

Tutorial 09 Basic concepts of PDEs and wave equation

1. Verify that the function $u(x, y) = a \ln(x^2 + y^2) + b$ satisfies Laplace's equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0.$$

And determine a, b so that u satisfies the boundary conditions $u=110$ on the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 1$ and $u=0$ on the circle $x^2 + y^2 = 100$.

$$\text{Because } u(x, y) = a \ln(x^2 + y^2) + b, \quad \therefore \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{2ax}{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{2a(x^2 + y^2) - 4ax^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} = \frac{2a(y^2 - x^2)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \frac{2ay}{x^2 + y^2}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{2a(x^2 + y^2) - 4ay^2}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} = \frac{2a(x^2 - y^2)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2}$$

$$\text{Therefore } \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{2a(y^2 - x^2)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} + \frac{2a(x^2 - y^2)}{(x^2 + y^2)^2} = 0.$$

So $u(x, y) = a \ln(x^2 + y^2) + b$ is a solution of Laplace's equation.

$$\text{The boundary conditions are } \begin{cases} u=110, \text{ on } x^2 + y^2 = 1 \\ u=0, \text{ on } x^2 + y^2 = 100. \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 110 = a \ln 1 + b \\ 0 = a \ln 100 + b. \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} b = 110 \\ 2a \ln 100 + b = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} a = -\frac{55}{\ln 10} \\ b = 110 \end{cases} \quad (\ln 100 = \ln 10^2 = 2 \ln 10).$$

$$\text{Therefore } u(x, y) = -\frac{55}{\ln 10} \ln(x^2 + y^2) + 110.$$

2. Solve the following PDEs using the same method to solve ODEs.

(a) $u_{xx} + 16\pi^2 u = 0$

Consider the following ODE: $u'' + 16\pi^2 u = 0$

The characteristic equation is $\lambda^2 + 16\pi^2 = 0 \rightarrow \lambda^2 = -16\pi^2 \rightarrow \lambda = \pm 4\pi i$.

thus, the general solution of the ODE is $u(x) = A \cos 4\pi x + B \sin 4\pi x$, A, B are constants.

Since there are no y -derivatives in the given PDE, there are only partial derivatives with respect to x , any functions of variable y is considered as constants, So the solution of the PDE is

$$u(x, y) = A(y) \cos 4\pi x + B(y) \sin 4\pi x.$$

by replacing the constants A and B by $A(y)$ and $B(y)$ respectively.

Here $A(y)$ and $B(y)$ are arbitrary function of y .

$$(b) 25u_{yy} - 4u = 0$$

Consider the following ODE: $25u'' - 4u = 0$

The characteristic equation of the ODE is

$$25\lambda^2 - 4 = 0 \rightarrow \lambda^2 = \frac{4}{25} \rightarrow \lambda = \pm \frac{2}{5}$$

Then the solution of the ODE is

$$u = Ae^{\frac{2}{5}y} + Be^{-\frac{2}{5}y}, \quad A \text{ and } B \text{ are arbitrary constants.}$$

Therefore, the solution of the given PDE is

$$u(x, y) = A(x)e^{\frac{2}{5}y} + B(x)e^{-\frac{2}{5}y},$$

where $A(x)$ and $B(x)$ are arbitrary functions of x .

$$(c) u_y + y^2u = 0$$

Consider the following first order homogeneous linear ODE, with $u=uy$.

$$u' + y^2u = 0 \rightarrow u' = -y^2u \rightarrow \frac{u'}{u} = -y^2.$$

By integrating the both sides, we have.

$$\ln|u| = -\frac{1}{3}y^3 + C_1 \rightarrow |u| = e^{-\frac{1}{3}y^3 + C_1}$$

$$\therefore u = C e^{-\frac{1}{3}y^3}, \quad \text{where } C = \pm e^{C_1} \text{ is an arbitrary constant.}$$

Then we obtain the solution of the PDE is

$$u(x, y) = C(x)e^{-\frac{1}{3}y^3},$$

where $C(x)$ is an arbitrary function of x .

3. Boundary value problem

$$(a) \begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - 3 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0 & \textcircled{1} \\ u(x, 0) = 3e^{5x} & \textcircled{2} \end{cases}$$

(1). Assume $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$ and substitute into ①, we have

$$X'Y - 3XY' = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{X'}{X} = 3 \frac{Y'}{Y} = c, \quad c \text{ is a constant.}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} X' - cx = 0 \\ Y' - \frac{c}{3}Y = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} X = Ae^{cx} & (\lambda=c) \\ Y = Be^{\frac{c}{3}y}. & (\lambda=\frac{c}{3}) \end{cases}, \quad A, B \text{ and } c \text{ are arbitrary constants.}$$

$$\text{Thus } u(x, y) = XY = AB e^{c(x+\frac{y}{3})} = ke^{c(x+\frac{y}{3})} \text{ is a solution of ①.}$$

(2). Find k and c such that $u(x, y)$ satisfies the boundary condition ②.

$$\text{we have } u(x, 0) = ke^{cx} = 3e^{5x} \Rightarrow k=3, c=5.$$

In conclusion, the solution of the PDE satisfying the boundary condition is

$$u(x, y) = 3e^{5(x+\frac{y}{3})}.$$

$$(b) \begin{cases} 2u_x + u_y = 0 & \textcircled{1} \\ u(0, y) = 5e^{-7y} & \textcircled{2} \end{cases}$$

(1). Suppose $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$. and substitute into ①, we get

$$2X'Y + XY' = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{2X'}{X} = -\frac{Y'}{Y} = c, \quad c \text{ is a constant.}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{2X'}{X} = c \\ -\frac{Y'}{Y} = c \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} X' - \frac{c}{2}X = 0 \\ Y' + cy = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} X = Ae^{\frac{c}{2}x} & (\lambda=\frac{c}{2}) \\ Y = Be^{-cy} & (\lambda=-c) \end{cases},$$

where A, B, c are arbitrary constants. Thus

$$u(x, y) = XY = AB e^{c(\frac{x}{2}-y)} = ke^{c(\frac{x}{2}-y)}$$

is a solution of PDE ①.

(2). Find k and c such that $u(x, y)$ satisfies the boundary condition ②

$$\text{i.e. } u(0, y) = ke^{-cy} = 5e^{-7y} \therefore k=5, c=7.$$

Therefore, the solution of the PDE is

$$u(x, y) = 5e^{7(\frac{x}{2}-y)}.$$

$$(c) \begin{cases} 5\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 6\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} & \textcircled{1} \\ u(0, y) = 10e^{2y} + 2e^y & \textcircled{2} \end{cases}$$

(1) Assume $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$, and substitute into $\textcircled{1}$, we have

$$5X'Y = 6XY' \Leftrightarrow \frac{5X'}{X} = \frac{6Y'}{Y} = C.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} X' - \frac{C}{5}X = 0 \\ Y' - \frac{C}{6}Y = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} X = A e^{\frac{C}{5}x}, & (C = \frac{5}{3}) \\ Y = B e^{\frac{C}{6}y} & (C = \frac{6}{5}). \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Thus, } u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y) = AB e^{c(\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{6})} = ke^{c(\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{6})}$$

is a solution of $\textcircled{1}$, where $k = AB$ and c are arbitrary constants.

(2). Find the constants k and c such that $u(x, y)$ satisfies the condition $\textcircled{2}$.

$$\text{At first, find } u_1(x, y) = k_1 e^{c_1(\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{6})} \text{ satisfying } u_1(0, y) = 10e^{2y}, \\ \text{i.e. } k_1 e^{\frac{c_1}{6}y} = 10e^{2y} \therefore k_1 = 10, c_1 = 12 \Rightarrow u_1 = 10e^{12(\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{6})}.$$

$$\text{Secondly, find } u_2(x, y) = k_2 e^{c_2(\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{6})} \text{ satisfying } u_2(0, y) = 2e^y,$$

$$\text{i.e. } k_2 e^{\frac{c_2}{6}y} = 2e^y \therefore k_2 = 2, c_2 = 6 \Rightarrow u_2 = 2e^{6(\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{6})}.$$

Therefore, by the fundamental theorem on superposition -

$$u = u_1 + u_2 = 10e^{12(\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{6})} + 2e^{6(\frac{x}{5} + \frac{y}{6})}.$$

is the solution of the given PDE satisfying condition $\textcircled{2}$.

4. Wave equation, solution by separating variables.

Consider the following one-dimensional wave equation problem:

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}, \text{ for } 0 < x < 1, \quad t \geq 0$$

with the initial boundary conditions:

$$y(0, t) = y(1, t) = 0, \text{ for } t \geq 0;$$

$$y_t(x, 0) = 0 \text{ and } y(x, 0) = f(x).$$

Using separating variables, find the solution of the problem for the following given initial deflections $f(x)$ and k . [Hint: let $y(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$ and $\frac{X''}{X} = \frac{T''}{T} = -\lambda$, where $\lambda = \lambda_n = n^2\pi^2$, for $n=1, 2, \dots$.

$$(a) f(x) = k \sin 3\pi x$$

$$\text{Suppose } y(x, t) = X(x)T(t) \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = X''T, \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = XT''.$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = XT', \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = X'T'.$$

$$\therefore X''T = XT'' \Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} = \frac{T''}{T} = -\lambda, \text{ where } \lambda \text{ is a constant.}$$

Then the wave equation becomes

$$\begin{cases} \frac{X''}{X} = -\lambda \\ \frac{T''}{T} = -\lambda \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} X'' + \lambda X = 0 \\ T'' + \lambda T = 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{1} \\ \textcircled{2} \end{array}$$

(1) Solving $\textcircled{1}$: Using the hint $\lambda = n^2\pi^2$ then: $X'' + n^2\pi^2 X = 0$.

Hence $X(x) = A_n \cos nx + B_n \sin nx$, where A_n and B_n are arbitrary constants. $n=1, 2, \dots$

$$y_{(0,t)} = X_{(0)}T(t) = 0 \Rightarrow X_{(0)} = 0. \quad (\text{Because } T(t) \neq 0, \text{ otherwise } y(x,t) = X(x)T(t) = 0).$$

$$\text{So we get } X_{(0)} = 0, n=1, 2, \dots \Rightarrow A_n \cos 0 + B_n \sin 0 = 0 \Rightarrow A_n = 0.$$

$$\therefore X(x) = B_n \sin nx.$$

$$y_{(1,t)} = 0 = X_{(1)}T(t) = 0 \Rightarrow X_{(1)} = 0. \quad \therefore X_{(1)} = B_n \sin n\pi = 0 \Rightarrow B_n \text{ could be any constants.}$$

Let $B_n = 1$, then $X(x) = \sin nx$ is a solution of $\textcircled{1}$ satisfying the boundary condition.

(2). Solving $\textcircled{2}$: similarly, $\textcircled{2} \Rightarrow T'' + n^2\pi^2 T = 0$ gives,

$$T(t) = C_n \cos nt + D_n \sin nt, \quad C_n, D_n \text{ are arbitrary constants. } n=1, 2, \dots$$

$$\therefore y(x, t) = X(x)T(t) = \sin nx [C_n \cos nt + D_n \sin nt] = y_n(x, t).$$

$$\text{Let } y(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} y_n(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin nx [C_n \cos nt + D_n \sin nt] \quad \textcircled{3}$$

From the initial condition: $y(x, 0) = 0$, so

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n\pi C_n \sin(n\pi x) [-n\pi C_n \sin(n\pi t) + n\pi D_n \cos(n\pi t)] \Big|_{t=0} = 0.$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n\pi C_n \sin(n\pi x) [0 + n\pi D_n] = 0 \Rightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n\pi D_n \sin(n\pi x) = 0 \Rightarrow D_n = 0.$$

Therefore $y(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin(n\pi x) \cos(n\pi t)$,

where C_n are unknown to find by using $y(x, 0) = f(x)$.

If $f(x) = k \sin 3\pi x$, then

$$y(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin(n\pi x) = k \sin 3\pi x.$$

$$\therefore \begin{cases} C_n = 0 & \text{if } n \neq 3 \\ C_3 \sin 3\pi x = k \sin 3\pi x & \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} C_3 = k \\ C_n = 0, \text{ if } n \neq 3. \end{cases}$$

In conclusion, the solution of the PDE satisfying the conditions are

$$y(x, t) = k \sin(3\pi x) \cos(3\pi t).$$

$$(b) f(x) = kx(1-x)$$

The method for solving the PDE is the same as in (1). The only difference is that we need to determine C_n by using the condition $y(x, 0) = f(x)$, i.e.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin(n\pi x) = kx(1-x) = f(x).$$

Therefore C_n is the coefficients of the Fourier series of $f(x)$. In the Fourier series we have $\frac{n\pi}{L} = n\pi$, so $L = 1$. So we should extend $f(x)$ as an odd periodic function with period $= 2L = 2$: $F(x) = f(x)$, $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $F(-x) = -F(x)$, $F(x+2) = F(x)$.

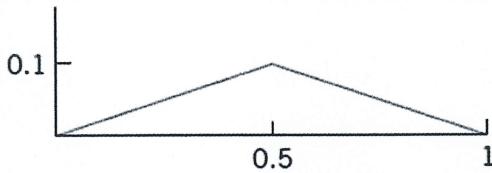
$$\begin{aligned} C_n &= \int_{-1}^1 F(x) \sin n\pi x \, dx \\ &= 2 \int_0^1 F(x) \sin n\pi x \, dx = 2 \int_0^1 f(x) \sin n\pi x \, dx \\ &= 2 \int_0^1 kx(1-x) \sin n\pi x \, dx = 2k \int_0^1 x(1-x) \sin n\pi x \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Let } u = x(1-x) = x - x^2, \quad v' = \sin n\pi x.$$

$$\begin{aligned} u' &= 1-2x, \quad V = -\frac{1}{n\pi} \cos n\pi x \\ &= 2k \cdot \underbrace{\left[(x-x^2) \frac{-1}{n\pi} \cos n\pi x \right]_0^1 - 2k \int_0^1 -\frac{1}{n\pi} \cos n\pi x \cdot (1-2x) \, dx}_{=0} \\ &= 0 + \frac{2k}{n\pi} \int_0^1 (1-2x) \cos n\pi x \, dx. \quad \text{Let } u = 1-2x, v' = \cos n\pi x \\ &\quad u' = -2, \quad V = \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin n\pi x. \\ &= \frac{2k}{n\pi} \left\{ \left[(1-2x) \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin n\pi x \right]_0^1 - \int_0^1 \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin n\pi x \cdot (-2) \, dx \right\} \\ &= \frac{2k}{n\pi} \left\{ 0 - 0 + 2 \frac{1}{n\pi} \int_0^1 \sin n\pi x \, dx \right\} = \frac{4k}{n^2\pi^2} \cdot \frac{-1}{n\pi} [\cos n\pi x]_0^1 = \frac{-4k}{n^3\pi^3} (\cos 1 - 1). \\ &\quad = \frac{4k}{n^3\pi^3} (1 - \cos n\pi). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the solution $y(x, t)$ is

$$\begin{aligned} y(x, t) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin n\pi x \cos nt \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4k}{n^3\pi^3} (1 - \cos n\pi) \sin n\pi x \cos nt. \end{aligned}$$



(c)

The method for solving the PDE is the same as in (1). The only difference is that we need to determine the unknown coefficients C_n by using the condition $y(x, 0) = f(x)$, where $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{5}x, & 0 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{5}x + \frac{1}{2}, & \frac{1}{2} \leq x \leq 1. \end{cases}$

$y(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin nx$. There is only sine terms in the series, therefore we should extend $f(x)$ as an odd function $= F(-x) = F(x)$. $F(x+2) = F(x)$.

$$\text{So } G = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 F(x) \sin nx dx = 2 \int_0^1 f(x) \sin nx dx.$$

$$= 2 \cdot \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{5}x \sin nx dx + 2 \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 \left(\frac{1}{5}x - \frac{1}{5}x + \frac{1}{2}\right) \sin nx dx = 2(I + II).$$

$$\begin{aligned} I &= \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{5}x \sin nx dx = \frac{1}{5} \cdot \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} x \sin nx dx. \text{ Let } u=x, v'=\sin nx, u'=1, v=-\frac{1}{n} \cos nx. \\ &= \frac{1}{5} \left\{ \left[x \cdot -\frac{1}{n} \cos nx \right]_0^{\frac{1}{2}} - \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} -\frac{1}{n} \cos nx \cdot dx \right\} = \frac{1}{5} \left\{ -\frac{1}{2n} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{n} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} \cos nx dx \right\} \\ &= -\frac{1}{10n} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5n} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \left[\sin nx \right]_0^{\frac{1}{2}} = -\frac{1}{10n} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5n^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

$$II = \frac{1}{5} \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 (-x) \sin nx dx. \text{ Let } u=-x, v'=\sin nx, \text{ then } u'=-1, v=-\frac{1}{n} \cos nx.$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{5} \left\{ \left[(-x) \cdot -\frac{1}{n} \cos nx \right]_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 - \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 -\frac{1}{n} \cos nx (-1) dx \right\} = \frac{1}{5} \left\{ 0 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot -\frac{1}{n} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - \frac{1}{n} \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 \cos nx dx \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{10n} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} - \frac{1}{5n} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \left[\sin nx \right]_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 = \frac{1}{10n} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5n^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore C_n = 2(I + II) = 2 \cdot \left\{ -\frac{1}{10n} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5n^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{10n} \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} + \frac{1}{5n^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \right\} = \frac{4}{5n^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2}.$$

Therefore the solution is

$$y(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin nx \cos nt = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{5n^2} \frac{\sin \frac{n\pi}{2}}{\cos nt} \sin nx \cos nt.$$