

Partial Differential Equations - Class Notes

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Wave Equation

Here, let us consider the following conditions:

- $u_{tt} = u_{xx}$, $t \in [0, \infty)$, $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$
- $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} u(x, t) = 0$
- $u(x, 0) = f(x)$
- $u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$

Note: Two initial conditions for wave: Heat's condition ($u(x, 0) = f(x)$) and $u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$

Now, let us begin:

1. Let us solve F :

$$F[u_{tt}] = F[u_{xx}] \quad (1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{u}_{tt} = (i\xi)^2 \hat{u} \quad (2)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{u}_{tt} = -\xi^2 \hat{u} \quad (3)$$

$$\hat{u}(\xi, 0) = \hat{f}(\xi) \quad (4)$$

Now, let us consider $\hat{u}_t(\xi, 0)$:

$$F[u_t(x, 0)] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u_t(x, 0) e^{-ix\xi} dx \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) e^{-ix\xi} dx \quad (6)$$

$$= \hat{g}(\xi) \quad (7)$$

2. Solve $\hat{u}_{tt} = -\xi^2 \hat{u}$ with the following conditions:

- $\hat{u}(\xi, 0) = \hat{f}(\xi)$
- $\hat{u}_t(\xi, 0) = \hat{g}(\xi)$

Now let us write the general form:

$$\hat{u}(\xi, t) = A(\xi) \sin(\xi t) + B(\xi) \cos(\xi t) \quad (8)$$

Here, we do not want to use sine and cosine because we will multiply by exponentials later on.

$$\hat{u}(\xi, t) = A(\xi) e^{i\xi t} + B(\xi) e^{-i\xi t} \quad (9)$$

$$\hat{u}(\xi, 0) = A(\xi) + B(\xi) = \hat{f}(\xi) \quad (10)$$

Here, let us find the t partial,

$$\hat{u}_t(\xi, t) = i\xi A(\xi) e^{i\xi t} - i\xi B(\xi) e^{-i\xi t} \quad (11)$$

$$\hat{u}_t(\xi, 0) = i\xi A(\xi) - i\xi B(\xi) = \hat{g}(\xi) \quad (12)$$

Here, let us take the equation with $\hat{f}(\xi)$ and multiply it by $i\xi$:

$$2i\xi A(\xi) = i\xi \hat{f}(\xi) + \hat{g}(\xi) \quad (13)$$

$$a(\xi) = \frac{\hat{f}(\xi)}{2} + \frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{2i\xi} \quad (14)$$

Now, let us subtract to find B :

$$2i\xi B(\xi) = i\xi \hat{f}(\xi) - \hat{g}(\xi) \quad (15)$$

$$B(\xi) = \frac{\hat{f}(\xi)}{2} - \frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{2i\xi} \quad (16)$$

Here, substitute in our terms:

$$\hat{u}(\xi, t) = \left[\frac{\hat{f}(\xi)}{2} + \frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{2i\xi} \right] e^{i\xi t} + \left[\frac{\hat{f}(\xi)}{2} - \frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{2i\xi} \right] e^{-i\xi t} \quad (17)$$

3. Retransform

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{u}(\xi, t) e^{ix\xi} d\xi \quad (18)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\frac{\hat{f}(\xi)}{2} + \frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{2i\xi} \right] e^{i\xi t} + \left[\frac{\hat{f}(\xi)}{2} - \frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{2i\xi} \right] e^{-i\xi t} d\xi \quad (19)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\xi) (e^{i\xi t} + e^{-i\xi t}) e^{ix\xi} + \frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{i\xi} (e^{i\xi t} - e^{-i\xi t}) e^{ix\xi} d\xi \quad (20)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\xi) [e^{i\xi(x+t)} + e^{i\xi(x-t)}] d\xi + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{i\xi} [e^{i\xi(x+t)} - e^{i\xi(x-t)}] d\xi \quad (21)$$

We know that

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\xi) e^{ix\xi} d\xi \quad (22)$$

$$f(x+t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\xi) e^{i\xi(x+t)} d\xi \quad (23)$$

$$f(x-t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\xi) e^{i\xi(x-t)} d\xi \quad (24)$$

From the previous two equations, let us write:

$$\frac{1}{2} [f(x+t) + f(x-t)] \quad (25)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [f(x+t) + f(x-t)] + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{i\xi} (e^{i\xi(x+t)} - e^{i\xi(x-t)}) d\xi \quad (26)$$

Now, let us write:

$$\frac{\hat{g}(\xi)}{i\xi} = \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) e^{-ix\xi} dx}{i\xi} \quad (27)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{g(x) e^{-ix\xi}}{i\xi} dx \quad (28)$$

Here, we consider integral by parts: $u = \frac{e^{-ix\xi}}{-i\xi} \Rightarrow du = e^{-ix\xi} dx$ and $dv = g(x) dx \Rightarrow v = \int_{-\infty}^x g(y) dy$.

$$= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[\int_{-\infty}^x g(y) dy \frac{e^{-ix\xi}}{-i\xi} \Big|_{-\infty}^{\infty} - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^x g(y) dy e^{-ix\xi} dx \right] \quad (29)$$

$$= \hat{h}(\xi) \quad (30)$$

Now, from the two equations, let us consider $f(x-t)$:

$$= \frac{1}{2} [f(x+t) + f(x-t)] + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{h}(\xi) (e^{i\xi(x+t)} - e^{i\xi(x-t)}) d\xi \quad (31)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [f(x+t) + f(x-t)] + \frac{1}{2} [h(x+t) - h(x-t)] \quad (32)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [f(x+t) + f(x-t)] + \frac{1}{2} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{x+t} g(y) dy - \int_{-\infty}^{x-t} g(y) dy \right] \quad (33)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [f(x+t) + f(x-t)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} g(y) dy \quad (34)$$

This is the solution to the wave equation on an infinite domain called D'Alembert's Formula.

Wave Equation Solutions

- $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$
- $x \in (-\infty, \infty), t \in [0, \infty)$
- $u(x, 0) = f(x)$
- $u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$
- $u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} [f(x+ct) + f(x-ct)] + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} g(y) dy$

1. Conservation of Energy

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = 0 \quad (35)$$

Here, let us consider the energy as:

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (u_t^2 + c^2 u_x^2) dx \quad (36)$$

Here, the first term is kinetic energy and the second term is the potential energy. Let us derive our E :

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (u_t^2 + c^2 u_x^2) dx \quad (37)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} 2u_t u_{tt} + 2c^2 u_x u_{xt} dx \quad (38)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u_t u_{tt} + c^2 u_x u_{xt} dx \quad (39)$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u_t c^2 u_{xx} + c^2 u_x u_{xt} dx \quad (40)$$

$$= c^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u_t u_{xx} + u_x u_{xt} dx \quad (41)$$

Here, let us integrate u_{xx} and differentiate u_t :

$$c^2 \left[u_t u_x \Big|_{-\infty}^{\infty} + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} -u_{tx} u_x + u_x u_{xt} dx \right] = 0 \quad (42)$$

Here, this shows our conservation of energy.

2. Domain of Dependence / Range of Influence

How does the solution at a point depend on the initial condition?

The domain of dependence is the interval between these two points:

$$[x_0 - ct_0, x_0 + ct_0] \quad (43)$$