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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 for $\varphi(x)$

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

Now, writing

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$$u(x,t) = \varphi(x) + w(x,t)$$

$$\nabla^2 u = \nabla^2 \varphi + \nabla^2 w = \nabla^2 w =$$

$$\stackrel{\text{zero}}{=} u_t = w_t \Rightarrow w_t = \nabla^2 w$$

BCs

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

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

ICs $w(\partial\Omega) = \varphi(\partial\Omega)$

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

$$w(x, 0) = u_0(x) - \varphi(x)$$

we get
the PDE

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} w_t = \nabla^2 w \\ w(\partial\Omega) = 0 - \text{Homogeneous!} \\ w(0) = u_0 - \varphi \end{array} \right.$$

which we know how to solve by using the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the Laplacian on Ω

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

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

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

$$u_t = \nabla^2 u \quad \text{becomes} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \psi_t = 0 \\ \nabla^2 \psi = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

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

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

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

Initial condition gives

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

$$\sum_n A_n(0) u_n(\vec{x}) = u_0(x) - \vartheta(x) = \bar{u}(x) \quad (4)$$

Because the u_n 's are orthonormal

$$A_n(0) = (u_n, \bar{u}) = \int_{\Omega} u_n(\vec{x}) \bar{u}(\vec{x}) dx$$

which completes the solution.

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

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

because now $\vartheta \equiv \vartheta(\vec{x}; t)$

and so $u = w + \vartheta$

parameter

$$u_t = w_t + \vartheta_t \neq w_t$$

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

(comes after solving Laplace eq.)

which is diffusion with a source term \rightarrow harder

Sources

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Let us now consider the heat equation with sources

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

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 $g_n(t)$

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

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

where $\lambda_n = n^2$

(PDE) $u_t - u_{xx} = f$

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

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

$$\boxed{g_n'(t) + k n^2 g_n(t) = f_n(t)}$$

missing $g_n(0)$

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

$$u(x, t=0) = \sum g_n(0) \sin(nx) = 0 \quad \text{with } \psi(x)$$

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

no additional complexity in non-zero IC

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