

due November 28

Please submit via Moodle by midnight, Nov 28

Do at least four of the following six problems.¹

1. Let (a, b) be a non-empty bounded open interval of the real line, let α, β be two positive real numbers at least one of which is not zero, and let $f(x)$ be a function which is smooth on the closed interval $[a, b]$. Find the differential equation and the boundary conditions which correspond to the following minimization problem:

Among sufficiently regular functions $u: (a, b) \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ minimize the functional

$$J(u) = \int_a^b \left[\frac{1}{2} (u'(x))^2 - u(x)f(x) \right] dx + \frac{\alpha}{2} u(a)^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} u(b)^2. \quad (1)$$

2. Consider the following variant of Problem 1. Let $a = -1, b = 1, \alpha = 1, \beta = 0, f(x) = x^2$ and let X be the space of all quadratic functions of the form $u(x) = px^2 + qx + r$. Find the minimizer of J over the space X in this particular case.

3. Consider still another variant of Problem 1. This time choose a positive integer n (think of $n = 100$, for example), set $h = (b - a)/n$ and $x_0 = a, x_1 = a + h, x_2 = a + 2h, \dots, x_n = b$. Let X_n be the space of continuous functions on the closed interval $[a, b]$ which are of the form $p_i x + q_i$ on the intervals (x_i, x_{i+1}) , $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$.

- (a) Explain why each function u in X_n is uniquely determined by the vector $u_0 = u(x_0), u_1 = u(x_1), \dots, u_n = u(x_n)$.
 (b) For the case $f(x) \equiv 1$ calculate the equation for the vector $u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$ one gets from the problem of minimizing $J(u)$ over X_n .

Hint: Take the derivatives of J in the direction of functions φ in X which are non-zero only at one point of the grid.

4. Consider the $n \times n$ matrix

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (2)$$

(a) Show that this matrix is unitary, in the sense that for any two vectors $z, z' \in \mathbf{C}^n$ with (complex) coordinates z_1, \dots, z_n and z'_1, \dots, z'_n we have $\langle z, z' \rangle = \langle Sz, Sz' \rangle$, where $\langle z, z' \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n z_j \bar{z}'_j$ is the standard Hermitian product in \mathbf{C}^n .

(b) Find the adjoint matrix S^* (defined by $\langle Sz, z' \rangle = \langle z, S^* z' \rangle$ for each $z, z' \in \mathbf{C}^n$).

(c) Verify that $SS^* = S^*S = I$, where I is the identity matrix. In particular, S is normal. (This of course follows from (a) and general principles, but here the task is to verify this directly.)

(d) As S is normal, the general theory implies that it can be diagonalized (together with S^*) in a basis which is orthogonal with respect to the Hermitian product \mathbf{C}^n . Show that the columns of the Fourier matrix which appeared in Problem 6 of hw2 provide exactly such a basis, and calculate the eigenvalue corresponding to each eigenvector for both S and S^* .

(e) Check that the matrix $A = S - 2I + S^*$ corresponds to a matrix we used for a finite-dimensional approximation of the operator $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$. Calculate the eigenvalues of A .

¹For grading purposes, any 4 problems correspond to 100%. You can get extra credit if you do more.

5. Solve the following problem for the heat equation

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \sin x, & x \in (0, \pi), t \in (0, \infty), \\ u(0, t) &= 0, \\ u(\pi, t) &= 0, \\ u(x, 0) &= \sin 2x,\end{aligned}$$

and determine $u_\infty(x) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(x, t)$.

Hint: Seek the solution in the form of the sine-Fourier series, and recall how to solve the ODE $\dot{y} = -y + 1$.

6. Show that for a $2L$ -periodic solution of the (generalized) wave equation

$$\rho \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = T \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \gamma u \tag{3}$$

where ρ, T, γ are positive constants, with ρ and T being strictly positive, the following quantities are constant in time:

(a) The energy: $E(t) = \int_{-L}^L \left[\frac{\rho}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t} \right)^2 + \frac{T}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \frac{\gamma}{2} u(x,t)^2 \right] dx.$

(b) The momentum: $P(t) = \int_{-L}^L \left[\frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t} \frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial x} \right] dx.$

Hint: Show that the time derivatives of $E(t)$ and $P(t)$ vanish, using integration by parts and the equation.