

Book Sections: 7.1, 7.2, 7.3

- So far in the course we have solved physical problems that can be modelled by a one-dimensional PDE, such as the wave or heat equation on an interval.
(movement of a string, diffusion of heat in a rod).
- Mathematically, we have solved these (linear and homogeneous) PDEs using the method of separation of variables.

- Write the unknown function as a product ($u(x,t) = \phi(x)G(t)$).
- Transform the PDE into two ODEs.
- Use the homogeneous BC to write a BVP.
 - ↳ Solve to find the λ_n and ϕ_n .
 - [almost never explicitly $\rightarrow$ many times regular S-L]
- Solve the other ODE with the given λ_n .
- Use superposition: $u(x,t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \phi_n(x)G_n(t)$.
- Impose the initial conditions to determine constants.

- In higher dimensions, the steps are roughly the same. Conceptually, the ideas for the method of separation of variables work analogously. However, the technical details (i.e., solving each step) are harder.

→ Main difference: In 2d and 3d the geometry can be very complex!

2d example: Find the temperature distribution of the walls in a building.

3d example: Study the propagation of sound waves.

- We will limit ourselves to study the wave and heat equation (and the Laplace equation, which we know corresponds to the equilibrium solutions of the previous ones).

→ We will only be able to solve very particular cases, where the geometry is simple enough (rectangles, circles, spheres, ...).

Remark: The ideas work in complex geometries, but one needs numerical methods to implement them.

• Example: Heat Equation in 2d (general geometry)

PDE: $u_t(x, y, t) = k(u_{xx}(x, y, t) + u_{yy}(x, y, t))$

BC: Any linear and homogeneous

→ Dirichlet: $u(x, y, t) = 0 \quad \text{for } (x, y) \in \partial\Omega$

→ Neumann: $\vec{n} \cdot \nabla u(x, y, t) = 0 \quad \text{for } (x, y) \in \partial\Omega$

→ Robin: $\alpha u(x, y, t) + \beta \vec{n} \cdot \nabla u(x, y, t) = 0 \quad \text{for } (x, y) \in \partial\Omega$

→ (periodic)

IC: $u(x, y, 0) = f(x, y)$.

Remark: The BC could be mixed

(Dirichlet on part of $\partial\Omega$, Neumann on some other part, ...).

Solution:

Separate time and space variables:

$$u(x, y, t) = \phi(x, y) G(t),$$

and substitute into the PDE:

$$\phi(x, y) G'(t) = k G(t) (\phi_{xx}(x, y) + \phi_{yy}(x, y)) \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \frac{G'(t)}{G(t)} = \frac{1}{\phi(x, y)} (\phi_{xx}(x, y) + \phi_{yy}(x, y)) = -\lambda$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad G'(t) = -\lambda k G(t)$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \phi_{xx}(x, y) + \phi_{yy}(x, y) = -\lambda \phi(x, y)$$

Remark: 1) I chose $-\lambda$ so that the time $\partial \in$ shows decay (as we expect physically). It is not crucial though.

2) $\textcircled{2}$ can also be written as $\Delta \phi + \lambda \phi = 0$.
(which reminds of $\phi'' + \lambda \phi = 0$ in 1d).

Now we have to write the BC in terms of ϕ . Let's assume for simplicity that we had Dirichlet BC along all the boundary:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} u(x, y, t) = 0 \text{ for } (x, y) \in \partial \Omega \\ \text{"} \\ \phi(x, y) G(t) \text{ for all } t \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{[*]} \phi(x, y) = 0 \text{ for } (x, y) \in \partial \Omega.$$

Then, we solve ②

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{2} \quad \Delta u + \lambda \phi = 0 \\ \phi \equiv 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{c} \rightsquigarrow \\ \uparrow \end{array} \begin{array}{l} \lambda_n \\ \phi_n(x, y) \end{array}$$

[We'll have a theory analogous
to the S-L theory.]

(under certain assumptions on the domain Ω)

For each λ_n , we solve ①:

$$G_n(t) = e^{-\lambda_n k t}.$$

We construct the product solutions:

$$u_n(x, y, t) = A_n \phi_n(x, y) e^{-\lambda_n k t},$$

and by superposition,

$$u(x, y, t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} A_n \phi_n(x, y) e^{-\lambda_n k t}, \text{ with}$$

$$u(x, y, 0) = \sum_{n \geq 1} A_n \phi_n(x, y) = f(x, y).$$

[*] In most (real) problems we cannot separate further the variables x and y because of the geometry.

• Exercise: Wave Equation on a Rectangular Domain.

[Section 7.3]

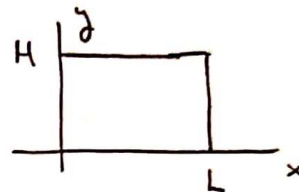
PDE: $u_{tt}(x, y, t) = c^2 (u_{xx}(x, y, t) + u_{yy}(x, y, t)),$

BCs: $u(0, y, t) = 0 = u(L, y, t), \quad 0 < y < H$

$u(x, 0, t) = 0 = u(x, H, t), \quad 0 < x < L$

ICs: $u(x, y, 0) = f(x, y)$

$u_t(x, y, 0) = g(x, y)$



Solution:

Let $u(x, y, t) = \phi(x, y) h(t) \Rightarrow$

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{h''(t)}{h(t)} = \frac{1}{\phi(x, y)} (\phi_{xx}(x, y) + \phi_{yy}(x, y)) = -\lambda$$

BCs: $u(0, y, t) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi(0, y) = 0, \quad 0 < y < H,$

$u(L, y, t) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi(L, y) = 0$

$u(x, 0, t) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi(x, 0) = 0$

$u(x, H, t) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi(x, H) = 0, \quad 0 < x < L.$

So we have

$$\textcircled{1} \quad h''(x) = -\lambda c^2 h(x) \quad \left. \vphantom{h''(x)} \right\} \text{ODE}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \textcircled{2} \quad & \Delta \phi + \lambda \phi = 0 \\ & \phi(0, y) = \phi(L, y) = 0 \\ & \phi(x, 0) = \phi(x, H) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \vphantom{\Delta \phi} \right\} \text{BVP} \leftarrow \text{But now this is} \\ \text{again a } \underline{\text{PDE}} !$$

In $\textcircled{2}$, the PDE and the BCs are linear and homogeneous. Thanks to the special geometry (rectangle), we can solve this eigenvalue problem by separation of variables.

Let $\phi(x, y) = F(x)G(y)$. The BCs can be written in terms of F and G :

$$\phi(0, y) = F(0)G(y) = 0 \quad \text{for } 0 < y < H \Rightarrow F(0) = 0.$$

$$\phi(L, y) = 0 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow F(L) = 0.$$

$$\phi(x, 0) = 0 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow G(0) = 0.$$

$$\phi(x, H) = 0 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow G(H) = 0.$$

The PDE in $\textcircled{2}$ becomes

$$F''(x)G(y) + F(x)G''(y) = -\lambda F(x)G(y) \Rightarrow$$

$$\frac{F''(x)}{F(x)} = -\lambda - \frac{G''(y)}{G(y)} = -\mu \Rightarrow$$

$$\textcircled{2.1} \quad F''(x) = -\mu F(x)$$

$$F(0) = F(L) = 0$$

$$\textcircled{2.2} \quad G''(y) = -(\lambda - \mu) G(y)$$

$$G(0) = G(H) = 0$$

⌈ Remark: Notice that we are writing

$$u(x, y, t) = \phi(x, y, t) = F(x) G(y) h(t)$$

↑
 { This works in this problem (because simple geometry), but not in general. }

Problems $\textcircled{2.1}$ and $\textcircled{2.2}$ are standard. We solve first

$\textcircled{2.1}$ because it depends only on one parameter:

$$\mu_n = \left(\frac{n\bar{u}}{L}\right)^2, \quad n \geq 1 \quad \text{with} \quad F_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\bar{u}x}{L}\right).$$

→ For each n , we solve $\textcircled{2.2}$ with this given value of μ :

$$\left. \begin{aligned} G_n''(y) &= -(\lambda_n - \mu_n) G_n(y) \\ G_n(0) &= G_n(H) = 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow$$

$$\lambda_{n,m} - \mu_n = \left(\frac{m\bar{u}}{H}\right)^2, \quad m \geq 1, \quad \text{with} \quad \lambda_{n,m} = \underbrace{\left(\frac{n\bar{u}}{L}\right)^2}_{\mu_n} + \left(\frac{m\bar{u}}{H}\right)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow G_{n,m}(y) = \sin\left(\frac{m\bar{u}y}{H}\right).$$

- In summary, we have solved the 2d eigenvalue problem ②:

$$\lambda_{n,m} = \left(\frac{m\pi}{H}\right)^2 + \mu_n = \left(\frac{m\pi}{H}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2, \quad \begin{matrix} n \geq 1, \\ m \geq 1, \end{matrix}$$

with

$$\Phi_{n,m}(x,y) = F_n(x) G_{n,m}(y) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{H}\right).$$

- Now, back to ① with these values of $\lambda_{n,m}$:

$$\textcircled{1} h''_{n,m}(t) = -\lambda_{n,m} c^2 h_{n,m}(t) \Rightarrow \left\{ \lambda_{n,m} > 0 \text{ for all } n,m \right\}$$

$$h_{n,m}(t) = A_{n,m} \cos(c\sqrt{\lambda_{n,m}} t) + B_{n,m} \sin(c\sqrt{\lambda_{n,m}} t).$$

- Product solution:

$$u_{n,m}(x,y,t) = \Phi_{n,m}(x,y) h_{n,m}(t).$$

- Superposition principle:

$$u(x,y,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} u_{n,m}(x,y,t) =$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left(A_{n,m} \cos(c\sqrt{\lambda_{n,m}} t) + B_{n,m} \sin(c\sqrt{\lambda_{n,m}} t) \right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{H}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right).$$

(we will always assume we can switch the order.)

• ICs:

$$u(x, y, 0) = f(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} A_{n,m} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{H}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right),$$

$$u_t(x, y, 0) = g(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} c_{n,m} \sqrt{\lambda_{n,m}} B_{n,m} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{H}\right).$$

These are 2-d Fourier Series. We can find the coefficients $A_{n,m}, B_{n,m}$ by using orthogonality first in x and then in y (or vice versa).

Finding the coeff:

$$\int_0^L f(x, y) \sin\left(\frac{k\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} A_{n,m} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{H}\right) \underbrace{\int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{k\pi x}{L}\right) dx}_{= \begin{cases} 0 & k \neq n \\ \frac{L}{2} & k = n \end{cases}} =$$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} A_{k,m} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{H}\right) \frac{L}{2}.$$

We repeat the procedure in y :

$$\int_0^H \left(\int_0^L f(x,y) \sin\left(\frac{k\pi x}{L}\right) dx \right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi y}{H}\right) dy =$$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \frac{L}{2} A_{n,m} \int_0^H \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{H}\right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi y}{H}\right) dy =$$

$$= \frac{L}{2} \frac{H}{2} A_{k,l} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow \| A_{k,l} = \frac{4}{LH} \int_0^L \int_0^H f(x,y) \sin\left(\frac{k\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi y}{H}\right) dy dx.$$

($\uparrow$ Recall Fubini's rule to relate double and iterated integrals.)

Analogously, one can find that

$$c \sqrt{\lambda_{k,l}} B_{k,l} = \frac{4}{LH} \int_0^L \int_0^H g(x,y) \sin\left(\frac{k\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{l\pi y}{H}\right) dy dx.$$

Remark: Although this might seem complex, it is kind of surprising that we can completely describe how a rectangular membrane with fixed boundary vibrates in time with just one equation!

($\uparrow$ end of page -136-).