

# Sturm Liouville Problem

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## 1 Sturm–Liouville Problem

### Exercise 3:

If  $\lambda = 0$ :

$$y = ax + b, y' = a$$

so,  $y(0) - hy'(0) = b - ah = 0, \implies b = ah$

$y'(1) = a = 0, \implies a = 0, b = 0$ , which means  $y = 0$ . So  $\lambda = 0$  is not an eigenvalue.

If  $\lambda < 0$ :

$$y = c_1 e^{-\sqrt{-\lambda}x} + c_2 e^{\sqrt{-\lambda}x}$$
$$y' = -c_1 \sqrt{-\lambda} e^{-\sqrt{-\lambda}x} + c_2 \sqrt{-\lambda} e^{\sqrt{-\lambda}x}$$

Impose the boundary conditions and we get:

$$y(0) - hy'(0) = c_1 + c_2 - h(-\sqrt{-\lambda}c_1 + \sqrt{-\lambda}c_2) = (1 + \sqrt{-\lambda}h)c_1 + (1 - \sqrt{-\lambda}h)c_2 = 0$$

$$y'(1) = -\sqrt{-\lambda}c_1 e^{-\sqrt{-\lambda}} + \sqrt{-\lambda}c_2 e^{\sqrt{-\lambda}} = 0$$

We set the determinant of the systems to zero and get the following equations to solve:

$$(1 + \sqrt{-\lambda}h)\sqrt{-\lambda}e^{\sqrt{-\lambda}} + (1 - \sqrt{-\lambda}h)\sqrt{-\lambda}e^{-\sqrt{-\lambda}} = \sqrt{-\lambda}e^{-\sqrt{-\lambda}}[(1 + \sqrt{-\lambda}h)e^{2\sqrt{-\lambda}} + 1 - \sqrt{-\lambda}h] = 0$$

Since  $\lambda \neq 0$ , we have to solve

$$(1 + \sqrt{-\lambda}h)e^{2\sqrt{-\lambda}} + 1 - \sqrt{-\lambda}h = 0 \implies e^{2\sqrt{-\lambda}} = \frac{\sqrt{-\lambda}h - 1}{1 + \sqrt{-\lambda}h}$$

When  $h > 1$ , there is no solution to this equation. When  $0 < h < 1$ , there is no solution. When  $h = 1$ , there is no solution. When  $h < 0$ , there is 1 solution.

If  $\lambda > 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} y &= c_1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) + c_2 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) \\ y' &= -\sqrt{\lambda}c_1 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) + \sqrt{\lambda}c_2 \cos \sqrt{\lambda}x \end{aligned}$$

Impose the boundary conditions and we get:

$$\begin{aligned} y(0) - hy'(0) &= c_1 - h\sqrt{\lambda}c_2 = 0 \\ y'(1) &= -\sqrt{\lambda}c_1 \sin \sqrt{\lambda} + \sqrt{\lambda}c_2 \cos \sqrt{\lambda} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Make some substitution and we get:

$$c_2\sqrt{\lambda}(-\sqrt{\lambda}h \sin \sqrt{\lambda} + \cos \sqrt{\lambda}) = 0 \implies h\sqrt{\lambda} = \cot \sqrt{\lambda}$$

To summarize:

1. If  $\lambda = 0$ , we get  $y = 0$ .
2. If  $\lambda < 0$ , we need to solve the following equation:

$$e^{2\sqrt{-\lambda}} = \frac{\sqrt{-\lambda}h - 1}{1 + \sqrt{-\lambda}h} \quad (1)$$

which is equivalent to the following with  $x > 0$

$$e^{2x} = \frac{hx - 1}{1 + hx} \quad (2)$$

3. If  $\lambda > 0$ , we need to solve the folloing equation:

$$h\sqrt{\lambda} = \cot \sqrt{\lambda} \quad (3)$$

which is equivalent to the following with  $x > 0$

$$hx = \cot x \quad (4)$$





