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# PDE Spring 2016

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## Lecture 18

### Heat Equation revisited

In this lecture we will fill in a few missing pieces for the heat equation.

#### Inhomogeneous BCs

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_t = \nabla^2 u \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ u(\partial\Omega) = \psi(\partial\Omega) \neq 0 \\ \quad \quad \quad \uparrow \text{ inhomogeneous Dirichlet} \\ u(\vec{x}, t=0) = u_0(\vec{x}) \end{array} \right.$$

Assume we could solve the Laplace equation with the same BCs

$$\nabla^2 \varphi = 0, \quad \varphi(\partial\Omega) = \psi(\partial\Omega)$$

Now, writing

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$$u = \vartheta + w$$

$$\nabla^2 u = \underbrace{\nabla^2 \vartheta}_{\text{zero}} + \nabla^2 w = \nabla^2 w =$$
$$= u_t = w_t$$

BCs

$$u(\partial\Omega) = \vartheta(\partial\Omega) + w(\partial\Omega) =$$

$$= \vartheta(\partial\Omega) + w(\partial\Omega) = \vartheta(\partial\Omega)$$

ICs

$$u(\vec{x}, 0) = \vartheta(\vec{x}) + w(\vec{x}, 0) = u_0(\vec{x})$$

we get  
the PDE

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} w_t = w_{xx} \\ w(\partial\Omega) = 0 - \text{Homogeneous!} \\ w(0) = u_0 - \vartheta \end{array} \right.$$

which we know how to  
solve by using the eigenvalues  
and eigenfunctions of the  
Laplacian on  $\Omega$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla^2 u_n = \lambda_n u_n \quad \leftarrow \text{normalized} \\ u_n(\partial\Omega) = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad (3)$$

gives a complete orthonormal basis  
 $\{ u_1, u_2, \dots \}$

$$u = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n(t) u_n(\vec{x}) + \varphi(\vec{x})$$

$$u_t = \nabla^2 u \quad \text{becomes}$$

$$\sum_n A_n' u_n = \sum_n \lambda_n A_n u_n$$

$$A_n' = \lambda_n A_n \Rightarrow A_n = A_n(0) e^{\lambda_n t}$$

$$u(\vec{x}, t) = \varphi(\vec{x}) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n(0) e^{\lambda_n t} u_n(\vec{x})$$

Initial condition gives

$$u_0(\vec{x}) = \sum_n A_n(0) u_n(\vec{x})$$



Because the  $u_n$ 's are (4)  
orthonormal

$$A_n(0) = (u_n, u_0) = \int_{\Omega} u_n(\vec{x}) u_0^*(\vec{x}) d\vec{x}$$

which completes the solution.

Note that this method would not quite work if the BCs were time-dependent!

$$u(\vec{x} \in \partial\Omega) = \psi(\vec{x}, t)$$

because now  $\varphi \equiv \varphi(\vec{x}, t)$   
and so

$$u_t = w_t + \varphi_t \neq w_t$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} w_t = \nabla^2 w - \varphi_t \text{ source term} \\ w(\partial\Omega) = 0 \\ w(\vec{x}, 0) = u_0(\vec{x}) - \varphi(\vec{x}, 0) \end{cases}$$

which is diffusion with a source term  $\rightarrow$  harder

## Sources

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Let us now consider the heat equation with sources

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_t = k u_{xx} + f(x, t) \\ u(0, t) = u(\pi, t) = 0, \quad t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 < x < \pi \end{array} \right.$$

We will first solve this using eigenfunctions.

Expand both the solution and the forcing into an infinite series in the eigenfunctions of the Laplacian with homog. Dirichlet BCs:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} g_n(t) \sin(nx) \\ f(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(t) \sin(nx) \end{array} \right.$$

Fourier sine series

We know

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$$f_n(t) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x,t) \sin(nx) dx$$

so all we need is to find the coefficients  $g_n(t)$

$$u_t = \sum g_n' \sin(nx)$$

$$u_{xx} = \sum \lambda_n g_n \sin(nx)$$

where  $\lambda_n = n^2$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (g_n' + k n^2 g_n) \sin(nx) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f_n(t) \sin(nx)$$

$\Rightarrow$  (by orthogonality & linear independence of  $\sin(nx)$ )

$$\boxed{g_n' + k n^2 g_n = f_n}$$

which is now an ODE, one ODE per eigenvector, and easy to solve.



$$g_n(t) = g_n(0) e^{-n^2 k t} + \int_0^t f_n(\bar{z}) e^{-n^2 k (t-\bar{z})} d\bar{z}$$

Recall Duhamel's principle

Initial condition gives

$$u(x, t=0) = \sum g_n(0) \sin(nx) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow g_n(0) = 0$$

And finally we get the solution

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \int_0^t f_n(\bar{z}) e^{-n^2 k (t-\bar{z})} d\bar{z} \right) \sin(nx)$$

$$f_n(\bar{z}) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f(x, \bar{z}) \sin(nx) dx$$

This is nothing other than Duhamel's principle for the PDE itself  $\rightarrow$  Example 4.25 in APDE