

Hyperbolic case : similarly

$$\sum_n \ddot{a}_n(t) v_n(x) + \sum_n \lambda_n a_n(t) v_n(x) = \sum_n b_n(t) v_n(x)$$

so by orthogonality

$$\ddot{a}_n(t) + \lambda_n a_n(t) = b_n(t)$$

This time we use the Laplace transform method:

$$s^2 \hat{a}_n - s a_n(0) - a_n'(0) + \lambda_n \hat{a}_n = \hat{b}_n(s)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{a}_n(s) = \frac{\hat{b}_n(s) + s a_n(0) + a_n'(0)}{s^2 + \lambda_n}$$

Now, the  $\lambda_n$  are positive  $\Rightarrow$  the inverse Laplace transform (see Table) is

$$a_n(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_n}} \int_0^t b_n(t') \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_n}(t-t')) dt' + a_n(0) \cos(\sqrt{\lambda_n}t) + a_n'(0) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_n}} \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_n}t)$$

$\Rightarrow$  The general solution of the problem becomes

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} v_n(x) \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_n}} \int_0^t b_n(t') \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_n}(t-t')) dt' + a_n(0) \cos(\sqrt{\lambda_n}t) + a_n'(0) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_n}} \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_n}t) \right]$$

$$\text{but with } b_n(t') = \int_a^b \frac{F(x',t') v_n(x') r(x') dx'}{\|v_n\|^2}$$

we get

$$u(x,t) = \sum_n \left[ a_n(0) \cos(\sqrt{\lambda_n}t) + a_n'(0) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_n}} \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_n}t) \right] \cdot v_n(x) + \int_0^t \int_a^b F(x',t') G(x,x';t,t') dx' dt'$$

with

$$G(x, x'; t, t') = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda_n}} \sin(\sqrt{\lambda_n}(t-t')) \frac{v_n(x) v_n(x') r(x')}{\|v_n\|^2}$$

↳ the wave kernel

### Example of the bridge

Recall :  $u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \cos(\omega t)$

$u = 0$  at both ends

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

⇒ Eigenmodes/values of spatial homogeneous pb:

$$\begin{cases} v_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \\ \lambda_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 c^2}{L^2} \end{cases}$$

then 
$$u(x, t) = \sum \left[ a_n(t) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi c t}{L}\right) + a_n'(t) \frac{L}{n\pi c} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi c t}{L}\right) \right] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \int_0^t \int_0^L F(x', t') G(x, x'; t, t') dx' dt'$$

Fitting this to ICs ⇒  $a_n(0) = a_n'(0) = 0$

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \int_0^t \int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x'}{L}\right) \cos(\omega t') \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{L}{n\pi c} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi c}{L}(t-t')\right) \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x'}{L}\right)}{\frac{L}{2}} \\ &= \int_0^t dt' \cos(\omega t') \frac{L}{2\pi c} \sin\left(\frac{2\pi c}{L}(t-t')\right) \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \\ &= \int_0^t \frac{dt'}{2} \left[ \sin\left(\omega t' + \frac{2\pi c}{L}(t-t')\right) - \sin\left(\omega t' - \frac{2\pi c}{L}(t-t')\right) \right] \sin\frac{2\pi x}{L} \frac{L}{2\pi c} \\ &= \frac{1/2}{\omega + \frac{2\pi c}{L}} \left[ \cos\left(\frac{2\pi c t}{L}\right) - \cos \omega t \right] - \frac{1/2}{\omega - \frac{2\pi c}{L}} \left[ \cos\left(\frac{2\pi c}{L}\right) - \cos \omega t \right] \frac{L}{2\pi c} \\ &= \frac{1}{\omega^2 - 4\pi^2 c^2 / L^2} \left[ \cos\left(\frac{2\pi c t}{L}\right) - \cos \omega t \right] \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \checkmark \cdot \sin\left(\frac{2\pi x}{L}\right) \end{aligned}$$

## CHAPTER 8: Green's functions

In this chapter we generalize the notion of a Green's function. We will focus here on time-independent problems, for simplicity. We will show that the solution to non-homogeneous problems can often be written as the convolution of the "forcing" with a Green's function, the latter being unique to each PDE & boundary conditions.

We start with the 1D problem to illustrate properties of Green's functions & learn how to construct them.

### I Green's functions in 1D

Let's consider examples of the kind

$$\mathcal{L}(u) = f(x) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{L}(u) = (p(x)u_x)_x + q(x)u$$

and homogeneous boundary conditions

$$\begin{cases} \alpha u(a) + \beta u'(a) = 0 \\ \gamma u(b) + \delta u'(b) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (\text{see 9.3.5 for non-homogeneous bcs})$$

We will discuss 2 different ways of finding the function  $G(x, x')$  such that the solution to the problem,  $u(x)$ , is

$$u(x) = \int_a^b G(x, x') f(x') dx'$$

#### (a) Eigenvalue/eigenfunction expansion

As before, let's consider the SL problem

$$(p(x)u_x)_x + q(x)u = -\lambda u \quad \text{with the same BCs}$$

→ this has an  $\infty$  sequence of eigenvalues  $\lambda_n$  with corresponding eigenfunctions  $v_n(x)$

We know that we can write any function  $u(x)$  satisfying the BCs as:

$$u(x) = \sum_n d_n v_n(x)$$

⇒ Plugging into the equation, we get

$$\mathcal{L}\left(\sum_n d_n v_n(x)\right) = \sum_n d_n \mathcal{L}(v_n(x)) = \sum_n -\lambda_n d_n v_n(x) = f(x)$$

By orthogonality,

$$d_n = - \frac{\langle f(x), v_n(x) \rangle}{\lambda_n \langle v_n, v_n \rangle} = - \frac{\int_a^b f(x) v_n(x) dx}{\lambda_n \int_a^b v_n^2(x) dx}$$

(provided  $\lambda_n \neq 0$ )

So finally,

$$u(x) = \sum_n -v_n(x) \frac{\int_a^b f(x') v_n(x') dx'}{\lambda_n \int_a^b v_n^2(x') dx'}$$

$$= \int_a^b f(x') G(x, x') dx'$$

provided  $G(x, x') = \sum_n - \frac{v_n(x) v_n(x')}{\lambda_n \|v_n\|^2}$

⇒ This is one possible method for constructing the Green's function.

Example: What is the general solution to

$$\frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + \omega^2 u = f(x) \quad u(0) = 0 \quad u(L) = 0 ?$$

• Eigenfunctions:  $\frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + \omega^2 u = -\lambda u$

$$\Rightarrow v_n(x) = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \cos(\sqrt{\lambda + \omega^2} x) \\ \sin(\sqrt{\lambda + \omega^2} x) \end{array} \right\}$$

By bcs, we have to have  $\sqrt{\lambda + \omega^2} = \frac{n\pi}{L}$

$$\text{so } \lambda_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} - \omega^2.$$

$$\text{so } v_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$\Rightarrow$  as long as we are off resonance ( $\omega \neq 0$ ), we can write

$$G(x, x') = \sum_n - \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x'}{L}\right)}{\left(\frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2} - \omega^2\right) \frac{L}{2}}$$

$$= -\frac{2}{L} \sum_n \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x'}{L}\right)}{\frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2} - \omega^2}$$

The solutions to any possible forcing can be found by convolving  $G$  with the forcing... But what does  $G$  look like? (see Maple file)

(b) Solution of the  $\delta$ -function forcing.

Another interesting, and much more fundamental method comes from noticing that  $G$  is the solution of

(\*)  $\mathcal{L}(G(x, x')) = \delta(x - x')$  with the same bcs.

Indeed, <sup>so</sup> remember that  $\mathcal{L}$  is a linear operator,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{L}\left(\int_a^b G(x, x') f(x') dx'\right) \\ &= \int_a^b \mathcal{L}(G(x, x')) f(x') dx' \quad \leftarrow \text{since } \mathcal{L} \text{ operates on the variable } x, \text{ not } x' \\ &= \int_a^b \delta(x - x') f(x') dx' \quad \leftarrow \text{if indeed } G \text{ is solution of (*)} \end{aligned}$$

$$= f(x)$$

(Note that the  $\delta$ -function is an even function so  $\delta(x - x') = \delta(x' - x)$ )

$\Rightarrow$  The problem is now shifted to: how to find solutions of

$$\mathcal{L}(G) = \delta(x - x')$$

In order to do this, note that  $\delta(x-x')$  is effectively 0 unless  $x=x'$  so we mostly solve

$$\mathcal{L}(G) = 0 \quad \text{except at } x=x'$$

Since  $\mathcal{L}$  is a 2nd order linear operator, the general solution which can be written as a linear combination of 2 basic functions.

$$\text{Hence } \mathcal{L}(G) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow G(x, x') = \alpha u_1(x) + \beta u_2(x)$$

There will be one such solution on either side of the point  $x' \Rightarrow$

$$\text{On the left } G_L(x, x') = \alpha_L u_1(x) + \beta_L u_2(x) \quad (x < x')$$

$$\text{On the right } G_R(x, x') = \alpha_R u_1(x) + \beta_R u_2(x) \quad (x > x')$$

Two of these 4 unknown coefficients can be found by fitting the boundary conditions, at  $x=a$  and  $x=b$ .

The other 2 are found by requiring that

- $G(x, x')$  be continuous at  $x=x'$

- The derivatives of  $G(x, x')$  on either side of  $x=x'$  satisfy the correct "jump" condition, obtained by integrating (\*) across  $x=x'$ :

$$\int_{x'-\epsilon}^{x'+\epsilon} \mathcal{L}(G) dx = \int_{x'-\epsilon}^{x'+\epsilon} \delta(x-x') dx = 1$$

$$\hookrightarrow \int_{x'-\epsilon}^{x'+\epsilon} [(p(x)G_x)_x + q(x)G] dx = 1$$

$$\hookrightarrow \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left\{ [p(x'+\epsilon)G_x]_{x'+\epsilon} - p(x'-\epsilon)G_x|_{x'-\epsilon} \right\} = 1$$

(since  $q, u$  continuous)

$$\hookrightarrow \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left[ \frac{dG}{dx} \Big|_{x=x'+\epsilon} - \frac{dG}{dx} \Big|_{x=x'-\epsilon} \right] = \frac{1}{p(x')}$$

$$\hookrightarrow \alpha_R u_1'(x') + \beta_R u_2'(x') - \alpha_L u_1'(x) - \beta_L u_2'(x) = \frac{1}{p(x')}$$

(The fourth condition).

While this method is very general it is more easily understood when applied to a particular example.

Example :  $\frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + \omega^2 u = f(x)$ . (Same as before)

We now seek  $G(x, x')$ , the solution of

$$\frac{d^2 G}{dx^2} + \omega^2 G = \delta(x - x')$$

- The equation  $\frac{d^2 G}{dx^2} + \omega^2 G = 0$  has a general solution of the kind  $G = \alpha \cos \omega x + \beta \sin \omega x$ .

$\Rightarrow$  let's consider the 2 solutions on either side of  $x'$ :

On left :  $G_L(x) = \alpha_L \cos \omega x + \beta_L \sin \omega x$

From  $u(0) = 0$  we get  $G(0, x') = 0$  so  $G_L(0) = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha_L = 0$  so  $G_L(x) = \beta_L \sin \omega x$

On right :  $G_R(x) = \alpha_R \cos \omega x + \beta_R \sin \omega x$

From  $u(L) = 0$  we get  $G(L, x') = 0$  so  $G_R(L) = 0 \Rightarrow$

$$\alpha_R \cos(\omega L) + \beta_R \sin(\omega L) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\alpha_R}{\beta_R} = -\tan(\omega L) \Rightarrow \alpha_R = -\beta_R \tan(\omega L)$$

- From continuity at  $x = x'$  we get

$$\beta_L \sin(\omega x') = -\beta_R \tan(\omega L) \cos(\omega x') + \beta_R \sin(\omega x')$$

$$\text{So } \beta_L = \beta_R \left( 1 - \frac{\tan \omega L}{\tan \omega x'} \right)$$

- Finally, the derivative jump condition implies

$$\left. \frac{dG_R}{dx} \right|_{x'} - \left. \frac{dG_L}{dx} \right|_{x'} = 1 \quad (\text{here, } p(x) = 1)$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta_R \omega \tan \omega L \sin \omega x' + \beta_R \omega \cos \omega x' - \beta_L \omega \cos \omega x' = 1$$

so

$$\beta_R \left[ \omega \tan \omega L \sin \omega x' + \omega \cos \omega x' - \omega \cos \omega x' \left( 1 - \frac{\tan \omega L}{\tan \omega x'} \right) \right] = 1$$

$$\beta_R = \frac{1}{\omega \tan(\omega L)} \frac{1}{\sin \omega x' + \frac{\omega \cos \omega x'}{\tan \omega x'}}$$

$$= \frac{\sin(\omega x')}{\omega \tan(\omega L)}$$

$$\beta_L = \frac{1}{\omega \tan(\omega L)} \left( \sin \omega x' - \tan \omega L \omega \cos \omega x' \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\omega} \left( \frac{\sin \omega x'}{\tan \omega L} - \omega \cos \omega x' \right)$$

$$\alpha_R = - \frac{\sin(\omega x')}{\omega}$$

$$\Rightarrow G(x, x') = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\omega} \left( \frac{\sin \omega x'}{\tan \omega L} - \omega \cos \omega x' \right) \sin \omega x & \text{if } x < x' \\ - \frac{\sin \omega x'}{\omega} \omega \cos \omega x + \frac{\sin \omega x' \sin \omega x}{\omega \tan \omega L} & x > x' \end{cases}$$

It can be shown (most easily by plotting them, see page) that this is exactly the same function as before.