

Spring 2006

## Solutions to Homework 6

$$(18.) \quad u(x) = \lambda \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy \ e^{-ixy} u(y), \quad -\infty < x < +\infty.$$

(a) We write this equation symbolically as

$$u(x) = \lambda \mathcal{F}u(x) \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{F}u \equiv \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dy \ e^{-ixy} u(y)$$

integral operator

It follows that

$$\mathcal{F}^2 u(x) = \mathcal{F} \cdot \mathcal{F}u(x) = 2\pi \cdot u(-x)$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}^4 u(x) &= \mathcal{F}^2 \mathcal{F}^2 u(x) = (2\pi)^2 u(x) \\ \frac{1}{\lambda} u(x) &= \mathcal{F}u(x) \Rightarrow \mathcal{F}^4 u(x) = \frac{1}{\lambda^4} u(x) \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda^4} u(x) = (2\pi)^2 \cdot u(x) \\ u(x) \neq 0 \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^4 = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{\pm 1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{\pm i}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

$$(b) \quad \text{Consider } u_n(x) = e^{-x^2/2} H_n(x), \quad H_n(x) = (-1)^n e^{x^2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} e^{-x^2}$$

The FT of  $u_n(x)$  is

$$\tilde{u}_n(k) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \ e^{-ikx} e^{-x^2/2} H_n(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \ e^{-ikx} e^{-x^2/2} (-1)^n e^{x^2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} e^{-x^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{u}_n(k) = (-1)^n \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx e^{-ikx} e^{x^2/2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} e^{-x^2}.$$

We move the differential operators to the right as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} e^{x^2/2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} e^{-x^2} &= e^{x^2/2} \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (e^{-x^2/2} e^{-x^2}) = e^{x^2/2} \frac{d^{n-1}}{dx^{n-1}} \frac{d}{dx} (e^{-x^2/2} e^{-x^2/2}) \\ &= e^{x^2/2} \frac{d^{n-1}}{dx^{n-1}} e^{-x^2/2} \left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right) e^{-x^2/2} = e^{x^2/2} \frac{d^{n-2}}{dx^{n-2}} \frac{d}{dx} e^{-x^2/2} \left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right) e^{-x^2/2} \\ &= e^{x^2/2} \frac{d^{n-2}}{dx^{n-2}} e^{-x^2/2} \left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right) \left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right) e^{-x^2/2} \\ &= \dots = e^{x^2/2} e^{-x^2/2} \underbrace{\left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right) \left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right) \dots \left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right)}_{n \text{ factors}} e^{-x^2/2} \\ &= \left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right)^n e^{-x^2/2}, \end{aligned}$$

by repeated use of the identity  $\frac{d}{dx} e^{g(x)} f(x) = e^{g(x)} \left[ \frac{d}{dx} + g'(x) \right] f(x)$ .

It follows that

$$\tilde{u}_n(k) = (-1)^n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{-ikx} \left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right)^n e^{-x^2/2}.$$

Integration by parts gives

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx f(x) \left( \frac{d}{dx} - x \right) g(x) &= \left. f(x) g(x) \right|_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} \\ + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx g(x) \left( - \frac{d}{dx} - x \right) f(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx g(x) \left( - \frac{d}{dx} - x \right) f(x), \end{aligned}$$

assuming that  $\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} [f(x)g(x)] = 0$ .

Hence, we get

$$\tilde{u}_n(k) = (-1)^n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{-x^2/2} \left(-\frac{d}{dx} - x\right) \left(-\frac{d}{dx} - x\right) \dots \left(\frac{d}{dx} - x\right) e^{-ikx},$$

$$\text{where } \left(-\frac{d}{dx} - x\right) e^{-ikx} = (ik - i \frac{d}{dk}) e^{-ikx} = i \left(k - \frac{d}{dk}\right) e^{-ikx}.$$

We thus obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{u}_n(k) &= (-1)^n i^n \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx e^{-x^2/2} \left(k - \frac{d}{dk}\right) \left(k - \frac{d}{dk}\right) \dots \left(k - \frac{d}{dk}\right) e^{-ikx} \\ &= (-i)^n \left(k - \frac{d}{dk}\right) \dots \left(k - \frac{d}{dk}\right) \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx e^{-x^2/2} e^{-ikx}}_{\sqrt{2\pi} e^{-k^2/2}} \\ &= i^n \left(\frac{d}{dk} - k\right) \dots \left(\frac{d}{dk} - k\right) \sqrt{2\pi} e^{-k^2/2} = i^n \sqrt{2\pi} e^{k^2/2} \frac{d^n}{dk^n} e^{-k^2} \\ &= (-i)^n \sqrt{2\pi} (-i)^n e^{k^2/2} \frac{d^n}{dk^n} e^{-k^2} = \sqrt{2\pi} (-i)^n u_n(k) \\ \Rightarrow \tilde{u}_n(k) &= \sqrt{2\pi} (-i)^n u_n(k). \end{aligned}$$

The given equation for  $u(x) = u_n(x)$  gives

$$u_n(x) = \lambda \tilde{u}_n(x) = \lambda \sqrt{2\pi} (-i)^n u_n(x) \Rightarrow \lambda_n = \frac{i^n}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

$$\text{For } n=0,1,2,3, \quad \lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{i}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2\pi}}.$$

(Clearly, the eigenvalues are infinitely degenerate.)

The  $u_n(x) = e^{-x^2/2} H_n(x)$  are solutions of the eigenvalue problem of the quantum harmonic oscillator:

$$\left( -\frac{d^2}{dx^2} + x^2 \right) u_n(x) = E_n u_n(x), \quad u_n(|x| \rightarrow +\infty) = 0.$$

Notice that the F.T. of both sides of this equation gives the same o.d.e.:

$$\left( k^2 - \frac{d^2}{dk^2} \right) \tilde{u}_n(k) = E_n \tilde{u}_n(k), \quad \tilde{u}_n(|k| \rightarrow +\infty) = 0,$$

i.e., one expects that  $\tilde{u}_n(x)$  and  $u_n(x)$  are linearly dependent.

(\*) Suppose that  $u(x)$  is a solution of the given integral equation.

There are four possibilities:

(i)  $u(x)$  corresponds to eigenvalue  $\lambda_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ , and hence is a linear combination of  $u_n(x)$  with  $n=0, 4, 8, \dots = 4m$  ( $m=0, 1, \dots$ ), with arbitrary coefficients.

$$u(x) = \sum_{\substack{n=0 \\ n=0,4,\dots \\ n=4m}}^{\infty} c_n u_n(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} c_n [1 + (-i)^n] u_n(x), \text{ by extending } n \text{ to all even non-negative integers and taking arbitrary (admissible) coefficients } c_2, c_6, \dots, c_{2m}, \dots.$$

[Since  $u(x)$  has to be square integrable, we need  $\sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |c_{4m}|^2 < \infty$ ;

$$\text{similarly } \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} |c_{2m}|^2 < \infty. ]$$

We thus get

$$u(x) = \sum_{\substack{n=0 \\ n=2m}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} c_n u_n(x) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_n}{2} (-i)^n u_n(x)$$

$$= \sum_{n:\text{even}} \frac{c_n}{2} u_n(x) + \sum_{n:\text{even}} \frac{c_n}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} \tilde{u}_n(x)$$

$$\rightarrow u(x) = \sum_{n:\text{even}} \frac{c_n}{2} u_n(x) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \text{FT} \left\{ \sum_{n:\text{even}} \frac{c_n}{2} u_n(x) \right\}$$

$$= f(x) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \tilde{f}(x),$$

where  $f(x)$ : arbitrary even sq. integrable function  
(hence,  $\tilde{f}(x)$  is also even and  $u(x)$  is even)

$$\text{Thus, } u(x) = f(x) + G \tilde{f}(x), \quad G = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \quad \lambda = \lambda_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}.$$

$$(ii) \quad \lambda = \lambda_1 = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \quad n = 1, 5, 9, \dots = 4m+1, \quad m = 0, 1, \dots$$

$$u(x) = \sum_{\substack{n=0 \\ n=4m+1}}^{\infty} c_n u_n(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_n}{2} [1 + i(-i)^n] u_n(x) = \sum_{n:\text{odd}} \frac{c_n}{2} u_n(x) + i \sum_{n:\text{odd}} \frac{c_n}{2} (-i)^n u_n(x)$$

$$= \sum_{n:\text{odd}} \frac{c_n}{2} u_n(x) + \frac{i}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sum_{n:\text{odd}} \frac{c_n}{2} \tilde{u}_n(x) = f(x) + \frac{i}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \tilde{f}(x),$$

where  $f(x)$  is any arbitrary odd square integrable function.

$$(iii) \quad \lambda = \lambda_2 = \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \quad n = 2, 6, 10, \dots = 4m+2, \quad m = 0, 1, \dots$$

$$u(x) = \sum_{\substack{n=0 \\ n=4m+2}}^{\infty} c_n u_n(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{c_n}{2} [1 - (-i)^n] u_n(x) = \sum_{n:\text{even}} \frac{c_n}{2} u_n(x) - \sum_{n:\text{even}} \frac{c_n}{2} (-i)^n u_n(x)$$

$$= f(x) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \tilde{f}(x), \quad f(x): \text{even sq. integrable function}$$

$$(iv) \quad \lambda = \lambda_3 = \frac{-i}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \quad n = 3, 7, 11, \dots = 4m+3, \quad m=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$u(x) = \sum_{\substack{n=0 \\ n=4m+3}}^{\infty} c_n u_n(x) = \sum_{n=0 \text{ odd}}^{\infty} \frac{c_n}{2} [1 - i(-i)^n] u_n(x) = f(x) - \frac{i}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \tilde{f}(x),$$

$f(x)$ : odd sq. integrable function.

In summary,  $u(x) = f(x) + C \cdot \tilde{f}(x)$  where  $C = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, & \text{for } \lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, & \lambda = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \\ \frac{\pm i}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, & \lambda = \frac{\pm i}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \end{cases}$

(d) Let  $f(x) = e^{-ax^2/2}$  ( $f$ : even).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{The F.T. of } f(x) \text{ is } \tilde{f}(k) &= \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx \cdot e^{-ikx} e^{-ax^2/2} \stackrel{f(ax)=y}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dy \cdot e^{-i\frac{k}{\sqrt{a}}y} e^{-y^2/2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \cdot \sqrt{2\pi} \cdot e^{-\left(\frac{k}{\sqrt{a}}\right)^2 \frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{a}} \cdot e^{-k^2/2a} \end{aligned}$$

The desired solution  $u(x)$  is

$$\begin{aligned} u(x) = f(x) \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \tilde{f}(x) &= e^{-ax^2/2} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{a}} e^{-x^2/2a} \\ &= e^{-ax^2/2} \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} e^{-x^2/2a} \end{aligned}$$

which satisfies the given equation with eigenvalue  $\lambda = \frac{\pm 1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$  ( $n=0, 2$ ).

Note that for  $a=1$ , one of the two solutions becomes  $\equiv 0$ , while the other one gives the Gaussian as solution, with (sole) eigenvalue  $\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}$ .

In the following problem (Prob. 19) the kernel has a discontinuity across the line  $y=x$ . For such kernels the eigenfunctions  $u_n(x)$  are continuous, i.e., such discontinuities in the kernel do not affect similarly the analytic properties of their eigenfunctions.

In contrast, if the kernel had a discontinuities at fixed lines, say  $x=x_0$  or  $y=y_0$ , then the corresponding eigenfunctions would be discontinuous at fixed points (see example that I gave in class:  $K(x,y)=1$ ,  $0 \leq x,y \leq \frac{1}{2}$  and  $K(x,y)=2$  otherwise, where  $0 \leq x,y \leq 1$  in the entire region of definition.)

$$(19) \quad u(x) = f(x) + \lambda \int_0^1 dy K(x,y) u(y), \text{ where } K(x,y) = \begin{cases} 3, & 0 \leq y < x \leq 1, \\ 2, & 0 \leq x < y \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

(a) Homogeneous equation:

$$u(x) = \lambda \int_0^x dy 3 u(y) + \lambda \int_x^1 dy 2 u(y) = 2\lambda \int_0^1 dy u(y) + \lambda \int_0^x dy u(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow u'(x) = \lambda u(x) \Rightarrow u(x) = C e^{\lambda x}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad C \neq 0.$$

$$\text{From the original equation we get} \quad \begin{cases} u(0) = 2\lambda \int_0^1 dy u(y) \\ u(1) = 3\lambda \int_0^1 dy u(y) \end{cases} \Rightarrow u(1) = \frac{3}{2} u(0).$$

$$\text{Hence, } C e^{\lambda} = \frac{3}{2} C \Rightarrow e^{\lambda} = \frac{3}{2} = e^{\ln(\frac{3}{2}) + i2n\pi}, \quad n: \text{integer}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = \lambda_n = \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + i2n\pi, \quad n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

The corresponding eigenfunctions are  $u_n(x) = C_n e^{\lambda_n x}$ . Take  $C_n$ : real.

$$\text{Finally: } u_n(x) = C_n e^{[\ln(\frac{3}{2}) + i2n\pi]x}, \quad n: \text{integer.}$$

(b) Clearly,  $K(x,y) \neq K(y,x)$ :  $K$  is not symmetric.

$$K^T(x,y) = K(y,x) = \begin{cases} 3, & 0 \leq x < y \leq 1 \\ 2, & 0 \leq y < x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

Homogeneous equation for  $K^T$ :  $v(x) = \lambda \int_0^1 dy K^T(x,y) v(y)$

$$\Rightarrow v(x) = 2\lambda \int_0^x dy v(y) + 3\lambda \int_x^1 dy v(y) = 2\lambda \int_0^1 dy v(y) + \lambda \int_x^1 dy v(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow v'(x) = -\lambda v(x) \Rightarrow v(x) = F e^{-\lambda x}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad F: \text{const.} \neq 0. \quad \text{Take } F: \text{real.}$$

$$\text{From original equation, } \left. \begin{array}{l} v(0) = 3\lambda \int_0^1 dy v(y) \\ v(1) = 2\lambda \int_0^1 dy v(y) \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow v(1) = \frac{2}{3} v(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow F e^{-\lambda} = \frac{2}{3} F \Rightarrow \lambda = \lambda_n = \ln\left(\frac{3}{2}\right) + i2n\pi, \quad n: \text{integer} \quad (\text{same as for } K).$$

$$\text{Eigenfunctions: } v_m(x) = F_m e^{-[\ln(3/2) + i2m\pi]x}, \quad m: \text{integer.}$$

$$(c) \int_0^1 dx u_n(x) v_m(x) = C_n F_m \int_0^1 dx e^{i2(n-m)\pi x} = 0, \quad n \neq m.$$

$$(d) K(x,y) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{u_n(x) v_n(y)}{\lambda_n} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{e^{i2n(x-y)\pi + \ln(\frac{3}{2})(x-y)}}{\ln(\frac{3}{2}) + i2n\pi}$$

$$\text{by taking } C_n = 1 = F_n \text{ so that } \int_0^1 dx u_n(x) v_m(x) = \delta_{nm}.$$

$$\text{In conclusion, } K(x,y) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\exp\{[\ln(\frac{3}{2}) + i2n\pi](x-y)\}}{\ln(\frac{3}{2}) + i2n\pi}$$

(20) In order to make more clear the connection to integral equations, allow me to take  $E \equiv \lambda$ .  
 Suppose that  $\lambda = \lambda_n$  is any eigenvalue of  $Au = \lambda u$ , with  $u = u_n$  eigenfunction.

$$\begin{aligned}
 Au(x) = \lambda u(x) &\Rightarrow \int_0^1 dx u^*(x) Au(x) = \lambda \int_0^1 dx \cdot |u(x)|^2 \\
 &\Rightarrow \int_0^1 dx u^*(x) \left\{ -\frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + \int_0^1 dy xy u(y) \right\} = \lambda \int_0^1 dx \cdot |u(x)|^2 \\
 &\Rightarrow \int_0^1 dx u^*(x) \left( -\frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} \right) + \int_0^1 dx \int_0^1 dy u^*(x) u(y) \cdot xy = \lambda \int_0^1 dx \cdot |u(x)|^2 \\
 &\Rightarrow \underbrace{-u^*(x) \frac{du}{dx}}_0^1 + \int_0^1 dx \cdot \left| \frac{du}{dx} \right|^2 + \left| \int_0^1 dx u(x) \cdot x \right|^2 = \lambda \int_0^1 dx \cdot |u(x)|^2 \\
 &= 0, \text{ because } u^*(0) = 0 = u'(1) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \lambda = \left[ \int_0^1 dx |u(x)|^2 \right]^{-1} \left\{ \int_0^1 dx \left| \frac{du}{dx} \right|^2 + \left| \int_0^1 dx x u(x) \right|^2 \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

It is inferred that  $\lambda = \lambda_n > 0$ .

Suppose  $\lambda_n, \lambda_m$  are two different eigenvalues ( $n \neq m$ ), with eigenfunctions  $u_n(x)$  and  $u_m(x)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 Au_n(x) = \lambda_n u_n(x) &\Rightarrow u_m^*(x) Au_n(x) = \lambda_n u_m^*(x) u_n(x) \\
 Au_m(x) = \lambda_m u_m(x) &\Rightarrow Au_m^*(x) = \lambda_m u_m^*(x) \Rightarrow u_n(x) Au_m^*(x) = \lambda_m u_m^*(x) u_n(x) \\
 &\Rightarrow u_m^*(x) Au_n(x) - u_n(x) Au_m^*(x) = (\lambda_n - \lambda_m) u_m^*(x) u_n(x) \\
 &\Rightarrow \int_0^1 dx [u_m^*(x) Au_n(x) - u_n(x) Au_m^*(x)] = (\lambda_n - \lambda_m) \int_0^1 dx u_m^*(x) u_n(x) \\
 &\text{where } \int_0^1 dx u_m^*(x) Au_n(x) = \int_0^1 dx u_m^*(x) \left[ -\frac{d^2 u_n}{dx^2} + \int_0^1 dy xy u_n(y) \right] \\
 &= \int_0^1 dx \frac{du_m^*}{dx} \frac{du_n}{dx} + \int_0^1 dx x u_m^*(x) \cdot \int_0^1 dy y u_n(y).
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_0^1 dx \left[ u_m^*(x) Au_n(x) - u_n(x) A u_m^*(x) \right] \\ = & \int_0^1 dx \frac{du_m^*}{dx} \frac{du_n}{dx} + \int_0^1 dx x u_m^*(x) \cdot \int_0^1 dy y u_n(y) \\ - & \int_0^1 dx \frac{du_n}{dx} \frac{du_m^*}{dx} - \int_0^1 dx x u_n(x) \cdot \int_0^1 dy y u_m^*(y) = 0. \\ \Rightarrow & (\lambda_n - \lambda_m) \int_0^1 u_m^*(x) u_n(x) dx = 0 \quad \xrightarrow{\lambda_n \neq \lambda_m} \int_0^1 u_m^*(x) u_n(x) dx = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $A$  is real ( $A^* = A$ ),

$$\begin{array}{l} Au = \lambda u \\ \text{and } Au^* = \lambda u^* \end{array} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A(u+u^*) = \lambda(u+u^*) \\ A(u-u^*) = \lambda(u-u^*) \end{cases},$$

i.e., if  $u(x)$  is an eigenfunction, so is  $u(x) \pm u^*(x)$ , with the same eigenvalue. Because  $u(x) + u^*(x)$  is real and  $-i[u(x) - u^*(x)]$  is real, we can always take the eigenfunctions to be real without any loss of generality.

(b) This is a tricky question (my original solution was wrong, since I kept finding a non-symmetric kernel that depends on  $E$ !). I will use the Green's function method to find a  $\lambda$ -independent, symmetric kernel.

Define  $G(x, x')$  so that  $\begin{cases} -G_{xx}(x, x') = \delta(x-x'), & 0 < x, x' < 1, \\ G(0, x') = 0 = G_x(1, x') \end{cases}$

It follows that  $G(x, x') = \begin{cases} A_1 x + B_1, & 0 < x < x' < 1 \\ A_2 x + B_2, & 0 < x' < x < 1 \end{cases}$ .

$$G(0, x') = 0 \Rightarrow B_1 = 0$$

$$G_x(1, x') = 0 \Rightarrow A_2 = 0.$$

Two further conditions on  $G(x, x')$  are:  $\begin{cases} G(x=x'+, x') = G(x=x'-, x') \\ G_x(x=x', x') = G_x(x=x'+, x') = 1 \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} B_2 = A_1 x' \\ A_1 = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} A_1 = 1 \\ B_2 = x' \end{cases}; \quad G(x, x') = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < x' < 1 \\ x', & 0 < x' < x < 1, \end{cases} = \min\{x, x'\}$$

The equation for  $u(x)$  is cast in the following form

"inhomogeneous term"

$$\begin{cases} -u''(x) = \overbrace{g(x)}^{\text{"inhomogeneous term"}}, \\ u(0) = 0 = u'(1) \end{cases}, \quad \text{where } \underbrace{g(x) = \lambda u(x)}, \quad b = \int_0^1 dy y u(y) = \text{const.}$$

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By the Green's function method, it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} u(x) &= \int_0^1 dx' G(x, x') - [g(x') - bx'] \\ &= \int_0^1 dx' G(x, x') g(x') - b \int_0^1 dx' x' G(x, x') \end{aligned}$$

We use this equation to determine  $b$  in terms of integrals of  $G$ :

$$\begin{aligned} b &= \int_0^1 dy y u(y) = \int_0^1 dy \cdot y \left[ \int_0^1 dx' G(y, x') g(x') - b \int_0^1 dx' x' G(y, x') \right] \\ &= \int_0^1 dy \int_0^1 dx' y g(x') G(y, x') - b \int_0^1 dy \int_0^1 dx' x' y G(y, x') \\ \Rightarrow b &= \frac{\int_0^1 dy \int_0^1 dx' y g(x') G(y, x')}{1 + \int_0^1 dy \int_0^1 dx' x' y G(y, x')} = \frac{B}{1 + A}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{where } A = \int_0^1 dy \int_0^1 dx' \underbrace{x'y G(y, x')}_\text{symmetric about } x'=y = 2 \int_0^1 dy \int_0^y dx' x'y \min\{y, x'\} = 2 \int_0^1 dy \int_0^y dx' x'^2 y$$

$$= 2 \int_0^1 dy \cdot y \cdot \frac{y^3}{3} = \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{5} = \frac{2}{15} \Rightarrow A = \frac{2}{15},$$

$$B = \int_0^1 dy \int_0^1 dx' y g(x') G(y, x') = \int_0^1 dy \int_0^1 dx' g(x') y G(y, x') = \int_0^1 dx' g(x') \left[ \int_0^1 dy y G(y, x') \right] \leftarrow$$

$$= \int_0^1 dx' g(x') \left[ \int_0^{x'} dy \cdot y^2 + \int_{x'}^1 dy \cdot y x' \right] = \int_0^1 dx' g(x') \left[ \frac{x'^3}{3} + x' \cdot \frac{1-x'^2}{2} \right] = \int_0^1 dx' g(x') \left( \frac{x'}{2} - \frac{x'^3}{6} \right)$$

Hence,

$$b = \frac{15}{17} \int_0^1 dx' g(x') \left( \frac{x'}{2} - \frac{x'^3}{6} \right) = \frac{15}{17} \int_0^1 dy g(y) \left( \frac{y}{2} - \frac{y^3}{6} \right)$$

Accordingly,

$$u(x) = \int_0^1 dx' G(x, x') g(x') - b \underbrace{\int_0^1 dx' \cdot x' G(x, x')}_\downarrow$$

$$= \int_0^1 dy G(x, y) g(y) - \left[ \frac{15}{17} \int_0^1 dy g(y) \left( \frac{y}{2} - \frac{y^3}{6} \right) \right] \cdot \left( \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x) = \int_0^1 dy \left[ \min\{x, y\} - \frac{15}{17} \left( \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} \right) \left( \frac{y}{2} - \frac{y^3}{6} \right) \right] \underbrace{g(y)}_{\lambda u(y)}$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x) = \boxed{\lambda \int_0^1 dy \left[ \min\{x, y\} - \frac{15}{17} \left( \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} \right) \left( \frac{y}{2} - \frac{y^3}{6} \right) \right] u(y)}$$

Notice that the kernel  $K$  of this equation is symmetric! This fact is consistent with  $Au=\lambda u$  having real eigenvalues.

(c) The original equation,  $Au = \lambda u$ , reads as

$$u''(x) + \lambda u(x) = b x, \quad b \equiv \int_0^1 dy y u(y).$$

It follows that

$$u(x) = A \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} x) + B \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} x) + \frac{b}{\lambda} x \quad (\lambda \neq 0).$$

$$\cdot \quad u(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0; \quad u(x) = B \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} x) + \frac{b}{\lambda} x$$

$$\cdot \quad u'(0) = 0 \Rightarrow B \sqrt{\lambda} \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} 0) + \frac{b}{\lambda} = 0 \Rightarrow b = -B \lambda^{3/2} \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} 0).$$

$$\begin{aligned} b &= \int_0^1 dy y u(y) = \int_0^1 dy y \left[ B \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} y) + \frac{b}{\lambda} y \right] = -\frac{B}{\sqrt{\lambda}} y \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} y) \Big|_0^1 + \frac{B}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \int_0^1 dy \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} y) \\ &\quad + \frac{b}{\lambda} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = -\frac{B}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}) + \frac{B}{\lambda} \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}) + \frac{b}{3\lambda} \\ \Rightarrow b \left(1 - \frac{1}{3\lambda}\right) &= -\frac{B}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}) \left[1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \tan(\sqrt{\lambda})\right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow -B \lambda^{3/2} \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{1}{3\lambda}\right) = -\frac{B}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}) \cdot \left[1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \tan(\sqrt{\lambda})\right]$$

Assume  $\cos(\sqrt{\lambda}) \neq 0$  and  $B \neq 0$ :

$$\lambda^{3/2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{3\lambda}\right) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \left[1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \tan(\sqrt{\lambda})\right]$$

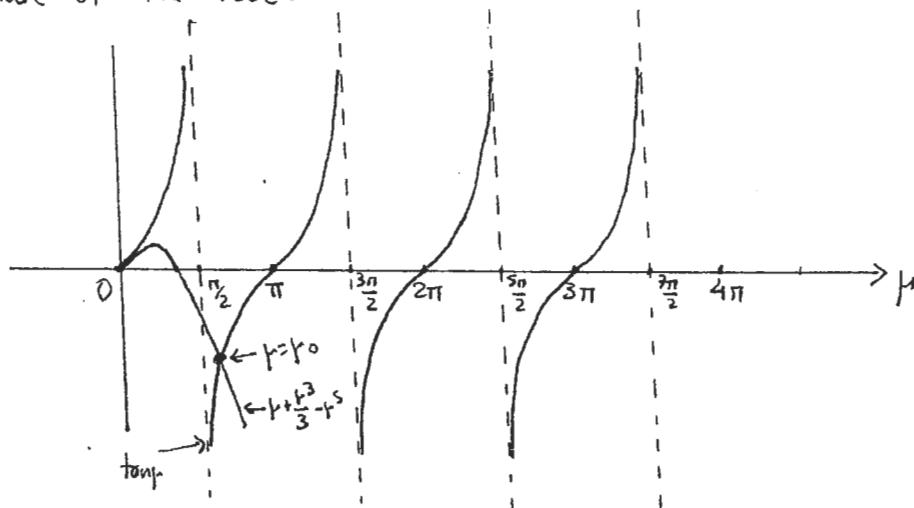
$$\Rightarrow \lambda^{5/2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{3\lambda}\right) = \sqrt{\lambda} - \tan(\sqrt{\lambda}). \quad \text{Set } \sqrt{\lambda} = \mu \rightarrow \mu = \lambda^{2/5}; \quad \mu > 0.$$

$$\mu^5 \left(1 - \frac{1}{3\mu^2}\right) = \mu - \tan \mu \Leftrightarrow \tan \mu = \mu + \frac{\mu^3}{3} - \mu^5, \quad \mu > 0.$$

For  $B=0$ , one gets  $b=0$ , and  $u(x)=0$  (trivial).

For  $\cos(\sqrt{\lambda})=0$ , one gets  $b=0$  and  $B=0$ . Hence,  $B \neq 0 \neq \cos(\sqrt{\lambda})$ .

(d) My sketch is pretty awful and I hope that students will make a good estimate of the root!



The polynomial  $P(\mu) = \mu + \frac{\mu^3}{3} - \mu^5$  has extrema at

$$P'(\mu) = 0 \Rightarrow 1 + \mu^2 - 5\mu^4 = 0 \quad (\mu \text{ real}) \Rightarrow \mu^2 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{21}}{10} \Rightarrow \mu = \mu_{\pm} = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1 + \sqrt{21}}{10}} \approx \pm 0.7.$$

At  $\mu = \mu_+$ ,  $P(\mu)$  has a maximum, and then it decreases rapidly to  $-\infty$  as  $\mu \rightarrow +\infty$ .

Note that  $P(0) = 0$ ,  $P'(0) = 1$  and  $\left. \frac{d}{d\mu} (\tanh) \right|_{\mu=0} = 1$ , while

$P''(0) = 0$  and  $\left. \frac{d^2}{d\mu^2} (\tanh) \right|_{\mu=0} = 0$ . More precisely,

$$\tanh \underset{\mu \rightarrow 0^+}{\sim} \mu + \frac{\mu^3}{3} + \frac{\mu^5}{8},$$

which means that  $P(\mu)$  and  $\tanh$  do not intersect in  $(0, \pi/2)$ .

I therefore expect  $\mu = \mu_0$  to lie in  $(\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi)$ . Take  $\boxed{\mu \approx \frac{\pi}{2}}$

An estimate for  $\lambda_0 = \mu_0^2$  is,  $\lambda \approx \frac{\pi^2}{4} \approx 2.5$ ,

$$(e) E_0 \equiv \lambda_0 = \min_{U \in D_A} \frac{\int_0^1 dx [U'(x)]^2 + [\int_0^1 dx xU(x)]^2}{\int_0^1 dx U(x)^2}$$

For the trial function  $v(x) = x(c-x)$  to belong to  $\mathcal{D}_A$ , we have to choose  $c=2$ .

Then  $v(x) = x(2-x)$ ,  $v(0) = 0$ ,  $v'(x) = 2-2x \Rightarrow v'(1) = 0$ .

$$\int_0^1 dx \quad v(x)^2 = \int_0^1 dx \quad x^2(2-x)^2 = \int_0^1 dx \quad x^2(4+x^2-4x) = 4 \cdot \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - 4 \cdot \frac{1}{4}$$

$$= \frac{4}{3} + \frac{1}{5} - 1 = \frac{20+3-15}{15} = \frac{8}{15},$$

$$\int_0^1 dx \quad [v'(x)]^2 = \int_0^1 dx \quad 4(1-x)^2 = 4 \int_0^1 dx \quad (1+x^2-2x) = 4 \left(1 + \frac{1}{3} - 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{4}{3},$$

$$\int_0^1 dx \quad xv(x) = \int_0^1 dx \quad x^2(2-x) = 2 \cdot \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{2}{3} - \frac{1}{4} = \frac{8-3}{12} = \frac{5}{12}.$$

$$\lambda_0 \leftarrow \frac{\frac{4}{3} + \frac{8}{15}}{\frac{5}{12}} = \frac{\frac{192+25}{144}}{\frac{8}{15}} = \frac{\frac{192+25}{144}}{\frac{8 \cdot 144}{48}} = \frac{1085}{384} \approx 2.82$$

According to the trace inequality,

$$\lambda_0 \geq \left[ \int_0^1 dx \quad K_2(x,x) \right]^{-1/2},$$

where  $K_2(x,y) = \int_0^1 d\bar{x} \quad K(x,\bar{x}) \quad K(\bar{x},y) = \int_0^1 d\bar{x} \quad K(x,\bar{x}) \quad K(y,\bar{x})$  for  $K$ : symmetric,

$$\int_0^1 dx \quad K_2(x,x) = \int_0^1 dx \int_0^1 d\bar{x} \quad K(x,\bar{x})^2 = \|K\|^2,$$

and  $K(x,y) = \min\{x,y\} - \frac{15}{17} \left(\frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6}\right) \left(\frac{y}{2} - \frac{y^3}{6}\right)$  from p. 11.

$$\|K\|^2 = \int_0^1 dx \int_0^1 dy \quad |K(x,y)|^2 = 2 \int_0^1 dx \int_0^x dy \cdot \left[ y - \frac{15}{17} \left(\frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6}\right) \left(\frac{y}{2} - \frac{y^3}{6}\right) \right]^2$$

$$= 2 \int_0^1 dx \int_0^x dy \left[ y^2 + \frac{15^2}{17^2} \left(\frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6}\right)^2 \left(\frac{y}{2} - \frac{y^3}{6}\right)^2 - \frac{30}{17} \left(\frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6}\right) \left(\frac{y^2}{2} - \frac{y^4}{6}\right) \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 2 \int_0^1 dx \cdot \frac{x^3}{3} + 2 \cdot \frac{15^2}{17^2} \int_0^1 dx \left( \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} \right)^2 \int_0^x dy \left( \frac{y}{2} - \frac{y^3}{6} \right)^2 - \frac{60}{17} \int_0^1 dx \left( \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} \right) \int_0^x dy \left( \frac{y^2}{2} - \frac{y^5}{6} \right) \\
&= \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{4} + 2 \cdot \frac{15^2}{17^2} \int_0^1 dx \cdot \left( \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} \right)^2 \cdot \left( \frac{x^3}{12} + \frac{x^7}{36 \cdot 7} - \frac{x^5}{30} \right) - \frac{60}{17} \int_0^1 dx \left( \frac{x}{2} - \frac{x^3}{6} \right) \left( \frac{x^3}{6} - \frac{x^5}{30} \right), \\
&= \frac{1}{6} + 2 \cdot \frac{15^2}{17^2} \int_0^1 dx \left( \frac{x^2}{4} + \frac{x^6}{36} - \frac{x^4}{6} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{x^3}{12} + \frac{x^7}{36 \cdot 7} - \frac{x^5}{30} \right) - \frac{60}{17} \int_0^1 dx \left( \frac{x^4}{12} - \frac{x^6}{60} - \frac{x^6}{36} + \frac{x^8}{180} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{6} + 2 \cdot \frac{15^2}{17^2} \int_0^1 dx \left( \frac{x^5}{48} + \frac{x^9}{4 \cdot 36 \cdot 7} - \frac{x^7}{120} + \frac{x^9}{36 \cdot 12} + \frac{x^{13}}{36^2 \cdot 7} - \frac{x^{11}}{36 \cdot 30} - \frac{x^7}{6 \cdot 12} - \frac{x^{11}}{36 \cdot 6 \cdot 7} + \frac{x^9}{6 \cdot 30} \right) \\
&\quad - \frac{60}{17} \int_0^1 dx \left( \frac{x^4}{12} - \frac{x^6}{60} - \frac{x^6}{36} + \frac{x^8}{180} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{6} + 2 \cdot \frac{15^2}{17^2} \left( \frac{1}{6 \cdot 48} + \frac{1}{10 \cdot 4 \cdot 36 \cdot 7} - \frac{1}{3 \cdot 120} + \frac{1}{10 \cdot 36 \cdot 12} + \frac{1}{14 \cdot 36^2 \cdot 7} - \frac{1}{12 \cdot 36 \cdot 30} - \frac{1}{8 \cdot 6 \cdot 12} - \frac{1}{12 \cdot 36 \cdot 42} \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{1}{60 \cdot 30} \right) - \frac{60}{17} \left( \frac{1}{60} - \frac{1}{420} - \frac{1}{7 \cdot 36} + \frac{1}{9 \cdot 180} \right) \approx 0.13034
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\lambda_0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{0.13034}} \approx 2.77$

Therefore,  $2.77 < \lambda_0 < 2.82$