k+2\frac{1}{2}-1\right)} a_{k-1} = \frac{4}{k(2k+1)} a_{k-1}$$

$$a_1 = \frac{4}{1} a_0$$

$$a_1 = \frac{4}{1 \cdot 3} a_0$$

$$a_2 = \frac{4}{2 \cdot 3} a_1 = \frac{4^2}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3} a_0$$

$$a_2 = \frac{4}{2 \cdot 5} a_1 = \frac{4^2}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5} a_0$$

$$a_3 = \frac{4}{3 \cdot 5} a_2 = \frac{4^3}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 3 \cdot 5} a_0$$

$$a_3 = \frac{4}{3 \cdot 7} a_2 = \frac{4^3}{3! (3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7)} a_0$$

$$a_4 = \frac{4}{4 \cdot 7} a_3 = \frac{4^3}{4! (1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7)} a_0$$

$$a_4 = \frac{4}{4 \cdot 9} a_3 = \frac{4^3}{4! (3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 9)} a_0$$

$$\vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots$$

$$\vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots$$

$$a_n = \frac{4^n}{n! 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n-1)} a_0$$

$$a_n = \frac{4^n}{n! 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n+1)} a_0$$

$$y_1(x) = x^0 \left( a_0 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n! 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n-1)} a_0 x^n \right) = a_0 \left( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n! 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n-1)} x^n \right)$$

$$y_2(x) = x^{1/2} \left( a_0 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{4^n}{n! 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n+1)} a_0 x^n \right) = a_0 x^{1/2} \left( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{4^n}{n! 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n+1)} x^n \right)$$

$$y(x) = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x)$$

$$= C_1 \left( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n! 1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n-1)} x^n \right) + C_2 x^{1/2} \left( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{4^n}{n! 3 \cdot 5 \cdots (2n+1)} x^n \right)$$

### Example

Find the general solution to the equation  $3xy'' + y' - y = 0$

### Solution

$$y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$$

$$y' = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r) c_n x^{n+r-1}$$

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

$$3xy'' + y' - y = 0$$

$$3x \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r+2)(n+r+1) c_{n+2} x^{n+r} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r+1) c_{n+1} x^{n+r} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 3(n+r+2)(n+r+1) c_{n+2} x^{n+r+1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [(n+r+1) c_{n+1} - c_n] x^{n+r} = 0$$

$$3 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)(n+r-1) c_n x^{n+r-1} + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r) c_n x^{n+r-1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r} = 0$$

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (n+r)(3n+3r-3+1) x^{n-1} x^r - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n x^r = 0$$

$$x^r \left( \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n (n+r)(3n+3r-2) x^{n-1} - \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n \right) = 0$$

$$x^r \left( c_0 r(3r-2) x^{-1} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n (n+r)(3n+3r-2) x^{n-1}}_{k=n-1} - \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n}_{k=n} \right) = 0$$

$$x^r \left( c_0 r(3r-2) x^{-1} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_{k+1} (k+r+1)(3k+3r+1) x^k - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k x^k \right) = 0$$

$$x^r \left( c_0 r(3r-2)x^{-1} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [c_{k+1}(k+r+1)(3k+3r+1) - c_k] x^k \right) = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} c_0 r(3r-2) = 0 \\ c_{k+1}(k+r+1)(3k+3r+1) - c_k = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \boxed{r=0} \quad \boxed{r=\frac{2}{3}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{c_{k+1} = \frac{c_k}{(k+r+1)(3k+3r+1)}}$$

$$r=0$$

$$r=\frac{2}{3}$$

$$c_{k+1} = \frac{c_k}{(k+1)(3k+1)}$$

$$c_{k+1} = \frac{c_k}{\left(k+\frac{5}{3}\right)(3k+3)} = \frac{c_k}{(3k+5)(k+1)}$$

$$c_1 = c_0$$

$$c_1 = \frac{c_0}{5 \cdot 1}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{c_1}{2 \cdot 4} = \frac{c_0}{(2)(4)}$$

$$c_2 = \frac{c_1}{8 \cdot 2} = \frac{c_0}{5 \cdot 8 \cdot 1 \cdot 2}$$

$$c_3 = \frac{c_2}{3 \cdot 7} = \frac{c_0}{2 \cdot 3(4 \cdot 7)}$$

$$c_3 = \frac{c_2}{11 \cdot 3} = \frac{c_0}{(5 \cdot 8 \cdot 11)(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3)}$$

$$c_4 = \frac{c_3}{4 \cdot 10} = \frac{c_0}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4(4 \cdot 7 \cdot 10)}$$

$$c_4 = \frac{c_3}{14 \cdot 4} = \frac{c_0}{(5 \cdot 8 \cdot 11 \cdot 14)(1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 4)}$$

$$\vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots$$

$$\vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots$$

$$c_n = \frac{c_0}{n! \cdot 4 \cdot 7 \cdot 10 \cdots (3n-2)}$$

$$c_n = \frac{c_0}{n! \cdot 5 \cdot 8 \cdot 11 \cdots (3n+2)}$$

$$y_1(x) = x^0 \left( c_0 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_0}{n! \cdot 4 \cdot 7 \cdot 10 \cdots (3n-2)} x^n \right)$$

$$y_2(x) = x^{2/3} \left( c_0 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_0}{n! \cdot 5 \cdot 8 \cdots (3n+2)} x^n \right)$$

$$= c_0 \left( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n! \cdot 4 \cdot 7 \cdot 10 \cdots (3n-2)} x^n \right)$$

$$= c_0 x^{2/3} \left( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n! \cdot 5 \cdot 8 \cdots (3n+2)} x^n \right)$$

$$y(x) = C_1 y_1(x) + C_2 y_2(x)$$

$$= C_1 \left( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n! \cdot 4 \cdot 7 \cdot 10 \cdots (3n-2)} x^n \right) + C_2 x^{2/3} \left( 1 + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n! \cdot 5 \cdot 8 \cdots (3n+2)} x^n \right)$$

OR

$$y'' + \frac{1}{3x} y' - \frac{1}{3x} y = 0$$

$$p(x) = \left( x - x_0 \right) P(x) = x \frac{1}{3x} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$p(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + \cdots$$

$$q(x) = \left(x - x_0\right)^2 Q(x) = x^2 \left(-\frac{1}{3x}\right) = -\frac{1}{3}x$$

$$q(x) = b_0 + b_1 x + \dots$$

$$r(r-1) + a_0 r + b_0 = 0$$

$$r(r-1) + \frac{1}{3}r + 0 = 0$$

$$r^2 - r + \frac{1}{3}r = 0$$

$$3r^2 - 2r = 0$$

$$\underline{r(3r-2) = 0}$$

**Theorem** The Extended Theorem and Procedure of **Frobenius**

The *ODE* is given by:  $x^2 y'' + xp(x)y' + q(x)y = 0$

Has a regular singular point at  $x = 0$ . The extended Method of **Frobenius** produce *two* independent solutions of the *ODE* if the indicial roots are real.

➤ Find the indicial roots  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  of the indicial polynomial  $f(r) = r^2 + (p_0 - 1)r + q_0$

Verify that they are real; index them such that  $r_2 \leq r_1$

➤ Construct the solution  $y_1(x) = x^{r_1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$  ( $a_0 = 1$ ) by the method of Frobenius. The recursion

$$\text{formula is } f(r_1 + n)a_n = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \left[ (k + r_1)p_{n-k} + q_{n-k} \right] a_k$$

➤ If  $r_1 = r_2 \Rightarrow y_2(x) = y_1(x) \ln x + x^{r_1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n \quad (x > 0)$

➤ If  $r_1 - r_2$  is a positive integer, then a second independent solution has the form

$$y_2(x) = \alpha y_1(x) \ln x + x^{r_2} \left( 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_n x^n \right)$$



## **Exercises**      **Section 4.4 – Solution about Singular Points**

Determine all the singular points of the given differential equation and classify each singular point as regular or irregular

1.  $x^2 y'' + 3y' - xy = 0$
2.  $(x^2 + x)y'' + 3y' - 6xy = 0$
3.  $(x^2 - 1)y'' + (1 - x)y' + (x^2 - 2x + 1)y = 0$
4.  $e^x y'' - (x^2 - 1)y' + 2xy = 0$
5.  $\ln(x - 1)y'' + (\sin 2x)y' - e^x y = 0$
6.  $xy'' + x(1 - x)^{-1}y' + (\sin x)y = 0$
7.  $x^3 y'' + 4x^2 y' + 3y = 0$
8.  $x(x + 3)^2 y'' - y = 0$
9.  $(x^2 - 9)^2 y'' + (x + 3)y' + 2y = 0$
10.  $y'' - \frac{1}{x}y' + \frac{1}{(x - 1)^3}y = 0$
11.  $(x^3 + 4x)y'' - 2xy' + 6y = 0$
12.  $x^2(x - 5)^2 y'' + 4xy' + (x^2 - 25)y = 0$
13.  $(x^2 + x - 6)y'' + (x + 3)y' + (x - 2)y = 0$
14.  $x(x^2 + 1)^2 y'' + y = 0$
15.  $x^3(x^2 - 25)(x - 2)^2 y'' + 3x(x - 2)y' + 7(x + 5)y = 0$
16.  $(x^3 - 2x^2 - 3x)^2 y'' + x(x - 3)^2 y' - (x + 1)y = 0$
17.  $(1 - x^2)y'' + (\tan x)y' + x^{5/3}y = 0$
18.  $x(x - 1)^2(x + 2)y'' + x^2 y' - (x^3 + 2x - 1)y = 0$
19.  $x^4(x^2 + 1)(x - 1)^2 y'' + 4x^3(x - 1)y' + (x + 1)y = 0$

Determine whether  $x = 0$  is an ordinary point, singular point, or irregular singular point of the given differential equation

20.  $xy'' + (1 - \cos x)y' + x^2y = 0$

21.  $(e^x - 1 - x)y'' + xy = 0$

Find the Frobenius series solutions near the point  $x = 0$

22.  $2x^2y'' + 3xy' - (1 + x^2)y = 0$

23.  $2x^2y'' - xy' + (1 + x^2)y = 0$

24.  $2xy'' + (1 + x)y' + y = 0$

25.  $xy'' + 2y' + xy = 0$

26.  $2xy'' - y' + 2y = 0$

27.  $2xy'' + 5y' + xy = 0$

28.  $4xy'' + \frac{1}{2}y' + y = 0$

29.  $2x^2y'' - xy' + (x^2 + 1)y = 0$

30.  $2xy'' - (3 + 2x)y' + y = 0$

31.  $3xy'' + (2 - x)y' - y = 0$

32.  $xy'' + (x - 6)y' - 3y = 0$

33.  $x(x - 1)y'' + 3y' - 2y = 0$

34.  $x^2y'' - \left(x - \frac{2}{9}\right)y = 0$

35.  $x^2y'' + x(3 + x)y' - 3y = 0$

36.  $x^2y'' + (x^2 - 2x)xy' + 2y = 0$

37.  $x^2y'' + (x^2 + 2x)y' - 2y = 0$

38.  $2xy'' + 3y' - y = 0$

39.  $2xy'' - y' - y = 0$

40.  $2xy'' + (1 + x)y' + y = 0$

41.  $2xy'' + (1 - 2x^2)y' - 4xy = 0$

42.  $2x^2y'' + xy' - (1 + 2x^2)y = 0$

43.  $2x^2y'' + xy' - (3 - 2x^2)y = 0$

44.  $3xy'' + 2y' + 2y = 0$

45.  $3x^2y'' + 2xy' + x^2y = 0$

46.  $3x^2y'' - xy' + y = 0$

47.  $4xy'' + 2y' + y = 0$

48.  $6x^2y'' + 7xy' - (x^2 + 2)y = 0$

49.  $xy'' + y' + 2y = 0$

50.  $2x(1 - x)y'' + (1 + x)y' - y = 0$

51.  $x^2y'' + \left(x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x\right)y' + xy = 0$

52.  $18x^2y'' + 3x(x + 5)y' - (10x + 1)y = 0$

53.  $2x^2y'' + 7x(x + 1)y' - 3y = 0$

54. Find the Frobenius series solutions:

$$x(1 - x)y'' + [c - (a + b + 1)x]y' - aby = 0 \quad (\text{Gauss' Hypergeometric})$$