

Legendre Polynomials and Bessel Functions of first kind: Formula

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Legendre Equation:

The Legendre equation is given by

$$(1-x^2)\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2x\frac{dy}{dx} + n(n+1)y = 0$$

$P_n(x)$ satisfy the above equation.

$P_n(x)$ is called Legendre Polynomial of order n . This $P_n(x)$ can be obtained from Rodrigue's Formula:

$$P_n(x) = \frac{1}{n!2^n} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (x^2 - 1)^n$$

Few Legendre Polynomials are:

$$P_0(x) = 1$$

$$P_1(x) = x$$

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

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

Orthogonality of Legendre Polynomials:

$$\int_{-1}^1 P_m(x) P_n(x) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n \\ \frac{2}{2n+1}, & m = n \end{cases}$$

Recurrence Formulae for $P_n(x)$:

$$1. (1-x^2)P'_n(x) = (n+1)xP_n(x) - (n+1)P_{n+1}(x)$$

$$2. (n+1)P_{n+1}(x) = (2n+1)xP_n(x) - nP_{n-1}(x)$$

$$3. nP_n(x) = xP'_n(x) - P'_{n-1}(x)$$

4. $(2n+1)P_n(x) = P'_{(n+1)}(x) - P'_{(n-1)}(x)$
5. $P'_n(x) = xP'_{n-1}(x) + nP_{n-1}(x)$

Bessel's Equation

The most important differential equations is

$$x^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + x \frac{dy}{dx} + (x^2 - n^2)y = 0$$

$J_n(x)$ is a solution of this equation. This is called Bessel's equation of first kind.

Recurrence formulae for $J_n(x)$:

1. $nJ_n(x) + xJ'_n(x) = xJ_{n-1}$
2. $J'_n(x) = \frac{1}{2}[J_{n-1}(x) - J_{n+1}(x)]$
3. $J'_n(x) = \frac{n}{x}J_n(x) - J_{n+1}(x)$
4. $\frac{d}{dx}[x^{-n}J_n(x)] = -x^{-n}J_{n+1}(x)$
5. $J_{n+1}(x) = \frac{2n}{x}J_n(x) - J_{n-1}(x)$

An important Property of Bessel functions:

$$J_{-n}(x) = (-1)^n J_n(x)$$

Orthogonality of Bessel functions:

$$\int_0^1 x J_n(\alpha x) J_n(\beta x) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & \alpha \neq \beta \\ \frac{[J_{n+1}(\alpha)]^2}{2}, & \alpha = \beta \end{cases}$$

where α and β are roots of $J_n(x) = 0$