

Midterm Question #4: $y'' - x^2 y = 0$

$$\begin{cases} P(x)=1, Q(x)=0, R(x)=-x^2 & \text{polynomials} \\ P(x_0)=P(0)=1 \neq 0 & \text{ordinary pt} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Let } y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n, \quad y' = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n x^{n-1}, \quad y'' = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1) a_n x^{n-2}$$

$$\text{So, } y'' - x^2 y = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} n(n-1) a_n x^{n-2} - x^2 \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = 0$$

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

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} - \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} a_{n-2} x^n = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a_2 + 6a_3 x + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} [(n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} - a_{n-2}] x^n = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a_2 = 0, a_3 = 0, (n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} - a_{n-2} = 0 \text{ for } n=2, 3, \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow a_{n+2} = \frac{1}{(n+2)(n+1)} a_{n-2} \Rightarrow a_n = \frac{1}{n(n-1)} a_{n-4}$$

For $n=4, 8, 12, \dots$ or $n=4k, k=1, 2, \dots$

$$a_4 = \frac{1}{4 \cdot 3} a_0, \quad a_8 = \frac{1}{8 \cdot 7} a_4 = \frac{1}{8 \cdot 7 \cdot 4 \cdot 3} a_0, \dots, \quad a_{4k} = \frac{a_0}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot (4k-1)(4k)}, \quad k=1, 2, \dots$$

For $n=5, 9, 13, \dots$ or $n=4k+1, k=1, 2, \dots$

$$a_5 = \frac{1}{5 \cdot 4} a_1, \quad a_9 = \frac{1}{9 \cdot 8} a_5 = \frac{1}{9 \cdot 8 \cdot 5 \cdot 4} a_1, \dots, \quad a_{4k+1} = \frac{a_1}{4 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (4k)(4k+1)}, \quad k=1, 2, \dots$$

And

$$a_2 = a_6 = \dots = a_{4k+2} = 0, \quad a_3 = a_7 = \dots = a_{4k+3} = 0$$

Thus,

$$y = \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_0}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot (4k-1)(4k)} x^{4k} + a_0 \right) + \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{a_1}{4 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot (4k)(4k+1)} x^{4k+1} + a_1 x \right) = a_0 y_1 + a_1 y_2$$