

# Partial Differential Equations: APMA 0360

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## 1 Lecture 1: Jan 25

### Part I - Introduction

- Professor Peyam Tabrizian: [drpeyam@brown.edu](mailto:drpeyam@brown.edu)
- Office Hours: MWF 10:30-11:30
- Course site: [sites.brown.edu/drpeyam](https://sites.brown.edu/drpeyam)
- Youtube: <https://m.youtube.com/c/DrPeyam>

### Grading:

- Homework - 25% due Fridays 3pm
- Mini Project - 5% due Friday May 5
- Midterm 1 - 20% on Wednesday March 1
- Midterm 2 - 20% on Wednesday April 12
- Final - 30% on Tuesday May 16, 2-5pm

### Part II - What is a PDE?

*Partial Differential Equation:* an equation relating a function  $u$  with one or more of its partial derivatives

Example: Laplace's Equation

$$\begin{cases} U = U(x, y) \\ \implies U_{xx} + U_{yy} = 0 \end{cases}$$

PhD advisor quote: "if you can solve all PDEs, you can solve the universe"

### Part III - PDE Applications

1. Physical sciences  
e.g. Navier-Stokes
2. Geometry  
e.g. Poincare's Conjecture
3. Probability
4. Operations research  
e.g. Hamilton-Jacobian PDE for maximizing/minimizing
5. Image Processing  
e.g. Smartphones, MRIs
6. Money  
e.g. Black-Scholes Equation
7. Chemical Reactions  
e.g. Peyam's Dissertation

The main characters of the course for  $U = U(x, t)$ :

1. Transport equation

$$U_t + 3U_x = 0$$

2. Heat/diffusion equation

$$U_t = U_{xx}$$

3. Wave equation

$$U_{tt} = U_{xx}$$

("much like an extra chromosome, an extra  $t$  is not necessarily such a good thing")

4. Laplace's equation ( $U(x, y)$ )

$$U_{xx} + U_{yy} = 0$$

### Part III - Solution of PDE

Example 1: Is  $U(x, t) = x^2 t^2$  a solution of  $U_{tt} = U_{xx}$ ?

$$\begin{cases} U_{tt} = (x^2 t^2)_{tt} = 2x^2 \\ U_{xx} = (x^2 t^2)_{xx} = 2t^2 \end{cases}$$

So

Example 2: Is  $U(x, y) = e^x \cos(y)$  a solution of  $U_{xx} + U_{yy} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} U_{xx} + U_{yy} &= (e^x \cos y)_{xx} + (e^x \cos y)_{yy} \\ &= e^x \cos y + e^x (-\cos y) \\ &= 0 = RHS \end{aligned}$$

So

### Part IV - Simple PDE

Note:  $U = U(x, y)$

Example 3:  $U_x = 0$  Because  $U$  can depend on  $y$ , this does NOT imply that  $U = C$   
Therefore:

$$\boxed{U(x, y) = f(y)}$$

Example 4:  $U_{xx} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} &\implies U_x = f(y) \\ &\implies U = \int f(y) dx = \boxed{x f(y) + g(y)} \end{aligned}$$

(Where  $g(y)$  is constant WRT  $x$ )

Example 5:  $U_{xx} + U = 0$  Solving by Analogy: this is similar to ODE  $y'' + y = 0 \implies y = A \cos x + B \sin x$

$$\boxed{U(x, y) = A(y) \cos x + B(y) \sin x}$$

## 2 Lecture 2: Jan 27

### Part I - Simple PDE (Continued)

Example 1:  $U_{xy} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}(u_x)_y &= 0 \\ u_x &= f(x) \\ u &= \int f(x) \, dx = \boxed{F(x) + G(y)}\end{aligned}$$

### Part II - Classification of PDE

*Order:* the highest derivative that appears Examples:

1.  $u_{xx} + 3u_y = 0$  (Second order)
2.  $2u_x + 3u_y = 0$  (First order)
3.  $u_{zzyyzx} = 0$  (Fifth order)

Note: In general, third-order and higher are impossible to solve

*Constant coefficient:* if the coeffs are constant Example:

$$au_{xx} + bu_{xy} + cu_{yy} + du_x + eu_y + fu = g(x, y)$$

Note: this example is also the "general form"

*Linear vs Nonlinear:* if the coefficients depend on x and y but not u Examples:

1.  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$  (Linear)
2.  $(u_x)^2 + 3e^u + u_y = 0$  (Nonlinear)
3.  $x^2u_{xx} + y^3u_y + 4u = 0$  (Linear)

All constant coefficient equations are also linear

Note: Nonlinear PDEs are VERY difficult and none of the normal PDE methods work to solve them

**Interlude: the Linear Algebra View** *Linear transformation:* a transformation L is linear if

1.  $L(u + v) = L(u) + L(v)$

$$2. L(cu) = cL(u)$$

*Linear PDE*: a PDE of the form

$$L(u) = f$$

where L is linear and f doesn't depend on u

Example 2: Check that the following PDE is linear

$$u_{xx} + x^2 u_{yy} = e^y$$

Solution:  $L(u) = u_{xx} + x^2 u_{yy}$  so we just need to check that L is linear

$$\begin{aligned} L(u+v) &= (u+v)_{xx} + x^2(u+v)_{yy} \\ &= u_{xx} + v_{xx} + x^2 u_{yy} + x^2 v_{yy} \\ &= L(u) + L(v) \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L(cu) &= (cu)_{xx} + x^2(cu)_{yy} \\ &= cu_{xx} + cx^2 u_{yy} \\ &= c(u_{xx} + x^2 u_{yy}) \\ &= cL(u) \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

*Homogeneous/Inhomogeneous PDE*: for linear PDE, Homogeneous if  $f = 0$  and Inhomogeneous otherwise Examples:

1.  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$  Homo
2.  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 2x$  Not homo

**Fun fact!** For linear homogeneous PDE  $L(u) = 0$ , the sum of two solutions is still a solution **Why?** L is linear so solutions span a vector space

### Part III - Types of Second-order PDE

Suppose you have a PDE of the form

$$au_{xx} + bu_{xy} + cu_{yy} + du_x + eu_y + fu = g(x, y)$$

Then, let  $D = b^2 - 4ac$ :

1. if  $D < 0$  then the PDE is elliptic
2. if  $D > 0$  then the PDE is hyperbolic
3. if  $D = 0$  then the PDE is parabolic

Example 3: What is the type of the PDE

$$5u_{xx} + 6u_{xy} - 4u_{yy} + 3u_x + 5u = x^2$$

Solution:

$$D = 6^2 - 4(5)(-4) = 36 + 80 = 116 > 0 \implies \boxed{\text{hyperbolic}}$$

**Most famous PDE and their types:**

1. Laplace's equation ( $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$ ) is elliptic
2. Wave equation ( $u_{tt} - u_{xx} = 0$ ) is hyperbolic
3. Heat equation ( $u_t = u_{xx} \implies u_{xx} + 0u_{tt-u_t} = 0$ ) is parabolic

## Part IV - Review: Directional Derivatives

Gradient vector of  $u = u(x, y)$ :  $\Delta u = (u_x, u_y)$

If  $\vec{v}$  is a vector, then the *directional derivative* of  $u$  in the direction of  $\vec{v}$  is

$$(\Delta u) \cdot \vec{v}$$

Intuitively, this measures the rate of change of  $u$  in the  $\vec{v}$  direction. Normal convention is to have  $\vec{v}$  as a unit vector but this is not actually necessary

Example 4:  $u(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$  and  $\vec{v} = (2, 3)$  Solution:

$$(\Delta u) \cdot \vec{v} = (2x, -2y) \cdot (2, 3) = \boxed{4x - 6y}$$

## 3 Lecture 3: Jan 30

### Part I - The Constant Coefficient Case

**Goal:** solve a PDE of the form

$$au_x + bu_y = 0$$

Example 1:  $2u_x + 3bu_y = 0$  Solution:

1. Observe the LHS is the same as

$$\langle u_x, u_y \rangle \cdot \langle 2, 3 \rangle = \nabla u \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

Note that this is the same as the directional derivative of  $u$  in the direction  $\vec{v} = \langle 2, 3 \rangle$ . This tells us that  $u$  is constant along lines parallel to  $\langle 2, 3 \rangle$  (these are called *characteristic lines*)

2. Find the equation of each of the parallel lines

$$m = \frac{3}{2} \implies y = \frac{3}{2}x + C \implies 2y - 3x = C$$

3. Solution:  $\boxed{u(x, y) = f(2y - 3x)}$  (where  $f$  is arbitrary)

**Summary:** the general solution of  $au_x + bu_y = 0$  is

$$\boxed{u(x, y) = f(ay - bx)} \quad \text{where } f \text{ is arbitrary}$$

## Part II - The General Case

Example 2:  $u_x + yu_y = 0$  Solution:

1. Directional Derivative

$$\nabla u \cdot (1, y) = 0$$

So  $u$  is constant along curves with "slope"  $y$

2. Characteristic lines On one hand, the slope of the directional derivative is  $y$ . On the other, assuming  $y$  is a function of  $x$ , the slope should be  $y'(x)$

Putting it together,

$$y' = y \implies y = Ce^x$$

Why? Consider  $g(x) = u(x, Ce^x)$  Then,

$$g'(x) = u_x(x, Ce^x) + Ce^x u_y(x, Ce^x) = u_x + yu_y = 0$$

3. Find the arbitrary function input that is constant on each curve  $y = Ce^x$

$$y = Ce^x \implies ye^{-x} = C$$

4. Solution:

$$u(x, y) = f(ye^{-x})$$

### Part III - More Practice

Example 3:  $xu_x + yu_y = 0$  Directional derivative:

$$\nabla u \cdot \langle x, y \rangle = 0$$

ODE:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y'(x)$$

$$x dy = y dx$$

$$\ln |y| = \ln |x| + C$$

$$|y| = |x|e^C$$

$$\frac{y}{x} = C$$

Solution:  $u(x, y) = f\left(\frac{y}{x}\right)$

## 4 Lecture 4: Feb 1

### Part I - The Chain Rule

If  $f = f(x, y)$  where  $x = x(s, t)$  and  $y = y(s, t)$  then,

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}$$

### Part II - Coordinate Method

Example:  $2u_x + 3u_y = 0$

1. Define new variables  $x'$  and  $y'$

$$\begin{cases} x' = 2x + 3y \\ y' = -3x + 2y \end{cases}$$

Note:  $(2, 3)$  is the vector in the direction of the directional derivative and  $(-3, 2)$  is perpendicular



2. Rewrite in terms of  $x'$  and  $y'$  using chain rule

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial x'} \frac{\partial x'}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y'} \frac{\partial y'}{\partial x} = 2u_{x'} - 3u_{y'} \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial x'} \frac{\partial x'}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y'} \frac{\partial y'}{\partial y} = 3u_{x'} + 2u_{y'}\end{aligned}$$

3. Substitute definitions

$$\begin{aligned}2u_x + 3u_y &= 0 \\ 2(2u_{x'} - 3u_{y'}) - 3(3u_{x'} + 2u_{y'}) &= 0 \\ 4u_{x'} - 6u_{y'} + 9u_{x'} + 6u_{y'} &= 0 \\ 13u_{x'} &= 0 \implies u_{x'} = 0\end{aligned}$$

4. Solution

$$u_{x'} = 0 \implies u = f(y')$$

$$\boxed{u = f(2y - 3x)}$$

## Part III - Transport equation

$$u_t + cu_x = 0$$

where  $u = u(x, t)$  where  $x$  is position,  $t$  is time, and  $c$  is a speed constant. It models the density of a fluid that is transported at speed  $c$

**Derivation:** The mass on an interval  $[0, b]$  at time  $t$  is:

$$M = \int_0^b u(x, t) dx$$

At a later time,  $t + h$ , the fluid shifts from  $[0, b]$  to  $[ch, b + ch]$ . Now, the mass is

$$M = \int_{ch}^{b+ch} u(x, t + h) dx$$

Since mass is conserved, get:

$$\int_0^b u(x, t) dx = \int_{ch}^{b+ch} u(x, t + h) dx$$

Differentiate with respect to b:

$$\frac{d}{db} \int_0^b u(x, t) dx = \frac{d}{db} \int_{ch}^{b+ch} u(x, t+h) dx$$

By the Fundamental Theorem of calculus:

$$u(b, t) = u(b+ch, t+h)$$

Differentiate with respect to h:

$$0 = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial(b+ch)}{\partial h} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \frac{\partial(t+h)}{\partial h}$$

$$0 = cu_x + u_t$$

**Solving:**

$$u_t + cu_x = 0 \implies cu_x - u_t = 0$$

Recall: the general solution to  $au_x + bu_y = 0$

$$u(x, y) = f(ay - bx)$$

Note: this can also be written  $f(bx - ay)$  but with different f

Therefore,

$$\boxed{u(x, t) = f(x - ct)}$$

## 5 Lecture 5: Feb 3

### Part I - The Heat Equation

$$u_t = Du_{xx}$$

where  $D > 0$  is a diffusion constant The equation gives the temperature of a metal rod at position  $x$  and time  $t$ .

## Part II - Derivation

Note: can also use Fick's law from physics to derive it

1. Think about the rod as composed of particles that move in two dimensions (left or right)
2. Let  $u = u(x, t)$  measure the concentration (#/length) of particles at  $x$  and  $t$
3. Let  $h = \Delta x$  and  $\tau = \frac{h^2}{2D}$  (it will work!)
4. Focus on  $(x, t)$  (look at the small neighborhood of  $x$ :  $[x - \frac{h}{2}, x + \frac{h}{2}]$ )
5. Note that the length of the interval is  $h$  so the number of particles on the interval is roughly  $hu(x, t)$
6. Divide the rod into more intervals of length  $h$
7. Main assumption: as time increases from  $t$  to  $t + \tau$ , each particle moves to the left or right with equal probability

8.

$$hu(x, t + \tau) = hu(x, t) + \text{change}$$

9.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{change} = \text{in} - \text{out} &= \begin{cases} \text{out} = \frac{1}{2}hu(x, t) + \frac{1}{2}hu(x, t) \\ \text{in} = \frac{1}{2}hu(x - h, t) + \frac{1}{2}hu(x + h, t) \end{cases} \\ &\implies \frac{1}{2}hu(x - h, t) + \frac{1}{2}hu(x + h, t) - hu(x, t) \end{aligned}$$

10.

$$hu(x, t + \tau) = hu(x, t) + \frac{1}{2}hu(x - h, t) + \frac{1}{2}hu(x + h, t) - hu(x, t)$$

11.

$$hu(x, t + \tau) - hu(x, t) = \frac{h}{2} (u(x - h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x + h, t))$$

12. Make some more transformations to get into the right form:

$$\frac{u(x, t + \tau) - u(x, t)}{\tau} = \frac{h^2}{2\tau} \left( \frac{u(x - h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x + h, t)}{h^2} \right)$$

13. Limits:

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} \frac{u(x, t + \tau) - u(x, t)}{\tau} = u_t(x, t)$$

Then by double l'Hopital's:

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left( \frac{u(x - h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x + h, t)}{h^2} \right) = u_{xx}$$

14.

$$u_t = \left( \lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} \frac{h^2}{2\tau} \right) u_{xx}$$

15. Then using the definition of tau:

$$\boxed{u_t = Du_{xx}}$$

## 6 Lecture 6: Feb 6

### Part I - Behavior of Solutions

The Heat Equation:

$$u_t = Du_{xx}$$

Where  $u(x, t)$  is the temperature of a metal rod at  $x$  and  $t$  and  $D > 0$  is a diffusivity constant dependent on material

Notice that if  $u_{xx} > 0$ , then  $u_t = Du_{xx} > 0$  whenever  $u$  is concave up in  $x$ ,  $u$  will increase in time and vice versa. In other words, over time the graph will "flatten out"

### Part II - Interlude: The Gaussian Integral

Example:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx$$

Classically,  $e^{-x^2}$  does not have an antiderivative and yet we can take the integral with the following method:

1. Trick: Consider

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy > 0$$

(The variable does not matter)

2. Multiply:

$$\begin{aligned} I^2 &= (I)(I) \\ &= \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx \right) \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy \right) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} e^{-y^2} dx dy \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x^2+y^2)} dx dy \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^2} r dr d\theta \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^{\infty} r e^{-r^2} dr \\ &= 2\pi \left[ -\frac{1}{2} e^{-r^2} \right]_0^{\infty} \quad (u = -r^2) \\ &= 2\pi \left( -\frac{1}{2} e^{-\infty + \frac{1}{2} e^0} \right) \\ &= \pi \end{aligned}$$

3. Therefore  $I^2 = \pi$  and since  $I > 0$ , we get  $I = \sqrt{\pi}$  and so:

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi}$$

Note: this same method can be used to calculate  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sin(x^2) dx$

### Part III - The Fourier Transform

The Fourier Transform functions in much the same way as the Laplace Transform of ODEs.

$$\hat{f}(\kappa) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{i\kappa x} dx$$

Notes:

- This is a function of  $\kappa$  as  $x$  is integrated out
- Interpretation: changes functions from phase space to frequency space
- Application: essential for signal processing and imaging
- Often represented with  $\xi$  instead of  $\kappa$  and  $e^{-i\kappa x}$  rather than  $e^{i\kappa x}$

Example: Calculate  $\hat{f}$  where  $f(x) = e^{-x^2}$  Solution:

$$\hat{f}(\kappa) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} e^{i\kappa x} dx$$

1. Find a differential equation for  $\hat{f}$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{f}'(\kappa) &= \frac{d}{d\kappa} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} e^{i\kappa x} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} e^{i\kappa x} (ix) dx \\ &= i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x e^{-x^2} e^{i\kappa x} dx\end{aligned}$$

2. Integrate by parts with respect to  $x$ :

$$\begin{cases} du = x e^{-x^2} \implies u = -\frac{1}{2} e^{-x^2} \\ v = e^{i\kappa x} \implies dv = e^{i\kappa x} (i\kappa) \end{cases}$$

Integrating:

$$\begin{aligned}&= i \left[ -\frac{1}{2} e^{-x^2} e^{i\kappa x} \right]_{-\infty}^{\infty} - i \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} -\frac{1}{2} e^{-x^2} e^{i\kappa x} dx \\ &= 0 + \frac{i}{2} (i\kappa) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} e^{i\kappa x} dx \\ &= -\frac{\kappa}{2} \hat{f}(\kappa)\end{aligned}$$

Giving us a new ODE to solve in the next lecture of

$$\hat{f}'(\kappa) = -\frac{\kappa}{2} \hat{f}(\kappa)$$

## Part IV - The Schwartz Class

Notice that the infinite terms in the above example are 0 because  $e^{-x^2}$  goes to 0 very quickly.

This is the easiest class of functions to apply the Fourier transform to

**Definition:**  $f$  is *Schwartz* if it is infinitely differentiable and for every  $n$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} \left| \frac{f(x)}{x^n} \right| = 0$$

And same for all derivatives of  $f$ .

In other words,  $f$  and its derivatives go to 0 at  $\pm\infty$  faster than any power function  $x^n$ . This allows us to ignore the infinite terms in the Fourier integration

## 7 Lecture 7: Feb 8

### Part I - Fourier Transform Example

$$\hat{f}(\kappa) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{i\kappa x} dx$$

Example:  $\hat{f}$  where  $f(x) = e^{-x^2}$  Solution:

1. Find a Differential equation rather than try to solve directly

$$\hat{f}'(\kappa) = -\frac{\kappa}{2} \hat{f}(\kappa)$$

2. Solve the ODE

$$\hat{f}' + \frac{\kappa}{2} \hat{f} = 0$$

$$\left( \hat{f} e^{\frac{\kappa^2}{4}} \right)' = 0$$

$$\hat{f}(\kappa) = C e^{-\frac{\kappa^2}{4}}$$

3. Find  $C$

$$\kappa = 0 \implies \hat{f}(\kappa) = C e^0 = C$$

$$C = \hat{f}(\kappa) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} e^{i0x} dx = \sqrt{\pi}$$

4. Answer

$$\widehat{f}(\kappa) = \sqrt{\pi} e^{-\frac{\kappa^2}{4}}$$

Note that if you apply the fourier to a gaussian, you get another gaussian!

More generally, The Fourier transform of  $f(x) = e^{-ax^2}$  is

$$\widehat{f}(\kappa) = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} e^{-\frac{\kappa^2}{4a}}$$

## Part II - Fourier Transform and Derivatives

**Recall:** The Laplace transform turns derivatives into products

$$\mathcal{L}\{y'\} = s\mathcal{L}\{y\} = y(0)$$

**Fact:**

$$\widehat{f'}(\kappa) = (-i\kappa)\widehat{f}(\kappa)$$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{f'}(\kappa) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f'(x) e^{i\kappa x} dx \\ &\stackrel{\text{IBP}}{=} [f(x) e^{i\kappa x}]_{-\infty}^{\infty} - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \frac{d}{dx} e^{i\kappa x} dx \\ &= 0 - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \frac{d}{dx} e^{i\kappa x} dx = -i\kappa \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \frac{d}{dx} e^{i\kappa x} dx \\ &= -i\kappa \widehat{f}(\kappa)\end{aligned}$$

## Part III - Fourier transform and the Heat Equation

Example: Solve

$$\begin{cases} u_t = Du_{xx} \\ u(x, 0) = f(x) \quad (\text{given}) \end{cases}$$

Solution:



1. Apply the x fourier Transform

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{u}_t &= D\widehat{u_{xx}} \\ \widehat{u}(\kappa, t) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x, t) e^{i\kappa x} dx \\ \widehat{u_{xx}}(\kappa, t) &\stackrel{\text{fact}}{=} (-i\kappa)\widehat{u_x}(\kappa, t) \\ &\stackrel{\text{fact}}{=} (-i\kappa)(-i\kappa)\widehat{u}(\kappa, t) \\ &= -\kappa^2\widehat{u}(\kappa, t)\end{aligned}$$

For  $u_t$ , do directly:

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{u}_t &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u_t(x, t) e^{i\kappa x} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dt} (u(x, t) e^{i\kappa x}) dx \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x, t) e^{i\kappa x} dx \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \widehat{u}(\kappa, t)\end{aligned}$$

2. Solve the new ODE

$$\widehat{u}_t = D\widehat{u_{xx}} \implies \frac{d}{dt}\widehat{u}(\kappa, t) = -D\kappa^2\widehat{u}(\kappa, t)$$

Recall:

$$y' = ay \implies y = Ce^{at} = y(0)e^{at}$$

Similarly,

$$\widehat{u}(\kappa, t) = \widehat{u}(\kappa, 0)e^{-D\kappa^2 t}$$

Note:

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \stackrel{\text{fourier}}{\implies} \widehat{u}(\kappa, 0) = \widehat{f}(\kappa)$$

Therefore,

$$\boxed{\widehat{u}(\kappa, t) = \widehat{f}(\kappa)e^{-D\kappa^2 t}}$$

**Problem:** But how do we go from  $\widehat{u}$  to  $u$ ?

## 8 Lecture 8: Feb 10

### Part I - Convolution

**Definition:**

$$(f \star g)(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x-y) g(y) dy$$

**Example:**  $(f \star g)(x)$  where  $f(x) = e^x$  and

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & [0, 1] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} (f \star g)(x) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x-y) g(y) dy \\ &= \int_0^1 e^{x-y} dy \\ &= e^x \int_0^1 e^{-y} dy \\ &= e^x [-e^{-y}]_0^1 = \boxed{(1 - e^{-1})e^x} \end{aligned}$$

**Fact:**

$$\widehat{f \star g}(\kappa) = \widehat{f}(\kappa) \cdot \widehat{g}(\kappa)$$

### Part II - Solving the Heat Equation

**Example:** Use the fourier transform to solve

$$\begin{cases} u_t = Du_{xx} \\ u(x, 0) = f(x) \end{cases}$$

Solution: (Via ODEs)

$$\widehat{u}(\kappa, t) = \widehat{f}(\kappa) e^{-D\kappa^2 t}$$

Next, we wish to write  $e^{-D\kappa^2 t}$  as a fourier transform. Note that for most equations this is impossible or VERY difficult but not for the Gaussian!

**Recall:**

$$\widehat{e^{-ax^2}} = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{a}} e^{-\frac{\kappa^2}{4a}} \implies e^{-\frac{\kappa^2}{4a}} = \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} e^{-ax^2}$$

Therefore find a such that

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-\frac{\kappa^2}{4a}} &= e^{-D\kappa^2 t} \\ \longrightarrow a &= \frac{1}{4Dt} \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\frac{a}{\pi}} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \\ \longrightarrow e^{-\kappa^2 Dt} &= \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4Dt}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Or,

$$e^{-\kappa^2 Dt} = \widehat{g}(\kappa, t) \quad g(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4Dt}}$$

**Grand Finale!**

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{u}(\kappa, t) &= \widehat{f}(\kappa) e^{-\kappa^2 t} = \widehat{f}(\kappa) \widehat{g}(\kappa, t) \\ \widehat{u}(\kappa, t) &= \mathcal{F}((f \star g)(\kappa, t)) \\ u(x, t) &= (f \star g) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y) g(x - y, t) dy \end{aligned}$$

where

$$g(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4Dt}}$$

Solving:

$$\boxed{u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y) e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4Dt}} dy \quad (t > 0)}$$

### Part III - The Heat Kernel

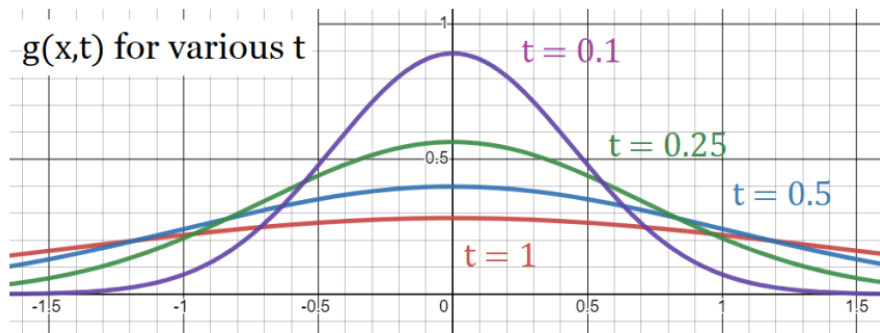
**Definition:** Heat kernel (AKA Fundamental sol of the heat equation)

$$g(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4Dt}}$$

Properties:

1.  $g$  itself solves  $g_t = Dg_{xx}$
2.  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x, t) dx = 1$  for all  $t$

**Picture:** For every  $t$ ,  $g(x, t)$  looks like a bell-curve  $e^{-x^2}$  but that gets more and more spread out as you increase  $t$ :



Note that as  $t \rightarrow 0^+$ ,  $g(x, t)$  is the Dirac delta at  $x = 0$

### Part V - Convolution Intuition

**Example:** What is the coefficient of  $x^2$  in

$$(x^2 + 2x + 3)(2x^2 + 4x + 1)$$

Generally, the coeff of  $x^2$  in  $(a_2x^2 + a_1x + a_0)(b_2x^2 + b_1x + b_0)$  is

$$C_2 = a_0b_2 + a_1b_1 + a_2b_0$$

and more generally, the coefficient of  $x^k$  in  $(a_nx^n + \dots a_0)(b_nx^n + \dots + b_0)$  is

$$C_k = \sum_{i=0}^k a_i b_{k-i}$$

Note the parallel to

$$(f \star g)(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y) g(x - y) dy$$

## 9 Lecture 9: Feb 13

### Part I - Heat Equation Example

**Example 1:** Solve

$$\begin{cases} u_t = Du_{xx} \\ u(x, 0) = e^{-x} \end{cases}$$

**Solution:**

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

Looking at the exponent:

$$\frac{-(x-y)^2}{4Dt} - y = -\frac{(x-y)^2 + 4Dty}{4Dt}$$

Expand the numerator:

$$= -\frac{x^2 - 2xy - y^2 + 4Dty}{4Dt}$$

Note the numerator is a quadratic in y:

$$\begin{aligned} y^2 + (4Dt - 2x)y + x^2 &= (y + 2Dt - x)^2 - (2Dt - x)^2 + x^2 \\ &= (y + 2Dt - x)^2 - 4D^2t^2 + 4Dtx - x^2 + x^2 \\ &= (y + 2Dt - x)^2 + 4Dt(x - Dt) \end{aligned}$$

So the full numerator is

$$\frac{-(x-y)^2}{4Dt} = -\left(\frac{(y + 2Dt - x)^2 + 4Dt(x - Dt)}{4Dt}\right) = -\left(\frac{(y + 2Dt - x)^2}{4Dt} + (x - Dt)\right)$$

Substituting back in,

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x, t) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left(\frac{(y+2Dt-x)^2}{4Dt} + (x-Dt)\right)} dy \\
 &= \frac{e^{Dt-x}}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(y+2Dt-x)^2}{4Dt}} dy \\
 &= \frac{e^{Dt-x}}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left(\frac{y+2Dt-x}{\sqrt{4Dt}}\right)^2} dy
 \end{aligned}$$

Now use u-sub with

$$p = \frac{y + 2Dt - x}{\sqrt{4Dt}}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned}
 dp &= \frac{dy}{\sqrt{4Dt}} \implies dy = \sqrt{4Dt} dp \\
 u(x, t) &= \frac{e^{Dt-x}}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-p^2} \sqrt{4Dt} dp = \frac{e^{Dt-x}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-p^2} dp \\
 &\boxed{u(x, t) = e^{Dt-x}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Part II - Infinite speed of propagation

Remember the heat equation solution is:

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

with an initial condition  $u(x, 0) = f(x)$

**Property 1:** If  $f \geq 0$  is positive somewhere and continuous, then  $u(x, t)$  is positive everywhere.

This means that heat propagates at infinite speed because heat at one place affects heat everywhere else instantly. Note that the transport equation implies a finite speed of propagation.

**Why?** Suppose  $f(x_0) > 0$  for some  $x_0$ . Then because  $f$  is continuous it is actually positive for all  $x$  in an interval around  $x_0$ . Also

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

and we know the integrand is non-negative so we have

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4Dt}} f(y) dy \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_a^b e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4Dt}} f(y) dy$$

But the integrand of the second is also positive so

$$u(x, t) > 0$$

### Part III - Smoothness

**Property 2:**  $u(x, t)$  is infinitely differentiable (for  $t > 0$ ) even if  $f(x)$  might not be

**Why?** All the derivatives fall of  $\exp(-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4Dt})$  and not on  $f$ :

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

But the term

$$e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4Dt}}$$

is infinitely differentiable and

$$\frac{d}{dt} u(x, t) = Du_{xx}$$

but  $u_{xx}$  is also smooth

### Part IV - Irreversibility

**Property 3:** The heat equation is irreversible ( $u(x, 0)$  cannot be determined from  $u(x, 1)$ )

**Why?** "something something entropy"

Suppose  $u(x, 1) = |x|$  but by smoothness,  $u(x, t)$  must be smooth for all  $t$  so  $|x|$  must be smooth but this is a contradiction

## 10 Lecture 10: Feb 15

### Part I - Long-time behavior of the heat kernel

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

**Property 4:**

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(x, t) = 0$$

”heat dissipates over time”

**Why?**

$$\begin{aligned} |u(x, t)| &= \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4Dt}} f(y) dy \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(y)| \underbrace{e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4Dt}}}_{\leq 1} dy \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |f(y)| dy \\ &= C \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Part II - Boundedness**

”u(x, t) does not blow up”

**Property 5:** If  $|f(x)| \leq M$  for some M (and all x) then for all x and t we have

$$|u(x, t)| \leq M$$

**Why?**

$$\begin{aligned} |u(x, t)| &= \left| \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4Dt}} f(y) dy \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \underbrace{|f(y)|}_{\leq M} e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4Dt}} dy \\ &\leq \frac{M}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\left(\frac{y-x}{\sqrt{4Dt}}\right)^2} dy \quad u = \frac{y-x}{\sqrt{4Dt}} \implies du = \frac{dy}{\sqrt{4Dt}} \\ &= \frac{M}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-u^2} \sqrt{4Dt} dy = \frac{M}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} \sqrt{4Dt} \sqrt{\pi} \\ &= M \end{aligned}$$

**Part III - Conservation of Mass**

”The area under the curve of u – no matter its shape – is always the same”



$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x, t) \, dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \, dx$$

**Why?**

*Lemma:*

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \pm\infty} u_x(x, t) = 0$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} u_t &= Du_{xx} \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u_t(x, t) \, dx &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} Du_{xx}(x, t) \, dx \end{aligned}$$

and by FTC

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x, t) \, dx = D[u_x(x, t)]_{-\infty}^{\infty}$$

Thus by the lemma,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x, t) \, dx = D(0 - 0) = 0$$

So the integral is constant with respect to time:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x, t) \, dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x, 0) \, dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \, dx$$

## Part IV - Inverse Fourier Transform

Note that for the heat equation, we were very lucky to be able to write the Gaussian as a fourier transform

$$e^{-D\kappa^2 t} = \mathcal{F} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi Dt}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4Dt}} \right)$$

**But what do we do in general?**

Example: Solve

$$\begin{cases} u_t = -u_{xxxx} \\ u(x, 0) = f(x) \end{cases}$$

Solution:

1. Fourier transform it

$$\mathcal{F}(u_t) = \mathcal{F}(-u_{xxxx})$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}\widehat{u} = -(-i\kappa)^4\widehat{u} = -\kappa^4\widehat{u}$$

2. Solve the ODE

$$\widehat{u} = u(x, 0)e^{-\kappa^4 t} = \widehat{f}(\kappa)e^{-\kappa^4 t}$$

3. Write the exponential term as a fourier transform

**Definition:** *Inverse Fourier Transform*

$$\check{f}(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\kappa) e^{-i\kappa x} d\kappa$$

So in this example,

$$e^{-\kappa^4 t} = \widehat{g}(\kappa) \quad g(x, t) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\left(e^{-\kappa^4 t}\right) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\kappa^4 t} e^{-i\kappa x} d\kappa$$

4. Convolution
5. So now we have

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{u}(\kappa, t) &= \widehat{f}(\kappa) e^{-\kappa^4 t} \\ &= \widehat{f}(\kappa) \widehat{g}(\kappa, t) \\ &= \mathcal{F}(f \star g)(\kappa, t) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{cases} u(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(y) g(x - y) dy \\ \text{where } g(x, t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\kappa^4 t} e^{-i\kappa x} d\kappa \end{cases}$$

## 11 Lecture 11: Feb 17

### Part I - The Wave Equation

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$$

where  $u = u(x, t)$  gives the displacement of a vibrating string at position  $x$  and time  $t$  and  $c$  is a constant giving the speed of the wave

Note: despite the only difference between this and the heat equation is an extra time derivative, the derivation and solution will be *completely* different

## Part II - Derivation

1. Setting: start with a thin string of infinite length and consider a minute sub-piece from  $x$  to  $x + \Delta x$

**Assumption:** points on the string only move vertically

2. By Newton's second law of motion,

$$F = ma$$

By the assumption above and the definition of  $u$ , the displacement vector is

$$s(x, t) = \langle 0, u(x, t) \rangle$$

Therefore, acceleration is

$$a(x, t) = s_{tt}(x, t) = \langle 0, u_{tt} \rangle$$

**Assumption:** the string has constant density  $\rho$

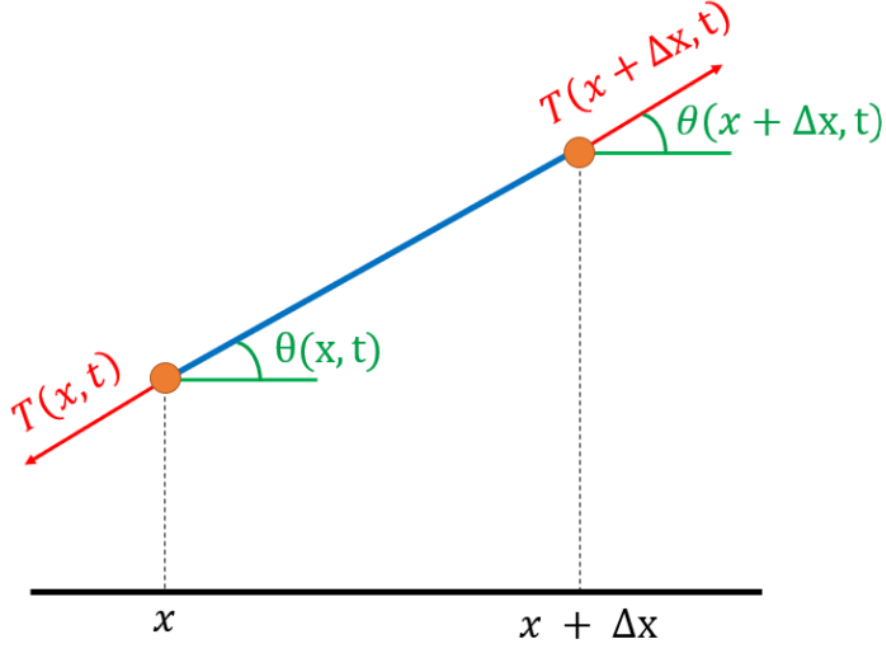
Then, the mass of the string is density times length (which can be taken by assuming the length is the hypotenuse of a right triangle with legs  $\Delta x$  and  $\Delta u$ ). Thus,

$$m = \rho \sqrt{(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta u)^2}$$

So,

$$F = ma = \langle 0, \rho \sqrt{(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta u)^2} u_{tt} \rangle$$

3. Study of the Force: **Assumption: The only force acting on the string is the tension** So if  $T(x, t)$  is the magnitude of the tension vector and  $\theta(x, t)$  is the angle of the tension vector:



Then from trig, we can calculate the tension force via components of the resultant:

$$\begin{cases} x = T(x, t) \cos(\theta(x, t)) \\ y = T(x, t) \sin(\theta(x, t)) \end{cases} \implies -\langle T \cos(\theta), T \sin(\theta) \rangle(x, t)$$

Note: the minus comes from T pointing the opposite direction of the string

Then in the same way, the force at  $(x + \Delta x)$  is

$$\langle T \cos(\theta), T \sin(\theta) \rangle(x + \Delta x, t)$$

so the net force is

$$F(x, t) = \langle T \cos(\theta), T \sin(\theta) \rangle(x + \Delta x, t) - \langle T \cos(\theta), T \sin(\theta) \rangle(x, t)$$

4. Then using  $F = ma$  and comparing the components,

$$\begin{cases} T \cos(\theta)(x + \Delta x, t) - T \cos(\theta)(x, t) = 0 \\ T \sin(\theta)(x + \Delta x, t) - T \sin(\theta)(x, t) = \rho \sqrt{(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta u)^2} u_{tt}(x, t) \end{cases}$$

Note, however, that both these LHS look like derivatives. Starting with the cos terms,

$$(T \cos(\theta))_x = 0$$

so  $T(x, t) \cos(\theta(x, t))$  is constant in x. But  $|\theta(x, t)| \ll 1$  so  $\cos(\theta(x, t)) \approx 1$  and

$$T(x, t) \cos(\theta(x, t)) = T(x, t)$$

which is constant in x so  $T(x, t) = T(t)$

**Assumption:** Tension is also constant in time  $T(t) = T$

Then the sin terms,

$$\begin{aligned} (T \sin(\theta))_x &= \rho u_{tt} \left( \frac{\sqrt{(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta u)^2}}{\Delta x} \right) \\ &= \rho u_{tt} \sqrt{\frac{(\Delta x)^2 + (\Delta u)^2}{\Delta x^2}} \\ &= \rho u_{tt} \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{\Delta u}{\Delta x} \right)^2} \\ &= \rho u_{tt} \sqrt{1 + (u_x)^2} \end{aligned}$$

**Assumption:** if the displacements  $\Delta u / \Delta x$  are small, then

$$\theta(x, t) = \tan^{-1} \frac{\Delta u}{\Delta x}$$

is small, proving the inequality above.

Then, as  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ ,  $|u_x| \ll 1$  so

$$\sqrt{1 + (u_x)^2} \approx 1$$

and

$$(T \sin(\theta))_x = \rho u_{tt}$$

but

$$\sin \theta = \tan \theta \cos \theta = \frac{\Delta u}{\Delta x} \cos \theta \rightarrow u_x$$

so

$$(T u_x)_x = T u_{xx} \quad (\text{assuming } T \text{ is constant})$$

and at last,

$$Tu_{xx} = \rho u_{tt} \longrightarrow u_{tt} = \frac{T}{\rho} u_{xx}$$

Set,  $c = \sqrt{T/\rho} > 0$  and

$$\boxed{u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}}$$

## 12 Lecture 12: Feb 22

**Goal:** Solve  $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$

### Part I - Factoring Method

But this kind of looks like

$$t^2 - c^2 x^2 = (t - cx)(t + cx)$$

**Definition:** Differential operator

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u = u_t$$

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right)^2 u = u_{tt}$$

Using this operator we can more rigorously "factor" the PDE.

1. Apply the differential operator

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} &= \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right)^2 - c^2 \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right)^2 \right] u \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - c \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) u \end{aligned}$$

2. Solve the equation

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} &= 0 \\ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - c \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) u &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $v = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + c\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) u$  so

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - c\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) v = 0 \implies v_t - c v_x = 0$$

3. Solve the transport PDE

$$v(x, t) = f(x + ct)$$

4. Solve for  $u$

$$v := \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + c\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) u = u_t + cu_x$$

$$u_t + cu_x = f(x + ct)$$

But this is just an inhomogeneous transport equation! The homogeneous solution is just

$$u_0(x, t) = G(x - ct)$$

And a particular solution can be found using undetermined coefficients. Notice that the RHS is a function of  $x + ct$  so we can guess

$$u_p = h(x + ct)$$

so

$$(h(x + ct))_t + c(h(x + ct))_x = f(x + ct)$$

$$ch'(x + ct) + ch'(x + ct) = f(x + ct)$$

$$2ch'(x + ct) = f(x + ct) \implies h' = \frac{1}{2c}f'$$

$$h(x + ct) = \frac{1}{2c}F(x + ct)$$

where  $F$  is an antiderivative of  $f$  Thus giving the general solution

$$u(x, t) = G(x - ct) + \frac{1}{2c}F(x + ct)$$

$$\boxed{u(x, t) = G(x - ct) + F(x + ct)}$$

**Interpretation:** A wave is a sum of two functions, one moving to the left at speed  $c$  and the other to the right at speed  $c$

## Part II - Coordinate Method

1. Define variables

$$\begin{cases} \xi = x - ct \\ \eta = x + ct \end{cases}$$

2. Chain rule

$$u_x = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} = u_\xi + u_\eta$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} u_{xx} &= (u_x)_x = \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial \xi} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial \eta} \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} \\ &= u_{\xi\xi} + u_{\eta\eta} = u_{\xi\xi} + u_{\xi\eta} + u_{\xi\eta} + u_{\eta\eta} \\ &= u_{\xi\xi} + 2u_{\xi\eta} + u_{\eta\eta} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$u_{tt} = c^2(u_{\xi\xi} - 2u_{\xi\eta} + u_{\eta\eta})$$

3. Plug into wave equation:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} &= c^2 u_{xx} \\ c^2(u_{\xi\xi} - 2u_{\xi\eta} + u_{\eta\eta}) &= c^2(u_{\xi\xi} + 2u_{\xi\eta} + u_{\eta\eta}) = 4u_{\xi\eta} \\ \boxed{u_{\xi\eta} &= 0} \end{aligned}$$

## 13 Lecture 13: Feb 24

### Part I - Solving the wave equation (continued)

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$$

Using the coordinate method with the choices

$$\begin{cases} \xi = x - ct \\ \eta = x + ct \end{cases}$$

we get the equation

$$u_{\xi\eta} = 0$$

so

$$u_\xi = f(\xi) \implies u = F(\xi) + G(\eta)$$

thus

$$\boxed{u(x, t) = F(x - ct) + G(x + ct)}$$



## Part II - D'Alembert's Formula

**Example:**

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} \\ u(x, 0) = \phi(x) \\ u_t(x, 0) = \psi(x) \end{cases}$$

**Solution:**

1. General Solution

$$u(x, t) = F(x - ct) + G(x + ct)$$

2. Plug in the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = \phi(x) = F(x) + G(x)$$

3. Differentiate with t

$$u_t(x, t) = -cF'(x - ct) + cG'(x + ct)$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = \psi(x) = -cF'(x) + cG'(x)$$

$$-F'(x) + G'(x) = \frac{\psi(x)}{c}$$

4. Integrate over  $[0, x]$

$$\int_0^x -F'(s) + G'(s) \, ds = \int_0^x \frac{\psi(s)}{c} \, ds$$

$$-F(x) + G(x) - (-F(0) + G(0)) = \frac{1}{c} \int_0^x \psi(s) \, ds$$

This gives us the system of equations

$$\begin{cases} -F(x) + G(x) = A + \frac{1}{c} \int_0^x \psi(s) \, ds \\ F(x) + G(x) = \phi(x) \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2G(x) = \phi(x) + A + \frac{1}{c} \int_0^x \psi(s) \, ds \\ 2F(x) = \phi(x) - A - \frac{1}{c} \int_0^x \psi(s) \, ds \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} F(x) = \frac{1}{2}\phi(x) - \frac{A}{2} - \frac{1}{2c} \int_0^x \psi(s) \, ds \\ G(x) = \frac{1}{2}\phi(x) + \frac{A}{2} + \frac{1}{2c} \int_0^x \psi(s) \, ds \end{cases}$$

### 5. Solution

$$\begin{aligned}
u(x, t) &= F(x - ct) + G(x + ct) \\
&= \left( \frac{1}{2} \phi(x - ct) - \frac{A}{2} - \frac{1}{2c} \int_0^{x-ct} \psi(s) \, ds \right) \\
&\quad + \left( \frac{1}{2} \phi(x + ct) \frac{A}{2} + \frac{1}{2c} \int_0^{x+ct} \psi(s) \, ds \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (\phi(x - ct) + \phi(x + ct)) + \frac{1}{2c} \left( \int_{x-ct}^0 \psi(s) \, ds + \int_0^{x+ct} \psi(s) \, ds \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Which at last gives us d'Alembert's equation to solve the wave equation with initial conditions:

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

### Part III - Example

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} = u_{xx} \\ u(x, 0) = 0 \\ u_t(x, 0) = \cos(x) \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} c = 1 \\ \phi(x) = 0 \\ \psi(x) = \cos(x) \end{cases}$$

Then using D'Alembert's:

$$\begin{aligned}
u(x, t) &= \frac{1}{2} (\phi(x - ct) + \phi(x + ct)) + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(s) \, ds \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (0 + 0) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \cos(s) \, ds \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (\sin(x + t) - \sin(x - t)) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (\sin x \cos t + \cos x \sin t - \sin x \cos -t - \cos x \sin -t) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} (2 \cos x \sin t)
\end{aligned}$$

$$u(x, t) = \sin(t) \cos(x)$$

(Or, the wave takes the shape of cos with amplitude sin)