

(1) Use Eq. (1.11) to write down the general solution of

$$\phi_{xx} = \phi_{yy}.$$

Find the solution of this equation on  $-\infty < x < \infty$ ,  $y \geq 0$  in the following three cases:

$$(i) \quad \phi(x, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}(x, 0) = 4x;$$

$$(ii) \quad \phi(x, 0) = \cos kx, \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}(x, 0) = k \sin kx; \quad (k \text{ constant})$$

$$(iii) \quad \phi(x, 0) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}(x, 0) = k \sin kx; \quad (k \text{ constant}).$$

(2) The transverse displacement  $y(x, t)$  of a string satisfies

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2},$$

where  $c$  is a constant. Write down (no working required) the general solution of this equation.

Given that the string is everywhere at rest at  $t = 0$  and that

$$y(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 0, & (-\infty < x < -a); \\ (a^2 - x^2), & (-a \leq x \leq a); \\ 0, & (a < x < \infty), \end{cases}$$

find  $y(x, t)$  for all  $x$  and all  $t \geq 0$ .

Sketch the graphs of  $y$  against  $x$  when (i)  $ct = 0$ , (ii)  $ct = \frac{1}{2}a$ , (iii)  $ct = 2a$ .

(3) What conditions (if any) must the constants  $A$ ,  $c(> 0)$  and  $k$  satisfy for  $u = A \cos[k(x - ct)]$  to be a solution to each of the following two PDEs (Partial Differential Equations)?

$$(i) \quad u_t + au_x = 0, \quad (ii) \quad u_{tt} = au_{xx} - bu,$$

where  $a, b$  are positive constants.

(NB There are two separate problems here.)

For (ii) (the *Klein-Gordon equation*), sketch a graph of  $c$  against  $k$ .

(4) Consider a wave on an infinite string ( $-\infty < x < \infty$ ) of uniform line density  $\rho$ , uniform tension  $F$  and wave speed  $c$  (where  $c^2 = F/\rho$ ) of the form  $y = f(x - ct)$ . Assuming that  $f'(u) \rightarrow 0$  as  $|u| \rightarrow \infty$  sufficiently rapidly for the relevant integral(s) to converge, use Eqs. (1.7) and (1.8) to show that the kinetic energy  $T$  and the potential energy  $V$  are equal.

Verify that the same conclusion holds if  $y = g(x + ct)$  (provided, again, that  $g'(u) \rightarrow 0$  as  $|u| \rightarrow \infty$  sufficiently rapidly). What can you say when  $y = f(x - ct) + g(x + ct)$ ?

(5) The three dimensional wave equation for  $\phi(x, y, z, t)$  is

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial z^2},$$

where  $c$  is a constant. In a particular case  $\phi = \phi(r, t)$  where (as usual)  $r = \sqrt{(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}$ . Show successively that

$$\begin{aligned} (i) \quad \frac{\partial r}{\partial x} &= xr^{-1}, \\ (ii) \quad \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} &= xr^{-1} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r}, \\ (iii) \quad \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} &= \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} + \frac{x^2}{r^2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial r^2} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Deduce that  $\phi = \phi(r, t)$  satisfies the *spherical wave equation*

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r}.$$

Find the PDE satisfied by  $\psi = r\phi$ ; hence find the general solution of the spherical wave equation.

(6) The PDE

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} + \frac{1}{c^2 \tau} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t},$$

where  $\tau$  is a positive constant, models waves on a string when there is friction. Find all (non-trivial) solutions of the PDE of the form  $y(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$  given that  $y(0, t) = y(L, t) = 0$ . (Consider separately the cases (i)  $2\pi c\tau > L$ , (ii)  $2\pi c\tau < L$  and  $\exists$  no integer  $n$  with  $2n\pi c\tau = L$ , (iii)  $2\pi c\tau \leq L$  and  $\exists n$  with  $2n\pi c\tau = L$ ).