

Remark.

Wave Equation: we have the same eigenvalue problem as heat equation. The time domain problem has a negative sign which leads to oscillating terms in time.

Laplace Equation: Same eigenvalue problem. The time domain problem has positive sign so we obtain hyperbolic functions in order to easily solve the coefficients.

0.1 different PDE domain

- 1) Inside the disc of radius R . Then $0 < r < R, \theta_0 < \theta \leq \theta_0 + 2\pi$. Physical boundary is $r = R$.
- 2) Outside the disc of radius R . Then $R < r < \infty, \theta_0 < \theta \leq \theta_0 + 2\pi$. Physical boundary: $r = R$.
- 3) Annulus: $R_i < r < R_o, \theta_0 < \theta \leq \theta_0 + 2\pi$. Physical boundaries: $r = R_i, r = R_o$.
- 4) Pie shaped sector: $0 < r < R, \theta_1 < \theta \leq \theta_2$. Physical boundary: $r = R, \theta = \theta_1, \theta = \theta_2$.

Example (circular disc). Suppose $\Delta u = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial \theta^2}$ on the domain $D = \{(r, \theta) | 0 \leq r \leq R, -\pi < \theta \leq \pi\}$.

Note. $r = 0, r = \infty$ are **singular points** of the coordinate system for $u = 0$ but *not* of the physical system. For physical reasons it is reasonable to assume boundedness at the origin: $|v(0, \theta)| < \infty$.

By periodicity we can assume continuity on the derivatives at the boundaries $\theta = \pm\pi$.

Claim. The set of functions that satisfy the *boundedness condition* or the *periodicity conditions* form a vector space.

0.2 separation of variables

Consider

$$\begin{cases} \text{PDE: } \Delta u = 0 & 0 < r < R, \theta \in (-\pi, \pi) \\ \text{BCs: } v(R, \theta) = f(\theta) \end{cases}$$

Assume $v(r, \theta) = F(\theta)G(r) \neq 0$. Then we obtain

$$\begin{cases} F''(\theta) &= -\lambda F(\theta) \\ F(-\pi) &= F(\pi) \\ F'(-\pi) &= F'(\pi) \end{cases} \quad r^2 G''(r) + r G'(r) - \lambda G(r) = 0$$

0.3 F-equation

The same eigenvalue problem. Only $\lambda > 0$ is nontrivial, so

$$F_n(\theta) = A_n \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_n} \theta) + B_n \cos(\sqrt{\lambda_n} \theta)$$

where $\lambda_n = n^2, n = 1, 2, \dots$, since $L = \pi$.

0.4 G-equation

Plug in $\lambda = n^2$, we have

$$r^2 G''(r) + r G'(r) - n^2 G(r) = 0.$$

Let $G(r) = r^p$. Then we get

$$r^2 p(p-1)r^{p-2} + r p r^{p-1} - n^2 r^2 = 0.$$

After cancellation, we obtain

$$p = \pm n, n = 1, 2, \dots$$

If $n \neq 0$, then $r_1 = r^n, r_2 = r^{-n}$. So by superposition, we get

$$G(r) = c_1 r^n + c_2 r^{-n}.$$

The boundedness condition yields,

$$|G(0)| < \infty \Rightarrow c_2 = 0 \Rightarrow G_n(r) = c_1 r^n, n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Because $r = 0$ makes the second term undefined.

If $n = 0$, then

$$r^2 G''(r) + r G'(r) = 0 \Rightarrow r G''(r) + G'(r) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dr}(r G'(r)) = 0 \Rightarrow r G'(r) = C_1.$$

Finally note that

$$r G'(r) = C_1 \Rightarrow G'(r) = \frac{C_1}{r} \Rightarrow G(r) = C_1 \ln(r) + C_2.$$

Boundedness again forces $C_1 = 0 \Rightarrow G_0(r) = C_2$.

Note. If the domain is Annulus we would keep both terms. Also if the BCs aren't so nice we might have to use periodicity condition.

Now the general solution is

$$\begin{aligned} v(r, \theta) &= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n r^n \cos(n\theta) + b_n r^n \sin(n\theta) \\ &= a_0 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \left(\frac{r}{R}\right)^n \cos(n\theta) + B_n \left(\frac{r}{R}\right)^n \sin(n\theta) \end{aligned}$$

where $A_n = a_n R^n, B_n = b_n R^n$. Now using the BCs:

$$f(\theta) = v(R, \theta) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cdot 1 \cdot \cos(n\theta) + B_n \cdot 1 \cdot \sin(n\theta).$$

which is a F.S.! So,

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(\theta) d\theta, \quad a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(\theta) \cos(n\theta) d\theta, \quad b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(\theta) \sin(n\theta) d\theta.$$