

# Solution of Boundary value problem or Formation of Fourier Series

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## 1 Wave Equation

### 1.1 One Dimensional Wave Equation

Consider the one dimensional wave equation

$$u_{tt} = \frac{1}{c^2}u_{xx}, \quad c > 0, \quad t \geq 0, \quad x \in (0, l) \quad (1)$$

The initial conditions are

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$$

The boundary conditions are

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(l, t) = 0, \quad \forall \quad t$$

Let  $u(x, t)$  be the required solution of equation (1) is of the form

$$u(x, t) = X(x)T(t) \quad (2)$$

$$\text{s.t., } X(x) \neq 0, \quad T(t) \neq 0, \quad \therefore u(x, t) \neq 0$$

putting the value from equation (2) in equation (1)

$$\begin{aligned} X''T &= \frac{1}{c^2}T''X \\ \Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} &= \frac{T''}{c^2T} = \mu \quad (\text{say}) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

where  $\mu$  is separation constant.

From equation (3), we can deduce that

$$X'' - \mu X = 0 \quad (4)$$

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and

$$T'' - c^2\mu T = 0 \quad (5)$$

Using boundary conditions and equation (2)

$$\begin{aligned} X(0)T(t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad X(a)T(t) = 0 \\ \Rightarrow X(0) = 0, \quad X(a) = 0 \quad T(t) \neq 0 \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Case (i.) Let  $\mu = 0$ , in this case, solution of equation (4) is given by

$$X(x) = Ax + B \quad (7)$$

then using (6) in (7), we get

$$\begin{aligned} B = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad Al + B = 0 \\ \Rightarrow A = 0 \quad \Rightarrow X(x) = 0 \\ u(x, t) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

which is **trivial solution**. Aim to find non-trivial solution. So solution is rejected.

Case (ii.) Let  $\mu = \lambda^2$ , ( $\lambda \neq 0$ ) in this case, solution of equation (4) is given by

$$X(x) = Ae^{\lambda x} + Be^{-\lambda x} \quad (8)$$

then using (6) in (8), we get

$$\begin{aligned} A + B = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad Ae^{\lambda l} + Be^{-\lambda l} = 0 \\ \text{on solving above two equations, we get} \\ A = B = 0 \quad \Rightarrow X(x) = 0 \\ \Rightarrow u(x, t) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

**which is also trivial solution. Hence this case also rejected**

Case (iii.) Let  $\mu = -\lambda^2$ , ( $\lambda \neq 0$ ) Let in this case, solution of equation (4) is given by

$$X(x) = A \cos \lambda x + B \sin \lambda x \quad (10)$$

then using (6) in (10), we get

$$\begin{aligned} A = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad A \cos \lambda l + B \sin \lambda l = 0 \\ \text{on solving above two equations, we get} \end{aligned}$$

**Now**

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \lambda l = 0 \quad [B \neq 0] \\ \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{n\pi}{l}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

Thus, the non-trivial(non-zero) solution of equation (??)

$$X_n(x) = B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \quad (12)$$

Using Equations (11) and (5), we get

$$T'' + \left(\frac{n^2\pi^2c^2}{l^2}\right)T = 0$$

whose general solution is given by

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(t) &= c_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{l}\right) + D_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{l}\right) \\ \text{So, } u_n(x, t) &= X_n(x)T_n(t) = \left[E_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{l}\right) + F_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{l}\right)\right] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where  $E_n = c_n B_n$  and  $F_n = D_n B_n$ . Equation (13) is solution of equation (2) satisfying the boundary conditions.

Thus, more general solution is given by

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x, t) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[E_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{l}\right) + F_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{l}\right)\right] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

The initial conditions give

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}$$

which is a half-range Fourier sin series, where

$$E_n = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx \quad (15)$$

From equation (14)

$$u_t(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[-\frac{n\pi ct}{l} E_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{l}\right) + \frac{n\pi ct}{l} F_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi ct}{l}\right)\right] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$$

Then from initial condition ,

$$u_t(x, 0) = g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} F_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \left(\frac{n\pi ct}{l}\right)$$

which is also a half-range Fourier sin series, where

$$F_n = \frac{2}{n\pi cl} \int_0^l g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx \quad (16)$$

Hence the required physically meaningful solution is obtained from equation (14), where  $E_n$  and  $F_n$  are given by equations (15) and (16).  $u_n(x, t)$  given by equation (13) are called normal modes of vibration and  $\frac{n\pi c}{l} = \omega_n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  are called normal frequencies.

## 1.2 Two Dimensional Wave Equation

To find solution of

$$u_{tt} = c^2(u_{xx} + u_{yy}), \quad c > 0, \quad t \geq 0, \quad x \in (a, b) \times (a, b) \quad (17)$$

**Subject to**

the initial conditions are

$$u(x, y, 0) = f(x, y), \quad u_t(x, y, 0) = g(x, y)$$

**and** the boundary conditions are

$$u(0, y, t) = u(a, y, t) = 0, \quad u(x, 0, t) = u(x, b, t) = 0, \quad \forall \quad t$$

Let  $u(x, t)$  be the required solution of equation (17) is of the form

$$u(x, t) = X(x)Y(y)T(t) \tag{18}$$

$$\text{s.t., } X(x) \neq 0, \quad Y(y) \neq 0 \text{ and } T(t) \neq 0, \quad \therefore u(x, t) \neq 0$$

then **boundary conditions** becomes

Along  $x$ -axis

$$X(0)Y(y)T(t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad X(a)Y(y)T(t) = 0 \quad \text{by above assumption} \tag{19}$$

we get

$$X(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad X(a) = 0 \tag{20}$$

Along  $y$ -axis

$$X(x)Y(0)T(t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad X(x)Y(b)T(t) = 0 \tag{21}$$

we get

$$Y(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad Y(b) = 0 \tag{22}$$

putting the value from equation (18) in equation (17), we get

$$\begin{aligned} X''YT + XY'' &= \frac{1}{c^2}XYT'' \\ \implies \frac{X''}{X} + \frac{Y''}{Y} &= \frac{T''}{c^2T} \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

Now, since  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $t$  are independent variables, equation (23) can only be true if each term on each side is equal to a constant.

Let

$$\frac{X''}{X} = \mu_1$$

is boundary value second order O.D.E. (i.e.,)

$$\begin{aligned} X'' - \mu_1 X &= 0 \\ X(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad X(a) &= 0 \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

Case (i.) Let  $\mu_1 = 0$ , in this case, solution of equation (17) is given by

$$X(x) = Ax + B \tag{25}$$

then using (24), we get

$$\begin{aligned} B = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad Al + B = 0 \\ \Rightarrow A = 0 \quad \Rightarrow X(x) = 0 \\ u(x, t) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

which is **trivial solution**. So solution is rejected.

Case (ii.) Let  $\mu_1 = \lambda_1^2$ , ( $\lambda_1 \neq 0$ ) in this case, solution of equation (24) is given by

$$X(x) = Ae^{\lambda_1 x} + Be^{-\lambda_1 x} \quad (26)$$

then from (24), we get

$$\begin{aligned} A + B = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad Ae^{\lambda_1 a} + Be^{-\lambda_1 a} = 0 \\ \text{on solving above two equations, we get} \\ A = B = 0 \quad \Rightarrow X(x) = 0 \\ \Rightarrow u(x, t) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

which is also **trivial solution**. Hence this case also rejected

Case (iii.) Let  $\mu_1 = -\lambda^2$ , ( $\lambda \neq 0$ ) Let in this case, solution of equation (24) is given by

$$X(x) = A \cos \lambda x + B \sin \lambda x \quad (28)$$

then using (24), we get

$$\begin{aligned} A = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad A \cos \lambda a + B \sin \lambda a = 0 \\ \text{on solving above two equations, we get} \end{aligned}$$

**Now**

$$\begin{aligned} \sin \lambda a = 0 \quad [B \neq 0] \\ \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{n\pi}{a}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

Thus, the non-trivial(non-zero) solution of equation (24)

$$X_n(x) = B_n \sin \left( \frac{n\pi x}{a} \right) \quad (30)$$

Further let

$$\frac{Y''}{Y} = \mu_2$$

is boundary value second order O.D.E. (i.e.,)

$$\begin{aligned} Y'' - \mu_2 Y = 0 \\ Y(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad Y(b) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

On solving boundary value problem (31) similarly as along  $x$ -axis , we get

$$Y_m(x) = D_m \sin \left( \frac{m\pi y}{b} \right), \quad m = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (32)$$

where

$$\mu_2 = -\mu^2 \quad \text{and} \quad \mu = \frac{m\pi}{b}, \quad m = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Therefore, equation (23) reduces to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{T''}{c^2 T} &= \mu^1 + \mu_2 = -(\lambda^2 + \mu^2) = -\pi^2 \left( \frac{n^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} \right) \\ \implies T'' + \lambda_{mn}^2 T &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\lambda_{mn}^2 = C^2 \pi^2 \left( \frac{n^2}{a^2} + \frac{m^2}{b^2} \right) \quad (33)$$

The solution of equation (36) is given by

$$T_{mn}(t) = E_{mn} \cos \lambda_{mn} t + F_{mn} \sin \lambda_{mn} t \quad (34)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} u_{mn}(x, y, t) &= X_n(x) Y_m T_{mn}(t) \\ &= \left( A_{mn} \cos \lambda_{mn} t + B_{mn} \sin \lambda_{mn} t \right) \sin \left( \frac{m\pi y}{b} \right) \sin \left( \frac{n\pi x}{a} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

where  $A_{mn} = E_{mn} B_n D_m$  and  $B_{mn} = F_{mn} B_n D_m$  Hence, general solution is given by

$$\begin{aligned} u_{mn}(x, y, t) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} X_n(x) Y_m T_{mn}(t) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left( A_{mn} \cos \lambda_{mn} t + B_{mn} \sin \lambda_{mn} t \right) \sin \left( \frac{m\pi y}{b} \right) \sin \left( \frac{n\pi x}{a} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

The initial conditions give

$$u(x, y, 0) = f(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} A_{mn} \sin \left( \frac{n\pi x}{a} \right)$$

which is Fourier sin series, where

$$A_{mn} = \frac{4}{ab} \int_0^a \int_0^b f(x, y) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{b} dx dy \quad (37)$$

From equation (14)

$$u_t(x, y, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \left( -A_{mn} \lambda_{mn} \sin \lambda_{mn} t + B_{mn} \lambda_{mn} \cos \lambda_{mn} t \right) \sin \left( \frac{m\pi y}{b} \right) \sin \left( \frac{n\pi x}{a} \right)$$

Then from initial condition ,

$$u_t(x, y, 0) = g(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} K_{mn} \sin \left( \frac{m\pi y}{b} \right) \sin \left( \frac{n\pi x}{a} \right)$$

where  $K_{mn} = \lambda_{mn} B_{mn}$ . which is also a Fourier sin series, where

$$K_{mn} = \frac{4}{ab} \int_0^a \int_0^b g(x, y) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a} \sin \frac{m\pi y}{b} dx dy \quad (38)$$

Hence solution of equation (17) with respect to boundary as well initial condition given by equation (36),

Where coefficient  $A_{mn}$  and  $B_{mn}$  given by equations (37) and (38) , respectively.

## 2 Heat Equation: Boundary value problem

### 2.1 One Dimensional Heat Equation

Consider one dimensional wave equation

$$u_t = \kappa u_{xx} \quad (39)$$

**Initial condition**

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \quad (40)$$

**and boundary conditions are**

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(a, t) = 0 \quad (41)$$

**Solution:-**

Suppose the solution of equation (39) is of the form

$$u(x, t) = X(x)T(t) \neq 0 \quad (42)$$

putting the value from equation (42) in equation (39)

$$\begin{aligned} X''T &= \frac{1}{\kappa} T' X \\ \Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} &= \frac{T''}{\kappa T} = -\mu \quad (\text{say}) \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

where  $\mu$  is separation constant.

From equation (43), we can deduce that

$$X'' + \mu X = 0 \quad (44)$$

and

$$T' + \kappa\mu T = 0 \quad (45)$$

solving equations (44) and (45), we get

Case I. when  $\mu = 0$  then equations (44) with the help of (39)

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow X(x) &= a_1 x + a_2 \\ \Rightarrow a_2 &= 0, \quad a_1 = 0 \\ u(x, t) &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

which is trivial solution. so this case is rejected.

Case II. when  $\mu = -\lambda^2$  ( $\lambda \neq 0$ ) then equations (44) and (39)

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow X(x) &= b_1 e^{\lambda x} + b_2 e^{-\lambda x} \\ \Rightarrow b_1 + b_2 &= 0 \quad \text{and} \quad b_1 e^{\lambda a} + b_2 e^{-\lambda a} = 0 \\ \therefore b_1 &= 0, \quad b_2 = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

which is trivial solution. so this case is rejected.

Case III. when  $\mu = \lambda^2$  ( $\lambda \neq 0$ ) then equations (44) and (39)

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow X(x) &= d_1 \cos \lambda x + d_2 \sin \lambda x \\ d_1 &= 0 \quad \text{and} \quad d_2 \sin \lambda a = 0 \\ \Rightarrow \lambda &= \frac{n\pi}{a} \quad [d_2 \neq 0] \\ \therefore X_n(x) &= B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a}, \quad m = 1, 2, 3, \dots \end{aligned} \tag{48}$$

Now,

$$T' + \kappa \lambda^2 T = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow T &= C e^{-\lambda^2 \kappa t} \\ \therefore T_n(t) &= C_n e^{-\left(\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{a^2}\right) \kappa t} \end{aligned} \tag{49}$$

Therefore solution of equation (39)

$$u_n(x, t) = X_n(x) T_n(t) = B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a} C_n e^{-\left(\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{a^2}\right) \kappa t} \tag{50}$$

Hence, general solution of equation (39) is

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} X_n(x) T_n(t) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a} e^{-\left(\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{a^2}\right) \kappa t} \end{aligned} \tag{51}$$

where  $E_n = B_n C_n$  now, using initial condition  $E_n$  is given by

$$E_n = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^l f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a} dx \tag{52}$$

which is required solution of given heat equation subject to boundary as well as initial condition.

.....**All the best**.....