

Legendre Polynomials.

The Legendre polyⁿ $P_n(t)$ is defined to be the polyⁿ solⁿ to

$$(1-t^2)y'' - 2ty' + n(n+1)y = 0$$

which satisfies $P_n(1) = 1$.

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$$\text{Let } y = \sum_{m \geq 0} a_m t^m,$$

$$y' = \sum_{m \geq 0} m a_m t^{m-1} = \sum_{m \geq 0} (m+1) a_{m+1} t^m$$

$$y'' = \sum_{m \geq 0} m(m+1) a_{m+1} t^{m-1} = \sum_{m \geq 0} (m+1)(m+2) a_{m+2} t^m$$

$$\text{or } = \sum_{m \geq 0} (m-1) m a_m t^{m-2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \sum_{m \geq 0} (m+1)(m+2) a_{m+2} t^m$$

$$- \sum_{m \geq 0} (m-1) m a_m t^m$$

$$- \sum_{m \geq 0} 2m a_m t^m + \sum_{m \geq 0} n(n+1) a_m t^m$$

$$= \sum_{m \geq 0} \left[(m+1)(m+2) a_{m+2} + (n(n+1) - m^2 + m - 2m) a_m \right] t^m$$

$$= \sum_{m \geq 0} \left[(m+1)(m+2) a_{m+2} + (n(n+1) - m(m+1)) a_m \right] t^m$$

$$a_{m+2} = \frac{m(m+1) - n(n+1)}{(m+1)(m+2)} a_m$$

At ~~the~~ $m=n$ the sequence terminates. So for a poly² solⁿ require that for $m \neq n \pmod{2}$, require $a_m = 0$.

$$\underline{n=0}: a_{m+2} = \frac{m}{m+2} a_m$$

$$\Rightarrow a_0 \neq 0, a_1 = 0, \boxed{P_0(t) = 1}$$

$$\underline{n=1}: a_{\text{even}} = 0.$$

$$a_3 = \frac{2-2}{6} a_1 = 0. \quad \boxed{\therefore P_1(t) = t}$$

$$\underline{n=2}: a_{\text{odd}} = 0.$$

$$a_2 = \frac{-6}{2} a_0 = -3a_0, a_4 = 0$$

$$P_2(t) = a_0 - 3a_0 t^2 = a_0(1 - 3t^2)$$

$$1 = P_2(1) = -2a_0 \quad \therefore P_2(t) = \frac{-1}{2}(1 - 3t^2)$$

$$\underline{n=3}: a_{\text{even}} = 0$$

$$a_3 = \frac{2-12}{6} a_1 = -\frac{10}{6} a_1 = -\frac{5}{3} a_1$$

$$a_5 = 0$$

$$P_3(t) = a_1 \left(t - \frac{5}{3} t^3 \right)$$

$$1 = P_3(1) = a_1 \left(1 - \frac{5}{3} \right) = -\frac{2}{3} a_1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore P_3(t) &= -\frac{3}{2} \left(t - \frac{5}{3} t^3 \right) \\ &= \left(\frac{5}{2} t^2 - \frac{3}{2} \right) t \end{aligned}$$