Differential Equations II for Engineering Students

Homework sheet 7

Exercise 1: Solve the initial boundary value problem:

$$u_{tt} - 4u_{xx} = 3\sin(2\pi x) \cdot e^{-2t} \qquad x \in (0,1), \ t > 0$$

$$u(x,0) = u_0(x) = \sin(\pi x) + 4\sin(2\pi x) \qquad x \in [0,1],$$

$$u_t(x,0) = v_0(x) = 0 \qquad x \in [0,1],$$

$$u(0,t) = 0 \qquad t > 0,$$

$$u(1,t) = 0 \qquad t > 0,$$

Hint: Insert the ansatz

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} q_k(t) \sin(k\omega x), \qquad \omega = \frac{\pi}{1}$$

into the differential equation. You get the ordinary differential equation for q_k . The initial conditions provide the initial data for the q_k .

Exercise 2: (So that you don't get the idea that you can solve all linear differential equations of second order with a simple product ansatz.)

At the starting point x = 0 of a very long transmission cable there is a signal of the periodic voltage

$$U(0,t) = U_0 \cos(\omega t) \qquad t \ge 0, \, \omega > 0 \, .$$

We are looking for the signal voltage U(x,t) of the output signal for x > 0, t > 0. One obtains U as the solution of the so-called telegrapher's equations.

$$U_{tt} - c^2 U_{xx} + (\alpha + \beta)U_t + \alpha\beta U = 0.$$

Here α, β, c are construction-related positive parameters of the problem. A temporally periodic input signal leads to expect a temporally periodic output signal after a certain settling phase. In addition, one requires

U(x,t) bounded for $x \to \infty$.

- a) Show that the product ansatz $U(x,t) = w(x) \cdot v(t)$ is not working here!
- b) Try the solution ansatz that combines "local damping" (factor e^{-kx}) with a timeperiodic progression (i.e. cosine/sine for t) and allows a linear, location-dependent phase shift. So for example

$$U(x,t) := e^{-kx} \cdot \left(\delta \cos(at - bx) + \tilde{\delta} \sin(\tilde{a}t - \tilde{b}x)\right)$$

Choose for example $\alpha = \beta = c = 1$.