

RODRIGUE'S FORMULA :-

(8)

The Legendre polynomials $P_n(x)$ of the form;

$$P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (x^2-1)^n \text{ is known as "Rodrigue's formula"}$$

Proof :- Let $u = (x^2-1)^n$.

We shall establish that the n^{th} derivative of u , that is $u^{(n)}$ is the solution of Legendre's differential equation.

$$\Rightarrow (1-x^2)y'' - 2xy' + n(n+1)y = 0 \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

\Rightarrow Let u w.r.t x , we have...

$$\frac{du}{dx} = u_1 = n(x^2-1)^{n-1} \cdot 2x$$

$$u_1 = 2nx \cdot \frac{(x^2-1)^n}{(x^2-1)}$$

$$(x^2-1)u_1 = 2nx(x^2-1)^n$$

$$\Rightarrow (x^2-1)u_1 = 2nxu$$

\Rightarrow Let again w.r.t x , we get...

$$(x^2-1)u_2 + u_1(2x) = 2n[xu_1 + u_1x]$$

\Rightarrow We shall now find, the result n times by applying Leibnitz theorem for n^{th} derivative of product given by;

$$(uv)_n = u_n v + n u_{n-1} v_1 + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} u_{n-2} v_2 + \dots + u_1 v_n$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} & \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [(x^2-1)u_2]_n + 2 \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [xu_1]_n = 2n[xu_1]_n + 2nu_n \\ & \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [(x^2-1)u_2]_n + n \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [2x] u_{n+2-1} + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [2x] u_{n+2-2} \} + \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [2xu_1]_n + n \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [2x] u_{n+1-1} \\ & \quad = 2n[xu_1]_n + 2nu_n + 2n[xu_1]_n + n \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [2x] u_{n+1-1} + 2n \frac{d^n}{dx^n} [2x] u_{n+1-1} \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$\text{ie, } \left[(x^2-1) u_{n+2} + n \cdot 2x \cdot u_{n+1} + \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \cdot 2 \cdot u_n \right] + 2 \left[x u_{n+1} + n \cdot 1 \cdot u_n \right] \\ = 2n \left[x u_{n+1} + n \cdot 1 \cdot u_n \right] + 2$$

$$\Rightarrow (x^2-1) u_{n+2} + 2nx u_{n+1} + (n^2-n) u_n + 2x u_{n+1} + 2n u_n = 2nx u_{n+1} + 2n^2 \\ + 2n u_n.$$

$$\text{ie, } (x^2-1) u_{n+2} + 2x u_{n+1} - n^2 u_n - n u_n = 0.$$

$$(x^2-1) u_{n+2} + 2x u_{n+1} - n u_n (n+1) = 0.$$

$$\text{(or)} \quad (1-x^2) u_{n+2} - 2x u_{n+1} + n(n+1) u_n = 0.$$

This can be put in the form;

$$\Rightarrow (1-x^2) u_n'' - 2x u_n' + n(n+1) u_n = 0. \quad \sim (2)$$

Comparing (2) with (1) we conclude that, u_n is a solution of Legendre's diff. Eqn. (It may be observed that u is a polynomial of degree $2n$ & hence u_n will be polynomial of deg n).

Also $P_n(x)$ which satisfies Legendre's dE is also a polynomial of deg. n . Hence u_n is same as $P_n(x)$

$$\Rightarrow P_n(x) = K u_n = K [(x^2-1)^n]_n.$$

$$P_n(x) = K [(x-1)^n (x+1)^n]_n.$$

Applying Leibnitz thm for R.H.S;

$$P_n(x) = K [(x-1)^n \left\{ (x+1)^n \right\}_n + n \cdot n (x-1)^{n-1} \left\{ (x+1)^n \right\}_{n-1} + \frac{n(n-1)}{2!} n(n-1) (x-1)^{n-2} \left\{ (x+1)^n \right\}_{n-2} \\ + \dots - \left\{ (x-1)^n \right\}_n (x+1)^n] \quad \sim (3)$$

Since, $z = (x-1)^n$ then;

Q

$$z_1 = n(x-1)^{n-1}$$

$$z_2 = n(n-1)(x-1)^{n-2}$$

$$z_n = n(n-1)(n-2) \dots 2 \cdot 1 (x-1)^{n-n}$$

$$z_n = n! (x-1)^0 = n!$$

$$\therefore \{(x-1)^n\}_n = n!$$

putting, $x=1$ in Eqn (3), all terms in R.H.S become 0, except last term, i.e., $n! (1+1)^n = n! 2^n$.

$$\Rightarrow P_n\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = K n! 2^n, \quad P_n(1) = 1 \quad // \text{ By defn of } P_n(x).$$

$$1 = K n! 2^n$$

$$K = \frac{1}{n! 2^n}$$

Since, $P_n(x) = K u_n$, we have; $P_n(x) = \frac{1}{n! 2^n} \{(x^2-1)^n\}_n$.

Therefore; $P_n(x) = \frac{1}{2^n n!} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (x^2-1)^n$ is "Rodrigue's Formula".

Note :-

$$1) P_0(x) = 1$$

$$2) P_1(x) = x$$

$$3) P_2(x) = \frac{1}{2} (3x^2 - 1)$$

$$4) P_3(x) = \frac{1}{2} (5x^3 - 3x)$$

$$5) P_4(x) = \frac{1}{8} [35x^4 - 30x^2 + 3]$$

$$* 1 = P_0(x)$$

$$* x = P_1(x)$$

$$* x^2 = \frac{2}{3} P_2(x) + \frac{1}{3} P_0(x)$$

$$* x^3 = \frac{2}{5} P_3(x) + \frac{3}{5} P_1(x)$$

$$* x^4 = \frac{8}{35} P_4(x) + \frac{4}{7} P_2(x) + \frac{1}{5} P_0(x)$$