

1. (a) Express the $f(x) = x^2 - 1$ in terms of Legendre polynomials

$$P_0(x) = 1,$$

$$P_1(x) = x,$$

$$P_2(x) = \frac{1}{2}(3x^2 - 1),$$

$$P_3(x) = \frac{1}{2}(5x^3 - 3x),$$

$$P_4(x) = \frac{1}{8}(35x^4 - 30x^2 + 3)$$

Find the particular solution, $y_p(x)$, for (25 %)

$$(1-x^2)y_p''(x) - 2xy_p'(x) = x^2 - 1$$

Ans: $f(x) = \frac{2}{3}P_2(x) - \frac{2}{3}$.

Ans: $y_p(x) = \frac{-1}{9}P_2(x) + \frac{1}{3}\ln |(x+1)(x-1)|$

2. By changing the variable of $\bar{x} = \sqrt{x}$, transform the ODE

$$4xy''(x) + 2y'(x) + y(x) = 0$$

to ODE for $\bar{y}(\bar{x})$ and solve $\bar{y}(\bar{x})$ and $y(x)$, where $y(x) = \bar{y}(\bar{x})$. (25 %)

Ans:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy(x)}{dx} &= \frac{1}{2\bar{x}} \frac{d\bar{y}(\bar{x})}{d\bar{x}} \\ \frac{d^2y(x)}{dx^2} &= \frac{1}{2\bar{x}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2\bar{x}} \frac{d^2\bar{y}(\bar{x})}{d\bar{x}^2} - \frac{1}{2\bar{x}^2} \frac{d\bar{y}(\bar{x})}{d\bar{x}} \right\} \\ \frac{d^2\bar{y}(\bar{x})}{d\bar{x}^2} + \bar{y}(\bar{x}) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

3. Prove that the eigenvalues of Hermitian matrices are real. (25 %)

Ans:

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot (A\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x} \cdot (\lambda\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T(\bar{\lambda}\bar{\mathbf{x}}) = \bar{\lambda}(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x})$$

$$A\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x} = \lambda(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x})$$

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot (A\mathbf{x}) = \bar{A}^T \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x}; A\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} \cdot (\bar{A}^T \mathbf{x})$$

Since A is Hermitian matrix, we have

$$(\lambda - \bar{\lambda})(\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{x}) = 0$$

Since the norm of \mathbf{x} is greater than zero, we have the real eigenvalues for λ .

4. Given $[A]\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ where

$$[A] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 3 & -4 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of $[A]$. Using the eigenvector expansion, solve \mathbf{x} . (25 %)

Ans: eigenvalues: $-1, -2$.

Ans: eigenvectors: $\{1, 1\}^T, \{2, 3\}^T$

Ans: $\mathbf{x}^T = \{-2, -2.5\}$.