

Question 1:

Suppose that we have a beam of length 6 (parametrized by $0 \leq x \leq 6$) simply supported at both ends. Suppose that $EI = 2$, and suppose that a force $F = 3$ is applied downwards at the point $x = 4$.

Let $y(x)$ be the deflection curve. Which of the following apply?

- $y'(0) = \frac{1}{2}$ **No: it is $-\frac{8}{3}$**
- $y(3) = -\frac{23}{4}$ **Yes**
- $y(x)$ contains a term of the form ax^3 , for some non-zero coefficient a **Yes**
- $y''(6) = 1$ **No, it is one of the boundary conditions**
- $y(1) = -\frac{31}{12}$ **Yes**

Solution:

The ODE that we want to solve is:

$$2y''''(x) = -3\delta(x - 4),$$

with boundary conditions $y(0) = y''(0) = y(6) = y''(6) = 0$.

Applying the Laplace transform to this ODE, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 2s^4 Y(s) - 2s^3 y(0) - 2s^2 y'(0) - 2s y''(0) - 2y'''(0) &= -3e^{-4s} \\ 2s^4 Y(s) - 2s^2 y'(0) - 2y'''(0) &= -3e^{-4s} \end{aligned}$$

Let $A = y'(0)$ and $B = y'''(0)$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} Y(s) &= \frac{-3e^{-4s} + 2As^2 + 2B}{2s^4} = \frac{-3e^{-4s}}{2s^4} + \frac{A}{s^2} + \frac{B}{s^4} = \\ &= \frac{-1}{4} e^{-4s} \frac{6}{s^4} + A \frac{1}{s^2} + \frac{B}{6} \frac{6}{s^4} \end{aligned}$$

Taking the Laplace inverse transform we obtain:

$$y(t) = -\frac{1}{4}(t-4)^3 u(t-4) + At + \frac{B}{6} t^3.$$

We use the boundary conditions $y(6) = y''(6) = 0$ to get the values of A and B .

$$y(6) = -\frac{1}{4}(6-4)^3 + 6A + 36B = 0$$
$$y''(6) = -\frac{6}{4}(6-4) + 6B = 0$$

We obtain $B = \frac{1}{2}$ and $A = -\frac{8}{3}$.

Question 2:

Consider the following IVP for $u(x, t)$.

$$\text{PDE : } u_{tt}(x, t) = 4u_{xx}(x, t) \quad \text{for } -\infty < x < \infty \text{ and } t > 0$$

$$\text{IC : } u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 9 - x^2 & \text{for } -3 \leq x \leq 3 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = \begin{cases} (x+1)^2 - 4 & \text{for } -3 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Check all that apply:

$u(-5, 1) = \frac{1}{8}$ **No, it is zero**

$u(3, 2) = \frac{8}{3}$ **Yes**

$u(0, 1) = -4$ **No, it is $\frac{10}{3}$**

$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(x, t) = -\frac{8}{3}$ **Yes**

Solution:

Using d'Alembert's Formula, the general solution to the above PDE is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} (f(x-2t) + f(x+2t)) + \frac{1}{4} \int_{x-2t}^{x+2t} g(y) dy$$

$$\text{for } f(x) = \begin{cases} 9 - x^2 & \text{for } -3 \leq x \leq 3 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \text{ and } g(x) = \begin{cases} (x+1)^2 - 4 & \text{for } -3 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

(i) We have that $f(-3) = f(-7) = 0$, and that g is constantly zero in the interval $[-7, -3]$. Thus $u(-5, 1) = 0$.

(ii) Plugging in $x = 3, t = 2$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}u(3, 2) &= \frac{1}{2} (f(-1) + f(7)) + \frac{1}{4} \int_{-1}^7 g(y) dy \\&= \frac{1}{2} (8 + 0) + \frac{1}{4} \int_{-1}^1 (y + 1)^2 - 4 dy \\&= 4 + \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{(y + 1)^3}{3} - 4y \right]_{-1}^1 \\&= 4 + \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{8}{3} - 4 - 4 \right) = 4 - \frac{4}{3} = \\&= \frac{8}{3}\end{aligned}$$

(iii) Plugging in $x = 0, t = 1$ we have:

$$\begin{aligned}u(0, 1) &= \frac{1}{2} (f(-2) + f(2)) + \frac{1}{4} \int_{-2}^2 g(y) dy \\&= \frac{1}{2} (9 - 4 + 9 - 4) + \frac{1}{4} \int_{-2}^1 (y + 1)^2 - 4 dy = \\&= 5 + \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{(y + 1)^3}{3} - 4y \right]_{-2}^1 \\&= 5 + \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{8}{3} - 4 + \frac{8}{3} - 8 \right) \\&= 5 - \frac{5}{3} = \frac{10}{3}\end{aligned}$$

(iv) For $|x + 2t|$ and $|x - 2t|$ large enough we have that $f(x + 2t) = f(x - 2t) = 0$. Moreover, for $a < -3$ and $b > 1$ we have that $\int_a^b g(y) dy = \int_{-3}^1 g(y) dy$. Thus we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(x, t) &= \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2} (f(x - 2t) + f(x + 2t)) + \frac{1}{4} \int_{x-2t}^{x+2t} g(y) dy \right) = \\&= \frac{1}{4} \int_{-3}^1 (y + 1)^2 - 4 dy = \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{(y + 1)^3}{3} - 4y \right]_{-3}^1 = \\&= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{8}{3} - 4 + \frac{8}{3} - 12 \right) = -\frac{8}{3}\end{aligned}$$

Question 3:

Let $f: [-2, 2] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the following function:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} -x - 1 & \text{if } x \in [-2, -1] \\ 0 & \text{if } x \in [-1, 1] \\ x - 1 & \text{if } x \in [1, 2] \end{cases}$$

Recall that the Fourier series of f has the form:

$$f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}x\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}x\right) \right).$$

Decide if the following are true or false. *Hint! Is f even or odd?*

- $a_0 = -\frac{1}{6}$; **No, it is $\frac{1}{4}$**
- $a_2 = -\frac{4}{\pi^2}$; **No, it is $\frac{2}{\pi^2}$**
- $a_3 = -\frac{4}{9\pi^2}$; **Yes**
- $b_3 = 0$; **Yes**
- $b_2 = \frac{2}{\pi^2}$. **No, it is zero**

Solution:

We have:

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{4} \left(\int_{-2}^2 f(x) dx \right) = \frac{1}{4} \left(- \int_{-2}^{-1} (x+1) dx + \int_1^2 (x-1) dx \right) = \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{4} \end{aligned}$$

Note that f is an even function. Thus, $\int_{-2}^2 f(x) dx = 2 \int_0^2 f(x) dx$.

$$\begin{aligned}
a_n &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\int_{-2}^2 f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}x\right) dx \right) = \\
&= \int_0^2 f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}x\right) dx = \\
&= \int_1^2 (x-1) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}x\right) dx = \\
&= \left[(x-1) \frac{2}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}x\right) \right]_1^2 - \int_1^2 \frac{2}{n\pi} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}x\right) dx = \\
&= \frac{4}{n^2\pi^2} \left[\cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}x\right) \right]_1^2 = \\
&= \frac{4}{n^2\pi^2} \left(\cos(n\pi) - \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) \right).
\end{aligned}$$

For the b_n , notice that $f(x)$ is an even function. Since the product of an even function with an odd function is odd, we have that

$$\int_{-2}^2 f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}x\right) dx = 0$$

for each n . Thus all the b_n are zero.

Question 4:

Solve the following IBVP:

$$\begin{cases} u_t = 9u_{xx} & \text{in } \Omega = (0, L) \times (0, \infty) \\ u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0 & \text{for all } t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = \frac{7}{8} \sin\left(\frac{4\pi}{L}x\right) + \cos(\pi) \sin\left(\frac{6\pi}{L}x\right) & \text{for all } x \in [-L, L] \end{cases}$$

Suppose that the solution $u(x, t)$ has the form:

$$u(x, t) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{c_n t} \left(a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) \right).$$

Check all that apply.

$a_0 = 0$ **Yes**

$a_4 = \frac{3}{2}$ **No, it is zero**

$b_5 = -1$ **No, it is zero**

$b_4 = \frac{7}{8}$ **Yes**

$c_6 = -\left(\frac{6\pi}{L}\right)^2$ **No, it is $-9\left(\frac{6\pi}{L}\right)^2$**

Solution:

Since $u(x, 0)$ is already developed as trigonometric sum, we get $b_4 = \frac{7}{8}$ and $b_6 = -1$. Thus we apply the formula and get:

$$u(x, t) = \frac{7}{8}e^{-9\left(\frac{4\pi}{L}\right)^2 t} \sin\left(\frac{4\pi}{L}x\right) - e^{-9\left(\frac{6\pi}{L}\right)^2 t} \sin\left(\frac{6\pi}{L}x\right).$$

Question 5:

Solve the following:

$$y'' + 6y' + 5y = -16e^{-3t}$$

Assuming $y(0) = 9$, $y'(0) = -27$.

Solution:

Using the Laplace transform we obtain:

$$s^2Y(s) - sy(0) - y'(0) + 6sY(s) - 6y(0) + 5Y(s) = -52\frac{1}{s+3}$$

$$s^2Y(s) - 9s + 27 + 6sY(s) - 54 + 5Y(s) = \frac{-16}{s+3}$$

$$Y(s)(s^2 + 6s + 5) = \frac{-16}{s+3} + 9s + 27$$

$$Y(s)(s^2 + 6s + 5) = \frac{-16 + 9s^2 + 27s + 27s + 81}{s+3}$$

$$Y(s) = \frac{9s^2 + 54s + 65}{(s+3)(s^2 + 6s + 5)}$$

We observe that $s^2 + 6s + 5 = (s+3)^2 - 2^2$, which is a denominator that appears in the Table of Laplace Transforms. We want to find A, B, C, D such that:

$$\frac{As + B}{s+3} + \frac{Cs + D}{(s+3)^2 - 4} = \frac{9s^2 + 54s + 65}{(s+3)((s+3)^2 - 4)}.$$

We multiply and obtain

$$As^3 + 6As^2 + 5As + Bs^2 + 6Bs + 5B + Cs^2 + 3Cs + Ds + 3D = 9s^2 + 54s + 65 \leftrightarrow$$

$$\leftrightarrow \begin{cases} A = 0 \\ B + C = 9 \\ 6B + 3C + D = 54 \\ 5B + 3D = 65 \end{cases}$$

Solving the above system of linear equations, we obtain $B = 4, C = 5, D = 15$.

Thus we have:

$$Y(s) = \frac{4}{s+3} + \frac{5s+15}{(s+3)^2 - 2^2}.$$

We observe that $5s + 15 = 5(s + 3)$. Thus we have:

$$Y(s) = 4\frac{1}{s+3} + 5\frac{s+3}{(s+3)^2 - 2^2}.$$

We obtain:

$$y(t) = 4e^{-3t} + 5e^{-3t} \cosh(2t) = e^{-3t}(4 + 5 \cosh(2t)).$$

Note that, since $\cosh(2t) = \frac{1}{2}(e^{2t} + e^{-2t})$, the result can be also written as:

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= 4e^{-3t} + \frac{5}{2}e^{-3t}e^{2t} + \frac{5}{2}e^{-3t}e^{-2t} = \\ &= 4e^{-3t} + \frac{5}{2}e^{-t} + \frac{5}{2}e^{-5t}. \end{aligned}$$

Question 6:

Consider a completely insulated rod of length L (parametrized as $[0, L]$) with initial temperature described by a function $\phi(x): [0, L] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Show that the average temperature of the rod does not change with time.

Solution:

We know that the behavior of the rod is described by an IBVP of type (2). That is, the function $u(x, t)$ that describes the temperature of the point x at the time t is the solution of the IBVP:

$$\begin{cases} u_t = \alpha^2 u_{xx} & \text{in } \Omega = (0, L) \times (0, \infty) \\ u_x(0, t) = u_x(L, t) = 0 & \text{for all } t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = \phi(x) & \text{for all } x \in [0, L] \end{cases}$$

for some coefficient α^2 . The average temperature at the time t is given by:

$$\text{AT}(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L u(x, t) dx$$

We show that the derivative of $\text{AT}(t)$ is zero, that is that the function is constant in t .

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{AT}(t) = \frac{1}{L} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^L u(x, t) dx = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L u_t(x, t) dx$$

Using $u_t = \alpha^2 u_{xx}$, we obtain:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{AT}(t) = \frac{\alpha^2}{L} \int_0^L u_{xx}(x, t) dx = \frac{\alpha^2}{L} u_x(x, t) \Big|_0^L = \frac{\alpha^2}{L} (u_x(0, t) - u_x(L, t))$$

However, since we are considering a totally insulated rod, the boundary conditions imply that the two quantities above are constantly zero.