

MATH 241
LECTURE 1

Review of prerequisite concepts.

- Syllabus
- Introduction:
 - Midterm 1
 - ↗ Heat and Laplace equations.
 - ↘ Method: Separation of variables.
 - Midterm 2
 - ↗ Wave equation
 - ↘ Method: Fourier series.
 - Final: Higher dimensions and Fourier transform. (cumulative).

Example of a PDE: $u_{xx}(x,y) = 0$. ($u_{xx}(x,y) := \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}(u(x,y))$).

Solution?

↳ Think first of the ODE $f''(x) = 0 \leadsto f(x) = c_1 x + c_2$.
(c_1, c_2 constants)

Analogously,

$$u_{xx}(x,y) = 0 \leadsto u(x,y) = c_1(y)x + c_2(y)$$

Moral: In PDE the solutions have undetermined functions playing the role of the constants in ODE.

↑
↳ conditions will be needed to find those functions.

→ It is clear that to solve PDEs, we need to know how to solve ODEs.

• Review of ODEs

1) Separable ODEs: $u'(x) = f(x)g(u)$ for given functions f, g .

Solution: $\frac{du}{dx} = f(x)g(u) \Rightarrow \int \frac{du}{g(u)} = \int f(x) dx + C$

Example: $\left. \begin{array}{l} y'(x) = x y^2 \\ y(0) = 1 \end{array} \right\}$

Sol: $\frac{dy}{y^2} = x dx \Rightarrow \frac{-1}{y(x)} = \frac{x^2}{2} + C \Rightarrow -1 = 0 + C.$

Thus, $y(x) = \frac{-2}{x^2 - 2}.$

Example: $u'(t) + (u(t))^2 \cos(t) = 0$

Sol: $\int \frac{du}{u^2} = - \int \cos(t) dt \Rightarrow \frac{-1}{u(t)} = -\sin(t) + C \Rightarrow u(t) = \frac{1}{\sin(t) - C}.$

2) Linear ODEs (very important for this course).

2.1) 1st order linear ODEs

2.1.1) With constant coefficients: $\| u'(x) + b u(x) = h(x) \| (b \in \mathbb{R})$

Solution:

Let's do first a particular example: $u'(x) + 2u(x) = 0$.

Multiply by the integration factor e^{2x} :

$$e^{2x} u' + 2e^{2x} u(x) = 0 \text{ and notice that}$$

$e^{2x} u'(x) + 2e^{2x} u(x) = \frac{d}{dx} (e^{2x} u(x))$. therefore the equation is reduced to

$$\frac{d}{dx} (e^{2x} u(x)) = 0 \Rightarrow e^{2x} u(x) = C \Rightarrow u(x) = C e^{-2x} //$$

→ General case: $u'(x) + b u(x) = h(x)$.

Use the integration factor e^{bx} ,

$$e^{bx} u'(x) + b e^{bx} u(x) = \frac{d}{dx} (e^{bx} u(x)) = e^{bx} h(x) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{bx} u(x) = \int e^{bs} h(s) ds + C \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| u(x) = e^{-bx} \int e^{bs} h(s) ds + e^{-bx} C \right| //$$

2.1.2) General coefficients: $u'(x) + p(x)u(x) = g(x)$.

"Same" method: multiply by $e^{\int p(x)dx}$:

$$e^{\int p(x)dx} u'(x) + e^{\int p(x)dx} p(x)u(x) = \frac{d}{dx} \left(e^{\int p(x)dx} u(x) \right) = e^{\int p(x)dx} g(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\| u(x) = e^{-\int p(x)dx} \left(\int e^{\int p(x)dx} g(x) dx + C \right) \right\|$$

• Example:
$$\left. \begin{aligned} u'(x) + \frac{1}{x}u(x) &= x^2 \\ u(1) &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Sol:
$$e^{\int \frac{1}{x} dx} = e^{\log(x)} = x,$$

$$x u'(x) + u(x) = \frac{d}{dx} (x u(x)) = x^3 \Rightarrow x u(x) = \frac{x^4}{4} + C \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x) = \frac{x^3}{4} + \frac{C}{x} \quad \left. \begin{aligned} u(1) = 1 &= \frac{1}{4} + C \Rightarrow C = \frac{3}{4} \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow u(x) = \frac{1}{4} \left(x^3 + \frac{3}{x} \right)$$

2.2) 2nd order linear ODEs

We will only consider homogeneous ODEs with constant coefficients in this case,

$$\left\| u''(x) + bu'(x) + cu(x) = 0 \right\| \quad (b, c \in \mathbb{R})$$

Solution: We study the roots of the characteristic polynomial,

$$r^2 + br + c = 0 \rightarrow r = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4c}}{2}$$

Three cases:

① Two real and distinct numbers: r_1, r_2 . Then,

$$u(x) = c_1 e^{r_1 x} + c_2 e^{r_2 x}.$$

② Two complex roots (conjugates): real part $-\frac{b}{2}$.

imaginary part $\frac{\sqrt{4c - b^2}}{2}$.

Denoting $\omega = \frac{\sqrt{4c - b^2}}{2}$, the solution is

$$u(x) = e^{-\frac{b}{2}x} (c_1 \cos(\omega x) + c_2 \sin(\omega x)).$$

③ Two real repeated roots: $r_1 = r_2 = -\frac{b}{2}$.

$$\text{Solution: } u(x) = c_1 e^{-\frac{b}{2}x} + c_2 x e^{-\frac{b}{2}x}.$$

Example:
$$\left. \begin{aligned} u''(x) - 9u(x) &= 0 \\ u(0) &= 2 \\ u'(0) &= -1 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Sol: $r^2 - 9 = 0 \rightarrow r = \pm 3 \rightarrow u(x) = c_1 e^{3x} + c_2 e^{-3x}$.

Initial data $\rightarrow u(0) = c_1 + c_2 = 2$

$$u'(0) = (3c_1 e^{3x} - 3c_2 e^{-3x}) \Big|_{x=0} = 3c_1 - 3c_2 = -1 \quad \left. \vphantom{u'(0)} \right\} \rightarrow$$

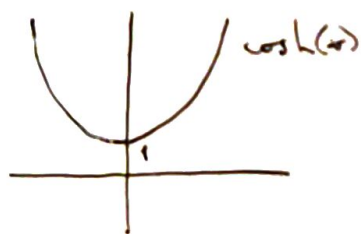
$$\rightarrow \begin{cases} c_1 + c_2 = 2 \\ 3c_1 - 3c_2 = -1 \end{cases} \rightarrow 6c_1 = 5 \Rightarrow c_1 = \frac{5}{6}, c_2 = 2 - \frac{5}{6} = \frac{7}{6}.$$

Remark: The solution can also be written as

$u(x) = c_3 \cosh(3x) + c_4 \sinh(3x)$, since (they span the same vector space of functions).

$$\left\| \begin{aligned} \cosh(x) &= \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2} \\ \sinh(x) &= \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2} \end{aligned} \right\|$$

$\hookrightarrow (\cosh(x))' = \sinh(x), \quad \cosh^2(x) - \sinh^2(x) = 1, \quad \cosh(0) = 1,$
 $(\sinh(x))' = \cosh(x), \quad \sinh(0) = 0.$



• Review of vector calculus

In ODEs we have functions of one variable and its derivatives.

In PDEs we have functions of several variables and its partial derivatives.

Let $f(x, y, z)$,

→ Gradient: $\nabla f = (f_x, f_y, f_z)$.

→ Directional derivative: $D_{\vec{a}} f = \nabla f \cdot \vec{a} = |\nabla f| |\vec{a}| \cos \theta$
(with $|\vec{a}| = 1$)

↳ Thus $\vec{a} = \frac{\nabla f}{|\nabla f|}$ is the direction in which f increases
fastest ($\theta = 0 \Rightarrow \cos \theta = 1$).

→ Laplacian: $\Delta f = f_{xx} + f_{yy} + f_{zz}$.

→ Divergence: If we have a vector field $\vec{F}(x, y, z) = (f_1(x, y, z), f_2(x, y, z), f_3(x, y, z))$,
then $\operatorname{div} \vec{F} = \nabla \cdot \vec{F} = \partial_x f_1 + \partial_y f_2 + \partial_z f_3$.

A positive divergence means there is a source for the flow of $\vec{F}$.

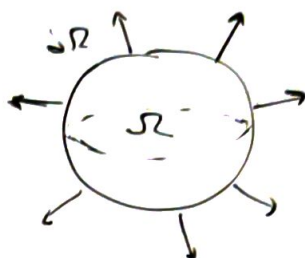
Example: $f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2 \rightarrow \nabla f(x, y) = (2x, 2y)$

$$\begin{array}{c} \nearrow \quad \nearrow \quad \nearrow \\ \mid \\ \searrow \quad \searrow \quad \searrow \end{array} \nabla f \quad \xrightarrow{\nabla \cdot} \nabla \cdot \nabla f = \Delta f = 2 + 2 = 4 > 0.$$

- A natural way of understanding the divergence of a field as sources and sinks is through the "divergence theorem":

Divergence Theorem: Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ a bounded region, $\partial\Omega$ a smooth boundary and $\vec{F}$ a vector field in $\mathbb{R}^3$. Then,

$$\iiint_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \vec{F} = \underbrace{\iint_{\partial\Omega} \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n}}_{\text{Flux of } \vec{F} \text{ through the boundary}}$$



($\vec{n} \equiv$ unit outward normal vector to $\partial\Omega$).

Example: $\vec{F}(x, y, z) = (x, y, z)$. Compute the flux of $\vec{F}$ through the unit sphere.

Sol.

$$\iint_{\partial\Omega} \vec{F} \cdot \vec{n} = \iiint_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} \vec{F} = \iiint_{\text{unit ball}} 3 = 3 \cdot \operatorname{Vol}(\text{unit ball}) = 3 \frac{4\pi}{3} = 4\pi.$$

→ Remember integration by parts: $\int_a^b f g' = f g \Big|_a^b - \int_a^b f' g$.

↳ Proof: $(fg)' = f'g + fg' \Rightarrow$

$$\Rightarrow \int_a^b (fg)' = fg \Big|_a^b = \int_a^b f'g + \int_a^b fg' \quad (\text{rearrange}).$$

→ The higher dimensional version of integration by parts also holds

$$\int_{\Omega} f \Delta g = \int_{\partial \Omega} f \nabla g \cdot \vec{n} - \int_{\Omega} \nabla f \cdot \nabla g \quad \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{see} \\ \text{homework 1} \end{array} \right).$$

Remark: We will use the simple $\int$ symbol for all integrals.