

Recap 1: Boundary Conditions and Domains

- Hyperbolic, elliptic, and parabolic equations significantly different mathematical properties, and generally require different combinations of boundary conditions on geometrically different (open/closed) boundaries.
- Rule of thumb:

Type	Typical Variables	Boundary Conditions	Domain
Hyperbolic	Space+time	Cauchy/mixed	Open
Elliptic	Space	Dirichlet/Neumann	Closed
Parabolic	Space+time	Dirichlet/Neumann	Open

Recap 2: Separation of Variables

$$\frac{\nabla^2 \chi}{\chi} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{1}{T} \frac{d^2 T}{dt^2} = \text{constant}, -k^2 \longleftarrow \frac{\text{separation constant}}{\text{form is conventional}}$$

↑ ↖
function of x only function of t only

- Effectively splits the PDE into an ODE and a lower-dimensional PDE.
- Time dependence

$$T'' + k^2 c^2 T = 0, \text{ and define } \omega = kc$$

- Solutions $T = e^{\pm i\omega t}$
- Spatial dependence

$$\nabla^2 \chi + k^2 \chi = 0$$

Helmholtz equation

- Wave solution: expect $k^2 > 0$

Recap 3: All Roads Lead to Helmholtz

- Wave equation, $e^{\pm i\omega t}$ time dependence
 $\Rightarrow \nabla^2 u + k^2 u = 0, \quad \text{where } k^2 = \omega^2 c^2 > 0$
- Laplace equation
 $\Rightarrow \nabla^2 \phi = 0, \quad \text{so } k^2 = 0$
- Diffusion equation, $e^{-l^2 \kappa t}$ time dependence
 $\Rightarrow \nabla^2 u + k^2 u = 0, \quad \text{where } k^2 = l^2 > 0$
- Schrödinger equation, particle in a box
 $\Rightarrow \nabla^2 \psi + k^2 \psi = 0, \quad \text{where } k^2 = \frac{2mE}{\hbar^2} > 0$

Separation of Variables

- Seek separable solutions of the Helmholtz equation.

$$\nabla^2 \chi + k^2 \chi = 0$$

where we anticipate $k^2 > 0$, but should not always assume so.

- Start in Cartesian coordinates in 3D: x, y, z .
- Write

$$\chi(x, y, z) = X(x)Y(y)Z(z)$$

then

$$\nabla^2 \chi = X''YZ + XY''Z + XYZ''$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} + \frac{Y''}{Y} + \frac{Z''}{Z} + k^2 = 0$$

function of x function of y function of z

← All must be constant!

Separation of Variables

- Set $\frac{X''}{X} = -\lambda^2$
 $\frac{Y''}{Y} = -\mu^2$
 $\frac{Z''}{Z} = -\nu^2$

Again, conventional — no assumptions about signs

with the constraint

$$\lambda^2 + \mu^2 + \nu^2 = k^2$$

- Individual solutions are

$$X_\lambda(x) = e^{\pm i\lambda x}, \quad Y_\mu(y) = e^{\pm i\mu y}, \quad Z_\nu(z) = e^{\pm i\nu z}$$

Separation of Variables

- General solution is a sum of all possible terms solving the equation subject to the constraints:

$$\chi(x, y, z) = \sum_{\lambda^2 + \mu^2 + \nu^2 = k^2} X_\lambda(x) Y_\mu(y) Z_\nu(z)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} X_\lambda(x) &= A_\lambda e^{i\lambda x} + B_\lambda e^{-i\lambda x} & \text{or} & \quad A_\lambda \sin \lambda x + B_\lambda \cos \lambda x \\ Y_\mu(y) &= C_\mu e^{i\mu y} + D_\mu e^{-i\mu y} & \text{or} & \quad C_\mu \sin \mu y + D_\mu \cos \mu y \\ Z_\nu(z) &= E_\nu e^{i\nu z} + F_\nu e^{-i\nu z} & \text{or} & \quad E_\nu \sin \nu z + F_\nu \cos \nu z \end{aligned}$$

- Note: sum may be a sum over integers, or it may be an integral over real values, depending on circumstances TBD.
- λ, μ, ν values and coefficients are determined by matching the boundary and initial conditions.

Example (1D): Vibration of a String

- Underlying equation is the 1D wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = 0 \qquad c^2 = T/\sigma$$

with $u(0, t) = u(a, t) = 0$.

- Seek $e^{i\omega t}$ behavior (normal mode), gives Helmholtz equation with $k = \omega/c$

$$\frac{d^2 \chi}{dx^2} + k^2 \chi = 0$$

- Solution with $\chi(0) = 0$

$$\chi(x) = \sin kx$$

- BC $\chi(a) = 0 \implies \sin ka = 0 \implies ka = l\pi \implies k_l = \frac{l\pi}{a}$

Example (1D): Vibration of a String

- General solution is a sum of normal modes of the form

$$u_l(x) = \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a}$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x, t) = \sum_l A_l \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a} e^{ick_l t}$$

- Complete the solution by looking at the initial conditions

$$u(x, 0) = \sum_l A_l \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a}$$

- This is a 1D Fourier series to determine the coefficients A_l

Reminder: Fourier Series

- Going to see a lot of Fourier series in this context!
- Will see this material later as part of a much more general result, but review the basics here.
- See R&H Sec. 4.1, 4.2
- A Fourier series is an expansion of a function defined in some interval $0 \leq x < L$ in terms of trigonometric functions or complex exponentials.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(a_n \cos \frac{2n\pi x}{L} + b_n \sin \frac{2n\pi x}{L} \right)$$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} c_n e^{\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}}$$

Recall:

$$\cos \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta}}{2}$$
$$\sin \theta = \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i}$$

Fourier Series

- Temporarily setting aside mathematical rigor, we can multiply the first form by $\cos\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right)$ or $\sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right)$ and integrate to find

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

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

Works because

$$\int_0^L dx \, \cos\left(\frac{2\pi mx}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right) = \frac{1}{2} L \delta_{mn}$$

$$\int_0^L dx \, \sin\left(\frac{2\pi mx}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right) = \frac{1}{2} L \delta_{mn}$$

$$\int_0^L dx \, \cos\left(\frac{2\pi mx}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi nx}{L}\right) = 0$$

- Similarly,

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

$$\int_0^L dx \, e^{\frac{2\pi i m x}{L}} e^{-\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} = L \delta_{mn}$$

- Sums converge to $f(x)$ for $0 \leq x < L$, periodic outside that range.
- Convergence: $\int_0^L dx \, \left| f(x) - \sum_{n=-N}^N c_n e^{\frac{2\pi i n x}{L}} \right|^2 \rightarrow 0$ as $N \rightarrow \infty$

Example (1D): Vibration of a String

- Solution is

$$u(x, t) = \sum_l A_l \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a} e^{i\omega_l t}$$

$$\text{where } k_l = \frac{l\pi}{a}, \quad \omega_l = ck_l$$

- Initial conditions

$$u(x, 0) = \sum_l A_l \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a}$$

so

$$A_l = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L dx \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a} u(x, 0)$$

- BCs set the allowed l , ICs determine the coefficients—always enough information to do this in a well-posed problem.

Example (2D): Vibration of a Membrane

- Underlying equation is the 2D wave equation

$$\nabla^2 u - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = 0 \qquad c^2 = T/\sigma$$

- Seek $e^{i\omega t}$ behavior (normal mode), gives Helmholtz equation with $k = \omega/c$

$$\nabla^2 u + k^2 u = 0$$

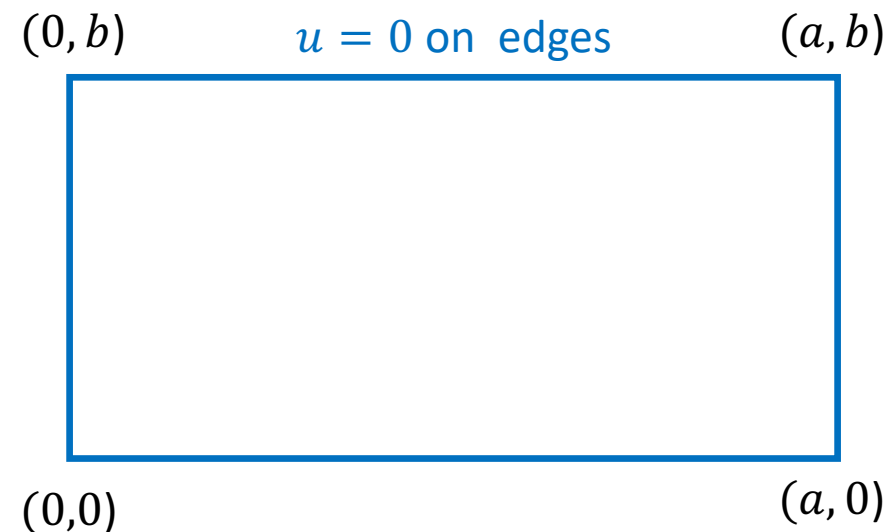
- Find

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

$$Y'' + \mu^2 Y = 0, \quad \text{where } \lambda^2 + \mu^2 = k^2$$

- Solutions with $u(0, y) = u(x, 0) = 0$

$$X = \sin \lambda x, \quad Y = \sin \mu y$$



Example (2D): Vibration of a Membrane

- Solutions satisfying BCs at $x = 0, y = 0$ are

$$X = \sin \lambda x, \quad Y = \sin \mu y$$

- At $x = a$, must have $\sin \lambda a = 0$, so $\lambda a = l\pi, l$ integer.
- At $y = b$, must have $\sin \mu b = 0$, so $\mu b = m\pi, m$ integer.
- Solution is a sum of normal modes of the form

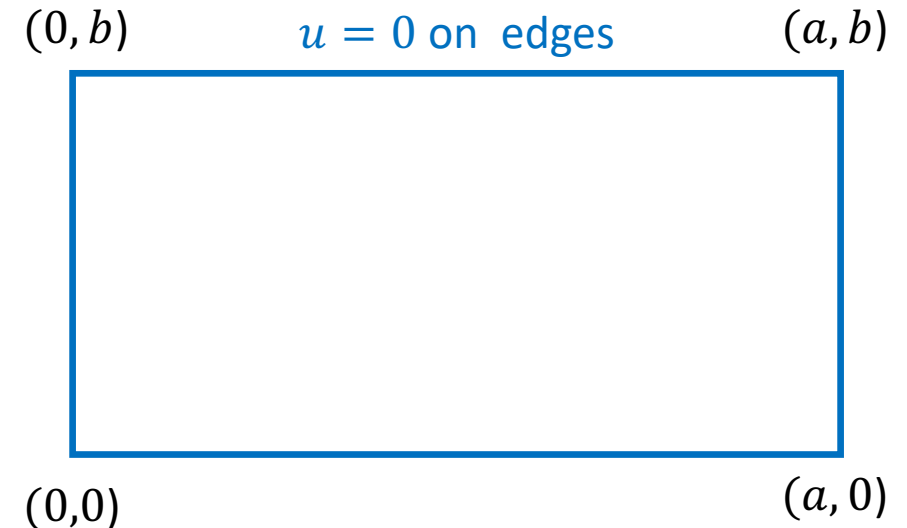
$$u_{lm}(x, y) = \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{b}$$

$$u(x, y, t) = \sum_{l,m} A_{lm} \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{b} e^{i\omega_{lm}t}$$

where $k_{lm}^2 = \frac{l^2\pi^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2\pi^2}{b^2}$, $\omega_{lm}^2 = c^2 k_{lm}^2$

- 2D Fourier series for ICs, much as before

BCs constrain the
separation constants



Example (2D): Vibration of a Membrane

- Solution is

$$u(x, y, t) = \sum_{l,m} A_{lm} \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{b} e^{i\omega_{lm}t}$$

where $k_{lm}^2 = \frac{l^2\pi^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2\pi^2}{b^2}$, $\omega_{lm}^2 = c^2 k_{lm}^2$

- Initial conditions

$$u(x, y, 0) = \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} A_{lm} \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{b}$$

so

$$A_{lm} = \frac{4}{L^2} \int_0^L dx \int_0^L dy \sin \frac{l\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{b} u(x, y, 0)$$

- Again, BCs set the allowed l, m , ICs determine the coefficients.

Example (2D): Laplace's Equation in a Square

- Underlying equation for potential ϕ :

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

- Separation

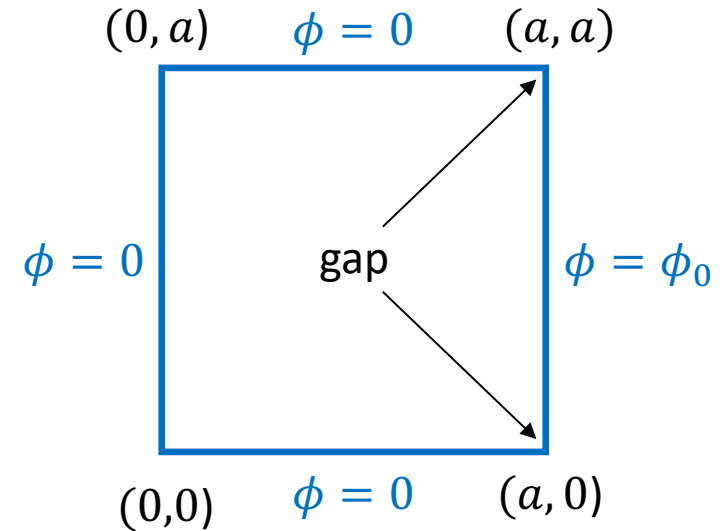
$$\phi(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow X''Y + XY'' = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} + \frac{Y''}{Y} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow X'' + \lambda^2 X = 0, \quad Y'' + \mu^2 Y = 0, \quad \lambda^2 + \mu^2 = 0$$

- BCs: ϕ is periodic in y for all x , so $\mu^2 > 0$, $\lambda^2 = -\mu^2 < 0$
- $\phi = 0$ for $y = 0$, so y solution is $\sin \mu y$
- $\phi = 0$ for $y = a$, so $\mu a = m\pi$, m integer
- $\phi = 0$ for $x = 0$, so x solution is $\sinh \lambda x$



Example (2D): Laplace's Equation in a Square

- General solution is

$$\phi(x, y) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \sinh \frac{m\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{a}$$

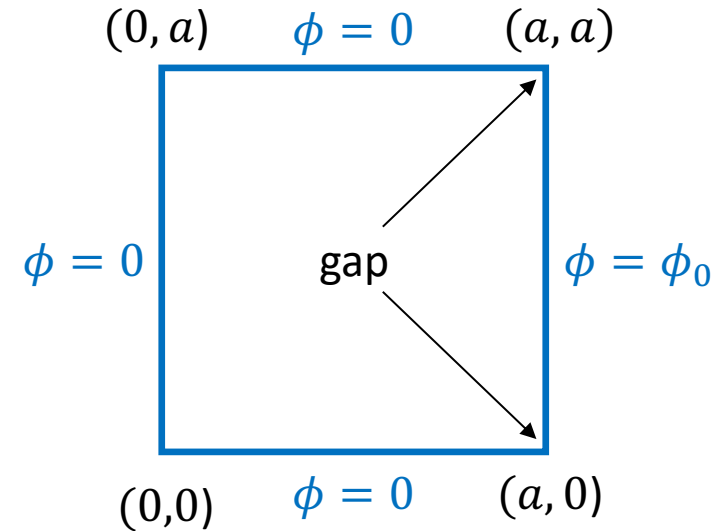
- Satisfies 3 of 4 BCs
- BC at $x = a$:

$$\phi_0 = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \sinh m\pi \sin \frac{m\pi y}{a}$$

- Another Fourier series for a_m

$$a_m \sinh m\pi = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a dy \phi_0 \sin \frac{m\pi y}{a} = \frac{2\phi_0}{m\pi} [1 - (-1)^m]$$

$$\text{so } \phi(x, y) = \sum_{\substack{m=1 \\ m \text{ odd}}}^{\infty} \frac{4\phi_0}{m\pi} \frac{\sinh \frac{m\pi x}{a}}{\sinh m\pi} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{a}$$



BCs set the allowed l, m , ICs determine the coefficients.

Separation of Variables in Cylindrical Polar Coordinates

- Cylindrical polars: $u(\rho, \varphi, z, t) = \chi(\rho, \varphi, z)e^{\pmickt}$

- Helmholtz: $\nabla^2 \chi + k^2 \chi = 0$

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left(\rho \frac{\partial \chi}{\partial \rho} \right) + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2 \chi}{\partial \varphi^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \chi}{\partial z^2} + k^2 \chi = 0$$

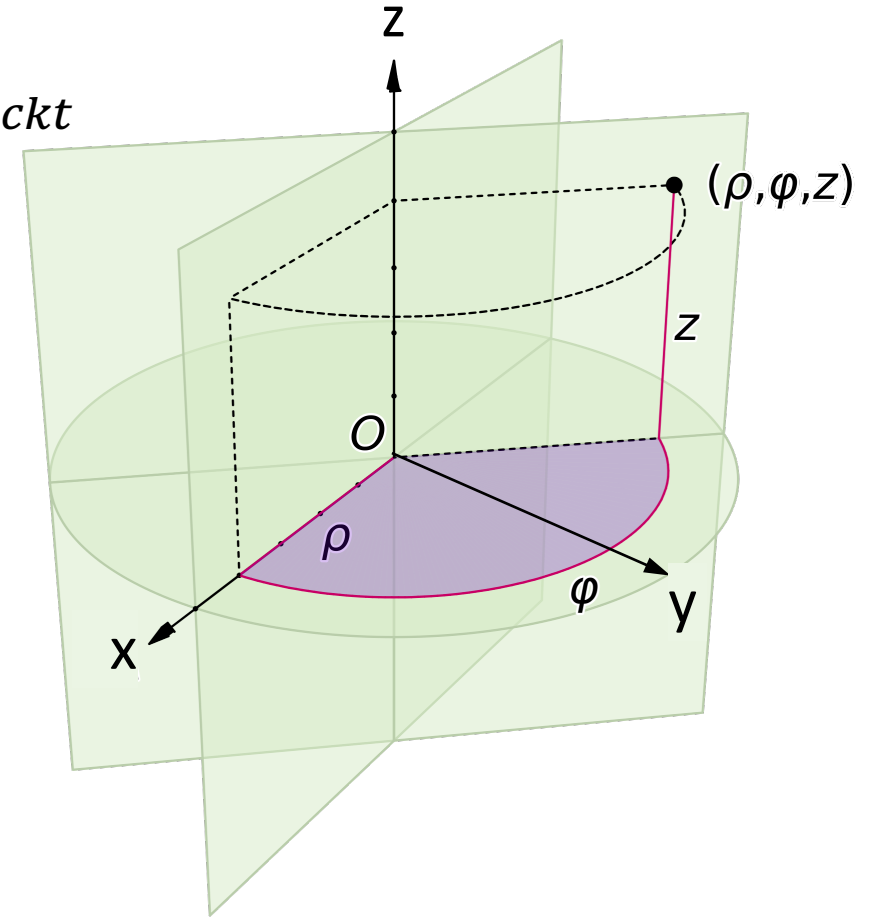
- Separation: assume

$$\chi(\rho, \varphi, z) = P(\rho)\Phi(\varphi)Z(z)$$

- Substitute and divide by χ :

$$\frac{1}{\rho P} (\rho P')' + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\Phi''}{\Phi} + \frac{Z''}{Z} + k^2 = 0$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{\rho P} (\rho P')' + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\Phi''}{\Phi}}_{\text{function of } \rho, \varphi} + \underbrace{k^2 - \frac{Z''}{Z}}_{\text{function of } z} = 0$$



Separation of Variables in Cylindrical Polar Coordinates

$$Z'' - l^2 Z = 0 \quad \text{solution } Z_l(z)$$

$$\frac{1}{\rho P} (\rho P')' + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\Phi''}{\Phi} + k^2 = -l^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\rho}{P} (\rho P')' + (k^2 + l^2) \rho^2 = -\frac{\Phi''}{\Phi} = m^2$$

$$\text{so } \Phi'' + m^2 \Phi = 0 \quad \text{solution } \Phi_m(\varphi)$$

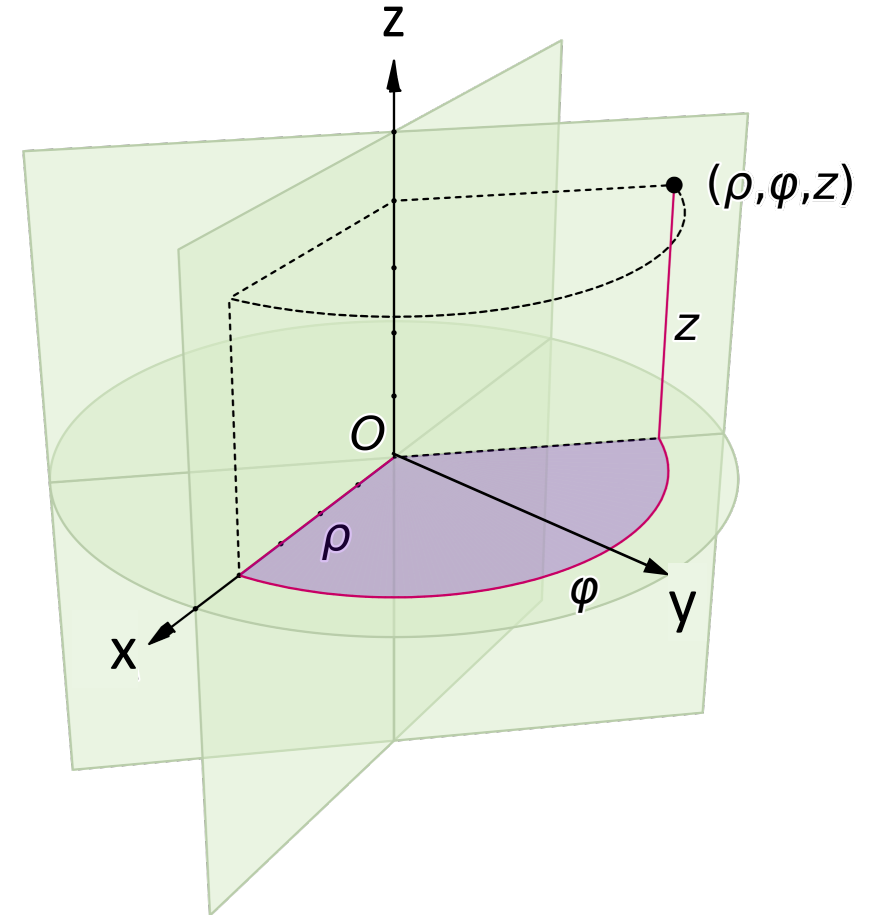
$$\text{and } \rho(\rho P')' + (k^2 + l^2) \rho^2 P - m^2 P = 0$$

call this n^2 solution $P_{nm}(\rho)$

- As usual, the general solution is

$$\chi(\rho, \varphi, z) = \sum_{lmn} a_{lmn} P_{nm}(\rho) \Phi_m(\varphi) Z_l(z), \text{ with } n^2 = k^2 + l^2$$

(again, generalized sum — not clear yet what l, m, n really are)



Separation of Variables in Cylindrical Polar Coordinates

- z and φ equations are easy to solve:

$$Z'' - l^2 Z = 0 \Rightarrow Z_l(z) = e^{\pm lz} \quad (l \text{ may be real or complex})$$

$$\Phi'' + m^2 \Phi = 0 \Rightarrow \Phi_m(\varphi) = e^{\pm im\varphi}$$

- φ is an angular coordinate, so the solution must be periodic

$\Rightarrow m$ must be an integer

- Left with the radial equation

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

$$\Rightarrow \rho^2 P'' + \rho P' + (n^2 \rho^2 - m^2)P = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x^2 P'' + x P' + (x^2 - m^2)P = 0$$

Bessel's Equation

Define $x = n\rho$, so

$$x \frac{dP}{dx} = n\rho \frac{dP}{n d\rho} = \rho P'$$

and redefine $'$ to mean $\frac{d}{dx}$

Bessel's Equation of Integer Order

- For integral m , the solutions to Bessel's equation are very well studied

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - m^2)y = 0$$

- The regular (i.e. non-singular) solutions are called $J_m(x)$, so the general solution to the radial equation is

$$P_{nm}(\rho) = J_m(n\rho)$$

- Note how the separation constants couple — the integer angular constant m couples to the order of the Bessel function, while k and l (via n) are attached to the argument.
- General solution is

$$\chi(\rho, \varphi, z) = \sum_{lmn} a_{lmn} J_m(n\rho) e^{\pm im\varphi} e^{\pm lz}, \quad \text{where } n^2 = k^2 + l^2$$

shorthand, again

Bessel Functions of Integer Order

- Interested in Bessel's equation for integral m

$$x^2 y'' + xy' + (x^2 - m^2)y = 0$$

- Specifically interested in the regular (non-singular) solutions $J_m(x)$.
- Think of these as fundamental solutions in the same league as sin and cos, but possibly not as well known (to the student).
- Will see parts of this theory (as with Fourier series) in a more general context later, but let's spell out some basic properties here.
- Easy to solve this equation, solutions are built into many programming languages (e.g. Python: `scipy.special.jn()`)
- Focus on general properties here.

Bessel Functions of Integer Order

- First few Bessel functions of integral order:

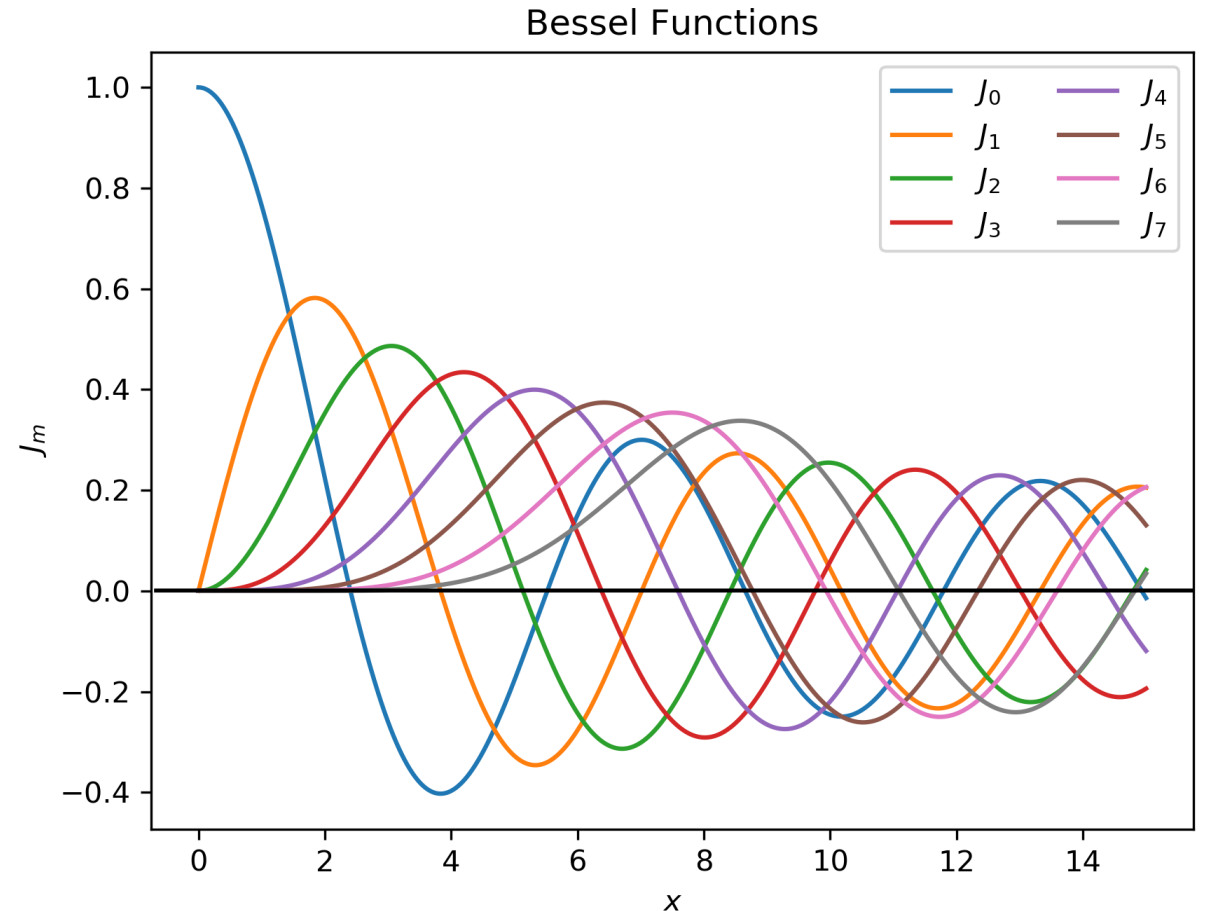
- Functions are oscillatory.

- Functions are damped.

- Zeroes and maxima/minima are well documented.

- $J_m \sim x^m$ near $x = 0$

- Regard these as as “known” functions, in the same category as the trigonometric functions taught in high school.



Vibration of a Circular Membrane

- Same problem as before, but in a different geometry.
- Derivation is the same as cylindrical polars, but just neglect the z term.
- Conventionally, $\rho, \varphi \rightarrow r, \theta$ here
- Seek separable solution

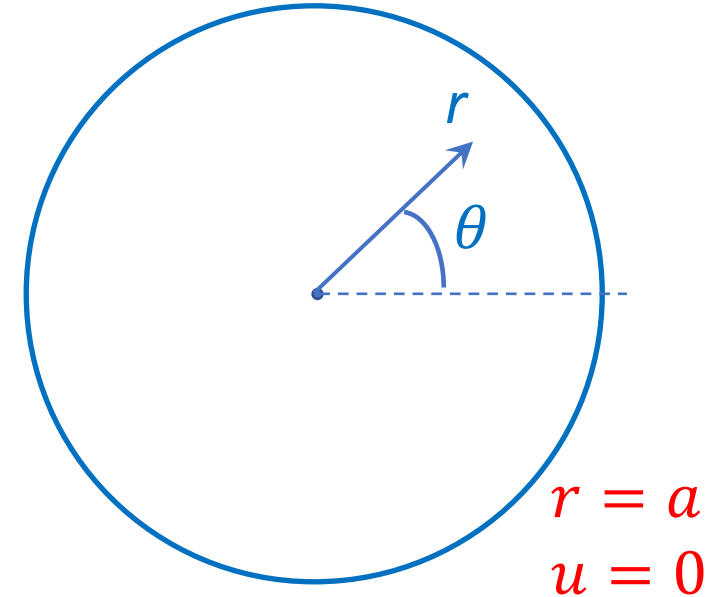
$$u(r, \theta) = R(r)\Theta(\theta)$$

- where

$$\Theta'' + m^2\Theta = 0$$

$$r^2R'' + rR' + (k^2r^2 - m^2)R = 0$$

- Look for normal modes, with $R(a) = 0$



solution $e^{\pm im\theta}$, as before, m integer

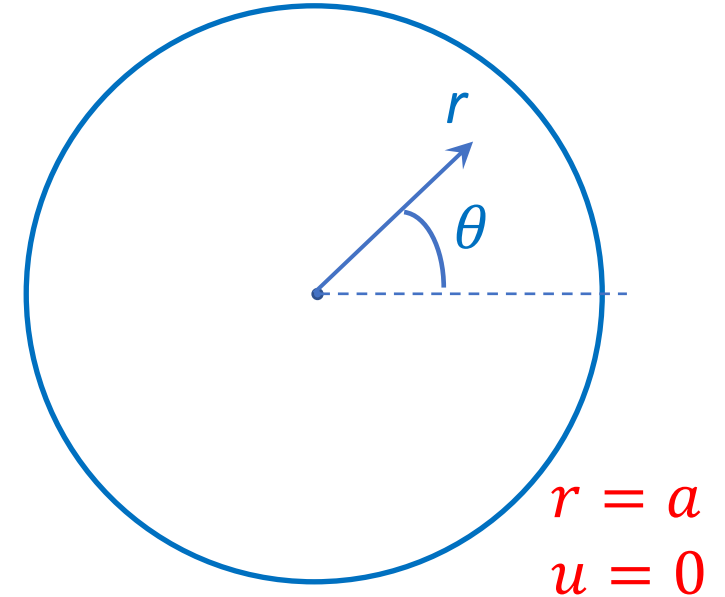
solution $J_m(kr)$

Vibration of a Circular Membrane

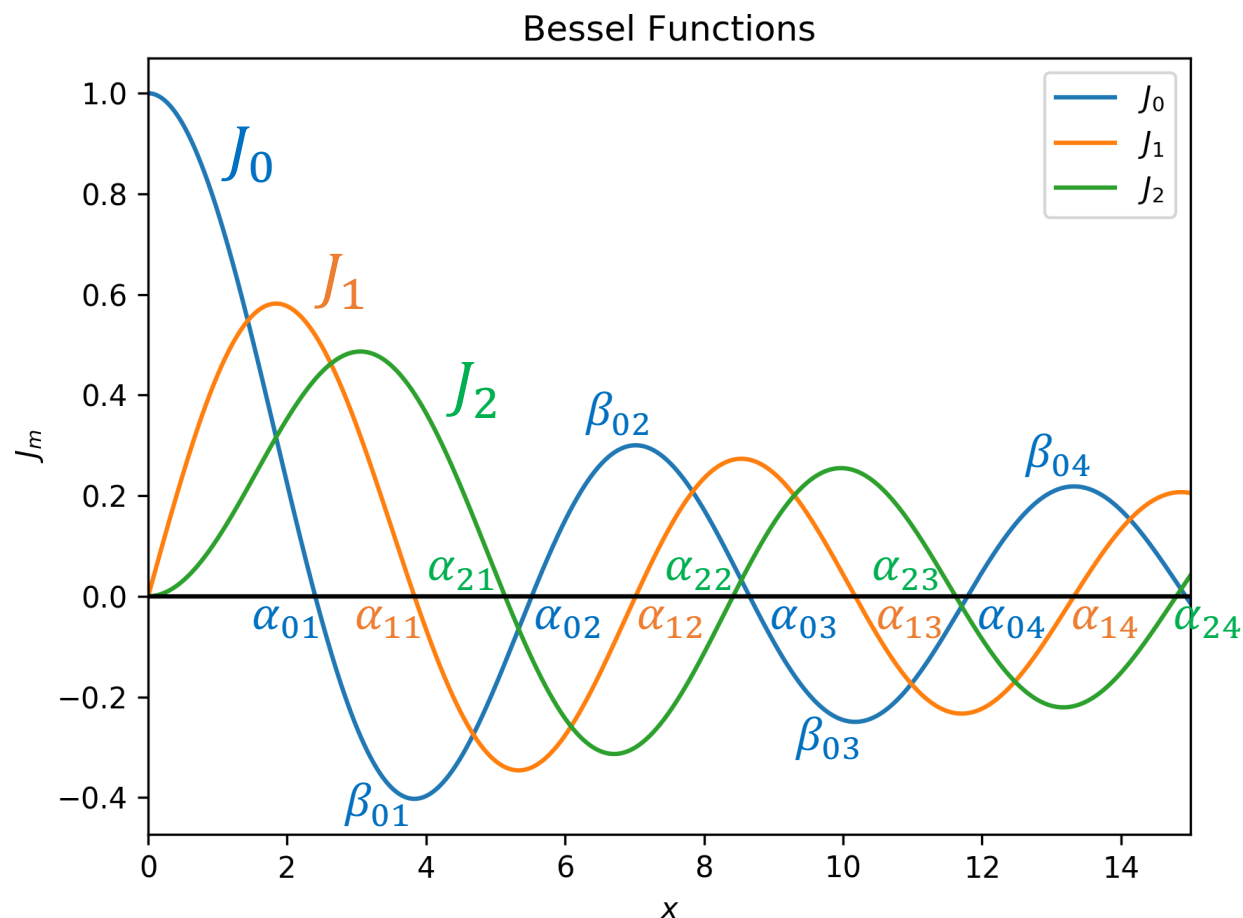
- Normal modes of vibration have the form

$$u(r, \theta) = \begin{cases} J_m(kr) \cos m\theta \\ J_m(kr) \sin m\theta \end{cases}$$

- Boundary condition at $r = a$ implies $J_m(ka) = 0$
 $\Rightarrow ka$ is a zero of J_m
- Recall nearly identical wording for the vibrating string, with $J_m(kr)$ replaced by $\sin kx$; BCs in that case $\Rightarrow kx$ is a zero of the sine function.
- Main difference here is that the zeros of $\sin \theta$ are well known: $\theta_n = n\pi$
- Zeros of $J_m(t)$ are not as easy to write down, but they can be calculated and tabulated as α_{mn} .



Zeros of Bessel Functions



	$n=1$	$n=2$	$n=3$	$n=4$
$m=0$	2.40	5.52	8.65	11.79
$m=1$	3.83	7.02	10.17	13.32
$m=2$	5.14	8.42	11.62	14.80
$m=3$	6.38	9.76	13.02	16.22

- zeros of J_m interleave those of J_m
- ordering is irregular
- turning points β_{mn} also tabulated

m n
 0 1
 1 1
 2 1
 0 2
 3 1
 1 2
 4 1
 2 2
 0 3
 5 1
 3 2
 6 1
 1 3
 4 2
 7 1
 2 3
 0 4
 8 1
 5 2
 3 3