

1. Consider the differential equation

$$6x^2y'' + 7xy' - (1+x)y = 0 \quad (1)$$

(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.

[20 marks]

(Question 1 Continued)

(Question 1 Continued)

2. Consider the following initial boundary value problem for the heat equation:

$$\begin{aligned}u_t &= u_{xx} - 4u, & 0 < x < \pi, & \quad t > 0 \\u_x(0, t) &= 0, & u_x(\pi, t) &= 1 \\u(x, 0) &= 4 \cos(4x)\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

- (a) Determine a steady state solution to the boundary value problem. [5 marks]
- (b) Use this steady state solution to determine the solution to the boundary value problem (2) by separation of variables. [12 marks]
- (c) Briefly describe how you would use the method of finite differences to obtain an approximate solution this boundary value problem. Use the notation $u_n^k \simeq u(x_n, t_k)$ to represent the nodal values on the finite difference mesh. Explain how you propose to approximate the boundary condition $u_x(\pi, t) = 1$. [8 marks]

Hint: It might be useful to know that $\int_0^\pi \cosh(2x) \cos(nx) dx = \frac{2(-1)^n \sinh(2\pi)}{4+n^2}$

[total 25 marks]

(Question 2 Continued)

(Question 2 Continued)

3. Consider the following initial-boundary value problem:

$$u_{tt} + k^2 u = c^2 u_{xx}, \quad 0 < x < \pi$$

$$u(0, t) = u(\pi, t) = 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = 0.$$

- (a) Use separation of variables to determine the solution to this boundary value problem.
- (b) If $k = 0$, $c = \pi$, and if the initial displacement $f(x) = \sin(x)$, determine the shape of the string at time $t = 1/2$. [15 marks]

(Question 3 Continued)

(Question 3 Continued)

4. Use separation of variables to solve the following mixed boundary value problem for a wedge shaped region in the first quadrant:

$$u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r}u_r + \frac{1}{r^2}u_{\theta\theta} = 0, \quad 0 < r < a, \quad 0 < \theta < \pi/2$$

$$u(r, 0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial \theta}(r, \pi/2) = 1$$

$$u(a, \theta) = 1 + \theta \quad \text{and} \quad u(r, \theta) \stackrel{r \rightarrow 0}{<} \infty$$

[20 marks]

(Question 4 Continued)

(Question 4 Continued)

5. Solve the inhomogeneous heat conduction problem:

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

Hint: It may be useful to know that

$$\int e^{\gamma t} \cos t \, dt = \frac{e^{\gamma t}(\gamma \cos(t) + \sin(t))}{\gamma^2 + 1}$$

[20 marks]

(Question 5 Continued)

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