

1. Consider the differential equation

$$3x^2y'' + 5xy' + (x - 1)y = 0 \quad (1)$$

- (a) Classify the points $0 \leq x < \infty$ as ordinary points, regular singular points, or irregular singular points.
- (b) Find two values of r such that there are solutions of the form $y(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n x^{n+r}$.
- (c) Use the series expansion in (b) to determine two independent solutions of (1). You only need to calculate the first three non-zero terms in each case.
- (d) Determine the radius of convergence of the series in (c).

[25 marks]

(Question 1 Continued)

2. Find the solution to the following initial boundary value problem for the heat equation:

$$\begin{aligned}u_t &= u_{xx} + u, & 0 < x < 1, & \quad t > 0 \\u_x(0, t) &= 0 \text{ and } u_x(1, t) = 1 \\u(x, 0) &= \cos(2\pi x), & 0 < x < 1\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{Hint:} \int_0^1 \cos(n\pi x) \cos(x) dx = \frac{(-1)^{n+1}}{(\pi n)^2 - 1} \sin(1)$$

[20 marks]

(Question 2 Continued)

3. The displacement $u(x, t)$ of a string of length 1 satisfies the wave equation $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$. The string is set in motion from its equilibrium position $u = 0$ with an initial velocity $g(x)$ while both the ends of the string are held fixed.
- (a) Write down the initial boundary value problem satisfied by the displacement $u(x, t)$ of the string, and determine the solution to this equation.
- (b) Find $u(x, t)$ when $g(x)$ is defined as follows:

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 < x < \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} \leq x < 1 \end{cases}$$

[15 marks]

(Question 3 Continued)

4. Use separation of variables to solve the following boundary value problem for part of the annular region:

$$\begin{aligned}u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r}u_r + \frac{1}{r^2}u_{\theta\theta} &= 0, \quad a < r < b, \quad 0 < \theta < \pi/2 \\u_{\theta}(r, 0) &= 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u_{\theta}(r, \pi/2) = 0 \\u(a, \theta) &= 1 + \cos(4\theta) \quad \text{and} \quad u(b, \theta) = 0\end{aligned}$$

[20 marks]

(Question 4 Continued)

5. Consider the following Sturm-Liouville boundary value problem:

$$\begin{aligned}y'' + \lambda y &= 0, \quad 0 < x < 1 \\ y'(0) &= 0 \quad \text{and} \quad y(1) + y'(1) = 0\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

- (a) Determine the form of the eigenfunctions and the equation satisfied by the eigenvalues for boundary value problem (2).
- (b) Show that there exists an infinite sequence λ_n of eigenvalues and estimate λ_n for large values of n .
- (c) Now show how you would use the above eigenvalues and eigenfunctions to solve the following initial boundary value problem for the heat equation:

$$\begin{aligned}u_t &= u_{xx}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0 \\ u_x(0, t) &= 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u(1, t) + u_x(1, t) = 0 \\ u(x, 0) &= f(x), \quad 0 < x < 1\end{aligned}$$

[20 marks]

(Question 5 Continued)

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