

① Find the solution of the initial boundary value problem

$$u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0, \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t \geq 0.$$

$$IC: \begin{cases} u(x, 0) = \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right), & 0 \leq x \leq L, \\ u_t(x, 0) = 0, & 0 \leq x \leq L, \end{cases}$$

$$BC: \begin{cases} u(0, t) = 0, \\ u(L, t) = 0. \end{cases}$$

Solution: Let $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t) (\neq 0)$, then

$$X(x)T''(t) - c^2 X''(x)T(t) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{T''(t)}{c^2 T(t)} = \frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = \lambda \text{ (say, some constant } \lambda)$$

$$\Rightarrow X''(x) - \lambda X(x) = 0 \quad \& \quad T''(t) - \lambda c^2 T(t) = 0$$

The boundary conditions becomes $X(0) = 0$ & $X(L) = 0$

Note here that, $\begin{cases} X''(x) - \lambda X(x) = 0, & 0 < x < L, \\ X(0) = 0, \\ X(L) = 0, \end{cases}$ is a regular

Sturm-Liouville system and λ is real constant.

Now, it is easy to see that (write details in exams)

$\left\{ X_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right), \right.$ are the eigenfunction corresponding

to the eigen-values $\left. \left\{ \lambda_n = -\left(\frac{\pi n}{L}\right)^2; \quad n=1, 2, \dots \right\} \right.$

①-continue.

Now for $\lambda_n = -\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2$, the general solution for $T_n''(t) + \left(\frac{cn\pi}{L}\right)^2 T_n(t) = 0$ is ~~given~~ obtained as

$$T_n(t) = A_n \cos\left(\frac{cn\pi}{L}t\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{cn\pi}{L}t\right), \quad t > 0$$

$$\text{Therefore, } U_n(x, t) = \left(A_n \cos\left(\frac{cn\pi}{L}t\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{cn\pi}{L}t\right) \right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$0 < x < L$
 $t > 0$.

and by Superposition principle,

$$\begin{aligned} U(x, t) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} U_n(x, t) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(A_n \cos\left(\frac{cn\pi}{L}t\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{cn\pi}{L}t\right) \right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Now; Apply initial conditions.

(i) $u(x, 0) = \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right)$, $0 \leq x \leq L$ implies

$$\sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right).$$

$$\Rightarrow A_n = \frac{\int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) dx}{\int_0^L \sin^2\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx}$$

$$\Rightarrow A_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

Continuation

Instead of computing the integrals in A_n , look at the

series,

$$\sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) = A_1 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + A_2 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) + A_3 \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) + \dots$$

$$\text{and the LHS is } \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) = \frac{1}{4} \left[3\sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) \right].$$

$$\text{Therefore } A_1 = \frac{3}{4}, A_2 = 0, A_3 = -\frac{1}{4} \text{ \& } A_n = 0 \text{ } \forall n \geq 4.$$

The initial condition (ii) $u_t(x, 0) = 0$ implies,

$$0 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{c n \pi}{L}\right) B_n \sin\left(\frac{n \pi x}{L}\right), \quad 0 \leq x \leq L.$$

$$\Rightarrow B_n = 0 \text{ } \forall n \geq 1.$$

Therefore, the required solution is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{3}{4} \cos\left(\frac{c \pi t}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) - \frac{1}{4} \cos\left(\frac{3c \pi t}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right),$$
$$0 \leq x \leq L, t \geq 0$$

2 Find the solution of the initial value problem

$$u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0, \quad 0 < x < L, t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{L}{2} \\ L-x, & \frac{L}{2} < x < L. \end{cases}$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 \leq x \leq L.$$

$$u(0, t) = 0 = u(L, t), \quad t \geq 0$$

Solution:

