



# Chapter 5: Differential equations

1. Partial differential equations
2. Ordinary differential equations
3. Nonhomogeneous equations
4. Self-adjoint ODEs



# Differential equations

Partial differential equations (PDE): two or more variables

Ordinary differential equations (ODE): one variables

Linear operation:

$$\frac{\partial(a\varphi(x, y) + b\psi(x, y))}{\partial x} = a \frac{\partial\varphi(x, y)}{\partial x} + b \frac{\partial\psi(x, y)}{\partial x}$$

In general,  $L(a\varphi + b\psi) = aL(\varphi) + bL(\psi)$

Examples:

Laplace equation  $\nabla^2\psi = 0$

Diffusion equation  $\nabla^2\psi = \frac{1}{a^2} \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial t}$

Poisson equation  $\nabla^2\psi = -\rho / \varepsilon_0$

Time-dependent wave equation

Helmholtz (wave) equation  $\nabla^2\psi \pm k^2\psi = 0$

$$\nabla^2\psi - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}\psi = 0$$

Schrodinger (wave) equation

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2\psi + V\psi = i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\psi$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2\psi + V\psi = E\psi$$



# Classes of PDE

## Solving PDEs

1. By transform
2. Separation of variables
3. Numerical methods

## Linear operator:

$$L = a \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + 2b \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} + c \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + d \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + e \frac{\partial}{\partial y} + f$$

Let  $x, y \Rightarrow \xi = \xi(x, y), \eta = \eta(x, y)$

## Characteristic equation:

$$a \left( \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \right)^2 + 2b \left( \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \right) \left( \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \right) + c \left( \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial y} \right)^2 = 0$$

- |                |                    |                                 |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Elliptic:   | $D = ac - b^2 > 0$ | two solutions complex conjugate |
| 2. Parabolic:  | $D = ac - b^2 = 0$ | one solution                    |
| 3. Hyperbolic: | $D = ac - b^2 < 0$ | two independent solutions       |

# Characteristics

Assuming  $d=e=f=0$  for simplicity

$$L = a \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + 2b \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} + c \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$$

Look for the solution

$$\psi = F(\xi), \xi = \xi(t, x)$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{dF}{d\xi}, \quad \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} \frac{dF}{d\xi} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial x^2} \frac{dF}{d\xi} + \left( \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \right)^2 \frac{d^2 F}{d\xi^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x \partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial x \partial t} \frac{dF}{d\xi} + \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} \frac{d^2 F}{d\xi^2}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \xi}{\partial t^2} \frac{dF}{d\xi} + \left( \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} \right)^2 \frac{d^2 F}{d\xi^2}$$

For the linear

$$\xi = \alpha x + \beta t \quad \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} = \alpha^2 \frac{d^2 F}{d\xi^2}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x \partial t} = \alpha \beta \frac{d^2 F}{d\xi^2}, \quad \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} = \beta^2 \frac{d^2 F}{d\xi^2}$$

PDE becomes:

$$(a\alpha^2 + 2b\alpha\beta + c\beta^2) \frac{d^2 F}{d\xi^2} = 0$$



# Solutions of PDE

Characteristic equation:

$$a\alpha^2 + 2b\alpha\beta + c\beta^2 = 0$$

$$r_{1,2} = \frac{1}{c} \left[ -b \pm (b^2 - ac)^{1/2} \right]$$

- |                |                    |                                 |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Elliptic:   | $D = ac - b^2 > 0$ | two solutions complex conjugate |
| 2. Parabolic:  | $D = ac - b^2 = 0$ | one solution                    |
| 3. Hyperbolic: | $D = ac - b^2 < 0$ | two independent solutions       |

Solutions:

$$D \neq 0: \psi(x, t) = F(\xi_1) + G(\xi_2), \quad \xi_{1,2} = x + r_{1,2}t$$

$$D = 0: \psi(x, t) = F\left(x - \frac{b}{c}t\right) + \psi_0(x, t)G\left(x - \frac{b}{c}t\right), \quad \psi_0 = x, \text{ or } \psi_0 = t$$

Examples:

Hyperbolic:  $\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \right) \psi = 0$

Elliptic:  $\left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} \right) \psi = 0$

$$\left( \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial t} \right)^2 - c^2 \left( \frac{\partial \xi}{\partial x} \right)^2 = 0 \quad \psi(x, t) = F(\xi_1) + G(\xi_2)$$

$$\xi_{1,2} = x \pm ct$$

$$\psi(x, t) = F(\xi_1) + G(\xi_2)$$

$$\xi_{1,2} = x \pm iy$$



# ODE

First order ODE:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y) = -\frac{P(x, y)}{Q(x, y)}$$

Separable variables:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y) = -\frac{P(x)}{Q(y)} \Rightarrow \int_{x_0}^x P(x)dx + \int_{y_0}^y Q(y)dy = 0$$

Exact differential equations:

$$P(x, y)dx + Q(x, y)dy = 0$$

$$P(x, y) = \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x}, \quad Q(x, y) = \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y}, \quad \frac{\partial P(x, y)}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial Q(x, y)}{\partial x} \Rightarrow \varphi(x, y) = C$$

Linear first-order ODEs:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + p(x)y = q(x) \quad y(x) = \exp\left[-\int^x p(t)dt\right] \left\{ \int^x \exp\left[\int^x p(t)dt\right] q(s)ds + C \right\}$$

$$ex. \quad L \frac{dI(t)}{dt} + RI(t) = V(t)$$



# Separation of variables

Helmholtz equation in Cartesian coordinates:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z^2} + k^2 \psi = 0$$

Look for the solution:

$$\psi(x, y, z) = X(x)Y(y)Z(z) \quad \frac{1}{X} \frac{\partial^2 X}{\partial x^2} = -l^2, \quad \frac{1}{Y} \frac{\partial^2 Y}{\partial y^2} = -m^2, \quad \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial z^2} = -n^2, \quad k^2 = l^2 + m^2 + n^2$$

$$\Psi = \sum_{l,m,n} a_{lmn} \psi_{lmn}, \quad \psi_{lmn} = X_l(x)Y_m(y)Z_n(z)$$

Spherical polar coordinates:

$$\frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \left[ \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial \varphi^2} \right] + k^2 \psi = 0$$

$$\psi(r, \theta, \varphi) = R(r)\Theta(\theta)\Phi(\varphi)$$

$$\psi_{Qm}(r, \theta, \varphi) = \sum_{Q,m} R_Q(r)\Theta_{Qm}(\theta)\Phi_m(\varphi)$$

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{dR}{dr} \right) + k^2 R - \frac{QR}{r^2} = 0, \quad \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{d\Theta}{d\theta} \right) - \frac{m^2}{\sin^2 \theta} \Theta + Q\Theta = 0, \quad \frac{1}{\Phi} \frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\varphi^2}$$



# Linear 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODE

Homogeneous:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + Q(x)y = 0$$

solutions:

$$y(x) = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + \underbrace{y_p(x)}_{\text{particular solution from } F(x)}$$

Nonhomogeneous:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + Q(x)y = F(x)$$

Linear independence of solutions:

$$\sum_{\lambda} k_{\lambda} \varphi_{\lambda} = 0, \quad \sum_{\lambda} k_{\lambda} \varphi'_{\lambda} = 0, \dots, \quad \sum_{\lambda} k_{\lambda} \varphi_{\lambda}^{(m)} = 0$$

Wronskian:

$$W = \begin{vmatrix} \varphi_1 & \varphi_2 & \dots & \varphi_n \\ \varphi_1' & \varphi_2' & \dots & \varphi_n' \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \varphi_1^{(n-1)} & \varphi_2^{(n-1)} & \dots & \varphi_n^{(n-1)} \end{vmatrix}$$

Ex. Solutions of linear oscillator

$$y'' + \omega^2 y = 0$$

$$\varphi_1 = \sin(\omega x), \varphi_2 = \cos(\omega x)$$



# The 2<sup>nd</sup> solution

Homogeneous:

$$y'' + P(x)y' + Q(x)y = 0$$

Differentiating W:

$$W' = -P(x)W$$

$$\Rightarrow W(x) = W(a) \exp\left[-\int_a^x P(x_1) dx_1\right]$$

Wronskian:

$$W = \begin{vmatrix} y_1 & y_2 \\ y_1' & y_2' \end{vmatrix} = y_1 y_2' - y_1' y_2$$

$$W = y_1^2 \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{y_2}{y_1} \right)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{y_2}{y_1} \right) = W(a) \frac{\exp\left[-\int_a^{x_2} P(x_1) dx_1\right]}{y_1^2}$$

The 2<sup>nd</sup> solution:

$$y_2(x) = y_1(x) \int^x \frac{\exp\left[-\int^{x_2} P(x_1) dx_1\right]}{y_1^2(x_2)} dx_2, W(a) = 1$$

Ex. Solutions of Chebyshev equation

$$(1-x^2)y'' - xy' + n^2 y = 0$$

$$y_1(x) = x \text{ for } n=1, \varphi_2 = ?$$

$$\varphi_2 = -\sqrt{1-x^2}$$



# Green's function

Homogeneous:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + Q(x)y = 0$$



Nonhomogeneous:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + P(x) \frac{dy}{dx} + Q(x)y = F(x)$$

Solutions:

$$y(x) = c_1 y_1(x) + c_2 y_2(x) + y_p(x)$$

Green's function:

**A solution to Poisson's equation with a point source**

$$\nabla^2 G = -\delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$$

Green's theorem

$$\int (\psi \nabla^2 G - G \nabla^2 \psi) d\tau_2 = \int (\psi \nabla G - G \nabla \psi) \cdot d\sigma = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \psi \nabla^2 G d\tau_2 = \int G \nabla^2 \psi d\tau_2$$



$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1) = \frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \int G(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) \rho(\mathbf{r}_2) d\tau_2$$

Poisson's equation

$$\nabla^2 \psi = -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

Source and potential:

$$G(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi |\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|}$$

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1) = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}_2)}{|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} d\tau_2$$

Ex. Electrostatic potential

$$\psi = \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \sum_i \frac{q_i}{r_i} \rightarrow \frac{1}{4\pi\epsilon_0} \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r})}{r} d\tau$$

General 2<sup>nd</sup> order linear nonhomogeneous differential equation

$$Ly(\mathbf{r}_1) = -f(\mathbf{r}_1)$$

$$LG(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) = -\delta(\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2)$$

$$y(\mathbf{r}_1) = \int G(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) f(\mathbf{r}_2) d\tau_2$$



# Green's function

Examples:

	Laplace $\nabla^2$	Helmholtz $\nabla^2 + k^2$	Modified Helmholtz $\nabla^2 - k^2$
3 D space $G(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2)$	$\frac{1}{4\pi \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2 }$	$\frac{\exp(ik \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2 )}{4\pi \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2 }$	$\frac{\exp(-k \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2 )}{4\pi \mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2 }$

Quantum scattering:

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 \psi(\mathbf{r}) + V(\mathbf{r})\psi(\mathbf{r}) = E\psi(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi(\mathbf{r}) + k^2 \psi(\mathbf{r}) = -\left[ -\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} V(\mathbf{r}) \right] \psi(\mathbf{r}), \quad k^2 = \frac{2mE}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}) \sim e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r}} + f_k(\theta, \varphi) \frac{e^{ikr}}{r}$$

no scattering

outgoing scattered

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}) \sim e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r}} - \int \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} V(\mathbf{r}_2) \psi(\mathbf{r}_2) G(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2) d^3 r_2$$

The solution:

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1) \sim e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1} - \int \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} V(\mathbf{r}_2) \psi(\mathbf{r}_2) \frac{\exp(ik|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|)}{4\pi|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} d^3 r_2$$

Neumann series:

0-th order

$$\psi_0(\mathbf{r}_1) = e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1}$$

1<sup>st</sup> order

$$\psi(\mathbf{r}_1) \sim e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r}_1} - \int \frac{2m}{\hbar^2} V(\mathbf{r}_2) e^{i\mathbf{k}_0 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2} \frac{\exp(ik|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|)}{4\pi|\mathbf{r}_1 - \mathbf{r}_2|} d^3 r_2$$



# Vector Function space

The collection of ~~vectors~~ **functions** forms ~~vector~~ **function** space. And it has the following properties:

## 1. Vector function equality

$$1. \mathbf{A}=\mathbf{B} \Rightarrow A_i=B_i$$

## 2. Addition

$$1. \text{Associativity} \quad (\mathbf{A}+\mathbf{B})+\mathbf{C}=\mathbf{A}+(\mathbf{B}+\mathbf{C})$$

$$2. \text{Commutativity} \quad \mathbf{A}+\mathbf{B}=\mathbf{B}+\mathbf{A}$$

$$3. \text{Distributivity} \quad a*(\mathbf{A}+\mathbf{B})=a*\mathbf{A}+a*\mathbf{B}; (a+b)*\mathbf{A}=a*\mathbf{A}+a*\mathbf{B}$$

## 3. Scalar multiplication

$$1. \text{Compatibility} \quad a*(b*\mathbf{A})=(a*b)*\mathbf{A}$$

$$2. \text{Identity element} \quad 1*\mathbf{A}=\mathbf{A}$$

## 4. Negative of a ~~vector~~ function (inverse element)

$$\mathbf{A}+(-\mathbf{A})=0$$

## 5. Null ~~vector~~ function (identity element of addition)

$$\mathbf{A}+0=\mathbf{A} \text{ for any } \mathbf{A}$$

## Inner product

$$\langle f | g \rangle = \int_a^b f^*(x)g(x)w(x)dx$$



# Adjoint operator

## Adjoint:

$L, M$  are operators in the function space  $V$ ,  $\forall u, v \in V$

$$(v, Lu) = (Mv, u) \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \int_a^b v^* L u dx = \int_a^b (Mv)^* L dx$$

## Self-adjoint: $(v, Lu) = (Lv, u)$

Ex.

$$L = \frac{d}{dx}, \quad y(a) = y(b), y = u, v$$

$$\int_a^b v^* \frac{du}{dx} dx = v^* u \Big|_a^b - \int_a^b \frac{dv^*}{dx} u dx$$

$$L = i \frac{d}{dx}, \quad y(a) = y(b), y = u, v$$

$$\int_a^b v^* \left( i \frac{du}{dx} \right) dx = v^* u \Big|_a^b + \int_a^b \left( i \frac{dv^*}{dx} \right) u dx$$

Properties for self-adjoint operators:

1. Eigenvalues are real
2. Eigenfunctions are orthogonal
3. Eigenfunctions form a complete set

# Strum-Liouville ODEs

S-L equation:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[ p(x) \frac{dy}{dx} \right] + [\lambda \rho(x) - q(x)] y = 0 \quad p(x), q(x), \rho(x) \text{ are real functions.}$$

Transformed:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \downarrow \\
 Ly = \lambda \rho(x) y \quad \begin{array}{l} L = -\frac{d}{dx} \left[ p(x) \frac{d}{dx} \right] + q(x) \\ \langle y_1 | y_2 \rangle = \int_a^b y_1^*(x) y_2(x) \rho(x) dx \end{array} \\
 \downarrow \\
 u(x) = \sqrt{\rho(x)} y(x) \quad \begin{array}{l} L' = -\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \varphi(x) \frac{d}{dx} \right] + \psi(x) \\ \langle u_1 | u_2 \rangle = \int_a^b u_1^*(x) u_2(x) dx \end{array} \\
 \downarrow \\
 L' u(x) = \lambda u(x) \quad \begin{array}{l} \varphi(x) = \frac{p(x)}{\rho(x)}, \quad \psi(x) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho(x)}} \frac{d}{dx} \left[ p(x) \frac{d}{dx} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho(x)}} \right] + \frac{q(x)}{\rho(x)} \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Theorem:

$$u_1^* L' u_2 - (L' u_1)^* u_2 = -\frac{d}{dx} \left[ \varphi(x) \left( u_1^* \frac{du_2}{dx} - u_2 \frac{du_1^*}{dx} \right) \right]$$

$$u_1^* L' u_2 - (L' u_1)^* u_2 = y_1^* L y_2 - (L y_1)^* y_2 \longrightarrow y_1^* L y_2 - (L y_1)^* y_2 = -\frac{d}{dx} \left[ p(x) \left( y_1^* \frac{dy_2}{dx} - y_2 \frac{dy_1^*}{dx} \right) \right]$$

Theorem:

$$L \text{ is self - adjoint under the boundary condition : } p(x) \left( y_1^* \frac{dy_2}{dx} - y_2 \frac{dy_1^*}{dx} \right) \Big|_a^b = 0$$



# Homework

- Chap 9:  
9.2.11, 9.6.11, 9.6.13, 9.6.25, 9.6.26
- Chap 10:  
10.1.6, 10.1.8, 10.2.8, 10.2.10