

Class III

Case II: Roots of indicial equation are equal

Ex. 1. Solve in series about $x = 0$

$$(x - x^2)y'' + (1 - 5x)y' - 4y = 0$$

Solution:

Here $x = 0$ is a regular singular point.

Let $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n x^{n+r}$, $C_0 \neq 0$ be the series solution. Then after rearrangement, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)(n+r-1)C_n x^{n+r-1} & - \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+r-1)(n+r-2)C_{n-1} x^{n+r-1} \\ & + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (n+r)C_n x^{n+r-1} \\ & - 5 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (n+r-1)C_{n-1} x^{n+r-1} \\ & - 4 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_{n-1} x^{n+r-1} = 0 \dots \dots \dots (1) \end{aligned}$$

The indicial equation is,

$$\begin{aligned} [r(r-1) + r]C_0 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow r^2 C_0 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow r &= 0 \text{ (twice)} \end{aligned}$$

The recurrence relation is,

$$\begin{aligned} (n+r)(n+r-1)C_n + (n+r)C_n - [(n+r-1)(n+r-2) \\ + 5(n+r-1) + 4]C_{n-1} &= 0, n \geq 1 \\ \Rightarrow (n+r)^2 C_n - (n+r+1)^2 C_{n-1} &= 0, n \geq 1 \dots \dots \dots (2) \\ \Rightarrow C_n &= \frac{(n+r+1)^2 C_{n-1}}{(n+r)^2}, n \geq 1 \dots \dots \dots (3) \end{aligned}$$

Now for $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$C_1 = \frac{(2+r)^2 C_0}{(r+1)^2}, C_2 = \frac{(3+r)^2 C_0}{(1+r)^2}, C_3 = \frac{(5+r)^2 C_0}{(1+r)^2} \dots \dots \dots$$

The assumed series solution is

$$\begin{aligned} y &= x^r (C_0 + C_1 x + C_2 x^2 + C_3 x^3 + C_4 x^4 + C_5 x^5 + C_6 x^6 \dots) \\ y &= x^r C_0 \left(1 + \frac{(2+r)^2}{(r+1)^2} x + \frac{(3+r)^2}{(r+1)^2} x^2 + \frac{(5+r)^2}{(r+1)^2} x^3 \dots \dots \right) \dots (4) \end{aligned}$$

Now, the first series solution for $r=0$ is,

$$y_1 = C_0 (1 + 2^2 x + 3^2 x^2 + \dots)$$

To find the second series solution, we proceed as follow:
 The left hand side of eq. (1) is equal to

$$r^2 x^{r-1} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [(n+r)^2 C_n - (n+r+1)^2 C_{n-1}] x^{n+r-1}$$

Here, due to the recurrence relation (2), the second term of above is zero.

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} (x-x^2)y'' + (1-5x)y' - 4y &= r^2 x^{r-1} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \{ (x-x^2)y'' + (1-5x)y' - 4y \} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \{ r^2 x^{r-1} \} \\ \Rightarrow \left[(x-x^2) \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + (1-5x) \frac{d}{dx} - 4 \right] \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} &= 2rx^{r-1} + r^2 x^{r-1} \log x \\ \Rightarrow \left[(x-x^2) \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + (1-5x) \frac{d}{dx} - 4 \right] \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial r} \right)_{r=0} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

which shows that $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial r} \right)_{r=0}$ is also another series solution.

Now, from (4), we have,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} &= x^r C_0 \log x \left(1 + \frac{(2+r)^2}{(r+1)^2} x + \frac{(3+r)^2}{(r+1)^2} x^2 + \frac{(5+r)^2}{(r+1)^2} x^3 \dots \dots \right) + \\ &+ x^r C_0 \left[-2 \frac{(r+2)}{(r+1)^3} x - 2^2 \frac{(r+3)}{(r+1)^3} x^2 - 2^3 \frac{(r+5)}{(r+1)^3} x^3 \dots \dots \right] \end{aligned}$$

So, the second series solution is

$$\begin{aligned} y_2 &= \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial r} \right)_{r=0} = C_0 (1 + 2^2 x + 3^2 x^2 + \dots \dots) \log x \\ &\quad - 2C_0 (x + 2.3x^2 + 2^2.5x^3 + \dots \dots) \\ y_2 &= y_1 \log x - 2C_0 (x + 2.3x^2 + 2^2.5x^3 \dots \dots) \end{aligned}$$

Now, with $C_0 = 1$, we have the required solution,

$$y = Ay_1 + By_2 = Ay_1 + B[y_1 \log x - 2(x + 2.3x^2 + 2^2.5x^3 \dots \dots)]$$

$$\Rightarrow y = (A + B \log x)y_1 - 2B(x + 2.3x^2 + 2^2.5x^3 \dots \dots)$$

Thus, we can generalize the procedure as:

If roots of indicial equation equal, i.e. $r = r_1$ (twice), then the two solution of the equation about $x = a$ can be shown to be as:

$$\begin{aligned} y_1 &= (x-a)^{r=r_1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n (x-a)^n \\ y_2 &= y_1 \log(x-a) + (x-a)^{r=r_1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\partial C_n}{\partial r} \right)_{r=r_1} (x-a)^n \end{aligned}$$

Ex. 2. Solve the equation in series about $x = 0$

$$(x-x^2)y'' + (1-3x)y' - y = 0$$

Solution:

Here $x = 0$ is a regular singular point.

Let $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n x^{n+r}$, $C_0 \neq 0$

be the series solution. Then, we have the indicial equation,

$$\begin{aligned} [r(r-1) + r]C_0 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow r^2 C_0 &= 0 \\ \Rightarrow r &= 0 \text{ (twice)} \end{aligned}$$

The recurrence relation is,

$$(n+r)(n+r-1)C_n + (n+r)C_n - [(n+r-1)(n+r-2) + 3(n+r-1) + 1]C_{n-1} = 0, n \geq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow (n+r)^2 C_n - (n+r)^2 C_{n-1} = 0, n \geq 1$$

$$\Rightarrow C_n = C_{n-1}, n \geq 1$$

Now for $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$C_1 = C_0 = C_2 = C_3 = C_4 \dots \dots \dots$$

Then first series solution for $r=0$ is

$$y_1 = C_0(1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots \dots) = \frac{1}{1-x} C_0$$

Now, the second series solution for $r=0$ is,

$$y_2 = y_1 \log(x) + x^{r=r_1} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\partial C_n}{\partial r} \right)_{r=r_1} x^n = y_1 \log(x) = \frac{\log x}{1-x} C_0$$

Thus, with $C_0=1$, the required solution is

$$y = Ay_1 + By_2 = \frac{(A + B \log x)}{1-x}$$

Assignment:

1. Solve $x^2 y'' + 3xy' + (1-x)y = 0$ about $x=0$.
Hint.: $r = -1$ (twice).

$$y_1 = \frac{1}{x} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{(n!)^2}$$

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$$y_2 = y_1 \log x - \frac{2}{x} \left(1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{H_n x^n}{(n!)^2} \right)$$

where $H_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \dots \dots + \frac{1}{n}$