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## ON ASYMPTOTIC INTEGRATIONS OF $x^2y'' - P(x)y = 0$

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**1. Introduction.** In the past decade since the publication of the paper by P. F. Hsieh and Y. Sibuya [2], substantial achievements have been made in the global study of the second order equation of the form

$$(1.1) \quad y'' - Q(x)y = 0, \quad \left( '' = \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right)$$

where  $x$  is a complex variable, and

$$(1.2) \quad Q(x) = x^m + a_1x^{m-1} + \dots + a_m, \quad m: \text{positive integer.}$$

A good collection of results in this direction can be found in the recent book of Y. Sibuya [5]. A similar study on an  $n$ -th order equation is done by B. L. J. Braaksma [1].

In this paper, we shall study the asymptotic integrations of

$$(E) \quad x^2y'' - P(x)y = 0,$$

where  $P(x)$  is an  $m$ -th degree polynomial

$$(1.3) \quad P(x) = x^m + a_1x^{m-1} + \dots + a_m, \quad m: \text{positive integer,}$$

with  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  complex parameters. First, let

$$(1.4) \quad \{x^{-m}P(x)\}^{\frac{1}{2}} = \left\{1 + \sum_{h=1}^m a_h x^{-h}\right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} = 1 + \sum_{h=1}^{\infty} b_h x^{-h}.$$

Then,  $b_h$  are polynomials of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$ . We shall prove the following

**Theorem 1.** *The differential equation (E) has a solution*

$$(1.5) \quad y = y_m(x, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$$

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such that

(i)  $y_m$  is entire in  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$  and holomorphic in  $x$  for

$$(1.6) \quad |x| > 0, \quad |\arg x| < \pi;$$

(ii)  $y_m$  and  $y'_m$  admit respectively the asymptotic representations

$$(1.7) \quad y_m \cong x^{r_m} \left\{ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_{mn} x^{-\frac{1}{2}n} \right\} \exp \left\{ -2m^{-1} x^{\frac{1}{2}m} + \sum_{n=1}^{m-1} A_{mn} x^{\frac{1}{2}(m-n)} \right\},$$

$$(1.8) \quad y'_m \cong -x^{\frac{1}{2}m-1+r_m} \left\{ 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_{mn} x^{-\frac{1}{2}n} \right\} \exp \left\{ -2m^{-1} x^{\frac{1}{2}m} + \sum_{n=1}^{m-1} A_{mn} x^{\frac{1}{2}(m-n)} \right\}$$

uniformly on each compact set in  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$  - space as  $x$  tends to infinity in any closed sector which is contained in

$$(1.9) \quad |x| > 0, \quad |\arg x| < 3m^{-1}\pi$$

where

$$(1.10) \quad r_m = \begin{cases} -\frac{m}{4} + \frac{1}{2}, & m; \text{ odd,} \\ -\frac{m}{4} + \frac{1}{2} - b_{\frac{1}{2}m}, & m; \text{ even,} \end{cases}$$

with  $b_{\frac{1}{2}m}$ ,  $A_{mn}B_{mn}$  and  $C_{mn}$  polynomials of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$ .

A similar problem has been proved by F. E. Mullin [3]. However, the quantity  $r_m$  was not given as explicitly there. The case of  $m = 2$  and  $m = 3$  are studied recently by T. Okada [4]. It is noteworthy that a Bessel differential equation

$$x^2 w'' + xw' + (x^2 - n^2)w = 0$$

can be transformed by  $w = x^{-\frac{1}{2}}y$  to

$$x^2 y'' + \left( x^2 - n^2 + \frac{1}{4} \right) y = 0,$$

which is a type of (E) with  $m = 2$ .

## 2. Solutions in other sectors.

Put

$$(2.1) \quad \hat{x} = e^{i\theta} x,$$

then (E) is reduced to

$$(2.2) \quad \hat{x}^2 \frac{d^2 y}{d\hat{x}^2} - e^{im\theta} (\hat{x}^m + a_1 e^{i\theta} \hat{x}^{m-1} + \dots + a_m e^{im\theta}) y = 0.$$

If we choose  $\Theta$  satisfying  $e^{im\Theta} = 1$ , then  $y_m(\hat{x}, e^{i\Theta}a_1, \dots, e^{im\Theta}a_m)$  is also a solution of (E). Let

$$(2.3) \quad \Theta_k = 2km^{-1}\pi, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, m-1,$$

and

$$(2.4) \quad y_{m,k}(x, a_1, \dots, a_m) = y_m(e^{i\Theta_k}x, e^{i\Theta_k}a_1, e^{2i\Theta_k}a_2, \dots, e^{mi\Theta_k}a_m).$$

Denote the right hand side of (1.7) by  $Y_m(x, a_1, \dots, a_m)$ . Then we have the following.

**Theorem 2.** *The differential equation (E) has a solution  $y_{m,k}$  satisfies the following conditions:*

(i)  $y_{m,k}$  is entire in  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$  and holomorphic in  $x$  for

$$(2.5) \quad |x| > 0, \quad |\arg x + \Theta_k| < 3m^{-1}\pi;$$

(ii)  $y_{m,k}$  and  $y'_{m,k}$  admit respectively the asymptotic representation

$$(2.6) \quad y_{m,k} \cong Y_m(e^{i\Theta_k}x, e^{i\Theta_k}a_1, e^{2i\Theta_k}a_2, \dots, e^{mi\Theta_k}a_m)$$

$$(2.7) \quad y'_{m,k} \cong e^{i\Theta_k}Y'_m(e^{i\Theta_k}x, e^{i\Theta_k}a_1, e^{2i\Theta_k}a_2, \dots, e^{mi\Theta_k}a_m)$$

uniformly on each compact set in  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$  - space as  $x$  tends to infinity in any closed sector which is contained in (2.5).

**3. Preliminary transformations and a nonlinear equation.** We shall prove Theorem 1 similar to the method in [2], as the regular singular point at  $x = 0$  does not affect the asymptotic solutions at  $x = \infty$ . Same approach was used also in [3].

First, we shall write (E) as a system of equations. Let

$$(3.1) \quad u = \begin{pmatrix} y \\ y' \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ x^{-2}P(x) & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then (E) becomes

$$(3.2) \quad u' = A(x)u.$$

Put

$$(3.3) \quad x = \xi^2 \quad \text{and} \quad u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \xi^{m-2} \end{pmatrix} z.$$

Then, (3.2) becomes

$$(3.4) \quad \frac{dz}{d\xi} = \left\{ \xi^{m-1} \sum_{k=0}^{2m} A_k \xi^{-k} \right\} z.$$

where  $A_k$  are 2 by 2 matrices linear in  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$ . In particular

$$A_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let

$$(3.5) \quad z = Vw, \quad V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then, (3.4) becomes

$$(3.6) \quad \frac{dw}{d\xi} = \xi^{m-1} B(\xi) w,$$

where

$$B(\xi) = \sum_{k=0}^{2m} B_k \xi^{-k}, \quad B_k = V^{-1} A_k V$$

and, in particular,

$$B_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Put

$$(3.7) \quad B(\xi) = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1(\xi) & \beta_1(\xi) \\ \beta_2(\xi) & \alpha_2(\xi) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then,  $\alpha_i(\xi)$ ,  $\beta_i(\xi)$  are linear in  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  and polynomials in  $\xi^{-1}$ . Furthermore, we have

$$(3.8) \quad \begin{cases} \alpha_1(\xi) = -2 + 0(\xi^{-1}), & \beta_1(\xi) = 0(\xi^{-1}), \\ \alpha_2(\xi) = 2 + 0(\xi^{-1}), & \beta_2(\xi) = 0(\xi^{-1}). \end{cases}$$

Now, put

$$(3.9) \quad w = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ p \end{pmatrix} \exp \left\{ \int \xi^{m-1} \gamma(\eta) d\eta \right\}$$

into (3.6). Then we have

$$(3.10) \quad \gamma = \alpha_1 + \beta_1 p$$

and

$$(3.11) \quad \frac{dp}{d\xi} = \xi^{m-1} \{ \beta_2 + \alpha_2 p - \gamma p \}.$$

Substitute (3.10) into (3.11), we obtain a nonlinear equation

$$(3.12) \quad \frac{dp}{d\xi} = \xi^{m-1} \{ \beta_2 + (\alpha_2 - \alpha_1) p - \beta_1 p^2 \}.$$

If we determine  $p(\xi)$  by (3.12) and then use (3.10) to determine  $\gamma(\xi)$ , the quantity  $w(\xi)$  in (3.9) is a solution of (3.6).

#### 4. Existence and uniqueness of solution (3.12).

The equation (3.12) has the following form:

$$\frac{dp}{d\xi} = \xi^{m-1} \{f(\xi) + g(\xi)p + h(\xi)p^2\},$$

where  $f, g, h$  are linear functions of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  and polynomials of  $\xi^{-1}$  such that

$$f(\xi) = 0(\xi^{-1}), \quad g(\xi) = g_0 + 0(\xi^{-1}); \quad h(\xi) = 0(\xi^{-1}).$$

and  $g_0$  is a nonzero constant. Here  $g_0 = 4$ .

We shall state a fundamental lemma concerning such a nonlinear differential equations whose proof may be found in detail in [2].

**Lemma.** *Let  $f, g$  and  $h$  be polynomials in  $\xi^{-1}$  whose coefficients are linear in  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ . Suppose that*

$$f(\xi) = 0(\xi^{-1}), \quad g(\xi) = g_0 + 0(\xi^{-1}), \quad h(\xi) = 0(\xi^{-1})$$

where  $g_0$  is a nonzero constant independent of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$ . Then the differential equation

$$(4.1) \quad \frac{dp}{d\xi} = \xi^{m-1} \{f(\xi) + g(\xi)p + h(\xi)p^2\},$$

has the unique formal solution

$$(4.2) \quad \hat{p}(\xi) \sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n \xi^{-n},$$

where the quantities  $p_n$  are polynomial of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  and independent of  $\xi$ .

Let  $\delta$  be a sufficiently small positive constant. Then there exists a unique solution  $p(\xi)$  of (4.1) which satisfies:

(i) for each positive constant  $r$ , there exists a positive constant  $N_r$  such that  $p(\xi)$  is holomorphic with respect to  $(\xi, a_1, \dots, a_m)$  in the domain defined by

$$(4.3) \quad |\xi| > N_r, \quad |a_1| + |a_2| + \dots + |a_m| < N_r, \quad (0 < r < \infty),$$

$$|\arg g_0 + m \arg \xi| \leq \frac{3\pi}{2} - \delta;$$

(ii)  $p(\xi) \cong \hat{p}(\xi)$  uniformly on each compact set in  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m)$  - space as  $\xi$  tends to infinity in the sector

$$(4.4) \quad |\arg g_0 + m \arg \xi| \leq \frac{3\pi}{2} - \delta.$$

Applying this lemma, we find that equation (3.12) admits a solution  $p(\xi)$  such that (i) for each  $r > 0$  and each  $\delta$  sufficiently small, there exists a positive number  $N_{r,\delta}$  such that  $p(\xi)$  is holomorphic with respect to  $(\xi, a_1, \dots, a_m)$  in the domain defined by

$$(4.5) \quad \begin{cases} |\xi| > N_{r,\delta}, & |\arg \xi| \leq \frac{3\pi}{2m} - \delta, \\ |a_1|^2 + \dots + |a_m|^2 < r, & (0 < r < \infty), \end{cases}$$

(ii) we have

$$p(\xi) \cong \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} p_n \xi^{-n}$$

uniformly on each compact subset in  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)$ -space as  $\xi$  tends to infinity in the sector

$$(4.6) \quad |\arg \xi| \leq \frac{3\pi}{2m} - \delta,$$

where  $p_n$  are polynomials of  $a_1, \dots, a_m$  and independent of  $\xi$ .

But  $\gamma(\xi)$  is now found from (3.10) to be

$$\gamma(\xi) = \alpha_1(\xi) + p(\xi) \beta_1(\xi).$$

Hence  $\gamma(\xi)$  is holomorphic in (4.5), and we have

$$(4.7) \quad \gamma(\xi) \cong -2 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \gamma_n \xi^{-n}$$

uniformly on each compact set in the  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)$ -space as  $\xi$  tends to infinity in (4.6), where  $\gamma_n$  are polynomials of  $a_1, \dots, a_m$  and independent of  $\xi$

Let

$$(4.8) \quad \widehat{\gamma}(\xi) = \gamma(\xi) - \left[-2 + \sum_{n=1}^m \gamma_n \xi^{-n}\right]$$

and

$$(4.9) \quad E(\xi) = \xi^{\gamma^m} \exp \left\{ -\frac{2}{m} \xi^m + \sum_{n=1}^{m-1} \frac{\gamma_n}{m-n} \xi^{m-n} \right\}.$$

Then

$$(4.10) \quad w(\xi) = \left( \frac{1}{p(\xi)} \right) E(\xi) \exp \left\{ \int_{\infty}^{\xi} \eta^{m-1} \widehat{\gamma}(\eta) d\eta \right\}$$

is a solution of (3.6), where the path of integration lies in the sector (4.6). Clearly, this is holomorphic with respect to  $(\xi, a_1, \dots, a_m)$  in (4.5) and

$$(4.11) \quad w \cong \left\{ w_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} w_n \xi^{-n} \right\} E(\xi),$$

uniformly in each compact subset of the  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)$ -space as  $\xi$  tends to infinity in (4.6) where  $w_n$  are two dimensional vectors whose elements are polynomials of  $a_1, \dots, a_m$  and independent of  $\xi$  and

$$(4.12) \quad w_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

If we now let

$$(4.13) \quad u(x) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \xi^{m-2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ p(\xi) \end{pmatrix} E(\xi) \exp \left\{ \int_{\infty}^{\xi} \eta^{m-1} \gamma(\eta) d\eta \right\}.$$

then  $u(x)$  is a solution of (3.2). If we can prove that  $u(t)$  is an entire function of  $a_1, \dots, a_m$ , then we have proved (i) of Theorem 1. To do this, let  $x_0$  be an arbitrary point such that  $|x_0| > 0$ . Let  $\Phi(x)$  be the two by two matrix such that

$$\frac{d\Phi}{dx} = A(x) \Phi, \quad \Phi(x_0) = I_2,$$

where  $I_2$  is the two by two identity matrix. The elements of the vertices  $\Phi(x)$  and  $\Phi^{-1}(x)$  are entire functions of  $a_1, \dots, a_m$  for  $|x| > 0$ , and analytic in  $x$  for  $|x| > 0$ ,  $|\arg x| < \pi$ , and

$$u(x) = \Phi(x) u(x_0).$$

Now let  $(a_1^0, a_2^0, \dots, a_m^0)$  be fixed and consider a small neighborhood  $U$  of this point. Then, if  $x_0$  is chosen so that  $(\xi_0, a_1, \dots, a_m)$  lies in the domain (4.3), for every  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)$  in  $U$ , where  $\xi_0^2 = x_0$ , it follows from (4.12) that  $u(x_0)$  is analytic in  $U$ . This proves that  $u(x)$  is an entire function of  $(a_1, \dots, a_m)$  for  $|x| > 0$  and analytic in  $x$  for  $|x| > 0$ ,  $|\arg x| < \pi$ .

##### 5. Determination of $r_m, A_{mn}, B_{mn}$ and $C_{mn}$ .

To complete the proof of Theorem 1, it remains to show the coefficients of the right hand sides of (1.6) and (1.7) are polynomials of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$ .

First, by computing the entries of (3.7) from (3.2), (3.3) and (3.6), we have

$$\alpha_1(\xi) = -\{1 + x^{-m}P(x)\} - \frac{1}{2}(m-2)\xi^{-m},$$

$$\alpha_2(\xi) = \{1 + x^{-m}P(x)\} - \frac{1}{2}(m-2)\xi^{-m},$$

$$\beta_1(\xi) = \{1 - x^{-m}P(x)\} + \frac{1}{2}(m-2)\xi^{-m},$$

$$\beta_2(\xi) = -\{1 - x^{-m}P(x)\} + \frac{1}{2}(m-2)\xi^{-m}.$$

Thus,

$$\alpha_2(\xi) - \alpha_1(\xi) = 2\{1 + x^{-m}P(x)\},$$

$$\beta_1(\xi)\beta_2(\xi) = \frac{1}{4}(m-2)^2\xi^{-2m} - \{1 - x^{-m}P(x)\}^2,$$

and, consequently,

$$\{\alpha_2(\xi) - \alpha_1(\xi)\}^2 + 4\beta_1(\xi)\beta_2(\xi) = 16x^{-m}P(x) + (m-2)^2\xi^{-2m}.$$

On the other hand, from (3.12), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & 2\beta_1(\xi)p(\xi) = \\ &= \alpha_2(\xi) - \alpha_1(\xi) - \left[ \{\alpha_2(\xi) - \alpha_1(\xi)\}^2 + 4\beta_1(\xi)\beta_2(\xi) - 4\xi^{-(m-1)}\beta_1(\xi) \frac{dp}{d\xi} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = \\ &= 2\{1 + x^{-m}P(x)\} - \left[ 16x^{-m}P(x) + (m-2)^2\xi^{-2m} - 4\xi^{-(m-1)}\beta_1(\xi) \frac{dp}{d\xi} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$(5.1) \quad \gamma(\xi) = \alpha_1(\xi) + p(\xi)\beta_1(\xi) = -2\sqrt{x^{-m}P(x)} + 0(\xi^{-m-2}).$$

From the expressions of  $E(\xi)$  and  $\gamma(\xi)$  in (4.7) and (4.9), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{m-1} A_{mn}x^{\frac{1}{2}m-n} &= \sum_{n=1}^{m-1} \frac{\gamma_n}{m-n} \xi^{m-n} = \\ &= -2 \int_0^{\xi} \eta^{m-1} \sum_{1 \leq h < \frac{1}{2}m} b_h \eta^{-\frac{1}{2}h} dt = - \int_0^x t^{\frac{1}{2}m-1} \sum_{1 \leq h < \frac{1}{2}m} b_h t^h dt = \\ &= - \sum_{1 \leq h < \frac{1}{2}m} \frac{2}{m-2h} b_h x^{\frac{1}{2}m-h}. \end{aligned}$$

Put

$$(5.2) \quad q(x) = -x^{\frac{1}{2}m-1} \left\{ 1 + \sum_{1 \leq h < \frac{1}{2}m} b_h x^{-h} \right\}$$

and

$$(5.3) \quad y = z \exp \left\{ \int_0^x q(t) dt \right\}.$$

Then (E) becomes

$$(5.4) \quad z'' + 2qz' + \{q' + q^2 - x^{-2}P(x)\}z = 0$$

It is easy to see that

$$2q = x^{\frac{1}{2}m-1} \{-2 + 0(x^{-1})\}$$

and

$$q' + q^2 - x^{-2}P(x) = x^{\frac{1}{2}m-2} \{s_m + 0(x^{-K_m})\},$$

where

$$(5.5) \quad s_m = \begin{cases} -\frac{m}{2} + 1, & m: \text{ even,} \\ -\frac{m}{2} + 1 - 2b_{\frac{1}{2}m}, & m: \text{ odd,} \end{cases} \quad K_m = \begin{cases} 1, & m: \text{ even,} \\ \frac{1}{2}, & m: \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

By putting

$$z = x^m \{1 + O(x^{-1})\}$$

we get

$$(5.6) \quad r_m = \frac{1}{2} s_m = \begin{cases} -\frac{m}{4} + \frac{1}{2}, & m: \text{ odd,} \\ -\frac{m}{4} + \frac{1}{2} - b_{\frac{1}{2}m}, & m: \text{ even.} \end{cases}$$

Put

$$(5.7) \quad z = x^m w.$$

Then (5.4) becomes

$$w'' + 2(r_m x^{-1} q) w' + \{(r_m x^{-1})^2 - r_m x^{-2} + 2q r_m x^{-1} + q' + q^2 - x^{-2} P(x)\} w = 0.$$

The coefficients of  $w'$  is  $x^{\frac{1}{2}m-1} \{-2 + O(x^{-1})\}$ , while that of  $w$  is  $O(x^{\frac{1}{2}m-2-K_m})$ .

Hence, by putting

$$w = 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_{mn} x^{-\frac{1}{2}n},$$

we can determine  $B_{mn}$  successively as polynomials of  $a_1, \dots, a_m$ .

By differentiating the right hand side of (1.6) we can get  $C_{mn}$ . Thus, Theorem 1 is proved.

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