

D'Alembert solution of the wave equation

Goals:

- Obtain the **solution to the wave equation**
- Solution of the PDE **using characteristics from the PDE's canonical form**

PDE $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} \quad -\infty < x < \infty \quad 0 < t < \infty$

ICs $\begin{cases} u(x,0) = f(x) \\ u_t(x,0) = g(x) \end{cases} \quad -\infty < x < \infty$

The solution is,

$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2} [f(x-ct) + f(x+ct)] + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} g(\xi) d\xi$$

← wave speed

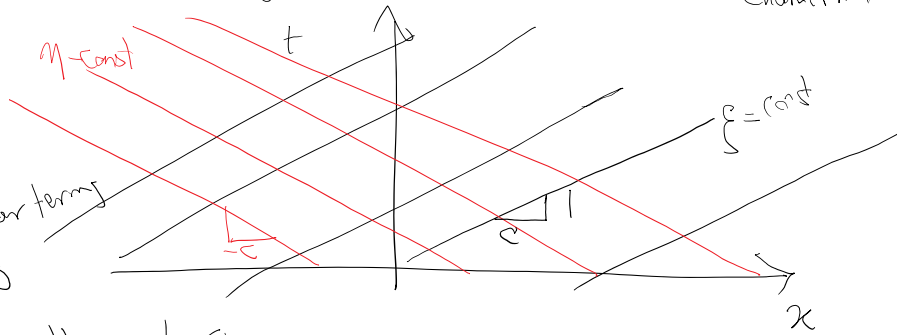
$$u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0$$

$$A u_{tt} + B u_{tx} + C u_{xx} + \dots = 0$$

Characteristics $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{-B \pm \sqrt{B^2 - 4AC}}{2A} = \pm \frac{\sqrt{4c^2}}{2} = \pm c$

$$dy = \pm c dx \rightarrow d(y \mp cx) = 0 \quad y \mp cx = \text{const for characteristics}$$

$$\begin{aligned} x+ct &= \eta \\ x-ct &= \xi \end{aligned}$$



$$u_{\xi\eta} + \dots = 0$$

for this problem L.O.T = 0 $(u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0)$

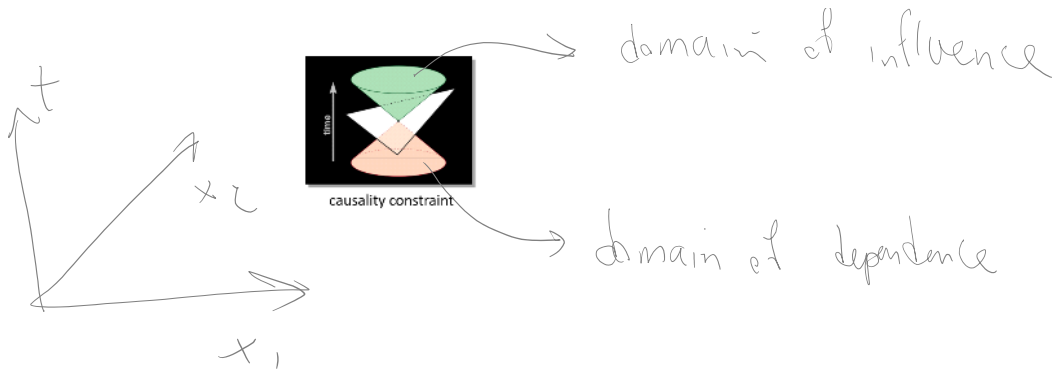
$$u_{\xi\eta} = 0 \rightarrow u = \phi(\eta) + \psi(\xi)$$

$$u = \phi(x+ct) + \psi(x-ct) \quad \textcircled{1}$$

How many ICs needed $u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0$

ICs $\textcircled{a} \begin{cases} u(x,0) = f(x) \\ u_t(x,0) = g(x) \end{cases} \quad \textcircled{2}$

$$u_t = c\phi'(x+ct) - c\psi'(x-ct)$$



Hyperbolicity $\checkmark a(x,t,u) u_t + b(x,t,u) u_{xx} \in C(x,t,u)$
 $\checkmark Au_{xx} + Bu_{xt} + Cu_t + \dots = 0$
 even with more indep. arguments x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots

Hyperbolicity of systems of 1st order quasi-linear PDEs

- Assume we want to solve the **system of semi-linear first order PDEs**,

PDE : $\mathbf{q}_t + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{q}_x = \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{q}, x, t)$ (1a)

IC : $\mathbf{q}(x, 0) = \mathbf{q}_0(x)$ (1b)

where

$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ \vdots \\ q_n \end{bmatrix}$ vector of unknown fields

\mathbf{A} $n \times n$ flux matrix

$\mathbf{s} = \begin{bmatrix} s_1 \\ \vdots \\ s_n \end{bmatrix}$ source term (can be nonlinear in \mathbf{q})

n number of fields

n-coupled equations. By using eigen-decomposition of A we can decouple them:)

$\mathbf{q}_t + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{q}_x$
 turn it to Diagonal matrix

decoupled $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \omega_1 + d_{11} \omega_{1,x} = \dots \\ \omega_2 + d_{22} \omega_{2,x} = \dots \\ \vdots \end{array} \right.$

$\begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 \\ \vdots \\ \omega_n \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} d_{11} & & & \\ & d_{22} & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & d_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 \\ \vdots \\ \omega_n \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{s}$

Imagine we can find L such that this holds for diagonal D:

$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L} \rightarrow \text{diagonal}$

$$L^{-1} L = UL \quad \checkmark$$

$$q_t + A q_x = S \quad \text{premultiply by } L$$

$$(Lq)_t + \underbrace{LA} q_x = LS$$

$$\underbrace{(Lq)}_w \underbrace{t}_D + \underbrace{D(Lq)}_w \underbrace{x}_w = LS$$

w
characteristics

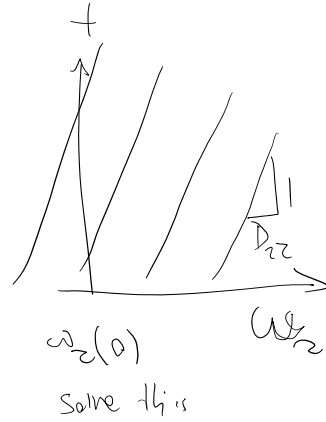
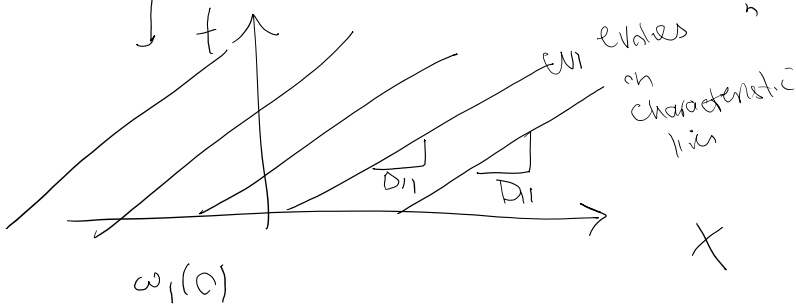
$$w_t + D w_x = S_w$$

$$S_w = LS$$

$$w = Lq$$

Now we have

$$\begin{cases} w_1 + D_{11} w_{1,x} = S_{w_1} \\ w_2 + D_{22} w_{2,x} = S_{w_2} \\ \vdots \\ w_n + D_{nn} w_{n,x} = S_{w_n} \end{cases}$$



$$w(x, 0) = L q(x, 0) = L q_0(0)$$

Final step?

(3) $w \checkmark \quad q = ? \quad w = Lq \rightarrow$

$$q(x, t) = L^{-1} w(x, t)$$

vector \vec{A} $L A = D L$

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vector #

$$LA = DL$$

$$A = D \begin{bmatrix} l^1 \\ l^2 \\ \vdots \\ l^n \end{bmatrix}$$

direction

row vector

left eigenvector

left eigenvalue

$$l^i A = \lambda^i l^i$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} D_{11} l^1 \\ D_{22} l^2 \\ \vdots \\ D_{nn} l^n \end{bmatrix}$$

typical eigenvalue problem

$$A r^i = D_{ii} r^i$$

column vector

right eigenvector

right eigenvalue

Left eigen problem

$$l A = \lambda l \rightarrow A^T (l^T) = \lambda l^T$$

l^T is Right eigenvector of A^T

Since eigenvalues of A & A^T are the same $\left(\det(A - \lambda I) = \det(A^T - \lambda I) \right)$

Left & Right eigenvalues are the same.

Basically we need to solve Left eigenvalue problem for A :

Procedure for solving (I),

PDE: $q_t + A q_x = s(q, x, t)$

IC: $q(x, 0) = q_0(x)$

- Step 1: Solve for n left eigenvectors l^i eigenvalues λ_i of A

$$l^i A = \lambda^i l^i \quad (\text{no summation on } i)$$

And form left-eigenvalue matrix $L = [l^1 \dots l^n]^T$, $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$.

- Step 2: Define characteristic values, and corresponding source terms, and IC

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Characteristic variables} & \quad \omega = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{q} \Rightarrow \\ \text{Source term vector} & \quad \mathbf{s}^\omega(\omega, x, t) = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{L}^{-1}\omega, x, t) \\ \text{IC} & \quad \omega(x, 0) = \omega_0(x) = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{q}_0(x) \end{aligned}$$

Solve n -decoupled first order PDEs in ω_i

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{PDE: } & \omega_{i,t} + \lambda_i \omega_{i,x} = s_i^\omega(\omega, x, t) \\ \text{IC: } & \omega_i(x, 0) = \omega_{i0}(x) \end{aligned} \right\} \quad i \leq n \quad (\text{no summation on } i) \quad (4)$$

Note: If the source term $\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{q}, x, t)$ explicitly depends on \mathbf{q} equations (4) for ω_i are coupled through the source term \mathbf{s}^ω but we still have n characteristics and the solution is simpler in this space.

- Step 3: Once the solution $\omega(x, t)$ is obtained we solve for $\mathbf{q}(x, t)$ from,

$$\mathbf{q}(x, t) = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\omega(x, t)$$

Example 1:
Elastodynamic problem in 1D:

Example: 1D elastodynamics problem



Example: Consider the solution to 1D solid mechanics problem corresponding to the conservation law $\sigma_{,x} + \rho b = p_{,t}$ where $\sigma = E\epsilon$ is stress, ρ is density, b is body force, $p = \rho v$ is linear momentum, $\epsilon = u_{,x}$ is strain, $v = u_{,t}$ is velocity, and u is displacement.

To solve this problem as a system of first order PDEs we follow these steps:

- Write equation of motion in conservation law form,

$$p_{,t} - \sigma_{,x} = \rho b \quad (5)$$

$$p = \rho v = \rho \dot{u}$$

method 1 $(\rho \dot{u})_{,t} - \sigma_{,x} = \rho b$

$$\sigma = E\epsilon = E u_{,x} \quad E \text{ const.}$$

$$\rho \ddot{u} - E u_{,xx} = \rho b$$

$$\ddot{u} - \left(\frac{E}{\rho}\right) u_{,xx} = \frac{\rho b}{\rho}$$

Also assume $b=0$

$$c = \sqrt{\frac{E}{\rho}}$$

Use D'Alembert $\rightarrow 1^{\text{st}}$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} \left(u_0(x-ct) + u_0(x+ct) \right) + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} v_0(z) dz$$

Method 2

solve it as a system of 1st order PDEs

$$\dot{u} = v, \quad \dot{v} = -\frac{E}{\rho} u_{,x} - \frac{\rho b}{\rho}$$

need this eqn $\dot{p} - \delta, x = \rho b$ $q = \begin{bmatrix} p \\ \delta \end{bmatrix}$ is needed

$\dot{\delta} - \frac{E}{F} \rho, x = 0$ $\dot{q} + Aq, x = 0$

$\delta = E\varepsilon = E u, x \rightarrow \dot{\delta} = E \dot{u}, x = E v, x = \frac{E}{F} \rho, x$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{p} - \delta, x = \rho b \\ \dot{\delta} - \frac{E}{F} \rho, x = 0 \end{cases} \quad \dot{q} + Aq, x = S \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -\frac{E}{F} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad S = \begin{bmatrix} \rho b \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 1: Solve the eigen problem for A

$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -\frac{E}{F} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\frac{E}{F} = c^2$ $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -c^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$[l_1 \ l_2] \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -c^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \lambda [l_1 \ l_2]$ $[-c^2 l_2 \ -l_1] = [\lambda l_1 \ \lambda l_2]$

$-c^2 l_2 = \lambda l_1$ $l_1 = -c^2 l_2$
 $-l_1 = \lambda l_2$ $l_2 = -l_1$

$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda & c^2 \\ 1 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} l_1 \\ l_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ $\det = 0$ $\lambda^2 - c^2 = 0 \rightarrow \lambda = \pm c$

$\lambda = -c$ $-c^2 l_2 = -c l_1$ $l_2 = 1 \ l_1 = -c$
 $-l_1 = -c l_2$ $l_2 = 1 \ l_1 = c$

Similarly $\lambda = c$ $l_2 = 1 \ l_1 = -c$
 $l_2 = 1 \ l_1 = c$

Find L and A as,

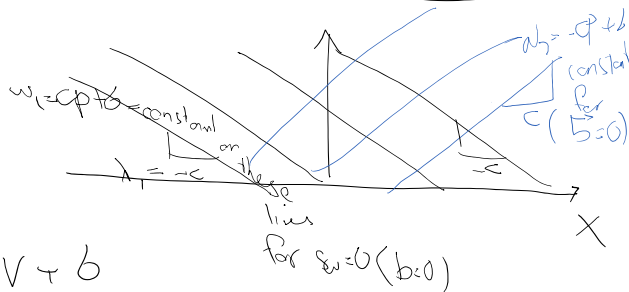
$L = \begin{bmatrix} c & 1 \\ -c & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $A = \text{diag}(-c, c) = \begin{bmatrix} -c & 0 \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix}$

$LA = AL$

$w = Lq$

$\dot{w} + \Lambda w, x = Sw$

$\begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c & 1 \\ -c & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ \delta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} cp + \delta \\ -cp + \delta \end{bmatrix}$



$w_1 = \underbrace{(cp)}_{\text{impedance } Z} v + \delta = Zv + \delta$
 impedance Z const out

$w_2 = \delta - Zv$
 these lines $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{bmatrix}$

$$\left(\int_0^1 = 0 \right)$$

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