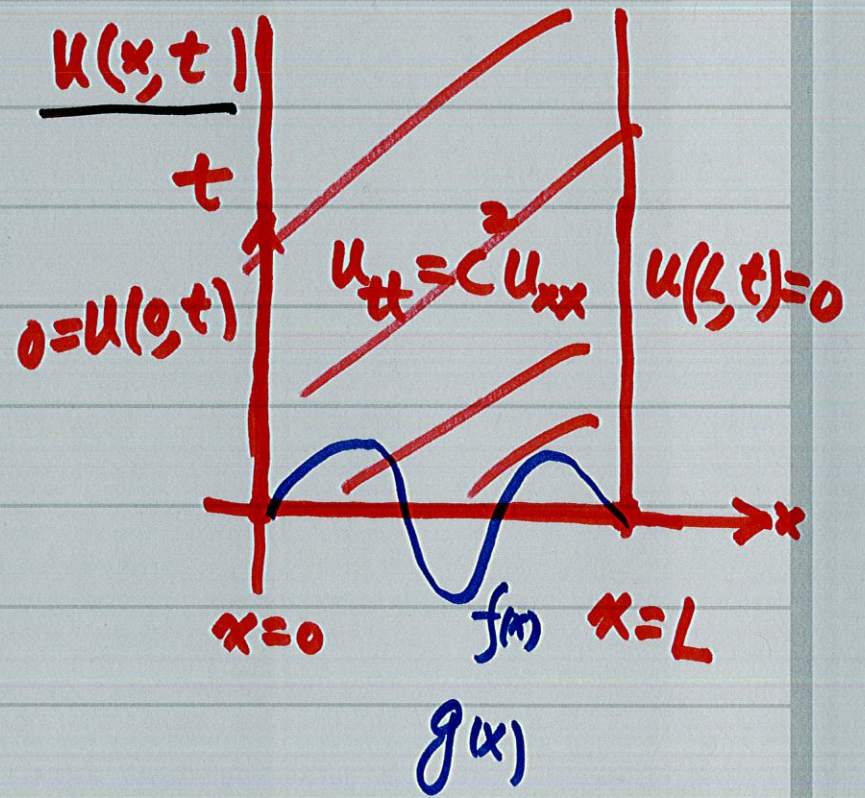


# §12.3 Solution by Separating Variables.

step 1  $\boxed{u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}}$   $c^2 = \frac{T}{\rho}$  wave eq.

step 2  $u(0,t) = 0, u(L,t) = 0$  BCs

step 3  $u(x,0) = f(x), u_t(x,0) = g(x)$  ICs  
 initial deflection      initial velocity



Step 1 (method of separating variables)

$u(x,t) = F(x)G(t)$

$F\ddot{G} = c^2 F''G$

$u_t = F\dot{G}, u_{tt} = F\ddot{G}$

$u_x = F'G, u_{xx} = F''G$

$\forall (x,t) \in [0,L] \times [0,+\infty)$

$\dot{G}(t) = \frac{dG}{dt}$

$F'(x) = \frac{dF}{dx}$



$$\underline{F(x) \ddot{G}(t) = c^2 F''(x) G(t)}$$

$\forall x, t$

$$c^2 F(x) G(t)$$

$F(x)$

$$+k = \frac{\ddot{G}(t)}{c^2 G(t)}$$

=

$$\frac{F''(x)}{F(x)} \equiv \text{const} = k$$

$G(t)$

$$\underline{F''(x) - k F(x) = 0}, \quad x \in [0, L]$$

$$\ddot{G}(t) - c^2 k G(t) = 0, \quad t \in [0, +\infty)$$



$$u_{tt} = a(x,t) u_{xx}$$

$$\underline{\underline{a(x,t) \neq c(x) d(t)}}$$

$$F(x) \ddot{G}(t) = a(x,t) F''(x) G(t)$$

---

$$F(x) G(t)$$

$$\frac{\ddot{G}(t)}{G(t)} = \boxed{\underline{\underline{a(x,t) \frac{F''(x)}{F(x)}}}} \neq \text{const}$$



## Step 2 (BCs)

$$u(x,t) = F(x)G(t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{u(x,t) \equiv 0}$$

$$\begin{cases} 0 = u(0,t) = F(0)G(t) \\ 0 = u(L,t) = F(L)G(t) \end{cases} \Rightarrow \boxed{F(0)=0} \text{ or } G(t) \neq 0 \forall t \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{F(L)=0}$$

$$\begin{cases} F''(x) - kF(x) = 0 \\ F(0) = F(L) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$x \in [0, L]$

$$k = -p^2, \quad p_n = \frac{n\pi}{L}$$

$$\boxed{F_n(x) = \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x \quad n=1, 2, \dots}$$

$$k_n = -\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2$$

$$= -p_n^2$$

$$-c^2 k = c^2 p_n^2 = \lambda_n^2$$

$$\boxed{G''(t) + \lambda_n^2 G(t) = 0}$$

$$G'' - c^2 k G = 0 \quad k = -p_n^2$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_n = c p_n = \frac{cn\pi}{L}}$$

$$\Rightarrow G_n(t) = B_n \cos \lambda_n t + B_n^* \sin \lambda_n t$$

$$0 = s^2 + \lambda_n^2 \Rightarrow s = \pm \sqrt{-\lambda_n^2} = \pm \lambda_n i$$

$$u_n(x,t) = F_n(x)G_n(t) = \left( B_n \cos \lambda_n t + B_n^* \sin \lambda_n t \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x$$



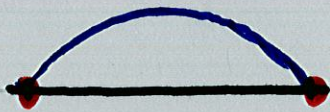
eigenvalues  $\lambda_n = \frac{cn\pi}{L}$ ,  $n=1,2,\dots$ . spectrum  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots\}$

eigenfunctions  $u_n(x,t) = (B_n \cos \lambda_n t + B_n^* \sin \lambda_n t) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x$

$n^{\text{th}}$  normal mode  $u_n(x,t)$ : harmonic motion with frequency  $\frac{\lambda_n}{2\pi} = \frac{cn}{2L}$  per unit time

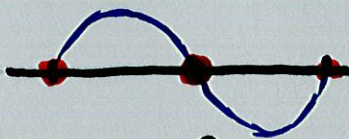
nodes  $x_n = \frac{L}{n}, \frac{2L}{n}, \dots, \frac{(n-1)L}{n}$  where  $u_n(x_n, t) = 0 \iff \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x = 0$

$$\frac{n\pi}{L} x = m\pi$$

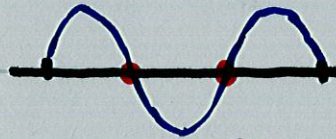


$n=1$

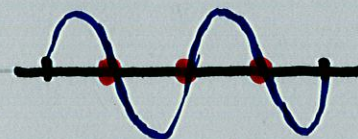
fundamental mode



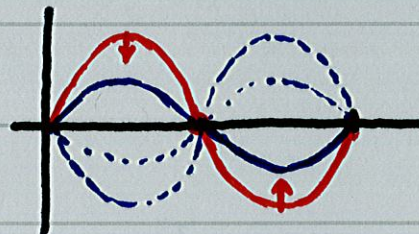
$n=2$



$n=3$



$n=4$



$n=2$  for various  $t$



# Step 3 Solution of the Entire Prob. Fourier Series

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( B_n \cos \lambda_n t + B_n^* \sin \lambda_n t \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x$$

ICs

$$f(x) = u(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x = f(x) \text{ on } [0, L]$$

$$B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x dx$$

$$B_n^* = \frac{2}{cn\pi} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x dx$$

$$g(x) = u_t(x, 0) = u_t \Big|_{t=0} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \lambda_n B_n \sin \lambda_n t + \lambda_n B_n^* \cos \lambda_n t \right] \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x \Big|_{t=0}$$

we

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \lambda_n B_n^* \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x = g(x)$$

$$B_n = ? \quad B_n^* = ?$$

$$\lambda_n B_n^* = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x dx$$



$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} & \text{in } \Omega = [0, L] \times [0, +\infty) & \text{IB-value prob.} \\ u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0 & \forall t \in [0, +\infty) \\ u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = g(x) & \forall x \in [0, L] \end{cases}$$

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( B_n \cos \frac{cn\pi}{L} t + B_n^* \sin \frac{cn\pi}{L} t \right) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x$$

$$B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x$$

$$B_n^* = \frac{2}{cn\pi} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x dx$$



Solution (12) Established.

let  $g(x) \equiv 0$  for simplicity

$f(x)$  on  $[0, L]$

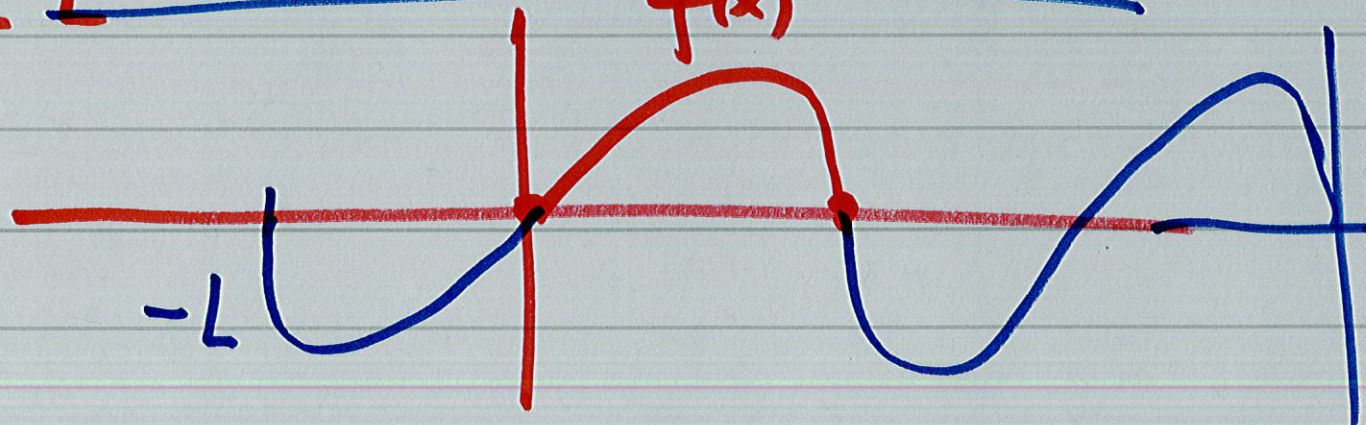
$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \cos \frac{cn\pi}{L} t \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x, \quad B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x dx$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} [f^*(x-ct) + f^*(x+ct)] \quad \cos A \sin B = \frac{1}{2} [\sin(A+B) + \sin(B-A)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} (x+ct) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} (x-ct) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [f^*(x-ct) + f^*(x+ct)]$$

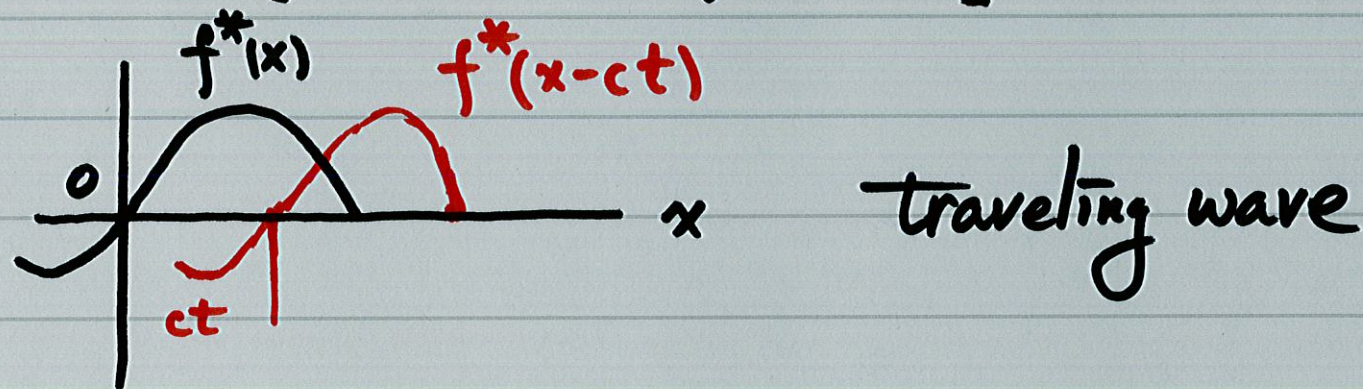
$f^* = ?$





## Physical Interpretation

$$(17) \quad u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2} [f^*(x-ct) + f^*(x+ct)]$$



Ex. 1

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2k}{L}x & 0 < x < \frac{L}{2} \\ \frac{2k}{L}(L-x) & \frac{L}{2} < x < L \end{cases}, \quad g(x) = 0$$

$$u(x,t) = \frac{8k}{\pi^2} \left[ \sin \frac{\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{c\pi t}{L} - \frac{1}{3^2} \sin \frac{3\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{3c\pi t}{L} + \dots \right]$$

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