

# §12.4 D'Alembert's Solution of the Wave Eq. Characteristics.

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} \quad \text{with } c^2 = T/\rho$$

$$\begin{cases} v = x + ct \\ w = x - ct \end{cases} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial w \partial v} = 0$$

$$u(x, t) = u(v, w)$$

$$u_{xx} = u_{vv} + u_{ww}, \quad c u_{xx} = (u_{vv} + u_{ww})c$$

$$4c^2 u_{vw} = 0$$

$$= \left[ (u_{vw} + u_{wv}) + 2u_{vw} \right] c^2$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial v} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial v} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \cdot \frac{\partial t}{\partial v}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial w} \cdot \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} = c \frac{\partial u}{\partial v} - c \frac{\partial u}{\partial w}$$

$$u_{tt} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[ c \frac{\partial u}{\partial v} - c \frac{\partial u}{\partial w} \right] = c \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial v^2} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial w \partial v} \cdot \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} \right]$$

$$- c \left[ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial v \partial w} \cdot \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial w^2} \cdot \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} \right]$$

$$= c^2 [u_{vv} - u_{vw}] - c^2 [u_{wv} - u_{ww}] = c^2 (u_{vv} + u_{ww}) - 2c^2 u_{vw}$$

$$\int \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial w \partial v} dw = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial v} = h(v) \Rightarrow u(v, w) = \int h(v) dv + \psi(w)$$

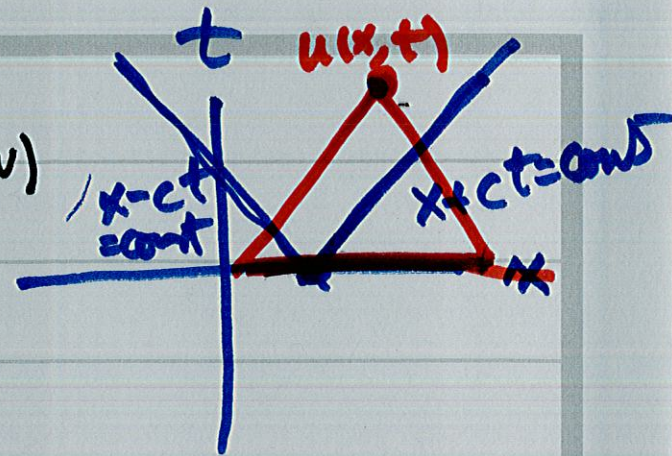
$$\begin{cases} v = x+ct \\ w = x-ct \end{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial v} = \int \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial w \partial v} dw = \text{const} = h(v) = \underline{f(v)} + \underline{\psi(w)}$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x, t) = f(v) + \psi(w)$$

$$= f(x+ct) + \psi(x-ct)$$

d'Alembert's solution

$$\begin{aligned} x+ct &= \text{const} \\ x-ct &= \text{const} \end{aligned}$$



$$\text{IC}_s \begin{cases} u(x, 0) = f(x) \\ u_t(x, 0) = g(x) \end{cases} \Rightarrow$$

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

$$f(x) = u(x, 0) = f(x) + \psi(x)$$

$$f' - \psi' = \frac{1}{c} g(x)$$

$$u_t|_{t=0} = f'(x) \cdot c + \psi'(x) \cdot (-c)$$

$$f(x) - \psi(x) = \frac{1}{c} \int_{x_0}^x g(s) ds + K_0$$

$$= c [f'(x) - \psi'(x)] = g(x)$$

$$f = \frac{1}{2} f(x) + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x_0}^x g(s) ds + \frac{1}{2} K_0$$

$$\varphi(x) + \psi(x) = f(x)$$

$$\varphi(x) - \psi(x) = \frac{1}{c} \int_{x_0}^x g(s) ds + K_0$$

$$\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{2} f(x) + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x_0}^x g(s) ds + K_0/2$$

$$\psi(x) = \frac{1}{2} f(x) - \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x_0}^x g(s) ds - K_0/2$$

$$\frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} g(s) ds$$

$$u(x,t) = \varphi(x+ct) + \psi(x-ct)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} f(x+ct) + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x_0}^{x+ct} g(s) ds + \frac{K_0}{2}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} f(x-ct) - \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x_0}^{x-ct} g(s) ds - \frac{K_0}{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x_0} g(s) ds$$

Characteristic Types and Normal Forms of PDEs.

quasilinear

$$A u_{xx} + 2B u_{xy} + C u_{yy} = F(x, y, u, u_x, u_y)$$

$B=0, A=-1, C=1$

- Hyperbolic:  $AC - B^2 < 0$        $u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0$        $\xrightarrow{y=ct}$        $c^2(u_{yy} - u_{xx}) = 0$
- Parabolic:  $AC - B^2 = 0$        $u_t - c^2 u_{xx} = 0$        $\xrightarrow{y=c^2 t}$        $c^2(u_y - \underline{u_{xx}}) = 0$
- Elliptic:  $AC - B^2 > 0$        $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$        $A=1, B=0, C=1$        $A=-1, B=0, C=0$

characteristic eq.

$$A(y')^2 - 2B y' + C = 0$$

$$y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

Ex. 1  $u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0$

$$y=ct \Rightarrow$$

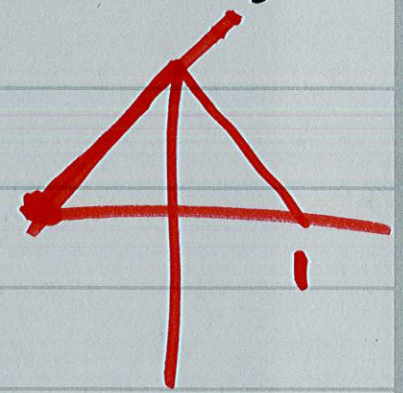
$$u_{xx} - u_{yy} = 0$$

$$A=1, B=0, C=-1$$

characteristic eq.  $0 = (y')^2 - 1 = (y'+1)(y'-1)$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} y'+1=0 \\ y'-1=0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{const} = y+x = \varphi(x,y) \\ \text{const} = y-x = \psi(x,y) \end{cases}$$



new variables  $\begin{cases} v = \varphi(x,y) = y+x = ct+x \\ w = \psi(x,y) = y-x = ct-x \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{u_{vw}} = 0 \Rightarrow u(x,t) = f_1(x+ct) + f_2(x-ct)$$

normal form

| Type       | New Variables   | Normal Forms            |
|------------|---|-------------------------|
| Hyperbolic | $v = \varphi(x, y), w = \psi(x, y)$                                 | $u_{vw} = F_1$          |
| Parabolic  | $v = x, w = \varphi(x, y) = \psi(x, y)$                             | $u_{ww} = F_2$          |
| Elliptic   | $v = \frac{1}{2}(\varphi + \psi), w = \frac{1}{2i}(\varphi - \psi)$ | $u_{vv} + u_{ww} = F_3$ |

#19 on P556

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} \quad \text{with} \quad c^2 = \frac{E}{\rho}$$

BCs  $u(0,t) = 0, \quad u_x(L,t) = 0$

ICs  $u(x,0) = f(x), \quad u_t(x,0) = 0$

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n \sin p_n x \cos p_n c t$$

$$A_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin p_n x dx, \quad p_n = \frac{(2n+1)\pi}{2L}$$

#5 on P556       $u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2} [f(x+ct) + f(x-ct)]$

$c=1$ ,  $k=0.01$ ,  $L=1$

$$f(x) = k \sin \pi x \quad \Rightarrow \quad u(x,t) = \frac{k}{2} \left[ \sin(x+t)\pi + \sin(x-t)\pi \right]$$
$$= \frac{k}{2} \left[ \sin \pi x \cos \pi t + \cos \pi x \sin \pi t \right. \\ \left. + \sin \pi x \cos \pi t - \cos \pi x \sin \pi t \right]$$

$$= k \sin \pi x \cos \pi t$$