

Week 14 summary:

• Real Fourier series: $f(x) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos nx + b_n \sin nx$

Complex Fourier series: $f(x) = c_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n e^{-inx} + c_{-n} e^{inx} = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{-inx}$

$e^{inx} = \cos nx + i \sin nx$, $\cos nx = \frac{e^{inx} + e^{-inx}}{2}$, $\sin nx = \frac{e^{inx} - e^{-inx}}{2i}$

Thus, $a_n = c_n + c_{-n}$ $c_n = \frac{a_n - ib_n}{2}$, $c_{-n} = \frac{a_n + ib_n}{2}$
 $b_n = i(c_n - c_{-n})$

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

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

Boundary conditions: - Dirichlet: $u(0,t) = a$, $u(L,t) = b$
 (temp. of ends held fixed).

- Neumann: $u_x(0,t) = u_x(L,t) = 0$
 (insulated endpoints).



Initial conditions: $u(x,0) = h(x)$ (Initial heat distribution in the bar)

* Solving PDEs by Separation of Variables

Step 1: Assume $u(x,t) = f(x)g(t)$. Plug back in; "separate variables"

Step 2: Set resulting eq'n (e.g., $\frac{f''}{f} = \frac{g'}{c^2 g}$) equal to a constant λ .

Get 2 ODEs: one for $g(t)$ & one for $f(x)$.

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Step 3: Solve ODE for $g(t)$ (general sol'n). Solve the ODE for $f(x)$ with boundary conditions (particular sol'n). Find d .

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

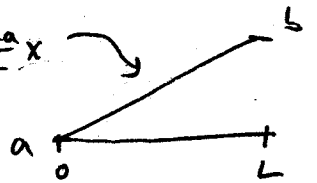
Step 5: Plug in $t=0$ & use initial conditions to find the unique solution ($u(x, 0)$ will be a Fourier series, you may have to find the Fourier sine/cosine series of $u(x, 0) = h(x)$).

* Solving an initial value problem with non-zero boundary conditions:

$$u_t = c^2 u_{xx}, \quad u(0, t) = \underline{a}, \quad u(L, t) = \underline{b}, \quad u(x, 0) = h(x).$$

- The steady-state solution is $u_{ss}(x) = a + \frac{b-a}{L}x$

- Add this to the solution $u_{0,0}(x, t)$ of the same IVP but where $a=0$, $b=0$.



The final solution is $u(x, t) = u_{ss}(x) + u_{0,0}(x, t)$

This week: The Wave equation: $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$.

Motivation: Consider the following PDE: $\frac{du}{dt} - c \frac{du}{dx} = 0$ (*)

Let $F(x)$ be any one-variable function, and set

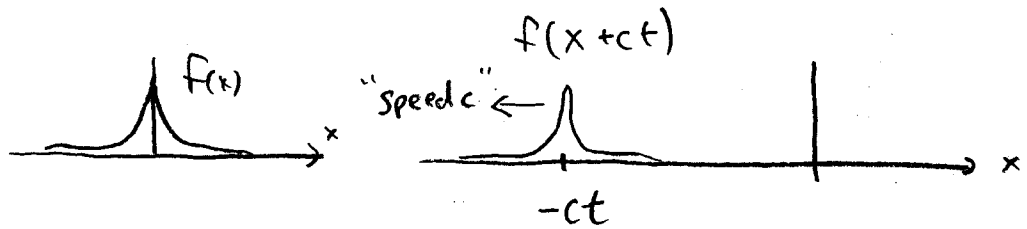
$$u(x, t) = f(x+ct).$$

Chain rule \Rightarrow $u_x(x, t) = f'(x+ct)$
 $u_t(x, t) = c f'(x+ct)$

Note: $u_t - cu_x = c f'(x+ct) - c f'(x+ct) = 0 \checkmark$

i.e., $f(x+ct)$ is a solution to the PDE in (*).

Picture of this:



As t increases, $u(x,t) = f(x+ct)$ is a traveling wave (to the left, at speed c).

Next, consider the PDE: $\boxed{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0}$ (**)

Let $g(x)$ be any one-variable function, and set

$$u(x,t) = g(x-ct)$$

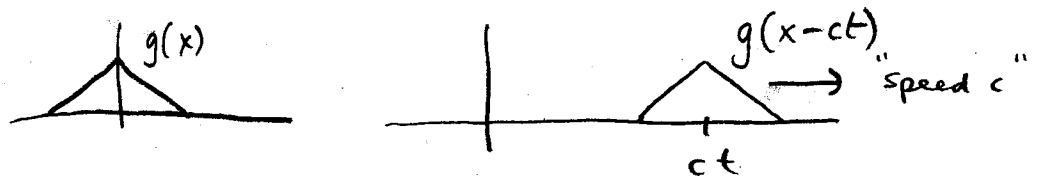
$$\text{Chain rule} \Rightarrow u_x(x,t) = g'(x-ct)$$

$$u_t(x,t) = -cg'(x-ct)$$

Note: $u_t + cu_x = -cg'(x-ct) + cg'(x-ct) = 0$ ✓

i.e., $g(x-ct)$ is a solution to the PDE in (**)

Picture of this:



Now, let $f(x)$ & $g(x)$ be any two one-variable functions. Consider the PDE

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - c \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) u = \boxed{\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0}$$
 (***)

Check: $u(x,t) = f(x+ct) + g(x-ct)$ is a solution.

Consider the following initial value problem:

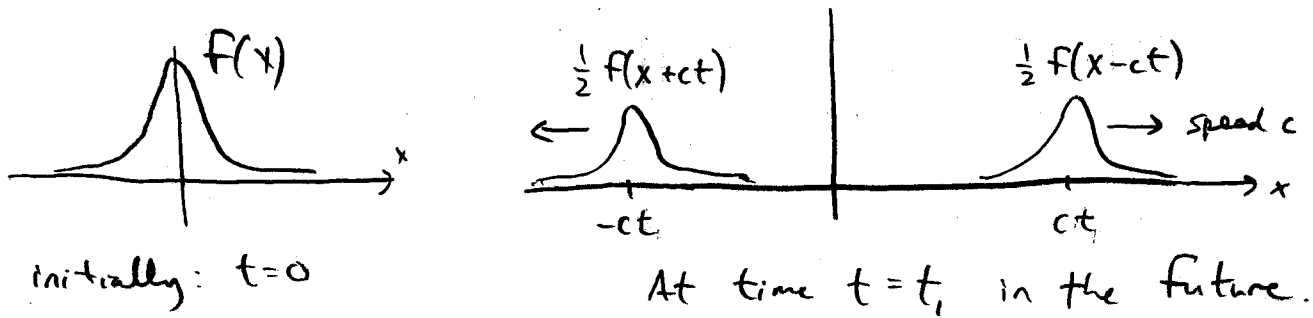
$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} \quad (\text{i.e., the PDE in (***)})$$

$$u(x,0) = f(x) \quad \text{"initial displacement, or wave"}$$

$$u_t(x,0) = 0 \quad \text{"initial velocity (vertical; pointwise)"}$$

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Picture of this: Start with a stationary wave in the ocean, at time $t=0$, then "let go," It should disperse, left & right.



The solution to this initial value problem is

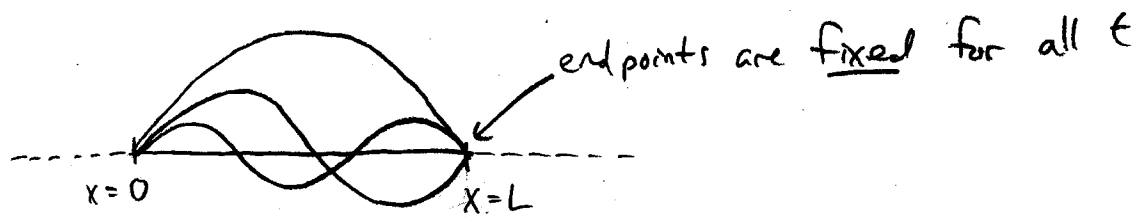
$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} f(x+ct) + \frac{1}{2} f(x-ct)$$

"half the wave (or energy) goes to the left, half goes right."

Big idea: $\frac{d^2 u}{dt^2} = c^2 \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2}$ is the wave equation

- Now, suppose we want to model vibrations (waves) on a finite string/wire of length L .

We need to impose boundary conditions.



Let $u(x, t)$ be the (vertical) displacement at position x & time t .

Fixed endpoints $\Rightarrow u(0, t) = 0$ and $u(L, t) = 0$.

We must specify the initial wave: $u(x, 0) = h_1(x)$

and initial (vertical) velocity @ x : $u_t(x, 0) = h_2(x)$.

Together, we get an initial value problem for the wave equation:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} \quad u(0,t) = 0, \quad u(L,t) = 0 \\ u(x,0) = h_1(x), \quad u_t(x,0) = h_2(x) \end{aligned}$$

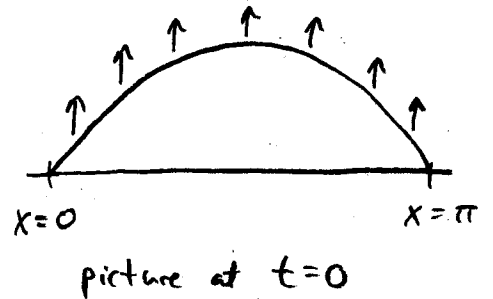
We solve this using separation of variables, just like the heat equation.

Example: Consider the IVP:

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$$

$$u(0,t) = 0, \quad u(\pi,t) = 0$$

$$u(x,0) = x(\pi-x), \quad u_t(x,0) = 1.$$



Step 1: Assume $u(x,t) = f(x)g(t)$ & plug back in:

$$u_{tt} = f g'', \quad u_{xx} = f'' g \Rightarrow f g'' = c^2 f'' g \Rightarrow \frac{f''}{f} = \frac{g''}{c^2 g}$$

$$\text{Step 2: } \frac{f''}{f} = \frac{g''}{c^2 g} = \lambda \Rightarrow \begin{cases} f'' = \lambda f \\ g'' = c^2 \lambda g \end{cases}$$

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

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

Step 3: Solve the ODEs for $f(x)$ & $g(t)$.

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

We've done this! $\lambda = -n^2$, $f_n(x) = b_n \sin nx$

$$\text{ODE 2: } g'' = -c^2 n^2 g \Rightarrow g_n(t) = a_n \cos(cnt) + b_n \sin(cnt)$$

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Step 4: The general solution (by superposition) is

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

Step 5: Plug in $t=0$ & use (both) initial conditions.

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



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

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

(The Fourier sine series of $x(\pi-x)$).

(ii) $u_t(x,0) = 1$

$$u_t(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-cn a_n \sin(cnt) + cn b_n \cos(cnt)) \sin nx$$

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

(The Fourier sine series of 1).

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

The solution to this initial value problem for the wave equation is thus

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos(cnt) + b_n \sin(cnt)) \sin nx, \text{ i.e.,}$$

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