



22. $x(x - 1)y''_{xx} + [(\alpha + \beta + 1)x - \gamma]y'_x + \alpha\beta y = 0.$

Gaussian hypergeometric equation. For $\gamma \neq 0, -1, -2, -3, \dots$, a solution can be expressed in terms of the hypergeometric series:

$$F(\alpha, \beta, \gamma; x) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(\alpha)_k(\beta)_k}{(\gamma)_k} \frac{x^k}{k!}, \quad (\alpha)_k = \alpha(\alpha + 1) \dots (\alpha + k - 1),$$

which, *a fortiori*, is convergent for $|x| < 1$.

For $\gamma > \beta > 0$, this solution can be expressed in terms of a definite integral:

$$F(\alpha, \beta, \gamma; x) = \frac{\Gamma(\gamma)}{\Gamma(\beta)\Gamma(\gamma - \beta)} \int_0^1 t^{\beta-1}(1-t)^{\gamma-\beta-1}(1-tx)^{-\alpha} dt,$$

where $\Gamma(\beta)$ is the gamma function.

If γ is not an integer, the general solution of the hypergeometric equation has the form:

$$y = C_1 F(\alpha, \beta, \gamma; x) + C_2 x^{1-\gamma} F(\alpha - \gamma + 1, \beta - \gamma + 1, 2 - \gamma; x).$$

Table gives the general solutions of the hypergeometric equation for some values of the determining parameters.

TABLE

General solutions of the hypergeometric equation for some values of the determining parameters

α	β	γ	Solution: $y = y(x)$
0	β	γ	$C_1 + C_2 \int x ^{-\gamma} x-1 ^{\gamma-\beta-1} dx$
α	$\alpha + \frac{1}{2}$	$2\alpha + 1$	$C_1 (1 + \sqrt{1-x})^{-2\alpha} + C_2 x^{-2\alpha} (1 + \sqrt{1-x})^{2\alpha}$
α	$\alpha - \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$C_1 (1 + \sqrt{x})^{1-2\alpha} + C_2 (1 - \sqrt{x})^{1-2\alpha}$
α	$\alpha + \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{2}$	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} [C_1 (1 + \sqrt{x})^{1-2\alpha} + C_2 (1 - \sqrt{x})^{1-2\alpha}]$
1	β	γ	$ x ^{1-\gamma} x-1 ^{\gamma-\beta-1} (C_1 + C_2 \int x ^{\gamma-2} x-1 ^{\beta-\gamma} dx)$
α	β	α	$ x-1 ^{-\beta} (C_1 + C_2 \int x ^{-\alpha} x-1 ^{\beta-1} dx)$
α	β	$\alpha + 1$	$ x ^{-\alpha} (C_1 + C_2 \int x ^{\alpha-1} x-1 ^{-\beta} dx)$

References

Bateman, H. and Erdélyi, A., *Higher Transcendental Functions*, Vol. 1, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1953.
Abramowitz, M. and Stegun, I. A. (Editors), *Handbook of Mathematical Functions with Formulas, Graphs and Mathematical Tables*, National Bureau of Standards Applied Mathematics, Washington, 1964.
Polyanin, A. D. and Zaitsev, V. F., *Handbook of Exact Solutions for Ordinary Differential Equations, 2nd Edition*, Chapman & Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, 2003.