


Partial Differential Equations

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Lecture Notes

Lecturer: Prof. Mahmoud M. El-Borai
Prepared by: Ossama Abdelwahed And
Ahmed.M.Habib



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1 Introduction

The main goal of many scientific disciplines can be summarized to the following:

1. Formulate a set of mathematical equations to model a phenomena of interest
2. Analyze solutions to these equations in order to extract information and make predictions.

The result of 1 is often a system of partial differential equations, thus the second becomes solving those partial differential equations.

A partial differential equation (PDE) is a differential equation containing partial derivatives of the dependent variable with respect to more than one independent variable.

1.1 Order of PDE

The order of a PDE is determined by the highest derivative in the equation.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 &= 0 \quad \implies \text{First order} \\ \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial y^4} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= c \quad \implies \text{Fourth order}\end{aligned}$$

do not mistake the order of the PDE with its degree, the degree of the PDE is the highest exponent appearing in the equation.

1.2 Linearity

A linear PDE is one that is of first degree in all of its field variables and partial derivatives.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= 0 \quad \text{linear} \\ \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial y^4} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= y \quad \text{linear} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 &= 0 \quad \text{nonlinear} \\ \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^3} + \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right)^5 &= \sin(x) \quad \text{nonlinear}\end{aligned}$$

a linear operator can be defined for any linear equation, taking the first equation in the previous list, the linear operator L can be defined as.

$$L = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

and the equation can be written as.

$$L(u) = 0$$

1.3 Homogeneity

Let L be a linear operator. Then a linear partial differential equation can be written in the form.

$$L(u) = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, t)$$

if $f = 0$ then the equation is homogeneous, otherwise it is inhomogeneous.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= 0 \quad \text{homogeneous} \\ \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial y^4} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= y \quad \text{inhomogeneous}\end{aligned}$$

1.4 Boundary Conditions

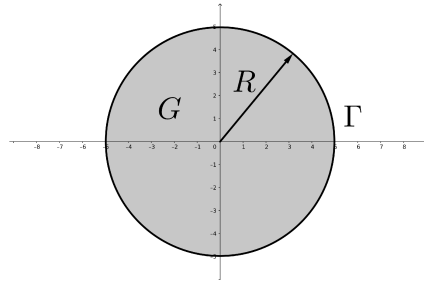
Definition 1.1 Boundary conditions are constraints necessary for the solution of a boundary value problem.

Definition 1.2 boundary value problem is a differential equation to be solved in a domain on whose boundary the function is known.

We will be interested in one type of boundary conditions in this course which is the Dirichlet Conditions, specifies the value that the unknown function needs to take on along the boundary of the domain. For example, the Laplace equation on a circle with Dirichlet condition will be.

$$\nabla^2 u(x) = 0 \quad \forall x \in G$$

$$u(x) = f(x) \quad \forall x \in \Gamma$$



$$G = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 < R^2\} \quad \Gamma = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 = R^2\}$$

Definition 1.3 Dirichlet problems are problems that have only boundary conditions

1.5 Initial Condition

Definition 1.4 The initial condition is a condition that a solution must have at only one instant of time, which is the starting time as it can be found experimentally.

An example is the heat equation with initial condition.

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial x}$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x)$$

Definition 1.5 Cauchy problems are problems that have only initial conditions

1.6 Equations of Mathematical Physics

The most frequently encountered equations in physics are the following

1. Heat Equation

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2}$$

2. Wave Equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2}$$

3. Laplace's Equation

$$\nabla^2 u(x) = \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x_3^2} + \dots = 0$$

2 Canonical Form

Consider the following PDE with variable coefficients. We are aiming to transform this equation into its canonical form

$$A(x, y) \frac{\partial^2 u(x, y)}{\partial x^2} + 2B(x, y) \frac{\partial^2 u(x, y)}{\partial x \partial y} + C(x, y) \frac{\partial^2 u(x, y)}{\partial y^2} + F\left(x, y, u, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right) = 0 \quad (1)$$

The first three terms are called the principle terms and the last term is called the Young term (Y.T) which does not contain second order derivatives of u .

We start by performing a change of variables such that.

$$\xi = \xi(x, y), \quad \eta = \eta(x, y)$$

taking into consideration the Jacobian of the transformation

$$J = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \end{vmatrix} \neq 0$$

Then we find our derivatives.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \left[\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \right] + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \left[\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \right] \end{aligned}$$

adding similar terms and simplifying

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + 2 \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} + \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T \quad (2)$$

and in similar fashion we can get.

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + 2 \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} + \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T \quad (3)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + \left[\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \right] \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T \quad (4)$$

substituting (2), (3), and (4) in (1) we get.

$$\begin{aligned} & A \left[\left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + 2 \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} + \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \right] \\ & + 2B \left[\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + \left[\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \right] \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \right] \\ & + C \left[\left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + 2 \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} + \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y}\right)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \right] + Y.T = 0 \end{aligned}$$

rearranging terms.

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[A \left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x}\right)^2 + 2B \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} + C \left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y}\right)^2 \right] \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + \left[A \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x}\right)^2 + 2B \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} + C \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y}\right)^2 \right] \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \\ & + \left[2A \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} + 2B \left[\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \right] + 2C \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \right] \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} + Y.T = 0 \end{aligned}$$

we now try to find ξ and η such that.

$$\left[A \left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \right)^2 + 2B \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} + C \left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right] = 0$$

$$\left[A \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \right)^2 + 2B \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} + C \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \right)^2 \right] = 0$$

we notice that both equations are the same quadratic equation, thus we solve for one of them to find both ξ and η , we choose the first one and start by dividing the equation by $\left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \right)^2$.

$$A \frac{\left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \right)^2}{\left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \right)^2} + 2B \frac{\left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \right)}{\left(\frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \right)} + C = 0$$

$$A \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \right)^2 - 2B \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} + C = 0$$

now using the quadratic formula to solve for $\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}$.

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{-(-2B) \pm \sqrt{(-2B)^2 - 4AC}}{2A} = \frac{B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - AC}}{A}$$

this is called the charctaristic equation.

Equations Classification

Equations are classified based on the value of the expression under the root

$B^2 > AC$ $\forall x, y \in G$, Hyperbolic PDE (the general case of the wave equation)

$B^2 < AC$ $\forall x, y \in G$, Elliptic PDE (the general case of the Laplace equation)

$B^2 = AC$ $\forall x, y \in G$, Parabolic PDE (the general case of the Heat equation)

2.1 Examples

■ **Example 2.1.1** Transform to the canonical form.

$$4y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - e^{2x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \underbrace{6y^3}_{Y.T} = 0$$

— Solution —

we start by determining the functions A,B, and C.

$$A(x, y) = 4y^2, \quad B(x, y) = 0, \quad C(x, y) = -e^{2x}$$

we conclude from this that it has the form of a Hyperbolic PDE.

$$B^2 = 0 > AC = -4y^2 e^{2x}, \quad \forall y \neq 0, \quad \forall x$$

now we use the charctarstic equation to determine the value of ξ and η .

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - AC}}{A}$$

$$= \frac{\pm \sqrt{4y^2 e^{2x}}}{4y^2} = \pm \frac{e^x}{2y}$$

rearranging and integrating.

$$\begin{aligned} 2ydy &= \pm e^x dx \\ \int 2ydy &= \pm \int e^x dx \\ y^2 &= \pm e^x + \text{constant} \implies y^2 \pm e^x = \text{constant} \end{aligned}$$

we now set ξ and η .

$$\xi = e^x + y^2, \quad \eta = e^x - y^2$$

we now work out the derivatives.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \\ &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} e^x + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} e^x \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} &= e^x \left[\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} e^x + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} e^x \right] + e^x \left[\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} e^x + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} e^x \right] + Y.T \\ &= e^{2x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + 2e^{2x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + e^{2x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} &= 4y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} - 8y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + 4y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T \end{aligned}$$

substituting in our original equation.

$$4y^2 \left[e^{2x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + 2e^{2x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + e^{2x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \right] - e^{2x} \left[4y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} - 8y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + 4y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \right] + Y.T = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} 16y^2 e^{2x} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + Y.T &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + Y.T &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

■

■ **Example 2.1.2** Transform to the canonical form

$$x^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

—— Solution ——

determining the functions A,B, and C.

$$A(x, y) = x^2, \quad B(x, y) = 0, \quad C(x, y) = y^2$$

it has the form of a Elliptic PDE.

$$B^2 = 0 < AC = x^2 y^2, \quad \forall y, x$$

using the charctarstic equation.

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - AC}}{A}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{\pm \sqrt{-x^2 y^2}}{x^2} = \pm i \frac{y}{x} \\
\int \frac{dy}{y} &= \pm i \int \frac{dx}{x} \\
\ln(y) &= \pm i \ln(x) + \text{constant}
\end{aligned}$$

we will choose ξ to be the imaginary part and η to be the real part.

$$\xi = \ln(x) \quad , \quad \eta = \ln(y)$$

working out the derivatives.

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \\
&= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{1}{x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} (0) \\
\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} &= \frac{1}{x} \left[\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} \frac{1}{x} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} (0) \right] + Y.T \\
\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} &= \frac{1}{x^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + Y.T \\
\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} &= \frac{1}{y^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T
\end{aligned}$$

substituting in our original equation.

$$\begin{aligned}
x^2 \left[\frac{1}{x^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} \right] + y^2 \left[\frac{1}{y^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \right] + Y.T &= 0 \\
\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T &= 0
\end{aligned}$$

■

■ **Example 2.1.3** Transform to the canonical form

$$y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2xy \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + x^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

— Solution —

determining the functions A,B, and C.

$$A(x, y) = y^2 \quad , \quad B(x, y) = xy \quad , \quad C(x, y) = x^2$$

it has the form of a Parabolic PDE.

$$B^2 = x^2 y^2 = AC = x^2 y^2, \quad \forall y, x$$

using the charactarstic equation.

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} &= \frac{B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - AC}}{A} \\
&= \frac{xy}{y^2} = \frac{x}{y} \\
\int y dy &= \int x dx \\
y^2 &= x^2 + \text{constant}
\end{aligned}$$

we will assign ξ to be this function

$$\xi = y^2 - x^2$$

and for η it's Optional but to make the solution easier we will assign the previous function with different sign

$$\eta = y^2 + x^2 \quad \text{or} \quad \eta = -y^2 - x^2$$

rest of the solution same as Hyperbolic and elliptic PDEs the Canonical form in the end will be

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + Y.T = 0$$

or

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T = 0$$

■

Observation 2.1 the Canonical form of all Hyperbolic equations is

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + Y.T = 0$$

Observation 2.2 the Canonical form of all elliptic equations is

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T = 0$$

Observation 2.3 the Canonical form of all Parabolic equations is

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + Y.T = 0$$

or

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} + Y.T = 0$$

3 Heat Equation

The heat equation is a prototypical example for a parabolic equation. The general form of the heat equation is the following.

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = c^2 \nabla^2 u(x, t) = C^2 \left[\frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x_3^2} + \dots \right]$$

we will be studying the heat equation only in one dimension thus this reduces to.

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2}$$

3.1 Fourier Transform

The fourier transform of the function $f(x)$ is defined as.

$$\mathcal{F}[f(x)] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ixs} f(x) dx = g(s)$$

the inverse fourier transform is

$$\mathcal{F}^{-1}[g(s)] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ixs} g(s) ds = f(x)$$

the fourier transform of a derivative

$$\mathcal{F} \left[\frac{df(x)}{dx} \right] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ixs} \frac{df(x)}{dx} dx \quad (1)$$

notice that

$$\frac{d}{dx} [e^{ixs} f(x)] = e^{ixs} \frac{df(x)}{dx} + is e^{ixs} f(x) \quad (2)$$

$$e^{ixs} \frac{df(x)}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx} [e^{ixs} f(x)] - is e^{ixs} f(x) \quad (3)$$

substitute (3) in (2)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F} \left[\frac{df(x)}{dx} \right] &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dx} [e^{ixs} f(x)] dx - is \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ixs} f(x) dx \\ \mathcal{F} \left[\frac{df(x)}{dx} \right] &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} [e^{ixs} f(x)]_{-\infty}^{\infty} - is \mathcal{F} [f(x)] \end{aligned}$$

the first term must vanish as we assume f is absolutely integrable on \mathbb{R}

$$\mathcal{F} \left[\frac{df(x)}{dx} \right] = -is \mathcal{F} [f(x)]$$

in the same way the fourier transform for the second derivative will yield

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F} \left[\frac{d^2 f(x)}{dx^2} \right] &= \mathcal{F} \left[\frac{d}{dx} \frac{df(x)}{dx} \right] \\ &= -is \mathcal{F} \left[\frac{df(x)}{dx} \right] = -s^2 \mathcal{F} [f(x)] \end{aligned}$$

and in general

$$\mathcal{F} \left[\frac{d^n f(x)}{dx^n} \right] = (-is)^n \mathcal{F} [f(x)]$$

3.2 Cauchy Problem

Consider the following one dimensional heat equation cauchy problem

$$\frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial x^2}, \quad c \neq 0, \quad -\infty < x < \infty \quad (1)$$

$$u(x,0) = \phi(x) \quad (2)$$

the fourier transform of u is

$$\mathcal{F}[u(x,t)] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ix\xi} u(x,t) dx = \nu(\xi,t)$$

performing the transform on both sides of equation (1)

$$\frac{\partial \nu(\xi,t)}{\partial t} = -c^2 \xi^2 \nu(\xi,t) \quad (3)$$

Augustin-Louis Cauchy

Baron Augustin-Louis Cauchy (1789-1857) was a renowned French mathematician and physicist who made significant contributions to various fields of mathematics, including partial differential equations (PDEs). His work in PDEs laid the groundwork for modern analysis and helped establish the rigorous theoretical foundation for the study of these equations.



and the new initial condition.

$$\mathcal{F}[u(x, 0)] = \nu(\xi, 0) = \mathcal{F}[\phi(x)] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ix\xi} \phi(x) dx = \psi(\xi) \quad (4)$$

the solution of (3) is.

$$\nu(\xi, t) = Ae^{-c^2\xi^2t}$$

and A can be found from (4).

$$\nu(\xi, t) = \psi(\xi)e^{-c^2\xi^2t} \quad (5)$$

to find u we perform the inverse fourier transform on (5).

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \mathcal{F}^{-1}[\nu(\xi, t)] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ix\xi} \nu(\xi, t) d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ix\xi} e^{-c^2\xi^2t} \psi(\xi) d\xi \end{aligned}$$

substituting the value of ψ from (4) and renamming the variable of intgration to y.

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ix\xi} e^{-c^2\xi^2t} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iy\xi} \phi(y) dy \right] d\xi$$

simplify.

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iy\xi - ix\xi - c^2\xi^2t} d\xi \right] \phi(y) dy \quad (6)$$

considering the inner integral.

$$J = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{iy\xi - ix\xi - c^2\xi^2t} d\xi \quad (7)$$

simplifying the power by completing the square.

$$\begin{aligned} iy\xi - ix\xi - c^2\xi^2t &= -tc^2 \left(\xi^2 - \frac{i\xi}{tc^2} (y - x) \right) \\ &= -tc^2 \left(\left(\xi - \frac{i}{tc^2} (y - x) \right)^2 + \frac{(y - x)^2}{4t^2c^4} \right) \end{aligned}$$

substituting in (7)

$$\begin{aligned} J &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-tc^2(\xi - \frac{i}{tc^2}(y-x))^2} e^{-tc^2 \frac{(y-x)^2}{4t^2c^4}} d\xi \\ &= e^{-\frac{(y-x)^2}{4tc^2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-tc^2(\xi - \frac{i}{tc^2}(y-x))^2} d\xi \end{aligned}$$

shift the function by $\frac{i}{tc^2}(y - x)$ to the left and since the limits of intgration are infinity the value of the intgral is the same.

$$J = e^{-\frac{(y-x)^2}{4tc^2}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-tc^2\xi^2} d\xi$$

it is now clear that J is a gaussian intgral that we can easily find its value.

$$J = e^{-\frac{(y-x)^2}{4tc^2}} \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{tc^2}}$$

substituing in (6) we finally get u.

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi}tc^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(y-x)^2}{4tc^2}} \phi(y) dy$$

this equation is called Poisson's Formula.

3.3 Mixed Homogeneous Problem

Definition 3.1 a mixed problem is a problem that has both Dirichlet boundary condition and Cauchy initial condition

Consider the following one dimensional heat equation

$$\frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial x^2}, \quad c \neq 0, \quad 0 < x < L \quad (1)$$

$$\text{I.C} \implies u(x, 0) = \phi(x) \quad (2)$$

$$\text{B.C} \implies u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0 \quad (3)$$

using the separation of variables method.

$$u(x, t) = X(x)T(t) \quad (4)$$

substituting in (1)

$$\begin{aligned} X(x)\dot{T}(t) &= c^2 X''(x)T(t) \\ \frac{\dot{T}(t)}{c^2 T(t)} &= \frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = \lambda \end{aligned}$$

now there are 3 cases for λ

1. if $\lambda > 0$ then the solution of $X(x)$ will be

$$X(x) = A \cosh(\sqrt{\lambda}x) + B \sinh(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$$

and by using the boundary condition $u(0, t) = 0$ we get that $X(0) = 0$ then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= A \cosh(\sqrt{\lambda}0) + B \sinh(\sqrt{\lambda}0) \\ \therefore 0 &= A \end{aligned}$$

and by using the boundary condition $u(L, t) = 0$ we get that $X(L) = 0$ then

$$0 = B \sinh(\sqrt{\lambda}L)$$

$$\text{either } B = 0 \text{ or } \sinh(\sqrt{\lambda}L) = 0$$

$\sinh(\sqrt{\lambda}L)$ cannot equal to zero because it's roots are $i\pi n, n \in \mathbb{N}$ they are imaginary except when $n = 0$ but that cannot happen because we choose $\lambda > 0$ and $L > 0$

$$\therefore B = 0$$

then the $X(x) = 0$ then $u(x, t) = 0$ which is a trivial solution

2. if $\lambda = 0$ then $X(x) = 0$ then $u(x, t) = 0$ which is also a trivial solution
3. if $\lambda < 0$ then the solution of $X(x)$ will be

$$X(x) = A \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) + B \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$$

and by using the boundary condition $u(0, t) = 0$ we get that $X(0) = 0$ then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= A \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}0) + B \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}0) \\ \therefore 0 &= A \end{aligned}$$

and by using the boundary condition $u(L, t) = 0$ we get that $X(L) = 0$ then

$$0 = B \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}L)$$

now if $B = 0$ it gives trivial solution then $\sin(\sqrt{\lambda}L) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\therefore \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}L) &= 0 \\ \therefore \sqrt{\lambda}L &= n\pi \\ \lambda &= \frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2}\end{aligned}$$

and to make sure it is a negative number we will add a negative sign to it

$$-\lambda = -\frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2}$$

therefore $X(x)$ will be.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} &= -\lambda = -\frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2} \\ X(x) &= B \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)\end{aligned}$$

now solving for $T(t)$ using our constant.

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{T}(t) &= -\frac{c^2 n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} T(t) \\ T(t) &= A e^{-\frac{c^2 n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} t}\end{aligned}$$

substituting in (4).

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n e^{-\frac{c^2 n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} t} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

using the initial condition.

$$u(x, 0) = \phi(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

we found fourier coefficient which is our final step to determine u.

Fourier Coefficient

$$f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right]$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

3.4 Mixed Inhomogeneous Problem

Consider a more general heat equation than the previous one. Notice that the boundary conditions are functions not zeros as before.

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2} + f(x, t), \quad c \neq 0, \quad 0 < x < L \quad (1)$$

$$\text{I.C} \implies u(x, 0) = \phi(x) \quad (2)$$

$$\text{B.C} \implies \begin{cases} u(0, t) = A(t) \\ u(L, t) = B(t) \end{cases}$$

we start by defining a new function v as.

$$v(x, t) = u(x, t) - u_E(x, t)$$

we find the equilibrium temperature $u_E(x, t)$ by solving

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_E(x, t)}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

$$\text{B.C} \implies \begin{cases} u_E(0, t) = A(t) \\ u_E(L, t) = B(t) \end{cases}$$

we get that $u_E(x, t) = c_1 x + c_2$ and by using the B.C we can find c_1, c_2 as following

$$u_E(x, t) = \frac{x}{L} [B(t) - A(t)] + A(t)$$

thus we have.

$$v(x, t) = u(x, t) - \frac{x}{L} [B(t) - A(t)] - A(t) \quad (3)$$

thus we have the new equation.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial v(x, t)}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial R(x, t)}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial^2 v(x, t)}{\partial x^2} &= \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2} \\ \frac{\partial v(x, t)}{\partial t} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 v(x, t)}{\partial x^2} &= \left[\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2} \right] - \frac{\partial R(x, t)}{\partial t} \\ &= f(x, t) - \frac{\partial R(x, t)}{\partial t} = g(x, t) \end{aligned}$$

we finally have the new equation.

$$\frac{\partial v(x, t)}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 v(x, t)}{\partial x^2} + g(x, t) \quad (4)$$

$$\text{I.C} \implies v(x, 0) = \phi(x) - \frac{x}{L} [B(0) - A(0)] - A(0) = \psi(x) \quad (5)$$

$$\text{B.C} \implies \begin{cases} v(0, t) = u(0, t) - A(t) = 0 \\ v(L, t) = u(L, t) - B(t) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

we have solved a similar problem before and know that the solution for the homogenous equation in v will be of the form.

$$v(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} T_n(t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (7)$$

similarly

$$g(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g_n(t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (8)$$

substitute (7) , (8) in (4)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{dT_n(t)}{dt} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) = c^2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(-\frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2}\right) T_n(t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} g_n(t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

by comparing the coefficients of $\sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$ in both sides we get that

$$\frac{dT_n(t)}{dt} + c^2 \frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2} T_n(t) = g_n(t)$$

this is an linear ODE and it's solution like

$$y' + f(x)y = g(x)$$

it's solution is

$$\mu y = \int \mu g(x) dx + c \quad \text{where} \quad \mu = e^{\int f(x) dx}$$

then in our case

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= e^{\int c^2 \frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2} dt} = e^{c^2 \frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2} t} \\ \therefore T_n(t) &= e^{-\frac{n^2 c^2 \pi^2}{L^2} t} c + e^{-\frac{n^2 c^2 \pi^2}{L^2} t} \int_0^t e^{\frac{n^2 c^2 \pi^2}{L^2} s} G(s) ds \end{aligned}$$

and to get c put $t = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(0) &= c \\ \therefore T_n(t) &= e^{-\frac{n^2 c^2 \pi^2}{L^2} t} T_n(0) + \int_0^t e^{\frac{n^2 c^2 \pi^2}{L^2} (s-t)} G(s) ds \end{aligned}$$

now by substitute $T_n(t)$ in (7) we get v then we can obtain u by $u = v + u_E$.

4 Wave Equation

The wave equation is the prototypical example for hyperbolic PDE's, it is a second order linear PDE that is used extensively in physics in studying the propagation of waves and wave fields. The general form of the wave equation is.

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \nabla^2 u(x, t) = c^2 \left[\frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x_3^2} + \dots \right]$$

we will be studying one dimensional and three dimensional wave equations.

4.1 Cauchy Problem (1D)

Consider the following one dimensional wave equation Cauchy problem.

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2}, \quad c \neq 0, \quad t > 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\text{I.C} \implies \begin{cases} u(x, 0) = \phi(x) \\ \frac{\partial u(x, 0)}{\partial t} = \psi(x) \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

we start by performing a change of variables such that.

$$\xi = x + ct, \quad \eta = x - ct$$

$$u(\xi, \eta)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} \\
\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} \right] \\
&= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} \right] \\
&= \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} \left[\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta \partial \xi} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} \right] + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} \left[\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

adding similar terms and simplifying.

$$\begin{aligned}
\because \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} &= c, \quad \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial t} = -c, \quad \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial t^2} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial^2 \eta}{\partial t^2} = 0 \\
\therefore \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} &= c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} - 2c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2}
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

in similar manner.

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \tag{4}$$

substituting (3) and (4) in (1).

$$c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} - 2c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} = c^2 \left[\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} \right]$$

simplify.

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \xi \partial \eta} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \right) = 0$$

we can deduce that $\frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi}$ is only a function in ξ thus.

$$\begin{aligned}
u(\xi, \eta) &= f(\xi) + g(\eta) \\
u(x, t) &= f(x + ct) + g(x - ct) \\
\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} &= cf'(x + ct) - cg'(x - ct)
\end{aligned} \tag{5}$$

from the intial conditions (2).

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi(x) &= u(x, 0) = f(x) + g(x) \\
\phi'(x) &= f'(x) + g'(x)
\end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

$$\psi(x) = \frac{\partial u(x, 0)}{\partial t} = cf'(x) - cg'(x) \tag{7}$$

multiplaying (6) by c and adding to (7).

$$\begin{aligned}
f'(x) &= \frac{1}{2c} (c\phi'(x) + \psi(x)) \\
f(x) &= \frac{1}{2c} \left[c\phi(x) + \int_0^x \psi(s) ds \right] + A
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

multiplaying (6) by c and subtracting (7) from it.

$$\begin{aligned}
g'(x) &= \frac{1}{2c} (c\phi'(x) - \psi(x)) \\
g(x) &= \frac{1}{2c} \left[c\phi(x) - \int_0^x \psi(s) ds \right] + B
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

substituting (8) and (9) in (5)

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2c} \left[c\phi(x + ct) + \int_0^{x+ct} \psi(s) ds \right] + \frac{1}{2c} \left[c\phi(x - ct) - \int_0^{x-ct} \psi(s) ds \right] + K$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} [\phi(x + ct) + \phi(x - ct)] + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(s) ds + K$$

from the initial condition $u(x, 0)$, we find that $K=0$ and finally we are left with.

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} [\phi(x + ct) + \phi(x - ct)] + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(s) ds$$

this Equation is called d'Alembert formula.

4.2 Mixed Problem (1D)

Consider the following one dimensional wave equation mixed problem.

$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u(x, t)}{\partial x^2} \quad (1)$$

$$\text{I.C} \implies \begin{cases} u(x, 0) = \phi(x) \\ \frac{\partial u(x, 0)}{\partial t} = \psi(x) \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

$$\text{B.C} \implies \begin{cases} u(0, t) = 0 \\ u(\pi, t) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

we start our solution by separating the variables.

$$u(x, t) = X(x)T(t) \quad (4)$$

substituting in (1).

$$\ddot{T}(t)X(x) = T(t)X''(x)$$

$$\frac{\ddot{T}(t)}{T(t)} = \frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = \text{constant} = -n^2, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

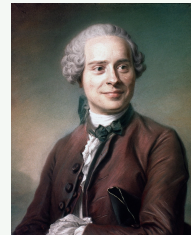
and like what happened in the heat equation we will follow the case that the constant is negative

$$X''(x) = -n^2 X(x)$$

$$\ddot{T}(t) = -n^2 T(t)$$

Jean le Rond d'Alembert

Jean le Rond d'Alembert (1717-1783) was a renowned French mathematician and physicist who made significant contributions to partial differential equations. His groundbreaking work on wave equations and the d'Alembertian operator laid the foundation for understanding wave-like behavior in various physical systems, influencing modern engineering, acoustics, and mathematical physics. D'Alembert's profound insights continue to be integral to the study of PDEs, serving as a lasting legacy in the field of mathematical analysis.



this is an equation in the form of simple harmonic motion thus the solution is.

$$\begin{aligned}X(x) &= A \sin(nx) + B \cos(nx) \\T(t) &= C \sin(nt) + D \cos(nt)\end{aligned}$$

substituting in (4).

$$u(x, t) = [A \sin(nx) + B \cos(nx)] [C \sin(nt) + D \cos(nt)]$$

using the boundry condition (3).

$$B [C \sin(nt) + D \cos(nt)] = 0$$

and we choose $B = 0$, the general solution for all n will then be.

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [a_n \sin(nt) + b_n \cos(nt)] \sin(nx)$$

using the intial condition $u(x, 0)$ (2) to find the constants.

$$u(x, 0) = \phi(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} b_n \sin(nx)$$

and from fourier coefficients we can find b_n

$$b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \phi(x) \sin(nx) dx$$

to find the other constant a_n .

$$\frac{\partial u(x, t)}{\partial t} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [na_n \cos(nt) - nb_n \sin(nt)] \sin(nx)$$

using the intial condition for the dierivative.

$$\frac{\partial u(x, 0)}{\partial t} = \psi(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} na_n \sin(nx)$$

$$nb_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \psi(x) \sin(nx)$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{n\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \psi(x) \sin(nx)$$

substitute a_n and b_n to get $u(x, t)$

4.3 Cauchy Problem (3D)

We have seen how formula d'Alembert can solve the one dimensional wave equation cauchy problem but the solution of the wave equation in dimensions higher than one shows to be more complicated. Our attempt to solve the three dimensional wave equation will start by defining the spherical mean of a uncton then using it to solve a PDE called Darboux's equation which we later use its solution to deduce Kirchoff's formula which is our desired solution.

Theorem 4.1 Divergence Theorem Also called Green-Gauss-Ostrogradsky theorem realtes the volume intgral to the surface intgral under some conditions, more precisely, the surface integral of a vector field over a closed surface (flux) is equal to the volume integral of the divergence over the region. We will use this later in our treatment.

$$\int \int \int_{Volume} \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}(x, y, z)}{\partial x} dV = \int \int_{Surface} \mathbf{F}(x, y, z) \cos(\angle x, \vec{n}) dS$$

or in general.

$$\int \int \int_{Volume} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} dV = \int \int_{Surface} \mathbf{F} \cdot \vec{n} dS$$

