

**Homework on Partial Differential Equations
(No Need to Hand In)**

Problem 1 (#2 on Page 256 of Strauss). Determine the vibrations

$$u_{tt} = c^2 (u_{xx} + u_{yy})$$

of a circular drumhead of radius a (held fixed on the boundary) with the initial conditions

$$u = 1 - \frac{r^2}{a^2} \quad \text{when } t = 0$$

and $u_t \equiv 0$ when $t = 0$. (The answer is given on Page 410 of Strauss.)

Problem 2 (#4 on Page 263 of Strauss). Solve the wave equation

$$u_{tt} - c^2 \Delta u = 0$$

on the ball $\{r < a\}$ of radius a in \mathbb{R}^3 with the conditions

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} = 0 \quad \text{on } \{r = a\},$$

$$u = z = r \cos \theta \quad \text{when } t = 0,$$

$$u_t \equiv 0 \quad \text{when } t = 0,$$

where θ is the colatitude and φ is the longitude in the spherical coordinates (r, θ, φ) of \mathbb{R}^3 so that $x = r \sin \theta \cos \varphi$, $y = r \sin \theta \sin \varphi$, and $z = r \cos \theta$. (The answer is given on Page 410 of Strauss.)

Problem 3 (#18 on Page 274 of Strauss). Find an equation for the eigenvalues λ and find the eigenfunctions v of the negative Laplacian $-\Delta$ in the disk $\{x^2 + y^2 < a^2\}$ for eigenvalues λ (in the sense that $-\Delta v = \lambda v$) with the boundary condition

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial r} + hv = 0$$

on the circle $\{x^2 + y^2 = a^2\}$, where h is a constant. (The answer is given on Page 411 of Strauss.)

Problem 4 (#1 and #4 on Page 278 of Strauss). Consider the ℓ -th Legendre polynomial

$$P_\ell(z) = \frac{1}{2^\ell} \sum_{j=0}^m \frac{(-1)^j}{j!} \frac{(2\ell - 2j)!}{(\ell - 2j)!(\ell - j)!} z^{\ell-2j},$$

where $m = \frac{\ell}{2}$ if ℓ is even, and $m = \frac{\ell-1}{2}$ if ℓ is odd.

(a) Prove the following recurrent relation for Legendre polynomials

$$(\ell + 1)P_{\ell+1}(z) - (2\ell + 1)zP_\ell(z) + \ell P_{\ell-1}(z) = 0.$$

(b) Show that

$$\int_{x=-1}^1 x^2 P_\ell(x) dx = 0$$

for $\ell \geq 3$.

Problem 5 (#5 on Page 278 of Strauss). Let $f(x) = x$ for $0 \leq x < 1$, and $f(x) = 0$ for $-1 < x \leq 0$. Find the coefficients a_ℓ in the expansion $f(x) = \sum_{\ell=0}^{\infty} a_\ell P_\ell(x)$ of $f(x)$ in the interval $(-1, 1)$ in terms of Legendre polynomials

$$P_\ell(z) = \frac{1}{2^\ell} \sum_{j=0}^m \frac{(-1)^j}{j!} \frac{(2\ell - 2j)!}{(\ell - 2j)!(\ell - j)!} z^{\ell-2j},$$

where $m = \frac{\ell}{2}$ if ℓ is even, and $m = \frac{\ell-1}{2}$ if ℓ is odd. (The answer is given on Page 411 of Strauss.)

Problem 6 (#7 on Page 278 of Strauss). Find the harmonic function in the ball $\{x^2 + y^2 + z^2 < a^2\}$ with the boundary condition $u = A$ on the top hemisphere $\{x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = a^2, z > 0\}$ and with $u = B$ on the bottom hemisphere $\{x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = a^2, z < 0\}$, where A and B are constants. (The answer is given on Page 411 of Strauss.)