

Solving Laplace's equation: $\nabla^2 u(x, y) = 0$ (continued)

The single-edge Dirichlet BC problem: the Lecture 14 problem (continued)

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0 \quad 0 \leq x \leq \ell \quad 0 \leq y \leq h$$

$$u(x = 0, y) = 0 \quad u(x = \ell, y) = 0 \quad \text{Left/Right BC's}$$

$$u(x, y = 0) = 0 \quad u(x, y = h) = \boxed{f(x)} \quad \text{Bottom/Top BC's}$$

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- Sep of Vars trial solution $u_k(x, y) = \alpha_k(x)\beta_k(y)$ $u = \sum_k c_k \alpha_k \beta_k$
 - Separated form of the PDE:

$$\frac{\alpha_k''(x)}{\alpha_k(x)} = -\frac{\beta_k''(y)}{\beta_k(y)} = s_k$$

- Separated BC's from the 3 homogeneous PDE BC's (Left, Right, Bottom):

$$\alpha(0) = 0 \quad \alpha(\ell) = 0 \quad \beta(0) = 0$$

- Solution process always starts from determining the oscillatory eigenfns, ϕ_k .
They could be in x -direction $\phi_k = \alpha_k(x)$ (Option A) or
in the y -direction $\phi_k = \beta_k(y)$ (Option B) as the first step.

Option B solution process (part 1 of 2)

- (a) $-\beta''(y)/\beta(y) = s_k \implies \phi'' = -\lambda\phi$ eigenvalue problem on $0 \leq y \leq h$ with $s_k = \lambda_k$
- (b) Homogenized BC's: $\phi(0) = 0$ and $\phi(h) = 0$
- (c) SL Reg⁺ Dirichlet prob, $\lambda \geq 0$ (Harmonic oscillator eqn)
- (d) $\phi_k(y) = \sin\left(\frac{k\pi}{h}y\right)$ with $\lambda_k = \left(\frac{k\pi}{h}\right)^2 = s_k$ for $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- (e) Looks a lot like "Option A" process so far, but differences: $\phi(h)$ has zero-ed out the top BC & if tried to solve ODE BVP for $\alpha_k(x)$, would get $\alpha_k \equiv 0$
- (f) Go to "Step 2" of soln process: projection of the full soln and full prob:

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha_k(x) \phi_k(y) \quad \alpha_k = \frac{\langle u, \phi_k \rangle}{\langle \phi_k, \phi_k \rangle} = \frac{1}{h/2} \int_0^h u \phi_k dy$$

$$\langle u_{xx}, \phi_k \rangle + \langle u_{yy}, \phi_k \rangle = 0$$

$$\frac{h}{2} \frac{d^2 \alpha_k}{dx^2} + (u_y \phi_k - u \phi'_k) \Big|_{y=0}^{y=h} + \langle u, \phi''_k \rangle = 0$$

Option B solution process (part 2 of 2)

(g) ODE BVP for $\alpha_k(x)$ on $0 \leq x \leq \ell$

$$\frac{d^2 \alpha_k}{dx^2} - \frac{k^2 \pi^2}{h^2} \alpha_k = \frac{2}{h} u(x, h) \phi'_k(h)$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{d^2 \alpha_k}{dx^2} - \frac{k^2 \pi^2}{h^2} \alpha_k}_{\text{L}_k \alpha_k} = \frac{2k\pi}{h^2} (-1)^k f(x) \quad \alpha_k(0) = 0 \quad \alpha_k(\ell) = 0$$

(h) For each $k = 1, 2, \dots$ problem looks like $\mathbf{L}_k \alpha_k = F_k(x)$ with hom Dir. BC's. Can solve each with eig-expansions for

$$\mathbf{L}_k \Phi_m(x) = -\Lambda_m \Phi_m \quad \implies \quad \Phi_m'' = - \underbrace{\left(\Lambda_m - \frac{k^2 \pi^2}{h^2} \right)}_{\mu_m} \Phi_m$$

Harmonic oscillator equation with solutions for $m = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\Phi_m(x) = \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{\ell} x\right) \quad \mu_m = \frac{m^2 \pi^2}{\ell^2} = \Lambda_m - \frac{k^2 \pi^2}{h^2}$$

(i) Solns: $\alpha_k(x) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{\langle F_k, \Phi_m \rangle}{\Lambda_m \langle \Phi_m, \Phi_m \rangle} \right) \Phi_m(x)$ with $\Lambda_m = \pi^2 \left(\frac{m^2}{\ell^2} + \frac{k^2}{h^2} \right)$

Option B yields a double-sum solution for $u(x, y)$:

$$u = \sum_k \sum_m \left(\frac{(-1)^{k+1} 4\pi}{h^2 \ell \Lambda_{m,k}} \int_0^\ell f \Phi_m dx \right) \sin \left(\frac{m\pi}{\ell} x \right) \sin \left(\frac{k\pi}{h} y \right)$$

- Pro's: systematic form of the final soln (v 1.0)
 - Con's: long derivation, Gibbs phenomena at $y = h$ BC
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Option A version of the solution from L14:

$$u_{\text{top}} = u(x, y) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} c_k \sinh \left(\frac{k\pi}{\ell} y \right) \sin \left(\frac{k\pi}{\ell} x \right)$$

$$\text{with } c_k = \frac{2}{\ell \sinh(k\pi h/\ell)} \int_0^\ell f(x) \sin \left(\frac{k\pi x}{\ell} \right) dx$$

- Pro's: short derivation, single sum, no Gibbs phenomena at $y = h$
- Con's: need hyperbolic trig fcns

Useful Basic Properties of the Laplace equation: $\nabla^2 u(x, y) = 0$

- $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$ LCC PDE in rectangular coordinates (x, y)

- Reflections: same PDE for

$$\tilde{u}(x, y) = u(-x, y) \quad \text{or} \quad \tilde{u}(x, y) = u(x, -y)$$

- Translations: same PDE for

$$\tilde{u}(x, y) = u(x - \ell, y) \quad \text{or} \quad \tilde{u}(x, y) = u(x, y - h)$$

- Rotations (90°): same PDE for

$$\tilde{u}(x, y) = u(-y, x)$$

- Applying these PDE “symmetries/invariants” for BVP on (x, y) rectangles...
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