

# MA-207 Differential Equations II

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The eigenvalues and eigenfunctions are

$$\lambda_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} \quad X_n = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}, \quad n \geq 1.$$

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We say  $u(x, t)$  is a **formal solution**, since the series for  $u(x, t)$  may NOT make sense, or it may not make sense to differentiate it term wise.

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## Example (continued)

Thus, the solution to the above problem is given by

$$u(x, t) = \cos(\sqrt{5}\pi t) \sin(\pi x) + (3 \cos(\sqrt{5}\pi t) + \frac{1}{5\pi\sqrt{5}} \sin(\sqrt{5}\pi t)) \sin(5\pi x) + \frac{-26}{9\pi\sqrt{5}} \sin(\sqrt{9}\pi t) \sin(9\pi x)$$

## Theorem

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be continuous and piecewise smooth functions on  $[0, L]$ . Then the problem given by

$$u_{tt} = k^2 u_{xx} \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0 \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq L$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = g(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq L$$

has an actual solution, which is given by

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \alpha_n \cos \left( \frac{kn\pi}{L} t \right) + \frac{\beta_n L}{kn\pi} \sin \left( \frac{kn\pi}{L} t \right) \right) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}.$$

where

$$\alpha_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx.$$

# Neumann boundary condition

Consider the following differential equation

$$u_{tt} = k^2 u_{xx}, \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0,$$

We wish to find solutions of the above PDE which satisfy the following initial and boundary conditions

The **initial conditions** are

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \quad \text{and} \quad u_t(x, 0) = g(x).$$

The **(Neumann) boundary conditions** are

$$u_x(0, t) = u_x(L, t) = 0.$$

# Neumann boundary conditions: Getting some solutions

We will use the method of **separation of variables** to **first find some solutions** to the wave equation with boundary conditions. That is, we forget about the initial conditions for now.

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Suppose

$$u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$$

Substituting this in wave equation

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

$$X(x)T''(t) = k^2 X''(x)T(t).$$



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$$X(x)T''(t) = k^2 X''(x)T(t).$$

We can now separate the variables:

$$\frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = \frac{T''(t)}{k^2 T(t)}$$

The equality is between a function of  $x$  and a function of  $t$ , so both must be constant, say  $-\lambda$ .

# Neumann boundary conditions: Getting some solutions

Thus, we get the conditions

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We also have the boundary conditions

$$u_x(0, t) = X'(0)T(t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad u_x(L, t) = X'(L)T(t) = 0.$$

Since we don't want  $T$  to be identically zero, we get

$$X'(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad X'(L) = 0.$$

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First let us solve the eigenvalue problem

$$\begin{aligned} X''(x) + \lambda X(x) &= 0 \\ X'(0) &= X'(L) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

Recall from the section on eigenvalue problems, that we need that  $\lambda \geq 0$ . The solutions to this problem are given by

$$\lambda_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} \quad n \geq 0 \quad X_n = \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L}, \quad n \geq 0.$$

# Neumann boundary conditions: Getting some solutions

For each  $\lambda_n$  we consider the equation in the  $t$  variable

$$T''(t) + k^2\lambda_n T(t) = 0$$

For  $n = 0$  we get  $T_0(t) = \beta_0 t + \alpha_0$

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For each  $n \geq 1$  we get a solution for  $T$  given by

$$T_n(t) = \alpha_n \cos\left(\frac{kn\pi}{L}t\right) + \frac{\beta_n L}{kn\pi} \sin\left(\frac{kn\pi}{L}t\right),$$

where  $\alpha_n$  and  $\beta_n$  are real numbers.

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Thus, we get a solution for each  $n \geq 1$

$$u_n(x, t) = T_n(t)X_n(x) = \left(\alpha_n \cos\left(\frac{kn\pi}{L}t\right) + \frac{\beta_n L}{kn\pi} \sin\left(\frac{kn\pi}{L}t\right)\right) \cos\frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

# Neumann boundary conditions: Formal solution

For  $n = 0$  we get

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From the above we conclude that one possible solution of the wave equation with boundary conditions is,



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This function satisfies

$$u(x, 0) = \alpha_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \alpha_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad \text{and}$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = \beta_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \beta_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L}.$$

# Neumann boundary conditions: Formal solution

Thus, if  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  have Fourier expansions given by

$$f(x) = \alpha_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \alpha_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad \text{and}$$

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## Definition

Consider the wave equation with initial and boundary values given by

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} &= k^2 u_{xx} & 0 < x < L, & \quad t > 0 \\ u_x(0, t) &= u_x(L, t) = 0 & & \quad t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) &= f(x) & 0 \leq x \leq L & \\ u_t(x, 0) &= g(x) & 0 \leq x \leq L & \end{aligned}$$

## Definition (continued)

The **formal solution** of the above problem is

$$u(x, t) = \beta_0 t + \alpha_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \alpha_n \cos \left( \frac{kn\pi}{L} t \right) + \frac{\beta_n L}{kn\pi} \sin \left( \frac{kn\pi}{L} t \right) \right) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L}.$$

where

$$\alpha_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx \quad \alpha_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \quad \text{and}$$

$$\beta_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L g(x) dx \quad \beta_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L g(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx.$$

We say  $u(x, t)$  is a **formal solution**, since the series for  $u(x, t)$  may NOT make sense, or it may not make sense to differentiate it term wise.

## Theorem

Let  $f$  and  $g$  be continuous and piecewise smooth functions on  $[0, L]$ . Then the problem given by

$$u_{tt} = k^2 u_{xx} \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

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has an actual solution, which is given by

$$u(x, t) = \beta_0 t + \alpha_0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( \alpha_n \cos\left(\frac{kn\pi}{L}t\right) + \frac{\beta_n L}{kn\pi} \sin\left(\frac{kn\pi}{L}t\right) \right) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L}.$$

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## Example

Consider the wave equation with initial and boundary value given by

$$u_{tt} = 5u_{xx} \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u_x(0, t) = u_x(L, t) = 0 \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 34 + \cos \pi x + 3 \cos 5\pi x \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

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Since both  $f$  and  $g$  are given by their Fourier series in the above example, it is clear that

$$\alpha_0 = 34 \quad \beta_0 = 23$$

$$\alpha_1 = 1 \quad \beta_1 = 0$$

$$\alpha_5 = 3 \quad \beta_5 = 1$$

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## Example (continued)

Thus, the solution to the above problem is given by

$$\begin{aligned}u(x, t) = & 23t + 34 + \cos(\sqrt{5}\pi t) \cos(\pi x) \\ & + (3 \cos(\sqrt{5}\pi t) + \frac{1}{5\pi\sqrt{5}} \sin(\sqrt{5}\pi t)) \cos(5\pi x) \\ & - \frac{26}{9\pi\sqrt{5}} \sin(\sqrt{9}\pi t) \cos(9\pi x)\end{aligned}$$

# Non homogeneous PDE: Dirichlet boundary condition

Let us now consider the following PDE

$$u_{tt} - k^2 u_{xx} = F(x, t) \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = f_1(t) \quad t > 0$$

$$u(L, t) = f_2(t) \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq L$$

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How do we solve this?

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How do we solve this?

Let us first make the substitution

$$z(x, t) = u(x, t) - \left(1 - \frac{x}{L}\right)f_1(t) - \frac{x}{L}f_2(t)$$

Then clearly

- $z_{tt} - k^2 z_{xx} = G(x, t)$
- $z(0, t) = 0$
- $z(L, t) = 0$
- $z(x, 0) = v(x)$
- $z_t(x, 0) = w(x)$

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In view of this observation, let us try and solve the problem for  $z$ .

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By observing the boundary conditions, we guess that we should try and look for a solution of the type

$$z(x, t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} Z_n(t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

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Differentiating the above term by term we get that it satisfies the equation

$$z_{tt} - k^2 z_{xx} = \sum_{n \geq 1} \left( Z_n''(t) + \frac{k^2 n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} Z_n(t) \right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$



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Let us write

$$G(x, t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} G_n(t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

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Thus, if we need  $z_{tt} - k^2 z_{xx} = G(x, t)$  then we should have that

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We also need that  $z(x, 0) = v(x)$  and  $z_t(x, 0) = w(x)$ .

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If

$$v(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad w(x) = \sum_{n \geq 1} c_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

then we should have that

$$Z_n(0) = b_n \quad Z_n'(0) = c_n \quad (!)$$

Clearly, there is a unique solution to the differential equation (\*) with initial condition (!).

# Non homogeneous PDE: Dirichlet boundary condition

Thus, we let  $Z_n(t)$  be this unique solution, then the series

$$z(x, t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} Z_n(t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

solves our non homogeneous PDE with Dirichlet boundary conditions for  $z$ .

## Example

Let us now consider the following PDE

$$u_{tt} - u_{xx} = e^t \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0 \quad t > 0$$

$$u(1, t) = 0 \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = x(x - 1) \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = 0 \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

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From the boundary conditions  $u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0$  it is clear that we should look for solution in terms of Fourier sine series.

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The Fourier sine series of  $F(x, t)$  is given by (for  $n \geq 1$ )

$$\begin{aligned} F_n(t) &= 2 \int_0^1 F(x, t) \sin n\pi x \, dx \\ &= 2 \int_0^1 e^t \sin n\pi x \, dx = \frac{2(1 - (-1)^n)e^t}{n\pi} \end{aligned}$$



## Example (continued ...)

Thus, the Fourier series for  $e^t$  is given by

$$e^t = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{2(1 - (-1)^n)}{n\pi} e^t \sin n\pi x$$

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The Fourier sine series for  $f(x) = x(x - 1)$  is given by

$$x(x - 1) = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{4((-1)^n - 1)}{(n\pi)^3} \sin n\pi x$$

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Substitute  $u(x, t) = \sum_{n \geq 1} u_n(t) \sin n\pi x$  into the equation

$$u_{tt} - u_{xx} = e^t$$

$$\sum_{n \geq 1} (u_n''(t) + n^2 \pi^2 u_n(t)) \sin n\pi x = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{2(1 - (-1)^n)}{n\pi} e^t \sin n\pi x$$

## Example (continued ...)

Thus, for  $n \geq 1$  and even we get

$$u_n''(t) + n^2\pi^2 u_n(t) = 0$$

that is,

$$u_n(t) = C_n \cos n\pi t + D_n \sin n\pi t$$

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that is,

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Since  $n$  is even, the  $n$ th Fourier coefficient of  $f(x)$  is 0. Thus, we get that  $C_n = 0$ . Further, since  $g(x) = 0$ , the  $n$ th Fourier coefficient is 0. Thus, we get that  $D_n = 0$ .

## Example (continued ...)

Thus, for  $n \geq 1$  and even we get

$$u_n''(t) + n^2\pi^2 u_n(t) = 0$$

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We conclude that  $u_n(t) = 0$  for  $n \geq 1$  and even.

## Example

For  $n \geq 1$  and odd we get

$$u_n''(t) + n^2\pi^2 u_n(t) = \frac{4}{n\pi} e^t$$

If we put  $u_n(t) = ce^t$  then we get

$$ce^t + n^2 ce^t = \frac{4}{n\pi} e^t$$

Solving the above we get that  $\frac{4}{n(n^2 + 1)\pi} e^t$  is a solution.

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The general solution is given by

$$u_n(t) = \frac{4}{n(n^2 + 1)\pi} e^t + C_n \cos n\pi t + D_n \sin n\pi t$$

Let us now use the initial condition to determine the constants.



## Example (continued ...)

In the case  $n \geq 1$  odd, we have the Fourier coefficient of  $x(x-1)$  is  $\frac{-8}{(n\pi)^3}$ . Thus, we get

$$C_n + \frac{4}{n(n^2 + 1)\pi} = \frac{-8}{(n\pi)^3}$$

The  $n$ th Fourier coefficient of  $g$  is 0, and so we get

$$u'_n(0) = \frac{4}{n(n^2 + 1)\pi} + nD_n = 0$$

Thus, the solution we are looking for is given by

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n \geq 0} u_{2n+1}(t) \sin(2n+1)\pi x$$

where  $u_n(t)$ ,  $C_n$  and  $D_n$  are given as above.

# Non homogeneous PDE: Neumann boundary condition

Let us now consider the following PDE

$$u_{tt} - k^2 u_{xx} = F(x, t) \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$$u_x(0, t) = f_1(t) \quad t > 0$$

$$u_x(L, t) = f_2(t) \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq L$$

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How do we solve this?

Let us first make the substitution

$$z(x, t) = u(x, t) - \left(x - \frac{x^2}{2L}\right) f_1(t) - \frac{x^2}{2L} f_2(t)$$

Then clearly

- $z_{tt} - k^2 z_{xx} = G(x, t)$
- $z_x(0, t) = 0$
- $z_x(L, t) = 0$
- $z(x, 0) = v(x)$
- $z_t(x, 0) = w(x)$

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Differentiating the above term by term we get that it satisfies the equation

$$z_{tt} - k^2 z_{xx} = \sum_{n \geq 0} \left( Z_n''(t) + \frac{k^2 n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} Z_n(t) \right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

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Let us write

$$G(x, t) = \sum_{n \geq 0} G_n(t) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

# Non homogeneous PDE: Neumann boundary condition

Thus, if we need  $z_{tt} - k^2 z_{xx} = G(x, t)$  then we should have that

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If

$$v(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} b_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad w(x) = \sum_{n \geq 0} c_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

then we should have that

$$Z_n(0) = b_n \quad Z_n'(0) = c_n \quad (!)$$

Clearly, there is a unique solution to the differential equation (\*) with initial condition (!).

Thus, we let  $Z_n(t)$  be this unique solution, then the series

$$z(x, t) = \sum_{n \geq 0} Z_n(t) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

solves our non homogeneous PDE with Dirichlet boundary conditions for  $z$ .

## Example

Let us now consider the following PDE

$$u_{tt} - u_{xx} = e^t \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

$$u_x(0, t) = 0 \quad t > 0$$

$$u_x(1, t) = 0 \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = x(x - 1) \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

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From the boundary conditions  $u_x(0, t) = u_x(1, t) = 0$  it is clear that we should look for solution in terms of Fourier cosine series.

The Fourier cosine series of  $F(x, t)$  is given by (for  $n \geq 0$ )

$$F_0(t) = \int_0^1 F(x, t) dx = \int_0^1 e^t dx = e^t$$

$$F_n(t) = 2 \int_0^1 F(x, t) \cos n\pi x dx = 2 \int_0^1 e^t \cos n\pi x dx = 0 \quad n > 0$$

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Substitute  $u(x, t) = \sum_{n \geq 0} u_n(t) \cos n\pi x$  into the equation  
 $u_{tt} - u_{xx} = e^t$

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} (u_n''(t) + n^2 \pi^2 u_n(t)) \cos n\pi x = e^t$$

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Let us now use the initial condition to determine the constants.

In the case  $n = 0$ , we have that the Fourier coefficient of  $x(x - 1)$  is  $\frac{-1}{6}$ . Thus, when we put  $u_0(0) = -\frac{1}{6}$  we get  $1 + D = -\frac{1}{6}$ .

We also have  $u_0'(0) = 0$ , that is,  $1 + C = 0$ .

Thus,

$$u_0(t) = e^t - t - \frac{7}{6}$$

## Example (continued ...)

For  $n \geq 1$

$$u_n''(t) + n^2\pi^2 u_n(t) = 0$$

that is,

$$u_n(t) = C_n \cos n\pi t + D_n \sin n\pi t$$

In the case  $n \geq 1$  odd, we have that the Fourier coefficient of  $x(x-1)$  is 0. Thus, when we put  $u_n(0) = 0$  we get  $C_n = 0$ .

We also have  $u_n'(0) = 0$ , that is,  $D_n = 0$ . Thus, if  $n$  is odd then  $u_n(t) = 0$ .

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We also have  $u_n'(0) = 0$ , that is,  $D_n = 0$ . Thus, if  $n$  is odd then  $u_n(t) = 0$ .

In the case  $n \geq 1$  even, we have the Fourier coefficient of  $x(x-1)$  is  $\frac{4}{(n\pi)^2}$ . Thus, we get

$$C_n = \frac{4}{(n\pi)^2}$$

We also have  $u_n'(0) = 0$ , that is,  $D_n = 0$ .

## Example (continued ...)

Thus, when  $n$  is even we get

$$u_n(t) = \frac{4}{(n\pi)^2} \cos n\pi t$$

The solution we are looking for is

$$u(x, t) = e^t - t - \frac{7}{6} + \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{4}{4(n\pi)^2} \cos 2n\pi t \cos 2n\pi x$$