

## MATH 54 – SOLUTION TO 10.2.21

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**Step 1: Separation of variables.** Suppose:

$$(1) \quad u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$$

Plug (1) into the differential equation we get:

$$\begin{aligned}(X(x)T(t))_{tt} &= 9(X(x)T(t))_{xx} \\ X(x)T''(t) &= 9X''(x)T(t)\end{aligned}$$

Rearrange and get:

$$(2) \quad \frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = \frac{T''(t)}{9T(t)}$$

Now  $\frac{X''(x)}{X(x)}$  *only* depends on  $x$ , but by (2) *only* depends on  $t$ , hence it is constant:

$$(3) \quad \begin{aligned}\frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} &= \lambda \\ X''(x) &= \lambda X(x)\end{aligned}$$

Also, we get:

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned}\frac{T''(t)}{9T(t)} &= \lambda \\ T''(t) &= 9\lambda T(t)\end{aligned}$$

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**Step 2:** Consider (3):

$$X''(x) = \lambda X(x)$$

Now use the **boundary conditions**:

$$u(0, t) = X(0)T(t) = 0 \Rightarrow X(0)T(t) = 0 \Rightarrow X(0) = 0$$

$$u(\pi, t) = X(\pi)T(t) = 0 \Rightarrow X(\pi)T(t) = 0 \Rightarrow X(\pi) = 0$$

Hence we get:

$$(5) \quad \begin{cases} X''(x) = \lambda X(x) \\ X(0) = 0 \\ X(\pi) = 0 \end{cases}$$

**Step 3: Eigenvalues/Eigenfunctions.** The auxiliary polynomial of (5) is  $p(\lambda) = r^2 - \lambda$

Now we need to consider 3 cases:

Case 1:  $\lambda > 0$ , then  $\lambda = \omega^2$ , where  $\omega > 0$

Then:

$$r^2 - \lambda = 0 \Rightarrow r^2 - \omega^2 = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm\omega$$

Therefore:

$$X(x) = Ae^{\omega x} + Be^{-\omega x}$$

Now use  $X(0) = 0$  and  $X(\pi) = 0$ :

$$X(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A + B = 0 \Rightarrow B = -A \Rightarrow X(x) = Ae^{\omega x} - Ae^{-\omega x}$$

$$X(\pi) = 0 \Rightarrow Ae^{\omega\pi} - Ae^{-\omega\pi} = 0 \Rightarrow Ae^{\omega\pi} = Ae^{-\omega\pi} \Rightarrow e^{\omega\pi} = e^{-\omega\pi} \Rightarrow \omega\pi = -\omega\pi \Rightarrow \omega = 0$$

But this is a **contradiction**, as we want  $\omega > 0$ .

Case 2:  $\lambda = 0$ , then  $r = 0$ , and:

$$X(x) = Ae^{0x} + Bxe^{0x} = A + Bx$$

And:

$$X(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0 \Rightarrow X(x) = Bx$$

$$X(\pi) = 0 \Rightarrow B = 0 \Rightarrow X(x) = 0$$

Again, a **contradiction** (we want  $X \not\equiv 0$ , because otherwise  $u(x, t) \equiv 0$ )

Case 3:  $\lambda < 0$ , then  $\lambda = -\omega^2$ , and:

$$r^2 - \lambda = 0 \Rightarrow r^2 + \omega^2 = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm \omega i$$

Which gives:

$$X(x) = A \cos(\omega x) + B \sin(\omega x)$$

Again, using  $X(0) = 0$ ,  $X(\pi) = 0$ , we get:

$$X(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0 \Rightarrow X(x) = B \sin(\omega x)$$

$$X(\pi) = 0 \Rightarrow B \sin(\omega \pi) = 0 \Rightarrow \sin(\omega \pi) = 0 \Rightarrow \omega = m, \quad (m = 1, 2, \dots)$$

This tells us that:

$$(6) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Eigenvalues: } \lambda = -\omega^2 = -m^2 \quad (m = 1, 2, \dots) \\ \text{Eigenfunctions: } X(x) = \sin(\omega x) = \sin(mx) \end{array}$$

**Step 4:** Deal with (4), and remember that  $\lambda = -m^2$ :

$$T''(t) = 3\lambda T(t)$$

$$\text{Aux: } r^2 = -9m^2 \Rightarrow r = \pm 3mi \quad (m = 1, 2, \dots)$$

$$T(t) = A_m \cos(3mt) + B_m \sin(3mt)$$

**Step 5:** Take linear combinations:

$$(7) \quad u(x, t) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} T(t)X(x) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left( \widetilde{A}_m \cos(3mt) + \widetilde{B}_m \sin(3mt) \right) \sin(mx)$$

**Step 6:** Use the initial condition  $u(x, 0) = 6 \sin(2x) + 2 \sin(6x)$ :

Plug in  $t = 0$  in (7), and you get:

$$(8) \quad u(x, 0) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} A_m \sin(mx) = 6 \sin(2x) + 2 \sin(6x) \quad \text{on } (0, \pi)$$

Equating coefficients, you get:

$$\begin{aligned} A_2 &= 6 && \text{(coefficient of } \sin(2x)) \\ A_6 &= 2 && \text{(coefficient of } \sin(6x)) \\ A_m &= 0 && \text{(for all other } m) \end{aligned}$$

**Step 7:** Use the initial condition:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = 11 \sin(9x) - 14 \sin(15x)$ :  
First differentiate (7) with respect to  $t$ :

$$(9) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, t) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-3mA_m \sin(3mt) + 3mB_m \cos(3mt)) \sin(mx)$$

Now plug in  $t = 0$  in (9):

$$(10) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} 3m\widetilde{B}_m \sin(mx) = 11 \sin(9x) - 14 \sin(15x)$$

Equating coefficients, you get:

$$\begin{aligned} 27B_9 &= 11 && \text{(coefficient of } \sin(9x)) \\ 45B_{15} &= -14 && \text{(coefficient of } \sin(15x)) \\ B_m &= 0 && \text{(for all other } m) \end{aligned}$$

That is:

$$\begin{aligned} B_9 &= \frac{11}{27} && \text{(coefficient of } \sin(9x)) \\ B_{15} &= -\frac{14}{45} && \text{(coefficient of } \sin(15x)) \\ B_m &= 0 && \text{(for all other } m) \end{aligned}$$

**Step 8:** Conclude using (7) and the coefficients  $A_m$  and  $B_m$  you found:

$$(11) \quad u(x, t) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (A_m \cos(3mt) + B_m \sin(3mt)) \sin(mx)$$

where:

$$A_2 = 6$$

$$A_6 = 2$$

$$A_m = 0 \quad (\text{for all other } m)$$

and

$$B_9 = \frac{11}{27}$$

$$B_{15} = -\frac{14}{45}$$

$$B_m = 0 \quad (\text{for all other } m)$$

**Note:** In this *special* case, you can write  $u(x, t)$  in the following nice form:

$$(12) \quad u(x, t) = 6 \cos(6t) \sin(2x) + 2 \cos(18t) \sin(6x) + \frac{11}{27} \sin(27t) \sin(9x) - \frac{14}{45} \sin(45t) \sin(15x)$$