

Monday 11/5 - IVPs and singular points.

Continuing last time: $(x^2 - 4)y'' + 3xy' + y = 0$.

We get $c_{2n} = \frac{(2n-1)!!}{2^{3n} n!} c_0$, $c_{2n+1} = \frac{n!}{2^n (2n+1)!!} c_1$.

So we have $y = c_0 \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(2n-1)!!}{2^{3n} n!} x^{2n} \right) + c_1 \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{n!}{2^n (2n+1)!!} x^{2n+1} \right)$

As two L.I. solutions.

Useful fact: $y(0) = c_0$, $y'(0) = c_1$

That equation has bad things happen at $x = \pm 2$. Some kinds of singularities are better than others, though.

Defn. For the equation $x^2 y'' + x p(x) y' + q(x) y = 0$, if p, q are analytic at 0 we call 0 a regular singular point.

Idea: Regular = good. As an example, we had $0 = x^2 y'' + p(x) y' + q(x) y$ that we met in HW 3. The solutions are x^r for r solving the indicial polynomial $r(r-1) + p_0 r + q_0 = 0$.

So instead of a Taylor series, look for a Frobenius series $x^r \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} c_n x^{n+r}$.