

SECTION A

1. Find the general solution of the linear ordinary differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + \tan(x)y = 2x \cos(x) ,$$

leaving your answer in the form $y = f(x)$.

[4 marks]

Solution [Homework]

The integrating factor is

$$\mu(x) = e^{\int \tan(x) dx} = e^{-\log(\cos(x))} = 1/\cos(x).$$

Therefore the equation becomes

$$\frac{1}{\cos(x)} \frac{dy}{dx} + \frac{\sin(x)}{\cos^2(x)} y = \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{y}{\cos(x)} \right) = 2x$$

Therefore

$$\frac{y}{\cos(x)} = x^2 + A,$$

so the solution is

$$y(x) = A \cos(x) + x^2 \cos(x) .$$

2. Solve the initial value problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3x + y}{x}; \quad y(1) = 2.$$

[5 marks]

Solution [Homework]

This is a homogeneous equation. The substitution $y(x) = xv(x)$ gives

$$x \frac{dv}{dx} + v = 3 + v$$

so

$$\frac{dv}{dx} = 3/x$$

so

$$v(x) = 3 \ln(x) + c$$

and the general solution is

$$y(x) = 3x \ln(x) + cx$$

Putting $x = 1$ gives $y(1) = c$, so $c = 2$ and the solution is

$$y(x) = 3x \ln(x) + 2x.$$

3. Find the general solution of the following system of equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= x - 2y, \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= 5x + 3y.\end{aligned}$$

[9 marks]

Solution [Homework]

In vector form, we have

$$\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = A\mathbf{y} \quad \text{where} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 5 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The characteristic polynomial is

$$\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 13 = 0$$

so

$$\lambda = 2 \pm 3i.$$

The eigenvector \mathbf{v} corresponding to $\lambda = 2 + 3i$ is

$$\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 - 3i \end{pmatrix}$$

Hence the general solution is

$$\mathbf{y}(t) = Ae^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cos(3t) \\ -\cos(3t) + 3 \sin(3t) \end{pmatrix} + Be^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \sin(3t) \\ -\sin(3t) - 3 \cos(3t) \end{pmatrix},$$

or, componentwise,

$$\begin{aligned}x(t) &= 2Ae^{2t} \cos(3t) + 2Be^{2t} \sin(3t), \\ y(t) &= Ae^{2t} (-\cos(3t) + 3 \sin(3t)) - Be^{2t} (\sin(3t) + 3 \cos(3t)).\end{aligned}$$

This question may also be solved by substitution or using the Laplace transform.

4. The Laplace transform of a function $f(t)$ is defined by

$$\mathcal{L}\{f(t)\} = \tilde{f}(s) = \int_0^{\infty} f(t)e^{-st} dt.$$

(i) Show that

$$\mathcal{L}\{tf(t)\} = -\frac{d\tilde{f}}{ds}.$$

[3 marks]

Solution [Bookwork]

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{tf'(t)\} &= \int_0^{\infty} f(t)te^{-st} dt = \int_0^{\infty} -f(t)\frac{d}{ds}(e^{-st}) dt \\ &= -\frac{d}{ds} \int_0^{\infty} f(t)e^{-st} dt = -\frac{d\tilde{f}}{ds}.\end{aligned}$$

(ii) Compute the Laplace transform of $t^2 \sin(3t)$.

[5 marks]

Solution [Bookwork]

The Laplace transform of $t^2 \sin(3t)$ is second derivative of the Laplace transform of $\sin(3t)$, so

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}\{t^2 \sin(3t)\} &= \frac{d^2}{ds^2} \left(\frac{3}{s^2 + 9} \right) \\ &= \frac{d}{ds} \left(\frac{-6s}{(s^2 + 9)^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{-6}{(s^2 + 9)^2} + \frac{24}{(s^2 + 9)^3} \\ &= \frac{-6s^2 - 30}{(s^2 + 9)^3}.\end{aligned}$$

5. Calculate the Fourier cosine series of period π for the function $f(x)$ defined for $0 \leq x \leq \pi$ by

$$f(x) = \sin(x).$$

Hint: For any A and B ,

$$\sin(A) \cos(B) = \frac{1}{2} (\sin(A+B) + \sin(A-B)). \quad [7 \text{ marks}]$$

Solution [Homework]

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi f(x) dx \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \sin(x) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} [-\cos(x)]_0^\pi = \frac{2}{\pi} (1 - \cos(\pi)) = 4/\pi \\ a_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi f(x) \cos(nx) dx \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \sin(x) \cos(nx) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{1}{2} (\sin((1+n)x) + \sin((1-n)x)) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \left[\frac{-\cos((1+n)x)}{1+n} + \frac{-\cos((1-n)x)}{1-n} \right]_0^\pi = \frac{1}{\pi} \left(\frac{1+(-1)^n}{1+n} + \frac{1+(-1)^n}{1-n} \right) \\ &= \frac{2(1+(-1)^n)}{\pi(1-n^2)} \end{aligned}$$

So the Fourier cosine series is

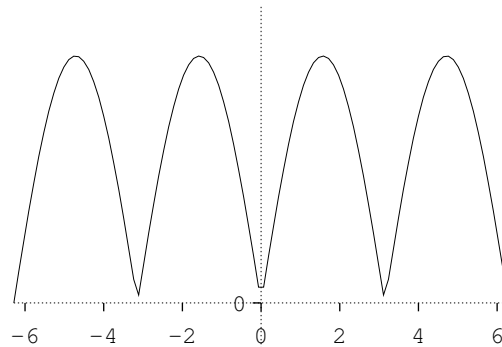
$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(nx) = \frac{4}{\pi} + \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1+(-1)^n)}{1-n^2} \cos(nx) \\ &= \frac{4}{\pi} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1-4n^2} \cos(2nx). \end{aligned}$$

Note: Full marks can be obtained without noticing that $a_1 = 0/0$.

Sketch the graph of this cosine series for $-2\pi < x < 2\pi$.

[2 marks]

Solution [Bookwork]



6. The Cauchy-Riemann equations for the real and imaginary parts $u(x, y)$ and $v(x, y)$ of a complex function $f(x + iy)$ are

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}.$$

(i) Suppose $v(x, y)$ is given by $v(x, y) = 3x^2y - y^3 + x$. Find a function $u(x, y)$ so that u and v satisfy the Cauchy-Riemann equations.

[6 marks]

Solution:

Integrating the equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 3x^2 - 3y^2$$

we find

$$u(x, y) = x^3 - 3xy^2 + k(y)$$

or some function k . Then

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -6xy + k'(y) = -6xy - 1 = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$$

so $k(y) = -y$ (plus an arbitrary constant). Therefore

$$u(x, y) = x^3 - 3xy^2 - y.$$

(ii) Find a function $f(z)$ such that $f(x + iy) = u(x, y) + iv(x, y)$.

[3 marks]

Solution [Class]

We have $f(x + iy) = x^3 - 3xy^2 - y + i(3x^2y - y^3 + x)$. Taking $x = z$ and $y = 0$ we find

$$f(z) = z^3 + iz.$$

7. The function $u(x, t) = F(x) \cos(\lambda ct)$, where c and λ are positive constants, is a nontrivial solution of the wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}.$$

Show that $F(x)$ satisfies the ordinary differential equation

$$F'' + \lambda^2 F = 0.$$

[4 marks]

Solution [Bookwork]

Substituting into the wave equation gives

$$-\lambda^2 c^2 F(x) \cos(\lambda ct) = c^2 F''(x) \cos(\lambda ct).$$

Cancel $\cos(\lambda ct)$ from each side to give

$$-\lambda^2 F(x) = F''(x)$$

which implies

$$F''(x) + \lambda^2 F(x) = 0.$$

Given that u also satisfies the boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0,$$

show that the possible values of λ are $n\pi/L$, where n is a positive integer, and find the corresponding functions $F(x)$.

[4 marks]

Solution [Bookwork]

The general solution for $F(x)$ is

$$F(x) = A \sin(\lambda x) + B \cos(\lambda x).$$

The boundary conditions give $F(0) = F(L) = 0$. Now

$$F(0) = A \sin(0) + B \cos(0) = B = 0$$

and then

$$F(L) = A \sin(\lambda L) = 0$$

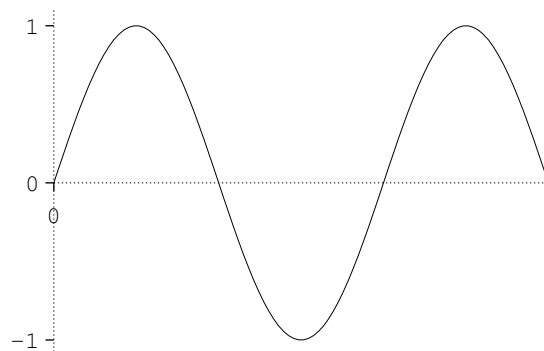
so either $A = 0$ or $\sin(\lambda L) = 0$. $A = 0$ gives the trivial solution, so $\sin(\lambda L) = 0$ which means $\lambda L = n\pi$ or $\lambda = n\pi/L$ for some positive integer n . Thus

$$\lambda = n\pi/L \quad \text{and} \quad F_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right).$$

Sketch $F(x)$ on the interval $0 \leq x \leq L$ for $n = 3$.

[2 marks]

Solution [Bookwork]



SECTION B

8. Find the solution of the following ordinary differential equation, using the initial condition $y(1) = y'(1) = 0$.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 5\frac{dy}{dx} + 9y = 27\ln(x) - 4x^2.$$

[15 marks]

Solution [Homework]

Try $y_c(x) = x^m$ as a solution to the complementary equation. We obtain the auxiliary equation

$$m(m-1) - 5m + 9 = 0$$

which has a double root $m = 3$. Hence the complementary function is

$$y_c(x) = Ax^3 + Bx^3 \ln(x).$$

[6 marks for this part]

Try particular integral $y_p(x) = a \ln(x) + b + cx^2$. Substituting into the equation gives

$$x^2(-a/x^2 + 2c) - 5x(a/x + 2cx) + 9(a \ln(x) + b + cx^2) = 27 \ln(x) - 4x^2$$

and simplifying gives

$$9a \ln(x) + (9b - 6a) + cx^2 = 27 \ln(x) - 4x^2$$

from which we deduce $a = 3$, $b = 2$ and $c = -4$. Hence the general solution is

$$y(x) = Ax^3 + Bx^3 \ln(x) + 3 \ln(x) - 4x^2 + 2.$$

[6 marks for this part]

The derivative of $y(x)$ is

$$y'(x) = 3Ax^2 + Bx^2(3 \ln(x) + 1) + 3/x - 8x,$$

so

$$y(1) = A - 2 \quad \text{and} \quad y'(1) = 3A + B - 5.$$

Therefore $A = 2$ and $B = -1$, so

$$y(x) = 2x^3 - x^3 \ln(x) + 3 \ln(x) - 4x^2 + 2.$$

[3 marks for this part]

(This problem can also be solved by using the substitution $x = e^t$.)

9.

(a) Find a function $h(t)$ such that the solution of the ordinary differential equation

$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} + 4y = g(t)$$

with initial conditions $y(0) = y'(0) = 0$ is given by the convolution integral

$$\int_0^t g(t - \tau)h(\tau) d\tau .$$

[6 marks]

Solution:

Take the Laplace transform of both sides to obtain

$$s^2Y(s) + 4Y(s) = G(s).$$

Rearranging gives

$$Y(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + 4} G(s)$$

so $h(t)$ is the inverse Laplace transform of $1/(s^2 + 4)$, which gives

$$h(t) = \frac{1}{2} \sin(2t).$$

(b) Show that the Fourier series of the 2π -periodic odd function $f(x)$ defined by $f(x) = x$ for $-\pi \leq x \leq \pi$ is

$$f(x) = 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} \sin(nx)}{n} .$$

By evaluating the square integral of $f(x)$ and of its Fourier series, show that

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{\pi^2}{6} .$$

[9 marks]

Solution:

The Fourier coefficients b_n are given by

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} x \sin(nx) dx = \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\frac{-x \cos(nx)}{n} + \frac{\sin(nx)}{n^2} \right]_0^{\pi} \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{-\pi(-1)^n}{n} = \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{n} \end{aligned}$$

The square integral of $f(x)$ over $[-\pi, \pi]$ is

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (f(x))^2 dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 dx = \left[\frac{x^3}{3} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \frac{2\pi^3}{3} .$$

The square integral of the Fourier sine series gives

$$\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(nx) \right)^2 dx = \pi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n^2.$$

Taking $b_n = 2(-1)^{n+1}/n$ gives

$$\frac{2\pi^3}{3} = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 dx = \pi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n^2} = 4\pi \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2},$$

so

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} = \frac{2\pi^3}{3} \frac{1}{4\pi} = \frac{\pi^2}{6}.$$

10. Show that the characteristic curves of the first-order partial differential equation

$$2\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - xy\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = u$$

are given by

$$x(t) = x_0 + 2t, \quad y(t) = y_0 e^{-(x_0 t + t^2)}.$$

[6 marks]

Solution [Homework]

The characteristic equations are

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 2 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = -xy.$$

Solving first for x , we find

$$x = x_0 + 2t,$$

so

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -(x_0 + 2t)y.$$

Solving this by separation of variables we find

$$\ln(y) = -(x_0 t + t^2) + \ln(y_0)$$

so

$$y = y_0 e^{-(x_0 t + t^2)}.$$

By considering the boundary value problem $u(0, s) = f(s)$, or otherwise, find the general solution of this equation.

[9 marks]

Solution [Homework]

The right-hand side gives

$$\frac{du}{dt} = u$$

so

$$u = u_0 e^t.$$

The boundary conditions give $x_0 = 0$, $y_0 = s$ and $u_0 = f(s)$, so

$$x = 2t, \quad y = s e^{-t^2} \quad \text{and} \quad u = f(s) e^t.$$

Therefore

$$t = x/2 \quad \text{and} \quad s = y e^{t^2} = y e^{x^2/4},$$

so the general solution is

$$u(x, y) = f(y e^{x^2/4}) e^{x/2}.$$

11. Write down the general solution of the heat equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \kappa \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

in a bar of length L , whose left and right hand ends are held at temperatures T_0 and T_1 respectively.

[4 marks]

Solution [Bookwork]

$$u(x, t) = T_0 + \frac{x}{L}T_1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-n^2\pi^2\kappa t/L^2}.$$

Find the particular solution of the heat equation in a bar for which the initial temperature distribution is

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 0^\circ\text{C} & \text{if } 0 < x < L/2 \\ 50^\circ\text{C} & \text{if } L/2 < x < L \end{cases}$$

and the ends are held at 20°C .

[11 marks]

Solution [Homework]

The equilibrium solution is $u_e(x) = 20^\circ\text{C}$. Let $f(x) = u(x, 0) - u_e(x)$. The coefficients of the Fourier sine series of $f(x)$ are

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{L/2} -20 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx + \frac{2}{L} \int_{L/2}^L 30 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{2}{L} \left[\frac{20L \cos(n\pi x/L)}{n\pi} \right]_0^{L/2} + \frac{2}{L} \left[\frac{-30L \cos(n\pi x/L)}{n\pi} \right]_{L/2}^L \\ &= \frac{40(\cos(n\pi/2) - 1)}{n\pi} + \frac{60(\cos(n\pi) - \cos(n\pi/2))}{n\pi} \\ &= \frac{3\cos(n\pi) - \cos(n\pi/2) - 2}{n\pi} 20^\circ\text{C} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$u(x, t) = 20^\circ\text{C} \left(1 + \frac{1}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{3\cos(n\pi) - \cos(n\pi/2) - 2}{n} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-n^2\pi^2\kappa t/L^2} \right)$$

12. Show that the function

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) (A_n \cosh(n\pi y/L) + B_n \sinh(n\pi y/L))$$

satisfies Laplace's equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

in the square $0 \leq x, y \leq L$ with boundary conditions $u(0, y) = u(L, y) = 0$.

[5 marks]

Solution [Example]

Find the particular solution for which

$$u(x, 0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u(x, L) = x(L - x).$$

[10 marks]

Solution [Homework]

The boundary condition $u(x, 0) = 0$ implies

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) = 0$$

so the coefficients A_n are all 0.

The boundary condition $u(x, L) = 1$ gives

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

The Fourier coefficients $b_n = B_n \sinh(n\pi)$ are then given by

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L x(L-x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{2}{L} \left[\frac{-Lx(L-x) \cos(n\pi x/L)}{n\pi} + \frac{L^2(L-2x) \sin(n\pi x/L)}{n^2\pi^2} - \frac{2L^3 \cos(n\pi x/L)}{n^3\pi^3} \right]_0^L \\ &= \frac{2}{L} \frac{2L^3(1 - (-1)^n)}{n^3\pi^3} = \frac{4L^2}{n^3\pi^3} (1 - (-1)^n). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$u(x, y) = \frac{4L^2}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1 - (-1)^n)}{n^3 \sinh(n\pi)} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi y}{L}\right)$$