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Analysis III

How to solve some of the most
important types of PDEs
partial differential equations

Main examples:

- Wave equation ← today & next week
- Heat equation
- Laplace equation

References :

- Felder
 - Kreyzig
 - Hungerbühler
 - Pinchover - Rubinstein
- } basic for lectures *
- } more in depth **

* look up PDF at coordination webpage or ask assistant

** available at Polybuchhandlung

Coordination :

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Exercise series and informal lecture notes will be posted throughout the semester at

<http://www.math.ethz.ch/education/bachelor/lectures/hs2011/other/analysis3-itet>

ODE = ordinary differential equation
 = equation involving functions of one independent variable and one or more of their derivatives

Example

$$m \frac{d^2 x(t)}{dt^2} = F(x(t))$$

Newton's second law

Unknown function

$$x(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t), x_3(t))$$

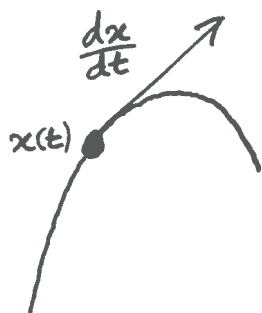
represents position of particle at time t

$$\frac{dx(t)}{dt} = \text{velocity vector}$$

$$\frac{d^2 x(t)}{dt^2} = \text{acceleration}$$

$$m = \text{mass (constant)}$$

$$F(x) = \text{force field}$$

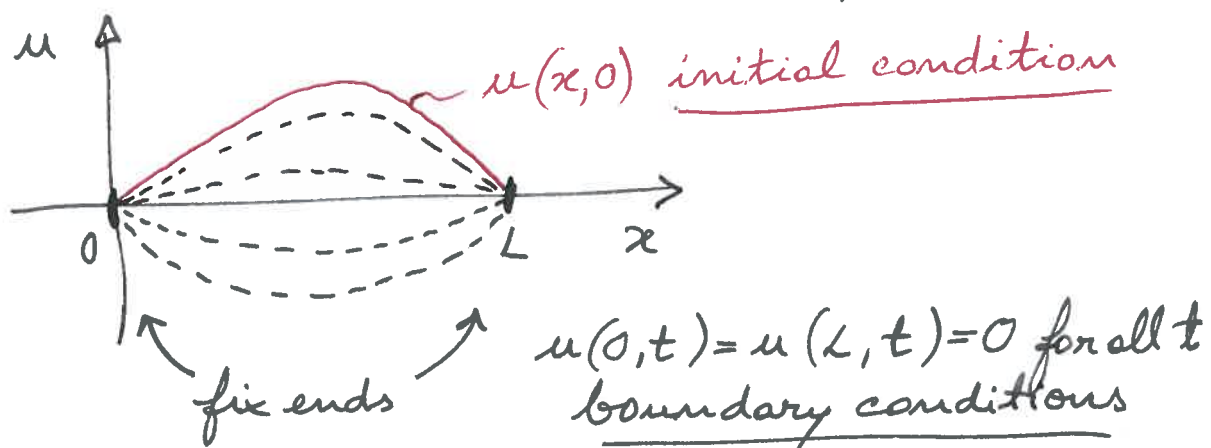


PDE = partial differential equation
 = equation involving one or more partial derivatives of an unknown function of two or more independent variables

Example
$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

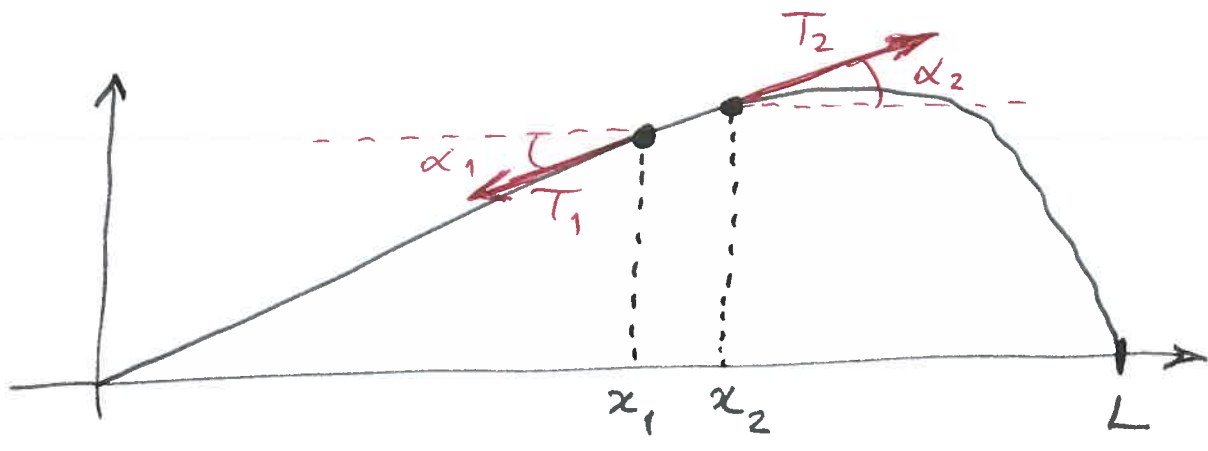
Wave equation (for a string)

Unknown function
 $u(x, t)$ represents deflection at point x
 $[0, L]$
 and at time t
 $[0, +\infty)$



Wave equation

for an "ideal string"
similar enough to a real string



T_1, T_2 tension at two nearby points

horizontal components

no horizontal motion $\Rightarrow T_1 \cos \alpha_1 = T_2 \cos \alpha_2 = T$
constant

vertical components

$$\text{force} = T_2 \sin \alpha_2 - T_1 \sin \alpha_1 = m \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$

↑
Newton

$$\text{mass} = m = \rho (x_2 - x_1)$$

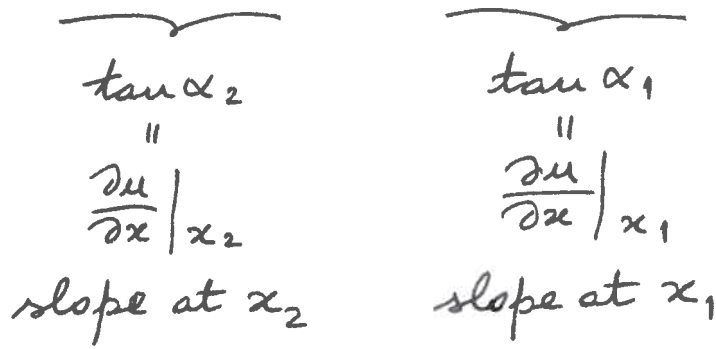
↑
mass per unit length
(for undeflected string)

Derivation of the wave equation

Divide force eqn. $T_2 \sin \alpha_2 - T_1 \sin \alpha_1 = m \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$

by the constant $T_2 \cos \alpha_2 = T_1 \cos \alpha_1 = T$

$$\frac{T_2 \sin \alpha_2}{T_2 \cos \alpha_2} - \frac{T_1 \sin \alpha_1}{T_1 \cos \alpha_1} = \frac{\rho(x_2 - x_1)}{T} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$



Divide by $x_2 - x_1$

$$\frac{\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \Big|_{x_2} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \Big|_{x_1}}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{\rho}{T} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$

Let $x_2, x_1 \rightarrow x$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\rho}{T} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$

1-dimensional wave equation

↑
positive constant

$$c^2 = \frac{T}{\rho} \text{ positive constant}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

PDE

$$u(0,t) = u(L,t) = 0 \text{ for all } t$$

} BC

boundary conditions

$$u(x,0) = f(x)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,0) = g(x)$$

} IC

initial conditions

↑ turns out to be a well-posed mathematical problem
i.e. has a unique solution which is continuous with respect to the data

Analysis III

Problems

from different types of PDEs

Tools

- separation of variables
- Fourier series
- Fourier integrals
- Fourier transform
- Laplace transform
- spherical harmonics
- characteristics
- ⋮

Today : use method of separation of variable to solve "initial boundary value" problem with wave equation

Separation of variables

Step 1

Find solutions of PDE of the form

$$u(x, t) = X(x) T(t)$$

★

only depends on x

only depends on t

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} \stackrel{\star}{=} X(x) T''(t)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \stackrel{\star}{=} X''(x) T(t)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

becomes $X(x) T''(t) = c^2 X''(x) T(t)$

Step 1, cont.

Assume $e^2 X(x) T(t) \neq 0$
and divide by it.

$$\underbrace{\frac{T''(t)}{e^2 T(t)}}_{\substack{\text{only} \\ \text{depends} \\ \text{on } t}} = \underbrace{\frac{X''(x)}{X(x)}}_{\substack{\text{only} \\ \text{depends} \\ \text{on } x}} = k$$

must be constant

Get two ODEs !

$$X'' - kX = 0$$

&

$$T'' - kc^2 T = 0$$

Step 2

Find solutions X & T
of ODEs above so that
product XT satisfies BC

$$BC \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u(0,t) = X(0)T(t) = 0 \\ u(L,t) = X(L)T(t) = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad \text{for all } t$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} T(t) = 0 \\ \text{for all } t \end{array} \right\} \quad \underline{\underline{\text{or}}} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X(0) = 0 \\ X(L) = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

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⇓

$$u \equiv 0$$

not interesting

Solve

$$\begin{aligned} X'' - kX &= 0 \\ X(0) &= 0 \\ X(L) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Recall linear ODEs

Three cases:

$k = 0$

$X(x) = Ax + B$

$k = \mu^2 > 0$

$X(x) = Ae^{\mu x} + Be^{-\mu x}$

$k = -p^2 < 0$

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

$$k=0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X(x) = Ax + B \\ X(0) = 0 \\ X(L) = 0 \end{array} \right. \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} B = 0 \\ A = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$\Rightarrow u \equiv 0$
not interesting

$$k = \mu^2 > 0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X(x) = Ae^{\mu x} + Be^{-\mu x} \\ X(0) = 0 \\ X(L) = 0 \end{array} \right. \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} A + B = 0 \\ Ae^{\mu L} + Be^{-\mu L} = 0 \end{array} \right. \left\{ \begin{array}{l} A = 0 \\ B = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$\Rightarrow u \equiv 0$
not interesting

$$k = -p^2 < 0 \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} X(x) = A \cos px + B \sin px \\ X(0) = 0 \\ X(L) = 0 \end{array} \right. \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} A = 0 \\ B \sin pL = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

interesting
when $pL = m\pi$

(B can be $\neq 0$)

$$p = \frac{m\pi}{L}$$

$$X_m(x) = \sin \frac{m\pi}{L} x$$

$$m = 1, 2, \dots$$

are elementary solutions of

$$\begin{cases} X'' - kX = 0 \\ X(0) = 0 \\ X(L) = 0 \end{cases}$$

for $k = -p^2 = -\left(\frac{m\pi}{L}\right)^2$

Note: $X_{-m}(x) = -X_m(x)$

Now solve

$$T'' + \left(\frac{m\pi c}{L}\right)^2 T = 0$$

↑
use $k = -\left(\frac{m\pi}{L}\right)^2$

Let $\lambda_m = \frac{m\pi c}{L}$

$$T'' + (\lambda_m)^2 T = 0$$

General solution for each m :

$$T_m(t) = C_m \cos \lambda_m t + D_m \sin \lambda_m t$$

Summary

Got solutions of wave equation satisfying BC of the form

$$u_m(x,t) = X_m(x) T_m(t)$$

$$= \sin \frac{m\pi x}{L} \left(C_m \cos \lambda_m t + D_m \sin \lambda_m t \right)$$

$$m = 1, 2, \dots$$

called eigenfunctions or characteristic functions

$$\lambda_m = \frac{cm\pi}{L} \quad \text{eigenvalues or characteristic values}$$

values for which there are nontrivial solutions of PDE & BC

Separation of variables

Step 1 | $u(x, t) = X(x) T(t)$
PDE \rightsquigarrow 2 ODEs

Step 2 | Impose BC
Get eigenfunctions

Step 3 | Impose IC
next week

Eigenfunctions for wave equation
represent harmonic motions
called normal modes

$u_m \rightarrow$ frequency $\frac{cm}{2L}$ cycles/unit time
 $\left(\frac{cm\pi}{L} t = 2\pi \Leftrightarrow t = \frac{2L}{cm} \text{ period} \right)$

$$\sin \frac{m\pi x}{L}$$



$$m = 1$$

fundamental mode



$$m = 2$$



$$m = 3$$



$$m = 4$$

overtones

⋮