

Spectral Theory in Wave Dynamics

Math 7384
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(1)
eqns, structure
• vibrations
⇒ equals
• why spec
• why harmo
• why ex am.

Some linear wave equations:

acoustics: small-amp disturbances in uniform medium:
 p : pressure, \vec{u} : velocity = (u_1, u_2, u_3)

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + k \nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} - \frac{k}{\rho} \nabla \cdot \nabla p = 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 \vec{u}}{\partial t^2} - \frac{k}{\rho} \nabla \nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Id: } \nabla \times (\nabla \times \vec{u}) = \nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{u}) - \nabla \cdot \nabla \vec{u}$$

$$\text{so } \nabla \times \vec{u} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \vec{u}}{\partial t^2} - \frac{k}{\rho} \nabla \cdot \nabla \vec{u} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{wave equation for scalar: } \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \nabla^2 \phi = 0 \quad (\nabla^2 = \Delta \text{ Laplacian})$$

$$\text{Harmonic version: } \phi \mapsto \phi(x) e^{-i\omega t} \Rightarrow \nabla^2 \phi + \left(\frac{\omega}{c}\right)^2 \phi = 0$$

$$\cdot \text{equiv. to } \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{I} \\ c^2 \Delta & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} \sim$$

Show $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \mathbb{I} \\ c^2 \Delta & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is (formally) anti-self-adj. w.r. to correct \langle, \rangle .

$$\cdot \text{equiv. to } \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & k \nabla \cdot \\ \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ u \end{bmatrix}$$

Show operator is anti-self-adj. w.r. to $\langle, \rangle_{L^2_{\rho^{-1}}(\mathbb{R}^3)} + \langle, \rangle_{L^2_{\rho}(\mathbb{R}^3)}$

electromagnetics: $\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} E \\ H \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{\epsilon} \nabla \times \\ +\frac{1}{\mu} \nabla \times & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} E \\ H \end{bmatrix}$ w/ $\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot \epsilon E = 0 \\ \nabla \cdot \mu H = 0 \end{cases}$

Solve for H: $\frac{1}{\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} H = -\frac{1}{\mu} \nabla \times \frac{1}{\epsilon} \nabla \times H$
 for E: $\frac{1}{\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} E = -\frac{1}{\mu} \nabla \times \frac{1}{\epsilon} \nabla \times E$

See Kuchment "Math of PCs" for more on the operator of Maxwell.

elasticity $\rho \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \nabla \cdot \sigma$ (+ forces)

$\sigma = K \frac{1}{2} (\nabla u + (\nabla u)^T)$
 $\sigma = K \epsilon$

quantum mechanics ~~$\nabla^2 \psi$~~ $i \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \psi = -\Delta \psi + q \psi$

Common structure: $\frac{d}{dt} u = Au$, A anti-self-adjoint for cons., osc. w.r. to (\cdot, \cdot)

→ conservation of $\| \cdot \|$:

$\frac{d}{dt} (u, u) = (u, u) + (u, u) = (Au, u) + (u, Au) = 0$

Math involved → spectral theory, harmonic analysis, complex analysis, (moment problems)

• Why spectral theory?

If A is transl.-invariant (in time), $\frac{d}{dt}$ & A commute (A acts in \mathbb{R}^n)
 So seek simultaneous efuncs of $\frac{d}{dt}$ & A.

$\frac{d}{dt} e^{\lambda t} = \lambda e^{\lambda t} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} (u_\lambda e^{\lambda t}) = A(u_\lambda e^{\lambda t})$
 $Au_\lambda = \lambda u_\lambda$

Superposition principle: $u(t) = e^{At} u(0) = M e^{\lambda t} M^{-1} u(0)$

• Why harmonic analysis?

One needs a concrete spectral theory to decompose A :

Use symmetries of A (≠ other stuff)

ex A const-coeff. diff op. on \mathbb{R}^n or other convolution op.

$\Rightarrow A$ commutes w/ \mathbb{R}^n action of translations $T_x(u) = u(\cdot - x)$
 $T_x A = A T_x \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$\Leftrightarrow T_x$ are ~~the~~ unitary op. in L^2 w/ eigens $e^{2\pi i \xi \cdot x} = \chi_\xi(x)$

$$f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \Rightarrow f(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \hat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i \xi \cdot x} d\xi$$

$$T_y \chi_\xi(x) = \chi_\xi(x+y) = e^{2\pi i \xi \cdot y} \chi_\xi(x)$$

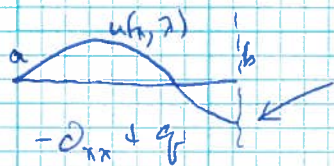
$$\hat{(T_y f)}(\xi) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} 2\pi i \xi \cdot y \hat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i \xi \cdot x} d\xi$$

$$(Af)(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \hat{A}(\xi) \hat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i \xi \cdot x} d\xi \quad \text{— diagonalization}$$

• Why complex analysis

- Computing $\int \hat{A}(\xi) \hat{f}(\xi) e^{2\pi i \xi \cdot x} d\xi$ by residue calculus
 \Rightarrow normal-mode representation of solutions

- Weyl M -function $M(\lambda)$ ≠ friends/relatives


$$M(\lambda) = \frac{u(b, \lambda)}{u'(b, \lambda) + \epsilon u(b, \lambda)} \quad ; \text{ takes UHP to itself}$$

Examples of eval problems in math physics

- * Schrödinger eq. on the line w/ local well potential.
- * evals of a sphere ~ spherical harmonics
- * Helmholtz resonator
- * transmission eval problems
- * embedded evals.

Types of open problems

- * Tomography/imaging/ "inverse scattering"
- * Bounds on physical properties of composite media
- * what (besides symmetries) allows embedded eigenvalues?