

Green cells below match corresponding answers in the text.

1 - 5 Legendre polynomials and functions

5. Obtain P_6 and P_7 .

```
ClearAll["Global`*"]
```

It turns out that Legendre polynomials are available from a built-in command.

```
LegendreP[6, x]
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$$\frac{1}{16} (-5 + 105 x^2 - 315 x^4 + 231 x^6)$$

```
LegendreP[7, x]
```

$$\frac{1}{16} (-35 x + 315 x^3 - 693 x^5 + 429 x^7)$$

11 - 15 Further formulas

11. ODE. Find a solution of $(a^2 - x^2) y'' - 2 x y' + n(n+1) y = 0$, $a \neq 0$, by reduction to the Legendre equation.

```
ClearAll["Global`*"]
```

```
eqn = (a^2 - x^2) y''[x] - 2 x y'[x] + n (n + 1) y[x] == 0
```

```
n (1 + n) y[x] - 2 x y'[x] + (a^2 - x^2) y''[x] == 0
```

```
sol = DSolve[eqn, y, x, Assumptions -> a != 0]
```

$$\left\{ \left\{ y \rightarrow \text{Function} \left[\{x\}, C[1] \text{LegendreP} \left[n, \frac{x}{a} \right] + C[2] \text{LegendreQ} \left[n, \frac{x}{a} \right] \right] \right\} \right\}$$

```
sol1 = sol /. {C[1] -> 1, C[2] -> 1, n -> 1, a -> 1}
```

$$\left\{ \left\{ y \rightarrow \text{Function} \left[\{x\}, 1 \text{LegendreP} \left[1, \frac{1}{1} x \right] + 1 \text{LegendreQ} \left[1, \frac{1}{1} x \right] \right] \right\} \right\}$$

$$\text{LegendreP} \left[1, \frac{1}{1} x \right] + 1 \text{LegendreQ} \left[1, \frac{1}{1} x \right]$$

$$-1 + x + x \left(-\frac{1}{2} \text{Log}[1 - x] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Log}[1 + x] \right)$$

15. Associated Legendre functions $P_n^k[x]$ are needed, e.g. in quantum physics. They are defined by $P_n^k[x] = (1 - x^2)^{k/2} \frac{d^k P_n[x]}{dx^k}$ and are solutions of the ODE

$(1-x^2)y'' - 2xy' + q[x]y = 0$ where $q[x] = n(n+1) - k^2 / (1-x^2)$. Find $P_1^1[x]$, $P_2^1[x]$, $P_2^2[x]$, and $P_4^2[x]$ and verify that they satisfy numbered line (16) in yellow above.

$$P_1^1[x] = (1-x^2)^{1/2} \frac{d^1 p_1[x]}{d x^1}$$

LegendreP[1, x]

x

$$P_1^1[x] = (1-x^2)^{1/2}$$

$$P_2^1[x] = (1-x^2)^{1/2} \frac{d^1 p_2[x]}{d x^1}$$

LegendreP[2, x]

$$\frac{1}{2} (-1 + 3 x^2)$$

D[%, x]

3 x

$$(1-x^2)^{1/2} * \%$$

$$3 x \sqrt{1-x^2}$$

$$P_2^2[x] = (1-x^2)^{2/2} \frac{d^2 p_2[x]}{d x^2}$$

LegendreP[2, x]

$$\frac{1}{2} (-1 + 3 x^2)$$

D[%, {x, 2}]

3

$$3 (1-x^2)$$

$$P_4^2[x] = (1-x^2)^{2/2} \frac{d^2 p_4[x]}{d x^2}$$

LegendreP[4, x]

$$\frac{1}{8} (3 - 30 x^2 + 35 x^4)$$

D[% , {x, 2}]

$$\frac{1}{8} (-60 + 420 x^2)$$

FullSimplify[% * (1 - x²)]

$$-\frac{15}{2} (1 - 8 x^2 + 7 x^4)$$

PossibleZeroQ[- $\frac{15}{2} (1 - 8 x^2 + 7 x^4) - ((1 - x^2) (105 x^2 - 15) / 2)$]

True

The green cells above match the answers in the text. (The last, though slightly different in format, is verified by the PZQ.)