




TOPIC 3: SOLUTIONS OF ONE DIMENSIONAL WAVE EQUATION

A tightly stretched string with fixed end points  $x=0$  &  $x=l$  is initially displaced in the position  $y = y_0 \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{l}\right)$  and then released from rest. Find the displacement  $y$  at any distance  $x$  from one end at time  $t$ .

Sol:



The displacement  $y(x,t)$  is from  $a^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2}$

The Conditions are

- (i)  $y(0,t) = 0$
- (ii)  $y(l,t) = 0$
- (iii)  $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}\right)_{t=0} = 0$
- (iv)  $y(x,0) = y_0 \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{l}\right)$

$\sin^3 \theta = \frac{1}{4} [3 \sin \theta - \sin 3\theta]$

$y(x,0) = y_0 \sin^3\left(\frac{\pi x}{l}\right) = \frac{y_0}{4} [3 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{l}\right) - \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{l}\right)]$

The suitable sol. is

$$y(x,t) = (C_1 \cos px + C_2 \sin px) (C_3 \cos pat + C_4 \sin pat)$$

Apply (i)  $y(0,t) = 0$

$$C_1 (C_3 \cos pat + C_4 \sin pat) = 0$$

$\therefore C_1 = 0$

Apply (ii) in (i)  $x=l$

$$y(l,t) = C_2 \sin pl (C_3 \cos pat + C_4 \sin pat)$$

$$C_2 \sin pl = 0$$

$$\sin pl = 0 \Rightarrow pl = n\pi \Rightarrow p = \frac{n\pi}{l}$$

① becomes

$$y(x,t) = \frac{y_0}{4} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} \left( C_3 \cos \frac{n\pi a t}{l} + C_4 \sin \frac{n\pi a t}{l} \right)$$

②



The most general soln is, with arbitrary constant  $C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4$

$$y(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi at}{l}\right)$$

now apply cond. (iii) we get

$$\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}\right)_{(x,0)} = C_2 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) C_4 \frac{n\pi a}{l} = 0$$

$$C_4 = 0$$

The most general soln.

$$y(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi at}{l}\right)$$

Apply (iv)  $y(x,0) = \frac{3y_0}{4}$

$$\frac{3y_0}{4} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{l}\right) - \frac{y_0}{4} \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{l}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$$

$$\left[\frac{3y_0}{4}\right] = C_1 \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{l}\right) + C_2 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{l}\right) + C_3 \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{l}\right) + \dots$$

On Comparing

$$\frac{3y_0}{4} = C_1 \quad C_2 = 0 \quad C_3 = -\frac{y_0}{4}$$

$$C_4 = C_5 = \dots = 0$$

$$y(x,t) = \frac{3y_0}{4} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{l}\right) \cos\left(\frac{\pi at}{l}\right) - \frac{y_0}{4} \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{l}\right) \cos\left(\frac{3\pi at}{l}\right)$$



A tightly stretched string of length  $l$  has its ends fastened at  $x=0$  and  $x=l$ . The end points on the string to maintain the string in equilibrium released from rest in that position. Obtain an expression for the displacement of the string at any subsequent time.

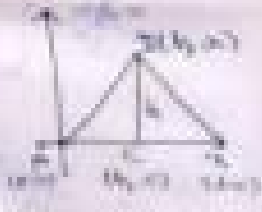
Sol: The eqn for the string is  $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$

From the given problem, we get the following boundary and initial conditions

(i)  $y(0,t) = 0$  (ii)  $y(l,t) = 0$  (iii)  $y(x,0) = 0$

Eqn. of AB is

$$\frac{y-0}{x-0} = \frac{y-l}{x-l} = \frac{0-0}{l-0} = \frac{y-0}{l-0}$$

$$y = \frac{x}{l} y = \frac{x}{l} y = \frac{x}{l} y$$


Eqn. of BC is

$$\frac{y-h}{x-l/2} = \frac{y-0}{x-l} = \frac{y-h}{x-l/2} = \frac{y-0}{x-l}$$

$$y-h = -\frac{2h}{l} (x-l/2) \Rightarrow y = h - \frac{2h}{l} (x-l/2) = \frac{2h}{l} (l-x)$$

(iv)  $y(x,0) = \begin{cases} \frac{2hx}{l} & 0 \leq x \leq l/2 \\ \frac{2h}{l} (l-x) & l/2 \leq x \leq l \end{cases}$



(b)  $y(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} \cos \frac{n\pi ct}{l}$

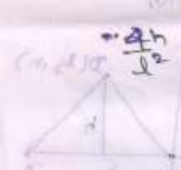
Applying Cond. (ii) in (b)

$$y(x,0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} = \begin{cases} \frac{2hx}{l} & 0 < x < \frac{l}{2} \\ \frac{2h(l-x)}{l} & \frac{l}{2} < x < l \end{cases}$$

To find  $C_n$  :- Expand the value in a half-range sine series

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{2hx}{l}, & 0 < x < \frac{l}{2} \\ \frac{2h}{l}(l-x), & \frac{l}{2} < x < l \end{aligned} \right\} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx$$

$$C_n = \frac{2}{l} \left[ \int_0^{\frac{l}{2}} \frac{2hx}{l} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx + \int_{\frac{l}{2}}^l \frac{2h(l-x)}{l} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx \right]$$


$$= \frac{4h}{l^2} \left[ \int_0^{\frac{l}{2}} x \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx + \int_{\frac{l}{2}}^l (l-x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{4h}{l^2} \left[ -x \frac{l}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} + \left( \frac{l}{n\pi} \right)^2 \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right]_0^{\frac{l}{2}}$$

$$+ \frac{4h}{l^2} \left[ -(l-x) \frac{l}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} - \left( \frac{l}{n\pi} \right)^2 \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right]_{\frac{l}{2}}^l$$

$$= \frac{4h}{l^2} \left[ \left( -\frac{l^2}{2n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \left( \frac{l}{n\pi} \right)^2 \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \right) - (0+0) \right]$$

$$+ \frac{4h}{l^2} \left[ (-0-0) - \left( -\frac{l^2}{2n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \left( \frac{l}{n\pi} \right)^2 \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \right) \right]$$

$$= \frac{4h}{l^2} \left[ \frac{l^2}{2n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \left( \frac{l}{n\pi} \right)^2 \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{l^2}{2n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \left( \frac{l}{n\pi} \right)^2 \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \right]$$



$$C_n = \frac{b}{l^2} \left[ \int_0^l a \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2l} dx + \int_l^{2l} (2l-x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2l} dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{b}{l^2} \left[ -a \left( \frac{2l}{n\pi} \right) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2l} + \left( \frac{2l}{n\pi} \right)^2 \sin \left( \frac{n\pi x}{2l} \right) \right]_0^l$$

$$+ \frac{b}{l^2} \left[ -(2l-x) \left( \frac{2l}{n\pi} \right) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2l} - \left( \frac{2l}{n\pi} \right)^2 \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2l} \right]_l^{2l}$$

$$= \frac{b}{l^2} \left[ -\frac{2l^2}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{4l^2}{n^2\pi^2} \sin \left( \frac{n\pi}{2} \right) + \frac{2l^2}{n\pi} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{4l^2}{n^2\pi^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{b}{l^2} \left( \frac{8l^2}{n^2\pi^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \right)$$

$$C_n = \frac{8b}{n^2\pi^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2}$$

= 0 if n is even

=  $\frac{8b}{n^2\pi^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2}$  if n is odd

$$y(x,t) = \sum_{n \text{ odd}} \frac{8b}{n^2\pi^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2l} \cos \frac{n\pi t}{2l}$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{8b}{(2n-1)^2\pi^2} \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi}{2} \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2l} \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi t}{2l}$$

$$= \frac{8b}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^2} (-1)^{n-1} \frac{\sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2l} \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi t}{2l}}{1}$$