

1)

We have the one-dimensional wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2} \quad (1)$$

with boundary conditions:

$$\frac{\partial u(0, t)}{\partial x} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial u(L, t)}{\partial x} = 0$$

where  $c \approx 340\text{m/s}$

a)

Differentiating  $u(x, t) = F(x)G(t)$  with respects to  $x$  and  $t$  we get

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = F\ddot{G} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = F''G$$

By inserting this into (1) we get

$$F\ddot{G} = c^2 F''G \quad (2)$$

and the boundary conditions

$$F'(0)G(t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad F'(L)G(t) = 0 \quad (3)$$

Simplifying (2) we get

$$\frac{\ddot{G}}{c^2 G} = \frac{F''}{F}$$

We now have an equation where the left side depend on  $t$  and the right side depend on  $x$ . Since a change in  $x$  or  $t$  would be independent of the other side both sides must be constant:

$$\frac{\ddot{G}}{c^2 G} = \frac{F''}{F} = k$$

This means we can split the equations into two ODEs

$$F'' - kF = 0$$

and

$$\ddot{G} - c^2 k G = 0 \quad (4)$$

We're looking for a non-trivial solution to the wave equation. We can see from (2) that if  $F = 0$  or  $G = 0$  all solutions become trivial. We can therefore set  $F \neq 0$  and  $G \neq 0$  since that is all we're interested in.

For positive  $k = \mu^2$  we have the general solution

$$F = A_1 e^{\mu x} + B_1 e^{-\mu x}$$

and its derivative

$$F' = A_1' e^{\mu x} + B_1' e^{-\mu x} \quad (5)$$

Inserting the boundary conditions (3) in (5) we get

$$F'(L)G(t) = (A_1' e^{\mu L} + B_1' e^{-\mu L})G(t) = 0$$

$G(t) \neq 0$  gives

$$\mu L A_1'' + \mu L B_1'' = 0 \implies A_1'' = B_1'' = 0$$

meaning positive  $k$  only gives the trivial solution  $F(x)G(t) = 0$

We choose negative  $k = -p^2$  which gives us the general solution

$$F(x) = A' \cos px + B' \sin px$$

and its derivative

$$F'(x) = A \sin px + B \cos px \quad (6)$$

Inserting the boundary conditions (3) into (6) gives us

$$F'(0)G(t) = (A \sin 0 + B \cos 0)G(t) = BG(t) = 0$$

Since  $G(t) \neq 0$  we know that  $B = 0$

To avoid trivial solutions we set  $A \neq 0$

$$F'(L)G(t) = A \sin(pL)G(t) = 0$$

We now have infinitely many solutions  $F(x) = F_n(x)$  where

$$F_n(x) = A \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$$

We can now solve (4) with  $k = -p^2 = -(\frac{n\pi}{L})$

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{G} + c^2 p^2 G &= 0 \\ \ddot{G}_n + \underbrace{\left(\frac{cn\pi}{L}\right)^2}_{\lambda_n} G &= 0 \\ G_n(t) &= G'(0) \cos \lambda_n t + G(0) \sin \lambda_n t \end{aligned}$$

Which gives us

$$u(x, t) = F(x)G(t) = F_n(x)G_n(t) = A \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} G'(0) \cos \lambda_n t + G(0) \sin \lambda_n t$$

b)

The spectrum is the set of  $\lambda_n$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{cn\pi}{L} \quad \text{where } n \in \mathbb{N}$$

c)

$$f_n = \frac{cn}{2L}$$

Fundamental mode is when  $n = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} f &= \frac{c}{2L} = \frac{340[\text{m/s}]}{2 \times 0.5[\text{m}]} \\ &= 340 [1/\text{s}] = 340\text{Hz} \end{aligned}$$

**2)**

We have the one-dimensional wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2} \quad (7)$$

with boundary conditions:

$$u(0, t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u(3, t) = 0$$

We set  $u(x, t) = F(x)G(t)$  and see that (7) can be written as

$$F\ddot{G} = F''G$$

with boundary conditions ( $G \neq 0$  since we're interested in non-trivial solutions)

$$F(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad F(3) = 0$$

and separated (constant since they depend on different variables)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{F''}{F} &= \frac{\ddot{G}}{G} = k \\ F'' - kF &= 0 \\ \ddot{G} - kG &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

We can now solve the two ODEs. Setting positive  $k = \mu^2$  gives us trivial solutions, so we set negative  $k = -p^2$

$$F(x) = F'(0) \sin px$$

set boundary conditions

$$F(3) = F'(0) \sin(3p) = 0$$

$$p = \frac{n\pi}{3}$$

Using  $p = \frac{n\pi}{3}$  we can solve for  $G(t)$

$$G(t) = G(0) \cos \frac{n\pi}{3} t + G'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} t$$

which gives us

$$u(x, t) = \underbrace{F'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} x}_{F(x)} \underbrace{(G(0) \cos \frac{n\pi}{3} t + G'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} t)}_{G(t)}$$

a)

We have the initial conditions

$$F(x)G(0) = x(3-x) \quad \text{and} \quad G'(0) = 0$$

$$u(x, t) = x(3-x) \cos \frac{n\pi}{3} t$$

b)

We have the initial conditions

$$G(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad F(x)G'(0) = \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\pi x)$$

$$u(x, t) = \underbrace{F'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} x}_{F(x)} G(0) \cos \frac{n\pi}{3} t$$

$$= \underbrace{F'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} x G'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} t}_{F(x)G'(0)}$$

$$= (\sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{2} \sin(2\pi x)) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} t$$

c)

We have the initial conditions

$$\begin{aligned}
 F(x)G(0) &= x(3-x) \quad \text{and} \quad F(x)G'(0) = \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{2}\sin(2\pi x) \\
 u(x, t) &= \underbrace{F'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} x}_{F(x)} \underbrace{\left( G(0) \cos \frac{n\pi}{3} t + G'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} t \right)}_{G(t)} \\
 &= \underbrace{F'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} x G(0) \cos \frac{n\pi}{3} t}_{F(x)G(0)} + \underbrace{F'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} x G'(0) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} t}_{F(x)G'(0)} \\
 &= x(3-x) \cos \frac{n\pi}{3} t + \left( \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{2}\sin(2\pi x) \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{3} t
 \end{aligned}$$

3)

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad (8)$$

with boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u(2, t) = 0$$

We separate the variables by defining functions  $F(x)$  and  $G(t)$

$$u(x, t) = F(x)G(t)$$

We have that

$$\dot{G}F = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \quad \text{and} \quad GF'' = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad (9)$$

We insert (9) into (8) and get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \dot{G}F &= F''G \\
 \frac{\dot{G}}{G} &= \frac{F''}{F}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since these are separated they must be constant

$$\frac{\dot{G}}{G} = \frac{F''}{F} = k$$

Splitting these into two ODEs gives

$$\dot{G} - kG = 0$$

and

$$F'' - kF = 0$$

Like in 1a) we're not interested in trivial solutions where  $F(x)G(t) = 0$  so we set  $F \neq 0$  and  $G \neq 0$

Solving for  $G(t)$  gives

$$G(t) = Ae^{kt}$$

and for  $F(x)$  gives