

Differentiaal Vergelijkingen In de Aardwetenschappen

PDEs - chapt 13 - wave equation

C. Thieulot (c.thieulot@uu.nl)

January 2016

The wave equation (1)

- ▶ Consider a string attached at $x = 0$ and $x = L$



The wave equation (1)

- ▶ Consider a string attached at $x = 0$ and $x = L$



- ▶ when the string is vibrating, the vertical displacement y from equilibrium depends on x and t

The wave equation (1)

- ▶ Consider a string attached at $x = 0$ and $x = L$



- ▶ when the string is vibrating, the vertical displacement y from equilibrium depends on x and t
- ▶ we assume the displacement to be small (string length remains constant)

The wave equation (1)

- ▶ Consider a string attached at $x = 0$ and $x = L$



- ▶ when the string is vibrating, the vertical displacement y from equilibrium depends on x and t
- ▶ we assume the displacement to be small (string length remains constant)

Under these assumptions, the displacement $y(x, t)$ satisfies the one-dimensional wave equation :

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2}$$

The wave equation (1)

- ▶ Consider a string attached at $x = 0$ and $x = L$



- ▶ when the string is vibrating, the vertical displacement y from equilibrium depends on x and t
- ▶ we assume the displacement to be small (string length remains constant)

Under these assumptions, the displacement $y(x, t)$ satisfies the one-dimensional wave equation :

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2}$$

The constant v depends on the tension and the linear density of the string. It is called the **wave velocity**.

The wave equation (2)

We attempt a change of variables as follows :

$$y(x, t) = f(x)g(t)$$

The wave equation (2)

We attempt a change of variables as follows :

$$y(x, t) = f(x)g(t)$$

We inject this in the wave equation and get :

$$\frac{1}{f} \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{1}{g} \frac{d^2 g}{dt^2} = -k^2$$

or,

$$\begin{aligned} f'' + k^2 f &= 0 \\ g'' + k^2 v^2 g &= 0 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

The wave equation (2)

We attempt a change of variables as follows :

$$y(x, t) = f(x)g(t)$$

We inject this in the wave equation and get :

$$\frac{1}{f} \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{1}{g} \frac{d^2 g}{dt^2} = -k^2$$

or,

$$\begin{aligned} f'' + k^2 f &= 0 \\ g'' + k^2 v^2 g &= 0 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

The solutions read

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \sin kx \\ \cos kx \end{cases} \quad g(t) = \begin{cases} \sin kvt \\ \cos kvt \end{cases}$$

The wave equation (3)

Recall that

- ▶ ν = frequency
- ▶ λ = wavelength
- ▶ $v = \lambda\nu$
- ▶ $\omega = 2\pi\nu$ = angular velocity
- ▶ $k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$ = wave number

The wave equation (3)

Recall that

- ▶ ν = frequency
- ▶ λ = wavelength
- ▶ $v = \lambda\nu$
- ▶ $\omega = 2\pi\nu$ = angular velocity
- ▶ $k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$ = wave number

so that the general solution looks like

$$y(x, t) = f(x)g(t) = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \sin kx \\ \cos kx \end{array} \right\} \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \sin \omega t \\ \cos \omega t \end{array} \right\}$$

The wave equation (4)

The string is fastened at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ so $y(x = 0, t) = 0$ and $y(x = L, t) = 0$.

The wave equation (4)

The string is fastened at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ so $y(x = 0, t) = 0$ and $y(x = L, t) = 0$.

→ $\cos kx$ not possible

The wave equation (4)

The string is fastened at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ so $y(x = 0, t) = 0$ and $y(x = L, t) = 0$.

→ $\cos kx$ not possible

→ $kL = n\pi$

The wave equation (4)

The string is fastened at $x = 0$ and $x = L$ so $y(x = 0, t) = 0$ and $y(x = L, t) = 0$.

→ $\cos kx$ not possible

→ $kL = n\pi$

then

$$y(x, t) = f(x)g(t) = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sin \frac{n\pi vt}{L} \\ \cos \frac{n\pi vt}{L} \end{array} \right\}$$

The wave equation (5)

At $t = 0$ we impose $dy/dt = 0$ so that

$$y_n(x, t) = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{n\pi vt}{L}$$

The wave equation (5)

At $t = 0$ we impose $dy/dt = 0$ so that

$$y_n(x, t) = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{n\pi vt}{L}$$

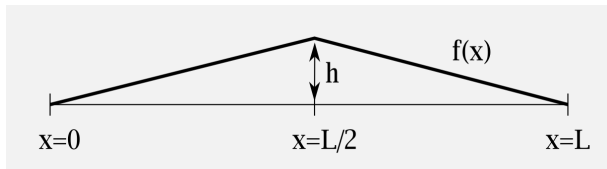
The solution will be a superposition of these basis functions :

$$y(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n y_n(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{n\pi vt}{L}$$

The wave equation (6)

Initial condition : at $t = 0$, $y(x, 0) = f(x)$.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} +\frac{2h}{L}x & 0 \leq x \leq L/2 \\ -\frac{2h}{L}x + 2h & L/2 \leq x \leq L \end{cases}$$



The wave equation (7)

Since

$$y(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

then

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

The wave equation (7)

Since

$$y(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

then

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{L} \left\{ \int_0^{L/2} \frac{2h}{L} x \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx + \int_{L/2}^L \frac{2h}{L} (L-x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \right\} \\ &= \dots \end{aligned}$$

The wave equation (7)

Since

$$y(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

then

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{L} \left\{ \int_0^{L/2} \frac{2h}{L} x \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx + \int_{L/2}^L \frac{2h}{L} (L-x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \right\} \\ &= \dots \\ &= \frac{8h}{(n\pi)^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \end{aligned}$$

→ b_n is nul for even n values

The wave equation (7)

Since

$$y(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

then

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{L} \left\{ \int_0^{L/2} \frac{2h}{L} x \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx + \int_{L/2}^L \frac{2h}{L} (L-x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \right\} \\ &= \dots \\ &= \frac{8h}{(n\pi)^2} \sin \frac{n\pi}{2} \end{aligned}$$

→ b_n is nul for even n values

Finally

$$y(x, t) = \frac{8h}{\pi^2} \left(\sin \frac{\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{\pi vt}{L} - \frac{1}{9} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{3\pi vt}{L} + \dots \right)$$