

HW1 Sturm-Liouville Problems

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1) Use a table of integrals to show that

$$(a) \quad \phi_n = \cos nx \quad \phi_m = \cos mx$$

$$(b) \quad \phi_n = \sin nx \quad \phi_m = \sin mx$$

$$(c) \quad \phi_n = \sin nx \quad \phi_m = \cos mx$$

are orthogonal on some interval $[l, l]$ with respect to $w(x)=1$. What is that l ? What conditions need to be satisfied for n ?

2) Consider $\phi'' + \frac{\gamma}{x} \phi' + \alpha \phi = 0$

α, γ are constants. Can this ODE be converted to a Sturm-Liouville problem? If so, show how.

3) Find the eigenfunctions & eigenvalues of the SL (Sturm-Liouville) problem

$$\begin{cases} y'' + \lambda^2 y = 0 & 0 < x < l \\ y'(0) = y(l) = 0 \end{cases}$$

4) Find the eigenvalues & eigenfunctions of the SL

$$\begin{cases} y'' + \lambda^2 y = 0 & 0 < x < 1 \\ y(0) + y'(0) = 0 & \& \quad y(1) = 0 \end{cases}$$

5) (Hermite Polynomials)

(a) Show that $y'' - 2xy' + 2ny = 0$ (*)

$$n=0,1,2,\dots$$

is a SL equation. Hint: multiply by $w=e^{-x^2}$

(b) Show that (*) has solutions

$$H_n(x) = (-1)^n e^{x^2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} e^{-x^2} \quad n=0,1,2,\dots$$

(Hermite Polynomials)

Use these facts: $\int \frac{d}{dx} [e^{-x^2} H_n] = -9 H_{n+1}$

$$\int \frac{d}{dx} H_n = 2n H_{n-1} \quad (\text{both easy to show})$$

(c) Compute H_0, H_1, H_2, H_3, H_4 . Why are they polynomials?

What other 3 properties do you notice for these polynomials?

(d) Prove that H_0 and H_1 are orthogonal. Show that H_1 & H_2 are orthogonal.(e) If $f(x)$ is integrable on $(-\infty, \infty)$, write the formula that finds C_m is

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} C_m H_m(x)$$