

Olver's asymptotic theory, Green's functions and fixed point theorems

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- 1 Introduction (Olver's method, Case I)
- 2 An initial value problem. Linear case
- 3 Asymptotic property of the expansion
- 4 The nonlinear case
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Second order linear differential equation:

$$\ddot{w} - [\Lambda^2 f(t) + h(t)]w = 0, \quad \Lambda \text{ large.}$$

Double change of variable:

$$\begin{cases} t \rightarrow x \\ w \rightarrow y = \dot{x}^{1/2} w \end{cases} \implies y'' = \left[\Lambda^2 \left(\frac{dt}{dx} \right)^2 f(x) + g(x) \right] y.$$

$t(x)$ fixed by the conditions:

- t and x are analytic functions of each other at the transition point (if any),
- For $g(x) = 0$, solutions which are functions of a single variable.

Case I. $\left(\frac{dt}{dx} \right)^2 f(x) = 1$, which means $x = \int^t f^{1/2}(s) ds.$



In case I the DE reduces to

$$y'' = [\Lambda^2 + g(x)]y.$$

When $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$ we seek for a formal solution of the form

$$y_1(x) \sim e^{\Lambda x} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{A_n(x)}{\Lambda^n}.$$

- $A_0(x) = \text{constant}$ (we may take $A_0(x) = 1$ without loss of generality).

-

$$A_{n+1}(x) = -\frac{1}{2}A_n'(x) + \frac{1}{2} \int^x g(t)A_n(t)dt, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

A second formal solution:

$$y_2(x) \sim e^{-\Lambda x} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{A_n(x)}{\Lambda^n}.$$



In general, these expansions are divergent. Olver's theory:

- Proof of the asymptotic character of these expansions.
- Error bounds for the remainders of the expansions:

$$R_{n,1}(x) := y_1(x) - e^{\Lambda x} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \frac{A_k(x)}{\Lambda^k}; \quad R_{n,2}(x) := y_2(x) - e^{-\Lambda x} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} (-1)^k \frac{A_k(x)}{\Lambda^k}.$$

- Behavior of the coefficients $A_k(x)$ at the singularities of the DE (if any),
- Uniformity properties.
- Discussions about the regions of validity of the expansions.



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Consider the following initial value problem:

$$\begin{cases} y'' - \Lambda^2 y - g(x)y = 0 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ y(0) = y^0, \quad y'(0) = y'^0, \end{cases}$$

$X > 0$, $y^0, y'^0, \Lambda \in \mathbb{C}$, $\Re \Lambda \geq 0$, $g : [0, X] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ continuous.

Consider the auxiliary initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} \phi'' - \Lambda^2 \phi = 0 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ \phi(0) = y^0, \quad \phi'(0) = y'^0, \end{cases}$$

Unique solution:

$$\phi(x) := y^0 \cosh(\Lambda x) + \frac{y'^0}{\Lambda} \sinh(\Lambda x).$$



Change of unknown $y(x) \rightarrow u(x) = y(x) - \phi(x) \Rightarrow$ homogeneous IC:

$$\begin{cases} u'' - \Lambda^2 u = (u + \phi)g & \text{in } [0, X], \\ u(0) = 0, \quad u'(0) = 0, \end{cases}$$

We seek for solutions of $\mathbf{L}[u] := u'' - \Lambda^2 u - (u + \phi)g = 0$ in

$$\mathcal{B}_0 = \{u : [0, X] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, u'' \in \mathcal{C}[0, X]; u(0) = u'(0) = 0\}$$

equipped with the norm

$$\|u\|_\infty = \text{Sup}_{x \in [0, X]} |u(x)|.$$



Key point, write:

$$\mathbf{L}[u] = \underbrace{u'' - \Lambda^2 u}_{\mathbf{M}[u]} - (u + \phi)g$$

For large Λ :

$$(u + \phi)g \quad \text{is negligible} \implies \mathbf{L}[u] \sim \mathbf{M}[u].$$

Then solve the equation $\mathbf{L}[u] = 0$ in the form

$$u = \mathbf{M}^{-1}[(u + \phi)g],$$

where

$$\mathbf{M}^{-1}(v) = \int_0^X G(x, t)v(t)dt,$$



$G(x, t)$ is the Green function of the problem $\mathbf{M}[u] = 0$:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} G_{xx}(x, t) - \Lambda^2 G(x, t) = \delta(x - t) \quad \text{in } [0, X], \\ G(0, t) = G_x(0, t) = 0, \quad t \in [0, X], \end{array} \right.$$

$$G(x, t) = \frac{1}{\Lambda} \sinh[\Lambda(x - t)] \chi_{[0, x]}(t).$$

Then, any solution $u(x)$ of the IVP is a solution of the integral equation

$$u(x) = \mathbf{M}^{-1}[(u + \phi)g] = \frac{1}{\Lambda} \int_0^x \sinh[\Lambda(x - t)] g(t) [u(t) + \phi(t)] dt.$$



Equivalently, defining

$$\tilde{u}(x) := e^{-\Lambda x} u(x) \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\phi}(x) := e^{-\Lambda x} \phi(x),$$

any solution $u(x) = e^{\Lambda x} \tilde{u}(x)$ of the IVP is a solution of

$$\tilde{u}(x) = [\mathbf{T}\tilde{u}](x),$$

$$[\mathbf{T}\tilde{u}](x) := \frac{1}{2\Lambda} \int_0^x \left[1 - e^{2\Lambda(t-x)} \right] g(t) [\tilde{u}(t) + \tilde{\phi}(t)] dt.$$

From the fixed point theorem, if \mathbf{T}^n is contractive in $\mathcal{B}_0 \Rightarrow$

- $\tilde{u}(x) = [\mathbf{T}\tilde{u}](x)$ has a unique solution $\tilde{u}(x)$ and
- $\tilde{u}_{n+1} = \mathbf{T}(\tilde{u}_n)$, $\tilde{u}_0 = 0$, converges to $\tilde{u}(x)$.



We show this by using the bound

$$\left| \frac{1 - e^{2\Lambda(t-x)}}{2\Lambda} \right| \leq x - t, \quad \text{for } t \leq x.$$

in

$$[\mathbf{T}\tilde{u}](x) := \frac{1}{2\Lambda} \int_0^x \left[1 - e^{2\Lambda(t-x)} \right] g(t) [\tilde{u}(t) + \tilde{\phi}(t)] dt.$$

By means of induction over n , for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$,

$$\|\mathbf{T}^n z - \mathbf{T}^n w\|_\infty \leq \frac{\|g\|_\infty^n X^{2n}}{(2n)!} \|z - w\|_\infty.$$

Therefore \mathbf{T}^n is contractive for large enough $n \Rightarrow$ the sequence

$$y_n(x) = e^{\Lambda x} [\tilde{u}_n(x) + \tilde{\phi}(x)]$$

converges uniformly in $x \in [0, X]$ to the unique solution of the IVP.



Moreover:

$$|\tilde{u}(x) - \tilde{u}_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|g\|_\infty^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!} \|\tilde{u}\|_\infty.$$

Using $y(x) = e^{\Lambda x} \tilde{u}(x) + \phi(x)$

and $y_n(x) = e^{\Lambda x} \tilde{u}_n(x) + \phi(x)$

we find

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|g\|_\infty^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!} \|e^{-\Lambda x}(y - \phi)\|_\infty.$$



Theorem 1. Let $g : [0, X] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be continuous. Then,

$$\begin{cases} y'' - \Lambda^2 y - g(x)y = 0 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ y(0) = y^0, \quad y'(0) = y'^0, \end{cases}$$

has a unique solution $y(x)$. Moreover, for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$,

$$y_{n+1}(x) = \phi(x) + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \int_0^x \sinh[\Lambda(x-t)] g(t) y_n(t) dt,$$

$$y_0(x) = \phi(x) := y^0 \cosh(\Lambda x) + \frac{y'^0}{\Lambda} \sinh(\Lambda x)$$

converges to $y(x)$ uniformly in $x \in [0, X]$.

The remainder $R_n(x) := e^{-\Lambda x} [y(x) - y_n(x)]$ is bounded by

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|g\|_\infty^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!} \|e^{-\Lambda x} (y - \phi)\|_\infty.$$



Observations:

- \exists and uniqueness \rightarrow direct consequence of the Picard-Lindelöf's Th.
- Different election of the "main operator" $\mathbf{M}[u]$:
 $\mathbf{M}[u] = u''$ in the standard Picard-Lindelöf's theorem.
 Here $\mathbf{M}[u] = u'' + \Lambda^2 u$.
- For large Λ , $\mathbf{M}[u] = u'' + \Lambda^2 u$ "closer" to $\mathbf{L}[u]$ than $\mathbf{M}[u] = u''$:
 Similar error bound in the Picard-Lindelöf's iteration, but replacing

$$\|g\|_\infty \rightarrow \|g\|_\infty + \Lambda^2.$$

When $\Lambda \gg \|g\|_\infty$, we have a faster convergence.

- Moreover, the recurrence $y_n(x)$ is an asymptotic expansion of $y(x)$ for large Λ .



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We have

$$y(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n(x) \quad \text{uniformly in } [0, X].$$

In other words, $y(x)$ admits the series expansion

$$y(x) = \phi(x) + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [y_{k+1}(x) - y_k(x)] = \phi(x) + e^{\Lambda x} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [\tilde{u}_{k+1}(x) - \tilde{u}_k(x)],$$

with

$$\tilde{u}_n(x) := e^{-\Lambda x} [y_n(x) - \phi(x)], \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

We define the remainder of this expansion in the form

$$R_n(x) := e^{-\Lambda x} [y(x) - y_n(x)], \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$



Then we may write the series expansion in the form

$$y(x) = \phi(x) + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [y_{k+1}(x) - y_k(x)] + e^{\Lambda x} R_n(x) =$$

$$\phi(x) + e^{\Lambda x} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [\tilde{u}_{k+1}(x) - \tilde{u}_k(x)] + R_n(x) \right].$$

To show the convergence of the recurrence $y_n(x)$ we used the bound

$$\left| \frac{1 - e^{2\Lambda(t-x)}}{2\Lambda} \right| \leq x - t, \quad \text{for } t \leq x.$$

Bad bound for large Λ .

To show the asymptotic character we need:



$$\left| \frac{1 - e^{2\Lambda(t-x)}}{2\Lambda} \right| \leq \frac{1}{|\Lambda|}, \quad \Re\Lambda \geq 0, \quad x \geq t.$$

in

$$[\mathbf{T}\tilde{u}](x) := \frac{1}{2\Lambda} \int_0^x \left[1 - e^{2\Lambda(t-x)} \right] g(t) [\tilde{u}(t) + \tilde{\phi}(t)] dt.$$

We obtain:

$$\|u_{n+1} - u_n\|_\infty \leq \frac{X}{|\Lambda|} \|g\|_\infty \|u_n - u_{n-1}\|_\infty.$$

We also have:

$$\|\tilde{u} - \tilde{u}_n\|_\infty \leq \frac{\|g\|_\infty^n X^n}{|\Lambda|^n} \|\tilde{u}\|_\infty$$

and $\tilde{u} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{u}_n = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} [\tilde{u}_{k+1} - \tilde{u}_k] = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-k-1}) = \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-1})$.



Theorem 2. Let $g : [0, X] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be continuous in $[0, X]$. Then,

$$y(x) = \phi(x) + e^{\Lambda x} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [\tilde{u}_{k+1}(x) - \tilde{u}_k(x)] + R_n(x) \right].$$

is an asymptotic expansion for large Λ of the unique solution of

$$\begin{cases} y'' - \Lambda^2 y - g(x)y = 0 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ y(0) = y^0, \quad y'(0) = y'^0, \end{cases}$$

uniformly in $x \in [0, X]$. More precisely, for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$,

$$\tilde{u}_n(x) - \tilde{u}_{n-1}(x) = \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-n}) \quad \text{and} \quad R_n(x) = \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-n-1})$$

uniformly for $x \in [0, X]$.



Observations:

- This expansion is not of Poincaré type.
- Compare the construction of Olver's and this expansion:

$$y_1(x) \sim e^{\Lambda x} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{A_n(x)}{\Lambda^n}, \quad A_{n+1}(x) = -\frac{1}{2}A'_n(x) + \frac{1}{2} \int^x g(t)A_n(t)dt,$$

and

$$\tilde{u}_{n+1}(x) = \frac{1}{2\Lambda} \int_0^x \left[1 - e^{2\Lambda(t-x)}\right] g(t)[\tilde{u}_n(t) + \tilde{\phi}(t)]dt,$$

The integrand in the RHS of Olver's recursion is independent of Λ

The integrand in the RHS of the recurrence $\tilde{u}_n(x)$:

$\mathcal{O}(1)$ as $\Lambda \rightarrow \infty$,

contains an exponentially small dependence on Λ .



Example. For any $\Lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ and $X > 0$, the unique solution of the IVP

$$\begin{cases} y'' - \left(\Lambda^2 + \frac{x^2}{4}\right) y = 0 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ y(0) = U_{\Lambda^2}(0), \quad y'(0) = U'_{\Lambda^2}(0), \end{cases}$$

is the Parabolic Cylinder function $U_{\Lambda^2}(x)$. For this problem

$$\phi(x) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2^{\Lambda^2/2+1/4}} \left[\frac{\cosh[\Lambda x]}{\Gamma(\Lambda^2/2 + 3/4)} - \frac{\sqrt{2} \sinh[\Lambda x]}{\Lambda \Gamma(\Lambda^2/2 + 1/4)} \right],$$

$y_0(x) = \phi(x)$ and, for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$,

$$y_{n+1}(x) = \phi(x) + \frac{1}{4\Lambda} \int_0^x t^2 \sinh[\Lambda(x-t)] y_n(t) dt.$$

$y_n(x)$ converges absolutely and uniformly in $[0, X]$ to $U_{\Lambda^2}(x)$.

The sequence $y_n(x)$ is also an asymptotic expansion of $U_{\Lambda^2}(x)$.



Numerical experiments:

n	3	5	7	10
Olver's method	0.029931	0.711066	2.397264	34.189849
$y_{n+1} = \phi + \mathbf{T}y_n$	2.9242086E-7	2.117221E-13	0E-19	0E-11

Table: Parameter values: $x = 1$, $\Lambda = 0.5$.

n	3	5	7	10
Olver's method	0.035784	1.046597	1.215351	20.55906
$y_{n+1} = \phi + \mathbf{T}y_n$	2.401301E-7	1.701563E-13	0E-19	0E-12

Table: Parameter values: $x = 1$, $\Lambda = 0.5i$.

n	3	5	7	10
Olver's method	0.103680	0.025607	0.626	1.015444
$y_{n+1} = \phi + \mathbf{T}y_n$	0.117456	0.00313190E-2	0.229839E-4	2.373983E-9

Table: Parameter values: $x = -4$, $\Lambda = 1$.

n	3	5	7	10
Olver's method	0.178926E-3	1.888427E-6	4.157060E-9	1.105044E-10
$y_{n+1} = \phi + \mathbf{T}y_n$	0.203539E-2	4.885380E-6	4.823895E-9	4.315667E-14

Table: Parameter values: $x = -4$, $\Lambda = 10$.



n	3	5	7	10
Olver's method	2.386986E-5	1.437328E-6	4.800630E-8	6.697113E-10
$y_{n+1} = \phi + \mathbf{T}y_n$	9.812156E-3	2.960339E-4	2.435708E-8	9.491949E-13

Table: Parameter values: $x = -4$, $\Lambda = 10i$.

n	3	5	7	10
Olver's method	2.975095E-8	3.729794E-12	1.568155E-16	1.023331E-20
$y_{n+1} = \phi + \mathbf{T}y_n$	1.49924E-5	5.268923E-10	8.74661E-15	1.108888E-22

Table: Parameter values: $x = 4$, $\Lambda = 100i$.



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Consider

$$\begin{cases} y'' - \Lambda^2 y - f(x, y) = 0 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ y(0) = y^0, \quad y'(0) = y'^0, \end{cases}$$

where $f : [0, X] \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is continuous in its two variables.

Linear case: $f(x, y) = g(x)y$, $g(x)$ continuous.

Nonlinear case, we require the Lipschitz condition:

$$|f(x, y) - f(x, z)| \leq K|y - z| \quad \forall y, z \in \mathbb{C} \text{ and } x \in [0, X], \quad K > 0.$$

This condition replaces

$$|g(t)| |y(x) - z(x)| \leq \|g\|_\infty \|y - z\|_\infty$$

used in the linear case.



Repeating the arguments of the linear case, but replacing the bound

$$|g(t)| |y(x) - z(x)| \leq \|g\|_\infty \|y - z\|_\infty$$

by the bound

$$|f(x, y) - f(x, z)| \leq K|y - z| \quad \forall y, z \in \mathbb{C} \text{ and } x \in [0, X], \quad K > 0,$$



Theorem 3. Let $f : [0, X] \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ continuous and satisfy the Lipschitz condition. Then, the problem

$$\begin{cases} y'' - \Lambda^2 y - f(x, y) = 0 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ y(0) = y^0, \quad y'(0) = y'^0, \end{cases}$$

has a unique solution $y(x)$. Moreover:

- For $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ and $y_0(x) = \phi(x)$, the sequence

$$y_{n+1}(x) = \phi(x) + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \int_0^x \sinh[\Lambda(x-t)] f(t, y_n(t)) dt,$$

$$\phi(x) := y^0 \cosh(\Lambda x) + \frac{y'^0}{\Lambda} \sinh(\Lambda x)$$

converges to $y(x)$ uniformly in $x \in [0, X]$.

- The remainder $R_n(x) := e^{-\Lambda x} [y(x) - y_n(x)]$ is bounded by

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{K^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!} \|e^{-\Lambda x} (y - \phi)\|_{\infty}.$$



Observations:

- Existence and uniqueness of the solution well known from the Picard-Lindelöf's theorem.
- Similar error bound for the standard Picard-Lindelöf's iteration replacing K by $K + \Lambda^2$ in

$$|R_n(x)| \leq \frac{K^n x^{2n}}{(2n)!} \|e^{-\Lambda x}(y - \phi)\|_\infty.$$

- When Λ is large compared with K , we have that $y_n(x)$ converges faster than the standard Picard-Lindelöf's iteration.
- Moreover, $y(x)$ is also an asymptotic expansion of $y(x)$ for large Λ :



Theorem 4. Let $f : [0, X] \times \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be continuous and Lipschitz's continuous. Then, the expansion

$$y(x) = \phi(x) + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [y_{k+1}(x) - y_k(x)] + e^{\Lambda x} R_n(x) =$$

$$\phi(x) + e^{\Lambda x} \left[\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [\tilde{u}_{k+1}(x) - \tilde{u}_k(x)] + R_n(x) \right].$$

is an asymptotic expansion for large Λ of $y(x)$, uniformly in $x \in [0, X]$. More precisely, for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$,

$$\tilde{u}_n(x) - \tilde{u}_{n-1}(x) = \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-n}) \quad \text{and} \quad R_n(x) = \mathcal{O}(\Lambda^{-n-1})$$

uniformly for $x \in [0, X]$.



Example. Consider, for $b, c \in \mathbb{C}$, $\Re \Lambda \geq 0$, the Mathieu-Duffing equation

$$y'' - (\Lambda^2 + b \cos x)y - cy^3 = 0,$$

and the corresponding initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} y'' - \Lambda^2 y = f(x, y) := b y \cos x + c y^3 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ y(0) = 0, \quad y'(0) = 1, \end{cases}$$

$$|f(x, y) - f(x, z)| \leq [|b| + |c| (|y|^2 + yz + z^2)] |y - z|.$$

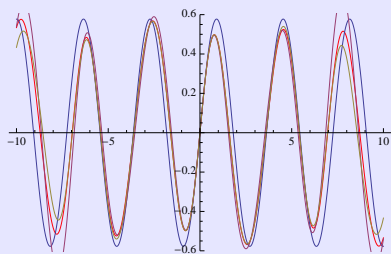
Lipschitz's continuous for $y, z \in D \subset \mathbb{C}$, D compact.

When all the $y_n(x)$ are uniformly bounded in $x \in [0, X]$,

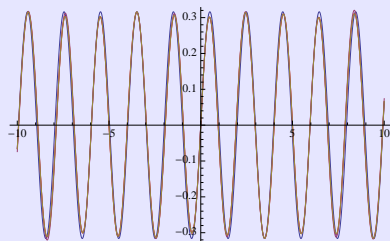
$$y_{n+1}(x) = \frac{\sinh(\Lambda x)}{\Lambda} + \frac{1}{\Lambda} \int_0^x \sinh[\Lambda(x-t)] [b y_n(t) \cos t + c y_n^3(t)] dt.$$



$$b = c = -1$$



$$\Lambda^2 = -3$$



$$\Lambda^2 = -10$$

Exact solution (red), $y_1(x)$ (blue), $y_2(x)$ (pink) and $y_3(x)$ (gold).



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$$\begin{cases} y'' - \Lambda^3 xy - g(x)y = 0 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ y(0) = y^0, \quad y'(0) = y'^0, \end{cases}$$

For $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ and $y_0(x) = 0$, the sequence

$$y_{n+1}(x) = \phi(x) + \frac{\pi}{\Lambda} \left[Bi(\Lambda x) \int_0^x Ai(\Lambda t) g(t) y_n(t) dt - \right. \\ \left. Ai(\Lambda x) \int_0^x Bi(\Lambda t) g(t) y_n(t) dt \right],$$

$$\phi(x) := \pi \left\{ \left[y^0 Bi'(0) - \frac{y'^0}{\Lambda} Bi(0) \right] Ai(\Lambda x) - \left[y^0 Ai'(0) - \frac{y'^0}{\Lambda} Ai(0) \right] Bi(\Lambda x) \right\}.$$

converges to $y(x)$ uniformly in $[0, X]$.



For negative X , the expansion

$$y(x) = \phi(x) + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [y_{k+1}(x) - y_k(x)] + R_n(x)$$

is an asymptotic expansion for large Λ of $y(x)$, uniformly in $x \in [0, X]$.



$$\begin{cases} xy'' - \Lambda^2 y - xg(x)y = 0 & \text{in } [0, X], \\ y'(0) = y'^0, \end{cases}$$

For $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ and $y_0(x) = 0$, the sequence

$$y_{n+1}(x) = \phi(x) + \pi\sqrt{x} \left[Y_1(2\Lambda\sqrt{x}) \int_0^x \sqrt{t} J_1(2\Lambda\sqrt{t}) g(t) y_n(t) dt - \right. \\ \left. J_1(2\Lambda\sqrt{x}) \int_0^x \sqrt{t} Y_1(2\Lambda\sqrt{t}) g(t) y_n(t) dt \right],$$

$$\phi(x) := \frac{y'_0}{\Lambda} \sqrt{x} J_1(2\Lambda\sqrt{x})$$

converges to $y(x)$ uniformly in $[0, X]$.



For positive X , the expansion

$$y(x) = \phi(x) + \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} [y_{k+1}(x) - y_k(x)] + R_n(x)$$

is an asymptotic expansion for large Λ of $y(x)$, uniformly for $x \in [0, X]$.



