

MATH 241
LECTURE 11 : Sturm-Liouville Eigenvalue Problems.

[Continuation of the Wave Equation].

Exercise: Damped wave equation

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Solve } u_{tt} = u_{xx} - 3u_t, \quad 0 < x < \pi, t > 0 \\ \text{BC } u(0, t) = 0 = u(\pi, t), \quad t > 0 \\ \text{IC } u(x, 0) = f(x) \\ u_t(x, 0) = g(x), \quad 0 < x < \pi \end{array} \right\}$$

Solution: $u(x, t) = \phi(x) G(t)$

BC: $u(0, t) = \phi(0) G(t) = 0 \rightarrow \phi(0) = 0$

$u(\pi, t) = \phi(\pi) G(t) = 0 \rightarrow \phi(\pi) = 0$

PDE: $\frac{G''(t)}{G(t)} = \frac{\phi''(x)}{\phi(x)} - 3 \frac{G'(t)}{G(t)} \rightarrow$

$\rightarrow \frac{G''(t)}{G(t)} + 3 \frac{G'(t)}{G(t)} = \frac{\phi''(x)}{\phi(x)} = -\lambda$

① BVP $\phi''(x) + \lambda \phi(x) = 0 \mid \lambda = n^2, n = 1, 2, \dots$
 $\phi(0) = \phi(\pi) = 0 \mid \rightarrow \phi(x) = \sin(nx)$

$$Q) \quad G''(t) + 3 G'(t) + n^2 G(t) = 0 \quad (n=1, 2, \dots)$$

Charact. polynomial $\rightarrow r^2 + 3r + n^2 = 0 \rightarrow$

$$\rightarrow r = \frac{-3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 4n^2}}{2}$$

we distinguish two cases here:

$$1) \quad n=1 \rightarrow r = \frac{-3}{2} \pm \frac{\sqrt{5}}{2} \rightarrow r_1 = \frac{-3+\sqrt{5}}{2}, \quad r_2 = \frac{-3-\sqrt{5}}{2}$$

In this case, $G(t) = c_1 e^{\frac{-3+\sqrt{5}}{2}t} + c_2 e^{\frac{-3-\sqrt{5}}{2}t}$.

2) $n \geq 2 \Rightarrow$ Then, $9 - 4n^2$ is negative, so

$$r = \frac{-3}{2} \pm i \frac{\sqrt{4n^2-9}}{2}. \text{ Therefore,}$$

$$G(t) = e^{-\frac{3}{2}t} \left(c_1 \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{4n^2-9}}{2}t\right) + c_2 \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{4n^2-9}}{2}t\right) \right).$$

• Finally, we apply the superposition principle:

$$u(x, t) = \left(A_1 e^{\frac{-3+\sqrt{5}}{2}t} + B_1 e^{\frac{-3-\sqrt{5}}{2}t} \right) \sin(x) +$$

$$+ \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{3}{2}t} \left(A_n \cos\left(\frac{\sqrt{4n^2-9}}{2}t\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{\sqrt{4n^2-9}}{2}t\right) \right) \sin(nx),$$

and use the initial conditions to find A_n, B_n :

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u(x,0) = f(x) &= (A_1 + B_1) \sin(x) + \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} A_n \sin(nx), \\ u_t(x,0) = g(x) &= \left(\frac{-3+\sqrt{5}}{2} A_1 + \frac{-3-\sqrt{5}}{2} B_1 \right) \sin(x) + \\ &+ \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{-3}{2} \frac{\sqrt{4n^2-1}}{2} B_n \sin(nx) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} A_1 + B_1 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin(x) dx, & A_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin(nx) dx, \quad n \geq 2. \\ \frac{-3+\sqrt{5}}{2} A_1 - \frac{3+\sqrt{5}}{2} B_1 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} g(x) \sin(x) dx, & \frac{-3}{2} \frac{\sqrt{4n^2-1}}{2} B_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} g(x) \sin(nx) dx, \quad n \geq 2. \end{aligned} \right.$$

system of two variables (A_1, B_1)
with two equations//.

Wave equation and energy.

In the physical derivation of the wave equation,

$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$, the only force considered was the tension

force, given by $T u_x$. This force is non-dissipative, and

therefore the "energy" should be conserved in time.

Let's check that this is indeed true.

Define the total energy by

$$E(t) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \rho \int_0^L (u_t(x,t))^2 dx}_{\text{kinetic energy}} + \underbrace{\frac{T}{2} \int_0^L (u_x(x,t))^2 dx}_{\text{potential energy}}.$$

Then,

$$E'(t) = \rho \int_0^L u_t(x,t) u_{tt}(x,t) dx + T \int_0^L u_x(x,t) u_{xt}(x,t) dx.$$

Integrate by parts in the second term,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} v = u_x \rightarrow dv = u_{xx} dx \\ dw = u_{xt} dx \rightarrow w = u_t \end{array} \right., \quad \int v dw = vw - \int w dv$$

$$\begin{aligned} E'(t) &= \rho \int_0^L u_t(x,t) u_{tt}(x,t) dx - T \int_0^L u_t(x,t) u_{xx}(x,t) dx + \\ &\quad + u_x(x,t) u_t(x,t) \Big|_0^L = \\ &= \rho \int_0^L u_t(x,t) \underbrace{\left(u_{tt}(x,t) - c^2 u_{xx}(x,t) \right)}_{=0} dx + u_x(x,t) u_t(x,t) \Big|_0^L. \end{aligned}$$

That is,

$$E'(t) = u_x(x,t) u_t(x,t) \Big|_0^L.$$



Recall that the force was Tu_x , so

$u_x(x, t)$ at $x=0, x=L \rightarrow$ force externally applied at $x=0, x=L$.

$u_t(x, t)$ at $x=0, x=L \rightarrow$ velocity externally imposed at the end.

Therefore, we can see if that the ends move freely (i.e., $u_x(x, t) = 0$ for $x=0$ or $x=L$) or if they are fixed (and thus they have zero velocity), then

$$E'(b) = 0 \Rightarrow E(b) = E(0) //.$$

(Dirichlet or homogeneous)
Neumann B.C.

Chapter 5: Sturm-Liouville Eigenvalue Problems.

So far in the course, we have solve a few PDE such as

$$u_t = k u_{xx} \quad \text{Heat equation (1d)}$$

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0 \quad (2d) \text{ Laplace equation}$$

[constant coefficients]
case

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} \quad \text{Wave equation (1d)}$$

by applying separation of variables:

- Write u as a product of one-variable functions.
- Split the PDE into two ODEs.
- One of the ODEs together with two homogeneous BCs gave rise to an "eigenvalue problem". So far, it has always been
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \phi''(x) + \lambda \phi(x) = 0 \\ + \text{two (linear) homogeneous BCs.} \end{array} \right\} [*]$$
- With the values of λ previously found, solve the other ODE.
- After constructing a general solution by the superposition principle (that solves the PDE and the homogeneous BCs), we use the initial data (or the nonhomogeneous BC) to find

the constants of the general solution. $\leftarrow$ We crucially used
the orthogonality property
of the eigenfunctions.
(sines, cosines)

[*] So far, the eigenvalue problem has always given
nonnegative eigenvalues $\lambda \geq 0$, and we've been able to
explicitly compute all λ, ϕ .

- We will see now that, in general, we cannot solve the
eigenvalue problem for most PDEs, but all the previous
properties will still be true.
- Example / motivation: Heat equation with non-constant coeff.

$$\text{PDE} \quad c(x) \rho(x) u_x(x, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (k(x) u_x(x, t)) + a(x) u(x, t).$$

$\hat{=}$ Homogeneous and linear $\leadsto$ we can try to use separation
of variables.

$$\text{Let } u(x, t) = \phi(x) G(t) \rightarrow$$

$$\rightarrow c(x) \rho(x) \phi(x) G'(t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (k(x) \phi'(x) G(t)) + a(x) \phi(x) G(t)$$

$$c(x)\rho(x)\Phi(x)G'(x) = G(x) \frac{d}{dx} (k(x)\Phi'(x)) + \alpha(x)\Phi(x)G(x) \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{G'(x)}{G(x)} = \frac{1}{c(x)\rho(x)\Phi(x)} \frac{d}{dx} (k(x)\Phi'(x)) + \frac{\alpha(x)}{c(x)\rho(x)} = -\lambda \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \textcircled{1} \frac{d}{dx} \left(k(x) \frac{d\Phi}{dx} \right) + \alpha(x)\Phi(x) + \lambda c(x)\rho(x)\Phi(x) = 0$$

$$\textcircled{2} G'(x) = -\lambda G(x).$$

Say that we had fixed temperature BCs $u(0,t) = 0 = u(L,t)$, then,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{BVP: } & \frac{d}{dx} \left(k(x) \frac{d\Phi}{dx} \right) + \alpha(x)\Phi(x) + \lambda c(x)\rho(x)\Phi(x) = 0 \\ & \Phi(0) = 0 \\ & \Phi(L) = 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

↪ Eigenvalue Problem $\leadsto$ We cannot (in general) solve for λ and Φ explicitly (this should give us the λ 's and Φ . Then, we'd continue to solve for $G(t)$). (only numerically)

↓
But we would like to obtain certain qualitative properties; for example, λ should be ≥ 0 , otherwise $\textcircled{2}$ is unphysical.

- Def: Sturm-Liouville Differential Equation

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left(p(x) \frac{d\phi}{dx}(x) \right) + q(x)\phi(x) + \lambda \sigma(x)\phi(x) = 0, \quad a < x < b.$$

→ The previous example $\frac{d}{dx} \left(k(x) \frac{d\phi}{dx}(x) \right) + \alpha(x)\phi(x) + \lambda c(x)p(x)\phi(x) = 0$,

was of this form with $p(x) = k(x)$, $q(x) = \alpha(x)$, $\sigma(x) = c(x)p(x)$.

The typical case $\phi''(x) + \lambda\phi(x) = 0$ too, with

$$p(x) = 1, \quad q(x) = 0, \quad \sigma(x) = 1.$$

- Boundary conditions: summary (Homogeneous BC).

Types considered:

1) Dirichlet : $\phi(x_0) = 0$

(x_0 a boundary point).

2) Neumann : $\phi'(x_0) = 0$

3) Robin : $\alpha_1 \phi'(x_0) + \alpha_2 \phi(x_0) = 0$

4) Other : periodicity, singularity

$$\phi(-L) = \phi(L) \quad |\phi(x_0)| < \infty$$

$$\phi'(-L) = \phi'(L)$$

• Def.: Regular Sturm-Liouville Eigenvalue Problem.

ODE: $\frac{d}{dx} \left(p(x) \frac{d\phi}{dx}(x) \right) + q(x)\phi(x) + \lambda \sigma(x)\phi(x) = 0, \quad a < x < b,$

+
BC: $\begin{cases} \alpha_1 \phi(a) + \beta_1 \phi'(a) = 0 \\ \alpha_2 \phi(b) + \beta_2 \phi'(b) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \beta_1, \beta_2 \in \mathbb{R})$

with $\begin{cases} p(x), q(x), \sigma(x) \text{ real and continuous on } [a, b] \\ p(x) > 0 \\ \sigma(x) > 0 \end{cases} \text{ for all } x \in [a, b]$

↖
The end points are included!

Remark: • All conditions are needed for a problem to be called "regular".

- The BC are homogeneous and Dirichlet, Neumann, or Robin. Periodic or singular BC are NOT included.

Examples: Decide if the following are problems are given in the standard Sturm-Liouville form.

if they are, what are $p(x)$, $q(x)$, $\sigma(x)$?

- Are they Regular Sturm-Liouville Eigenvalue problems?