

Summarizing table for separation in cartesian coordinates

Heat equation	Laplace eq	Wave equation (was not ch, instead in detail)
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$$u_t = k u_{xx}$$

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

$$u_{tt} - a^2 u_{xx} = 0$$

OBE's obtained by separation

$$X'' = c X$$

$$T' = c T$$

$$X'' = c X$$

$$Y'' = -c Y$$

$$X'' = c X$$

$$T'' = a^2 c T$$

Boundary cond

$$u(0,t) = u(L,t)$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$X(0) = X(L) = 0$$

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

$$\Downarrow$$

$$X'(0) = X'(L)$$

$$u(0,y) = u(L,y)$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$X(0) = X(L) = 0$$

$$u(0,t) = u(L,t)$$

$$X(0) = X(L) = 0$$

Possible values of c (eigenvalues)

$$-\frac{\pi^2 n^2}{L^2}$$

$$-\frac{\pi^2 n^2}{L^2}$$

$$-\frac{\pi^2 n^2}{L^2}$$

$$-\frac{\pi^2 n^2}{L^2}$$

Solution of type $X(x)T(t)$ or $X(x)Y(y)$

$$C e^{-\frac{\pi n^2}{L^2} t} \sin \frac{\pi n}{L} x$$

$$C e^{-\frac{\pi n^2}{L^2} t} \cos \frac{\pi n}{L} x$$

If in addition $u(x,0) = 0$

$$C \sin \frac{\pi n}{L} y \sin \frac{\pi n}{L} x$$

If in addition $u_x(x,0) = 0$

$$C \cos \frac{\pi n}{L} a t \sin \frac{\pi n}{L} x$$

And then we have one more boundary or initial condition and we look for the solution as an infinite linear combination of the solutions of the bottom column.

PDE part MATH 309 Igor Zelinka
Lecture 7 Separation of variable for 04/24

PDE on circular and cylindrical regions

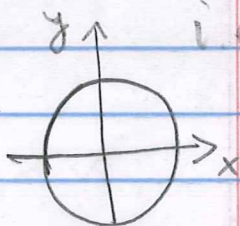
Application 1 Laplace equation on a disk

Consider the Laplace equation

(1) $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$ on the unit disk $x^2 + y^2 < 1$

with the Dirichlet boundary condition

i.e. such that u is prescribed on the boundary, which is the unit circle here



It is natural here to pass to the polar

coordinates : $x = r \cos \theta$
 $y = r \sin \theta$

Then using the chain rule one can show that

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} u_r + \frac{1}{r^2} u_{\theta\theta}$$

So the equation (1) in the new coordinates has the

form $u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} u_r + u_{\theta\theta} = 0$ (2)

and the Dirichlet boundary condition are given by

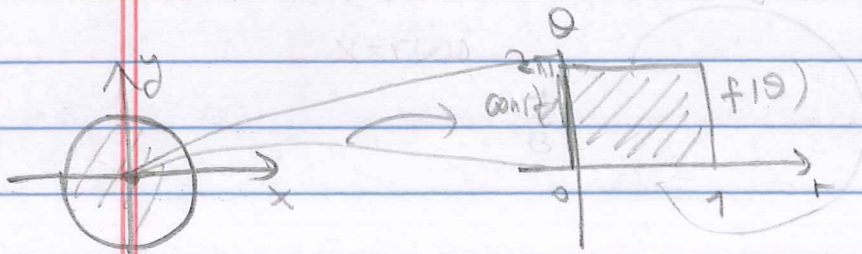
$$u(1, \theta) = f(\theta), \text{ where}$$

since we are on the unit circle

$f(\theta)$ is a periodic function of period 2π

(say piecewise continuous with piecewise continuous derivative)

Although eq (2) looks more complicated the passage to polar coordinates transforms the disk to the rectangle



And the boundary conditions are:

$$u(1, \theta) = f(\theta)$$

$$u(r, 0) = \text{const} \quad (\text{the origin goes to the left edge})$$

$$u(r, \theta) \text{ is periodic of period } 2\pi$$

Let us separate the polar variables, i.e. look for the solution in the form $u(r, \theta) = R(r) \Theta(\theta)$

$$\Rightarrow R'' \Theta + \frac{1}{r} R' \Theta + \frac{1}{r^2} R \Theta'' = 0$$

$$\frac{r^2 (R'' + \frac{1}{r} R')}{R} = -\frac{\Theta''}{\Theta} = c \Rightarrow$$

$$r^2 R'' + r R' - c R = 0$$

(3) \rightarrow the Euler equation (chapter 5 of the textbook of MATH 308)

$$\Theta'' + c \Theta = 0$$

Θ is periodic of period $2\pi \Rightarrow c > 0$

Then Θ is constant or $\Theta = A \cos \theta + B \sin \theta$

-3-

\Rightarrow either θ is constant $\Rightarrow \lambda = 0$ or $\theta(r) = A \cos \lambda \theta + B \sin \lambda \theta$
with $\lambda > 0$.

The function $(A \cos \lambda \theta + B \sin \lambda \theta)$ is periodic with all possible

periods $\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} n$, $n \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow \frac{2\pi}{\lambda} n = 2\pi$ for some $n \Rightarrow \lambda$ must

be a natural number \Rightarrow

$c = n^2 \Rightarrow$ substitute θ in Eq (3)
 $\theta(r) = a_n \cos n\theta + b_n \sin n\theta$

$$r^2 R'' + r R' - n^2 R = 0 \quad (5) \quad \text{Euler equation}$$

Recall that we are looking for solution in the form

$R(r) = r^d \Rightarrow$ substituting to (5) we get

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

Case 1 If $n \neq 0$ $d = \pm n$ i.e. the general solution of (5)

$$\text{is } R(r) = C r^n + D r^{-n} \Rightarrow \text{since } R(0)$$

is finite then $D = 0$, i.e. $R(r) = C r^n$

Case 2 If $n = 0$ (repeated root 0) \Rightarrow the solution is

$$C + D \ln r \Rightarrow D = 0$$

To summarize the solution $u(r, \theta) = R(r) \theta(\theta)$

of (2) such that $\theta(\theta)$ is periodic with period 2π and $R(r)$ is finite is of the form

$$u(r, \theta) = r^n (a_n \cos n\theta + b_n \sin n\theta), \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$$

(if $n=0$ then $u(r, \theta) = \text{const}$)

By analogy with the previously treated cases

we look for the solutions in the form

$$u(r, \theta) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^n (a_n \cos n\theta + b_n \sin n\theta) \quad (6)$$

s.t. $u(1, \theta) = f(\theta)$ or equivalently

$$f(\theta) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\theta + b_n \sin n\theta)$$

Another way: a_n and b_n are exactly the coefficients

of the Fourier series of $f(\theta)$ (of period 2π) i.e.

$$a_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\varphi) \cos n\varphi d\varphi$$

$$b_n = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(\varphi) \sin n\varphi d\varphi$$

Enrichment

As a matter of fact substituting a_n and b_n in (6), regrouping the terms and making some simplification one can get the Poisson's integral formula

$$u(r, \theta) = \frac{1-r^2}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{f(\varphi) d\varphi}{1+r^2-2r \cos(\theta-\varphi)}$$

Advantage: Explicit formula that does not concern series