

# MA-207 Differential Equations II

## Lecture-9 Eigenvalue Problem and Fourier Expansion

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S1 - Lecture 9

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S1 - Lecture 9

- **EVP 1.**  $y'' + \lambda y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y(L) = 0$   
has infinitely many positive eigenvalues  $\lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2$   
for  $n \geq 1$  with associated eigenfunctions

$$y_n = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}.$$

- **EVP 2.**  $y'' + \lambda y = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = 0$ ,  $y'(L) = 0$   
has infinitely many non-negative eigenvalues  
 $\lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2$  for  $n \geq 0$  with associated  
eigenfunctions

$$y_n = \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L}.$$

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- **EVP 3.**  $y'' + \lambda y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = 0$ ,  $y'(L) = 0$   
has infinitely many positive eigenvalues

$$\lambda_n = \left( \frac{(2n-1)\pi}{2L} \right)^2, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

with associated eigenfunctions

$$y_n = \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}.$$

- **EVP 4.**  $y'' + \lambda y = 0$ ,  $y'(0) = 0$ ,  $y(L) = 0$   
has infinitely many positive eigenvalues

$$\lambda_n = \left( \frac{(2n-1)\pi}{2L} \right)^2, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

with eigenfunctions  $y_n = \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}$ .

- **EVP 5.**  $y'' + \lambda y = 0$ ,  $y(-L) = y(L)$ ,  
 $y'(-L) = y'(L)$   
has an eigenvalue  $\lambda_0 = 0$  with eigenfunction  $y_0 = 1$   
and infinitely many positive eigenvalues  $\lambda_n = \frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2}$ ,  
 $n = 1, 2, \dots$  with associated eigenfunctions

$$y_{1n} = \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad \text{and} \quad y_{2n} = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}.$$

- Eigenfunctions of EVP (1-4) are orthogonal on  $[0, L]$  w.r.t. inner product  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^L f(x)g(x)dx$
- Eigenfunctions of EVP 5 are orthogonal on  $[-L, L]$  wrt inner product  $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{-L}^L f(x)g(x)dx$ .

## Fourier Series.

Let  $f \in L^2([-L, L])$  be piecewise smooth. Extend  $f$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  as a periodic function of period  $2L$ .

The Fourier series of  $f$  is

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

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx, \quad a_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx, \quad n > 0$$

- $F(x) = \frac{1}{2}[f(x^+) + f(x^-)]$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Let  $f \in L^2([0, L])$  be smooth (for simplicity).

Extend  $f$  to a piecewise smooth function  $f_1$  on  $[-L, L]$ .

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

be the Fourier series of  $f_1(x)$ .

Then restriction of  $F$  to  $(0, L)$  represents  $f$ .

- In particular, if  $f_1$  is odd, then we get Fourier sine series of  $f$  on  $(0, L)$ ,  $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$

- If  $f_1$  is even, then we get Fourier cosine series of  $f$  on  $(0, L)$ ,  $f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L}$

- Let  $f \in L^2([0, L])$ . Extend  $f$  to  $f_1$  on  $[0, 2L]$  as  $f_1(x) = f(2L - x)$  for  $x \in (L, 2L)$ .

Extend  $f_1$  to  $[-2L, 2L]$  as an odd function and then to  $\mathbb{R}$  as a periodic function of period  $4L$ .

Fourier sine series of  $f_1$  on  $[0, 2L]$  is

$$F(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2L}$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{2L} \int_0^{2L} f_1(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2L} dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2L} dx + \frac{1}{L} \int_L^{2L} f(2L-x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2L} dx$$

$$\int_L^{2L} f(2L-x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2L} dx$$

$$(x' = 2L - x), \quad = \int_L^0 f(x') \sin\left(n\pi - \frac{n\pi x'}{2L}\right) (-dx')$$

$$\int_0^L (-1)^{n+1} f(x') \sin \frac{n\pi x'}{2L} dx'$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2L} dx + \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L (-1)^{n+1} f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2L} dx$$

$$\text{So } b_{2n} = 0, \quad b_{2n-1} = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx.$$

$$\text{Thus } F(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} b_{2n-1} \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}.$$

The **Mixed Fourier sine series** of  $f \in L^2([0, L])$  is the restriction of Fourier sine series of  $f_1$  to  $[0, L]$ , i.e.

$$F(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} c_n \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}$$

$$c_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx$$

This is the Fourier series of  $f$  on  $[0, L]$  w.r.t. orthogonal system of eigenfunctions

$$B = \left\{ \sin \frac{\pi x}{2L}, \sin \frac{3\pi x}{2L}, \dots, \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}, \dots \right\}$$

of EVP 3 :  $y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y(0) = 0 = y'(L).$

### Mixed Fourier cosine series

Let  $f \in L^2([0, L])$ . Extend  $f$  to  $f_1$  on  $[0, 2L]$  as  $f_1(x) = -f(2L - x)$  for  $x \in (L, 2L)$ .

Extend  $f_1$  to  $[-2L, 2L]$  as an even function and then to  $\mathbb{R}$  as a periodic function of period  $4L$ .

Fourier cosine series of  $f_1$  on  $[0, 2L]$  is

$$F(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_n \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}, \quad d_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx$$

This is the Fourier series of  $f$  on  $[0, L]$  w.r.t. orthogonal system of eigenfunctions

$$B = \left\{ \cos \frac{\pi x}{2L}, \cos \frac{3\pi x}{2L}, \dots, \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}, \dots \right\}$$

of EVP 4 :  $y'' + \lambda y = 0, \quad y'(0) = 0 = y(L).$

### A useful observation

Often we need to find Fourier expansion of polynomial functions in terms of the eigenfunctions of EVP 1-4 satisfying the boundary conditions.

We can use “derivative transfer principle” to find Fourier coefficients.

In EVP 1 with  $f(0) = 0 = f(L)$ , we get Fourier sine series on  $[0, L]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= \sum_{n \geq 1} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \\ b_n &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ &= \frac{2}{L} \frac{L}{n\pi} \int_0^L f'(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ &= \frac{-2}{L} \left( \frac{L}{n\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^L f''(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \end{aligned}$$

In EVP (2) with  $f'(0) = 0 = f'(L)$ , we get Fourier cosine series on  $[0, L]$ ,

$$f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq L$$

$$\text{where for } n \geq 1, \quad a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$= \frac{-2}{L} \frac{L}{n\pi} \int_0^L f'(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$= \frac{-2}{L} \frac{L^2}{n^2\pi^2} \int_0^L f''(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$= \frac{2}{L} \left( \frac{L}{n\pi} \right)^3 \int_0^L f'''(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

In EVP 3 with  $f(0) = 0 = f'(L)$ , we get Mixed Fourier sine series on  $[0, L]$ .

$$F(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} c_n \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}$$

$$c_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx$$

$$= \frac{2}{L} \frac{2L}{(2n-1)\pi} \int_0^L f'(x) \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx$$

$$= \frac{-2}{L} \left( \frac{2L}{(2n-1)\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^L f''(x) \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx$$

In EVP 4 with  $f'(0) = 0 = f'(L)$ , we get Mixed Fourier cosine series on  $[0, L]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= \sum_{n \geq 1} d_n \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} \\ d_n &= \frac{-2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx \\ &= \frac{2}{L} \frac{2L}{(2n-1)\pi} \int_0^L f'(x) \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx \\ &= \frac{-2}{L} \left( \frac{2L}{(2n-1)\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^L f''(x) \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx \end{aligned}$$

**Example.** Find the Fourier cosine expansion of

$$f(x) = x^2(3L - 2x) \quad \text{on } [0, L]$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L (3Lx^2 - 2x^3) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{L} \left( Lx^3 - \frac{x^4}{2} \right) \Big|_0^L \\ &= \frac{L^3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Evaluating  $a_n$  directly is laborious.

$$f'(x) = 6Lx - 6x^2 \implies f'(0) = f'(L) = 0$$

Note  $f'''(x) = -12$ . We get



$$\begin{aligned}
 a_n &= \frac{2}{L} \left( \frac{L}{n\pi} \right)^3 \int_0^L f'''(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\
 &= \frac{-24}{L} \left( \frac{L}{n\pi} \right)^3 \int_0^L \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\
 &= \frac{24}{L} \left( \frac{L}{n\pi} \right)^4 \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \Big|_0^L = \frac{24L^3}{n^4\pi^4} [(-1)^n - 1]
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $a_{2n} = 0$  and  $a_{2n-1} = \frac{-48L^3}{(2n-1)^4\pi^4}$ .

Thus Fourier cosine expansion of  $f(x)$  on  $[0, L]$  is

$$\frac{L^3}{2} - \frac{48L^3}{\pi^4} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^4} \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{L}$$

**Example.** Find the Fourier sine expansion of

$$f(x) = x(x^2 - 3Lx + 2L^2) \text{ on } [0, L]$$

Note  $f(0) = 0 = f(L)$ ,  $f''(x) = 6(x - L)$ . Fourier sine coefficient

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_n &= \frac{-2}{L} \left( \frac{L}{n\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^L f''(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\
 &= \frac{-12L}{n^2\pi^2} \int_0^L (x - L) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\
 &= \frac{12L^2}{n^3\pi^3} \left[ (x - L) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \Big|_0^L - \int_0^L \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \right] \\
 &= \frac{12L^2}{n^3\pi^3} \left[ L - \frac{L}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \Big|_0^L \right] = \frac{12L^3}{n^3\pi^3}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the Fourier sine expansion of  $f(x)$  on  $[0, L]$  is

$$\frac{12L^3}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n^3} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad \square$$

**Example.** Find the mixed Fourier cosine expansion of  $f(x) = 3x^3 - 4Lx^2 + L^3$  on  $[0, L]$

**Soln.**  $f'(0) = 0 = f(L)$ ,  $f''(x) = 2(9x - 4L)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} d_n &= \frac{-2}{L} \left( \frac{2L}{(2n-1)\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^L f''(x) \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx \\ &= \frac{-16L}{(2n-1)^2 \pi^2} \int_0^L (9x - 4L) \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx \\ &= \frac{-32L^2}{(2n-1)^3 \pi^3} \left[ (9x - 4L) \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} \Big|_0^L \right. \\ &\quad \left. - 9 \int_0^L \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{-32L^2}{(2n-1)^3\pi^3} \left[ (9x-4L) \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} \Big|_0^L - 9 \int_0^L \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} \right] \\
&= \frac{-32L^2}{(2n-1)^3\pi^3} \left[ (-1)^{n+1}5L + \frac{18L}{(2n-1)\pi} \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} \Big|_0^L \right] \\
&= \frac{-32L^3}{(2n-1)^3\pi^3} \left[ (-1)^{n+1}5 - \frac{18}{(2n-1)\pi} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the Mixed Fourier cosine expansion of  $f(x)$  on  $[0, L]$  is

$$\frac{32L^3}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3} \left[ (-1)^n 5 + \frac{18}{(2n-1)\pi} \right] \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}$$

**Example** Find the mixed Fourier sine expansion of

$$f(x) = x(2x^2 - 9Lx + 12L^2) \text{ on } [0, L]$$

Since  $f(0) = 0 = f'(L)$  and  $f''(x) = 6(2x - 3L)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned}
c_n &= \frac{-2}{L} \left( \frac{2L}{(2n-1)\pi} \right)^2 \int_0^L f''(x) \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx \\
&= \frac{-48L}{(2n-1)^2\pi^2} \int_0^L (2x-3L) \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx \\
&= \frac{96L^2}{(2n-1)^3\pi^3} \left[ (2x-3L) \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} \Big|_0^L \right. \\
&\quad \left. - 2 \int_0^L \cos \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} dx \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{96L^2}{(2n-1)^3\pi^3} \left[ 3L - \frac{4L}{(2n-1)\pi} \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L} \Big|_0^L \right] \\
&= \frac{96L^3}{(2n-1)^3\pi^3} \left[ 3 - \frac{4(-1)^{n-1}}{(2n-1)\pi} \right]
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the mixed Fourier sine expansion of  $f(x)$  on  $[0, L]$  is

$$\frac{96L^3}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(2n-1)^3} \left[ 3 + \frac{4(-1)^n}{(2n-1)\pi} \right] \sin \frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}$$

Now we will start the study of Partial differential equations.

A partial differential equation (PDE) is an equation for an unknown function  $u$  that involves independent variables  $x, y, \dots$ , the function  $u$  and the partial derivatives of  $u$ .

The **order** of the PDE is the order of the highest partial derivative of  $u$  in the equation.

**Examples** of some famous PDEs.

- ①  $u_t - k(u_{xx} + u_{yy}) = 0$   
two dimensional Heat equation, order 2.
- ②  $u_{tt} - c^2(u_{xx} + u_{yy}) = 0$   
two dimensional wave equation, order 2.
- ③  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$   
two dimensional Laplace equation, order 2.
- ④  $u_{tt} + u_{xxxx}$  Beam equation, order 4.

Examples of non-famous PDE's (I made it up).

- ①  $u_x + \sin(u_y) = 0$ , order 1.
- ②  $3x^2 \sin(xy)e^{-xy^2}u_{xx} + \log(x^2 + y^2)u_y = 0$ ,  
order 2.

**Definition.** A PDE is said to be **linear** if it is linear in  $u$  and its partial derivatives i.e. it is a degree 1 polynomial in  $u$  and its partial derivatives.

**Examples.** Heat equation, Wave equation, Laplace equation and Beam equation are linear PDEs.

First one above is non-linear and 2nd one is linear.

• The general form of first order linear PDE in two variables  $x, y$  is

$$A(x, y)u_x + B(x, y)u_y + C(x, y)u = f(x, y)$$

- The general form of first order linear PDE in three variables  $x, y, z$  is

$$Au_x + Bu_y + Cu_z + Du = f$$

where coefficients  $A, B, C, D$  and  $f$  are functions of  $x, y$  and  $z$ .

- The general form of second order linear PDE in two variables  $x, y$  is

$$Au_{xx} + 2Bu_{xy} + Cu_{yy} + Du_x + Eu_y + Fu = f$$

where coefficients  $A, B, C, D, E, F$  and  $f$  are functions of  $x$  and  $y$ .

- When  $A, \dots, F$  are all constants, then it is called a linear PDE with constant coefficients.

## Linear Partial Differential Operator

Second order linear PDE in two variable can be written as  $Lu = f$ , where

$$L = A \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + 2B \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} + C \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + D \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + E \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + F$$

is the linear differential operator. It is called linear since the map  $u \mapsto Lu$  is a linear map.

**Examples.** Laplace operator in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is

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

Heat and Wave operator in one space variable are

$$H = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}, \quad \square = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$$

## Classification of second order linear PDE

Consider the linear differential operator  $L$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

$$L = A \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + 2B \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} + C \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + D \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + E \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + F$$

where  $A, \dots, F$  are functions of  $x$  and  $y$ .

To the operator  $L$ , we associate the **discriminant**  $\mathbb{D}(x, y)$  given by

$$\mathbb{D}(x, y) = A(x, y)C(x, y) - B^2(x, y)$$

The operator  $L$  or the PDE  $Lu = f$  is said to be

- **elliptic** at  $(x_0, y_0)$ , if  $\mathbb{D}(x_0, y_0) > 0$ ,
- **hyperbolic** at  $(x_0, y_0)$ , if  $\mathbb{D}(x_0, y_0) < 0$ ,
- **parabolic** at  $(x_0, y_0)$ , if  $\mathbb{D}(x_0, y_0) = 0$ .

If  $L$  is elliptic at each point  $(x, y)$  in a domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ , then  $L$  is called **elliptic in  $\Omega$** .

Similarly for hyperbolic and parabolic. Recall

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}, \quad H = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}, \quad \square = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$$

- Two dimensional Laplace operator  $\Delta$  is elliptic in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , since  $\mathbb{D} = 1$ .
- One dimensional Heat operator  $H$  is parabolic in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , since  $\mathbb{D} = 0$ .
- One dimensional Wave operator  $\square$  is hyperbolic in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , since  $\mathbb{D} = -1$ .