

**PHYS 404**  
**HANDOUT 2-Legendre Functions**

1. Show that for  $m \neq n$  we have  $\int_{-1}^1 P_m(x)P_n(x)dx = 0$ .

2. Show that for we have  $\int_{-1}^1 [P_n(x)]^2 dx = 2/(2n+1)$ .

3. If for  $-1 < x < 1$  and  $f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k P_k(x)$  show that:

$$A_k = \frac{2k+1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 P_k(x)f(x)dx.$$

4. Expand the function  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0 & -1 < x < 0 \end{cases}$  in a series of the form

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k P_k(x).$$

5. Expand the function  $f(x) = x^2$  in a series of the form

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k P_k(x).$$

6. Expand the function  $f(x) = x^4 - 3x^2 + x$  in a series of the form

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k P_k(x).$$

7. Expand the function  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 2x+1 & 0 < x \leq 1 \\ 0 & -1 \leq x < 0 \end{cases}$  in a series of the

form  $f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k P_k(x)$ .

8. If  $f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k P_k(x)$ , then prove Parseval's identity:

$$\int_{-1}^1 |f(x)|^2 dx = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2A_k^2}{2k+1}$$

9. Expand the Dirac delta function in a series of Legendre polynomials, using the interval  $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ .

10. Verify the Dirac delta function expansions:

$$\delta(1-x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{2n+1}{2} P_n(x), \quad \delta(1+x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{2n+1}{2} P_n(x).$$

11. Show that  $\int_{-1}^1 x^m P_n(x) dx = 0$  if  $m < n$ .

12. Evaluate  $\int_{-1}^1 x P_n(x) dx$ .

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