### MA-207 Differential Equations II

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- (Laguerre equation)  $xy'' + (1-x)y' + \lambda y = 0$

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For example, 
$$\Gamma(-\frac{5}{2}) = \frac{\Gamma(-\frac{3}{2})}{-\frac{5}{2}} = \frac{\Gamma(-\frac{1}{2})}{(-\frac{5}{2})(-\frac{3}{2})} = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{1}{2})(=\sqrt{\pi})}{(-\frac{5}{2})(-\frac{3}{2})(-\frac{1}{2})}$$

**Further** 

$$\lim_{p\to 0}\Gamma(p)=\lim_{p\to 0}\frac{\Gamma(p+1)}{p}=\pm\infty$$

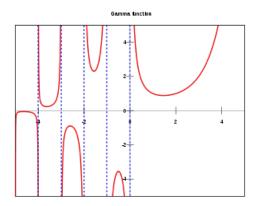
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The graph of Gamma function is shown below.



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$$\Gamma(1/2) = \int_0^\infty t^{-1/2} e^{-t} dt$$
 
$$= 2 \int_0^\infty e^{-s^2} ds \qquad \text{(use the substitution } t = s^2\text{)}$$
 
$$= \sqrt{\pi}$$

By translating,

$$\Gamma(1/2) = \sqrt{\pi} \approx 1.772$$

$$\Gamma(-1/2) = \frac{\Gamma(1/2)}{-1/2} = -2\sqrt{\pi} \approx -3.545$$

$$\Gamma(-3/2) = \frac{\Gamma(-1/2)}{-3/2} = \frac{4}{3}\sqrt{\pi} \approx 2.363$$

$$\Gamma(3/2) = \frac{1}{2}\Gamma(1/2) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\pi} \approx 0.886$$

$$\Gamma(5/2) = \frac{3}{2}\Gamma(3/2) = \frac{3}{4}\sqrt{\pi} \approx 1.329$$

$$\Gamma(7/2) = \frac{5}{2}\Gamma(5/2) = \frac{15}{8}\sqrt{\pi} \approx 3.323$$

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For Frobenius solution, put  $y(x) = x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(r) x^n$   $a_0 = 1$ .

### Bessel equation: First solution

The indicial equation, that is, coefficient of  $x^r$ , for Bessel equation  $x^2y''+xy'+(x^2-p^2)y=0$  is

$$I(r) = r(r-1) + r - p^2 = r^2 - p^2 = 0$$

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For recurrence relations, equating coefficient of  $x^{n+r}$  to 0 (for  $n\geq 1)$  we get

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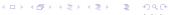
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So all odd terms  $a_{2n+1}(r) = 0$ .

$$a_{2n}(r) = \frac{-1}{(r+2n)^2 - p^2} a_{2n-2}$$

$$= \frac{(-1)^n}{((r+2)^2 - p^2)((r+4)^2 - p^2)\dots((r+2n)^2 - p^2)}$$



For Frobenius solution, set r = p the larger root.

$$a_{2n}(p) = \frac{(-1)^n}{((p+2)^2 - p^2)((p+4)^2 - p^2)\dots((p+2n)^2 - p^2)}$$

$$= \frac{(-1)^n}{(2(2p+2))(4(2p+4))\dots(2n(2p+2n))}$$

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The solution 
$$y_1(x) = x^p \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} n! (1+p) \dots (n+p)} x^{2n}$$
 converges on  $(0,\infty)$ .

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converges on  $(0,\infty)$ . Multiply  $y_1(x)$  by  $\frac{1}{2^p\Gamma(1+p)}$  to get to the convenient form

$$J_p(x) := \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^p \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n! \Gamma(n+p+1)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n} \quad x > 0.$$

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The Bessel function of order 0 is

$$J_0(x) = \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n! n!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n}$$
$$= 1 - \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{1}{2! 2!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^4 - \frac{1}{3! 3!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^6 + \dots$$

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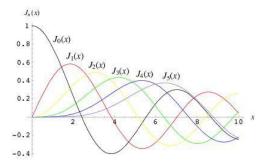
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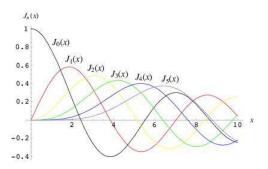
$$J_1(x) = \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n!(n+1)!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+1}$$
$$= \frac{x}{2} - \frac{1}{1!2!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^3 + \frac{1}{2!3!} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^5 + \dots$$

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Further, they satisfy derivative identities similar to  $\cos x$  and  $\sin x$ .

$$J_0'(x) = -J_1(x)$$
  $[xJ_1(x)]' = xJ_0(x)$ 

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- ullet 2p is not an integer
- ullet 2p is an odd positive integer
- ullet 2p is an even positive integer
- p = 0

Case 1: 2p is not an integer

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Solving the recursion

$$[(r+n)^2 - p^2]a_n(r) + a_{n-2}(r) = 0 \quad n \ge 2 \quad a_1(r) = 0.$$

for r = -p, we obtain

$$y_2(x) = x^{-p} \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n} n! (1-p) \dots (n-p)} x^{2n}$$

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Multiplying by  $\frac{1}{2^{-p}\Gamma(1-p)}$  (Caution: This should be a nonzero real number!)

$$J_{-p}(x) := \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{-p} \sum_{n \ge 0} \frac{(-1)^n}{n! \Gamma(n-p+1)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n} \quad x > 0.$$

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It is unbounded near x = 0.

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Recall that the second solution is given by

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n\geq 0} A'_n(-p)x^{n-p} + \sum_{n\geq 0} A_n(-p)x^{n-p}\log x$$

where

$$A_n(r) := (r+p)a_n(r)$$

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Thus,  $A_{2n}(-p) = 0$  and  $A'_{2n}(-p) = a_{2n}(-p)$ .

Thus, in this case we obtain that the second solution is

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$$A'_{2n}(-p) = a_{2n}(-p) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n}n!(1-p)\dots(n-p)} = \frac{1}{2^{2n}n!(p-n)!}$$

If  $n \geq p$ , then

$$A_{2n}(-p) = \frac{2(-1)^n}{2^{2n}n!(1-p)\dots(-1)\cdot 1\cdot 2\cdots (n-p)}$$
$$= \frac{-2(-1)^{n-p}}{2^{2n}n!(p-1)!(n-p)!}$$

Define

$$f(r) := \Big(\prod_{i=1}^{p-1} ((r+2i)^2 - p^2)\Big)(r+3p) \Big(\prod_{i=p+1}^n ((r+2i)^2 - p^2)\Big) \quad (*)$$

Case 2(b): 2p is an even positive integer

Then

$$A_{2n}(r)f(r) = (-1)^n$$

Differentiating the above and setting r = -p we get

$$A'_{2n}(-p)f(-p) + A_{2n}(-p)f'(-p) = 0$$

Taking log and differentiating (\*) we get

$$f'(-p) = f(-p) \left( \frac{1}{2p} + \sum_{i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \setminus p} \frac{1}{2i} + \frac{1}{2(i-p)} \right)$$

$$= f(-p) \left( \frac{H_n}{2} - \frac{H_{p-1}}{2} + \frac{H_{n-p}}{2} \right),\,$$

where

$$H_0 = 0, \qquad H_n = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \dots + \frac{1}{n}$$

Case 2(b): 2p is an even positive integer

Thus,

$$A'_{2n}(-p) = -A_{2n}(-p)\left(\frac{H_n}{2} - \frac{H_{p-1}}{2} + \frac{H_{n-p}}{2}\right)$$
$$= \frac{2(-1)^{n-p}}{2^{2n}n!(p-1)!(n-p)!}\left(\frac{H_n}{2} - \frac{H_{p-1}}{2} + \frac{H_{n-p}}{2}\right)$$

Thus, we get

$$y_2(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{p-1} \frac{1}{2^{2n} n! (p-n)!} x^{2n-p} + \sum_{n \ge p} \frac{(-1)^{n-p}}{2^{2n} n! (p-1)! (n-p)!} \Big( H_n - H_{p-1} + H_{n-p} \Big) x^{2n-p} + \sum_{n \ge p} \frac{2(-1)^{n-p}}{2^{2n} n! (p-1)! (n-p)!} x^{2n-p} \log x$$

is a second solution.

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$$y_2(x) = J_0(x) \ln x - \sum_{n \ge 1} \frac{(-1)^n H_n}{2^{2n} (n!)^2} x^{2n}$$
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$$y_1(x)=J_0(x)=\sum_{n\geq 0}\frac{(-1)^n}{2^{2n}(n!)^2}x^{2n}$$
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For real p, define

$$J_p(x) := \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{n! \, \Gamma(p+n+1)} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{2n+p}$$

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- The above is a well defined power series once we know that the Gamma function never vanishes.
- ② If  $p \notin \{0, 1, 2, ...\}$   $J_p(x)$  and  $J_{-p}(x)$  are the two independent solutions of the Bessel equation.
- **3** If  $p \in \{0,1,2,\ldots\}$  then  $J_{-p}(x) = (-1)^p J_p(x)$ . Thus, in this case the second solution is not  $J_{-p}(x)$ .

The above two can be obtained by formally differentiating the power series.

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$$J_{n-1}(x) - J_{n+1}(x) = 2J'_n(x)$$

Add and subtract (3) and (4) to get (5) and (6).

**Problem**: Let p > 0. Show that between any two consecutive positive zeros of  $J_p(x)$ , there exists precisely one zero of  $J_{p-1}(x)$  and precisely one zero of  $J_{p+1}(x)$ 

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Repeating the above argument with the identity

 $[x^{-p}J_p(x)]'=-x^{-p}J_{p+1}(x)$ , we get that  $J_{p+1}(x)$  has a root in (c,d).

Thus, we have proved that both  $J_{p-1}(x)$  and  $J_{p+1}(x)$  have at least one root in (c,d).

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 $J_0'(x) = -J_1(x).$ 

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Hence a=2 and c=0.



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These functions are called spherical Bessel functions as they arise in solving wave equations in spherical coordinates.

An algebraic function is any function  $\boldsymbol{y} = f(\boldsymbol{x})$  that satisfies an equation of the form

$$P_n(x)y^n + P_{n-1}(x)y^{n-1} + \dots + P_1(x)y + P_0(x) = 0$$

for some n, where each  $P_i(x)$  is a polynomial.

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$$y = \tan \left[ \frac{xe^{1/x^2} + \tan^{-1}(1+x^2) + \sqrt{x^2+3}}{\sin x \cos 2x - \sqrt{\log x} + x^{3/2}} \right]^{1/3}$$

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#### Theorem (Liouville)

 $J_{m+\frac{1}{2}}(x)$ 's are the only Bessel functions which are elementary functions.

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Then how do we understand the nature and properties of solutions.

It is surprising that we can obtain quite a bit of information about the solution from the ODE itself.

#### Theorem (Sturm separation theorem)

If  $y_1(x)$  and  $y_2(x)$  are linearly independent solutions of

$$y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0$$

- P,Q continuous on (a,b). Then
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It satisfies the differential equation  $W^\prime = -P(x)W$  and so is given by

$$W(x) = C\exp\left(\int_{a_0}^x -P(t)dt\right) \qquad a_0 \in (a,b)$$

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We conclude that  $y_1'(x_1)$  and  $y_1'(x_2)$  are nonzero.

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If  $y_2(x)$  had two zeros in the interval  $x_1 < \alpha < \beta < x_2$ , then by the same reasoning,  $y_1$  will have a zero in  $(\alpha, \beta)$ , which contradicts the assumption that  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are successive zeros of  $y_1$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.

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As a consequence, if  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  are linearly independent solution of y''+P(x)y'+Q(x)y=0, P,Q continuous on (a,b) then the number of zeros of  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  on (a,b) differ by at most 1.

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In particular, either both have finite number of zeros or both have infinite number of zeros in (a,b).

For further discussion, we need that any ODE in the "standard" form y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0 can be written in the "normal" form u'' + q(x)u = 0.

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Also note that we need P(x) to be once differentiable.

#### Theorem

Let q(x) be continuous on the interval  $(\alpha, \beta)$ . Let u(x) be a non-trivial solution of u'' + q(x)u = 0 on finite interval  $[a,b] \subset (\alpha,\beta)$ . Then u(x) has at most finite number of zeros in [a,b].

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Since  $u(x_0)$  and  $u'(x_0)$  are both 0, it follows that the Wronskian at  $x_0$  is 0. But this is a contradiction as the Wronskian at  $x_0$  is nonzero.

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Let u(x) be a non-trivial solution of u'' + q(x)u = 0. If q(x) < 0 in (a,b) and continuous then u(x) has <u>atmost one zero</u> in (a,b).

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But this is not possible as u' is increasing on  $(x_0, x_1)$ .

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If we show that  $u'(x_2) < 0$  for some  $x_2 > x_1$ , then we get for  $x > x_2$ 

$$u(x) = \int_{x_2}^x u'(t)dt + u(x_2) \le \int_{x_2}^x u'(x_2)dt + u(x_2)$$
  
 
$$\le u'(x_2)(x - x_2) + u(x_2)$$

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$$v(x) - v(x_1) = \int_{x_1}^x q(x) dx + \int_{x_1}^x v(x)^2 dx$$

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Thus, u'(x) = -u(x)v(x) and this shows that u'(x) < 0 for x large.

#### $\mathsf{Theorem}$

In Bessel equation  $x^2y'' + xy' + (x^2 - p^2)y = 0$  Substituting  $u(x) = \sqrt{x}y(x)$ , we get

$$u'' + \left[1 + \frac{1 - 4p^2}{4x^2}\right]u = 0$$

 $q(x)=1+rac{1-4p^2}{4x^2}$  is continuous and q(x)>0 for  $x>x_0>0$ . Further,

$$\int_{x_0}^{\infty} \left( 1 + \frac{1 - 4p^2}{4x^2} \right) dx = \infty$$

By previous theorem, u(x), hence any Bessel function has infinitely many zeros on  $(0,\infty)$ .

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Write  $Z^{(p)} = \{x_1, x_2, \ldots\}$  as increasing sequence  $x_n < x_{n+1}$ .

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Question. What is the limit of  $x_{n+1} - x_n$  as  $n \to \infty$ ?

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We will need the Sturm comparison theorem.

#### Theorem (Sturm Comparison theorem)

Let y(x) be a non-trivial solutions of

$$y'' + q(x)y = 0$$

and z(x) be a non-trivial solutions of

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Zeros of y(x) are  $\pi/2$  apart and that of z(x) are  $\pi$  apart.



Proof of Sturm Comparison theorem.

Let  $x_1 < x_2$  be consecutive zeros of z(x).

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Integrating from  $x_1$  to  $x_2$ , we get

$$W(x_2) - W(x_1) > 0 \implies W(x_2) > W(x_1)$$

But  $W(x_1)=y(x_1)z'(x_1)>0$  and  $W(x_2)=y(x_2)z'(x_2)<0$ , a contradiction.

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Let  $y_p(x)$  be a non-trivial solution of Bessel equation. Then we get

#### Theorem

- p < 1/2  $\implies$  Between any two roots of  $\alpha \cos x + \beta \sin x$  there is a root of  $y_p(x)$ .
- p = 1/2  $\implies x_2 x_1 = \pi$
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To see this, consider the function f := u(x - b + a) defined on the interval  $(b, \infty)$ .

It is a trivial check that f satisfies the differential equation

$$f'' + r(x)f = 0$$
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Next we claim that the difference between any two successive roots of u is strictly less than  $\pi$ .

If not, then let a < b be successive roots such that  $b - a \ge \pi$ 

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Since u has infinitely many roots, and their difference is strictly increasing, we may assume that  $b-a>\pi$ .

But now we can choose  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\alpha \cos x + \beta \sin x$  has two roots in (a, b), which contradicts Sturm's comparison theorem.

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Thus, we have proved that if  $\{x_n\}$  are the roots of u in increasing order, then the difference  $x_{n+1}-x_n$  is strictly increasing and bounded above by  $\pi$ .

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Thus, we have proved that if  $\{x_n\}$  are the roots of u in increasing order, then the difference  $x_{n+1}-x_n$  is strictly increasing and bounded above by  $\pi$ .

Next let us show that these differences converge to  $\pi$ . If not, then  $(x_{n+1}-x_n) \to \gamma < \pi$ . Choose  $1 < \delta$ , sufficiently close to 1 such that  $\gamma < \frac{\pi}{\delta} < \pi$ .

The function q(x) is decreasing to 1. Therefore, there is a  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ , sufficiently large, such that  $q(x_0) < \delta^2$ . Apply Sturm's comparison on the interval  $(x_0, \infty)$  to the differential equations u'' + q(x)u = 0 and  $z'' + \delta^2 z = 0$ .

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Thus, between any two roots of u there is a root of z. Let a and b be two consecutive roots of u such that  $x_0 < a < b$ . Since  $b-a < \gamma < \frac{\pi}{\delta}$ , find a' and b' such that  $x_0 < a' < a < b < b'$  and  $b'-a' = \frac{\pi}{\delta}$ .

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Find  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that the function  $\alpha\cos\delta\,x+\beta\sin\delta\,x$  vanishes at a'. This function is a solution to the ODE  $z''+\delta^2z=0$ . The next root of this function is at  $a'+\frac{\pi}{\delta}=b'$ . Thus, we get a contradiction to Sturm's theorem which says that there is a root of this function in the interval (a,b).

Thus, we have proved

#### Theorem

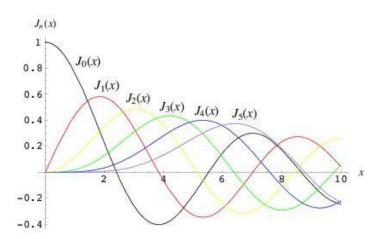
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If p < 1/2 then the sequence of differences of roots of u,  $x_{n+1} - x_n$  is increasing and tends to  $\pi$ .

Similarly, we can prove that if p>1/2 then the sequence of difference of roots of u is decreasing and tends to  $\pi$ .



The first few zeroes of Bessel functions are tabulated below.

	$J_0(x)$	$J_1(x)$	$J_2(x)$	$J_3(x)$	$J_4(x)$	$J_5(x)$
1					7.5883	
2	5.5201	7.0156	8.4172	9.7610	11.0647	12.3386
3	8.6537	10.1735	11.6198	13.0152	14.3725	15.7002
4	11.7915	13.3237	14.7960	16.2235	17.6160	18.9801
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Question. Why are we concerned with zeros of Bessel function  $J_p(x)$ ?

It is often required in mathematical physics to expand a given function in terms of Bessel functions.

#### Definition

For a scalar a, the scaled Bessel functions  $J_p(ax)$  are solutions of

$$x^2y'' + xy' + (a^2x^2 - p^2)y = 0$$

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Simplest and most useful expansions are of the form

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n J_p(\lambda_{p,n} x) = a_1 J_p(\lambda_{p,1} x) + a_2 J_p(\lambda_{p,2} x) + \dots$$

where f(x) is defined on, (say) [0,1], and  $\lambda_{p,n}$ 's are zeros of Bessel function  $J_p(x)$ ,  $p \geq 0$ .

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**Qn.** How to compute the coefficients  $a_n$ ?

Define an inner product on functions on [0,1] by

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This is similar to the previous inner product except that f(x)g(x) is now multiplied by x and the interval of integration is from 0 to 1.

We call a function on  $\left[0,1\right]$  square integrable with respect to this inner product if

$$\int_0^1 x f(x)^2 dx < \infty$$

The multiplying factor x is called a weight function.

Fix  $p \geq 0$ . Let  $Z^{(p)} = \{\lambda_{p,1}, \lambda_{p,2}, \ldots\}$  denote the set of zeros of  $J_p(x)$  on  $(0, \infty)$ .

#### Theorem

The set of scaled Bessel functions

$$\{J_p(\lambda_{p,1}x), J_p(\lambda_{p,2}x), \ldots\}$$

form an orthogonal family w.r.t. above inner product, i.e.  $\langle J_p(\lambda_{p,k}x), J_p(\lambda_{p,l}x) \rangle :=$ 

$$\int_0^1 x J_p(\lambda_{p,k} x) J_p(\lambda_{p,l} x) dx = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} [J_{p+1}(\lambda_{p,k})]^2 & \text{if } k = l\\ 0 & \text{if } k \neq l \end{cases}$$

Proof of orthogonality of scaled Bessel functions

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If a,b are positive scalars, then  $u(x)=J_p(ax)$  and  $v(x)=J_p(bx)$  satisfies

$$u'' + \frac{1}{x}u' + \left(a^2 - \frac{p^2}{x^2}\right)u = 0$$

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Multiply by v and u resp. and subtract, we get

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$$(u'v - v'u)' + \frac{1}{x}(u'v - v'u) = (b^2 - a^2)uv$$
$$(x(u'v - v'u))' = (b^2 - a^2)xuv$$

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So if  $a=\lambda_{p,k}$  and  $b=\lambda_{p,l}$  are **distinct** (RHS is 0 since these are roots of  $J_p(x)$ ), then

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To compute the norm of  $J_p(\lambda_{p,k}x)$ , consider

$$\begin{split} 2x^2u'\left[u''+\frac{1}{x}u'+(a^2-\frac{p^2}{x^2})u\right] &=0\\ &=[x^2u'^2+(a^2x^2-p^2)u^2]'-2a^2xu^2 \end{split}$$



Integrate on [0,1],

$$2a^{2} \int_{0}^{1} xu^{2} dx = \left[x^{2} u'^{2} + (a^{2} x^{2} - p^{2})u^{2}\right]_{0}^{1}$$

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Put  $a = \lambda_{p,k}$  to get

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$$(x^2u'^2 + (a^2x^2 - p^2)u^2)(1) = a^2J'_n(a)^2 + (a^2 - p^2)J_n(a)^2$$

Put  $a = \lambda_{p,k}$  to get

$$2\lambda_{p,k}^2 \int_0^1 x J_p(\lambda_{p,k}x)^2 dx = \lambda_{p,k}^2 J_p'(\lambda_{p,k})^2$$

Thus,

$$\int_0^1 x J_p(\lambda_{p,k} x)^2 dx = \frac{1}{2} J_p'(\lambda_{p,k})^2 = \frac{1}{2} J_{p+1}(\lambda_{p,k})^2$$

for last equality, use  $x = \lambda_{p,k}$  in  $J_p'(x) - \frac{p}{r}J_p(x) = J_{p+1}(x)$ 

#### Theorem

Fix  $p \geq 0$  and  $Z^{(p)} = \{\lambda_{p,1}, \lambda_{p,2}, \ldots\}$ : zeros of  $J_p(x)$  on  $(0, \infty)$ . Any square-integrable function f(x) on [0,1] can be expanded in a series of scaled Bessel functions  $J_p(\lambda_{p,n}x)$  as

$$f(x) = \sum_{n \ge 1} c_n J_p(\lambda_{p,n} x)$$

where

$$c_n = \frac{2}{[J_{p+1}(\lambda_{p,n})]^2} \int_0^1 x f(x) J_p(\lambda_{p,n} x) dx$$

This is Fourier-Bessel series of f(x) for parameter p.

Example. Let us compute the Fourier-Bessel series (for p=0) of f(x)=1 in the interval  $0 \le x \le 1$ .

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$$\frac{d}{dx} (x^p J_p(x)) = x^p J_{p-1}(x)$$
 for  $p = 1$ .

$$\int_0^1 x J_0(\lambda_{0,n} x) dx = \frac{1}{\lambda_{0,n}} x J_1(\lambda_{0,n} x) \Big|_0^1 = \frac{J_1(\lambda_{0,n})}{\lambda_{0,n}}$$

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By next theorem, this converges to 1 for 0 < x < 1.



#### Convergence in norm

Fourier-Bessel series converges to f(x) in norm, i.e.

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At x=1, the series always converges to 0 for all f, at x=0, if p=0 then it converges to  $f(0_+)$ . at x=0, if p>0 then it converges to 0.