

## § 5.2 - Series Solutions near an ord. pt.

Ex:  $y'' + y = 0 \rightarrow$  old way:  $r^2 + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm i$

$\Rightarrow$  gen soln:  $y = C_1 \cos(x) + C_2 \sin(x)$ .

New way: Suppose  $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n = y$  is a solution. Then

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

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

2nd b/c ODE is  $y'' + y = 0$ , we have

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

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

$$\Leftrightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} x^n [(n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} + a_n] = 0. \quad (*)$$

Fact: Power series  $= 0 \Leftrightarrow$  every term  $= 0$ , so

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow (n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} + a_n = 0 \text{ for all } n. \quad (**)$$

Now: we use **(\*\*)** to figure out what the coefficients ↑ must be! ↳ the  $a_n \dots$



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$$(n+2)(n+1)a_{n+2} + a_n = 0 :$$

$\begin{array}{l} \text{"}a_0\text{"} \\ \text{"}a_1\text{"} \end{array}$

- $n=0 \Rightarrow 2a_2 + a_0 = 0 \Leftrightarrow a_2 = \frac{-a_0}{2}$
- $n=1 \Rightarrow 3(2)a_3 + a_1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow a_3 = \frac{-a_1}{3(2)}$
- $n=2 \Rightarrow 4(3)a_4 + a_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow a_4 = \frac{-a_2}{4(3)} = \frac{+a_0}{4(3)(2)}$
- $n=3 \Rightarrow 5(4)a_5 + a_3 = 0 \Leftrightarrow a_5 = \frac{-a_3}{5(4)} = \frac{a_1}{5(4)(3)(2)}$

So:  $a_{2k} = \frac{(-1)^k a_0}{(2k)!}$  &  $a_{2k+1} = \frac{(-1)^k a_1}{(2k+1)!}$

$\Rightarrow$   ~~$y = \dots$~~

$$y = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + a_4 x^4 + a_5 x^5 + \dots$$
$$= \underline{a_0} + \underline{a_1 x} + \underline{\left(\frac{-a_0}{2}\right) x^2} + \underline{\left(\frac{-a_1}{3(2)}\right) x^3} + \underline{\left(\frac{a_0}{4(3)(2)}\right) x^4}$$
$$+ \underline{\left(\frac{a_1}{5(4)(3)(2)}\right) x^5} + \dots$$
$$= \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n a_0}{(2n)!} x^{2n}}_{\text{power series for cosine}} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n a_1}{(2n+1)!} x^{2n+1}}_{\text{power series for sine}}$$

So, as expected,  $y = c_1 \cos(x) + c_2 \sin(x)$  [where  $c_1 = a_0$  &  $c_2 = a_1$ ] is the solution!

~~Want to also test them for convergence using ratio test.~~

~~cosine part:  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} a_0 x^{2n+2}}{(-1)^n a_0 x^{2n}} \right| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |x^2| = |x^2|$~~

want to check for convergence using ratio test:

• "Cosine part":

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} a_0 x^{2(n+1)}}{(2n+1)b} \cdot \frac{(2n)!}{(-1)^n a_0 x^{2n}} \right|$$
$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{2n+1} x^2 \right|$$
$$= |x^2| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{2n+1} \right| = 0 < 1 \text{ always!}$$

$\Rightarrow$  converges abs. for all  $x$ .

• "sine part":

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{(-1)^{n+1} a_0 x^{\overbrace{2(n+1)+1}^{2n+3}}}{\underbrace{(2(n+1)+1)!}_{(2n+3)!}} \cdot \frac{(2n+1)!}{(-1)^n a_0 x^{2n+1}} \right|$$
$$= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{(2n+3)(2n+2)} \cdot x^2 \right|$$
$$= |x^2| \cdot \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left| \frac{1}{(2n+3)(2n+2)} \right| = 0 < 1 \text{ always!}$$

So, our solution is abs. convergent everywhere, which means we didn't break any rules by doing this method. (In general, we may not be so lucky!)

Ex:  $y'' - xy = 0.$

• suppose  $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^n$  soln

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

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

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

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

need to match

↓ shift index

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

have to match

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{2a_2}_{n=0 \text{ term}} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} x^n - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^n = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 2a_2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+2)(n+1) a_{n+2} x^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_{n-1} x^n \text{ for all } n.$$

Coefficients:

- $n=0 \Rightarrow 2a_2 = 0 \Rightarrow a_2 = 0. (\Rightarrow (n+2)(n+1)a_{n+2} = a_{n-1})$
- $n=1 \Rightarrow 3(2)a_3 = a_0 \Rightarrow a_3 = \frac{a_0}{3!} \Rightarrow a_6 = \frac{a_3}{6(5)} = \frac{a_0}{6 \cdot 5 \cdot 3 \cdot 2}$
- $n=2 \Rightarrow 4(3)a_4 = a_1 \Rightarrow a_4 = \frac{a_1}{4(3)} \Rightarrow a_7 = \frac{a_4}{7 \cdot 6} = \frac{a_1}{7 \cdot 6 \cdot 4 \cdot 3}$
- $n=3 \Rightarrow 5(4)a_5 = a_2 \Rightarrow a_5 = 0. \Rightarrow a_8 = 0 \dots$

3]

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So:

$$a_{3n} = \frac{a_0}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 6 \cdot \dots \cdot (3n-1)(3n)}$$

$$a_{3n+1} = \frac{a_1}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7 \cdot \dots \cdot (3n)(3n+1)}$$

$$a_{3n+2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y = a_0 \left[ 1 + \frac{x^3}{2 \cdot 3} + \frac{x^6}{2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 6} + \dots \right] + a_1 \left[ x + \frac{x^2}{3 \cdot 4} + \frac{x^4}{3 \cdot 4 \cdot 6 \cdot 7} + \dots \right]$$