

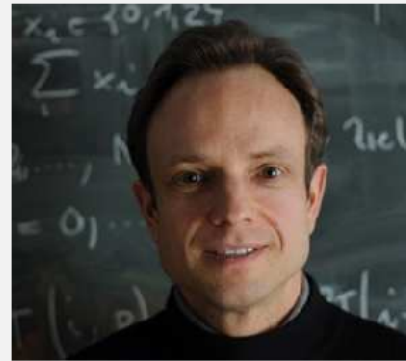
Course Video

Section 9.3.2: Wave Propagation

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(C) Seminar für Angewandte Mathematik, ETH Zürich



Dependency. [Lecture → Section 9.3.1]

Video and accompanying tablet notes may not match completely!

[Corrections and updates may have been made in tablet notes.]

Note the **change in chapter numbers**, which also provide leading digits for labels:
 Old Chapter 6 → New Chapter 9 , Old Chapter 8 → New Chapter 11
 Trailing digits in labels are not affected.

Duration : 33 minutes

VI. Second-Order Linear Evolution Problems

9.3. Linear Wave Equations

9.3.2. Wave Propagation

$$\rho(x) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - \operatorname{div}(\sigma(x) \operatorname{grad} u) = 0 \quad \text{in } \tilde{\Omega} := \Omega \times]0, T[\quad (6.3.1.11)$$

+ spatial boundary conditions & in initial conditions $\begin{cases} u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = v_0(x), \end{cases} \quad x \in \Omega.$

1D model **Cauchy problem** : $\Omega = \mathbb{R}$ (no spatial b.c.)

$c > 0$: $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0$, $u(x, 0) = u_0(x)$, $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = v_0(x)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$. (6.3.2.2)

↓ no forcing

Trick : Use **characteristic coordinates** $\begin{matrix} \text{wave speed} & \text{initial} \end{matrix}$

$$\xi = x + ct, \quad \tau = x - ct: \quad \tilde{u}(\xi, \tau) := u\left(\frac{\xi + \tau}{2}, \frac{\xi - \tau}{2c}\right). \quad (6.3.2.3)$$

chain rule

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{u}}{\partial \xi \partial \tau} = 0 \Rightarrow \tilde{u}(\xi, \tau) = F(\xi) + G(\tau),$$

for any $F, G \in C^2(\mathbb{R})$!

②

$$u(x, t) = F(x+ct) + G(x-ct)$$

F, G from initial conditions 

$$u_0(x) = u(x, 0) = F(x) + G(x)$$

$$v_0(x) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = c(F'(x) - G'(x)) \quad \Big| \int_{-\infty}^x$$

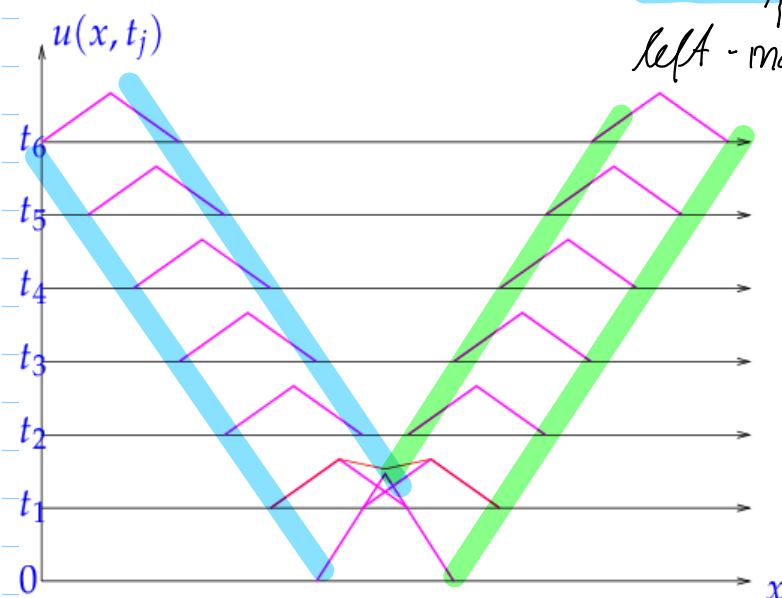
↑
compactly supported

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}(u_0(x+ct) + u_0(x-ct)) + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} v_0(s) ds \quad (6.3.2.4)$$

[d'Alembert solution]

Special case: $v_0 \equiv 0$, u_0 compactly supported

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}(u_0(x+ct) + u_0(x-ct))$$



left-moving right-moving
with speed $c > 0$

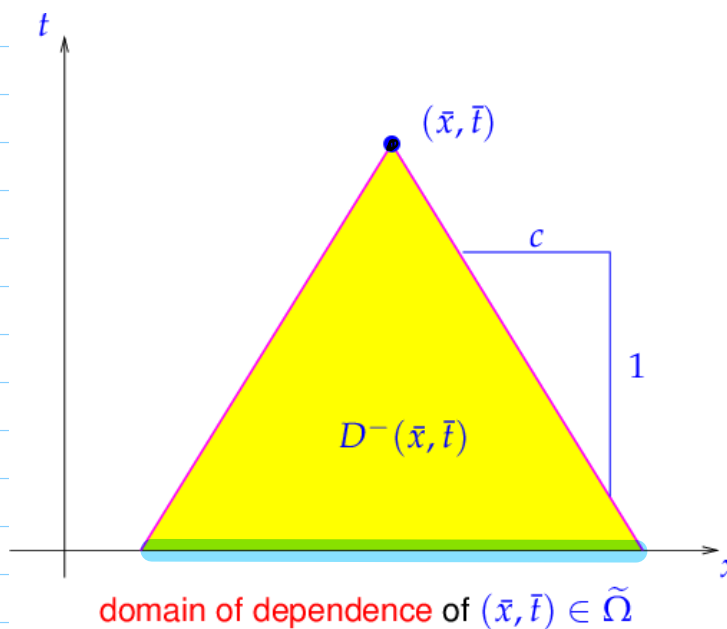
⇓
finite speed c of
propagation

(compact supports preserved)

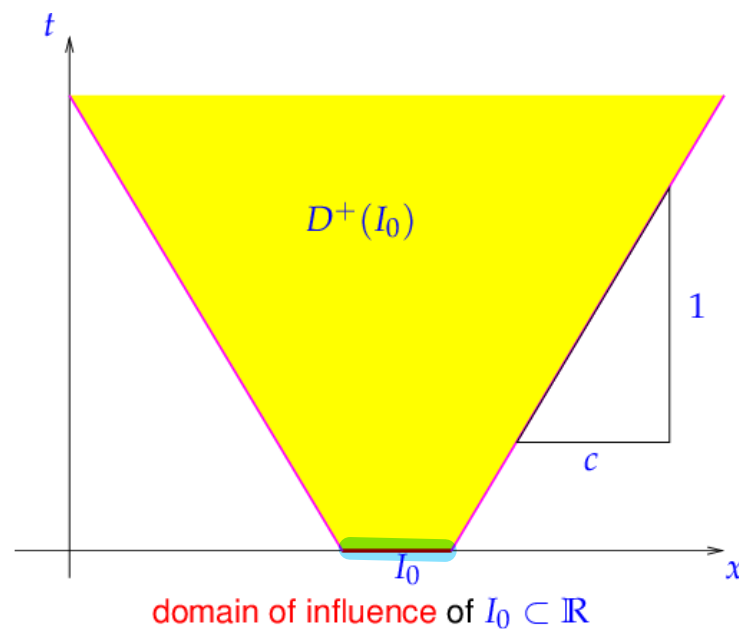
Remark: For 1D heat equation, Cauchy problem

Even if $\text{supp } u_0$ bounded $\Rightarrow \text{supp } u(\cdot, t) = \mathbb{R} \quad \forall t > 0$

Another consequence of finite speed of propagation



$u(\bar{x}, \bar{t})$ depends only on $u(x, t)$
in

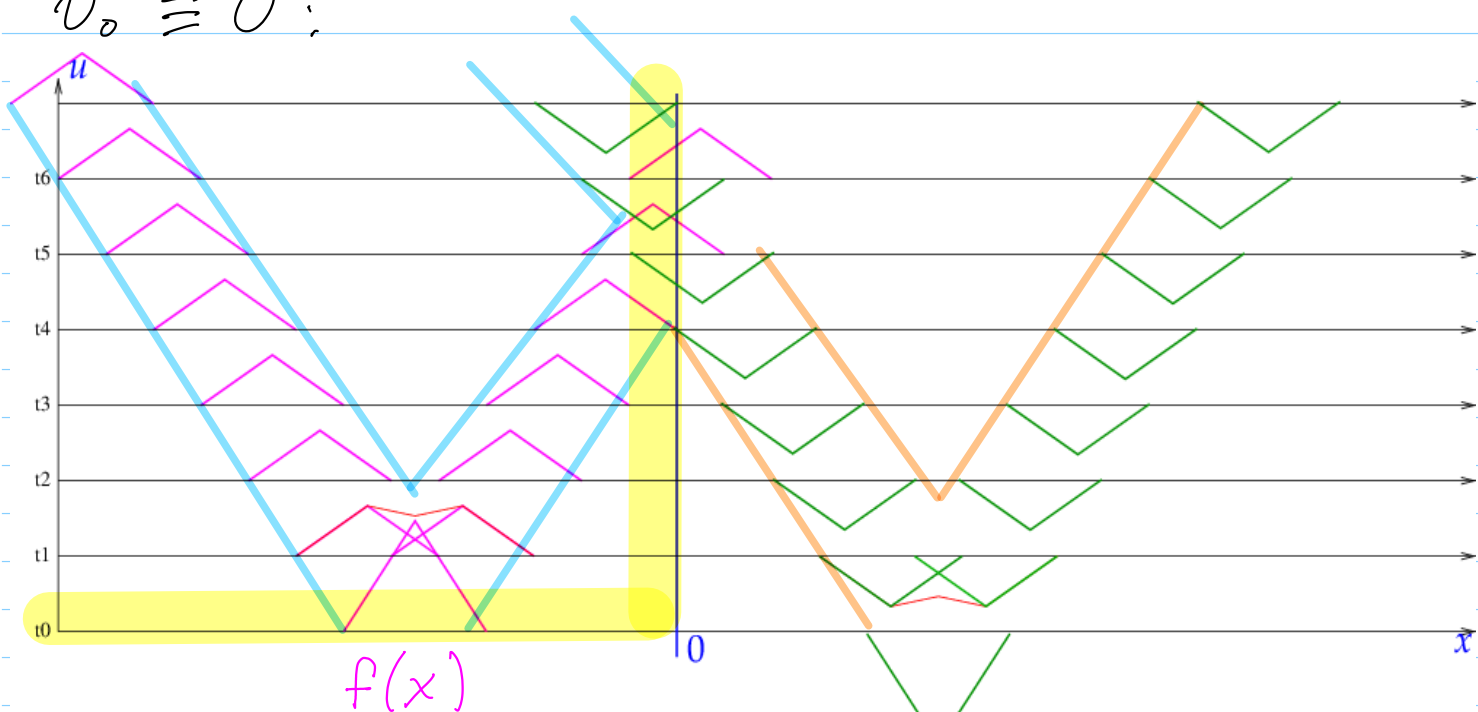


$u|_{I_0}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}|_{I_0}$ impact
solution only in

▷ Also carries over to higher dimensions

③ Remark: Spatial boundary condition

$$u_0 \equiv 0:$$



$$u_0(x) = f(x) - f(-x) \quad \square$$

$$\triangleright \text{[d'Alembert]}: u(0,t) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad \text{on } \mathbb{R}_- \times [0, T],$$

$$u(x,0) = u_0(x), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,0) = 0, \quad x \leq 0,$$

$$u(0,t) = 0 \quad \text{for } t \geq 0 \quad (\text{Dirichlet b.c.}).$$

(6.3.2.11)

Reflection at boundaries

Homogeneous Dirichlet or Neumann boundary conditions on (parts of) $\partial\Omega$ model the **reflection** of waves (at those parts of $\partial\Omega$).

Conservation of total energy (w/o forcing)

$$u : [0, T] \rightarrow H_0^1(\Omega): \int_{\Omega} \rho(x) \cdot \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} v \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \sigma(x) \mathbf{grad} u \cdot \mathbf{grad} v \, dx = 0 \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega) \quad (6.3.2.14)$$

$$u \in V_0: m(\ddot{u}, v) + a(u, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in V_0, \quad (6.3.2.15)$$

Total energy $E(t) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} a(u(t), u(t))}_{\text{elastic energy / potential energy}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} m(\dot{u}(t), \dot{u}(t))}_{\text{kinetic energy}}$

Theorem 6.3.2.16. Energy conservation in wave propagation

If $u : \tilde{\Omega} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ solves (6.3.2.15), then we have **conservation of total energy** in the sense that

$$t \mapsto \frac{1}{2} m\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right) + \frac{1}{2} a(u, u) \equiv \text{const.}$$

kinetic energy

elastic (potential) energy, see (1.2.1.19)

$\square$ Proof: general product for symmetric bilinear forms

$$\frac{d}{dt} E(t) \stackrel{\downarrow}{=} a(u(t), \dot{u}(t)) + m(\dot{u}(t), \ddot{u}(t)) = 0$$

$\uparrow$ $\uparrow$ $\uparrow$
 $= v$ in (6.3.2.15)

Review questions 9.3.2.17

[Please answer without relying on notes]

A:

We consider the Cauchy problem for the constant-coefficient linear wave equation in $\mathbb{R}^d$:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - \Delta u = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^+ . \quad (6.3.2.18)$$

For $k \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\|k\| = 1$, a solution of (6.3.2.18) of the form

$$u(x, t) = \operatorname{Re} \exp(i(k \cdot x - \omega t)) , \quad \omega \in \mathbb{R} , \quad (6.3.2.19)$$

is called a **plane-wave solution**. Find ω as a function of k .

B:

Consider the Cauchy problem for the 1D wave equation

$$c > 0: \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0 \quad , \quad u(x, 0) = u_0(x) , \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = v_0(x) , \quad x \in \mathbb{R} , \quad (6.3.2.2)$$

and recall the d'Alembert solution

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}(u_0(x + ct) + u_0(x - ct)) + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} v_0(s) \, ds . \quad (6.3.2.4)$$

Which relationship must be satisfied for the initial data u_0 and v_0 such that you obtain a solution that propagates only to the right?

C:

We study the following initial-boundary value problem for the 1D linear constant-coefficient wave equation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} &= 0 \quad \text{in }]0, 1[\times \mathbb{R}^+ , \\ u(0, t) &= u(1, t) = 0 \quad \forall t > 0 , \end{aligned} \quad (6.3.2.20)$$

$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x) \quad , \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = v_0(x) \quad , \quad 0 < x < 1 .$$

1. In the $x - t$ -plane sketch the precise domain of influence of the interval $[\frac{1}{4}, \frac{3}{4}]$.
2. What is the domain of dependence for the point $\begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$?

Hint. Remember that homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions for the 1D wave equation model a reflection of the wave at the boundary.

D:

Consider the abstract variational wave equation

$$u = u(t) \in V_0: m(\ddot{u}, v) + b(\dot{u}, v) + a(u, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in V_0 , \quad (6.3.2.21)$$

where V_0 is a vector space and m, a are symmetric positive definite bilinear forms on V_0 . Which properties of the bilinear form b ensure an **exponential decay** of the **energy**

$$\mathcal{E}(t) := \frac{1}{2}m(\dot{u}(t), \dot{u}(t)) + \frac{1}{2}a(u(t), u(t))$$

when $t \mapsto u(t)$ solves (6.3.2.21).

