

# Wave Equation (one dimensional)

consider a tightly stretched elastic string of length  $l$  and fixed ends A and B.  $T$  = Tension which will be considered to be large as compared to the weight of the string so that effects of gravity are negligible.

then,

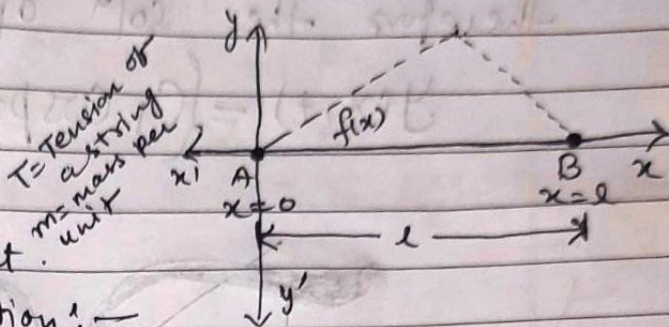
$$\left[ \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right] \text{ is}$$

"wave eq", where

$$c^2 = T/m = \text{constant}$$

subject to the condition, —

$$\begin{cases} \text{Boundary Condition } u(0,t) = u(l,t) = 0 \\ \text{and Initial Condition } u(x,0) = f(x) \text{ and } \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0 \text{ at } x=0, \text{ where } l \text{ is} \\ \text{length of string or wire} \end{cases}$$



Que 1 A string is stretched and fastened to two points  $l$  apart. Motion is started by displacing the string in the form  $y = a \sin \frac{\pi x}{l}$  from which it is released at time  $t=0$ . Show that the displacement of any point at a distance  $x$  from one end at time  $t$  is given by  $y(x,t) = a \sin \left( \frac{\pi x}{l} \right) \cos \left( \frac{\pi t}{2} \right)$

Sol<sup>n</sup>

The vibration of the string is given by

$$\left[ \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} \right] \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

we have to apply Boundary and initial conditions one by one such that ;  
As the end of the string are fixed for all time then  $y(0,t) = 0$  --- (2)  
&  $y(l,t) = 0$  --- (3)



Since the transverse velocity of any point of the string is zero,  $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}\right)_{t=0} = 0$  — (4)

Also,  $y(x,0) = y = a \sin \pi x$  — (5)

Now we have to solve,

(1) Subject to the boundary conditions (2) and (3) and initial condition (4) and (5) since vibration of the string is periodic, therefore the sol<sup>n</sup> of (1) is of the form

$$y(x,t) = \{C_1 \cos px + C_2 \sin px\} \cdot \{C_3 \cos cpt + C_4 \sin cpt\}$$
 — (6)



By (2)  $y(0,t) = C_1 [C_3 \cos cpt + C_4 \sin cpt]$  — (7)

here,  $C_3 \cos cpt + C_4 \sin cpt \neq 0$

so,  $C_1 = 0$

put  $C_1 = 0$  in eqn (6)

$$y(x,t) = C_2 \sin px \{C_3 \cos cpt + C_4 \sin cpt\}$$
 — (8)

Now by eqn (4)  $\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}\right)_{t=0} = 0$

Differentiating (8) w.r.t  $t$ :-

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = C_2 \sin px \{-C_3 \sin cpt (cp) + cp(C_4) \cos cpt\}$$

Put  $t=0$

$$\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}\right)_{t=0} = C_2 \sin px \{C_4 cp\} = 0$$

whence  $C_2 C_4 cp = 0$

If  $C_2 = 0$  in (8) will lead to the trivial sol<sup>n</sup>  $y(x,t) = 0$



only possibility is that  $C_4 = 0$

Thus (8) becomes  $y(x,t) = C_2 C_3 \sin p x \cos c p t$  (9)  
Now, by eq<sup>n</sup> (3),  $y(x,t) =$

$$y(x,t) = C_2 C_3 \sin p l \cdot \cos c p t = 0, \forall t$$

Since,  $C_2 \neq 0$  &  $C_3 \neq 0$

we have  $\sin p l = 0$

$$\sin p l = \sin n \pi$$

$$p l = n \pi \Rightarrow \boxed{p = \frac{n \pi}{l}}$$

where  $n = \text{an integer}$

Hence, (1) reduces to  $y(x,t) = C_2 C_3 \sin \frac{n \pi x}{l} \cdot \cos \frac{n \pi c t}{l}$  (10)

Finally imposing the last condition (5) :-

$$y(x,0) = \cancel{C_2 C_3} \sin \frac{n \pi x}{l} \cdot \cos \frac{n \pi c (0)}{l}$$

$$y(x,0) = C_2 C_3 \sin \frac{n \pi x}{l} \checkmark$$

let,  $C_2 C_3 = a$ ,  $n=1$

Hence the required sol<sup>n</sup> is {By 10}

$$y(x,t) = a \sin \frac{\pi x}{l} \cdot \cos \frac{\pi c t}{l}$$

(11)

*Ans.*

— x —