



Patna University

# Exact Solution

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# HERMITE POLYNOMIALS

Hermite Polynomials were defined by Pierre-Simon Laplace in 1810, though in scarcely recognizable form, and studied in detail by Pafnuty Chebyshev in 1859, Chebyshev's work was overlooked, and they were named later after Charles Hermite, who wrote on the Polynomials in 1864, describing them as new. Hermite was the first to define the multidimensional Polynomials in his later 1865

Since  $\lambda = (2n+1)$

$$H - 2\xi H' + (\lambda - 1)H = 0 \quad \text{--- (I)}$$

Equation (I) becomes

$$H_n'' - 2\xi H_n' + 2n H_n = 0 \quad \text{--- (II)}$$

The Polynomials  $H_n(\xi)$  are called the Hermite Polynomials. with a convenient formulation  $H_n(\xi)$  can be expressed in terms of a generating function

$\xi$ :

$$\begin{aligned} S(\xi, s) &= e^{+\xi^2 - (s - \xi)^2} = e^{-s^2 + 2s\xi} \\ S(\xi, s) &= 1 - s^2 + 2s\xi + \frac{(s^2 + 2\xi)^2}{2!} + \dots \\ &= 1 + 2s\xi + (4\xi^2 - 2) \frac{s^2}{2!} + \dots \\ &= H_0 + H_1 s + H_2 \frac{s^2}{2!} + \dots \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{H_n(\xi) s^n}{n!} \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $e^{-s^2 + 2s\xi} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{H_n(\xi) s^n}{n!} \quad \text{--- (III)}$

To show that  $H_n(\xi)$  satisfies the differential equation (II) first with respect to  $\xi$ , and then with respect to  $s$ .

(2)

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial \xi} = 2s e^{-s+2s\xi} = \sum_n \frac{s^n}{L^n} H_n' \xi$$

$$\text{or } \sum_n \frac{2s^{n+1}}{L^n} H_n(\xi) = \sum_n \frac{s^n}{L^n} H_n'(\xi)$$

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial s} = (-2s + 2\xi) e^{-s^2+2s\xi} = \sum_n \frac{s^{n-1}}{L^{(n-1)}} H_n(\xi)$$

$$\text{or } \sum_n \frac{(-2s + 2\xi) s^n}{L^n} H_n \xi = \sum_n \frac{s^{n-1}}{(n-1)} H_n(\xi)$$

Equating equal powers of  $s$  on both side of these two equations.

$$H_n' = 2n H_{n-1} \quad \text{--- (IV)}$$

$$H_{n+1}' = 2\xi H_n - 2n H_{n-1} \quad \text{--- (V)}$$

differentiating equation (IV) & (V) with respect to  $\xi$ ,

we get

$$H_n'' = 2n H_{n-1}'$$

$$H_{n+1}'' = 2\xi H_n' - 2n H_{n-1}' + 2H_n$$

Adding these two, we get

$$H_n'' + H_{n+1}'' = 2\xi H_n' + 2H_n \quad \text{--- (VI)}$$

But  $H_{n+1}' = 2(n+1) H_n$  from equation (V),

we get

$$H_n'' + 2n H_n + H_n = 2\xi H_n' + H_n$$

$$\text{or } H_n'' - 2\xi H_n' + 2n H_n = 0$$

Thus  $H_n$  satisfies equation (I), so  $H_n(\xi)$  are Hermite polynomials.

If  $S(\xi; s)$  is differentiated  $n$  times with respect to  $s$  and  $s$  is then set equal to zero, equation (III) shows that the result is simply  $H_n(\xi)$ . Now for any function

of the form  $f(s-\xi)$ . it is apparent that

$$\frac{\delta f}{\delta s} = -\frac{\delta f}{\delta \xi}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\delta^n}{\delta s^n} [S(\xi, s)] &= \frac{\delta^n}{\delta s^n} (e^{-s^2+2s\xi}) \\ &= \frac{\delta^n}{\delta s^n} [e^{\xi^2 - (s-\xi)^2}] \\ &= e^{\xi^2} \frac{\delta^n}{\delta s^n} [e^{-s(s-\xi)^2}] \\ &= (-1)^n e^{\xi^2} \frac{\delta^n}{\delta s^n} (e^{-s(-s-\xi)^2}) \end{aligned}$$

This gives an expression for the  $n^{\text{th}}$  Hermite

Polynomial

$$H_n(\xi) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \frac{\delta^n}{\delta s^n} [S(\xi, s)] = (-1)^n e^{\xi^2} \frac{\delta^n}{\delta \xi^n} e^{-(\xi^2)}$$

The first few Hermite Polynomials are (VII)

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad H_0(\xi) &= 1 & (2) \quad H_1(\xi) &= 2\xi & (3) \quad H_2(\xi) &= 4\xi^2 - 2 \\ (4) \quad H_3(\xi) &= 8\xi^3 - 12\xi & (5) \quad H_4(\xi) &= 16\xi^4 - 48\xi^2 + 12 \\ (6) \quad H_6(\xi) &= 64\xi^6 - 480\xi^4 + 720\xi^2 - 120 \\ (7) \quad H_7(\xi) &= 128\xi^7 - 1344\xi^5 + 3360\xi^3 - 1680\xi \\ (8) \quad H_8(\xi) &= 256\xi^8 - 3584\xi^6 + 13440\xi^4 - 1344\xi^2 + 1680 \\ (9) \quad H_9(\xi) &= 512\xi^9 - 9216\xi^7 + 48384\xi^5 - 80640\xi^3 + 30240\xi \\ (10) \quad H_{10}(\xi) &= 1024\xi^{10} - 10240\xi^8 + 23040\xi^6 - 161280\xi^4 + 161280\xi^2 - 30240 \\ (11) \quad H_{11}(\xi) &= 32\xi^{11} - 3584\xi^9 + 16128\xi^7 - 403200\xi^5 + 302400\xi^3 - 30240\xi \end{aligned}$$

The  $n^{\text{th}}$ -order Hermite Polynomial is a Polynomial of degree  $n$ ,  $H_n$  has leading coefficient  $2^n$

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