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# MATHEMATICS

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**Abstract**

**Full Text**

**MATHEMATICS**

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**INVESTIGATION OF A DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION OF STURM–LIOUVILLE TYPE**

*(Presented by Academician P. S. Novikov on 26 VI 1964)*

**1. An equation of Sturm–Liouville type**

$$z^{IV}(x) + [\lambda - q(x)]z(x) = 0, \quad a \leq x \leq b, \quad (1)$$

is considered under the assumptions: 1) continuity of the function  $q(x)$  on  $(a, b)$  and 2) existence of the finite limits  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a+0} q(x)$ ,  $\lim_{x \rightarrow b-0} q(x)$  (similarly to (\*)).

A solution of equation (1) satisfying certain boundary conditions is an entire function of  $\lambda$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ . To each eigenvalue  $\lambda$  there correspond four linearly independent eigenfunctions of equation (1):  $\varphi(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\psi(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\vartheta(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\eta(x, \lambda)$ . Their Wronskian  $W[\varphi, \psi, \vartheta, \eta]$  does not depend on  $x$  and is an entire function of  $\lambda$ . We shall consider the third-order minors of the Wronskian, denoting by  $A[\varphi^{(i)}]$  the minor complementary to the element  $\varphi^{(i)}(x, \lambda)$  in the Wronskian,  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$ . These minors, which are functions of  $x$  and  $\lambda$ , will be differentiated with respect to  $x$ .

**Lemma 1.**

$$\{A[\varphi^{(i)}]\}^{(j)} = A[\varphi^{(i-j)}], \quad i = 1, 2, 3; \quad j \leq i, \quad \{A[\varphi]\}' = [q(x) - \lambda]A[\varphi'''].$$

**Lemma 2.**  $A[\varphi'''](x, \lambda)$  is an eigenfunction of equation (1), linearly independent of  $\varphi(x, \lambda)$ , corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

**Lemma 3.** If the boundary conditions

$$\varphi^{(k+2)}(x, \lambda) = -p(\lambda)\varphi^{(k)}(x, \lambda), \quad \psi^{(k+2)}(x, \lambda) = -p(\lambda)\psi^{(k)}(x, \lambda),$$

$$\vartheta^{(k+2)}(x, \lambda) = p(\lambda)\vartheta^{(k)}(x, \lambda), \quad \eta^{(k+2)}(x, \lambda) = p(\lambda)\eta^{(k)}(x, \lambda)$$

are satisfied at the point  $x = a$  (or at the point  $x = b$ ),  $k = 0, 1$ , then the determinants

$$\begin{vmatrix} \vartheta'(x, \lambda) & \eta'(x, \lambda) \\ \vartheta''(x, \lambda) & \eta''(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix}, \quad \begin{vmatrix} \varphi'(x, \lambda) & \psi'(x, \lambda) \\ \varphi''(x, \lambda) & \psi''(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix}$$

do not depend on  $x$ ,

$$A[\varphi'''] = 2 \begin{vmatrix} \vartheta'(x, \lambda) & \eta'(x, \lambda) \\ \vartheta''(x, \lambda) & \eta''(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix} \psi(x, \lambda),$$

$$A[\psi'''] = 2 \begin{vmatrix} \vartheta'(x, \lambda) & \eta'(x, \lambda) \\ \vartheta''(x, \lambda) & \eta''(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix} \varphi(x, \lambda),$$

$$A[\vartheta'''] = 2 \begin{vmatrix} \varphi'(x, \lambda) & \psi'(x, \lambda) \\ \varphi''(x, \lambda) & \psi''(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix} \eta(x, \lambda),$$

$$A[\eta'''] = 2 \begin{vmatrix} \varphi'(x, \lambda) & \psi'(x, \lambda) \\ \varphi''(x, \lambda) & \psi''(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix} \vartheta(x, \lambda),$$

$$W[\varphi, \psi, \vartheta, \eta] = -4 \begin{vmatrix} \varphi'(x, \lambda) & \psi'(x, \lambda) \\ \varphi''(x, \lambda) & \psi''(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \vartheta'(x, \lambda) & \eta'(x, \lambda) \\ \vartheta''(x, \lambda) & \eta''(x, \lambda) \end{vmatrix}.$$

If the boundary values of the functions  $\varphi(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\vartheta(x, \lambda)$  at  $x = a$  and the boundary values of the functions  $\psi(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\eta(x, \lambda)$  at  $x = b$  do not depend on  $\lambda$ , then the determinants

$$\begin{vmatrix} \varphi' & \psi' \\ \varphi'' & \psi'' \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{vmatrix} \vartheta' & \eta' \\ \vartheta'' & \eta'' \end{vmatrix}$$

have real and simple zeros.

The function

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, \lambda) = & \frac{A[\varphi''']}{W} \int_a^x \varphi(y, \lambda) f(y) dy + \frac{A[\psi''']}{W} \int_x^b \psi(y, \lambda) f(y) dy + \\ & + \frac{A[\vartheta''']}{W} \int_a^x \vartheta(y, \lambda) f(y) dy + \frac{A[\eta''']}{W} \int_x^b \eta(y, \lambda) f(y) dy \end{aligned}$$

is a solution of the equation

$$x^{\text{IV}}(x) + [\lambda - q(x)]x(x) = f(x), \quad \text{where } f(x) \in L[a, b].$$

Under the assumptions made in Lemma 3,

$$\begin{aligned}
 x(x, \lambda) = & -\frac{\psi(x, \lambda)}{2 \begin{vmatrix} \varphi' & \psi' \\ \varphi'' & \psi'' \end{vmatrix}} \int_a^x \varphi(y, \lambda) f(y) dy - \frac{\varphi(x, \lambda)}{2 \begin{vmatrix} \varphi' & \psi' \\ \varphi'' & \psi'' \end{vmatrix}} \int_x^b \psi(y, \lambda) f(y) dy \\
 & -\frac{\eta(x, \lambda)}{2 \begin{vmatrix} \vartheta' & \eta' \\ \vartheta'' & \eta'' \end{vmatrix}} \int_a^x \vartheta(y, \lambda) f(y) dy - \frac{\vartheta(x, \lambda)}{2 \begin{vmatrix} \vartheta' & \eta' \\ \vartheta'' & \eta'' \end{vmatrix}} \int_x^b \eta(y, \lambda) f(y) dy.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{\lambda_k} \text{Res } x(x, \lambda)$$

( $\lambda_k$  are simple poles at which at least one of the relations  $\varphi(x, \lambda_k) = c_k \psi(x, \lambda_k)$ ,  $\vartheta(x, \lambda_k) = d_k \eta(x, \lambda_k)$  is fulfilled) represents the expansion of the function  $f(x)$  in eigenfunctions of equation (1).

2. Let  $\Phi(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\Psi(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\Theta(x, \lambda)$ ,  $H(x, \lambda)$  be linearly independent eigenfunctions of equation (1) for  $q(x) \equiv 0$ . They may be chosen so that  $A[\Phi'''] = A[\Phi''] = A'[\Phi'] = 0$ ,  $A[\Phi] = -s^6$  at some point of the interval  $[a, b]$ . For example:

$$\Phi(y, \lambda) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{ch}[s(y-x)],$$

$$\Theta(y, \lambda) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \{\text{ch}[s(y-x)] - \cos[s(y-x)]\},$$

$$\Psi(y, \lambda) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \text{sh}[s(y-x)],$$

$$H(y, \lambda) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \{\text{sh}[s(y-x)] - \sin[s(y-x)]\}, \quad s = \sqrt[4]{\lambda}.$$

By fourfold integration by parts in

$$\int_a^x A[\Phi'''] \varphi^{\text{IV}}(y) dy$$

one establishes the relation

$$\int_a^x A[\Phi'''] [\varphi^{\text{IV}}(y) + \lambda \varphi(y)] dy = W[\varphi, \Psi, \Theta, H] \Big|_x^a,$$

which may be rewritten in the form

$$\int_a^x A[\Phi'''](y, \lambda)q(y)\varphi(y, \lambda) dy =$$

$$= W[\varphi(y, \lambda), \Psi(y, \lambda), \Theta(y, \lambda), H(y, \lambda)]\Big|_{y=a} + s^6\varphi(x, \lambda);$$

expanding the Wronskian along the first column, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(x, \lambda) = & \varphi(a, \lambda) \frac{\operatorname{ch}[s(a-x)] + \cos[s(a-x)]}{2} - \varphi'(a, \lambda) \frac{\operatorname{sh}[s(a-x)] + \sin[s(a-x)]}{2s} \\ & + \varphi''(a, \lambda) \frac{\operatorname{ch}[s(a-x)] - \cos[s(a-x)]}{2s^2} - \varphi'''(a, \lambda) \frac{\operatorname{sh}[s(a-x)] - \sin[s(a-x)]}{2s^3} \\ & + \frac{1}{2s^3} \int_a^x \{\sin[s(y-x)] - \operatorname{sh}[s(y-x)]\}q(y)\varphi(y, \lambda) dy. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

This integral equation, asymptotic in  $s$ , is the main one in the subsequent considerations. Analogous formulas are easily obtained for  $\psi(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\vartheta(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\eta(x, \lambda)$ .

**Theorem 1.** *The solution of the boundary-value problem for equation (1) is an eigenfunction of the integral equation (2).*

Analogous asymptotic formulas can be obtained for solutions of the boundary-value problem of the equation  $z^{(2n)}(x) + [\lambda - q(x)]z(x) = 0$ ,  $n$  arbitrary. The larger  $n$  is, the smaller asymptotically is the magnitude of the integral term in comparison with the nonintegral one, which is the solution of the boundary-value problem for the equation  $z^{(2n)}(x) + \lambda z(x) = 0$ , i.e., the smaller is the influence of the function  $q(x)$ .

If, in formula (2), we restrict ourselves to the first two terms (and proceed in the same way in the asymptotic expressions for  $\psi(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\vartheta(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\eta(x, \lambda)$ , considering the boundary values  $\vartheta(x, \lambda)$  given at  $x = a$  and the boundary values  $\psi(x, \lambda)$ ,  $\eta(x, \lambda)$  given at  $x = b$ ), and also require

$$1) \quad \begin{vmatrix} \varphi(a) & \vartheta(a) \\ \varphi'(a) & \vartheta'(a) \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \psi(b) & \eta(b) \\ \psi'(b) & \eta'(b) \end{vmatrix} \neq 0,$$

$$2) \quad \begin{vmatrix} \psi(b) & \eta(b) \\ \psi'(b) & \eta'(b) \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \varphi'(a) & \vartheta'(a) \\ \varphi''(a) & \vartheta''(a) \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} \varphi(a) & \vartheta(a) \\ \varphi'(a) & \vartheta'(a) \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \psi''(b) & \eta''(b) \\ \psi'(b) & \eta'(b) \end{vmatrix} = 0,$$

then we obtain the asymptotic formula for the Wronskian

$$W[\varphi(x, \lambda), \psi(x, \lambda), \vartheta(x, \lambda), \eta(x, \lambda)] =$$

$$= \lambda \left\{ \begin{vmatrix} \varphi(a) & \vartheta(a) \\ \varphi'(a) & \vartheta'(a) \end{vmatrix} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} \psi(b) & \eta(b) \\ \psi'(b) & \eta'(b) \end{vmatrix} \operatorname{ch}[s(a-b)] \cos[s(a-b)] + O\left(\frac{e^{|s|}}{s^2}\right) \right\}.$$

**Theorem 2.** Under the assumptions made, the zeros of the Wronskian form two sequences

$$s_k = \frac{k\pi}{a-b} + O(k^{-2}), \quad t_k = \frac{k\pi i}{a-b} + O(k^{-2}), \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

For both sequences,  $\lambda_k = \left(\frac{k\pi}{a-b}\right)^4 + O(k)$  are real.

Theorem 2 is analogous to the theorem on the growth of the eigenvalues of integral equations with a kernel of Green's function type (these eigenvalues are zeros of a certain entire function) (2).

**3.** Under the additional assumptions

$$\varphi^{(k)}(a, \lambda) = -\frac{1}{s^2} \varphi^{(k+2)}(a, \lambda), \quad \varphi^{(k)}(a, \lambda) = -\frac{1}{s^2} \varphi^{(k+2)}(a, \lambda),$$

$$\vartheta^{(k)}(a, \lambda) = \frac{1}{s^2} \vartheta^{(k+2)}(a, \lambda), \quad \eta^{(k)}(a, \lambda) = \frac{1}{s^2} \eta^{(k+2)}(a, \lambda), \quad k = 0, 1,$$

$$\frac{\psi'(b, \lambda)}{\psi(b, \lambda)} = \frac{\varphi'(a, \lambda)}{\varphi(a, \lambda)}, \quad \frac{\eta'(b, \lambda)}{\eta(b, \lambda)} = \frac{\vartheta'(a, \lambda)}{\vartheta(a, \lambda)}$$

we may assert the following:

$\beta$ ) For  $s = s_k$ ,  $k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$ , there is the asymptotic proportionality

$$\eta(x, \lambda_k) = (-1)^k \frac{\eta(b, \lambda_k)}{\vartheta(a, \lambda_k)} \vartheta(x, \lambda_k) + O\left(\frac{e^{|s|}}{s^3}\right),$$

and, moreover, no asymptotic proportionality

$$\varphi(x, \lambda_k) = c\psi(x, \lambda_k) + O(e^{|s|}/s^3)$$

is possible for any  $c$ .

2) For  $s = t_k$ ,  $k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$ , there is the asymptotic proportionality

$$\psi(x, \lambda_k) = (-1)^k \frac{\psi(b, \lambda_k)}{\varphi(a, \lambda_k)} \varphi(x, \lambda_k) + O\left(\frac{e^{|s|}}{s^3}\right),$$

and, moreover, no asymptotic proportionality

$$\vartheta(x, \lambda_k) = c\eta(x, \lambda_k) + O(e^{|s|}/s^3)$$

is possible for any  $c$ .

In this case we obtain the asymptotic formulas

$$\frac{A[\varphi''']}{W} = \frac{\cos[s(x-b)]}{2s^3\varphi(a)\sin[s(a-b)]} + O\left(\frac{e^{|s|}}{s^5}\right),$$

$$\frac{A[\psi''']}{W} = \frac{\cos[s(a-x)]}{2s^3\psi(b)\sin[s(a-b)]} + O\left(\frac{e^{|s|}}{s^5}\right),$$

$$\frac{A[\vartheta''']}{W} = \frac{\operatorname{ch}[s(x-b)]}{2s^3\vartheta(a)\operatorname{sh}[s(a-b)]} + O\left(\frac{e^{|s|}}{s^5}\right),$$

$$\frac{A[\eta''']}{W} = \frac{\operatorname{ch}[s(a-x)]}{2s^3\eta(b)\operatorname{sh}[s(a-b)]} + O\left(\frac{e^{|s|}}{s^5}\right).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varkappa(x, \lambda) = & \frac{1}{2s^3} \frac{\cos[s(x-b)]}{\sin[s(a-b)]} \int_a^x \cos[s(a-y)]f(y) dy + \\ & + \frac{1}{2s^3} \frac{\cos[s(a-x)]}{\sin[s(a-b)]} \int_x^b \cos[s(y-b)]f(y) dy + \\ & + \frac{1}{2s^3} \frac{\operatorname{ch}[s(x-b)]}{\operatorname{sh}[s(a-b)]} \int_a^x \operatorname{ch}[s(a-y)]f(y) dy + \\ & + \frac{1}{2s^3} \frac{\operatorname{ch}[s(a-x)]}{\operatorname{sh}[s(a-b)]} \int_a^b \operatorname{ch}[s(y-b)]f(y) dy + O\left(\frac{e^{|s|}}{s^5}\right), \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{s_k, t_k} \operatorname{Res} \varkappa(x, \lambda) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma_k} \varkappa(x, \lambda) d\lambda.$$

The contour of integration  $\Gamma_k$  is obtained under the mapping  $\lambda = s^4$  of the contour  $S_k$  of the  $s$ -plane;  $S_k$  is the boundary of a square with sides parallel to the coordinate axes, with side lengths  $(2k+1)\pi$ , the square being symmetric with respect to the coordinate axes.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{s_k, t_k} \operatorname{Res} \varkappa(x, \lambda) = & \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{4}{(a-b)} \left\{ \int_a^x \frac{\cos[s_k(x-b)] \cos[s_k(a-y)]}{\cos[s_k(a-b)]} f(y) dy + \right. \\
 & + \int_x^b \frac{\cos[s_k(a-x)] \cos[s_k(y-b)]}{\cos[s_k(a-b)]} f(y) dy + \\
 & + \int_a^x \frac{\operatorname{ch}[t_k(x-b)] \operatorname{ch}[t_k(a-y)]}{\operatorname{ch}[t_k(a-b)]} f(y) dy + \\
 & \left. + \int_a^b \frac{\operatorname{ch}[t_k(a-x)] \operatorname{ch}[t_k(b-y)]}{\operatorname{ch}[t_k(a-b)]} f(y) dy + O\left(\frac{e^{|s_k|}}{s_k}\right) \right\}. \quad (3)
 \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.** The asymptotic formula (3) for the expansion of an arbitrary function  $f(x) \in L[a, b]$  in the eigenfunctions of equation (1), which is an analogue of the trigonometric Fourier series, is valid. If  $f(x)$  has bounded variation, then the expansion converges to

$$\frac{1}{2} [f(x+0) + f(x-0)].$$

4. One may consider, analogously to what was set forth above, the equation

$$z^{(2n)}(x) + [\lambda - q(x)]z(x) = 0, \quad a \leq x \leq b.$$

The preservation of properties of the Wronskian minors is verified; an asymptotic formula analogous to (2) is constructed for solutions of the boundary-value problem;  $\varkappa(x, \lambda)$  is constructed as the solution of the equation

$$z^{(2n)}(x) + [\lambda - q(x)]z(x) = f(x)$$

for any function  $f(x) \in L[a, b]$ . The zeros of the Wronskian  $W[\lambda]$  grow,  $\lambda_k = O(k^{2n})$ , and are real.

Under additional assumptions on the boundary values of the eigenfunctions of equation (4), the expansion of an arbitrary  $f(x) \in L[a, b]$  in the eigenfunctions into a series analogous to the trigonometric Fourier series is constructed.

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*Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.*

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