

Lecture Outline for Monday, Oct. 28, 2024

1. Interpretation of solution

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-kn^2\pi^2 t/L^2}$$

- How do we break it down?
- Does it satisfy BCs?
- What can we learn from it?
- Does it make sense? Behavior as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and $t \rightarrow \infty$
- Behavior of coefficients in infinite series as $n \rightarrow \infty$:

$$A_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

- As $n \rightarrow \infty$, the eigenfunction $\sin(n\pi x/L)$ consists of a large number of cycles that span $x = 0$ to $x = L$.
- If $f(x)$ is relatively smooth, then it is almost constant over each individual cycle of $\sin(n\pi x/L)$.
- The integral from 0 to L can be decomposed into a sum of n different integrals over the individual cycles of $\sin(n\pi x/L)$.
- Each of those integrals evaluates to almost zero because there are almost equal areas under the curve above and below the x -axis. Thus, $A_n \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

f. *Matlab* simulation

2. Not always possible to find a solution with the SoV method; some PDE solutions are not separable. Which of the following PDEs can be solved via SOV, and which cannot?

- $x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$
- $a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - g = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$, where g is a constant
- $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + u$
- $a^2 \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$

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3. Wave equation example

$$v^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} \quad 0 \leq x \leq L, \quad t \geq 0$$

- a. Vibrations of string: $v = \sqrt{\frac{T}{\rho}}$, where T = tension in string, ρ = mass per unit length
 b. Typical BCs and ICs (two ICs because time problem is second order)

$$u(0,t) = 0, \quad u(L,t) = 0, \quad u(x,0) = f(x), \quad \text{and} \quad \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|_{t=0} = g(x)$$

- c. Apply SOV method with $u(x,t) = X(x)T(t)$ to obtain

$$v^2 X''T = XT'' \rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} = \frac{T''}{v^2 T} = -\lambda \rightarrow X'' + \lambda X = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad T'' + v^2 \lambda T = 0$$

- d. The BCs $u(0,t) = 0 \rightarrow X(x) = 0$ and $u(L,t) = 0 \rightarrow X(L) = 0$ lead to the orthogonal spatial eigenfunctions

$$X_n(x) = c_2 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad \text{with} \quad \lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \quad \text{for} \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

- e. The T problem is an initial value problem involving the Fourier equation. The possible solution forms are

$$T_n(t) = c_4 \cos(v\sqrt{\lambda_n}t) + c_5 \sin(v\sqrt{\lambda_n}t) = c_4 \cos\left(\frac{n\pi vt}{L}\right) + c_5 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi vt}{L}\right)$$

or $T_n(t) = c_4 e^{iv\sqrt{\lambda_n}t} + c_5 e^{-iv\sqrt{\lambda_n}t},$

but the one that uses trigonometric functions is more convenient since it involves only real quantities. Experience shows that this is true even though $t \rightarrow \infty$ (an open “boundary”).

- f. Each eigensolution to the full PDE with $A_n = c_2 c_4$ and $B_n = c_2 c_5$ has the form:

$$u_n(x,t) = X_n(x)T_n(t) = \left[A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi vt}{L}\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi vt}{L}\right) \right] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

- g. Full solution to the PDE for the general case:

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi vt}{L}\right) + B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi vt}{L}\right) \right] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$