

**Problem 1 (23 in book):**

Let  $S$  denote the square in  $\mathbb{R} \times (0, \infty)$  with corners  $(0, 1)$ ,  $(1, 2)$ ,  $(0, 3)$ ,  $(-1, 2)$ . Define

$$f(x, t) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{for } (x, t) \in S \cap \{t > x + 2\} \\ -1 & \text{for } (x, t) \in S \cap \{t < x + 2\} \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Let  $u$  solve

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} - u_{xx} = f & \text{when } t > 0 \\ u = 0, u_t = 0 & \text{when } t = 0 \end{cases}$$

Consider  $u$  when  $t > 3$ . Then we have

$$u(x, t) = \int_0^t u(x, t; s) ds$$

where  $u(x, t; s) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} f(y, s) dy$  (we get this by Duhamel's principle and the solution of the wave equation in one dimension). In other words,

$$u(x, t) = \int_0^t \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} f(y, s) dy ds$$

For the sake of sanity, let us write  $f$  as  $-\chi_A + \chi_B$ , with  $A = S \cap \{t > x + 2\}$  and  $B = S \cap \{t < x + 2\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \int_0^t \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \chi_B - \chi_A dy ds \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \int_0^t \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \chi_B dy ds - \int_0^t \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \chi_A dy ds \right] \end{aligned}$$

Now, if  $x - t > 1$  or  $x + t < -1$ , both of those integrals vanish. That is, for fixed  $t > 3$ ,  $u(x, t) = 0$  if  $x > 1 + t$  or  $x < -1 - t$ . Moreover, if  $1/2 - t <$

$x < -1/2 + t$ , then  $\int_0^t \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \chi_B dy ds = 1$ . Similarly, if  $t - 1/2 > x > 1/2 - t$ , then  $\int_0^t \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \chi_A dy ds = 1$ .

At this point, we can see that  $u(x, t)$  vanishes except possibly when  $x \in [1 - t, 1/2 - t] \cup [t - 1/2, t + 1]$ .

**Problem 2 (24 in book):**

Let  $u$  solve the initial value problem for the wave equation in one dimension:

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} - u_{xx} = 0 & \text{when } t > 0 \\ u = g, u_t = h & \text{when } t = 0 \end{cases}$$

Let  $g, h$  have compact support. Consider  $k(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} u_t^2(x, t) dx$  and  $p(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} u_x^2(x, t) dx$ .

Part a:

Consider  $k(t) + p(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}} u_x^2(x, t) + u_t^2(x, t) dx$ .

We know that  $u(x, t) = \frac{g(x+t) + g(x-t)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} h(y) dy$

So, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} u_x(x, t) &= \frac{g'(x+t) + g'(x-t)}{2} + \left[ \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} h(y) dy \right]_x \\ &= \frac{g'(x+t) + g'(x-t)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) - h(x-t)] \\ u_t(x, t) &= \frac{g'(x+t) - g'(x-t)}{2} + \left[ \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} h(y) dy \right]_t \\ &= \frac{g'(x+t) - g'(x-t)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) + h(x-t)] \end{aligned}$$

This means that

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathbb{R}} u_x^2 + u_t^2 dx &= \left( \frac{g'(x+t) + g'(x-t)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) - h(x-t)] \right)^2 \\
&\quad + \left( \frac{g'(x+t) - g'(x-t)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) + h(x-t)] \right)^2 \\
&= \left( \frac{g'(x+t) + g'(x-t)}{2} \right)^2 \\
&\quad + \frac{g'(x+t) + g'(x-t)}{2} [h(x+t) - h(x-t)] \\
&\quad + \left( \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) - h(x-t)] \right)^2 \\
&\quad + \left( \frac{g'(x+t) - g'(x-t)}{2} \right)^2 \\
&\quad + \frac{g'(x+t) - g'(x-t)}{2} [h(x+t) + h(x-t)] \\
&\quad + \left( \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) + h(x-t)] \right)^2 \\
&= \frac{1}{4} g'(x+t)^2 + \frac{1}{4} g'(x-t)^2 + \frac{1}{2} g'(x+t) g'(x-t) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) g'(x+t) - h(x-t) g'(x+t) + h(x+t) g'(x-t) - h(x-t) g'(x-t)] \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4} h(x+t)^2 + \frac{1}{4} h(x-t)^2 - \frac{1}{2} h(x+t) h(x-t) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4} g'(x+t)^2 + \frac{1}{4} g'(x-t)^2 - \frac{1}{2} g'(x+t) g'(x-t) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) g'(x+t) + h(x-t) g'(x+t) + h(x+t) g'(x-t) + h(x-t) g'(x-t)] \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{4} h(x+t)^2 + \frac{1}{4} h(x-t)^2 + \frac{1}{2} h(x+t) h(x-t) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} g'(x+t)^2 + \frac{1}{2} g'(x-t)^2 \\
&\quad + [h(x+t) g'(x+t) + h(x+t) g'(x-t)] \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{2} h(x+t)^2 + \frac{1}{2} h(x-t)^2
\end{aligned}$$

In this simplified form, we can now reasonably take a derivative with respect to time;

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That is, the time derivative of the total energy vanishes; the total energy is constant, which is our desired result.

Part b:

Using the above, consider that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}} u_x^2 - u_t^2 dx = & \left( \frac{g'(x+t) + g'(x-t)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) - h(x-t)] \right)^2 \\ & - \left( \frac{g'(x+t) - g'(x-t)}{2} + \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) + h(x-t)] \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Because  $g$  and  $h$  have compact support,

Thus, the above integral vanishes, yielding our result.

**Problem 3 (on page):**

Assume  $f(x, t) = 1$  if  $|x| \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ , and  $f(x, t) = 0$  otherwise. Let  $u$  solve

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} - \Delta u = f & \text{when } t > 0 \\ u = 0, u_t = 0 & \text{when } t = 0 \end{cases}$$

Consider  $u(0, t)$  when  $t > 2$ .

If  $n = 1$ , then...

If  $n = 2$ , then...

If  $n = 3$ , then...