Exact Solutions > Linear Partial Differential Equations > Higher-Order Equations > Equation of Transverse Vibration of Elastic Rods

# 5.1. Equation of Transverse Vibration of the Form $\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial t^2} + a^2 \frac{\partial^4 w}{\partial x^4} = 0$

Equation of transverse vibration of elastic rods.

#### 5.1-1. Particular solutions:

$$w(x,t) = (Ax^3 + Bx^2 + Cx + D)t + A_1x^3 + B_1x^2 + C_1x + D_1,$$
  

$$w(x,t) = \left[A\sin(\lambda x) + B\cos(\lambda x) + C\sinh(\lambda x) + D\cos(\lambda x)\right]\sin(\lambda^2 at),$$
  

$$w(x,t) = \left[A\sin(\lambda x) + B\cos(\lambda x) + C\sinh(\lambda x) + D\cos(\lambda x)\right]\cos(\lambda^2 at),$$

where  $A, B, C, D, A_1, B_1, C_1, D_1$ , and  $\lambda$  are arbitrary constants.

## 5.1-2. Domain: $-\infty < x < \infty$ . Cauchy problem.

Initial conditions are prescribed:

$$w = f(x)$$
 at  $t = 0$ ,  $\partial_t w = ag''(x)$  at  $t = 0$ .

Boussinesq solution:

$$w(x,t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f\left(x - 2\xi\sqrt{at}\right) \left(\cos\xi^2 + \sin\xi^2\right) d\xi + \frac{1}{a\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g\left(x - 2\xi\sqrt{at}\right) \left(\cos\xi^2 - \sin\xi^2\right) d\xi.$$

#### 5.1-3. Domain: $0 \le x < \infty$ . Free vibration of a semiinfinite rod.

The following conditions are prescribed:

$$w=0$$
 at  $t=0$ ,  $\partial_t w=0$  at  $t=0$  (initial conditions),  $w=f(t)$  at  $x=0$ ,  $\partial_{xx}w=0$  at  $x=0$  (boundary conditions).

Boussinesq solution:

$$w(x,t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{x/\sqrt{2at}}^{\infty} f\left(t - \frac{x^2}{2a\xi^2}\right) \left(\sin\frac{\xi^2}{2} + \cos\frac{\xi^2}{2}\right) d\xi.$$

### **5.1-4.** Domain: $0 \le x \le l$ . Boundary value problems.

For solutions of various boundary value problems, see Subsection 5.2 for  $\Phi \equiv 0$ .

#### References

Sneddon, I., Fourier Transformations, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1951.

**Polyanin, A. D.,** Handbook of Linear Partial Differential Equations for Engineers and Scientists, Chapman & Hall/CRC, 2002.

Equation of Transverse Vibration of Elastic Rods