## Module D1: Homogeneous 2<sup>nd</sup> Order ODEs

- 1. Consider a  $2^{nd}$  order ODE with nonzero constant coefficients: ay'' + by' +cy=0. Under what conditions on a,b,c will the nontrivial solution y(x) satisfy  $\lim_{x\to\infty}y(x)=0$ ?
- 2. Suppose we have a string that is constrained on two static ends over a length L. An equation that describes the standing wave amplitude y(x) of the string is given by the boundary equation  $y'' + \lambda y = 0$ .

  - a) Formulate this problem as a boundary value problem (i.e., add constraints for y).
    b) Under what conditions on λ does this equation give a nontrivial solution?
    c) Draw plots of possible solutions. (These correspond to the "normal modes" of the











