

1. Consider the following initial value problem:

$$y''' - y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 0, \quad y''(0) = 0.$$

- (a) Assume there is a solution of the form $y(t) = e^{rt}$, and plug this back in and solve for r . Use this to write the general solution. [*Hint*: The equation $r^3 = 1$ has 3 distinct solutions over \mathbb{C} , called the *3rd roots of unity*: $r_1 = e^{0\pi i/3} = 1$, $r_2 = e^{2\pi i/3}$, and $r_3 = e^{4\pi i/3}$.]
- (b) From here, you could solve the initial value problem by plugging in the initial conditions, but you'll get a system of three equations with three unknowns, and involving complex numbers. Here's another way: look for a power series solution, $y(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^n$. Plug this back into the ODE and find the recurrence relation for the coefficients.
- (c) Compute a_n for $n \leq 10$, and once you see the pattern, write down the general solution to the ODE as a power series. [*Hint*: It should look familiar!]
- (d) Write down a *basis* for the solution space.
- (e) Plug in the initial conditions and find the particular solution to the initial value problem.
- (f) Consider a similar initial value problem:

$$y''' - y = 0, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad y'(0) = 1, \quad y''(0) = 1.$$

Find $y(t)$.

2. Find the radius of convergence of the following power series.

$$\begin{array}{lll} \text{(a)} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n t^n & \text{(b)} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n+1} (t-\pi)^n & \text{(c)} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{3}{n+1} (t-2)^n, \\ \text{(d)} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^n} (t-\pi)^n & \text{(e)} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (5t-10)^n & \text{(f)} \quad \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} (3t-6)^n \end{array}$$

3. The differential equation $(1-t^2)y'' - ty' + p^2y = 0$, where p is a constant, is known as *Chebyshev's equation*. It can be rewritten in the form

$$y'' + P(t)y' + Q(t)y = 0, \quad P(t) = -\frac{t}{1-t^2}, \quad Q(t) = \frac{p^2}{1-t^2}.$$

- (a) If $P(t)$ and $Q(t)$ are represented as a power series about $t_0 = 0$, what is the radius of convergence of these power series?
- (b) Assume that the general solution has the form $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^n$, and find a recurrence for a_{n+2} in terms of a_n . [*Hint*: Before plugging back in, multiply through by $1-t^2$.]

- (c) Use the recurrence to determine a_n in terms of a_0 and a_1 , for $2 \leq n \leq 9$.
- (d) For each $p \in \mathbb{N}$, there is a unique polynomial solution $T_p(t)$ known as the *Chebyshev polynomial* of degree p . Find $T_3(t)$.
4. For each of the following ODEs, determine whether $t = 0$ is an ordinary or singular point. If it is singular, determine whether it is regular or not. (Remember, first write each ODE in the form $y'' + P(t)y' + Q(t)y = 0$.)
- (a) $y'' + ty' + (1 - t^2)y = 0$
- (b) $y'' + (1/t)y' + (1 - (1/t^2))y = 0$.
- (c) $t^2y'' + 2ty' + (\cos t)y = 0$.
- (d) $t^3y'' + 2ty' + (\cos t)y = 0$.
5. Consider the differential equation $3ty'' + y' + y = 0$. Since $x_0 = 0$ is a regular singular point, there is a generalized power series solution of the form $y(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^{n+r}$.
- (a) Determine the indicial equation (solve for r) and the recurrence relation for the coefficients.
- (b) Find two linearly independent generalized power series solutions (i.e., a *basis* for the solution space).
- (c) Determine the radius of convergence of each of these solutions. [*Hint*: First compute the radius of convergence of $tP(t)$ and $t^2Q(t)$ and apply Frobenius].
6. Consider the differential equation $2ty'' + y' + ty = 0$. Since $t_0 = 0$ is a regular singular point, there is a solution of the form $y(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^{n+r}$.
- (a) Determine the indicial equation (solve for r) and the recursion formula.
- (b) Find a basis for the solution space and use this to write the general solution.
- (c) What is the radius of convergence of each of these two linearly independent solutions?
7. Consider the differential equation $ty'' + 2y' - ty = 0$.
- (a) Show that $t = 0$ is a regular singular point.
- (b) Show that if $a_0 = 0$, then $r = -1$ is one solution for the indicial equation.
- (c) For $r = -1$ and $a_0 = 0$, find the recurrence relation for a_{n+2} in terms of a_n .
- (d) Still assuming that $a_0 = 0$, write the solution from (b) as a generalized power series.
- (e) Write this solution using a standard hyperbolic trigonometric function.