

1.(33 pts.) Consider the second derivative operator $T = -\frac{d^2}{dx^2}$ on the vector space of functions

$V = \{f \in C^2[0,1] : f(0) = 0 = f'(1)\}$ equipped with the usual inner product: $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^1 f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx$.

(a) Show that T is symmetric on V .

(b) Show that if f is a real-valued function in V then $f(1)f'(1) - f(0)f'(0) \leq 0$.

(c) In light of (a), what can you say about the eigenvalues of T on V ?

(d) In light of (b), what can you say about the eigenvalues of T on V ?

(e) In light of (a), what can you say about eigenfunctions of T on V corresponding to distinct eigenvalues?

(f) Show that the eigenfunctions of T on V are, up to a constant factor, $f_n(x) = \sin((2n-1)\pi x/2)$ where $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. What are the corresponding eigenvalues of T on V ?

(a) Let $f \in V$ and $g \in V$. Then integrating by parts twice gives

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Tf, g \rangle &= \int_0^1 -f''(x) \overline{g(x)} dx = -\overline{g(x)} f'(x) \Big|_0^1 + \int_0^1 f'(x) \overline{g'(x)} dx \\ &= (f(x) \overline{g'(x)} - f'(x) \overline{g(x)}) \Big|_0^1 - \int_0^1 f(x) \overline{g''(x)} dx. \text{ But } g'(1) = f'(1) = 0 \text{ and} \\ & f(0) = 0 = g(0) \text{ so } (f(x) \overline{g'(x)} - f'(x) \overline{g(x)}) \Big|_0^1 = 0. \text{ Thus} \\ \langle Tf, g \rangle &= \int_0^1 f(x) \overline{[-g''(x)]} dx = \langle f, Tg \rangle \text{ so } T \text{ is symmetric on } V. \end{aligned}$$

(b) If $f \in V$ then $f'(1) = 0$ and $f(0) = 0$ so $f(1)f'(1) - f(0)f'(0) = 0$.

(c) By Theorem 2 in section 5.3, the eigenvalues of T are real numbers.

(d) By Theorem 3 in section 5.3, the eigenvalues of T are nonnegative.

(e) By Theorem 1 in section 5.3, the eigenfunctions of T corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are orthogonal on $[0, 1]$.

(f) Suppose λ is an eigenvalue of T on V and let f be a nonzero function in V such that $Tf = \lambda f$. Then f must satisfy $f''(x) + \lambda f(x) = 0$ in $0 < x < 1$

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and $f(0) \stackrel{\textcircled{2}}{=} 0$, $f'(1) \stackrel{\textcircled{3}}{=} 0$. By parts (c) and (d) of this problem λ must be real and nonnegative. Hence there are two cases to consider.

Case $\lambda = 0$. Then the solution to ① is $f(x) = c_1 x + c_2$ where c_1 and c_2 are arbitrary constants. ② implies $c_2 = f(0) = 0$ and ③ implies $c_1 = f'(1) = 0$. Hence $f = 0$, the trivial solution. That is, $\lambda = 0$ is not an eigenvalue of T on V .

Case $\lambda > 0$, say $\lambda = \beta^2$ where $\beta > 0$. Then the solution to ①: $f''(x) + \beta^2 f(x) = 0$, is $f(x) = c_1 \cos(\beta x) + c_2 \sin(\beta x)$ where c_1 and c_2 are arbitrary constants. ② implies $c_1 = f(0) = 0$ and ③ implies $\beta c_2 \cos(\beta) = f'(1) = 0$. We have nontrivial solutions if and only if $\cos(\beta) = 0$, that is, $\beta_n = \text{odd multiple of } \frac{\pi}{2} = \frac{(2n-1)\pi}{2}$ $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$. Therefore the eigenvalues of T on V are

$$\lambda_n = \beta_n^2 = \frac{(2n-1)^2 \pi^2}{4} \quad (n=1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

and the corresponding eigenfunctions of T on V are, up to a constant factor,

$$f_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2}\right) \quad (n=1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

2.(33 pts.) (a) Show that the generalized Fourier series of $f(x) = x(x-2)$ on $[0,1]$ with respect to the complete orthogonal set $\Phi = \{\sin((2n-1)\pi x/2)\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ on $[0,1]$ is $f(x) \sim \frac{-32}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin((2n-1)\pi x/2)}{(2n-1)^3}$.

(b) Show that this generalized Fourier series converges uniformly to f on $[0,1]$.

(c) Use the results of (a) and (b) to help find the sum of the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(2n-1)^3}$.

Bonus (5 pts.): Use the results of (a) to help find the sum of the series $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^6}$.

(a) The Fourier series of f w.r.t. Φ on $[0,1]$ is

$$f(x) \sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \varphi_n(x)$$

where $A_n = \frac{\langle f, \varphi_n \rangle}{\langle \varphi_n, \varphi_n \rangle}$ ($n=1,2,3,\dots$). Note that

$$\langle \varphi_n, \varphi_n \rangle = \int_0^1 \sin^2((2n-1)\pi x/2) dx = \int_0^1 \left[\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cos((2n-1)\pi x) \right] dx = \frac{x}{2} - \frac{\sin((2n-1)\pi x)}{2(2n-1)\pi}$$

$= \frac{1}{2}$. On the other hand, integrating by parts twice yields

$$\langle f, \varphi_n \rangle = \int_0^1 x(x-2) \sin((2n-1)\pi x/2) dx = -\frac{2x(x-2) \cos((2n-1)\pi x/2)}{(2n-1)\pi} \Big|_0^1 + \int_0^1 2(x-1) \frac{1}{(2n-1)\pi} \cos((2n-1)\pi x/2) dx$$

$$= \frac{4(x-1)}{(2n-1)\pi} \left(\frac{2}{(2n-1)\pi} \right) \sin((2n-1)\pi x/2) \Big|_0^1 - \int_0^1 \frac{4}{(2n-1)\pi} \cdot \left(\frac{2}{(2n-1)\pi} \right) \sin((2n-1)\pi x/2) dx$$

$$= \frac{-8}{(2n-1)^2 \pi^2} \left(\frac{-2}{(2n-1)\pi} \right) \cos((2n-1)\pi x/2) \Big|_{x=0}^1 = \frac{-16}{(2n-1)^3 \pi^3}. \quad \text{Therefore}$$

$$A_n = \frac{\frac{-16}{(2n-1)^3 \pi^3}}{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{-32}{(2n-1)^3 \pi^3} \quad (n=1,2,3,\dots) \quad \text{so the Fourier series}$$

of f w.r.t. Φ on $[0,1]$ is

$$f(x) \sim \frac{-32}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin((2n-1)\pi x/2)}{(2n-1)^3}$$

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(b) We use Theorem 2 on the Convergence Theorems sheet. Note that $f(x) = x(x-2)$, $f'(x) = 2(x-1)$, and $f''(x) = 2$ ^{exist and} are continuous functions for $0 \leq x \leq 1$. Furthermore the symmetric boundary conditions $\mathcal{X}(0) = 0$ and $\mathcal{X}'(1) = 0$ for the eigenvalue problem $\mathcal{X}''(x) + \lambda \mathcal{X}(x) = 0$ on $0 < x < 1$ are satisfied by f :

$$f(0) = 0(0-2) = 0, \quad f'(1) = 2(1-1) = 0.$$

Therefore Theorem 2 shows that the Fourier series of f w.r.t. Φ , $\frac{-32}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin((2n-1)\pi x/2)}{(2n-1)^3}$, converges uniformly to f on $[0, 1]$.

(c) Since uniform convergence implies pointwise convergence we have

$$(*) \quad x(x-2) = \frac{-32}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin((2n-1)\pi x/2)}{(2n-1)^3}$$

for all x in $[0, 1]$. Taking $x=1$ in $(*)$ yields

$$-1 = \frac{-32}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin((2n-1)\pi/2)}{(2n-1)^3}$$

or equivalently,
$$\boxed{\frac{\pi^3}{32} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(2n-1)^3}}$$

Bonus: We apply Parseval's identity, $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |A_n|^2 \int_a^b |\mathcal{X}_n(x)|^2 dx = \int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx$

to the complete orthogonal system $\Phi = \{\mathcal{X}_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty} = \left\{ \sin\left(\frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2}\right) \right\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ and

the function $f(x) = x(x-2)$ on $[0, 1]$: $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left| \frac{-32}{\pi^3 (2n-1)^3} \right|^2 \int_0^1 \sin^2\left(\frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2}\right) dx = \int_0^1 [x(x-2)]^2 dx$

Then evaluating integrals and simplifying yields $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2^{10}}{\pi^6 (2n-1)^6} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \left(\frac{x^5}{5} - x^4 + \frac{4x^3}{3} \right) \Big|_0^1 = \frac{8}{15}$

$$\text{or} \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^6} = \frac{\pi^6}{2^9} \cdot \frac{2}{15} = \frac{\pi^6}{2^6 \cdot 15} = \boxed{\frac{\pi^6}{960}}$$

3.(33 pts.) Solve $u_{tt} - u_{xx} = 0$ for $0 < x < 1$, $0 < t < \infty$, subject to the boundary conditions $u(0,t) = 0 = u_x(1,t)$ for $t \geq 0$ and the initial conditions $u(x,0) = x(x-2)$ and $u_t(x,0) = 0$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1$. You may use the results of problems 1 and 2 even if you were not able to successfully solve them. Bonus (10 pts.): Is the solution to the above initial-boundary value problem unique? Justify your answer.

We seek nontrivial solutions to the homogeneous portion ①-②-③-⑤ of the problem of the form $u(x,t) = X(x)T(t)$. (I.e. we use the method of separation of variables.)

Substituting this functional form in ① we get $X(x)T''(t) - X''(x)T(t) = 0$ and hence $-\frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = \frac{T''(t)}{T(t)} = \text{constant} = \lambda$. Also, substituting $u(x,t) = X(x)T(t)$

in ② and ③ yields $X(0)T(t) = 0 = X'(1)T(t)$ for all $t \geq 0$. Since $T(t) = 0$ for all $t \geq 0$ is impossible for nontrivial solutions, we must have $X(0) = 0 = X'(1)$. Arguing similarly for ⑤ we have $T'(0) = 0$. Summarizing we have

$$\begin{aligned} X''(x) + \lambda X(x) &= 0, & X(0) &= 0 = X'(1), \\ T''(t) + \lambda T(t) &= 0, & T'(0) &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

← Eigenvalue Problem

By problem 1, the eigenvalues are $\lambda_n = \frac{(2n-1)^2 \pi^2}{4}$ ($n=1, 2, 3, \dots$) and the corresponding eigenfunctions are $X_n(x) = \sin((2n-1)\pi x/2)$ ($n=1, 2, 3, \dots$). Substituting $\lambda = \lambda_n$ in the T -equation and solving we get $T_n(t) = c_1 \cos((2n-1)\pi t/2) + c_2 \sin((2n-1)\pi t/2)$. But $0 = T_n'(0)$ implies $c_2 = 0$ so, up to a constant factor, $T_n(t) = \cos((2n-1)\pi t/2)$.

Consequently,

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos((2n-1)\pi t/2) \sin((2n-1)\pi x/2)$$

is a formal solution to ①-②-③-⑤ for arbitrary constants A_1, A_2, A_3, \dots . To satisfy ④ we must have

$$x(x-2) = u(x,0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin((2n-1)\pi x/2) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

By problem 2, we should choose $A_n = \frac{-32}{\pi^3 (2n-1)^3}$ for $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$

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Therefore a solution is

$$u(x,t) = \frac{-32}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos((2n-1)\pi t/2) \sin((2n-1)\pi x/2)}{(2n-1)^3}.$$

Bonus: The solution to problem 3 is unique. To see this we use energy considerations. Suppose there were another solution to problem 3, say $u = v(x,t)$. Then

$w(x,t) = u(x,t) - v(x,t)$ solves the problem

$$\begin{aligned} w_{tt} - w_{xx} &\stackrel{(1')}{=} 0 \quad \text{in } 0 < x < 1, 0 < t < \infty, \\ w(0,t) &\stackrel{(2')}{=} 0 \stackrel{(3')}{=} w_x(1,t) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq t < \infty, \\ w(x,0) &\stackrel{(4')}{=} 0 \stackrel{(5')}{=} w_t(x,0) \quad \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the energy function

$$E(t) = \int_0^1 \left[\frac{1}{2} w_t^2(x,t) + \frac{1}{2} w_x^2(x,t) \right] dx \quad (t \geq 0),$$

of the solution w . Then

$$\begin{aligned} (*) \quad \frac{dE}{dt} &= \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[\frac{1}{2} w_t^2(x,t) + \frac{1}{2} w_x^2(x,t) \right] dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \left[w_t(x,t) w_{tt}(x,t) + w_x(x,t) w_{xt}(x,t) \right] dx \end{aligned}$$

But an integration by parts and use of (3') and (5') shows

$$\begin{aligned} (**) \quad \int_0^1 w_x(x,t) w_{xt}(x,t) dx &= w_x(x,t) w_t(x,t) \Big|_0^1 - \int_0^1 w_t(x,t) w_{xx}(x,t) dx \\ &= - \int_0^1 w_t(x,t) w_{xx}(x,t) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Substituting from (**) ^{into (*)} and using (1') gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dE}{dt} &= \int_0^1 \left[w_t(x,t) w_{tt}(x,t) - w_t(x,t) w_{xx}(x,t) \right] dx \\ &= \int_0^1 w_t(x,t) \left[w_{tt}(x,t) - w_{xx}(x,t) \right] dx = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the energy function of w is constant. But

$$E(t) = E(0) = \int_0^1 \left[\frac{1}{2} w_t^2(x,0) + \frac{1}{2} w_x^2(x,0) \right] dx = 0$$

by (5') and (differentiation of) (4'). The vanishing theorem then implies

$$w_t(x,t) = 0 = w_x(x,t)$$

for all $0 \leq x \leq 1$ and $0 \leq t < \infty$. Consequently $w(x,t) = \text{constant}$

in the upper strip: $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $0 \leq t < \infty$. But then (4') implies $w(x,t) = 0$

in this strip; i.e. $u(x,t) = v(x,t)$ for $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $0 \leq t < \infty$. This

concludes the proof of the uniqueness of the solution to problem 3.

Convergence Theorems

Consider the eigenvalue problem

$$(1) \quad X''(x) + \lambda X(x) = 0 \text{ in } a < x < b \text{ with any symmetric boundary conditions}$$

and let $\Phi = \{X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots\}$ be the complete orthogonal set of eigenfunctions for (1). Let f be any absolutely integrable function defined on $a \leq x \leq b$. Consider the Fourier series for f with respect to Φ :

$$f(x) \sim \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n X_n(x)$$

where

$$A_n = \frac{\langle f, X_n \rangle}{\langle X_n, X_n \rangle} \quad (n = 1, 2, 3, \dots).$$

Theorem 2. (Uniform Convergence) If

- (i) $f(x)$, $f'(x)$, and $f''(x)$ exist and are continuous for $a \leq x \leq b$ and
- (ii) f satisfies the given symmetric boundary conditions,

then the Fourier series of f converges uniformly to f on $[a, b]$.

Theorem 3. (L^2 - Convergence) If

$$\int_a^b |f(x)|^2 dx < \infty$$

then the Fourier series of f converges to f in the mean-square sense in (a, b) .

Theorem 4. (Pointwise Convergence of Classical Fourier Series)

(i) If f is a continuous function on $a \leq x \leq b$ and f' is piecewise continuous on $a \leq x \leq b$, then the classical Fourier series (full, sine, or cosine) at x converges pointwise to $f(x)$ in the open interval $a < x < b$.

(ii) If f is a piecewise continuous function on $a \leq x \leq b$ and f' is piecewise continuous on $a \leq x \leq b$, then the classical Fourier series (full, sine, or cosine) converges pointwise at every point x in $(-\infty, \infty)$. The sum of the Fourier series is

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n X_n(x) = \frac{f(x^+) + f(x^-)}{2}$$

for all x in the open interval (a, b) .

Theorem 4 ∞ . If f is a function of period $2l$ on the real line for which f and f' are piecewise continuous, then the classical full Fourier series converges to $\frac{f(x^+) + f(x^-)}{2}$ for every real x .