

## Completeness + Orthogonality of Bessel Functions

$$\left[ x^2 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + x \frac{d}{dx} + (k^2 x^2 - n^2) \right] J_n(kx) = 0$$

Recall Sturm-Liouville theory

$$\mathcal{L} \equiv p_0(x) \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + p_1(x) \frac{d}{dx} + p_2(x)$$

is Hermitian if  $p_1(x) = p_0'(x)$

In such a situation the eigenfunctions  $f_\lambda(x)$

$$\mathcal{L} f_\lambda(x) = \lambda f_\lambda(x)$$

are a complete set:

$$g(x) = \int d\lambda c(\lambda) f_\lambda(x) \quad \leftarrow \text{any } g \text{ can be expanded in } f_\lambda$$

and  $f_\lambda$  are also orthogonal:

$$\int dx f_\lambda(x) f_{\lambda'}(x) = \begin{matrix} \delta_{\lambda, \lambda'} \\ \uparrow \\ \text{discrete} \\ \lambda \end{matrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{matrix} \delta(\lambda - \lambda') \\ \uparrow \\ \text{continuous } \lambda. \end{matrix}$$

The Bessel differential operator is Hermitian only after division by the "weight function"  $w(x) = x$

$$x \frac{d}{dx} + \frac{d}{dx} + (k^2 x^2 - n^2/x) \quad J_n(kx) = 0$$

$\uparrow$                        $\uparrow$                        $p_1 = p_0'$   
 $p_0(x) = x$                $p_1(x) = 1$

In this case, as we discussed, the eigenfunctions obey a generalized orthogonality

$$\int w(x) f_\lambda(x) f_{\lambda'}(x) dx = \delta_{\lambda\lambda'} \delta(\lambda - \lambda')$$

Let's work out how this occurs explicitly for Bessel functions. Consider problem where we require functions  $(x \rightarrow p)$  to vanish at  $p = a$ . When we solved Schrodinger eqn we saw this quantized the  $k$  values

$$J_n(\alpha_{nm} p/a) \quad \text{where } \alpha_{nm} \text{ are } n\text{th roots of } J_n: \\ J_n(\alpha_{nm}) = 0$$

Aside: and completeness  
 Orthogonality depends not only on  $\mathcal{L}$  but also on

boundary conditions  $\frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} + k^2 f = 0 \quad 0 < x < a \rightarrow \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a}$

$$f(x) = 0$$

$$x = 0, a$$

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$\cdot J_n(\alpha_{nm} \rho/a)$

The derivation below follows very closely last quarter's derivation of the  $p_1 = p_0'$  Hermiticity condition

$$\left[ \rho \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \rho^2} J_n(\alpha_{nm} \frac{\rho}{a}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} J_n(\alpha_{nm} \frac{\rho}{a}) + \frac{\alpha_{nm}^2 \rho}{a^2} - \frac{\nu^2}{\rho} \right] J_n(\alpha_{nm} \frac{\rho}{a}) = 0$$

$$\left[ \rho \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \rho^2} J_n(\alpha_{nm}' \frac{\rho}{a}) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} J_n(\alpha_{nm}' \frac{\rho}{a}) + \frac{\alpha_{nm}'^2 \rho}{a^2} - \frac{\nu^2}{\rho} \right] J_n(\alpha_{nm}' \frac{\rho}{a}) = 0$$

$\cdot J_n(\alpha_{nm}' \rho/a)$

and subtract

$$J_n(\alpha_{nm}' \frac{\rho}{a}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left[ \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} J_n(\alpha_{nm} \frac{\rho}{a}) \right] - J_n(\alpha_{nm} \frac{\rho}{a}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left[ \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} J_n(\alpha_{nm}' \frac{\rho}{a}) \right] = \frac{\alpha_{nm}^2 - \alpha_{nm}'^2}{a^2} \rho J_n(\alpha_{nm} \frac{\rho}{a}) J_n(\alpha_{nm}' \frac{\rho}{a})$$

Integrate from 0 to a and then integrate by parts

The "integral term" vanishes because one has two identical pieces differing by a  $\ominus$  sign. The "surface term" vanishes at  $\rho=0$  because of the  $\rho$  factor and at  $\rho=a$  because of  $\alpha_{nm} \rho/a$  argument.

Thus as long as  $\alpha_{nm}^2 \neq \alpha_{nm}'^2$  we have

$$\int_0^a \rho J_n(\alpha_{nm} \rho/a) J_n(\alpha_{nm}' \rho/a) d\rho = 0$$

ORTHOGONALITY

Normalization

$$\int_0^a \left[ J_n(\alpha_{nm} \rho/a) \right]^2 \rho d\rho = \frac{a^2}{2} \left[ J_{n+1}(\alpha_{nm}) \right]^2$$

Exercise from recurrence reln (HW1-1)

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summary we can expand  $f(p)$   $0 < p < a$   $f(0) = 0$   
 $f(a) = 0$

$$f(p) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_{nm} J_n(\alpha_{nm} p/a)$$

$$C_{nm} = \frac{2}{a^2 (J_{n+1}(\alpha_{nm}))^2} \int_0^a f(p) J_n(\alpha_{nm} p/a) p dp$$

Q: why are  $\{J_n(\alpha_{nm} p/a)\}$  complete for each  $n$ ;  
shouldn't we have to include all  $n$  in expansion?

A: Different  $\delta$ , PDE for each  $n$