

QUESTION THREE REMARKS

$$(1-z)^{-2} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}z + \frac{3}{8}z^2 + O(z^3)$$

by the binomial theorem only if z is small!

If you wish to use that theorem write it as follows

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(y_0 + \epsilon y_1 + \dots)^2}} = \dots = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-y_0^2}} \sqrt{1 - \frac{2y_0(y_1 + \dots) + O(\epsilon^2)}{1-y_0^2}}$$

Then z is small since $\epsilon \ll 1$.

Clearly this is a messy way. Easier is:

$$F(\epsilon) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-(y_0 + \epsilon y_1 + \dots)^2}}$$

For fixed x the expansion of $F(\epsilon)$ is

$$F(\epsilon) = F(0) + F'(0)\epsilon + O(\epsilon^2)$$

$F(0)$ is easy! Ask yourself how many terms you really need to find the $O(\epsilon)$ problem.

QUESTION FOUR (Guide)

The leading order problem is

$$(1) \quad y_0'' = 18 \quad y_0(0) = 1 \quad y_0(1) = 5$$

Show that the general soln is

$$(2) \quad y_0(x) = 4(x+c_1)^{3/2} + c_2$$

for arbitrary constants c_1, c_2 .

* What I want you to do is verify the solution in (2) satisfies the boundary conditions if $c_1 = 0, c_2 = 1$.

That said, "deriving" what c_1 and c_2 must be is difficult. They satisfy

$$(3) \quad 4c_1^{3/2} + c_2 = 1$$

$$(4) \quad 4(1+c_1)^{3/2} + c_2 = 5$$

Subtract and rearrange yields

$$(1+c_1)^{3/2} - c_1^{3/2} = 1$$

Squaring this one ultimately finds $c_1 = 0$.

Alternate is $c_1 = \tan^2 u \Rightarrow$

$$\sec^3 u - \tan^3 u = 1$$

can be solved using $\sin z = \frac{1}{z}(e^{iz} - e^{-iz})$ etc