

# 1 Notation & Classification

$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, u, u_{x_1}, u_{x_2}, \dots, u_{x_1 x_1}, \dots) \quad u_{x_k} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_k}$$

## 1.1 Well-Posedness

A problem is called well-posedness, if it satisfies all of the following criteria:

1. **Existence:** The problem has a solution
2. **Uniqueness:** There is no more than one solution
3. **Stability:** A small change in the equation or in the side conditions gives rise to a small change in the solution

## 1.2 Classification

- **Order:** The order of a PDE is the order of the highest derivative in the equation.
- **Linear:** An PDE is called linear if the unknown function  $u$  and it's derivatives occur only in a linear relationship.
- **Semilinear:** A PDE is called semilinear if only the unknown function  $u$  occurs in a non-linear relationship, but all the partial derivatives of  $u$  occur linear.
- **Quasilinear:** A PDE is called quasilinear if the highest order derivative occurs linear in  $F$ , but lower order derivatives of  $u$  and  $u$  itself occur non-linear.

## 1.3 Strong vs. Weak Solutions

The Set  $C^k(D)$  contains all functions that are  $k$ -times differential in  $D$ . A Function in the Set  $C^k(D)$ , that satisfies a PDE of order  $k$  is called a **strong** (or **classical**) **solution**. If the solution is not  $k$  times differential, it is called a **weak solution**.

A **linear operator** satisfies the following equation:

$$L[\alpha_1 u_1 + \alpha_2 u_2] = \alpha_1 L[u_1] + \alpha_2 L[u_2]$$

## 1.4 Initial Conditions

A problem is called an **initial value problem** if a condition at  $t = t_0$  is given. Example of the heat equation:

$$u_t - \Delta u = 0 \quad u(t = 0, x, y, z) = u_0$$

## 1.5 Boundary Conditions

Boundary conditions are conditions on the behavior of the solution (or it's derivatives) at the boundary  $\partial\Omega$  of the domain  $\Omega$ .

- **Dirichlet condition:** In this condition, the values at the boundary  $\partial\Omega$  are given (e.g. by measurements)

$$u(x, y, z, t) = f(x, y, z, t) \quad (x, y, z) \in \partial\Omega, t > 0$$

- **Neumann condition:** Here, the normal derivative  $\partial_n u$  of the unknown function  $u$ .  $\partial_n u$  denotes the outward normal derivative at  $\partial\Omega$

$$\partial_n u(x, y, z, t) = f(x, y, z, t) \quad (x, y, z) \in \partial\Omega, t > 0$$

- **A condition of a third kind** is a combination of the two mentioned above (sometimes also called a Robin condition).

## 2 First-Order PDE

$$F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, u, u_{x_1}, u_{x_2}, \dots, u_{x_n}) = 0$$

### 2.1 Method of characteristics

Solve the following initial value problem (of order 2):

$$a(x, y, u)u_x + b(x, y, u)u_y = c(x, y, u)$$

$$u_x + u_y = 2u + 1 \quad u(x, 0) = 0 \quad a = 1, \quad b = 1, \quad c = 2$$

1. write the characteristic equation and parametric initial condition (for the initial condition, substitute  $s$  for  $x$  or  $y$ , depending on the initial condition.)

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t}(t, s) = a(x, y, u) \quad \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}(t, s) = b(x, y, u) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(t, s) = c(x, y, u)$$

$$x_t = 1 \quad y_t = 1 \quad u_t = 2u + 1 \quad x(0, s) = s \quad y(0, s) = 0 \quad u(0, s) = 0$$

2. solve the characteristic equation (by simple integrating or by solving the ODE)

$$x(s, t) = t + f_1(s), \quad y(s, t) = t + f_2(s), \quad u(s, t) = f_3(s)e^{2t} + t + f_4(s)$$

Some example of simple ODEs and how to solve them (use superposition):

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = \alpha \Rightarrow x(t, s) = \alpha t + C(s)$$

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = \alpha x \Rightarrow x(t, s) = C(s)e^{\alpha t}$$

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = \alpha x + \beta e^{\alpha t} \Rightarrow x(t, s) = C(s)e^{\alpha t} + \beta e^{\alpha t} \cdot t$$

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = \alpha x + \beta e^{\gamma t} \Rightarrow x(t, s) = C(s)e^{\alpha t} - \frac{\beta e^{\gamma t}}{\alpha - \gamma} \quad \alpha \neq \gamma$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 x}{\partial t^2} = -\alpha x \Rightarrow x(t, s) = C_1(s) \cos \alpha t + C_2(s) \sin \alpha t$$

3. Substitute these solutions into the initial condition to get  $f_i(s)$ . If some  $f_i(s)$  are undefined, normalize the equation for simplicity.

$$x(t, s) = t + s \quad y(t, s) = t \quad u(t, s) = f(s)e^{2t} + t - f(s), \quad f(s) = \frac{1}{2}$$

4. Solve for  $(t, s)$  as a function of  $(x, y)$  and write the solution  $u$ .

### 2.2 Invertibility $(s, t) \rightarrow (x, y)$ (transversality)

The relation  $(s, t) \rightarrow (x, y)$  is **locally** invertible, if and only if:

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \end{pmatrix} \bigg|_{x_0, y_0, u_0} = \det \begin{pmatrix} a(x_0, y_0, u_0) & b(x_0, y_0, u_0) \\ \frac{\partial x_0(s)}{\partial s} & \frac{\partial y_0(s)}{\partial s} \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$$

### 2.3 Existence of a solution

Sometimes, a calculated solution to the PDE is not valid. For this, let  $\gamma(s) = (x_0(s), y_0(s), 0)$  be the projection of the initial condition to the  $(x, y)$ -plane. if  $(x(s, t_0), y(s, t_0), 0) = \gamma(\tilde{s})$  for  $t_0 \neq 0$ , we must check if the value of the curve equals the value of the initial condition. If  $u_0(\tilde{s}) \neq u(s, t_0)$ , the solution is not valid.

**Example:** consider the following PDE:

$$-yu_x + xu_y = u \quad u(x, 0) = x^2, \quad x_0(s) = s, \quad y_0(s) = 0, \quad u_0(s) = s^2$$

$$x(s, t) = s \cos t, \quad y(s, t) = s \sin t, \quad u(s, t) = s^2 e^t$$

Let  $t_0 = \pi$  and  $\tilde{s} = -s$ . Then:

$$x(s, t_0)u = x_0(-s), \quad y(s, t_0) = y_0(-s), \quad u(s, t_0) \neq u_0(-s) \Rightarrow \text{no sol.}$$

### 2.4 Conservation laws and shock waves

Let's consider the following equation, where  $y$  is the time.

$$u_y + uu_x = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = h(x)$$

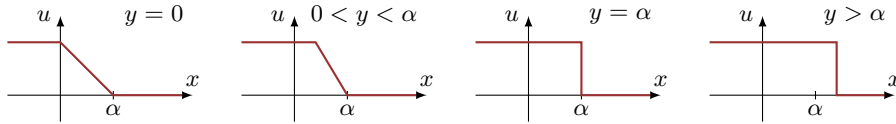
$$x(t, s) = s + t \cdot h(s), \quad y(t, s) = t, \quad u(t, s) = h(s) \Rightarrow u = h(x - uy)$$

The solution is not well defined at points where characteristic curves intersect. From an algebraic perspective:

$$u_x = \frac{h'}{1 + yh'} \quad y_c = \inf \left\{ -\frac{1}{h'(s)} \right\}$$

The classical solution is not defined for  $y > y_c$ . To extend the solution beyond  $y_c$ . The solution  $u$  has discontinuities at  $u(\gamma(y), y)$ .  $u^-$  and  $u^+$  is the value of  $u$  when we approach the curve  $\gamma$  from the left and from the right, respectively. Then, we get:

$$\gamma(y) = \frac{1}{2}(u^- + u^+)$$



If  $h(s)$  (the initial condition) is a piecewise function with a negative jump at  $x_0$ , we can find the solution the following way. First, rewrite the equation:

$$u_y + uu_x = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = h(x) = \begin{cases} u^- & \text{if } x < x_0 \\ u^+ & \text{if } x > x_0 \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{u^2}{2} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} u = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial x} P(u) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} Q(u) = 0$$

$$\dot{\gamma} = \frac{P(u^+) - P(u^-)}{Q(u^+) - Q(u^-)} \Rightarrow \gamma : x = x_0 + \dot{\gamma}y \Rightarrow u(x, y) = \begin{cases} u^- & \text{if } x < x_0 + \dot{\gamma}y \\ u^+ & \text{if } x > x_0 + \dot{\gamma}y \end{cases}$$

### 3 Second-Order PDE

$$L[u] = au_{xx} + 2bu_{xy} + cu_{yy} + du_x + eu_y + fu = g, \quad a, b, c, d, e, f, g : \mathbb{R}^2 \mapsto \mathbb{R}$$

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & c \end{pmatrix}, \quad \delta(L) = -\det(D), \quad \begin{cases} \det(D) < 0 & L[u] \text{ is hyperbolic} \\ \det(D) = 0 & L[u] \text{ is parabolic} \\ \det(D) > 0 & L[u] \text{ is elliptic} \end{cases}$$

1. Apply a transformation  $(\xi, \eta) \leftrightarrow (x, y)$  (canonical transformation), such that:

$$\xi(x, y), \quad \eta(x, y), \quad \det \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$$

$$\tilde{D} = \begin{pmatrix} A(\xi, \eta) & B(\xi, \eta) \\ B(\xi, \eta) & C(\xi, \eta) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \xi_x & \xi_y \\ \eta_x & \eta_y \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \xi_x & \eta_x \\ \xi_y & \eta_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\tilde{D}_{\text{hyp}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{D}_{\text{par}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \tilde{D}_{\text{ell}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Hyperbolic:} \quad A(\xi, \eta) = a\xi_x^2 + 2b\xi_x\xi_y + c\xi_y^2 = 0$$

$$C(\xi, \eta) = a\eta_x^2 + 2b\eta_x\eta_y + c\eta_y^2 = 0$$

$$\text{Parabolic:} \quad C(\xi, \eta) = a\eta_x^2 + 2b\eta_x\eta_y + c\eta_y^2 = \frac{1}{a}(a\eta_x + b\eta_y)^2 = 0 \\ a\eta_x + b\eta_y = 0 \quad (\text{Solve this first order PDE for } s(x, y))$$

$$\text{Elliptic:} \quad A(\xi, \eta) = a\xi_x^2 + 2b\xi_x\xi_y + c\xi_y^2 = 1 \\ C(\xi, \eta) = a\eta_x^2 + 2b\eta_x\eta_y + c\eta_y^2 = 1 \\ B(\xi, \eta) = a\xi_x\eta_x + b(\xi_x\eta_y + \xi_y\eta_x) + c\xi_y\eta_y = 0$$

$$\text{Hint:} \quad \xi_x^2 + 2\xi_x\xi_y + \xi_y^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \xi_x = 1, \quad \xi_y = -1 \Rightarrow \xi = x - y$$

Requirement: The determinant of the jacobian matrix cannot vanish.

2. Apply this transformation to write down the canonical form (chain rule):

$$w(\xi, \eta) = u(x(\xi, \eta), y(\xi, \eta)) \quad u(x, y) = w(\xi(x, y), \eta(x, y))$$

$$u_x = w_\xi \xi_x + w_\eta \eta_x \quad u_y = w_\xi \xi_y + w_\eta \eta_y$$

$$u_{xx} = w_{\xi\xi} \xi_x^2 + 2w_{\xi\eta} \xi_x \eta_x + w_{\eta\eta} \eta_x^2 + w_t t_{xx} + w_s s_{xx}$$

$$u_{yy} = w_{\xi\xi} \xi_y^2 + 2w_{\xi\eta} \xi_y \eta_y + w_{\eta\eta} \eta_y^2 + w_t t_{yy} + w_s s_{yy}$$

$$u_{xy} = w_{\xi\xi} \xi_x \xi_y + w_{\xi\eta} (\xi_x \eta_y + \xi_y \eta_x) + w_{\eta\eta} \eta_x \eta_y + w_t t_{xy} + w_s s_{xy}$$

3. Now, the equation looks much easier. The following solutions can be found to the three types of equations:

$$\text{Hyperbolic:} \quad w_{\xi\eta} = 0 \Rightarrow w(\xi, \eta) = F(\xi) + G(\eta)$$

$$\text{Parabolic:} \quad w_{\xi\xi} = 0$$

$$\text{Elliptic:} \quad w_{\xi\xi} + w_{\eta\eta} = 0$$

### 3.1 Example: Wave Equation

The general solution to the wave equation is: ( $F(\xi)$  and  $G(\eta)$  must be two times continuously differentiable!)

$$u(x, t) : \quad u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0 \quad \xi = x + ct, \quad \eta = x - ct \Rightarrow -4c^2 w_{\xi\eta} = 0$$

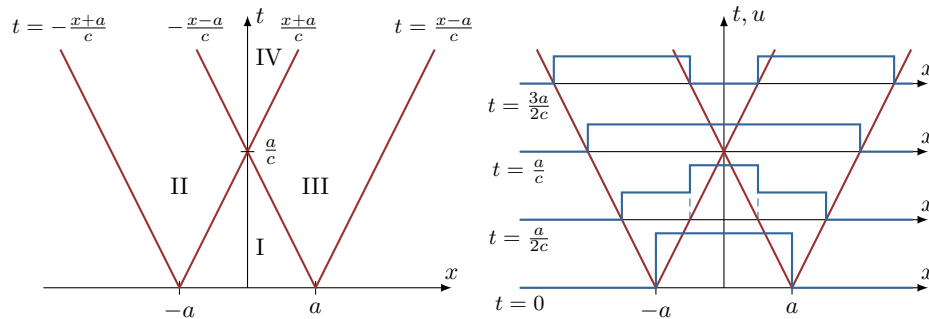
$$w(\xi, \eta) = F(\xi) + G(\eta) \quad u(x, t) = F(x + ct) + G(x - ct)$$

With the initial condition  $u(x, 0) = f(x)$  and  $u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$ , we get the following equation (D'Alembert wave equation):

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

If the initial conditions are not continuous, we can use the graphical method to derive the solution.

$$u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0 \quad u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } |x| \leq a \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad u_t(x, 0) = 0$$



### 3.2 Non-Homogeneous Wave equation

For the non-homogeneous case, we must integrate the Force  $f(x, t)$  over the triangle corresponding to the domain of dependence (Region I above).

$$u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = F(x, t), \quad u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$$

$$u(t, x) = \frac{f(x + ct) + f(x - ct)}{2} + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} g(s) ds + \frac{1}{2c} \int_0^t \int_{x-c(t-\tilde{t})}^{x+c(t-\tilde{t})} F(\tilde{x}, \tilde{t}) d\tilde{x} d\tilde{t}$$

#### 3.2.1 Properties of the Wave Equation

if  $f(x)$ ,  $g(x)$  and  $F(x, t)$  are odd, even or periodic, the solution  $u(x, t)$  is also odd, even or periodic respectively.

$$\begin{array}{llll} f(x) = f(-x) & g(x) = g(-x) & F(x, t) = F(-x, t) & \Rightarrow u(x, t) = u(-x, t) \\ f(x) = -f(-x) & g(x) = -g(-x) & F(x, t) = -F(-x, t) & \Rightarrow u(x, t) = -u(-x, t) \\ f(x) = f(x + nP) & g(x) = g(x + nP) & F(x, t) = F(x + nP, t) & \Rightarrow u(x, t) = u(x + nP, t) \end{array}$$

### 3.3 Method of Separation of Variables

#### 3.3.1 Heat Equation

A good example to show the method of separation is the heat equation. Here, we look at a box (in  $x$ -direction). Outside of the box, the value  $u$  is 0.

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} u_t = u_{xx}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq L, \quad t > 0, \quad u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0$$

The initial condition  $f(x)$  must satisfy:  $f(0) = f(L) = 0$ . To find a solution, we try the following ansatz:

$$u(x, t) = X(x) \cdot T(t) \Rightarrow \frac{T'(t)}{\kappa T(t)} = \frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = -\lambda$$

The left side of the equation is only depending on the time  $t$ , and the right side only on  $x$ . Therefore, it must be equal to a constant  $-\lambda$ . Now, we have the following equations:

$$X''(x) = -\lambda X(x) \quad X(0) = X(L) = 0 \quad T'(t) = -\lambda \kappa T(t)$$

The only case, we get non-trivial solutions is to have  $\lambda > 0$ . Then, we can write a solution for  $X(x)$ , where we must also impose the boundary conditions to get the following expression:

$$X_n(x) = C \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right), \quad \lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2$$

Such a solution  $X_n(x)$  is called an **eigenfunction**, and  $\lambda$  an **eigenvalue**. Solving the ODE for  $T(t)$  gives:

$$T'_n(t) = -\lambda_n \kappa T_n(t) \Rightarrow T_n(t) = B_n e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \kappa t}$$

Now, we can write the solution to the PDE. Because of linearity, we can create a superposition of all eigenfunctions. Then, setting  $t = 0$ , we can see, that  $f(x)$  is expressed as a Fourier series.

$$u_n(x, t) = B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \kappa t}$$

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^N B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \kappa t}, \quad f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^N B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right)$$

**Maximum Principle** The solution to the heat equation in

$$Q_T = \{(x, y, z) \in D, 0 < t \leq T\}$$

obtains its maximum and minimum on the boundary  $\partial Q_T$ .

### 3.3.2 Wave Equation

An other example is the wave equation.  $x$  is restricted to a certain range.

$$u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = g(x), \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, t) = T(t) \cdot X(x) \Rightarrow \frac{X_{xx}}{X} = \frac{T_{tt}}{c^2 T} \Rightarrow X_{xx} = -\lambda X, \quad T_{tt} = -c^2 \lambda T$$

- **Dirichlet boundary condition:**  $u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0$ .

We first solve the equation for  $X(x)$ . Implying the boundary condition and requiring a non trivial solution, we get  $\lambda > 0$  and  $\alpha = 0$ .

$$X(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha e^{\sqrt{-\lambda}x} + \beta e^{-\sqrt{-\lambda}x} & \text{if } \lambda < 0 \\ \alpha + \beta x & \text{if } \lambda = 0 \\ \alpha \cos \sqrt{\lambda}x + \beta \sin \sqrt{\lambda}x & \text{if } \lambda > 0 \end{cases}, \quad X(0) = X(L) = 0$$

$$X_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right), \quad \lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Using this  $\lambda_n$ , we can solve the time-part of the equation:

$$T(t) = A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi c}{L}t\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi c}{L}t\right)$$

Now, we can write the general solution to the equation:

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) \left[ A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi c}{L}t\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi c}{L}t\right) \right]$$

$$u(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) = f(x), \quad A_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) dx$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n\pi c}{L} B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) = g(x), \quad B_n = \frac{2}{n\pi c} \int_0^L g(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) dx$$

- **Neumann boundary condition:**  $u_x(0, t) = u_x(L, t) = 0$ .

We first solve the equation for  $X(x)$ . Implying the boundary condition and requiring a non trivial solution, we get  $\lambda \geq 0$  and  $\beta = 0$ :

$$X(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha e^{\sqrt{-\lambda}x} + \beta e^{-\sqrt{-\lambda}x} & \text{if } \lambda < 0 \\ \alpha + \beta x & \text{if } \lambda = 0 \\ \alpha \cos \sqrt{\lambda}x + \beta \sin \sqrt{\lambda}x & \text{if } \lambda > 0 \end{cases}, \quad X(0) = X_x(L) = 0$$

$$X_n(x) = \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right), \quad X_0(x) = 1, \quad \lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Using this  $\lambda_n$ , we can solve the time-part of the equation:

$$T(t) = A_0 + B_0 t + A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi c}{L}t\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi c}{L}t\right)$$

Now, we can write the general solution to the equation:

$$u(x, t) = A_0 + B_0 t + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) \left[ A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi c}{L}t\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi c}{L}t\right) \right]$$

$$A_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) dx, \quad A_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx$$

$$B_n = \frac{2}{n\pi c} \int_0^L g(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) dx, \quad B_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L g(x) dx$$

### 3.3.3 Inhomogeneous Equations

**Inhomogeneous Equations with homogeneous boundary conditions:**

$$u_t t - c^2 u_{xx} = F(x), \quad u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$$

1. Choose ansatz as if equation was homogeneous (see Dirichlet or Neumann boundary condition):

$$X''(x) = -n^2 X(x) \Rightarrow u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n(t) X_n(x), \quad X(x) = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

2. Substitute the general solution into the equation:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( T_n'' + n^2 c^2 T_n \right) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} = F(x) = \sin \frac{m\pi x}{L} \sin \omega t$$

3. Write the equation for  $T_n(t)$  down for the two possibilities and solve them separately:

$$\begin{aligned} n \neq m: \quad T_n'' + n^2 c^2 T_n &= 0 \xrightarrow{\text{IC}} T_n(t) \\ n = m: \quad T_m'' + m^2 c^2 T_m &= \sin \omega t \\ \Rightarrow T_m(t) &= \frac{1}{\omega^2 - m^2 c^2} \left( \frac{\omega}{mc} \sin \frac{cm\pi t}{L} - \sin \omega t \right) \end{aligned}$$

**Inhomogeneous Equations with inhomogeneous boundary conditions:**

$$r(x)m(t)u_t - [(p(x)u_x)_x + q(x)u] = F(x, t), \quad 0 < x < L$$

$$\alpha u(0, t) + \beta u_x(0, t) = a(t), \quad \gamma u(L, t) + \delta u_x(L, t) = b(t), \quad u(x, 0) = f(x)$$

1. Determine all the parameters mentioned above.
2. Choose an ansatz for  $w(x, t)$  from the following table:

boundary condition		$w(x, t)$
Dirichlet	$\beta = \delta = 0$	$w(x, t) = a(t) + \frac{x}{L} (b(t) - a(t))$
Neumann	$\alpha = \gamma = 0$	$w(x, t) = xa(t) + \frac{x^2}{2L} (b(t) - a(t))$
Mixed	$\beta = \gamma = 0$	$w(x, t) = a(t) + xb(t)$
Mixed	$\alpha = \delta = 0$	$w(x, t) = (x - L)a(t) + b(t)$

3. Write down the transformed equations:  $v(x, t) = u(x, t) - w(x, t)$

$$r(x)m(t)v_t - [(p(x)v_x)_x + q(x)v] = \tilde{F}(x), \quad 0 < x < L$$

$$\tilde{F}(x, t) = F(x, t) - r(x)m(t)w_t + [(p(x)w_x)_x + q(x)w]$$

$$\alpha v(0, t) + \beta v_x(0, t) = 0, \quad \gamma v(L, t) + \delta v_x(L, t) = 0, \quad v(x, 0) = f(x) - w(x, 0)$$

4. Solve the inhomogeneous equation with homogeneous boundary conditions.

### 3.4 Laplace Equation

The Laplace equation is the homogeneous equation  $\Delta u = 0$ . Solutions to this equation inside the region  $D$  are called **harmonic functions** in  $D$ . Here, the variables of  $u(x, y)$  are spacial (and not time).  $\nu$  is the unit vector perpendicular to the boundary  $\partial D$ , pointing outwards of the region  $D$ .

The Poisson equation is  $\Delta u = F$ , to which we can have the following boundary conditions:

- **Dirichlet problem:**  $u(x, y) = g(x, y), \quad (x, y) \in \partial D$
- **Neumann problem:**  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu}(x, y) = g(x, y), \quad (x, y) \in \partial D$ . Necessary condition for the existence of a solution to the Neumann problem is:  $\int_D F = \int_{\partial D} g$
- **Robin problem:**  $u(x, y) + \alpha \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu}(x, y), \quad (x, y) \in \partial D$

#### 3.4.1 Harmonic Functions

$D$  is a bounded region with boundary  $\partial D$ .  $u$  is a harmonic function solving the equation  $\Delta u = 0$ .

**Weak maximum principle:** the maximal and minimal values of  $u$  inside  $D$  occur on the boundary  $\partial D$ :

$$\min_{\partial D} u \leq u(x, y) \leq \max_{\partial D} u$$

**Strong maximum principle:** if  $u$  attains its maximum (or minimum) value inside  $D$ , then  $u$  is constant.

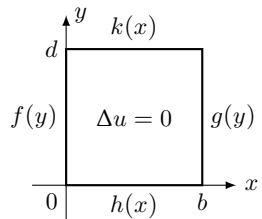
**Mean Value principle:** Let  $B_R(x_0, y_0) \subseteq D$  be a circular region with radius  $R$  and centered at  $(x_0, y_0)$  completely contained in  $D$ . The function  $u$  is harmonic if and only if:

$$u(x_0, y_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi R} \oint_{\partial B_R} u(x(s), y(s)) ds$$

$$u(x_0, y_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(x_0 + R \cos \theta, y_0 + R \sin \theta) d\theta$$

**Uniqueness of solutions:** Let  $u$  solve the equation  $\Delta u = F$  inside  $D$  with the boundary condition  $u(x, y) = g(x, y)$ ,  $(x, y) \in \partial D$ , then  $u$  is unique

### 3.4.2 Solving with Separation of Variables



To solve the problem, we divide it into two simpler problems, where  $u_1$  is the solution if  $h(x) = 0$  and  $k(x) = 0$ , and  $u_2$  if  $f(y) = 0$  and  $g(y) = 0$ .

For this to work, the boundary condition at the corner must be zero. If not, see next section.

Let's solve for Dirichlet and Neumann BC with  $k = h = 0$  (in the other case, just flip  $x$  and  $y$ ):

$$\Delta u = 0 \quad u(x, y) = X(x) \cdot Y(y) \Rightarrow \frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = -\frac{Y''(y)}{Y(y)} = \lambda$$

$$\text{Dirichlet: } u(0, y) = f, \quad u(b, y) = g \quad \left| \quad \text{Neumann: } u_x(0, y) = f, \quad u_x(b, y) = g \right.$$

$$Y_n(y) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right), \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \quad \left| \quad Y_n(y) = \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \right.$$

$$u(x, y) = \sum_n X_n(x) = \sum_n A_n \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}x\right) + B_n \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}(x-b)\right)$$

**Dirichlet:**

$$f(x) = u(0, y) = \sum_n B_n \sinh\left(-\frac{n\pi}{d}b\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right) = \sum_n \beta_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right)$$

$$g(x) = u(b, y) = \sum_n A_n \sinh\left(+\frac{n\pi}{d}b\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right) = \sum_n \alpha_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right)$$

$$\beta_n = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^d f(y) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right) dy, \quad \alpha_n = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^b g(y) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right) dy$$

**Neumann:**

$$f(x) = u_x(0, y) = \sum_n \frac{n\pi}{d} B_n \sinh\left(-\frac{n\pi}{d}b\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right) = \sum_n \beta_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right)$$

$$g(x) = u_x(b, y) = \sum_n \frac{n\pi}{d} A_n \sinh\left(+\frac{n\pi}{d}b\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right) = \sum_n \alpha_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right)$$

$$\beta_n = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^d f(y) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right) dy, \quad \alpha_n = \frac{2}{d} \int_0^b g(y) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{d}y\right) dy$$

### 3.4.3 Discontinuity on the boundary

If  $G : \partial D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the boundary condition and  $G$  is continuous and if we need to separate the problem into two smaller problems, we can get discontinuities. To avoid this, we define a new problem with boundary conditions:  $H := G - P$

$$H(x, y) = G(x, y) - P(x, y), \quad P(x, y) = \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 x + \gamma_2 y + \gamma_3 xy, \quad \Delta P = 0$$

Now, we choose  $\gamma_0, \gamma_1, \gamma_2, \gamma_3$  such that  $H(x, y) = 0$  at the vertices of rectangle:

$$\gamma_0 = G(0, 0), \quad \gamma_1 = G(b, 0) - G(0, 0), \quad \gamma_2 = G(0, d) - G(0, 0),$$

$$\gamma_3 = G(b, d) - G(0, d) - G(b, 0) + G(0, 0)$$

### 3.4.4 Circular Boundary

If we have a circular boundary with radius  $\hat{r}$ , we have  $u(r, \phi)$  where  $x = r \cos \phi$  and  $y = r \sin \phi$ . We can write the Laplacian as:

$$\Delta u = u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} u_r + \frac{1}{r^2} u_{\phi\phi} = 0, \quad u(r, \phi) = R(r) \cdot \Phi(\phi), \quad \Phi(-\pi) = \Phi(\pi)$$

$$\frac{r^2 R''}{R} + \frac{r R'}{R} = -\frac{\Phi''}{\Phi} = \lambda \Rightarrow \Phi'' = -\lambda \Phi, \quad R'' + \frac{R'}{r} - \frac{\lambda R}{r^2} = 0$$

$$\Phi(\phi) = A \cos(n\phi) + B \sin(n\phi), \quad R_n(r) = r^n, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \quad \lambda = n^2$$

$$u(r, \phi) = \frac{A_0}{2} + \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} r^n (A_n \cos(n\phi) + b_n \sin(n\phi))$$

$$u(\hat{r}, \phi) = h(\phi) = \frac{A_0}{2} + \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \hat{r}^n (A_n \cos(n\phi) + b_n \sin(n\phi))$$

$$A_n = \frac{1}{\hat{r}^n \pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} h(\phi) \cos(n\phi) d\phi, \quad B_n = \frac{1}{\hat{r}^n \pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} h(\phi) \sin(n\phi) d\phi$$

**Remark:** if the circle does exclude the center,  $R(r)$  can be either  $R_1$  or  $R_2$ :

$$R_1 = \begin{cases} r^n \\ r^{-n} \end{cases} \quad R_2 = \begin{cases} 1 \\ \ln r \end{cases}$$

$$R_n(r) = C_n r^n + D_n r^{-n}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \quad R_0(r) = R_0 + D_0 \ln r$$

## 4 General formulas

### 4.1 Ordinary Differential Equation ODE

#### 4.1.1 General Solutions

- The solution to the first order linear ODE  $y' + p(x)y = q(x)$  is:

$$y(x) = e^{P(x)} \left( \int q(x) e^{P(x)} dx + C \right) \quad \text{with} \quad P(x) = \int_0^x p(\tilde{x}) d\tilde{x}$$

- The solution of the second order linear ODE  $y'' + \lambda y = 0$  is:

$$y(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha e^{\sqrt{-\lambda}x} + \beta e^{-\sqrt{-\lambda}x} = \tilde{\alpha} \cosh(\sqrt{-\lambda}x) + \tilde{\beta} \sinh(\sqrt{-\lambda}x) & \lambda < 0 \\ \alpha + \beta x & \lambda = 0 \\ \alpha \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) + \beta \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x) & \lambda > 0 \end{cases}$$

- The solution to the following Euler (equidimensional) equation is:

$$Ax'2y'' + Bxy' + Cy = 0 \quad Ar_{1,2}(r_{1,2} - 1) + Br_{1,2} + C = 0$$

$$y(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha x^{r_1} + \beta x^{r_2} & r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{R}, r_1 \neq r_2 \\ \alpha x^r + \beta x^r \ln x & r_1, r_2 \in \mathbb{R}, r_1 = r_2 = r \\ \alpha x^\lambda \cos(\mu \ln x) + \beta x^\lambda \sin(\mu \ln x) & r_1 = \lambda + i\mu \in \mathbb{C} \end{cases}$$

#### 4.1.2 Nonlinear first order ODE

$$\frac{du}{dx} = f(u) \Rightarrow \frac{1}{f(u)} du = 1 dx \Rightarrow \int \frac{1}{f(u)} du = \int 1 dx$$

#### 4.1.3 Higher Order: Method of characteristics

$$y^{(n)} + \alpha_{n-1}y^{(n-1)} + \dots + \alpha_1y' + \alpha_0y = f(x)$$

First, we try to find the homogeneous solution  $y_h(x)$ , where  $f(x) = 0$

$$\lambda^n + \alpha_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + \alpha_1\lambda + \alpha_0 = 0 \Rightarrow (\lambda - \lambda_1)(\lambda - \lambda_2) \dots (\lambda - \lambda_n)$$

To write down the solution, we need to know the multiplicity of a root. If a root is unique, we can just add a exponential. If there are only real roots which are all different, we can write:

$$y_h(x) = C_1 e^{\lambda_1 x} + C_2 e^{\lambda_2 x} + C_3 e^{\lambda_3 x} + \dots + C_n e^{\lambda_n x}$$

If we have multiple roots that are the same, we need to multiply the second exponential factor by  $x$ , the third by  $x^2$  and so on.

$$y_h(x) = C_1 e^{-\lambda x} + C_2 x e^{-\lambda x} + C_3 x^2 e^{-\lambda x} \dots$$

If we have two complex roots, e.g.  $\lambda = a \pm ib$ , then we write the following:

$$y_h(x) = C_1 e^{at} \cos(bt) + C_2 e^{at} \sin(bt)$$

For the particular solution  $y_p$ , we use the following ansatz:

- If  $f(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$ , then  $u_p(x)$  is also a polynomial of degree  $n$ .
- If  $f(x) = be^{kx}$ , then  $u_p(x) = Be^{kx}$ .
- If  $f(x) = b \cos(kx)$  or  $f(x) = b \sin(kx)$ , then  $u_p(x) = B \cos(kx) + C \sin(kx)$

After substituting these into the equation and solving it, we get  $y_p(x)$ . Finally, the solution to the problem is:  $y(x) = y_h(x) + y_p(x)$

### 4.2 Fourier series

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

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad a_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx$$



### 4.3 Trigonometry

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sin(2\alpha) &= 2 \sin \alpha \cos \alpha & \cos(2\alpha) &= \cos^2 \alpha - \sin^2 \alpha \\
 \sin(\alpha \pm \beta) &= \sin(\alpha) \cos(\beta) \pm \cos(\alpha) \sin(\beta) & \cos(\alpha \pm \beta) &= \cos(\alpha) \cos(\beta) \mp \sin(\alpha) \sin(\beta) \\
 \sin(\alpha) \pm \sin(\beta) &= 2 \sin \frac{\alpha \pm \beta}{2} \cos \frac{\alpha \mp \beta}{2} & \cos(\alpha) + \cos(\beta) &= 2 \cos \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \cos \frac{\alpha - \beta}{2} \\
 \cos(\alpha) - \cos(\beta) &= -2 \sin \frac{\alpha + \beta}{2} \sin \frac{\alpha - \beta}{2} & \sin(\alpha) \sin(\beta) &= \frac{1}{2} (\cos(\alpha - \beta) - \cos(\alpha + \beta)) \\
 \cos(\alpha) \cos(\beta) &= \frac{1}{2} (\cos(\alpha - \beta) + \cos(\alpha + \beta)) & \sin(\alpha) \cos(\beta) &= \frac{1}{2} (\sin(\alpha - \beta) + \sin(\alpha + \beta)) \\
 \sin^2 \alpha &= \frac{1}{2} (1 - \cos 2\alpha) & \cos^2 \alpha &= \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos 2\alpha) \\
 \sin^3 \alpha &= \frac{1}{4} (3 \sin \alpha - \sin 3\alpha) & \cos^3 \alpha &= \frac{1}{4} (3 \cos \alpha + \cos 3\alpha) \\
 \frac{\sin 2\alpha}{\sin \alpha} &= 2 \cos \alpha & \sin \alpha \cos \alpha &= \frac{1}{2} \sin 2\alpha \\
 c^2 &= a^2 + b^2 - 2ab \cos \gamma & \frac{a}{\sin \alpha} = \frac{b}{\sin \beta} = \frac{c}{\sin \gamma} &= 2r = \frac{u}{\pi}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int x^n \sin ax \, dx &= -\frac{x^n}{a} \cos ax + \frac{n}{a} \int x^{n-1} \cos ax \, dx \\
 \int x^n \cos ax \, dx &= \frac{x^n}{a} \sin ax - \frac{n}{a} \int x^{n-1} \sin ax \, dx \\
 \int e^{ax} \sin bx \, dx &= \frac{e^{ax}}{a^2 + b^2} (a \sin bx - b \cos bx) \\
 \int e^{ax} \cos bx \, dx &= \frac{e^{ax}}{a^2 + b^2} (a \cos bx + b \sin bx)
 \end{aligned}$$

### 4.4 Integration

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Partial integration} \quad & \int_a^b u(x)v'(x)dx = u(x)v(x)\Big|_a^b - \int_a^b u'(x)v(x)dx \\
 \text{Chain Rule} \quad & \int_a^b f(x(t))x'(t)dt = \int_{x(a)}^{x(b)} f(x)dx = F(x(t))\Big|_{x(a)}^{x(b)} \\
 \text{Power rule} \quad & \int x^n dx = \frac{1}{n+1} \cdot x^{n+1} + c, \quad n \neq -1 \\
 \text{Inverse power rule} \quad & \int \frac{1}{x^n} dx = \frac{1}{-n+1} \cdot \frac{1}{x^{n-1}} + c, \quad n \neq 1 \\
 x^{-1} \text{ rule} \quad & \int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln |x| + c, \quad \int \frac{1}{ax+b} dx = \frac{1}{a} \ln |ax+b| + c \\
 \text{Exponential rule} \quad & \int e^x dx = e^x + c \quad \int a^x dx = \frac{a^x}{\ln a} + c \\
 \text{Logarithm rule} \quad & \int \ln x dx = x(\ln x - 1) + c
 \end{aligned}$$

### 4.5 Differentiation

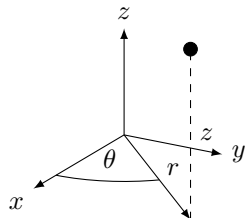
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Product rule} \quad & (fg)' = f'g + fg' \\
 \text{Quotient rule} \quad & \left(\frac{f}{g}\right)' = \frac{f'g - fg'}{g^2} \\
 \text{Chain rule} \quad & \frac{d}{dx} (f(g(x))) = f'(g(x)) g'(x) \\
 \text{Power rule} \quad & \frac{d}{dx} (x^n) = nx^{n-1} \\
 \text{Inverse power rule} \quad & \frac{d}{dx} \left(\frac{1}{x^n}\right) = \frac{-n}{x^{n+1}} \\
 \text{Exponential rule} \quad & \frac{d}{dx} (e^{g(x)}) = g'(x)e^{g(x)} \\
 \text{Logarithm rule} \quad & \frac{d}{dx} (\ln g(x)) = \frac{g'(x)}{g(x)}
 \end{aligned}$$

### 4.6 Operators

$$\begin{aligned}
 \nabla u &= \text{grad } u = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) u \\
 \text{div } \vec{u} &= \nabla \vec{u} = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right) \begin{pmatrix} u_x & u_y & u_z \end{pmatrix}^\top = \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial z} \\
 \text{curl } \vec{u} &= \nabla \times \vec{u} = \left( \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial z} \right) \vec{e}_x + \left( \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial u_z}{\partial x} \right) \vec{e}_y + \left( \frac{\partial u_y}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial y} \right) \vec{e}_z \\
 \Delta u &= \nabla^2 u = \text{div}(\nabla u) = \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right) u = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

#### 4.6.1 Differential Operators in Polar Coordinates

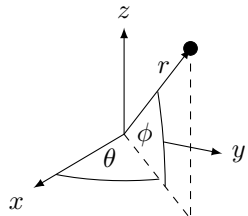
We use the notation  $e_r$  and  $e_\theta$  to denote unit vectors in radial and angular direction, respectively, and  $e_z$  to denote a unit vector in the  $z$  direction. A vector  $\vec{u}$  is expressed as  $\vec{u} = u_r e_r + u_\theta e_\theta$ . We also use  $V(r, \theta)$  to denote a scalar function.



$$\begin{aligned}\nabla V &= \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} e_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} e_\theta \\ \nabla \cdot \vec{u} &= \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial(r u_r)}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u_\theta}{\partial \theta} \\ \nabla \times \vec{u} &= \left( \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial(r u_\theta)}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial u_r}{\partial \theta} \right) e_z \\ \Delta V &= \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\nabla} V = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \theta^2}\end{aligned}$$

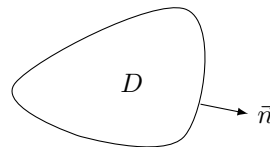
#### 4.6.2 Differential Operators in Spherical Coordinates

We use the notation  $e_r$ ,  $e_\theta$  and  $e_\phi$  to denote unit vectors in the radial, vertical angular direction, and horizontal angular direction, respectively. A vector  $\vec{u}$  is expressed as  $\vec{u} = u_r e_r + u_\theta e_\theta + u_\phi e_\phi$ . We also use  $V(r, \theta, \phi)$  to denote a scalar function.



$$\begin{aligned}\nabla V &= \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} e_r + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta} e_\theta + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} e_\phi \\ \Delta V &= \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \phi} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left( \sin \phi \frac{\partial V}{\partial \phi} \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \phi} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial \theta^2}\end{aligned}$$

#### 4.7 Integration Formulas



$$\begin{aligned}\iint_D \nabla u \, dx \, dy &= \oint_{\partial D} u \cdot \vec{n} \, ds \\ \iint_D (Q_x - P_y) \, dx \, dy &= \oint_{\partial D} (P \, dx + Q \, dy) \\ \iint_D (u \Delta u + \nabla u \cdot \nabla v) \, dx \, dy &= \oint_{\partial D} v \frac{\partial u}{\partial \vec{n}} \, ds \\ \iint_D (v \Delta u - u \Delta v) \, dx \, dy &= \oint_{\partial D} \left( v \frac{\partial u}{\partial \vec{n}} - u \frac{\partial v}{\partial \vec{n}} \right) ds\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{a(t)}^{b(t)} G(\tilde{x}, t) d\tilde{x} = G(b(t), t) b'(t) - G(a(t), t) a'(t) + \int_{a(t)}^{b(t)} \frac{\partial G(\tilde{x}, t)}{\partial t} d\tilde{x}$$

#### 4.8 Green's Identities

$$\Delta u = \operatorname{div}(\nabla u) \Rightarrow \iint_D \Delta u \, dx \, dy = \iint_D \operatorname{div}(\nabla u) \, dx \, dy = \oint_{\partial D} \nabla u \cdot \vec{n} \, ds$$

$$\iint_D (u \Delta v + v \Delta u) \, dx \, dy = \oint_{\partial D} (u \nabla v \cdot \vec{n} + v \nabla u \cdot \vec{n}) \, ds$$

$$\operatorname{div}(v \nabla u) = \nabla v \cdot \nabla u + v \Delta u \Rightarrow \iint_D \nabla v \cdot \nabla u = \oint_{\partial D} v \nabla u \cdot \vec{n} \, ds - \iint_D v \Delta u \, dx \, dy$$