

Time-dependent PDE - wave equation

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}; \text{ in 1D } \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$

This equation describes oscillatory and wave motion in many different systems.

For example  $\rightarrow$  running waves

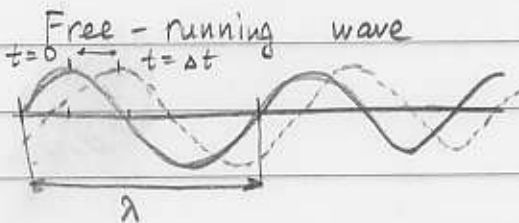
$$\left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} \right) = 0 \Rightarrow \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \right) u = 0$$

so any function  $F(x \pm vt)$  is a solution of the wave equation

Plane waves:  $u(x,t) = A \cos(kx - \omega t)$  - propagates at  $+x$  direction  
and  $u(x,t) = A \cos(kx + \omega t)$  - propagates at  $-x$  direction

here  $\omega$  is a frequency (angular frequency) of the wave

$k = \frac{\omega}{v}$  is a wave-vector;  $k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$  where  $\lambda$  is the wavelength



$$\Delta x = \frac{\omega \Delta t}{k} = v \Delta t$$

$v$  is a phase velocity of the wave

We will focus our attention on the waves propagating inside a string or a surface with given boundaries, and defined boundary conditions.

In this case one can solve the wave equation using the separation of variables

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$

$$u = X(x) \cdot T(t)$$

$$\frac{X''}{X} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\ddot{T}}{T} = -k^2$$

to obtain oscillatory solutions

$$X'' = -k^2 X$$

$$\ddot{T} = -k^2 v^2 T$$

possible solutions

possible solution

$$X(x) = \sin kx \\ \cos kx$$

$$T(t) = \sin kv t \\ \cos kv t$$

The general solution consist of all possible combinations

For each problem we will have to define boundary conditions and initial conditions



Example 1: The ends of a string are fixed, so that  $u(x=0,t) = u(x=l,t) = 0$

Thus  $X(0) = X(l) = 0 \Rightarrow \sin \frac{\pi n x}{l}$

$$k_n = \frac{\pi n}{l}, \quad \omega_n = \frac{\pi n v}{l}$$

possible oscillation frequencies.

Thus  $u(x,t) = \sum_n \sin \frac{\pi n x}{l} (A_n \cos \omega_n t + B_n \sin \omega_n t)$

The coefficients  $A_n$  and  $B_n$  are defined from the initial conditions (notice, that you'll need two since the wave equation is the second order PDE in time)

Initial conditions define for a string define

initial displacement and initial velocity of the string

a) If we pluck the string:  $u(x,t=0) = f(x)$  (displacement)

and the string is not moving:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,t=0) = 0$  (velocity)

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,t) = \sum_n \sin \frac{\pi n x}{l} (-\omega_n A_n \sin \omega_n t + \omega_n B_n \cos \omega_n t) \quad \text{if } \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(t=0) = 0$$

Thus

$$\sum_n A_n \sin \frac{\pi n x}{l} = f(x) \quad - \text{Fourier series}$$

For example



Initial condition:  $f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2h}{l}x & 0 < x < l/2 \\ \frac{2h}{l}(l-x) & l/2 < x < l \end{cases}$

in one of the homeworks

$$f(x) = \frac{8h}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)^2} \sin \frac{(2n+1)\pi x}{l}$$

Thus

$$u(x,t) = \frac{8h}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{(2n+1)^2} \sin \frac{(2n+1)\pi x}{l} \cos \frac{(2n+1)\pi v t}{l}$$

Oscillations are only on odd harmonics:  $\omega_n = \frac{(2n+1)\pi v}{l}$

That follows from the symmetry of the initial cond-s.

(You never expect to find a node at  $x=l/2$ )

b) If the string is struck:

zero initial displacement  $u(x, t=0) = 0$   
 $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, t=0) = g(x)$

In this case the solution is  $u(x, t) = \sum_n B_n \sin \frac{\pi n x}{l} \sin \omega_n t$   
 $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \omega_n \sin \frac{\pi n x}{l} = g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_n \sin \frac{\pi n x}{l}$

Example: very sharp hit in the middle:  $v(x) = v_0 \cdot l \delta(x - l/2)$

$$C_n = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l g(x) \sin \frac{\pi n x}{l} dx = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l v_0 l \delta(x - l/2) \sin \frac{\pi n x}{l} dx =$$

$$= 2v_0 \sin \frac{\pi n}{2} = 2v_0 (-1)^k \quad n = (2k+1) = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

$$B_n = C_n / \omega_n = \frac{2v_0 (-1)^k}{(\pi n v / l)} = \frac{2v_0 l}{\pi v (2k+1)} (-1)^k \quad \text{for } n = 2k+1$$

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2v_0 l}{\pi v (2k+1)} (-1)^k \sin \frac{\pi (2k+1) x}{l} \sin \frac{\pi v (2k+1) t}{l}$$

Notice the difference in the contributions of boundary and initial conditions: the boundary conditions define the spectrum of possible harmonics  $\omega_n$  (they define the instrument)

Initial conditions define which harmonics are excited, and what are their amplitudes  $\rightarrow$  but they cannot change the frequencies.

Example: one end of the string is unbound

$$u(x=0, t) = 0 \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x=l, t) = 0$$

Then  $X(x) = \sin kx$ , but  $X'(x=l) = k \cos kl = 0$

$$kl = \frac{\pi}{2} + \pi n$$

$$k_n = \frac{\pi}{l} (n + \frac{1}{2}) \quad \omega_n = \frac{\pi v}{l} (n + \frac{1}{2})$$

two unbound ends:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x=0, t) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x=l, t) = 0$

$$X(x) = \cos kx \Rightarrow X'(x=l) = -k \sin kl = 0 \quad kl = \pi n$$

$$X_n(x) = \cos \frac{\pi n x}{l}$$

$$k_n = \frac{\pi n}{l}, \quad \omega_n = \frac{\pi v n}{l}$$

Vibration of a membrane (2D, Cartesian geometry)

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = -k^2$$

$$u = X(x) Y(y) T(t)$$

$$\underbrace{\frac{X''}{X}}_{=-k_1^2} + \underbrace{\frac{Y''}{Y}}_{=-k_2^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\ddot{T}}{T} \quad \ddot{T} = -(k_1^2 + k_2^2) v^2 T$$

$$\omega = \sqrt{k_1^2 + k_2^2} v$$

Solving for  $X(x)$  and  $Y(y)$  boundary conditions, we find  $\{k_x\}_n$  and  $\{k_y\}_m$ ; thus the oscillation frequencies are

$$\omega_{nm} = \sqrt{k_{xn}^2 + k_{ym}^2} \cdot v$$

Cylindrical geometry

$$\nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = -k^2$$

$$u(\vec{r}, t) = F(\vec{r}) \cdot T(t)$$

$$\nabla^2 F = -k^2 F \quad ; \quad \ddot{T} = -k^2 v^2 T$$

Helmholtz equation

$$\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial F}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 F}{\partial \varphi^2} + k^2 F = 0$$

$$\text{Solution: } F(\vec{r}) = J_n(kr) (A_n \cos n\varphi + B_n \sin n\varphi)$$

For a fixed boundary of the membrane ( $u(r=a, \varphi, t) = 0$ )

$$u(r, \varphi, t) = \sum_{n,i} J_n(d_i^{(n)} r/a) (A_n \cos n\varphi + B_n \sin n\varphi) (C_n \cos \omega_n t + D_n \sin \omega_n t)$$

$$\text{where } \omega_{ni} = k_{ni} v = \underline{d_i^{(n)} v/a}$$

Example: the drum is struck in the middle

$$u(r, \varphi, t=0) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} (r, \varphi, t=0) = v_0 a^2 \delta(\vec{r})$$

Then:  $n=0$  (no  $\varphi$  dependence),  $C_n = 0$

$$u(r, \varphi, t) = \sum_i J_0(d_i^{(0)} \frac{r}{a}) D_i \sin \omega_i t$$

$$\int \delta(\vec{r}) r dr d\varphi = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \delta(\vec{r}) r dr = \frac{1}{2\pi}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} = \sum_i \omega_i J_0(d_i^{(0)} \frac{r}{a}) D_i = v_0 a^2 \delta(\vec{r})$$

$$D_i \omega_i \int J_0(d_i^{(0)} \frac{r}{a}) J_0(d_j^{(0)} \frac{r}{a}) r dr = D_j \omega_j \frac{1}{2} J_1(d_j^{(0)})^2 a^2 = v_0 a^2 \int J_0(d_j^{(0)} \frac{r}{a}) \delta(\vec{r}) r dr$$

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$$D_j \omega_j \cdot \frac{1}{2} J_1^2(d_j^{(10)}) a^2 = v_0 a^2 \frac{1}{2\pi} J_0(d_j^{(10)} \frac{r}{a}) \Big|_{r=0} = v_0 a^2 \frac{1}{2\pi}$$

$$D_j = \frac{v_0}{\pi \omega_j} \frac{1}{J_1^2(d_j^{(10)})}$$

$$u(r, \varphi, t) = \frac{v_0 q}{\pi v} \sum_i \frac{1}{d_i^{(10)} J_1^2(d_i^{(10)})} J_0(d_i^{(10)} \frac{r}{a}) \sin(d_i^{(10)} \frac{v t}{a})$$