

def<sup>n</sup> impt.

general examples

titles  
solution methods

## 21.1 Separation of Variables: the general method

Suppose we want solution  $u(x,y,z,t)$  to some PDE

$$u(x,y,z,t) = X(x) Y(y) Z(z) T(t)$$

separation of variables - solution v/frm said to be separable in  $x,y,z,t$

$x^2 y^2 \sin(bt)$   $\rightarrow$  completely separable

$x^2 y^2 z t$   $\rightarrow$  inseparable

$(x^2 + y^2)^2 \cos(wt)$   $\rightarrow$  separable in  $y \neq z$ , not  $x \neq y$

require only that  $X$  does not depend upon  $y,z,t$ , same w/Y

look at wave eqn:  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x^2} Y Z T + X \frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial y^2} Z T + X Y \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial z^2} T = \frac{1}{c^2} X Y Z T''$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} \rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} + \frac{Y''}{Y} + \frac{Z''}{Z} = \frac{1}{c^2} \cdot \frac{T''}{T}$$

$$\frac{X''}{X} = -l^2 \quad \frac{Y''}{Y} = -m^2 \quad \frac{Z''}{Z} = -n^2 \quad \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{T''}{T} = -\mu^2$$

only for all  $x,y,z,t$  if each of the term does not depend upon the corresponding variable but equal to a constant

we get & separate ODEs

$$\begin{aligned} X(x) &= A e^{ix} + B e^{-ix} \\ Y(y) &= C e^{imy} + D e^{-imy} \\ Z(z) &= E e^{inz} + F e^{-inz} \\ T(t) &= G e^{i\mu t} + H e^{-i\mu t} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} X(x) &= A' \cos(lx) + B' \sin(lx) \\ Y(y) &= C' \cos(my) + D' \sin(my) \\ Z(z) &= E' \cos(nz) + F' \sin(nz) \\ T(t) &= G' \cos(\mu t) + H' \sin(\mu t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{take particular soln's: } X = e^{ix} \quad Z = e^{inz} \quad T = e^{-i\mu t}$$

$$\text{particular soln: } u(x,y,z,t) = e^{i(x+my+nz-\mu t)}$$

plane wave of unit amplitude propagating in a direction given by vector  $w$  components  $k_x, k_y, k_z$  in Cartesian coords

$$u(x,y,z,t) = e^{i(k_x x + k_y y + k_z z - \omega t)} = e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

Obtain 1-D diffusion eqn  $\lambda \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$

$$u(x,t) = X(x) T(t)$$

$$u = XT$$

$$\frac{X''}{X} = \frac{T'}{kT}$$

LHS is fn of x  
RHS is fn of t

$$\frac{X''}{X} = -\lambda^2$$

$$X'' = -\lambda^2 X$$

$$X'' + \lambda^2 X = 0$$

$$\frac{T'}{T} = -\lambda^2$$

$$T' = -\lambda^2 kT$$

$$T' + \lambda^2 kT = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow X = A \cos(\lambda x) + B \sin(\lambda x)$$

$$Y = C e^{-\lambda^2 k t}$$

$$\xrightarrow{u=XT} u(x,t) = (A \cos(\lambda x) + B \sin(\lambda x)) e^{-\lambda^2 k t}$$

## 21.2 Superposition of Separated Solutions

hella freedom in values of separation constant  $\lambda$

general feature for sol'n's in separated form (if PDE has n indpt variables)  $\rightarrow$  n-1 separation constants

take a 2 variable example:

if  $u_{x_1}(x,y) = X_{x_1}(x) Y_{x_1}(y)$  is a sol'n of linear PDE obtained by giving separation constant value  $\lambda$ ,

superposition:

$$u(x,y) = a_1 X_{x_1}(x) Y_{x_1}(y) + a_2 X_{x_2}(x) Y_{x_2}(y) + \dots = \sum a_i X_{x_i}(x) Y_{x_i}(y)$$

## 21.3 Separation of Variables in Polar Coordinates

$$\text{polar: } \vec{\nabla}^2 = \frac{1}{\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2}$$

$$\text{cylindrical: } \vec{\nabla}^2 = \frac{1}{\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2}$$

$$\text{spherical: } \vec{\nabla}^2 = \frac{1}{r} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2}$$

## Laplace's Equation in Polar Coordinates

Simplest of eq's containing  $\vec{\nabla}^2$  is Laplace's eq:  $\vec{\nabla}^2 u(r) = 0$

### Laplace's Eq<sup>n</sup> in Plane Polars

Suppose we need a solution of Laplace's eq<sup>n</sup> w/  $\rho = a$

Seek sol's separable in  $\rho \& \phi$ , hope to accommodate BC w/  $\rho = a$

$$u(\rho, \phi) = P(\rho) \Phi(\phi)$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\Phi}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{P}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = 0$$

divide by  $u = P \Phi$   
multiply by  $\rho^2$

$$\underbrace{\frac{\rho}{P} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right)}_{\text{only dependent on } \rho} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2}}_{\text{only dependent on } \phi} = 0$$

$$\frac{\rho}{P} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right) = n^2$$

$n$  is complex number  
 $n^2$  for later convenience

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} = -n^2$$

consider  $n \neq 0$

second eq has general sol:  $\Phi(\phi) = A e^{in\phi} + B e^{-in\phi}$

first eq:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right) = \rho \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho}$$

$$\frac{\rho}{P} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right) = \frac{\rho}{P} \left[ \rho \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right] = n^2$$

$$\rightarrow \rho^2 \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial \rho^2} + \rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} - n^2 P = 0$$

$$\rho^2 P'' + \rho P' - n^2 P = 0$$

try  
 $P = e^{\tau}$   
reduce

$$P(\rho) = C \rho^n + D \rho^{-n}$$

If  $\Phi$  is single valued & doesn't change when  $\phi$  increases by  $2\pi$ ,  $n$  must be an integer

Particular Sol<sup>n</sup>

$$u(\rho, \phi) = [A \cos(n\phi) + B \sin(n\phi)] \cdot [C e^n + D e^{-n}] \quad k, B, C, D \text{ are arbitrary constants, } n \text{ is any integer}$$

What about  $n=0$ ?

Sol<sup>0</sup>s shown as

$$\Phi(\phi) = A\phi + B$$

$$P(\rho) = C \ln(\rho) + D$$

for  $A$  to be single valued,  $A=0$

$$\text{Sol}^0: u(\rho, \phi) = C \ln(\rho) + D$$

General Sol<sup>n</sup>

$$u(\rho, \phi) = (C_0 \ln(\rho) + D_0) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [A_n \cos(n\phi) + B_n \sin(n\phi)] \cdot (C_n \rho^n + D_n \rho^{-n})$$

$n = \text{integer values}$

Laplace's eq<sup>n</sup> in Cylindrical coords

If there is no  $z$  dependence, can be treated as 2-D plane polar

generally tho...

$$u(\rho, \Phi, z) = P(\rho) \Phi(\phi) Z(z)$$

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial u}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} \quad \text{divide by } u = P \Phi Z$$

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2} + \frac{1}{z^2} \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial z^2} = 0$$

$\downarrow$  only depends on  $z$

$$\begin{aligned} k^2 &= \frac{1}{z^2} \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial z^2} \\ \text{Sol}^n: \quad Z(z) &= E e^{-kz} + F e^{kz} \end{aligned}$$

Multiply by  $\rho^2$

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \right)}_{\text{only depends on } \rho} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial \phi^2}}_{\text{only depends on } \phi} + k^2 \rho^2 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d \phi^2} = -m^2$$

$$m \neq 0 \rightarrow$$

$$\Phi(\phi) = C \cos(m\phi) + D \sin(m\phi)$$

$$m=0 \rightarrow$$

$$\Phi(\phi) = C \phi + D$$

Eqn

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( p \frac{\partial P}{\partial p} \right) + (-m^2) + k^2 p^2 = 0 \quad \text{multiply by } P$$

$$p \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( p \frac{\partial P}{\partial p} \right) + P(k^2 p^2 - m^2) = 0$$

$$p^2 \frac{d^2 P}{dp^2} + p \frac{dP}{dp} + P(k^2 p^2 - m^2) = 0$$

$$p^2 P'' + p P' + (k^2 p^2 - m^2) P = 0$$

turn into Bessel's eq<sup>n</sup> of order m  $\Leftrightarrow \mu = kp$

$$\text{Sol}^{\pm} : P(p) = A J_m(kp) + B Y_m(kp)$$

note:  $Y_m(kp)$  is singular at  $p=0$

→ when seeking sol<sup>±</sup>'s for Laplace's eq<sup>n</sup> in cylindrical coords. in region  $kp=0$ , need  $B=0$

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General Solution

complete separated variable sol<sup>±</sup>:

$$u(r, \theta, \phi) = [A J_m(kr) + B Y_m(kr)] \cdot [C \cos(m\phi) + D \sin(m\phi)] \cdot [E e^{-kz} + F e^{kz}]$$

Laplace's Equation in Spherical Coords

let's try sol<sup>±</sup> of form:  $u(r, \theta, \phi) = R(r) \Theta(\theta) \Phi(\phi)$

$$\frac{1}{r} \cdot \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = 0 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{divide by } \\ u = R \Theta \Phi \end{array}$$

$$\frac{1}{R} \cdot \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) + \frac{1}{\Theta \sin \theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\Phi \sin^2 \theta} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = 0 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{multiply by } r^2 \\ \text{depends only on } r \end{array}$$

first term

$$\frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) = r^2 \frac{d^2 R}{dr^2} + 2r \frac{dR}{dr}$$

$$\frac{1}{R} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) = \lambda \rightarrow \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) = \lambda R$$

$$\rightarrow r^2 \frac{d^2 R}{dr^2} + 2r \frac{dR}{dr} - \lambda R = 0$$

Why?

$$\rightarrow \frac{d^2S}{dt^2} + \frac{ds}{dt} - \lambda S = 0$$

~~X now.~~

$$\text{soln: } S(t) = A e^{\lambda_1 t} + B e^{\lambda_2 t}$$

$$R(r) = Ar^{\lambda_1} + Br^{\lambda_2}$$

where ...  $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = -1$  &  $\lambda_1 \cdot \lambda_2 = -\lambda$

can take  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  as  $l$  &  $-l+1$   
 $\lambda$  has form  $l(l+1)$

can rewrite  $u(r, \theta, \phi)$  & PDE

$$u(r, \theta, \phi) = R \Theta \Phi$$

$$= [Ar^l + Br^{-l+1}] \Theta(\theta) \Phi(\phi)$$

$$\frac{1}{R} \cdot \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) + \frac{1}{\Theta \sin \theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\Phi \sin^2 \theta} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\Phi \sin^2 \theta} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = -\lambda = -l(l+1)$$

$\cancel{\lambda}$ ) multiply  
by  $\sin^2 \theta$

$$\rightarrow \left[ \frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + l(l+1) \sin^2 \theta \right] + \frac{1}{\Phi \sin^2 \theta} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} = 0$$

$\cancel{-m^2}$

~~II eqn~~  
repeat as in cylindrical soln

$$\text{soln: } \Phi(\phi) = C \cos(m\phi) + D \sin(m\phi), \text{ for } m \neq 0$$

$$\text{if } m=0, \Phi(\phi) = C\phi + D$$

rewrite PDE

$$\frac{\sin \theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) + l(l+1) \sin^2 \theta = m^2$$

~~III eqn~~  
change variables from  $\theta$  to  $\mu$

$$\mu = \cos \theta \quad \frac{d\mu}{d\theta} = -\sin \theta$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} = -\sin \theta \cdot \frac{d}{d\mu} \rightarrow \frac{d}{d\theta} = -\sqrt{1-\cos^2 \theta} \frac{d}{d\mu} = -\sqrt{1-\mu^2} \frac{d}{d\mu}$$

$$\Theta(\theta) = M(\mu)$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \rightarrow -\sqrt{1-\mu^2} \frac{d}{d\mu}$$

$$\sin\theta = \sqrt{1-\mu^2}$$

$$\sin^2\theta \rightarrow 1-\mu^2$$

rewrite PDE

$$\frac{\sin\theta}{\Theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} (\sin\theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta}) + l(l+1) \sin^2\theta = m^2$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{1-\mu^2}}{M} \cdot -\sqrt{1-\mu^2} \cdot \frac{d}{d\mu} \left( \sqrt{1-\mu^2} \cdot -\sqrt{1-\mu^2} \frac{dM}{d\mu} \right) + l(l+1)(1-\mu^2) = m^2$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1-\mu^2}{M} \frac{d}{d\mu} \left( (1-\mu^2) \frac{dM}{d\mu} \right) + l(l+1)(1-\mu^2) - m^2 = 0$$

$$\text{multiply } \frac{\mu}{1-\mu^2} \rightarrow \frac{d}{d\mu} \left( (1-\mu^2) \frac{dM}{d\mu} \right) + \left[ l(l+1) - \frac{m^2}{1-\mu^2} \right] M = 0$$

associated Legendre's eq<sup>u</sup>

sols for  $P_l^m(\mu) \neq Q_l^m(\mu)$

for  $m=0$ , simplifies to Legendre's eq<sup>u</sup>

$$M(\mu) = E P_l(\mu) + F Q_l(\mu)$$

Sols for general  $m$  found in Section 18.2

$$P_l^m(\mu) = (1-\mu^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \frac{d^{|m|}}{d\mu^{|m|}} [P_l(\mu)]$$

$$Q_l^m(\mu) = (1-\mu^2)^{\frac{m}{2}} \frac{d^{|m|}}{d\mu^{|m|}} [Q_l(\mu)]$$

$$M(\mu) = E P_l^m(\mu) + F Q_l^m(\mu)$$

$m$  must be integer  $0 \leq |m| \leq l$

if we require sol's to Laplace's eq<sup>u</sup> are finite when  $\mu = \cos\theta = \pm 1$   
 $\rightarrow$  must have  $F=0$   $\therefore Q_l^m(\mu)$  diverges at  $\mu = \pm 1$

must have  $l$  as integer  $\geq 0$

General sol<sup>n</sup>

$$u(r, \theta, \phi) = R(r) \Phi(\phi) \Theta(\theta)$$
$$= [Ar^l + Br^{-(l+1)}] \cdot [\cos(m\phi) + D\sin(m\phi)] \cdot [EP_l^m \cos(\theta) + FQ_l^m \sin(\theta)]$$

where the three are connected only thru integer parameters  $l \pm m : 0 \leq |m| \leq l$

if sol<sup>n</sup> is required to be finite on the polar axis then  $F=0 \quad \forall m, l$