

Chapter 8- Problem 8.2

Write the homogeneous Sturm-Liouville eigenvalue equation for which  $y(a) = y(b) = 0$  as  $L(y; \lambda) = (py)' + qy + \lambda p y = 0$  where  $p(x)$ ,  $q(x)$  and  $\rho(x)$  are continuously differentiable functions.

The general form of the Sturm-Liouville equation is:

$$p(x) \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + r(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + q(x)y + \lambda \rho(x)y = 0$$

where  $r(x) = \frac{d\rho(x)}{dx}$

cancel it:

$$p y''(x) + p' y' + q y + \lambda \rho y = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (py')' + qy + \lambda \rho y = 0$$

$$\text{or } L(y; \lambda) = 0 \text{ where } \underline{L(y; \lambda)} = (py')' + qy + \lambda \rho y$$

Show that if  $z(x)$  and  $F(x)$  satisfy  $L(z; \lambda) = F(x)$  with  $z(a) = z(b) = 0$  then

$$\int_a^b y(x) \underline{F(x)} dx = 0$$

Substitute  $F(x) = L(z; \lambda) = (pz')' + qz + \lambda \rho z$  into  $\int_a^b y F(x) dx$

$$\int_a^b y F(x) dx = \int_a^b y [(pz')' + qz + \lambda \rho z] dx$$

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split the integral in two parts:

$$\int_a^b y (\rho z')' dx + \int_a^b [qy + d\rho y] z dx$$

Integration by parts yields for the first term:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b y (\rho z')' dx &= [y (\rho z')]_a^b - \int_a^b y' \rho z' dx \\ &= y(b) (\rho z')(b) - y(a) (\rho z')(a) - \int_a^b y' \rho z' dx \\ &= 0 \cdot (\rho z')(b) - 0 \cdot (\rho z')(a) - \int_a^b y' \rho z' dx \\ &= - \int_a^b y' \rho z' dx \\ \int_a^b y' \rho z' dx &= [(Py') z]_a^b - \int_a^b (Py')' z dx \\ &= (Py')(b) z(b) - (Py')(a) z(a) - \int_a^b (Py')' z dx \\ &= (Py')(b) \cdot 0 - (Py')(a) \cdot 0 - \int_a^b (Py')' z dx \\ &= - \int_a^b (Py')' z dx \end{aligned}$$

then  $\int_a^b y (\rho z')' dx = \int_a^b (Py')' z dx$

Therefore  $\int_a^b y f(x) dx = \int_a^b (Py')' z dx + \int_a^b [qy + d\rho y] z dx$

$$= \int_a^b [(Py')' + qy + d\rho y] z dx$$

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Since  $y$  is a solution  $L(y; \lambda) = (py')' + qy + \lambda py = 0$

Therefore  $\int_a^b y P(x) dx = \int_a^b 0 \cdot z dx = 0$



Demonstrate the validity of this general result by direct calculation for the specific case in which  $p(x) = \rho(x) = 1$ ,  $q(x) = 0$ ,  $a = -1$ ,  $b = 1$  and  $z(x) = 1 - x^2$ .



With  $p(x) = \rho(x) = 1$ ,  $q(x) = 0$ , the Sturm-Liouville equation becomes:  $y'' + \lambda y = 0$

The characteristic equation is:  $\lambda^2 + \lambda = 0$  which has for roots  $\lambda = \pm i\sqrt{\lambda}$  and the solution  $y(\lambda)$  of this equation is:

$$y(\lambda) = A \cos \sqrt{\lambda} x + B \sin \sqrt{\lambda} x$$

Given the conditions  $y(-1) = y(1) = 0$  yields:

$$\begin{cases} A \cos \sqrt{\lambda} + B \sin \sqrt{\lambda} = 0 \\ A \cos(-\sqrt{\lambda}) + B \sin(-\sqrt{\lambda}) = 0 \end{cases}$$

or 
$$\begin{cases} A \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}) + B \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}) = 0 & (1) \\ A \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}) - B \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}) = 0 & (2) \end{cases}$$

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Add (1) and (2) together gives:  $2A\cos\sqrt{\lambda}x = 0$

If  $A=0$  then  $y(x)=B\sin\sqrt{\lambda}x$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } L(z; \lambda) &= (z')' + \lambda z = z'' + \lambda z^2 \\ &= -2 + \lambda(1-x^2) = -\lambda x^2 + \lambda - 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Next } \int_{-1}^1 y(x) F(x) dx &= \int_{-1}^1 y(x) L(z; \lambda) dx \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 y(x) (-\lambda x^2 + \lambda - 2) dx \\ &\Rightarrow \int_{-1}^1 B \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) (-\lambda x^2 + \lambda - 2) dx \\ &= B \left[ \int_1^x (-\lambda x^2) \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) dx + \int_{-1}^x (\lambda - 2) \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) dx \right] \\ &= B \left[ (-\lambda) \int_{-1}^1 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) x^2 dx + (\lambda - 2) \int_{-1}^1 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) dx \right] \\ &= B [(-\lambda) \cdot 0 + (\lambda - 2) \cdot 0] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since the functions  $\sin\sqrt{\lambda}x x^2$  and  $\sin\sqrt{\lambda}x$  are odd.

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From  $2A\cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) = 0$  if  $A$  is non-zero then  $\sqrt{\lambda} = \frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi$   
with  $k=0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$

And thus  $y(x) = A \cos \sqrt{\lambda}x$  with  $\lambda = \left(\frac{2k+1}{2}\pi\right)^2$

We have to evaluate then:

$$\int_{-1}^1 y(x) f(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 A \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) (-\lambda x^2 + (\lambda - 2)) dx \\ = A \bar{(-\lambda)} \left( \int_{-1}^1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) x^2 dx + (\lambda - 2) \int_{-1}^1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) dx \right)$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left[ \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) \right]_{-1}^1 = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \sin \sqrt{\lambda} \\ = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} + k\pi \right) \\ = \frac{2 \cdot (-1)^k}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) x^2 dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left[ \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) x^2 \right]_{-1}^1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \int_{-1}^1 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) (2x) dx$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left[ \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) x^2 \right]_{-1}^1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} (2 \sin \sqrt{\lambda}) = \frac{2 \cdot (-1)^k}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) dx = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left[ (-\cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x)) \cdot x \right]_{-1}^1 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \int_{-1}^1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) dx$$

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$$\int_{-1}^1 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) x dx = 0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \int_1^1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) dx \\ = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{\lambda})^2} [\sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x)]_1^1 = \frac{2}{\lambda} \cdot (-1)^k$$

Thus  $\int \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) x^2 dx = \frac{2(-1)^k}{\sqrt{\lambda}} - \frac{4}{\lambda \sqrt{\lambda}} \cdot (-1)^k$

And

$$\int_{-1}^1 g(x) F(x) dx = A \left[ (-1) \left( \frac{2 \cdot (-1)^k}{\sqrt{\lambda}} - \frac{4}{2\sqrt{\lambda}} (-1)^k \right) + (-2) \cdot \frac{2 \cdot (-1)^k}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \right] \\ = A \left[ -2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} (-1)^k + 2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} (-1)^k + \frac{4}{\sqrt{\lambda}} (-1)^k - \frac{4 \cdot (-1)^k}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \right] \\ = A \cdot 0 = 0$$

### Chapter 8 - Problem 8.5

Use the Properties of Legendre Polynomials to solve the following problems.

- (a) Find the solutions of  $(1-x^2)y'' - 2xy' + by = f(x)$ , valid in the range  $1 \leq x \leq -1$  and finite at  $x=0$  in terms of Legendre Polynomials.

Assuming the solution is of the form  $y(x) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l P_l(x)$

it verifies the equation:

$$(1-x^2) \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l P_l''(x) - 2x \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l P_l'(x) + b \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l P_l(x) = f(x)$$

Grouping terms together for same coefficient also gives:

$$\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l \left[ (1-x^2) P_l''(x) - 2x P_l'(x) + b P_l(x) \right] = f(x)$$

Expanding LHS:

$$\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l \left[ ((1-x^2) P_l''(x) - 2x P_l'(x) + l(l+1) P_l(x)) - l(l+1) P_l(x) + b P_l(x) \right] = f(x)$$

The first three terms together is the Legendre's differential equation for the Legendre Polynomials and it is zero.

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Therefore we are left with:

$$\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l [b - l(l+1)] P_l(x) = f(x)$$

Multiplying through by  $P_k(x)$  and integrating from -1 to 1 yields:

$$\sum_{l=0}^{\infty} a_l [b - l(l+1)] \int_{-1}^1 P_k(x) P_l(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 P_k(x) f(x) dx$$

Using orthogonality property and the normalization property:

$$\int_{-1}^1 P_k(x) P_l(x) dx = \begin{cases} 0 & k \neq l \\ \frac{2}{2k+1} & k = l \end{cases}$$

we obtain:  $a_k (b - k(k+1)) = \left( \int_{-1}^1 f(x) P_k(x) dx \right) \times \frac{2k+1}{2}$

$$\text{or } a_k = \frac{2k+1}{2(b - k(k+1))} \int_{-1}^1 f(x) P_k(x) dx$$

$$a_k = \frac{k + 1/2}{b - k(k+1)} \int_{-1}^1 f(x) P_k(x) dx$$

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(b) If  $b=14$  and  $f(x)=5x^3$ , find the explicit solution and verify it by direct substitution.

Using Wolfram Alpha web page about Legendre Polynomial,

$$5x^3 = 3P_1(x) + 2P_3(x).$$

So the solution  $y(x)$  is a linear combination of  $P_1(x)$  and  $P_3(x)$ .

Note first that  $\int_{-1}^1 x^b dx = 0$  for any odd power of  $x$ .

Using the relation established in part(a), we need to compute only  $a_1$  and  $a_3$  since  $f(x)$  is only a linear combination of these Legendre polynomials.

Therefore we compute:

$$a_1 = \frac{2 \times 1 + 1}{2(14 - 1 \cdot (1+1))}$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 5x^3 \cdot P_1(x) dx$$

$$a_3 = \frac{2 \times 3 + 1}{2(14 - 3(3+1))}$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 5x^3 \cdot P_3(x) dx$$

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$$a_1 = \frac{2+1+1}{2(14-2)} \times 5 \int_{-1}^1 x^3 \cdot x \, dx$$

$$a_1 = \frac{3}{2(14-2)} \times 5 \times \frac{2}{5} = 3/12 = 1/4$$

$$a_3 = \frac{2+3+1}{2(14-12)} \times 5 \int_{-1}^1 x^3 \cdot 1/2 (5x^2 - 3x) \, dx$$

$$= \frac{6+1}{2 \times 2} \times \frac{5}{2} \times \left[ \frac{5x^2}{7} - \frac{3}{5} x^5 \right]_{-1}^1 = \frac{7 \times 5}{8} \times \frac{8}{35} = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The solution is } y(x) &= \frac{P_1(x)}{4} + P_3(x) \\ &= x/4 + 1/2 (5x^3 - 3x) \\ &= 5/2 x^3 - 5/4 x \end{aligned}$$

Substitute  $y(x)$  in the initial equation:

$$(1-x^2) y'' - 2x y' + 14 y = (1-x^2) 15x - 2x (15/2 x^2 - 5/4) + 14 (5/2 x^3 - 5/4 x)$$

Adding together coefficients for same power of  $x$  yields

$$(15 - 15 + 35) x^3 + (15 + 5/2 - 35/2) x = 5x^3$$

Chapter 8 - Problem 8.6

Starting from the linearly independent functions  $1, x, x^2, x^3 \dots$ , in the range  $0 \leq x < \infty$ , find the first three orthogonal functions  $\phi_0, \phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ , w.r.t the weight function  $px = e^{-x}$ . By comparing your answers with the laguerre polynomials generated by the recurrence relation (3.112), deduce the form of  $\phi_3(x)$ .

Starting with  $\phi_0 = 1$

$$\langle \phi_0 | \phi_0 \rangle = \int_0^\infty 1 \cdot 1 \cdot e^{-x} dx = [-e^{-x}]_0^\infty = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \phi_0 | \phi_0 \rangle = 1 \text{ and } \phi_0' = 1/1 = 1$$

Following now Gram-Schmidt procedure:

$$\phi_1 = y_1 - \hat{\phi}_0 \langle \hat{\phi}_0 | y_1 \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \hat{\phi}_0, y_1 \rangle &= \int_0^\infty 1 \cdot x \cdot e^{-x} dx = [x(-e^{-x})]_0^\infty - \int_0^\infty (-e^{-x}) dx \\ &= 0 + \int_0^\infty e^{-x} dx = [-e^{-x}]_0^\infty = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } \phi_1 = x - 1 \cdot 1 = x - 1$$

$$\langle \phi_1, \phi_0 \rangle = \int_0^\infty (x-1)^2 \cdot e^{-x} dx$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty (x-1)^2 e^{-x} dx &= \int_{-1}^\infty u^2 e^{-(u+1)} du \text{ by change of variable } u=x-1, du=dx \\ &= \left[ u^2 (-e^{-(u+1)}) \right]_{-1}^\infty + 2 \int_{-1}^\infty u \cdot e^{-(u+1)} du \\ &= 1 + 2 \int_{-1}^\infty u \cdot e^{-(u+1)} du \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-1}^\infty u \cdot e^{-(u+1)} du &= \left[ u (-e^{-(u+1)}) \right]_{-1}^\infty + \int_{-1}^\infty e^{-(u+1)} du \\ &= -1 + \left[ -e^{-(u+1)} \right]_{-1}^0 = -1 + 1 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\int_0^\infty (x-1)^2 e^{-x} dx = 1$

And  $\hat{\phi}_2 = \frac{d\lambda}{\langle \phi_1 | \phi_1 \rangle Y_2} = \frac{x-1}{1} = x-1$

$$\phi_2 = y_2 - \hat{\phi}_2 \langle \phi_1, y_2 \rangle - \hat{\phi}_0 \langle \phi_0 | y_2 \rangle$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \phi_0 | y_2 \rangle &= \int_0^\infty 1 \cdot x^2 e^{-x} dx = \int_0^\infty x^2 e^{-x} dx = 0 + 2 \int_0^\infty x e^{-x} dx \\ &\quad \text{by integration by parts} \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2 \times \int_0^\infty x^2 e^{-x} dx = 2 \times 1 = 2$$

$$\langle \phi_2 | y_2 \rangle = \int_0^\infty (x-1) x^2 e^{-x} dx = \int_0^\infty x^3 e^{-x} dx - \int_0^\infty x^2 e^{-x} dx$$

Using the expression  $\frac{1}{n!} \int_0^\infty x^n e^{-x} dx = 1$

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$$\int_0^\infty x^2 e^{-x} dx = 2! = 2 \quad \int_0^\infty x^3 e^{-x} dx = 3! = 6$$

$$\text{Substituting into } \langle \phi_1 | \phi_2 \rangle = 6 - 2 = 4$$

thus  $\phi_2 = x^2 - (x-1) \cdot 4 - 1 \cdot 2 = x^2 - 4x + 4 - 2$   
 $= x^2 - 4x + 2$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \phi_2, \phi_2 \rangle &= \int_0^\infty (x^2 - 4x + 2)^2 e^{-x} dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty (x^4 - 8x^3 + 20x^2 - 16x + 4) e^{-x} dx. \end{aligned}$$

$$\int_0^\infty x^4 e^{-x} dx = 4! = 24 \quad \int_0^\infty x^3 e^{-x} dx = 3! = 6 \quad \int_0^\infty x^2 e^{-x} dx = 2! = 2$$

$$\int_0^\infty 1 \cdot e^{-x} dx = 1! = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle \phi_2 | \phi_2 \rangle = 24 - 8 \cdot 6 + 20 \cdot 2 - 16 \cdot 1 + 4 = 4$$

And  $\hat{\phi}_2 = \frac{\phi_2}{\langle \phi_2 | \phi_2 \rangle} v_2 = v_2 (x^2 - 4x + 2)$

The recurrence relation of the Laguerre polynomials is:

$$(n+1) L_{n+1}(x) = (2n+1-x) L_n(x) - n L_{n-1}(x)$$

The first few Laguerre polynomials are given on page 375:

$$L_0(x) = 1 = \phi_0(x)$$

$$L_1(x) = -x + 1 = -\phi_1(x)$$

$$L_2(x) = v_2 [x^2 - 4x + 2] = \phi_2(x)$$

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We see that the first three  $\phi_i$   $i=0,1,2$  polynomials are the same as  $L_i$   $i=0,1,2$  but alternating in sign, therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_3(x) &= -L_3(x) = -\frac{1}{6} [-x^3 + 9x^2 - 18x + 6] \\ &= \frac{1}{6} [x^3 - 9x^2 + 18x - 6] \\ &= \frac{x^3}{6} - \frac{3}{2}x^2 + 3x - 1\end{aligned}$$