

Reminder: a function  $f(x)$  is analytic at  $x_0 \in \text{dom}(f)$  if  $f$  has a power series representation  $f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n(x-x_0)^n$  for all  $x$  in some open interval around  $x=x_0$ . The distance from  $x_0$  to the edge of the I.O.C. is called the Radius of Convergence (R.O.C.)

**FACT:** If  $f, g$  are analytic at  $x=x_0$  then  $f+g, f-g, cf, fg$  and  $f/g$  (with  $g(x_0) \neq 0$ ) are all also analytic at  $x=x_0$ .

We now turn to the question: "When does a linear ODE  $L[y]=0$  have a series sol<sup>n</sup> at  $x=x_0$ ?" We consider the  $n=2$  case primarily, but the principles and techniques are far more general.

**Def<sup>n</sup>:** Given the DE<sub>q<sup>2</sup></sub>(I)  $a_2(x)y''(x) + a_1(x)y'(x) + a_0(x)y(x) = 0$  we call  $y'' + py' + qy = 0$  its standard form. A point  $x_0$  is an ordinary point of (I) if  $p = a_1/a_2$  and  $q = a_0/a_2$  are both analytic at  $x_0$ . Otherwise  $x_0$  is said to be a singular point of the DE<sub>q<sup>2</sup></sub>(I)

**E162**  $x^2y'' + xy' + y = 0$  has standard form  $y'' + \frac{1}{x}y' + \frac{1}{x^2}y = 0$  we identify that  $p(x) = \frac{1}{x}$  and  $q(x) = \frac{1}{x^2}$ . We find this Cauchy-Euler problem has the singular point  $x_0 = 0$ .

**E163**  $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$  has standard form  $y'' + (\frac{b}{a})y' + (\frac{c}{a})y = 0$  if  $a \neq 0$  clearly  $p(x) = b/a$  and  $q(x) = c/a$  are constant functions which are analytic over all of  $\mathbb{R}$ . It follows that  $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$  has no singular points.

Observation: The sol<sup>n</sup>s to the Cauchy-Euler problem do not include zero in their domain. On the other hand, the domain of the sol<sup>n</sup>s to  $ay'' + by' + cy = 0$  is all of  $\mathbb{R}$ . This suggests that singular pt.

Th<sup>m</sup> The DEq<sup>n</sup>  $y'' + py' + qy = 0$  has two linearly independent of the form  $y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (x-x_0)^n$  at each ordinary point  $x_0$ . Moreover, the radius of convergence is at least as large as the distance to the nearest singular pt. (we do consider complex values for  $x_0$  and "distance" is understood as usual in the complex plane.)

Pf: complex variables will make this less mysterious but you'll have to find a more advanced text for a proof of Th<sup>m</sup> (5) (pg. 477)

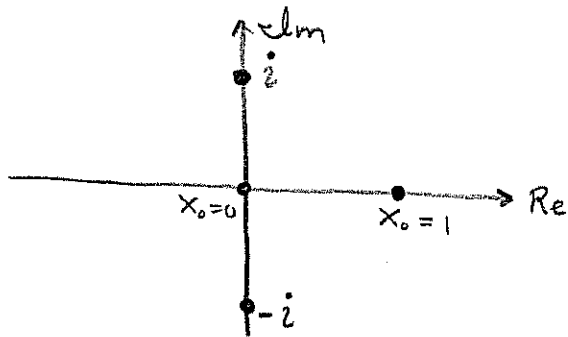
E164 Find minimum R.O.C. for power series sol<sup>n</sup> of  $(x^2+1)y'' + 5y' + 6y = 0$  assuming the sol<sup>n</sup> is centered at  $x_0 = 0$ . What if  $x_0 = 1$ ?

In standard form the given DEq<sup>n</sup> becomes  $y'' + \frac{5}{x^2+1}y' + \frac{6}{x^2+1}y = 0$ .

We identify  $P(x) = \frac{5}{x^2+1}$  and  $q(x) = \frac{6}{x^2+1}$ . It follows ~~A~~ any real singular point  $\Rightarrow$  we can find analytic sol<sup>n</sup> at each point in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Consider  $x \in \mathbb{C}$ , any quadratic factors over  $\mathbb{C}$  notice

that  $x^2+1 = (x+i)(x-i) \Rightarrow x = \pm i$  are complex singular pts.



By Th<sup>m</sup> (5),

$$x_0 = 0 \Rightarrow \text{R.O.C.} \geq 1$$

$$x_0 = 1 \Rightarrow \text{R.O.C.} \geq \sqrt{2}$$

looking at the complex plane it's clear that  $x = \pm i$  are the same distance from  $x_0 = 1$ , namely

$$\sqrt{1^2 + 1^2} = \sqrt{2}$$

On the other hand

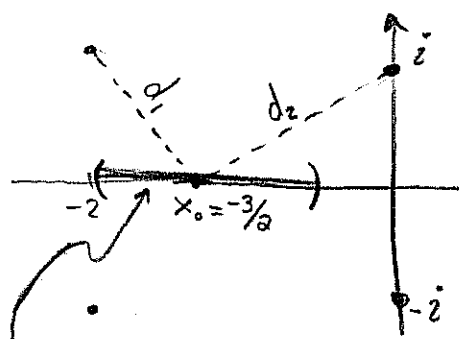
$x_0 = 0$  is distance 1 from the singular pts.

E165 Find complex singular pts. of  $(x^2+4x+5)(x^2+1)y'' + (x^2+1)y' + y = 0$

Identify  $P(x) = \frac{1}{x^2+4x+5}$  and  $q(x) = \frac{1}{(x^2+4x+5)(x^2+1)}$ . If either  $P$  or  $q$  has division by zero we get singular pt;  $x = \pm i$  and  $x = -2 \pm i$

E166 We see from E165 that  $x(x^2+4x+5)(x^2+1)y'' + (x^2+1)y' + y = 0$  has only  $x=0$  as real sing. points, however  $x = \pm i$  and  $x = -2 \pm i$  are complex singular points. Find minimum R.O.C for sol<sup>n</sup> centered at  $x_0 = -3/2$  ( $y = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} C_n (x + \frac{3}{2})^n$ )

We plot all the singular points on the complex plane and use Th<sup>m</sup>(5),



$$d_1 = \sqrt{(1/2)^2 + (1)^2} = \sqrt{5/4} = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{5}$$

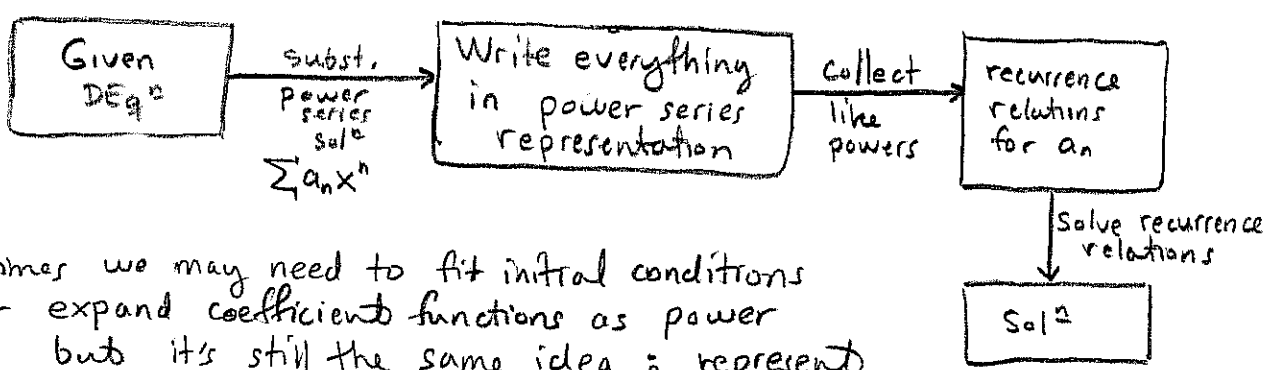
$$d_2 = \sqrt{(3/2)^2 + (1)^2} = \sqrt{13/4} = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{13}$$

the nearest singular pts are at  $-2 \pm i$  hence the R.O.C. is at least as big as  $\sqrt{5}/2$

Th<sup>m</sup>(5) guarantee our I.O.C. at least extends this far.

Remark: pgs. 76-80 of Penrose's "THE ROAD TO REALITY; A COMPLETE GUIDE TO THE LAWS OF THE UNIVERSE" discuss at length the difference between the functions  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$  and  $g(x) = \frac{1}{1-x^2}$  in view of power series and complex singularities. Incidentally, PENROSE'S book is a treasure of usual & unusual intuitive mathematics.

Remark: by now I've spent entirely too much time on how to locate and analyze singular points. Anyway, we've seen about all there is to see for §8.2-8.4. The overall idea is relatively simple.



Sometimes we may need to fit initial conditions and/or expand coefficient functions as power series but it's still the same idea: represent everything in power series and then calculate.

E167 Find terms up to order 2 in power series sol<sup>2</sup> centered at x<sub>0</sub>=0 for tan<sup>-1</sup>(x) y'' + e<sup>x</sup> y' + 2y = 0.

As usual we assume y = c<sub>0</sub> + c<sub>1</sub>x + c<sub>2</sub>x<sup>2</sup> + c<sub>3</sub>x<sup>3</sup> + c<sub>4</sub>x<sup>4</sup> + c<sub>5</sub>x<sup>5</sup> + ...  
Recall tan<sup>-1</sup>(x) = g(x) ⇒  $\frac{dg}{dx} = \frac{1}{1+x^2} = 1 - x^2 + x^4 - x^6 + x^8 + \dots$   
thus tan<sup>-1</sup>(x) = x -  $\frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{1}{5}x^5 - \frac{1}{7}x^7 + \frac{1}{9}x^9 + \dots$   
and we know e<sup>x</sup> = 1 + x +  $\frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{24}x^4 + \dots$   
Substitute all these into the given DEq<sup>n</sup>,

$$\left(x - \frac{1}{3}x^3\right)\left(2c_2 + 6c_3x + 12c_4x^2\right) + \left(1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2}\right)\left(c_1 + 2c_2x + 3c_3x^2\right) + 2(c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2) + \dots = 0$$

I intend to keep all terms which can yield terms of order less than or equal to two (x<sup>2</sup>, x or constant - type terms).  
When I multiply I only look for terms of order 2 or less, this simplifies the multiplication greatly,

$$2c_2x + 6c_3x^2 + \dots + c_1 + 2c_2x + 3c_3x^2 + c_1x + 2c_2x^2 + \frac{1}{2}c_1x^2 + \dots + 2c_0 + 2c_1x + 2c_2x^2 + \dots = 0$$

Collect like powers,

$$(c_1 + 2c_0) + (2c_2 + 2c_2 + c_1 + 2c_1)x + (6c_3 + 3c_3 + 2c_2 + \frac{c_1}{2} + 2c_2)x^2 + \dots = 0$$

It follows we wish to solve,

$$c_1 + 2c_0 = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = -2c_0$$
$$3c_1 + 4c_2 = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = -\frac{3}{4}c_1 = \frac{3}{2}c_0$$
$$\frac{1}{2}c_1 + 4c_2 + 9c_3 = 0 \Rightarrow c_3 = \left(-\frac{1}{2}c_1 - 4c_2\right)/9 = (c_0 - 6c_0)/9 = -\frac{5}{9}c_0$$

Curious, we find the DEq<sup>n</sup> examined to quadratic order reveals coeff. of x<sup>3</sup>,

$$y = c_0 \left(1 - 2x + \frac{3}{2}x^2 - \frac{5}{9}x^3 + \dots\right)$$

Even more curious, where is our 2<sup>nd</sup> linearly independent sol<sup>2</sup>?

E168 Solve  $(x+3)y'' + x^2y' + y = 0$  upto order 2 in  $x$

Let  $y = C_0 + C_1x + C_2x^2 + C_3x^3 + C_4x^4 + \dots$   
 $y' = C_1 + 2C_2x + 3C_3x^2 + 4C_4x^3 + \dots$   
 $y'' = 2C_2 + 6C_3x + 12C_4x^2 + \dots$

Substitute, keep only terms  $x^2$  or lower,

$$(x+3)(2C_2 + 6C_3x + 12C_4x^2 + \dots) + x^2(C_1 + 2C_2x + \dots) + C_0 + C_1x + C_2x^2 + \dots = 0$$

$$(6C_2 + C_0) + (2C_2 + 18C_3 + C_1)x + (6C_3 + 36C_4 + C_1 + C_2)x^2 + \dots = 0$$

It follows,

$$6C_2 + C_0 = 0 \rightarrow C_2 = -\frac{1}{6}C_0$$

$$2C_2 + 18C_3 + C_1 = 0 \rightarrow C_3 = \frac{-1}{18}(2C_2 + C_1) = \frac{-1}{18}\left(-\frac{C_0}{3} + C_1\right) = \frac{C_0}{54} - \frac{1}{18}C_1$$

$$6C_3 + 36C_4 + C_1 + C_2 = 0$$

$$C_4 = \frac{-1}{36}\left(6C_3 + C_1 + C_2\right) = \frac{-1}{36}\left(6\left(\frac{C_0}{54} - \frac{C_1}{18}\right) + C_1 - \frac{C_0}{6}\right)$$

$$C_4 = \frac{-1}{36}\left(\frac{2}{3}C_1 + \left(\frac{1}{9} - \frac{1}{6}\right)C_0\right) = \frac{-C_1}{54} - \frac{1}{36}\left(\frac{-3}{54}\right)C_0$$

Consequently we identify  $C_0, C_1$  as the arbitrary constants of the general sol<sup>n</sup> and, using our results above,

$$y = C_0\left(1 - \frac{1}{6}x^2 + \frac{1}{54}x^3 + \frac{1}{12(54)}x^4 + \dots\right) +$$

$$C_1\left(x - \frac{1}{18}x^3 - \frac{1}{54}x^4 + \dots\right)$$

Reminder: go over Example 3 on pg. 479 of text. (I don't have one like that in these notes)

- There are additional examples in the Practice Homework Sol<sup>n</sup>s.
- We now turn to the question of what to do with singular points, we'll need something beyond power series. The Method of Frobenius will serve to attack a large class of problems currently inaccessible to us with our techniques of §8.1 → 8.4.