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IBVP for a finite string

- Find $y(x, t)$ s. t.
 - $y_{tt} = c^2 y_{xx}$ for $0 < x < L, t > 0$;
 - $y(0, t) = 0, y(L, t) = 0$ for $t > 0$;
 - $y(x, 0) = f(x), y_t(x, 0) = g(x)$ for $0 < x < L$.
- Use Fourier's method. [$f(x)$ = initial transverse displacement & velocity]

Step (I): Find all nontrivial sep. sol^{ns} of ①-②

- Last time we found that these (normal modes) are

$$y_n(x, t) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \left(a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{L}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{L}\right) \right),$$

where $a_n, b_n \in \mathbb{R}$ and $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$.

Step (II): Formally apply the principle of superposition

- ① & ② linear so superimpose the normal modes (assuming convergence) to obtain the general series solution

$$y(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} y_n(x, t).$$

Step (III): Use theory of FS to satisfy the ICs

- ③ can only be satisfied if

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \text{ for } 0 < x < L,$$

$$g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \frac{n\pi c}{L} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \text{ for } 0 < x < L.$$

- Assuming $\{ \sum = \sum \}$, we deduce that

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$$\int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \underbrace{\int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx}_{= \frac{L}{2} \delta_{nm}} = \frac{L}{2} a_n$$

$$\Rightarrow a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx, \text{ and similarly}$$

$$b_n \frac{n\pi c}{L} = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L g(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx. \quad \square$$

Example 4.1: $f(x) = A \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) + B \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \Rightarrow a_1 = A, a_2 = B$
and rest 0.

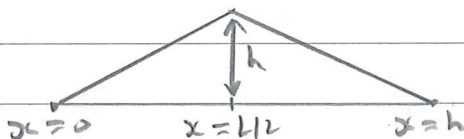
Example 4.2: $f(x) = 0, g(x) = V_0 \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) \Rightarrow a_n = 0 \forall n. \quad \square$

$$\text{Trick: } \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) = \frac{3}{4} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{L}\right) - \frac{1}{4} \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{n\pi c}{L} b_1 = \frac{3V_0}{4}, b_2 = 0, \frac{3n\pi c}{L} b_3 = -\frac{V_0}{4} \text{ and rest } 0. \quad \square$$

Example 4.3 (Guitar string):

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2hx/L & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq L/2, \\ 2h(L-x)/L & \text{for } L/2 \leq x \leq L, \end{cases} \quad g(x) = 0.$$



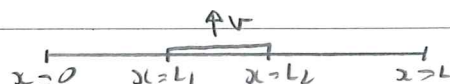
$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{L/2} \frac{2hx}{L} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx + \frac{2}{L} \int_{L/2}^L \frac{2h(L-x)}{L} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \frac{8h}{n^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$b_n = 0$$

$$\text{Since } \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } n = 2m, m \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}, \\ (-1)^m & \text{for } n = 2m+1, m \in \mathbb{N}, \end{cases}$$

$$\text{we find } y(x,t) = \frac{8h}{\pi^2} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^m}{(2m+1)^2} \sin\left(\frac{(2m+1)\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{(2m+1)\pi ct}{L}\right) \quad \square$$

Example 4.4 (Piano string):



$$f(x) = 0, \quad g(x) = \begin{cases} v & \text{for } L_1 \leq x \leq L_2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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$$a_n = 0 \text{ and } b_n = \frac{L}{n\pi c} \frac{2}{L} \int_{L_1}^{L_2} v \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow y(x, t) = \frac{2vL}{c\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^2} \left(\cos\left(\frac{n\pi L_2}{L}\right) - \cos\left(\frac{n\pi L_1}{L}\right) \right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{L}\right)$$

Energy and uniqueness

- Consider IBVP ①-③.

- KE of string is $\int_0^L \frac{1}{2} \rho |x_t|^2 dx = \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} \rho y_t^2 dx$.

- Elastic PE of string is product of tension and extension, i.e.

$$T \left(\int_0^L |x_x| dx - L \right) = T \int_0^L (1 + y_x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1 dx.$$

- But $|y_x| \ll 1$, so $(1 + y_x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} - 1 = \frac{1}{2} y_x^2 + \dots$, so to a first approximation (neglecting cubic and h.o.t.), the elastic PE is $\int_0^L \frac{1}{2} T y_x^2 dx$.

- Hence, energy of string $E(t) = \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} \rho y_t^2 + \frac{1}{2} T y_x^2 dx$.

Lemma (4.1): If y satisfies ①-②, then $E(t)$ is constant for $t > 0$.

$$\text{Pf: } \frac{dE}{dt} = \int_0^L \rho y_t y_{tt} + T y_x y_{xt} dx \quad (\text{by LIR})$$

$$= \int_0^L T y_t y_{xx} + T y_x y_{xt} dx \quad (\text{by ①})$$

$$= \int_0^L (T y_t y_x)_x dx$$

$$= [T y_t y_x]_{x=0}^{x=L}$$

$$= 0,$$

since ② $\Rightarrow y_t(0, t) = y_t(L, t) = 0$ for $t > 0$. $\square$

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Remarks

(1) Lemma e ③ $\Rightarrow E(t) = E(0) = \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} \rho (g(x))^2 + \frac{1}{2} T (f'(x))^2 dx$.

(2) Lemma $\Rightarrow$ Energy in n th normal mode [given by]

$$E_n(t) = E_n(0) = \int_0^L \frac{1}{2} \rho (y_{nt}(x,0))^2 + \frac{1}{2} T (y_{nx}(x,0))^2 dx = \frac{\rho T \pi^2}{4L} (a_n^2 + b_n^2).$$

(3) Can then use Parseval's Identity for g and f' to show that $E(0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n(0)$, i.e. total energy is sum of energy in each normal mode (which are constant throughout motion and set by ICs by remark (2)).

Theorem (4.2, Uniqueness): The IBVP has at most one solution.

Pf: Let $w(x,t) = y - \tilde{y}$, where $y, \tilde{y}$ are two solutions, then by linearity,

①' $w_t = c^2 w_{xx}$ for $0 < x < L, t > 0$;

②' $w(0,t) = 0, w(L,t) = 0$ for $t > 0$;

③' $w(0,t) = 0, w_t(0,t) = 0$ for $0 < x < L$.

Lemma (4.1) applied to $w \Rightarrow$

$$\int_0^L \frac{\rho}{2} (w_t)^2 + \frac{T}{2} (w_x)^2 dx = E(t) = E(0) = 0 \text{ for } t \geq 0$$

①' ②' ③'

$$\Rightarrow w_t = w_x = 0 \text{ for } 0 < x < L, t > 0 \text{ (assuming } w_t, w_x \text{ do there)}$$

$$\Rightarrow w = \text{constant for } 0 < x < L, t > 0$$

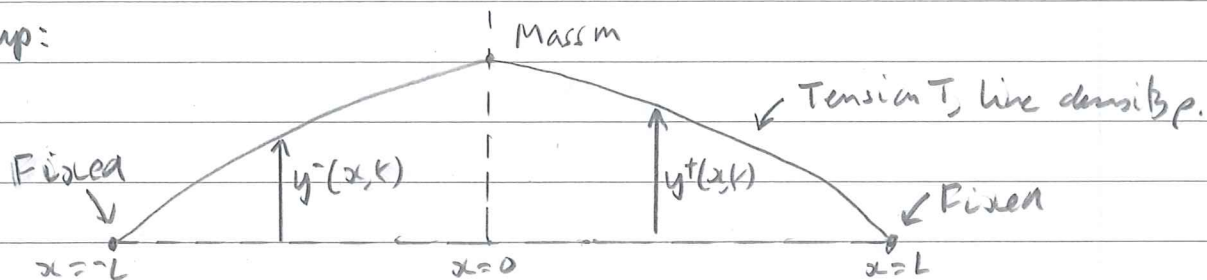
$$\Rightarrow w = 0 \text{ for } 0 \leq x \leq L, t \geq 0 \text{ (by ②' or ③', assuming } w \text{ is for } 0 \leq x \leq L, t \geq 0)$$

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Normal modes for a weighted string

• Setup:



• What are the normal modes?

• PDEs: (1⁻) $y^-_{tt} = c^2 y^-_{xx}$ for $-L < x < 0$
 (1⁺) $y^+_{tt} = c^2 y^+_{xx}$ for $0 < x < L$

• BCs: (2⁻) $y^-(-L, t) = 0$
 (2⁺) $y^+(L, t) = 0$

(3) $y^-(0, t) = y^+(0, t) = \gamma(t)$ say.

• $\gamma(t)$ TBD so need a second BC at $x=0$ via NII for the mass.

• Forces on mass (neglecting gravity and air resistance):

$$-T \left(\frac{\dot{\gamma} + y^-_{x,j}}{(1+(y^-_x)^2)^{3/2}} \right) \Big|_{x=0^-} \leftarrow \text{mass } m \rightarrow T \left(\frac{\dot{\gamma} + y^+_{x,j}}{(1+(y^+_x)^2)^{3/2}} \right) \Big|_{x=0^+}$$

• Small transverse displacement $\Rightarrow |y^{\pm}_x| \ll 1 \Rightarrow (1+(y^{\pm}_x)^2)^{3/2} = 1 + \text{h.o.t.} \Rightarrow$ to a first approximation mass remains on y -axis (because x -force components balance), while in y -direction

$$(4) \quad m \ddot{\gamma} = T(y^+_x|_{x=0^+} - y^-_x|_{x=0^-})$$

• Separate variables: $y^{\pm} = F_{\pm}(x)G(t)$

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$$(1^\pm) \Rightarrow \frac{F_\pm''(x)}{F_\pm(x)} = \frac{G''(t)}{C^2 G} = -\lambda \in \mathbb{R} \text{ say } (F_\pm G \neq 0)$$

$$(2^\pm) \text{ e } G \neq 0 \Rightarrow F_-(-L) = 0, F_+(L) = 0 \quad (a^\pm)$$

$$(3) \text{ e } G \neq 0 \Rightarrow F_-(0) = F_+(0) \quad (b)$$

$$(4) \text{ e } G \neq 0 \Rightarrow m F_\pm(0) G''(t) = T(F_+'(0_+) - F_-'(0_-)) G(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad -\frac{\lambda m}{C^2 = T/\rho} F_\pm(0) = F_+'(0_+) - F_-'(0_-) \quad (c)$$

• Can show $\lambda \leq 0 \Rightarrow F_\pm = 0$. Let $\lambda = \omega^2$, $\omega > 0$ wlog.

• Then $F_-'' + \omega^2 F_- = 0$ for $-L < x < 0$,
 $F_+'' + \omega^2 F_+ = 0$ for $0 < x < L$.

$$(a^\pm) \Rightarrow F_- = A \sin \omega(L+x), F_+ = B \sin \omega(L-x) \quad (A, B \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$(b) \text{ e } (c) \Rightarrow \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \sin(\omega L) & -\sin(\omega L) \\ \cos(\omega L) - \frac{m\omega}{\rho} \sin(\omega L) & \cos(\omega L) \end{bmatrix}}_M \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (d)$$

$$\bullet \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \det(M) = 0 \Rightarrow \sin(\omega L) \left(2\cos(\omega L) - \frac{m\omega}{\rho} \sin(\omega L) \right) = 0$$

$$\bullet \text{ Hence, either (i) } \sin(\omega L) = 0 \Rightarrow \omega = \frac{n\pi}{L}, n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$$

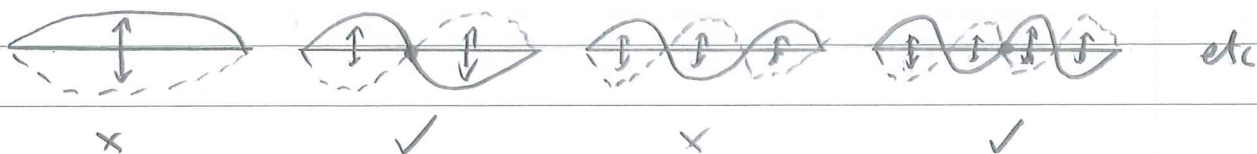
$$\text{or (ii) } \cot(\omega L) = \frac{m\omega}{2\rho} \Rightarrow \cot \theta = \frac{m\omega}{2\rho L}, \text{ where } \theta = \omega L$$

$$\bullet \text{ In each case, } G'' + \omega^2 C^2 G = 0 \Rightarrow G(t) = \begin{cases} \cos(\omega C t + \varepsilon) \\ \text{wlog} \end{cases} \quad (C, \varepsilon \in \mathbb{R})$$

$$\bullet \text{ In case (i), (d) } \Rightarrow A = -B \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y_- = A \sin \omega(L+x) \cos(\omega C t + \varepsilon) \\ y_+ = -A \sin \omega(L-x) \cos(\omega C t + \varepsilon) \end{cases}$$

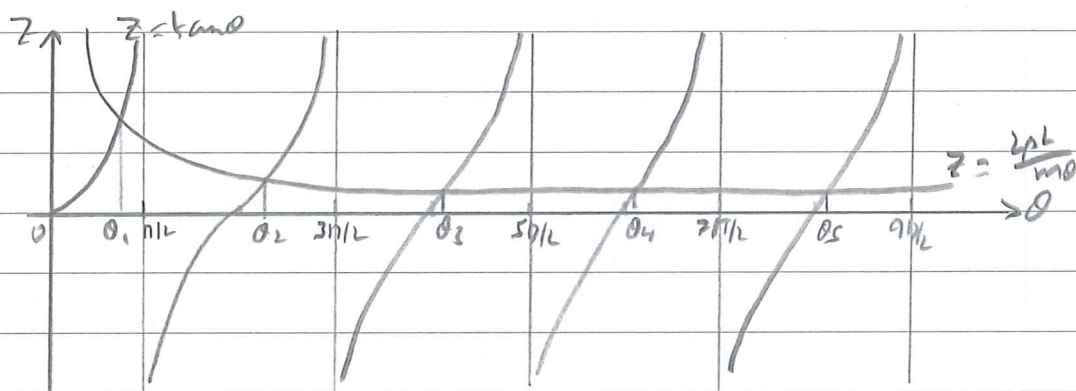
This means that the normal modes are the same as for a string of length $2L$ with a nod at $x=0$, i.e. mass stationary.

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- In case (ii) there are infinitely many roots $0 < \theta_1 < \theta_2 < \theta_3 < \dots$

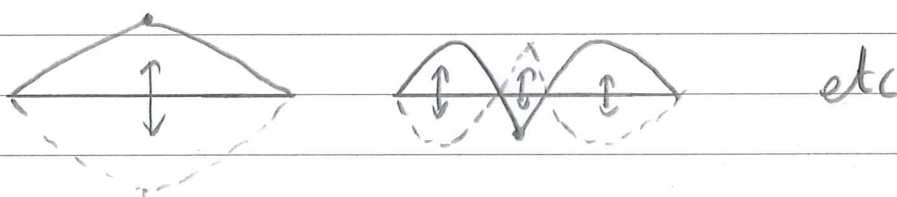
To see plot LHS & RHS of e.g. $\tan \theta = \frac{2\mu L}{m\theta}$



Hence, ∞ many normal modes $\omega_n = \frac{\theta_n}{L}$, $n \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}$.

- Now (1) $\Rightarrow A = B \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y_- = A \sin \omega(L+x) \cos(\omega t + \epsilon) \\ y_+ = A \sin \omega(L-x) \cos(\omega t + \epsilon) \end{cases}$

This means that the normal modes are symmetric about $x=0$:



- Try with slinky!

General solution of the wave equation

- Remarkable fact: can write down all solutions of $y_{tt} = c^2 y_{xx}$!
- Let $y(x, t) = \gamma(\xi, \eta)$, $\xi = x - ct$, $\eta = x + ct$ (as in Intro. Calculus)