

### Assignments due this week

- HW #6 (Today)
- Quiz #5 (Tomorrow) (Canvas)

Assignment due next week:

- HW #7 (Tuesday)

Midterm #2 next Thursday.

- Review class/session next Tuesday
- New material for midterm #2 ends Thursday.
- Closed book/notes, no calculator
- Formula sheet (#2) can be used during exam
- Format same as midterm #1: exam available/submission window is 9-11am (MT) on Thurs. April 1.
- Material based heavily on homeworks (#5-7)
  - Laplace's equation
  - Fourier Series
  - Wave equation
- I will not provide a practice exam.
- I will provide solutions to HW #5, 6 on Canvas.
  - ↑ today
  - ↑ early next week.
- I can go over problems from HW #7 say in the review session

Office hours next week (March 29-Apr 2)

- Monday 11am-noon
  - Tuesday 9:10-10:30am
  - Wednesday 10-11am (special time)
  - No office hours on Thursday.
- } on Canvas calendar.

# The wave equation

MATH 3150 Lecture 07

March 23, 2021

Haberman 5th edition: Section 4.1 - 4.4

# The wave equation

We've seen two types of PDE's so far:

(heat eqn.)  $u_t = u_{xx},$   
(Laplace's eqn)  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0,$

$$u = u(x, t),$$

$$u = u(x, y).$$

# The wave equation

We've seen two types of PDE's so far:

$$\begin{aligned}u_t &= u_{xx}, \\u_{xx} + u_{yy} &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}u &= u(x, t), \\u &= u(x, y).\end{aligned}$$

We will consider one more type of PDE in this class, the wave equation,

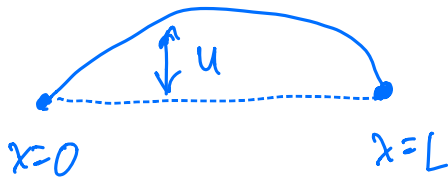
$$u_{tt} = u_{xx},$$

$$u = u(x, t).$$

Generally :  $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$  ,  $c$ : speed of wave.

# Derivation of the wave equation

In one spatial dimension, the wave equation models displacement of an "idealized" string.



Trying to model vertical displacement of the string.

$u(x, t)$ : vertical displacement of the string at position  $x$  at time  $t$ .

We'll assume the string is "idealized"

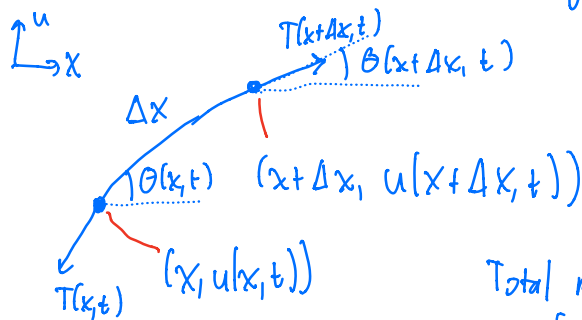
- string has mass.
- ignore gravity
- string is perfectly flexible
- string has ideal tension
- no horizontal displacement of string.

$\rho(x)$ : mass density [mass/length]

~~$T(x)$~~ : internal tensile (restorative) force. [force]

$T(x, t)$  (could also depend on time)

Consider an infinitesimal length of the string:



Ignore gravity

Only forces: tension.

Total mass of this piece of string

is  $\int_x^{x+\Delta x} \rho(s) ds \approx \Delta x \rho(x)$

$\Delta x \ll 1$

Displacement of string governed by forces acting on string:

Newton's 2nd law

$$F = ma$$

Consider 2nd law in vertical direction:  $a = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$

$$F = T(x + \Delta x, t) \sin \theta(x + \Delta x, t)$$

$$m = \Delta x \rho(x)$$

$$- T(x, t) \sin \theta(x, t)$$

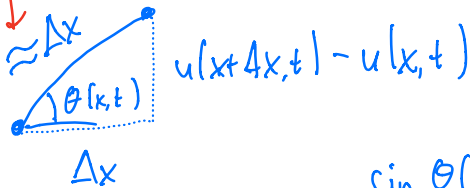
Newton's 2nd law:  $F = ma$

$$T(x + \Delta x, t) \sin \theta(x + \Delta x, t) - T(x, t) \sin \theta(x, t) = \Delta x \rho(x) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\rho(x) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \frac{T(x+\Delta x, t) \sin \theta(x+\Delta x, t) - T(x, t) \sin \theta(x, t)}{\Delta x}$$

when  $\Delta x$ ,  
u are small.

$$\stackrel{\Delta x \downarrow 0}{=} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [T(x, t) \sin \theta(x, t)]$$



$$\sin \theta(x, t) = \frac{u(x+\Delta x, t) - u(x, t)}{\Delta x}$$

$$\stackrel{\Delta x \downarrow 0}{=} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$

Putting these two equations together:

wave equation  $\rightarrow \rho(x) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (T(x, t) \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial x})$

( $\rho, T$  are given  
string properties)

Assume  $\rho, T$  are constants:  $\rho(x) = \rho$ ,  $T(x, t) = T$

$$u_{tt} = \frac{T}{\rho} u_{xx} \quad (\text{wave equation})$$

$$c^2 = T/\rho, \quad c: \text{speed of wave}$$



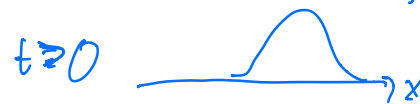
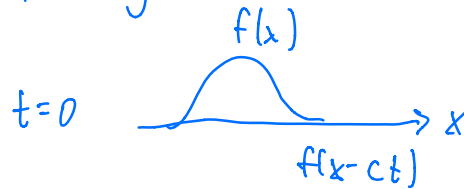
$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} \text{ (wave equation)}$$


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Why is  $c$  the wave speed?

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$$

Consider  $u(x,t) = f(x-ct)$ ,  $f$  given  
 ↗  
 traveling wave solution



$c$  is wave speed

Does  $f(x-ct)$  solve wave equation?

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} f(x-ct) = f'(x-ct) \cdot \frac{\partial (x-ct)}{\partial t}$$

$$= f'(x-ct) \cdot (-c)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x-ct) = f'(x-ct) \cdot 1$$

$$(-c)^2 f''(x-ct) = u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} = c^2 \cdot f''(x-ct) \quad \checkmark$$

# Applications of the wave equation

The wave equation models, unsurprisingly, wave phenomena occurring in

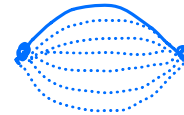
- electromagnetic (light) propagation
- acoustic phenomena
- mechanical stress waves/vibrations/oscillations
- (celestial) gravitational studies
- quantum mechanics

## Initial/boundary conditions

Like the heat equation and Laplace's equation, the wave equation requires boundary conditions.

These conditions may be of Dirichlet or Neumann type:

- (Dirichlet)  $u(0, t)$ ,  $u(L, t)$ : Ends of the string are fixed.

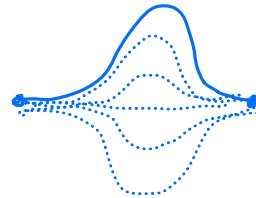
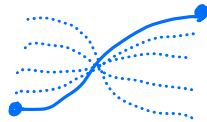


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↙ 2 derivatives

Initial conditions: the wave equation is second-order in time.  $u_{tt} = u_{xx}$

As a result, we require *two* initial conditions: the value of  $u$  and its time derivative:

$$u(x, 0) = f(x),$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = g(x).$$

Initial displacement

Initial velocity.

# Solving the wave equation

The particular wave equation we consider is a linear, homogeneous PDE. Therefore, we can use separation of variables to solve.

## Example

Compute the solution  $u(x, t)$  to the following PDE:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_{tt} &= c^2 u_{xx}, & (c \text{ given}) \\
 u(x, 0) &= f(x), & \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = g(x) \quad (f, g \text{ given}) \\
 u(0, t) &= 0, & u(L, t) = 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Physically, one can discern *normal modes* and *natural frequencies* from a mathematical solution.

$$\text{Ansatz: } u(x, t) = \phi(x) T(t) \quad (\lambda \text{ unknown})$$

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} \longrightarrow \frac{T''(t)}{c^2 T(t)} = \frac{\phi''(x)}{\phi(x)} = -\lambda$$

$$\text{ODE's: } T''(t) + \lambda c^2 T(t) = 0$$

$$\phi''(x) + \lambda \phi(x) = 0$$

$$\text{BC's: } u(0, t) = 0 \longrightarrow \phi(0) T(t) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi(0) = 0$$

( $T(t) = 0$  yields trivial sol'n)

$$u(L, t) = 0 \longrightarrow \phi(L) T(t) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi(L) = 0$$

IC's: no useful information at this point.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ansatz } \Rightarrow \quad & \phi''(x) + \lambda \phi(x) = 0 \\ & T''(t) + c^2 \lambda T(t) = 0 \\ & \phi(0) = 0 \\ & \phi(L) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Solve eigenvalue problem: find  $\lambda$  s.t. there is a nontrivial solution  $\phi$  to

$$\phi''(x) + \lambda \phi(x) = 0$$

$$\phi(0) = 0$$

$$\phi(L) = 0$$

solution (need to show work):  $\lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2, n=1, 2, \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n(x) &= \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \\ &= \sin(x\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \end{aligned}$$

Orthogonality:  $\int_0^L \phi_n(x) \phi_m(x) dx = \begin{cases} L/2, & n=m \\ 0, & n \neq m \end{cases}$

At  $\lambda = \lambda_n$ :  $T_n''(t) + \lambda_n c^2 T_n(t) = 0$

characteristic eqn:  $r^2 + \lambda_n c^2 = 0$  ( $T_n(t) = e^{rt}$ )

$$r = \pm i \sqrt{\lambda_n c^2}$$

$$= \pm i \frac{n\pi c}{L}, \quad n=1, 2, \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n(t) = a_n \cos(c\sqrt{\lambda_n} t) + b_n \sin(c\sqrt{\lambda_n} t)$$

$$u_n(x, t) = \phi_n(x) T_n(t) = a_n \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_n} x) \cos(c\sqrt{\lambda_n} t) + b_n \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_n} x) \sin(c\sqrt{\lambda_n} t)$$

How to satisfy  $u(x, 0) = f$ ?  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = g$ ?

Superposition:

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x, t)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi c t}{L}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi c t}{L}\right)$$

(General sol'n)



[Cf. heat eqn sol'n  $\sim \sin(\frac{n\pi x}{L}) \exp(-(\frac{n\pi}{L})^2 t)$ ]

IC's:  $u(x, 0) = f(x) \longrightarrow \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin(\frac{n\pi x}{L}) = f(x)$   
 $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = g(x)$

FSS, or  
 orthogonality  
 (multiply by  $\phi_m$ ,  
 integrate)

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \left( \int_0^L \phi_n(x) \phi_m(x) dx \right) = \int_0^L f(x) \phi_m(x) dx$$

$$a_m \frac{L}{2} = \int_0^L f(x) \phi_m(x) dx$$

$$a_m = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \phi_m(x) dx$$

(compare against FSS coeffs.)

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} -a_n \frac{n\pi c}{L} \sin(\frac{n\pi x}{L}) \sin(\frac{n\pi c t}{L}) + b_n \frac{n\pi c}{L} \sin(\frac{n\pi x}{L}) \cos(\frac{n\pi c t}{L})$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \frac{n\pi c}{L} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \stackrel{?}{=} g(x)$$

↓ multiply by  $\phi_m(x)$ ,  
integrate.

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \frac{n\pi c}{L} \int_0^L \phi_n(x) \phi_m(x) dx$$

$$= \int_0^L g(x) \phi_m(x) dx$$

$$b_m \cdot \frac{m\pi c}{L} \cdot \frac{L}{2} = \int_0^L g(x) \phi_m(x) dx$$

$$b_m = \frac{2}{m\pi c} \int_0^L g(x) \phi_m(x) dx$$

Solution : 
$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( a_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{L}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{L}\right) \right)$$

where,

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

$$b_n = \frac{2}{n\pi c} \int_0^L g(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

To investigate natural frequencies and normal modes, we'll rewrite the solution:

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \left[ a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{L}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{L}\right) \right]$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2} \left[ \underbrace{\frac{a_n}{\sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}}}_{\cos \theta} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{L}\right) + \underbrace{\frac{b_n}{\sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2}}}_{\sin \theta} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{L}\right) \right]$$

$$(\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta = 1)$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\sin \theta}{\cos \theta} = \frac{b_n}{a_n}$$

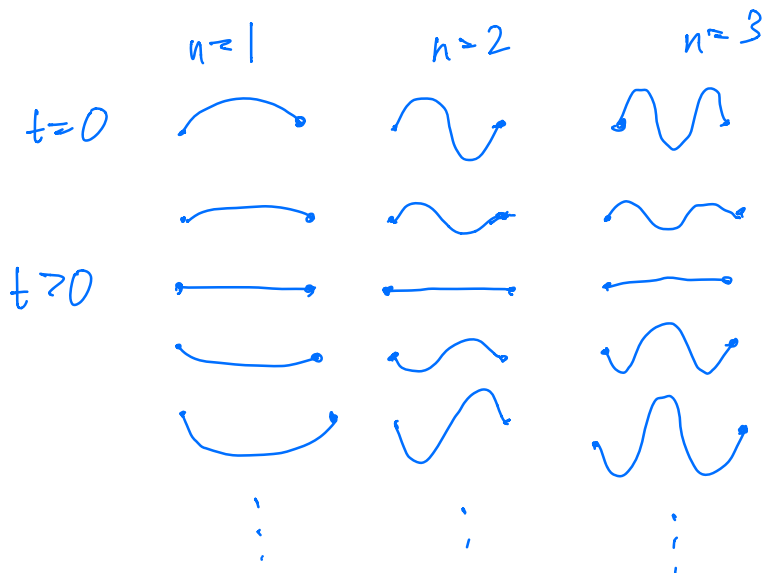
$$\Rightarrow \theta = \arctan(b_n/a_n)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2} \left[ \cos \theta \cos\left(\frac{n\pi c t}{L}\right) + \sin \theta \sin\left(\frac{n\pi c t}{L}\right) \right]$$

recall:  $\cos(\alpha \pm \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta \mp \sin \alpha \sin \beta$

$$(\alpha = \frac{n\pi c t}{L}, \beta = \theta)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{a_n^2 + b_n^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi c t}{L} - \theta\right), \quad \theta = \arctan(b_n/a_n)$$



These are modes of vibration.

"Natural frequencies" are temporal frequencies.  
Here:  $\cos\left(\frac{n\pi c t}{L} - \theta\right)$



Normal modes are individual terms in the summation:

Natural frequencies are  $\frac{n\pi c}{L}, n=1, 2, \dots$

Normal modes:  $\sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi c t}{L} - \theta\right)$

Normal modes are also called standing waves