

MA 221 Homework Solutions

Due date: April 8, 2014

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Problems 15, 17 and 19

(Underlined problems are to be handed in)

In Problems 15, 17 and 19 find all the real eigenvalues and eigenfunctions for the given eigenvalue problem.

$$13.) y'' + \lambda y = 0;$$

$$y(0) = 0, \quad y'(1) = 0$$

The auxiliary equation for this problem is: $r^2 + \lambda = 0$.

To find eigenvalues that yield nontrivial solutions we will consider the three cases

$$\lambda < 0$$

$$\lambda = 0$$

$$\lambda > 0$$

Case 1: $\lambda < 0$ Let $\lambda = -\alpha^2$, where $\alpha \neq 0$. The DE becomes

$$y'' - \alpha^2 y = 0$$

In this case, the roots to the auxiliary equation are $\pm\alpha$. Therefore, a general solution to the differential equation is given by:

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{\alpha x} + c_2 e^{-\alpha x}$$

By applying the BC's:

$$y(0) = c_1 + c_2 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad c_2 = -c_1$$

Thus

$$y(x) = c_1 (e^{\alpha x} - e^{-\alpha x})$$

In order to apply the second BC, we need to find $y'(x)$. Thus we have:

$$y'(x) = c_1 \alpha (e^{\alpha x} + e^{-\alpha x})$$

Plugging in the second BC $y'(1) = 0$

$$y'(1) = c_1 \alpha (e^{\alpha} + e^{-\alpha}) = 0$$

Since $e^{\alpha} + e^{-\alpha} \neq 0$, the only way the equation above can be true is for $c_1 = 0$. So in this case we have only the trivial solution. Thus, there are no eigenvalues for $\lambda < 0$.

Case2: $\lambda = 0$

In this case we are solving the differential equation $y'' = 0$. This equation has a general solution given by:

$$y(x) = c_1 + c_2 x \quad \Rightarrow \quad y'(x) = c_2$$

By applying the boundary conditions, we obtain

$$y(0) = c_1 = 0;$$

$$y'(1) = c_2 = 0$$

Thus, $c_1 = c_2 = 0$, and zero is not an eigenvalue

Case 3: $\lambda > 0$ Let $\lambda = \beta^2$ where $\beta \neq 0$. The DE becomes

$$y'' + \beta^2 y = 0$$

In this case the roots to the associated auxiliary equation are $r = \pm \beta i$

Therefore, the general solution is given by

$$y(x) = c_1 \cos \beta x + c_2 \sin \beta x$$

By applying the first boundary condition, we obtain

$$y(0) = c_1 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$y(x) = c_2 \sin \beta x$$

In order to apply the second BC we need to find $y'(x)$. Thus,

$$y'(x) = c_2 \beta \cos \beta x$$

Plugging in the BC

$$y'(1) = c_2 \beta \cos \beta = 0$$

Therefore, in order to obtain a solution other than the trivial solution, we must have

$$\cos \beta = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \beta = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_n = \beta^2 = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \pi^2, \quad \text{with } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

For these eigenvalues λ_n , we have the corresponding eigenfunctions,

$$y_n(x) = c_n \sin \left[\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi x \right] \quad \text{with } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

where c_n is an arbitrary nonzero constant.

$$15.) \quad y'' + 3y + \lambda y = 0;$$

$$y'(0) = 0, \quad y'(\pi) = 0$$

The auxiliary equation for this problem is: $r^2 + (\lambda + 3) = 0$ and $r = \pm \sqrt{-(\lambda + 3)}$

To find the eigenvalues which yield nontrivial solutions, three cases must be considered:

$$\lambda + 3 < 0$$

$$\lambda + 3 = 0$$

$$\lambda + 3 > 0$$

Case 1: $\lambda + 3 < 0$ Let $\lambda + 3 = -\alpha^2$ where $\alpha \neq 0$

In this case the roots to the auxiliary equation are the real numbers $\pm \sqrt{-(\lambda + 3)}$

The general solution to $y'' - \alpha^2 y = 0$ is $y(x) = c_1 e^{\alpha x} + c_2 e^{-\alpha x}$

By applying the first boundary condition, we obtain:

$$y'(x) = c_1 \alpha e^{\alpha x} - c_2 \alpha e^{-\alpha x} = \alpha (c_1 e^{\sqrt{-(\lambda+3)}x} - c_2 e^{-\sqrt{-(\lambda+3)}x})$$

$$y'(0) = \alpha (c_1 - c_2) = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 - c_2 = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = c_2$$

$$y'(\pi) = \alpha (c_1 e^{\alpha \pi} - c_1 e^{-\alpha \pi}) = \alpha c_1 (e^{\alpha \pi} - e^{-\alpha \pi}) = 0; \text{ since } \alpha \neq 0 \text{ and } e^{\alpha \pi} - e^{-\alpha \pi} \neq 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = c_2 = 0$$

In this case, we have only the trivial solution. There are no eigenvalues for $\lambda + 3 < 0$.

Case 2: $\lambda + 3 = 0$

In this case we are solving the differential equation $y'' = 0$. This equation has a general solution given by:

$$y(x) = c_1 + c_2 x$$

$$y'(x) = c_2$$

By applying the boundary conditions, we obtain

$$y'(0) = c_2 = 0;$$

$$y'(\pi) = c_2 = 0$$

Thus, c_1 is arbitrary and zero is an eigenvalue with eigenfunction $y(x) = C$, C any constant.

Case 3: $\lambda + 3 > 0$ Let $\lambda + 3 = \beta^2$ where $\beta \neq 0$

The DE becomes

$$y'' + \beta^2 y = 0$$

Therefore, the general solution is given by

$$y(x) = c_1 \cos \beta x + c_2 \sin \beta x$$

By applying the first boundary condition, we obtain

$$y'(x) = \beta(-c_1 \sin \beta x + c_2 \cos \beta x)$$

$$y'(0) = \beta c_2 = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0 \Rightarrow y'(x) = \beta(-c_1 \sin \beta x)$$

$$y'(\pi) = \beta(-c_1 \sin(\beta\pi)) = 0, \quad \text{Since } \beta \neq 0 \text{ and we want}$$

$$c_1 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \beta = n \Rightarrow \lambda + 3 = \beta^2 = n^2 \Rightarrow \lambda = n^2 - 3$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_n = n^2 - 3 \quad \text{with } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

For these eigenvalues λ_n , we have the corresponding eigenfunctions,

$$y_n(x) = c_n \cos nx \quad \text{with } n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad \text{where } c_n \text{ is an arbitrary nonzero constant.}$$

$$17.) \quad y'' + \lambda y = 0 \quad 2y(0) + y'(0) = 0 \quad y(\pi) = 0$$

To find the eigenvalues which yield nontrivial solutions, three cases must be considered:

$$\lambda < 0$$

$$\lambda = 0$$

$$\lambda > 0$$

Case 1: $\lambda < 0$

$$\lambda = -\mu^2 \quad \mu > 0 \text{ and the DE is } y'' - \mu^2 y = 0$$

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{-\mu x}$$

For convenience we introduce the hyperbolic sine and cosine

$$\cosh(\mu x) = \frac{e^{\mu x} + e^{-\mu x}}{2}$$

$$\sinh(\mu x) = \frac{e^{\mu x} - e^{-\mu x}}{2}$$

and write the solution above in terms of these functions. Then

$$\begin{aligned} y(x) &= c_1 (\cosh(\mu x) + \sinh(\mu x)) + c_2 (\cosh(\mu x) - \sinh(\mu x)) \\ &= (c_1 + c_2) \cosh(\mu x) + (c_1 - c_2) \sinh(\mu x) \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$k_1 = (c_1 + c_2) \quad k_2 = (c_1 - c_2)$$

then:

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{\mu x} + c_2 e^{-\mu x} = k_1 \cosh(\mu x) + k_2 \sinh(\mu x)$$

$$y'(x) = \mu k_1 \sinh(\mu x) + \mu k_2 \cosh(\mu x)$$

$$2y(0) + y'(0) = 2k_1 + \mu k_2 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad k_2 = \frac{-2k_1}{\mu}$$

so

$$y(x) = k_1 \left(\cosh(\mu x) - \left(\frac{2}{\mu} \right) \sinh(\mu x) \right)$$

$$y(\pi) = k_1 \left(\cosh(\mu \pi) - \left(\frac{2}{\mu} \right) \sinh(\mu \pi) \right) = 0$$

Since we want $k_1 \neq 0$. then we must have

$$\frac{\mu}{2} = \tanh(\mu \pi)$$

so

$$\mu = 2 \tanh(\mu \pi) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda = -\mu^2 = -4 \tanh^2(\mu \pi)$$

and

$$y(x) = k_1 \left(\cosh(\mu x) - \left(\frac{2}{\mu} \right) \sinh(\mu x) \right)$$

Case 2: $\lambda = 0$

The DE becomes $y''(x) = 0$, so $y(x) = ax + b$ $y'(x) = a$

$$2y(0) + y'(0) = 2b + a = 0 \quad y(\pi) = a\pi + b = 0$$

Thus $a = b = 0$ and we have only the trivial solution.

Case 3: $\lambda > 0$ Let $\lambda = \mu^2$, where $\mu \neq 0$. Then the DE becomes $y'' + \mu^2 y = 0$ and

$$y(x) = c_1 \sin \mu x + c_2 \cos \mu x$$

$$y'(x) = c_1 \mu \cos \mu x - c_2 \mu \sin \mu x$$

$$2y(0) + y'(0) = 2c_2 + \mu c_1 = 0$$

$$y(\pi) = c_1 \sin \mu \pi + c_2 \cos \mu \pi = 0$$

Then:

$$c_2 = \frac{-\mu}{2} c_1$$

and

$$c_1 \left(\sin \mu \pi - \frac{\mu}{2} \cos \mu \pi \right) = 0$$

so

$$\tanh \mu \pi = \frac{\mu}{2} \Rightarrow \mu = 2 \tanh \mu \pi$$

and

$$y = c \left(\sin \mu x - \frac{\mu}{2} \cos \mu x \right)$$

$$19.) (xy')' + \lambda x^{-1} = 0 \quad y'(0) = 0 \quad y(e^\pi) = 0$$

By the Cauchy-Euler equation

$$(xy')' + \lambda x^{-1} = x^2 y'' + xy' + \lambda y = 0 \quad x > 0$$

Substituting $y = x^r$ gives $r^2 + \lambda = 0$ as the auxiliary equation for $x^2 y'' + xy' + \lambda y = 0$

Case 1: $\lambda < 0$: Let $\lambda = -\mu^2$ for $\mu > 0$. The roots are $r = \pm\mu$

The general solution is: $y(x) = c_1 x^\mu + c_2 x^{-\mu}$

and $y'(x) = c_1 \mu x^{\mu-1} - c_2 \mu x^{-\mu-1} = \mu(c_1 x^\mu - c_2 x^{-\mu-1})$

Substituting into the first boundary condition gives

$$y'(1) = \mu(c_1 - c_2) = 0$$

Since $\mu > 0$

$$c_1 - c_2 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad c_1 = c_2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad y(x) = c_1(x^\mu + x^{-\mu})$$

Substituting this into the second condition yields:

$$y(e^\pi) = c_1(e^{\mu\pi} + e^{-\mu\pi}) = 0$$

Since $e^{\mu\pi} + e^{-\mu\pi} \neq 0$ the only way equation $c_1(e^{\mu\pi} + e^{-\mu\pi}) = 0$ can be true is for $c_1 = 0$.

In this case, we only have trivial solutions.

Case 2: $\lambda = 0$

In this case we are solving the differential equation $(xy')' = 0$. This equation can be solved as follows:

$$xy' = c_1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad y' = \frac{c_1}{x} \quad \Rightarrow \quad y(x) = c_2 + c_1 \ln x$$

By applying the boundary conditions, we obtain

$$y'(1) = c_1 = 0 \quad y(e^\pi) = c_2 + c_1 \ln(e^\pi) = c_2 + c_1 \pi = 0$$

Solving these equations simultaneously yields $c_1 = c_2 = 0$. This, we again find only the trivial solution. Therefore, $\lambda = 0$ is not an eigenvalue.

Case 3: $\lambda > 0$

Let $\lambda = \mu^2$ for $\mu > 0$. The roots of the auxiliary equation are $r \pm \mu i$

The general solution is:

$$y(x) = c_1 \cos(\mu \ln x) + c_2 \sin(\mu \ln x)$$

$$y'(x) = -c_1 \left(\frac{\mu}{x}\right) \sin(\mu \ln x) + c_2 \left(\frac{\mu}{x}\right) \cos(\mu \ln x)$$

By applying the first boundary condition, we obtain

$$y'(1) = c_2 \mu = 0 \quad c_2 = 0$$

Applying the second boundary condition, we obtain

$$y(e^\pi) = c_1 \cos(\mu \ln(e^\pi)) = c_1 \cos(\mu \pi) = 0$$

Therefore, in order to obtain a solution other than the trivial solution, we must have

$$\cos(\mu \pi) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mu \pi = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu = n + \frac{1}{2} \quad \Rightarrow \lambda_n = \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Corresponding to the eigenvalues, λ_n 's, we have the eigenfunctions:

$$y_n(x) = c_n \cos\left[\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right) \ln x\right] \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Where c_n is an arbitrary nonzero constant.