

Consider for $\lambda \gg 1$

$$\frac{d^2 \phi}{dx^2} + [\lambda \sigma(x) + q(x)] \phi = 0$$

(a) Substitute

$$\phi = A(x) \exp \left[i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma(x_0) dx_0 \right].$$

Determine a differential equation for $A(x)$.

$$\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left[A(x) \exp \left[i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma(x_0) dx_0 \right] \right] + [\lambda \sigma(x) + q(x)] A(x) \exp \left[i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma(x_0) dx_0 \right] = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dx} \left[A'(x) \exp \left[i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma(x_0) dx_0 \right] + A(x) i \lambda^{1/2} \sigma^{1/2}(x) \exp \left[i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma(x_0) dx_0 \right] \right] \\ & + [\lambda \sigma(x) + q(x)] A(x) \exp \left[i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma(x_0) dx_0 \right] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & A''(x) \exp \left[i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma(x_0) dx_0 \right] + i \lambda^{1/2} \exp \left[i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma(x_0) dx_0 \right] \left(2 A'(x) \sigma^{1/2}(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^{-1/2}(x) \sigma'(x) A(x) \right) \\ & + q A(x) \exp \left[i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma(x_0) dx_0 \right] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Here we can eliminate all of the exponentials to get to our final equation for $A(x)$:

$$A''(x) + i \lambda^{1/2} \left(2 A'(x) \sigma^{1/2}(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^{-1/2}(x) \sigma'(x) A(x) \right) + q A(x) = 0 \quad \blacksquare$$

(b) Let $A(x) = A_0(x) + \lambda^{-1/2} A_1(x) + \dots$. Solve for $A_0(x)$ and $A_1(x)$. Verify (5.9.8).

We will make the substitution

$$A(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-j/2} A_j(x)$$

into the differential equation we obtained in part (a).

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-j/2} A_j''(x) + i \lambda^{1/2} \left(2 \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-j/2} A_j'(x) \sigma^{1/2}(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^{-1/2}(x) \sigma'(x) \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-j/2} A_j(x) \right) + q \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-j/2} A_j(x) = 0$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-j/2} A_j''(x) + i \left(2 \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-(j-1)/2} A_j'(x) \sigma^{1/2}(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^{-1/2}(x) \sigma'(x) \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-(j-1)/2} A_j(x) \right) + q \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-j/2} A_j(x) = 0$$

Next, we change the indices so that all terms have $\lambda^{-(j-1)/2}$:

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{-(j-1)/2} A_{j-1}''(x) + i \left(2 \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-(j-1)/2} A_j'(x) \sigma^{1/2}(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^{-1/2}(x) \sigma'(x) \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-(j-1)/2} A_j(x) \right) + q \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \lambda^{-(j-1)/2} A_{j-1}(x) = 0$$

To find $A_0(x)$, we take $j=0$.

$$i \left(2 \sigma^{1/2}(x) \lambda^{1/2} A_0'(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^{-1/2}(x) \sigma'(x) \lambda^{-1/2} A_0(x) \right) = 0$$

The solution of which is:

$$A_0(x) = c_0 \sigma^{-1/4}(x) \quad \blacksquare$$

To find $A_1(x)$, we take $j=1$.

$$A_0''(x) + i \left(2 \sigma^{1/2}(x) A_1'(x) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^{-1/2}(x) \sigma'(x) A_1(x) \right) + q(x) A_0(x) = 0$$

Using Maple software, and taking $c_0 = 1$, the solution to this was found to be:

$$A_1(x) = \left(\int -\frac{1}{32} \frac{e^{\sqrt{\sigma(x)}} \left(-5i(\sigma'(x))^2 + 4i\sigma''(x)\sigma(x) + 8\sigma^{7/4}(x) - 16iq(x)\sigma^2(x) \right)}{\sigma^{11/4}(x)} dx \right) e^{-\sqrt{\sigma(x)}} \quad \blacksquare$$

By noting that $A(x) \approx A_0(x)$, we see that

$$\phi(x) \approx \sigma^{-1/4} \exp \left[\pm i \lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma^{1/2} dx_0 \right] \quad \blacksquare$$

This verifies (5.9.8) for $p=1$, which is the case in our problem.

(c) Suppose that $\phi(0) = 0$. Use $A_1(x)$ to improve (5.9.9).

If $\phi(0) = 0$, we take only the sine functions:

$$\phi(x) = A(x) \sin \left(\lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma^{1/2} dx_0 \right)$$

So to improve (5.9.9) we will use both the $A_0(x)$ and $A_1(x)$ terms:

$$\phi(x) = \sigma^{-1/4} \sin \left(\lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma^{1/2} dx_0 \right) + \lambda^{-1/2} A_1(x) \sin \left(\lambda^{1/2} \int_0^x \sigma^{1/2} dx_0 \right) \quad \blacksquare$$

where $A_1(x)$ is defined above.

(d) Use part (c) to improve (5.9.10) if $\phi(L) = 0$.

$$\lambda \sim \left[n\pi / \int_0^L \sigma^{1/2} dx_0 \right]^2 \quad \blacksquare$$

(e) Obtain a recursion formula for $A_n(x)$.

$$A_{n+1} = \frac{i}{2} \sigma^{-1/4} \int_0^x \sigma^{-1/4} (A_n'' + qA_n) dx_0 \quad \blacksquare$$