

10.1 Sturm-Liouville Problem

in heat, wave, Laplace's we repeatedly encountered

$$\begin{aligned} X'' + \lambda X &= 0 & X(0) = X(L) &= 0 & \text{(ends at 0 temp)} \\ \text{or} & & X'(0) = X'(L) &= 0 & \text{(ends are insulated)} \end{aligned}$$

in the 1st set of BC's, we ended up with

eigenvalues $\lambda_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2}$

eigenfunctions $X_n = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

in the 2nd set, we got

eigenvalues $\lambda_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2}$

eigenfunctions $X_n = \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

both cases gave eigenvalues that are nonnegative and form
an increasing sequence $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \lambda_3 < \dots < \lambda_n < \dots$

and the eigenfunctions (one for eigenvalue) are mutually orthogonal

$$\int_0^L X_n X_m dx = 0 \quad \text{if } n \neq m$$

what if we change the BC's, for example

$$X(0) = X'(L) = 0 \quad (\text{left frozen, right insulated})$$

or $X(0) - X'(0) = 0$ (left temp = heat flux at left)

$$X(L) + X'(L) = 0$$

or instead of $u_t = K u_{xx}$ we use $u_t = K(x) u_{xx}$
 $\uparrow$ constant $\uparrow$ conductivity is function of position

will the eigenvalues still be nonnegative and form increasing sequence?

will the eigenfunctions remain mutually orthogonal?

Sturm-Liouville Problem (SL)

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[p(x) \frac{dy}{dx} \right] - q(x)y + \lambda r(x)y = 0 \quad a < x < b$$

BC's: $\alpha_1 y(a) - \alpha_2 y'(b) = 0$. not both α_1 and α_2 can be zero

$$\beta_1 y(b) + \beta_2 y'(b) = 0 \quad \dots \quad \beta_1 \dots \beta_2 \dots$$

if $p'(x)$, $p(x)$, $g(x)$, and $r(x)$ are continuous on $[a, b]$

and $p(x) > 0$, $r(x) > 0$ on $[a, b]$

→ the SL problem is said to be regular

(most practical heat / wave lowered)

if $q(x)$, α_1 , α_2 , β_1 , β_2 are all nonnegative, then

the eigenvalues (λ) are also nonnegative (and real)

und $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \lambda_3 < \dots < \lambda_n < \dots$

and the eigenfunctions y_n are mutually or got orthogonal
with respect to the weight function $r(x)$

$$\int_a^b y_i y_j r(x) dx = 0$$

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0 \quad 0 < x < L$$

$$y(0) = 0$$

$$y(L) = 0$$

$$p(x) = 1, \quad q(x) = 0, \quad r(x) = 1$$

$$\alpha_2 = 0, \quad \alpha_1 = 1, \quad \beta_1 = 1, \quad \beta_2 = 0$$

so, this is a regular SL problem

$$\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \dots < \lambda_n < \dots \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{agrees with heat eg.} \end{array} \right.$$

$$\int_0^L y_i y_j dx = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2}, \quad y_n = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0 \quad 0 < x < L$$

$$y(0) + y'(0) = 0$$

$$y(L) = 0$$

$$\alpha_1 = 1, \quad \alpha_2 = -1 \rightarrow \text{so, not regular}$$

↓

not guaranteed to
have nonnegative λ 's
only

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0 \quad 0 < x < L$$

$$y(0) = 0 \quad (\alpha_1 = 1, \alpha_2 = 0)$$

$$hy(L) - y'(L) = 0 \quad (h > 0) \quad (\beta_1 = h > 0, \beta_2 = -1 < 0)$$

↓

not regular

eigenvalue could be negative

let's find the smallest eigenvalue (and the associated eigenfunction)

$$y'' + \lambda y = 0$$

Since it is not a regular SL problem, we start with finding negative eigenvalues $\lambda < 0$

for convenience, let $\lambda = -K^2$ (K is a positive constant)

$$y'' - K^2 y = 0$$

solution: $y = c_1 e^{Kx} + c_2 e^{-Kx}$

or $y = d_1 \cosh(Kx) + d_2 \sinh(Kx) \leftarrow$ more convenient for BC's

$$y(0) = 0 \rightarrow 0 = d_1 \cosh(0) + d_2 \sinh(0) \\ = d_1$$

$$\text{so, } y = d_2 \sinh(kx), \quad y' = k \cdot d_2 \cosh(kx)$$

$$\text{now } hy(L) - y'(L) = 0$$

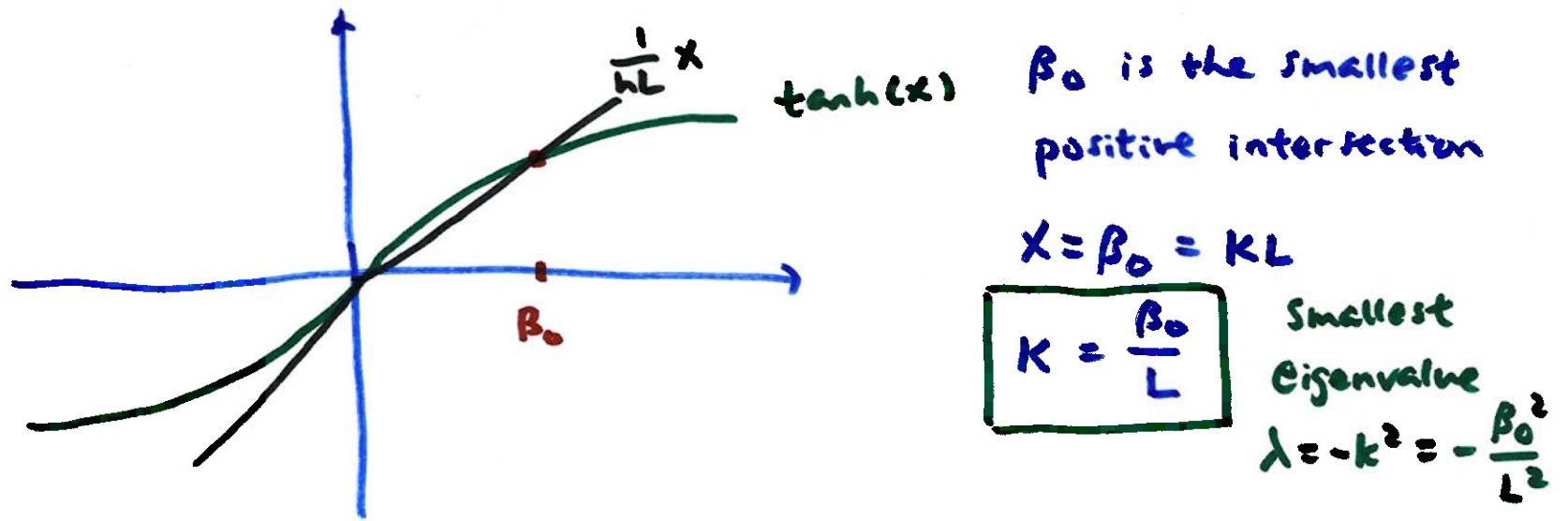
$$h d_2 \sinh(kL) - k d_2 \cosh(kL) = 0 \quad \text{find out more about } k \\ d_2 \neq 0 \quad \text{because } \lambda = -k^2$$

$$h \sinh(kL) = k \cosh(kL)$$

$$\tanh(kL) = \frac{k}{h} = \frac{kL}{hL}$$

$$\text{solve } \tanh(kL) = \frac{kL}{hL} \rightarrow \text{solve } \tanh(x) = \frac{x}{hL}$$

line w/ pos.
slope



$\beta_0 \approx hL = kL \rightarrow k \approx h$, so $\lambda \approx -h^2$ (smallest eigenvalue)

eigenfunction: $y = d_2 \sinh(Kx)$

associated w/ $\lambda = -h^2$

is $y = \sinh(hx)$

(next, $\lambda = 0$, $\lambda > 0$, collect all eigenfunctions, form solution)

will resemble a Fourier-like series