

Week 13 summary

• Partial differential equations (PDEs): equations involving a function and its partial derivatives

* Heat equation: $u_t = c^2 u_{xx}$

Boundary conditions: - (Dirichlet) $u(0, t) = u(l, t) = 0$
 (temp of endpts fixed at 0).
 - (Neumann) $u_x(0, t) = u_x(l, t) = 0$.
 (insulated endpts).

Initial condition: $u(x, 0) = h(x)$: Initial heat distribution of bar.

* Wave equation: $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$

Boundary conditions: $u(0, t) = u(l, t) = 0$ (both endpts fixed)

Initial conditions: $u(x, 0) = h_1(x)$ (initial displacement)
 $u_t(x, 0) = h_2(x)$ (initial vertical velocity).

Solving PDEs by separation of variables

Step 1: Assume $u(x, t) = f(x)g(t)$. Plug back in ϵ , separate vars.

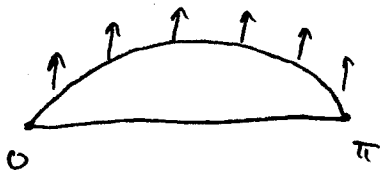
Step 2: Set resulting equation to const. λ . Get 2 ODEs, one for f , one for g .

Step 3: solve ODE for g (general solution). Solve ODE for f w/ boundary conditions for f (particular sol'n). Find λ .

Step 4: General solution is $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n(x)g_n(t)$.

Step 5: Plug in $t=0$ ϵ , use initial conditions to find particular sol'n.

2] Solving the wave equation



$$\text{Ex: } u_{tt} = u_{xx} \quad u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 0 \\ u(x, 0) = x(\pi - x) \quad u_t(x, 0) = 1$$

A solution is a function $u(x, t)$ that describes the vertical displacement at position $x \in [0, \pi]$ and time $t \geq 0$.

Solve using separation of variables: (just like for the heat equation).

Assume $u(x, t) = f(x)g(t)$. Plug back in.

$$u_{tt} = fg'', \quad u_{xx} = f''g \Rightarrow fg'' = f''g \\ \Rightarrow \frac{f''}{f} = \frac{g''}{g} = \lambda \Rightarrow \begin{cases} f'' = \lambda f \\ g'' = \lambda g \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Moreover, } u(0, t) = f(0)g(t) = 0 \Rightarrow f(0) = 0 \\ u(\pi, t) = f(\pi)g(t) = 0 \Rightarrow f(\pi) = 0$$

$$\text{ODE 1: } f'' = \lambda f, \quad f(0) = 0, \quad f(\pi) = 0.$$

$$\text{We've done this: } \boxed{f_n(x) = b_n \sin nx} \quad \lambda = -n^2$$

$$\text{ODE 2: } g'' = \lambda g \Rightarrow \boxed{g_n(x) = a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx}$$

Now, for each n , we have a solution

$$u_n(x, t) = f_n(x)g_n(t) = (a_n \cos nt + b_n \sin nt) \sin nx$$

By superposition, the general solution is

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} u_n(x, t) = \boxed{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos nt + b_n \sin nt) \sin nx}$$

Finally, let's use our initial conditions.

$$u(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin nx = x(\pi - x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{\pi n^3} (1 - (-1)^n) \sin nx.$$

$$\Rightarrow a_n = \frac{4}{\pi n^3} (1 - (-1)^n) \quad (\text{Fourier sine series of } x(\pi - x)).$$

$$u_t(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-na_n \sin nt + nb_n \cos nt) \sin nx$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nb_n \sin nx = 1 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n\pi} (1 - (-1)^n) \sin nx$$

$$\Rightarrow nb_n = \frac{2}{n\pi} (1 - (-1)^n) \quad (\text{Fourier sine series of } 1).$$

$$\Rightarrow b_n = \frac{2}{n^2\pi} (1 - (-1)^n).$$

Now, our particular solution is

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\frac{4}{\pi n^3} (1 - (-1)^n) \cos nt + \frac{2}{n\pi} (1 - (-1)^n) \sin nt \right] \sin nx$$

[MIDTERM]

Recall PDEs in 1 (spatial) dimension:

Heat equation: $u_t = c^2 u_{xx}$

Wave equation: $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$

In 2 dimensions, these PDEs are:

Heat equation: $u_t = c^2 (u_{xx} + u_{yy})$

Wave equation: $u_{tt} = c^2 (u_{xx} + u_{yy})$

Let $u(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ be an n -variable function.

The Laplacian of u is $\nabla \cdot \nabla u = \nabla^2 u = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2}$

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In n dimensions, these PDEs are:

Heat equation: $\nabla^2 u = u_t$

Wave equation: $\nabla^2 u = u_{tt}$

(Note: Sometimes the Laplace operator ∇^2 is written Δ).

Steady-state solutions: Occur for the heat equation, but not the wave equation (heat diffuses, waves propagate).

Notice that "steady-state" means that $u_t \rightarrow 0$.

("eventually, the temperature doesn't change w.r.t. time").

Thus, all steady state solutions satisfy

$$\nabla^2 u = 0, \text{ i.e., } \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_2^2} + \dots + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_n^2} = 0.$$

Def: A function u is harmonic if $\nabla^2 u = 0$.

Ex: $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$ $f_{xx} = 2$, $f_{yy} = -2$, $\nabla^2 f = 0$.

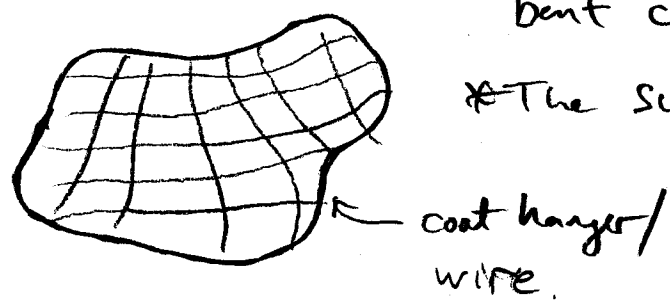
How to visualize harmonic functions:

If $u(x, t)$ is a solution to the heat equation.

Then $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0$ "temperature will spread out evenly"

* Thus, steady-state solutions to the heat equation are harmonic functions, and are as "flat as possible"

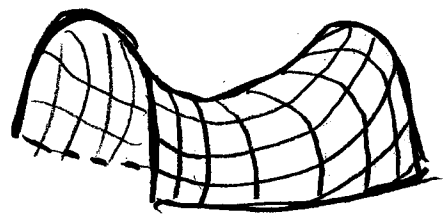
Physical interpretation: stretch out plastic wrap over a bent circular wire, tight as possible.



* The surface is a harmonic function.

Fact: If f is harmonic, then for any closed bounded region R , f achieves its min & max values on the boundary, ∂R .

Ex: $f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$



Pretend cutting this surface w/ a "cookie cutter".
The max & min points will be on the boundary.

* In other words, there are no local min/maxes.

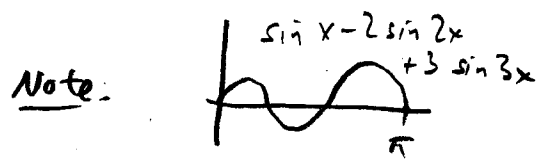
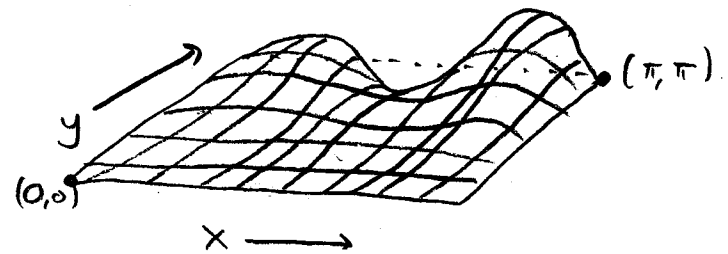
Example: let $u(x, y)$ be a function, $0 \leq x, y \leq \pi$, and

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0,$$

$$u(0, y) = u(\pi, y) = 0$$

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

$$u(x, \pi) = \sin x - 2 \sin 2x + 3 \sin 3x$$



Physical situation: $u(x, y)$ is the steady-state sol'n for the region $[0, \pi] \times [0, \pi]$, where 3 sides are fixed at 0° , and one at $u(x, \pi)$.

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Step 1: Assume $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$. Plug back in.

$$u_{xx} = X''Y, \quad u_{yy} = XY''.$$

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = X''Y + XY'' = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} = -\frac{Y''}{Y} = \lambda$$

$$\text{Also, } u(0, y) = X(0)Y(y) = 0 \Rightarrow X(0) = 0$$

$$u(\pi, y) = X(\pi)Y(y) = 0 \Rightarrow X(\pi) = 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = X(x)Y(0) = 0 \Rightarrow Y(0) = 0.$$

Get 2 ODEs: (i) $X'' = \lambda X$, $X(0) = 0$, $X(\pi) = 0$.

We know has sol'n $X_n(x) = b_n \sin nx$, $\lambda = -n^2$.

$$(ii) Y'' = -\lambda Y \Rightarrow Y'' = n^2 Y, \quad Y(0) = 0.$$

Has sol'n $Y(y) = A_n \cosh nx + B_n \sinh nx$

$$Y(0) = A_n = 0 \Rightarrow Y(y) = B_n \sinh nx$$

Our general solution is thus

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} X_n(x) Y_n(y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx \sinh ny$$

Finally, we use our last initial condition:

$$u(x, \pi) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (b_n \sinh n\pi) \sin nx = \sin x - 2 \sin 2x + 3 \sin 3x$$

$$n=1: b_1 \sinh \pi \sin x = \sin x \Rightarrow b_1 = \frac{1}{\sinh \pi}$$

$$n=2: b_2 \sinh 2\pi \sin 2x = -2 \sin 2x \Rightarrow b_2 = \frac{-2}{\sinh 2\pi}$$

$$n=3: b_3 \sinh 3\pi \sin 3x = 3 \sin 3x \Rightarrow b_3 = \frac{3}{\sinh 3\pi}$$

Our particular solution is therefore:

$$u(x, y) = \frac{1}{\sinh \pi} \sin x \sinh y - \frac{2}{\sinh 2\pi} \sin 2x \sinh 2y + \frac{3}{\sinh 3\pi} \sin 3x \sinh 3y$$

Example 2: Suppose we had a similar PDE:

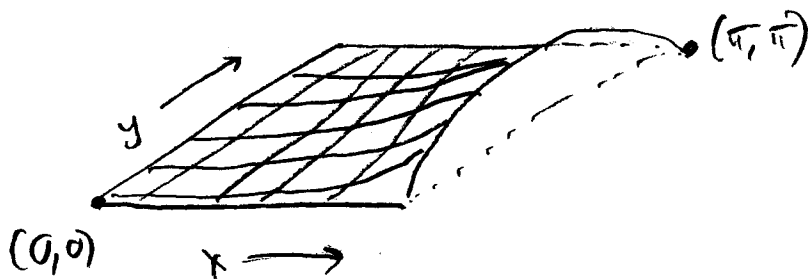
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$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

$$u(0, y) = 0$$

$$u(\pi, y) = y(\pi - y)$$

$$u(x, 0) = u(x, \pi) = 0$$



Proceed as before, and get

$$Y'' = \lambda Y, \quad Y(0) = Y(\pi) = 0 \Rightarrow Y_n(y) = b_n \sin ny$$

$$X'' = n^2 X, \quad X(0) = 0 \Rightarrow X_n(x) = B_n \sinh nx$$

$$\text{General sol'n: } u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sinh nx \sin ny$$

$$u(\pi, y) = y(\pi - y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{\pi n^3} (1 - (-1)^n) \sin ny$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sinh n\pi \sin ny$$

$$\Rightarrow b_n \sinh n\pi = \frac{4}{\pi n^3} (1 - (-1)^n) \Rightarrow b_n = \frac{4(1 - (-1)^n)}{\pi n^3 \sinh n\pi}$$

$$\text{General sol'n: } u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4(1 - (-1)^n)}{\pi n^3 \sinh n\pi} \sinh nx \sin ny$$

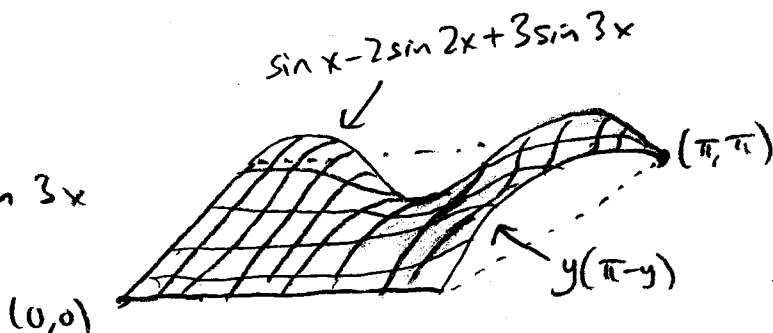
Now, consider a superposition of the two previous examples:

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

$$u(0, y) = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = 0$$

$$u(\pi, y) = \sin x - 2 \sin 2x + 3 \sin 3x$$

$$u(x, \pi) = y(\pi - y)$$



[8] Intuitively, the solution $u(x, y)$ (think steady-state solution of these two PDEs; superimposed boundary conditions) should be the superposition (sum) of the two solutions from the previous example.

i.e.,

$$u_1(x, y) + u_2(x, y) = u(x, y).$$

Thus, the general solution is

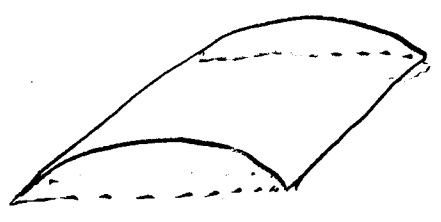
$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x, y) &= \left(\frac{1}{\sinh \pi} \sin x \sinh y + \frac{8}{\pi \sinh \pi} \sinh x \sin y \right) \\
 &\quad - \left(\frac{2}{\sinh 2\pi} \sin 2x \sinh 2y \right) \\
 &\quad + \left(\frac{3}{\sinh 3\pi} \sin 3x \sinh 3y + \frac{28}{27\pi \sinh 3\pi} \sinh 3x \sin 3y \right) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{4(1 - (-1)^n)}{\pi n^3 \sinh n\pi} \sin nx \sinh ny
 \end{aligned}$$

Heat equation in 2D:

$$u_t = u_{xx} + u_{yy}, \quad 0 \leq x, y, \leq \pi$$

$$u(0, y, t) = u(\pi, y, t) = u(x, 0, t) = u(x, \pi, t) = 0$$

$$u(x, y, 0) = 2 \sin x \sin 2y + 3 \sin 4x \sin 5y.$$



BCs: Boundary fixed at 0°.

IC: Initial heat distribution.

f^n of pos. \downarrow f^n of time

Assume sol'n has the form $u(x, y, t) = f(x, y)g(t)$

$$u_t = u_{xx} + u_{yy} \rightsquigarrow g' f = g f_{xx} + g f_{yy}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{g'}{g} = \frac{f_{xx} + f_{yy}}{f} = \frac{\Delta f}{f} = \lambda$$

Get: $g' = \lambda g \Rightarrow g(t) = C e^{\lambda t}$

$\Delta f = \lambda f$ "Helmholtz equation"

$u(0, y, t) = f(0, y)g(t) = 0 \Rightarrow f(0, y) = 0$

likewise, $f(\pi, y) = f(x, 0) = f(x, \pi) = 0.$

Need to solve $f_{xx} + f_{yy} = \lambda f.$

Assume $f(x, y) = X(x)Y(y).$

$$f_{xx} = X''Y, \quad f_{yy} = XY''$$

Plug back in: $\frac{X''Y + XY''}{XY} = \frac{\lambda XY}{XY} \Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} + \frac{Y''}{Y} = \lambda.$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} = \lambda - \frac{Y''}{Y} = \mu$$

depends only on x

depends only on y

10 Get 2 ODEs:

all this v

$$X'' = \mu X, \quad Y'' = (\lambda - \mu) Y \Rightarrow \lambda - \mu = \nu \Rightarrow$$

$$Y'' = \nu Y \Rightarrow \lambda = \nu + \mu$$

Recall boundary conditions:

$$f(0, y) = X(0) Y(y) = 0 \Rightarrow X(0) = 0$$

$$f(\pi, y) = 0 \Rightarrow X(\pi) = 0$$

$$f(x, 0) = X(x) Y(0) = 0 \Rightarrow Y(0) = 0$$

$$f(x, \pi) = X(x) Y(\pi) = 0 \Rightarrow Y(\pi) = 0$$

$$X'' = \mu X, \quad X(0) = X(\pi) = 0 \Rightarrow X_n(x) = b_n \sin nx \quad \mu = -n^2$$

$$Y'' = \nu Y, \quad Y(0) = Y(\pi) = 0 \Rightarrow Y_m(y) = B_m \sin my, \quad \nu = -m^2$$

Recall, $\lambda = \nu + \mu = -(n^2 + m^2)$.

Thus, for each pair m, n , we have a sol'n

$$f_{nm}(x, y) = b_{nm} \sin nx \sin my$$

$$g_{nm}(t) = C e^{\lambda t} = C_{nm} e^{-(n^2 + m^2)t}$$

The general solution is thus

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} b_{nm} \sin nx \sin my e^{-(n^2 + m^2)t}$$