

**Math 400: Midterm 1: 2025 (40 points): Michael J. Ward**  
**Instructions: One page (two-sided) of handwritten or *LaTeXed* notes is allowed.**  
**No other aids are permitted.**

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1. (18 points) Consider forced vibrations of a string of length  $\pi$  that is pinned at  $x = 0$  and  $x = \pi$ . The small amplitude vertical deflection  $u(x, t)$  of the string is assumed to satisfy the forced wave equation

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} &= c^2 u_{xx} + \cos(\omega t), & 0 \leq x \leq \pi, & \quad t \geq 0, \\ u(0, t) &= 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0, & \text{for } t \geq 0, \\ u(x, 0) &= 0, \quad u_t(x, 0) = 1, & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \pi. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $c > 0$  and  $\omega > 0$  are constants. We aim to obtain an infinite series representation for the solution  $u(x, t)$  in the form  $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n(t) \Phi_n(x)$  where  $\Phi_n(x)$  are the appropriate eigenfunctions.

- (a) (12 points) Determine  $\Phi_n(x)$  and derive a differential equation for  $B_n(t)$  where you are to specify the initial values  $B_n(0)$  and  $B_n'(0)$ . Give your result in an explicit form as you can.
- (b) (2 points) For what values of  $\omega$  will resonance occur?
- (c) (4 points) For **non-resonant** values of  $\omega$  calculate the solution  $B_n(t)$  explicitly for each  $n = 1, 2, \dots$
2. (18 points) We will determine the axially symmetric steady-state temperature distribution  $u(r, z)$  in a finite cylinder where both the bottom of the cylinder and its lateral side are insulating while the top of the cylinder has a non-uniform temperature. The PDE to be solved for  $u(r, z)$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} u_r + u_{zz} &= 0, & 0 \leq r \leq a, & \quad 0 \leq z \leq H, \\ u_z &= 0 & \text{on } z = 0, & \quad 0 \leq r \leq a; \quad u = f(r) & \text{on } z = H, & \quad 0 \leq r \leq a, \\ u_r &= 0 & \text{on } r = a, & \quad 0 \leq z \leq H; \quad u, u_r & \text{bounded as } r \rightarrow 0. \end{aligned}$$

- (a) (12 points) Find an infinite series representation for the solution  $u(r, z)$  for an arbitrary smooth function  $f(r)$ .
- (b) (3 points) From your solution in part (a) calculate the total flux out of the top surface given by  $\int_0^a r u_z(r, z)|_{z=H} dr$ . Here the notation in the integrand means to evaluate  $u_z(r, z)$  on  $z = H$ . Is there an alternative, and simpler way, not involving infinite series, to reach the same conclusion?
- (c) (3 points) Determine  $u(r, z)$  explicitly from your result in part (a) when  $f(r) = 1$  on  $0 \leq r \leq a$ .
3. (4 points) Two simple problems:
- (a) (2 points) (Outside a sphere) Let  $a > 0$ . Find the explicit solution  $u(r)$  to

$$u_{rr} + \frac{2}{r} u_r - 9u = 0, \quad r > a; \quad u(a) = 1, \quad u \text{ bounded as } r \rightarrow \infty.$$

- (b) (2 points) (Outside a disk) Let  $a > 0$ . Find the explicit solution  $u(r, \theta)$ , in which  $u$  is  $2\pi$  periodic in  $\theta$ , to

$$u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} u_r + \frac{1}{r^2} u_{\theta\theta} - 9u = 0, \quad r > a; \quad u(a, \theta) = \cos \theta, \quad u \text{ bounded as } r \rightarrow \infty.$$

PROBLEM 1

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} + \cos(\omega t) \quad 0 \leq x \leq \pi, t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = u(\pi, t) = 0; \quad u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u_t(x, 0) = 1$$

(a) FOR HOMOGENEOUS PROBLEM LET  $u = T(t) \Phi(x)$

$$\rightarrow \frac{T''}{c^2 T} = \frac{\Phi''}{\Phi} = -\lambda \rightarrow \Phi'' + \lambda \Phi = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi$$

$$\Phi(0) = \Phi(\pi) = 0.$$

SO  $\Phi_n(x) = \sin(n x), \quad \lambda_n = n^2, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$

FOR NON-HOMOGENEOUS PROBLEM PUT  $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n(t) \Phi_n(x).$

THEN

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n'' \Phi_n = c^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \Phi_n'' + \cos(\omega t)$$

$$= c^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n (-n^2) \Phi_n + \cos(\omega t)$$

SO

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [B_n'' + n^2 c^2 B_n] \Phi_n = \cos(\omega t). \quad (*)$$

NOW EXPAND  $\cos(\omega t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n(t) \Phi_n(x) \rightarrow g_n(t) = \frac{\int_0^{\pi} \cos(\omega t) \Phi_n(x) dx}{\int_0^{\pi} \Phi_n^2 dx}$

$\int_0^{\pi} \Phi_n^2 dx = \pi/2$

SO

$$g_n(t) = \frac{2}{\pi} \cos(\omega t) \int_0^{\pi} \sin(n x) dx$$

$$g_n(t) = \frac{2}{\pi} \cos(\omega t) \left[ -\frac{1}{n} \cos(n x) \Big|_0^{\pi} \right] = \frac{2}{\pi n} \cos(\omega t) [1 - (-1)^n]$$

THEREFORE  $B_n'' + n^2 c^2 B_n = g_n(t) \quad \text{FOR } n = 1, 2, \dots$

WE WRITE THIS AS

$$(1) \quad B_n'' + \omega_n^2 B_n = d_n \cos(\omega t) \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

WITH  $\omega_n = n c$  AND  $d_n = \frac{2}{\pi n} [1 - (-1)^n] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n = \text{even} \\ \frac{4}{\pi n} & \text{if } n = \text{odd} \end{cases}$

TO FIND INITIAL CONDITION

$$u(x, 0) = 0 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n(0) \sin(n\pi x) \rightarrow B_n(0) = 0$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = 1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n'(0) \sin(n\pi x)$$

By orthogonality  $B_n'(0) = \frac{\int_0^{\pi} \sin(n\pi x) dx}{\int_0^{\pi} \sin^2(n\pi x) dx} = \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right) \frac{[1 - (-1)^n]}{n}$

so  $(2) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} B_n'' + \omega_n^2 B_n = d_n \cos(\omega t) \\ B_n(0) = 0, \quad B_n'(0) = d_n \end{array} \right.$  with  $d_n = \begin{cases} 0, & n = \text{even} \\ \frac{4}{\pi n}, & n = \text{odd} \end{cases}$

AND  $\omega_n = c n$ .

(b) RESONANCE WILL OCCUR IF

$$\omega = \omega_n \text{ FOR SOME } \underline{\text{ODD}} \text{ INDEX } n = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

THIS IS BECAUSE  $d_n \neq 0$  IF  $n = \text{ODD}$  BUT  $d_n = 0$  IF  $n = \text{EVEN}$ .

(c) SUPPOSE  $\omega \neq \omega_n$ . WE NOW SOLVE (2).

THE HOMOGENEOUS SOLUTION IS  $B_{nh} = A_n \cos(\omega_n t) + D_n \sin(\omega_n t)$ .

THE PARTICULAR SOLUTION HAS  $B_{np} = K \cos(\omega t)$ . TO FIND  $K$

WE SUBSTITUTE  $\rightarrow -K\omega^2 + K\omega_n^2 = d_n \rightarrow K = \frac{d_n}{\omega_n^2 - \omega^2}$

so  $B_n = A_n \cos(\omega_n t) + D_n \sin(\omega_n t) + \frac{d_n}{\omega_n^2 - \omega^2} \cos(\omega t)$

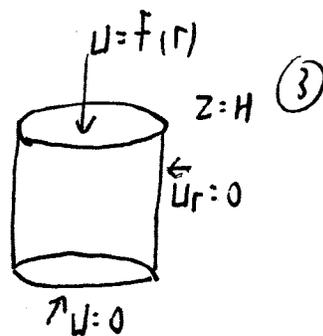
$B_n(0) = 0 \rightarrow A_n = -d_n / (\omega_n^2 - \omega^2)$

$B_n'(0) = d_n \rightarrow \omega_n D_n = d_n \rightarrow D_n = d_n / \omega_n$

so  $B_n(t) = \frac{d_n}{\omega_n^2 - \omega^2} [\cos(\omega t) - \cos(\omega_n t)] + \frac{d_n}{\omega_n} \sin(\omega_n t)$ .

PROBLEM 2

$$u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} u_r + u_{zz} = 0 \quad \text{in} \quad 0 \leq r \leq a, \quad 0 \leq z \leq H$$



(a) WE WRITE  $u(r, z) = \Phi(r) Z(z)$ . WE SEE SL IN RADIAL DIRECTION.

$$\rightarrow \frac{\Phi'' + \frac{1}{r} \Phi'}{\Phi} = -\frac{Z''}{Z} = -\lambda.$$

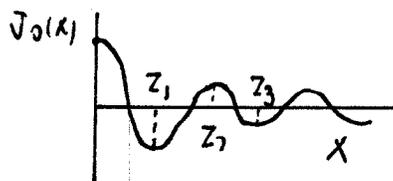
$$\text{SO} \quad \Phi'' + \frac{1}{r} \Phi' + \lambda \Phi = 0$$

$$\Phi'(a) = 0, \quad \Phi \text{ BOUNDED AS } r \rightarrow 0.$$

$\Rightarrow$  if  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\Phi = J_0(\sqrt{\lambda} r)$   
 $(r\Phi')' + \lambda r\Phi = 0$  SL FORM  
 $\rightarrow$  weight  $w = r$ .

$\lambda_0 = 0, \quad \Phi_0 = 1$  // EIGENPAIR.

if  $\lambda > 0 \quad J_0'(\sqrt{\lambda} a) = 0 \rightarrow \sqrt{\lambda} a = z_n$  WITH  $n=1, 2, \dots$



$J_0'(z_n) = 0$  gives horizontal tangent points.

$$\rightarrow \lambda_n = z_n^2 / a^2, \quad n=1, 2, \dots$$

NOW  $\begin{cases} Z'' - \lambda_n Z = 0 \\ Z'(0) = 0 \text{ BOTTOM WALL.} \end{cases}$

if  $n=0 \rightarrow Z_0 = az + b$  BUT  $Z_0'(0) = 0 \rightarrow a=0$ .

so if  $n=0$  WHERE  $\lambda_0 = 0 \rightarrow Z_0 = 1$

if  $n=1, 2, \dots \quad Z_n(z) = \cos(\sqrt{\lambda_n} z)$ .

SO BY SUPERPOSITION

$$u(r, z) = C_0 \Phi_0 Z_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \Phi_n Z_n.$$

$$(1) \quad u(r, z) = C_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \cos(\sqrt{\lambda_n} z) J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r)$$

FINALLY USING  $u(r, z) = F(r)$  GIVES

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$$F(r) = C_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \cosh(\sqrt{\lambda_n} z) J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r)$$

BY ORTHOGONALITY WE KNOW  $\int_0^a r \Phi_n \Phi_m dr = 0$  IF  $n \neq m$  AND  $n, m \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$

WHERE  $\Phi_0 = 1$  AND  $\Phi_n = J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r)$ .

TO FIND  $C_0$  MULTIPLY BY  $r \Phi_0$  AND INTEGRATE WITH  $\Phi_0 = 1$

BY ORTHOGONALITY  $\int_0^a r \Phi_0 J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r) dr = 0$  FOR  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  AND SO

$$\int_0^a r F(r) dr = C_0 \int_0^a r dr = C_0 a^2 / 2$$

$$\text{SO } C_0 = \frac{2}{a^2} \int_0^a r F(r) dr. \quad (2)$$

TO FIND  $C_n$  FOR  $n \geq 1$  MULTIPLY BY  $r J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r)$  AND INTEGRATE

THEN

$$C_n = \frac{\int_0^a r F(r) J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r) dr}{\int_0^a r (J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r))^2 dr} \frac{1}{\cosh(\sqrt{\lambda_n} z)} \quad n = 1, 2, \dots \quad (3)$$

(RECALL  $\int_0^a r (J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r))^2 dr = \frac{a^2}{2} [J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} a)]^2$  WHEN  $J_0'(\sqrt{\lambda_n} a) = 0$ )

PUTTING (2) AND (3) INTO (1) GIVES  $u(r, z) = C_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \cosh(\sqrt{\lambda_n} z) J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r)$ .

(b) TO FIND TOTAL FLUX CALCULATE  $u_z(r, z)|_{z=H}$  (A)

$$u_z(r, z)|_{z=H} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sqrt{\lambda_n} \sinh(\sqrt{\lambda_n} H) J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r).$$

MULTIPLY BY  $r$  AND INTEGRATING WR  $u_z \int_0^a r J_0(\sqrt{\lambda_n} r) dr = 0$

TO GET  $\int_0^a r u_z(r, z)|_{z=H} dr = 0$ . THIS IS NOT AT ALL SURPRISING

SINCE BY DIVERGENCE THEOREM  $\int_{\Omega} \partial_n u dV = 0$  WHERE  $\Omega$  IS CYLINDER.

(c) IF  $F(r) = 1$  THEN  $C_n = 0$  FOR  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  AND  $C_0 = 1$ .

HENCE  $u(r, z) = 1$  EVERYWHERE!

PROBLEM 3

(a)  $u_{rr} + \frac{2}{r} u_r - 9u = 0$  in  $r \geq a$

$u(a) = 1$ ,  $u$  BOUNDED as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ .

SOLUTION let  $u(r) = \psi(r)/r \rightarrow \psi'' - 9\psi = 0 \rightarrow \psi = \text{SPAN} \{ e^{3r}, e^{-3r} \}$

FOR BOUNDED as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  PUT  $u(r) = \frac{A}{r} e^{-3r}$ .

TO FIND A: SET  $u(a) = 1 \rightarrow 1 = \frac{A}{a} e^{-3a}$  so  $A = a e^{3a}$ .

THIS GIVES  $u(r) = \frac{a}{r} e^{-3(r-a)}$ .

(b)  $u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} u_r + \frac{1}{r^2} u_{\phi\phi} - 9u = 0$  in  $r \geq a$

$u(a, \phi) = \cos \phi$ ;  $u$  BOUNDED as  $r \rightarrow \infty$

SOLUTION SET  $u = F(r) \cos \phi$

WE SUBSTITUTE AND GET

$$F'' + \frac{1}{r} F' - \frac{r}{r^2} F - 9F = 0$$

so  $r^2 F'' + r F' - (9r^2 + 1) F = 0$

WITH  $F(a) = 1$ .

$F = \text{SPAN} \{ Y_1(3r), I_1(3r) \}$

BOUNDED as  $r \rightarrow \infty$  GIVES  $F = A Y_1(3r)$

TO FIND A SET  $u(a) = 1 = A Y_1(3a)$  so  $A = 1/Y_1(3a)$

$\rightarrow F(r) = \frac{Y_1(3r)}{Y_1(3a)} \rightarrow u = \frac{Y_1(3r)}{Y_1(3a)} \cos \phi$ .