

7/16/18 Lecture Notes: Laplacian on Rectangles + Poisson's formula

Last time: $\Delta u = u_{xx} + u_{yy} (= u_{zz})$

Properties: Translational invariance
Rotational invariance
Maximum Principle

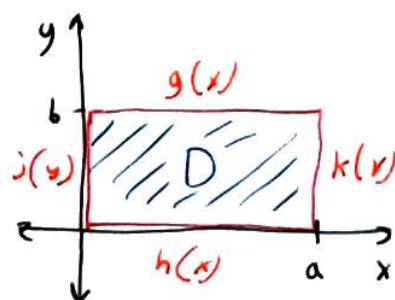


⇒ uniqueness of solutions to Dirichlet problem

Radial solutions important (next time)

Goal: solve $\Delta u = 0$ on $D = [0, a] \times [0, b]$
may also specify u_x, u_y (or even $u + u_x$)

$$\begin{cases} u(x, b) = g(x) \\ u(x, 0) = h(x) \\ u(0, y) = j(y) \\ u(a, y) = k(y) \end{cases}$$



Remarks: 1) No time variable → No initial conditions, just boundary
2) If $u \equiv 0$ on ∂D , then $u \equiv 0$ in D . Must use inhomogeneous BC, BUT we'll put this off until the last step.
3) By linearity, can solve w/ different BC, each with just 1 inhomogeneous BC:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{E.g. } & \begin{cases} u(x, b) = g(x) \\ u(x, 0) = u(0, y) = u(a, y) = 0 \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{We'll solve} \\ \text{this one} \end{array} \right\}$$

The lesson of being John Wayne at the first Thanksgiving
(using the same good idea everywhere)

Step 1:

Separation of Variables: $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$

$$\Delta u = X''Y + XY'' = 0$$

$$\frac{X''}{X} = -\frac{Y''}{Y} = -\lambda \rightarrow \begin{cases} X'' + \lambda X = 0 \\ Y'' - \lambda Y = 0 \end{cases}$$

may flip which is ± based on next step

Step 2: Solve the ODE with Homogeneous BC's

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

$$u(0,y) = u(a,y) = 0 \rightarrow X(0) = X(a) = 0$$

lots of work, but we've done it before

$$\lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{a}\right)^2 \quad X_n(x) = \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Step 3: Solve other ODE, using just the one homogeneous BC

$$Y'' - \lambda Y = 0$$

NEW

$$Y(y) = A e^{\frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{2} y} + B e^{-\frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{2} y}$$

$$\sinh t = \frac{e^t - e^{-t}}{2} \quad \cosh t = \frac{e^t + e^{-t}}{2}$$

from
 $u(x,0)=0$

or alternatively,

$$Y(y) = A \cosh \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{2} y + B \sinh \frac{\sqrt{\lambda}}{2} y$$

$$0 = Y(0) = A + 0$$

$$Y_n(y) = \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} y$$

Hyperbolic Trig Functions

Notable facts: $\sinh 0 = 0$

$\frac{d}{dt} \cosh t = \sinh t$, so

$\frac{d}{dt} \cosh t|_{t=0} = 0$

Step 4: Sum the series and match up with inhomogeneous BC

$$u(x,y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x \cdot \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} y$$

To find A_n :

$$u(x,b) = g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{A_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} b}_{\text{coefficients in expansion}} \cdot \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x$$

coefficients in
expansion

$$\underbrace{A_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} b}_{\text{divide to find } A_n} = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x dx$$

divide to find A_n

Fun Q: Why never divide by 0?

- Closing Remarks: 1) Remember to piece back together 4 solutions
2) Watch out for slight differences on different sides of D.

Poisson's Formula: Solving Δu on circular domain

Goal: Solve Dirichlet problem for the circle:

$$\Delta u = 0 \text{ in } x^2 + y^2 < a^2$$

$$u = h(\theta) \text{ on } x^2 + y^2 = a^2$$



Separation of Variables:

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

$$\Delta u = u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} u_r + \frac{1}{r^2} u_{\theta\theta} = 0$$

$$R''T + \frac{1}{r} R'T + \frac{1}{r^2} T''R = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{r^2} T''R = -\left(R'' + \frac{1}{r} R'\right)T$$

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

linear, variable coefficient

$$T'' + \lambda T = 0$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} T(0) = T(2\pi) \\ T'(0) = T'(2\pi) \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{since } T(\theta) \\ \text{is } 2\pi\text{-periodic} \end{array}$$

$$T(\theta) = A \cos n\theta + B \sin n\theta$$

$$\lambda = n^2$$

$$R''r^2 + rR' - \lambda R = 0$$

$$\text{Guess } R(r) = r^\alpha$$

$$\alpha(\alpha-1)r^\alpha + \alpha r^\alpha - n^2 r^\alpha = 0$$

$$r^\alpha (\alpha(\alpha-1) + \alpha - n^2) = 0$$

$$\alpha^2 = n^2$$

$$R(r) = C r^n + D r^{-n}$$

blows up at $r=0$

$$u(r, \theta) = \frac{1}{2} A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^n (A_n \cos n\theta + B_n \sin n\theta) \quad (*)$$

$$\text{On } x^2 + y^2 = a^2 \rightarrow u(a, \theta) = \frac{1}{2} A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a^n A_n \cos n\theta + a^n B_n \sin n\theta$$

$$h(\theta)$$

$$A_n = \frac{1}{\pi a^n} \int_0^{2\pi} h(\phi) \cos n\phi d\phi \quad B_n = \frac{1}{\pi a^n} \int_0^{2\pi} h(\phi) \sin n\phi d\phi$$

Can we simplify (*)?

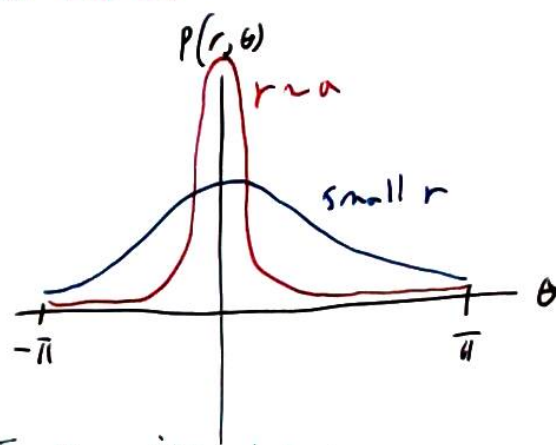
Imitate Dirichlet kernel derivation:

$$u(r, \theta) = \int_0^{2\pi} h(\phi) \frac{\partial \phi}{2\pi} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{r^n}{\pi a^n} \int_0^{2\pi} h(\phi) \underbrace{[\cos n\phi \cos n\theta + \sin n\phi \sin n\theta]}_{\cos(n\theta - n\phi)} \partial \phi$$

$$u(r, \theta) = \int_0^{2\pi} h(\phi) \left[1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{a}\right)^n \cos n(\theta - \phi) \right] \frac{\partial \phi}{2\pi} \quad \text{"convolution"}$$

$P(r, \theta)$ - Poisson kernel

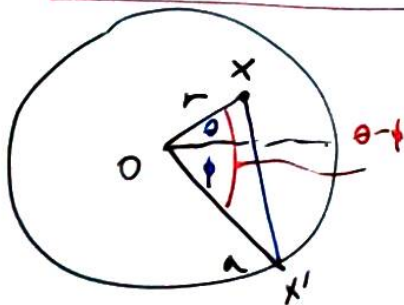
$$\begin{aligned} P(r, \theta) &= 1 + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{a}\right)^n \cos n\theta \\ &= 1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{a}\right)^n e^{in\theta} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{r}{a}\right)^n e^{-in\theta} \\ &= 1 + \frac{re^{i\theta}}{a - re^{i\theta}} + \frac{re^{-i\theta}}{a - re^{-i\theta}} \\ &= \frac{a^2 - r^2}{a^2 - 2ar \cos \theta + r^2} \end{aligned}$$



Is this spiky behavior familiar?

Plugging back in \rightarrow Poisson's formula

$$u(r, \theta) = (a^2 - r^2) \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{h(\phi)}{a^2 - 2ar \cos(\theta - \phi) + r^2} \frac{\partial \phi}{2\pi}$$



Law of cosines $\rightarrow |x - x'|^2 = a^2 + r^2 - 2ar \cos(\theta - \phi)$

$$u(x) = \frac{a^2 - |x|^2}{2\pi a} \int_{|x'|=a} \frac{u(x')}{|x - x'|^2} ds' \quad (ds = a d\phi)$$

disc

Mean Value Property: If $\Delta u = 0$ on $\overset{\circ}{D}$, u continuous on $\bar{D} = D \cup \partial D$, then the value of u at the center of D is the average of u on ∂D

Pf. Take $r=0$ in Poisson's formula

$$u(0) = a^2 \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{u(a, \phi)}{a^2} \frac{\partial \phi}{2\pi}$$



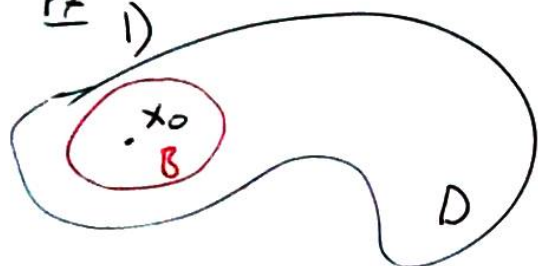
Let $\Delta u = 0$ in D , u continuous on \bar{D} , D open, bounded (connected)

Weak Maximum Principle: $\max_{\bar{D}} u$ attained on ∂D

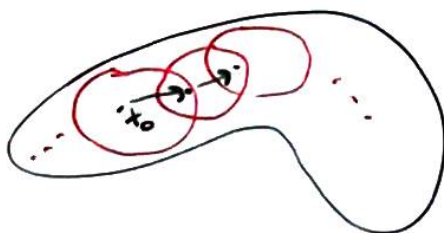
Strong Maximum Principle: If $\max_{\bar{D}} u$ also attained in D (the inside),

then $u \equiv \text{constant}$

Pf 1)



2) Fill D with balls B (Where connectedness matters)



If $u(x_0) = \max_{\bar{D}} u$, then $u = \max u$ on all of B by mean-value property

Theorem Let $h(\theta)$ be continuous on ∂D . Let $u(r, \theta)$ be solution to $\Delta u = 0$ in D . Then, $\lim_{r \rightarrow a^-} u(r, \theta) = h(\theta)$
 $u = h(\theta)$ on ∂D .

Pf Properties of Poisson kernel $P(r, \theta)$

i) $P(r, \theta) > 0$ for $r < a$

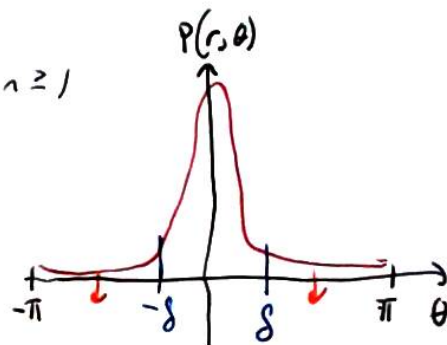
denominator - $a^2 - 2ar \cos \theta + r^2 = a^2 - 2ar + r^2 = (a-r)^2 \geq 0$

numerator - $a^2 - r^2 > 0$

ii) $\int_0^{2\pi} P(r, \theta) \frac{d\theta}{2\pi} = 1$ b/c $\int_0^{2\pi} \cos n\theta d\theta = 0$ for $n \geq 1$

iii) (Spike Property) For all $\delta > 0$,

$\max_{\delta \leq \theta \leq 2\pi - \delta} |P(r, \theta)| \rightarrow 0$ as $r \rightarrow a$



Why? $P(r, \theta) = \frac{a^2 - r^2}{(a-r)^2 + 4ar \sin^2 \theta/2}$
 $\rightarrow 0$ not 0 for $\theta \neq 0$

Fix $\theta_0, r \rightarrow a^-$

$$|u(r, \theta_0) - h(\theta_0)| = \left| \int_0^{2\pi} P(r, \theta_0 - \phi) h(\phi) \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} - \int_0^{2\pi} P(r, \theta_0 - \phi) h(\theta_0) \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \right| \quad \text{by ii)}$$

$$\leq \int_0^{2\pi} P(r, \theta_0 - \phi) |h(\phi) - h(\theta_0)| \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} \quad \text{by i)}$$

$$= \int_{\theta_0 - \delta}^{\theta_0 + \delta} P(r, \theta_0 - \phi) \underbrace{|h(\phi) - h(\theta_0)|}_{\substack{\text{small} \\ \text{by continuity}}} \frac{d\phi}{2\pi} + \int_{|\phi - \theta_0| > \delta} \underbrace{|h(\phi) - h(\theta_0)|}_{\substack{\text{small by} \\ \text{iii)}}} \cdot P(r, \theta_0 - \phi) \frac{d\phi}{2\pi}$$

$\rightarrow 0$ by taking $\delta \rightarrow 0$

$\rightarrow 0$ by taking $r \rightarrow a^-$

Pointwise convergence is proved!

Last note: Passing derivatives into $P(r, \theta)$ in Poisson's formula shows every harmonic function is infinitely differentiable.

Midterm Discussion + Post Back