

MATH 442: HOMEWORK 6  
SPRING 2010

**This is due the FRIDAY after spring break!**

**NOTE:** For each homework assignment observe the following guidelines:

- Include a cover page.
- At the beginning of each problem, clear state the problem (with assumptions) and what method or approach you intend to use to solve the problem.
- Clear mark your answer.
- Always clearly label all plots (title,  $x$ -label,  $y$ -label, and legend).
- Use the `subplot` command from MATLAB when comparing 2 or more plots to make comparisons easier and to save paper.

**The Wave Equation**

1. Consider the boundary value problem:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} + u_{xxxx} + \delta u_t + ku &= 0 \quad \text{in } 0 < x < \pi \\ u(0, t) = u(\pi, t) &= 0 \\ u_{xx}(0, t) = u_{xx}(\pi, t) &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\delta, k > 0$  are known constants, and  $\delta$  is *small*. This equation, which describes the vertical motion of a beam of length  $\pi$  with hinged ends, is called the *beam equation*. Use separation of variables to find the general solution of this equation. (**HINT:** you do not need to check the three cases  $\lambda < 0$ ,  $\lambda = 0$ ,  $\lambda > 0$  separately. Only one case yields nonzero solution; you can simply focus on that case.)

2. Consider the following wave equation:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} &= u_{xx} \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 1, t > 0 \\ u(0, t) &= u(1, t) = 0 \\ u(x, 0) &= x^2(1 - x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

- (a) Find the full solution. (**HINT:** the solution should not be in terms of infinite sums.)
- (b) In MATLAB, plot the solution  $u(x, t)$  at  $t = 0$  and at several later times.
- (c) In MATLAB, plot  $u(0.5, t)$  versus  $t$ .

3. Show that the solution to the initially unperturbed wave equation,

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} &= c^2 u_{xx} \\ u(0, t) &= 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u(L, t) = 0 \\ u(x, 0) &= 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u_t(x, 0) = g(x), \end{aligned}$$

is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} G(\xi) d\xi,$$

where  $G(x)$  is the odd extension of  $g(x)$ . (**HINT:** make use the separation of variables solution that we computed in class.)

What are  $F(x)$  and  $G(x)$ ?

### Sturm-Liouville

4. Consider the non-Sturm-Liouville differential equation

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} + \alpha(x) \frac{d\phi}{dx} + [\lambda\beta(x) + \gamma(x)] \phi = 0.$$

Multiply this equation by  $H(x)$ . Determine  $H(x)$  such that the equation may be reduced to the standard Sturm-Liouville form:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ p(x) \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right] + [\lambda\sigma(x) + q(x)] \phi = 0.$$

Given  $\alpha(x)$ ,  $\beta(x)$ , and  $\gamma(x)$ , what are  $p(x)$ ,  $\sigma(x)$ , and  $q(x)$ .

5. Consider the eigenvalue problem

$$x^2 \frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} + x \frac{d\phi}{dx} + \lambda\phi = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad \phi(1) = \phi(b) = 0.$$

- Use the result from the previous problem to put this in Sturm-Liouville form.
- Using the Rayleigh quotient, show that  $\lambda \geq 0$ .
- Solve this equation subject to the boundary conditions and determine the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions. Is  $\lambda = 0$  an eigenvalue? Show that there is an infinite number of eigenvalues with a smallest, but no largest.
- The eigenfunctions are orthogonal with what weight according to Sturm-Liouville theory? Verify the orthogonality using properties of integrals.
- Show that the  $n^{\text{th}}$  eigenfunction has  $n - 1$  zeros in  $1 < x < b$ .

6. Consider

$$c\rho \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( K_0 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) + \alpha u,$$

where  $c$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $K_0$ , and  $\alpha$  are functions of  $x$ , subject to

$$\begin{aligned} u(0, t) &= u(L, t) = 0 \\ u(x, 0) &= f(x). \end{aligned}$$

Assume that the appropriate eigenfunctions are known.

- (a) Using the Rayleigh quotient, show that the eigenvalues are positive if  $\alpha < 0$ .
- (b) Solve the initial value problem.
- (c) Discuss the limit as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

7. Consider the fourth-order linear differential operator:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{d^4}{dx^4}.$$

- (a) Show that  $u\mathcal{L}(v) - v\mathcal{L}(u)$  is an exact differential.
- (b) Evaluate  $\int_0^1 [u\mathcal{L}(v) - v\mathcal{L}(u)] dx$  in terms of the boundary data for any function  $u$  and  $v$ .
- (c) Show that  $\int_0^1 [u\mathcal{L}(v) - v\mathcal{L}(u)] dx = 0$  if  $u$  and  $v$  are any two functions satisfying the boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(0) &= \phi(1) = 0 \\ \phi'(0) &= \phi''(1) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

- (d) For the eigenvalue problem (using the boundary conditions from part (c))

$$\frac{d^4\phi}{dx^4} + \lambda e^x \phi = 0,$$

show that the eigenfunctions corresponding to different eigenvalues are orthogonal. What is the weighting function?

- (e) Show that the eigenvalues in part (d) satisfy  $\lambda \leq 0$ . Is  $\lambda = 0$  an eigenvalue?