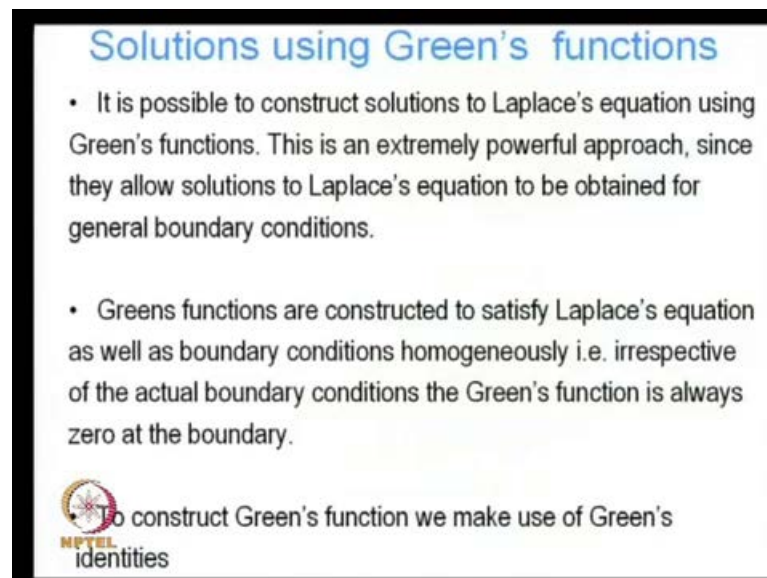


Numerical Methods in Civil Engineering
Prof. Arghya Deb
Department of Civil Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur

Lecture - 26
Series Solutions for Elliptic PDE's and Introduction to Differential Operators


In lecture 26 of our series on Numerical Methods in Civil Engineering, we will wind up our discussion of analytical solutions for partial differential equations by talking about series solutions for elliptic to partial differential equations, and then move on to numerical methods for solving them we will talk about differential operators.

(Refer Slide Time: 00:45)



Solutions using Green's functions

- It is possible to construct solutions to Laplace's equation using Green's functions. This is an extremely powerful approach, since they allow solutions to Laplace's equation to be obtained for general boundary conditions.
- Green's functions are constructed to satisfy Laplace's equation as well as boundary conditions homogeneously i.e. irrespective of the actual boundary conditions the Green's function is always zero at the boundary.

 To construct Green's function we make use of Green's identities

Before moving on to see before actually talking about series solutions I want to recapitulate little bit, I just want to talk briefly about something we discuss last time that is the method of green's function for solving partial differential equations, why do I want to do that. Because, this method is crucial to our development of series solutions, we saw that it is possible to construct Laplace's equation, solutions to Laplace's equation using green functions. And what are these green functions, these green functions they satisfy Laplace's equation, and they satisfy the boundary conditions homogeneously.

(Refer Slide Time: 01:23)

Green's 2nd identity

If we consider two smooth functions ϕ and ψ defined over a volume V with boundary ∂V , then we can write Green's first identity in the following manner:


$$\int_V \psi \nabla^2 \phi \, d\mathbf{y} = \int_V \nabla \cdot (\psi \nabla \phi) \, d\mathbf{y} - \int_V \nabla \psi \cdot \nabla \phi \, d\mathbf{y} =$$

$$\int_{\partial V} \psi \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS_y - \int_V \nabla \psi \cdot \nabla \phi \, d\mathbf{y} = \int_{\partial V} \psi \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} \, dS_y - \int_V \nabla \psi \cdot \nabla \phi \, d\mathbf{y} \quad (*)$$

If we interchange ϕ and ψ in the above, we get:

$$\int_V \phi \nabla^2 \psi \, d\mathbf{y} = \int_{\partial V} \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n} \, dS_y - \int_V \nabla \phi \cdot \nabla \psi \, d\mathbf{y} \quad (**)$$

Subtracting (**) from (*) we get Green's second identity:

$$\int_V \psi \nabla^2 \phi - \phi \nabla^2 \psi \, d\mathbf{y} = \int_{\partial V} \left(\psi \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} - \phi \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial n} \right) dS_y = 0$$


And to construct green's functions we used green's identities, we talked about the first second and the third identity of green. We define smooth functions phi and psi defined over a volume V with boundary del V in which case we get the first identity psi laplacian of phi is equal to psi del phi del n over del v and minus grad psi dotted with grad phi over v. So, that was our first identity then this was our second identity which we got basically from the first identity by interchanging phi and psi and then subtracting that from this first identity. And this was our second identity which was psi laplacian of phi minus phi laplacian of psi is equal to psi del phi del n minus phi del psi del n.

(Refer Slide Time: 02:14)

Green's 3rd identity


Finally to get Green's third identity we assume ϕ is harmonic, i.e. $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$. In addition we take ψ to be the fundamental solution i.e. $\psi = -\hat{\phi} = \frac{1}{4\pi r}$

Then substituting in Green's second identity, we get:

$$-\int_V \phi(\mathbf{y}) \nabla^2 \frac{1}{4\pi r} \, d\mathbf{y} = \int_{\partial V} \left[\frac{1}{4\pi r} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} - \phi(\mathbf{y}) \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \left(\frac{1}{4\pi r} \right) \right] dS_y$$

But recall that $\int_V \nabla_x^2 \left(-\frac{1}{4\pi r} \right) \phi(\mathbf{y}) \, d\mathbf{y} = \int_V \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \phi(\mathbf{y}) \, d\mathbf{y} = \phi(\mathbf{x})$

Hence $\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\partial V} \left[\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi(\mathbf{y})}{\partial n} - \phi(\mathbf{y}) \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \left(\frac{1}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|} \right) \right] dS_y$



And then we looked at Green's 3rd identity in order to get Green's 3rd identity we assume that the function ϕ is harmonic that is Laplacian of ϕ is equal to 0. In addition we assume that ψ is the fundamental solution to Laplace's equation, and we recall that their fundamental solution is given by ψ is equal to $1/4\pi r$ in spherical coordinates.

Where r is the position from the reference from the origin, r is the distance from the origin not the position actually here, r is the distance from the origin. And we saw that this solution this $1/4\pi r$, satisfies Laplace's equation everywhere in the domain except at the origin, where it becomes undefined it becomes and actually becomes and that lead to our discussion of the Dirac delta function that lead to the Dirac delta function.

So, we substituted that in Green's second identity and use the fact that Laplacian of minus $1/4\pi r$ is actually equal to the Dirac delta function $\delta(x - y)$ operating on ϕ y equal to $\phi(x)$ hence we got $\phi(x)$ is equal to this. So, then we said that this tells me that if I know the value if ϕ satisfies Laplace's equation, and I know both the value of the function as well as it is gradient at the boundary, then I can use this equation to find out my solution to Laplace's equation. So, using these boundary conditions see this integral is over ∂v which is the boundary, so provided I know this and I know that at the boundary I can solve for $\phi(x)$.


(Refer Slide Time: 04.12)

Using Green's 3rd identity

Green's third identity suggests that if we know ϕ as well as its normal derivatives at the boundary it is possible to determine ϕ throughout the domain using this result

However in practice either the derivative or the function are known at the boundary, specifying both is likely to make the problem ill-posed.

An important point is the following: since Laplace's equation is a linear equation and the coefficients are constant, if $\hat{\phi}$ is a solution, i.e. $\nabla^2 \hat{\phi} = 0$, then $\nabla^2 \nabla \hat{\phi} = 0$. Hence $\nabla \hat{\phi}$ as well as $\nabla^n \hat{\phi}$ $n = 1, \dots$ are solutions of Laplace's equation



Then I went on to say that it is almost never possible to know both these values at the boundary because, otherwise the problem becomes ill-posed, and the solution to that was to look at green's functions solution.

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Green's function

If in Green's second identity we write $\psi = G = \frac{1}{4\pi R} + U$ where $R = |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|$ and U is harmonic in \mathbf{y} i.e. $\nabla_y^2 U = 0$ in domain V :

$$\int_V (G \nabla^2 \phi - \phi \nabla^2 G) d\mathbf{y} = \int_{\partial V} (G \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} - \phi \frac{\partial G}{\partial n}) dS_y$$

Recalling $\nabla^2 (-\frac{1}{4\pi R}) = \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$ we get:

$$\int_V G \nabla^2 \phi d\mathbf{y} + \phi(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\partial V} (G \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} - \phi \frac{\partial G}{\partial n}) dS_y$$

 This leads to: $\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\partial V} (G \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} - \phi \frac{\partial G}{\partial n}) dS_y - \int_V G \nabla^2 \phi d\mathbf{y}$

And say that psi is not actually equal to $1 / (4\pi r)$, but it is equal to $1 / (4\pi r)$ plus another function U , where U is also harmonic laplacian of U is equal to 0 in domain V . In which case we got the following $\phi(\mathbf{x})$ is equal to $G \text{ del } \phi \text{ del } n$ minus $\phi \text{ del } G \text{ del } n$ minus $\int_V G \nabla^2 \phi d\mathbf{y}$, and if ϕ satisfies Laplace's equation this part becomes 0 by definition, and we have $\phi(\mathbf{x})$ is equal to $G \text{ del } \phi \text{ del } n$ minus $\phi \text{ del } G \text{ del } n$. And now if we construct the green's function to be G is if we construct it in such a way the G is equal to 0 everywhere in the boundary.

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Green's function

If we can find G such that $G = 0$ on ∂V , then in case $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$, we can find ϕ from the above:
$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = - \int_{\partial V} \phi \frac{\partial G}{\partial n} dS_y$$

The only requirement being that ϕ must have Dirichlet boundary conditions prescribed on ∂V

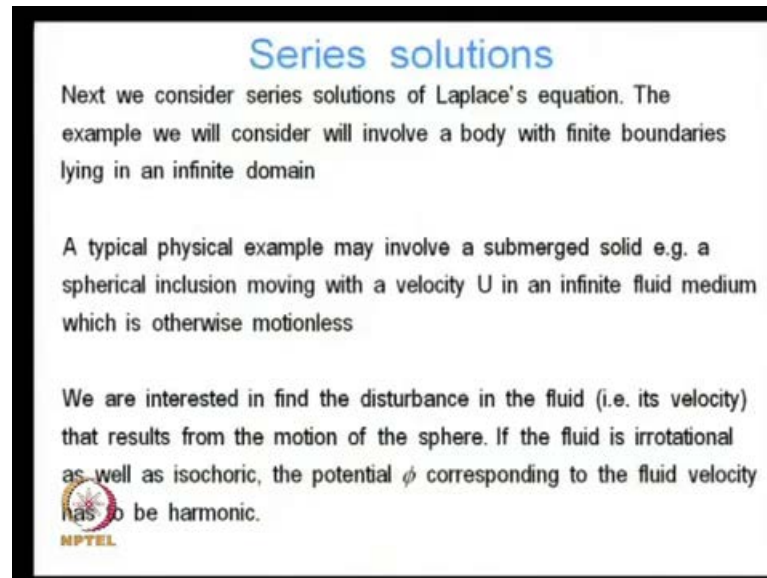
Similarly if we can find G such that $\frac{\partial G}{\partial n} = 0$ on ∂V , then solutions for $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$ can be found using:
$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\partial V} G \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} dS_y$$

In this case, it is clear that $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n}$ must be known on ∂V i.e. ϕ must have Neumann boundary conditions prescribed on ∂V

Then we get $\phi(\mathbf{x})$ is equal to minus integral $\int_{\partial V} \phi \frac{\partial G}{\partial n} dS_y$, so the only requirement that only thing that we need to know is that we must know ϕ all over the boundary $\frac{\partial G}{\partial n}$ is known green's G is a known function. So, $\frac{\partial G}{\partial n}$ is known if we can find out how ϕ is distributed on the boundary, then we can always find ϕ , so this gives us a way for finding ϕ when we have Dirichlet boundary conditions.

On the other hand if G satisfies the condition $\frac{\partial G}{\partial n} = 0$ on ∂V then solutions can be found using this expression $\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\partial V} G \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n} dS_y$. So, in this case we have to know $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial n}$ on the boundary that is we need Neumann boundary conditions on ϕ to be prescribed on the boundary, I think that is where we stopped last time we talked about green's function and that is where we stopped.

(Refer Slide Time: 05.36)




Series solutions

Next we consider series solutions of Laplace's equation. The example we will consider will involve a body with finite boundaries lying in an infinite domain

A typical physical example may involve a submerged solid e.g. a spherical inclusion moving with a velocity U in an infinite fluid medium which is otherwise motionless

We are interested in find the disturbance in the fluid (i.e. its velocity) that results from the motion of the sphere. If the fluid is irrotational as well as isochoric, the potential ϕ corresponding to the fluid velocity has to be harmonic.

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Next we want to consider series solutions of Laplace's equation, the example we will consider will involve our body with finite boundaries lying in an infinite domain. So, you can think of a body or solid lying with in an infinite fluid for instance a spherical inclusion, a spherical solid moving with a certain velocity U in an infinite fluid medium.

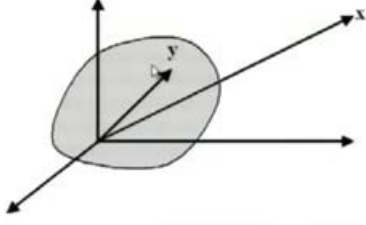
Which is otherwise motionless think of simple example would be a submarine, a submarine flowing through the ocean the ocean is still, the submarine moving through or any just the simplest example is a sphere moving through a very large water body a water tank, suppose where the boundaries are, so far away that we can assume that the water tank is infinite.

And what we are interested in knowing is that this sphere is moving with a velocity of U , but what is the effect of that motion of this sphere on the fluid. So, we are interested in finding the disturbance in the fluid that is it is velocity that results from the motion of this sphere. And if the fluid is irrotational as well as isochoric, irrotational meaning curl of the velocity is equal to 0, and isochoric means divergence of the velocity is equal to 0, then there is a potential and by taking the gradient of the potential we can find the fluid velocity, and the potential satisfies Laplace's equation, so the potential is harmonic. So, again in this case we have we have back to finding the solution of Laplace's equation because, once we find ϕ we can find the velocity, where v is the gradient the velocity of the fluid is the gradient of ϕ .

(Refer Slide Time: 08.44)

Series solutions

Hence we need to find solutions to Laplace's equation $\nabla^2 \phi$ in an infinite domain, as shown in the figure, where the vector y represents the position of a point on the boundary of the submerged solid with respect to the origin, while x is a position vector to a point in the infinite domain lying sufficiently far outside the body i.e. $\frac{|y|}{|x|} < 1$. $|x| = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2}$, $|y| = \sqrt{y_1^2 + y_2^2 + y_3^2}$



The diagram illustrates a 3D Cartesian coordinate system with three axes. A shaded, irregularly shaped solid body is centered at the origin. A vector labeled 'y' originates from the origin and points to a point on the surface of the body. Another vector labeled 'x' originates from the origin and points to a point located far away from the body, representing a point in the infinite domain. The NPTEL logo is visible in the bottom-left corner of the slide.

So, hence we need to find solutions to Laplace's equation, laplacian of phi in an infinite domain. So, this is my infinite domain here is my little solid body, and here is my origin of my spherical coordinate system, and y is the vector from the origin to any point on the surface of my solid body. And x is a point far out in the infinite domain, where I want to find my solution, where I want to find my velocities.

So, the vector y represents the position of a point on the boundary of the submerged solid with respect to the origin, while x is a position vector to a point in the infinite domain lying sufficiently far outside the body. So, this mod of y by mod of x is less than 1 that is a requirement, and mod of x is of course, equal to the length of this vector and mod of y is the length of that vector.

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Taylor expansion

Under the condition $\frac{|y|}{|x|} < 1$, $\frac{1}{|x-y|}$ can be expanded in a uniformly convergent Taylor series as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|x-y|} &= \frac{1}{|x|} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \Big|_{y=0} (-y_1) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \Big|_{y=0} (-y_2) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \Big|_{y=0} (-y_3) \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1^2} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \Big|_{y=0} \frac{(-y_1)^2}{2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2^2} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \Big|_{y=0} \frac{(-y_2)^2}{2} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3^2} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \Big|_{y=0} \frac{(-y_3)^2}{2} \\ &+ 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \Big|_{y=0} \frac{(-y_1)(-y_2)}{2} + 2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1 \partial x_3} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \Big|_{y=0} \frac{(-y_1)(-y_3)}{2} \\ &+ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2 \partial x_3} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \Big|_{y=0} \frac{(-y_2)(-y_3)}{2} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

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So, under the condition mod of y by mod of x is less than 1, we can expand we call our fundamental solution is given in terms of 1 by r. So, 1 by if I can expand 1 by mod of x minus y using a Taylor series, and if this condition is satisfied the Taylor series is uniformly convergent. So, mod of 1 by mod of x minus y that is I am expanding about x and my displacement from x is given by y, so I am expanding about x. So, 1 by mod of x minus y is equal to the value of the function, when y is equal to 0 plus the value of the derivatives at y equal to 0 times the perturbation times of change in y.

So, partial of this with respect to x 1 partial of 1 by mod of x minus y with respect to x 1 times the change in the first coordinate of y first minus y 1. Similarly, partial with respect to x 2 change in the second coordinate of y that is y 2 partial with respect to x 3 change in the third coordinate of y 3. So, that is the first term in my Taylor series, then I have the subsequent terms which are which involve the second derivatives del del x 1 squared del del x 2 squared del del x 3 squared. And then the mixed derivatives del del x 1 del x 2 del del x 1 del x 3 del del x 2 del x 3 and so on and so forth.


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Using Green's 3rd identity

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \frac{1}{r} + (-y_1) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) + (-y_2) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) + (-y_3) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) \\
 &+ \frac{1}{2} (-y_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} - y_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - y_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}) (-y_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} - y_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - y_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}) \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) \\
 &+ \dots = \frac{1}{r} - (\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}) \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) + \frac{(\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}})^2}{2!} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) + \dots = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}})^k}{k!} \frac{1}{r}
 \end{aligned}$$

Let us recall that Green's third identity gave the solution ϕ for

$$\nabla^2 \phi = 0 \quad \text{when } \psi \text{ was } \frac{1}{4\pi |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|};$$

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_V \left\{ \frac{1}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|} \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \phi(\mathbf{y}) - \phi(\mathbf{y}) \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|} \right\} dS_{\mathbf{y}}$$


And then, so this actually becomes if I denote $1/r$ by ϕ , so this becomes ϕ by r plus minus $y_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \phi$ plus $y_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \phi$ plus $y_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \phi$, you can see why that would be ϕ by r because, \mathbf{y} is equal to 0 . So, $1/r$ by $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ becomes $1/r$ by $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ which is equal to $1/r$, so that we get something like this $1/r$ minus $y_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \phi$ plus $y_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \phi$ plus $y_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \phi$ this thing, and then the second derivative.

Second derivatives you can see I can write it in a convenient fashion by taking the product of this the coefficient of the operator as it acted in the first derivative, which was $-y_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}$ operating on $1/r$ minus $y_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}$ operating on $1/r$ minus $y_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}$ operating on $1/r$. So, it is as if I pull out $1/r$ and I am looking at the operator $-y_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} - y_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - y_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}$ operating on $1/r$.

And you can see that these second derivatives are actually represented by this operator operating on this operator, and then the result operating on $1/r$ it can be written like that. So, if I represent this operator as $\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$, you can see this is $\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ dotted with $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ because, it is $\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ actually it is minus $\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ dotted with $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ because, it is minus $y_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} - y_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} - y_3 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3}$. So, $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ is $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \mathbf{i} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \mathbf{j} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \mathbf{k}$. So, this is $\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ dotted with $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ with a negative sign.

So, this equation can be written compactly as $1/r$ minus $\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ dotted with $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ operating 2 times. So, $\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ dotted with $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ operating on $1/r$ dotted with $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$, we are writing that as $\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ squared by factorial 2

operating on $\frac{1}{r}$ plus higher order terms. So, I can write it in index notation as a summation as $\nabla^k \frac{1}{r}$ divided by factorial k operating on $\frac{1}{r}$, so that is my Taylor series expansion of $\frac{1}{r}$ in terms of $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}$.

Now, let us go back to Green's 3rd identity and remember that Green's 3rd identity gives us the solution for ϕ , when Laplacian of ϕ was equal to 0 and when ψ was $\frac{1}{4\pi r}$ in terms of $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}$. So, ϕ of \mathbf{x} in that case we found was this, this we have already seen from Green's 3rd identity, what we are going to do, we are going to replace that series expansion for $\frac{1}{r}$ in terms of $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}$ in Green's 3rd identity, and then we are going to integrate with respect to \mathbf{y} .


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Series solution

Substituting the above expression for $\frac{1}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|}$ in Green's third identity we get:

$$\phi(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\partial V} \left[\frac{(-\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{y}})^k}{k!} \frac{1}{r} \right] \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \phi(\mathbf{y}) dS_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\partial V} \phi(\mathbf{y}) \mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \left[\frac{(-\mathbf{y} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{y}})^k}{k!} \frac{1}{r} \right] dS_{\mathbf{y}}$$

If we perform the integration with respect to the variable \mathbf{y} over the boundary ∂V we are left with an expression involving partial derivatives of $\frac{1}{r}$ with respect to x_1, x_2, x_3 for various orders



So, substituting the above expression for $\frac{1}{r}$ in terms of $\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}$ in Green's 3rd identity we get the following $\phi(\mathbf{x})$ is equal to $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\partial V} \nabla_{\mathbf{y}}^k \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial \phi(\mathbf{y})}{\partial n} dS_{\mathbf{y}} - \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\partial V} \phi(\mathbf{y}) \mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} \nabla_{\mathbf{y}}^k \frac{1}{r} dS_{\mathbf{y}}$. So, this $\nabla_{\mathbf{x}}$ is actually $\nabla_{\mathbf{y}}$ which is the gradient with respect to \mathbf{x} .

So, this is gradient with subscript \mathbf{x} is that clear I hope I should have probably being more careful with that, but I meant that. So, gradient subscript \mathbf{x} and then finally, I have dropped the \mathbf{x} , and denoted that just by the gradient, so $\nabla_{\mathbf{y}}$ with, so I get this sort of an expression. And then I integrate this is a function of \mathbf{y} that is a function of \mathbf{y} , so I integrate this I perform the integration over \mathbf{y} , if we perform the integration with respect

to the variable y over the boundary del V we are left with an expression involving partial derivatives of 1 by r with respect to x this grad is with respect to x. So, partial derivative of 1 by r with respect to x 1, x 2, x 3 for various orders is that clear I think that should be fine.

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Simplification in terms of a series of gradients

The final expression for ϕ will be of the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(\mathbf{x}) = & \frac{1}{r} + \left[A_1^{(1)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + A_2^{(1)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} + A_3^{(1)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_3} \right] \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) \\ & + \left[A_{11}^{(2)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} + A_{12}^{(2)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} + A_{13}^{(2)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1 \partial x_3} \right. \\ & + A_{21}^{(2)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} + A_{22}^{(2)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2^2} + A_{23}^{(2)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2 \partial x_3} \\ & \left. + A_{31}^{(2)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_3 \partial x_1} + A_{32}^{(2)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_3 \partial x_2} + A_{33}^{(2)} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_3^2} \right] \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

This can be written in concise notation as:

$$A^{(0)} \nabla_x^{(0)} \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) + A^{(1)} \nabla_x \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) + A^{(2)} \nabla_x^2 \left(\frac{1}{r} \right) + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A^{(n)} (\nabla_x)^n \frac{1}{r}$$

So, the final expression for phi would be of this form, so after we integrate out the y dependence. So, integrate out all the terms which depend on y in this expression, we get an expression for phi like this, so the we get a first term which is 1 by r plus this derivative terms del del x 1 del del x 2 del del x 3, and these coefficient terms. The coefficient terms involve the integral with respect to y, whatever I get after integrating with respect to y those are my coefficient terms.

So, those coefficient terms appeared here, and I have 1 by r here similarly I have these coefficient terms here, and I have operating on 1 by r. So, writing this in concise notation we have A 0 grad x 0 1 by r plus A 1 grad x 1 by r plus A 2 grad x squared 1 by r and so on and so forth. Where these this is my A 1, this is an A 1 vector, A 1 vector whose components are A 1 1 A 2 1 A 3 1, A 2 is no longer a vector it is a tensor and it is components are A 1 1 2 A 1 2 2 A 1 3 2 A 2 1 2 A 2 2 2 A 2 3 2. So, this becomes a tensor, this is a vector that is a scalar.

And all of them act on these gradients of various orders of 1 by r, so this I can together I can submit up as sigma n is equal to 1 to the power infinity A n grad x to the grad x n 1

by r . So, that is my final series solution, and this series solution is in terms of what are known as spherical harmonics they are known as spherical harmonics.


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Spherical harmonics

$A^{(0)}$ is a scalar, $A^{(1)}$ is a vector with components $\{A_1^{(1)}, A_2^{(1)}, A_3^{(1)}\}$ while $A^{(2)}$ has components $\{A_{11}^{(2)}, A_{12}^{(2)}, A_{13}^{(2)}, A_{21}^{(2)}, \dots, A_{33}^{(2)}\}$

As seen earlier each term in the series is a solution of Laplace's equation

The sum is known as a multipole expansion while the n^{th} term in the sum, $A^{(n)}(\nabla_x)^n \frac{1}{r}$ is called a multipole solution of order n , while $A^{(n)}$ is the n^{th} order multipole moment. In particular $A^{(1)}(\nabla_x) \frac{1}{r}$ is known as a dipole solution of moment $A^{(1)}$



As I said A_0 is a scalar, A_1 is a vector with components like this A_2 has components like this, but let us go back to this term. So, each of these coefficients whether they be scalars, vectors or tensors they are operating on this $\text{grad } x$ with raised to some power operating 1 by r . Now, each of these terms we saw last time each of these terms whether it be $\text{grad } x \frac{1}{r}$ or $\text{grad } x^2 \frac{1}{r}$ or $\text{grad } x^3 \frac{1}{r}$ each of them are solutions of Laplace's equation we saw that last time.

Because, laplacian of x has got constant coefficients, so laplacian of grad of something is also going to satisfy Laplace's equation. And since grad of something satisfies Laplace's equation, second gradient is also going to satisfy, so each of these terms $\text{grad } x$ and 1 by r they are solutions of Laplace's equation. And these are known as spherical harmonics of various order x to the power 0 , x to the power $\text{grad } x \frac{1}{r}$ $\text{grad } x^2 \frac{1}{r}$ $\text{grad } x^3 \frac{1}{r}$ these are known as spherical harmonics.

So, we can think of that as these are the basis for my solution for Laplace's equation ϕ in terms of some coefficient, some coefficient times some basis. And these basis these are the spherical harmonics are like my basis for the solution of Laplace's equation, like we looked at the Eigen function approach, we looked at the Eigen functions were the

basis. So, these in my series solution, these spherical harmonics are my basis for the solution of Laplace's equation.

So, as seen earlier each term in the series is a solution of Laplace's equation, and this sum is known as the multipole expansion, this sum is known as the multipole expansion. And n^{th} term in the sum $A_n \text{grad } x$ raised to the power $n-1$ by r is called a multipole solution of order n , A_n is known as the n^{th} order multipole moment. In particular $A_1 \text{grad } x$ by r when n is equal to 1 is known as the dipole solution, dipole solution with moment A_1 . So, we got a solution for spherical harmonics as a solution for Laplace's equation, series solution in terms of spherical harmonics. And we saw that each of those spherical harmonics is actually a solution of Laplace's equation by itself.

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Spherical harmonics

Each of the scalar components of the dipole moment $A^{(n)}$ are obtained by integrating the y dependent term of the integral (*) over the boundary ∂V of the solid body e.g. $A^{(n)} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\partial V} \frac{\partial}{\partial n} \phi(\mathbf{y}) dS_y$

The set of solutions to Laplace's equation, $\nabla^2 \left(\frac{1}{r}\right), n = 0, 1, \dots, 2$ are known as spherical harmonics

An alternative approach that also results in a solution in terms of a series can be constructed by solving the same problem as above, i.e. the motion of a sphere in an otherwise quiescent infinite fluid, by solving Laplace's equation in spherical coordinates and seeking a solution in the separated form: $\phi = G(r)H(\phi)I(\theta)$

So, each of the scalar components this is of course, I have said before, but just to reiterate each of the scalar components of the dipole moment A_n are obtained by integrating the y dependent terms of the integral of that integral of this integral integrating the y dependent terms, we get those coefficients. So, get those coefficients over the boundary ∂V of the solid body for example, A_0 can be obtained like this.

And the set of solution of Laplace's equation given by that are known as spherical harmonics. So, that is one approach to the series solution of Laplace's equation, and alternative approach uses the method of separation of variables, it uses the method of separation of variables with which I am sure all of you are familiar.

So, it assumes that the solution of Laplace's equation in spherical coordinates, it is going to depend on all 3 spherical coordinates, it is going to depend on r it is going to depend on phi, and it is going to depend I have replaced phi with phi tilde this to distinguish from the solution which is also phi. So, it is going to depend on r it is going to depend on phi tilde it is going to depend on theta, and if I am assuming that if the solution can be written out in separable form.

So, the functional dependence on r is can be written separately from the functional dependence on phi tilde and as well as the functional dependence on theta. So, it can be written out in separable form, and then we are going to solve the same problem which is the same problem meaning the motion of a sphere in an infinite fluid. So, if we do that again we have to solve Laplace's equation, and then I am going to make a little assumption here, I am going to assume that the solution does not have theta dependence.

So, I am going to assume you can solve most general way assuming that the solution depends on r t tilde as well as theta. But, for the time being I am going to show I am going to solve the problem assuming that there is no theta dependence, so the solution phi depends only on the radial distance r and on phi tilde. And we will see that in that case we have in order to obtain the solution, we have to solve the Legendre's differential equation.

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Legendre's Equation


This gives rise to Legendre's equation and yields a series expansion in terms of spherical harmonics that involve Legendre polynomials. We will consider a solution of this nature but will do so under the simplifying assumption that the solution has no θ dependence, i.e. $\tilde{\phi} = G(r)H(\phi)$ only. Then Laplace's equation in spherical coordinates is:

$$\nabla^2 \tilde{\phi} = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r^2 \frac{\partial \tilde{\phi}}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin \phi} \frac{\partial}{\partial \phi} \left(\sin \phi \frac{\partial \tilde{\phi}}{\partial \phi} \right) = 0$$

Substituting $\tilde{\phi} = G(r)H(\phi)$ and dividing both sides by GH , we get:

$$\frac{1}{G} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dG}{dr} \right) = - \frac{1}{H \sin \phi} \frac{d}{d\phi} \left(\sin \phi \frac{dH}{d\phi} \right)$$

Both sides may be constant since otherwise changing the value of r would change the LHS leaving the RHS unaffected while changing ϕ would result in changing the RHS without changing the LHS



This gives rise to Legendre's equation, and yields a series expansion in terms of that involves Legendre's polynomials. Now, we are going to get a series expansion in terms of Legendre's polynomial, so this part you just ignore in terms of Legendre's polynomials. So, we will consider a solution of this nature, but we will do, so under the simplifying assumption that the solution has no theta dependence that is $\tilde{\phi}$ is equal to now I have mess things up wide badly the notation.

Because, my solution now is actually I am calling $\tilde{\phi}$, and the angular dependence is ϕ and the radial dependence is r . So, I want to $\tilde{\phi}$. So, Laplacian of $\tilde{\phi}$ is equal to 0 sorry for the confusion in the rotation, so then Laplace's equation in spherical coordinates is given by that which we have seen before, only difference is that now I have removed the theta dependence I only have the dependence on ϕ .

And then I substitute $\tilde{\phi}$ is equal to $G(r)H(\phi)$ if I substitute that there and I divide both sides by $G(r)H(\phi)$ I get this equation. And you can see this becomes an ordinary differential equation because, this involves only derivative with this r has not no ϕ dependence, while on this side there is no r dependence. So, this becomes an ordinary differential equations, and in this case both sides must be constant because, if we change r , we will change the left hand side while the hand side would not change that is impossible. So, what does that mean; that mean both sides must be constant, so basically now we have to solve these two differential equations equate them to a certain constant and solve them.

(Refer Slide Time: 27:25)

Legendre's Equation


Let $\frac{1}{G} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dG}{dr} \right) = - \frac{1}{H \sin \phi} \frac{d}{d\phi} \left(\sin \phi \frac{dH}{d\phi} \right) = n(n+1)$

Hence we get two equations :

$$\frac{1}{\sin \phi} \frac{d}{d\phi} \left(\sin \phi \frac{dH}{d\phi} \right) + Hn(n+1) = 0 \quad (*)$$

$$\frac{1}{G} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dG}{dr} \right) = n(n+1) \quad (**)$$

We solve (**), $r^2 G'' + 2rG' - n(n+1)G = 0$ which has the form of an Euler Cauchy equation and its solution can be found by substituting $G = r^a$ and dropping the common factor r^a when the following algebraic equation results: $a(a-1) + 2a - n(n+1) = 0$ with roots $a = n$ and $-n-1$



So, we did not let us suppose that $\frac{1}{G} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dG}{dr} \right)$ is equal to $n(n+1)$ and $\frac{1}{H \sin \phi} \frac{d}{d\phi} \left(\sin \phi \frac{dH}{d\phi} \right)$, which is basically these two equations both of them are equal to $n(n+1)$ why did I use n into $n+1$. Because, that is the standard form of Legendre's equation, we will see this very soon, so we get two equations $\frac{1}{\sin \phi} \frac{d}{d\phi} \left(\sin \phi \frac{dH}{d\phi} \right) + Hn(n+1) = 0$, one equation.

And the other equation is $\frac{1}{G} \frac{d}{dr} \left(r^2 \frac{dG}{dr} \right) = n(n+1)$, so we solve the second equation first, the second equation has a very nice form you can see why because, you can see the first term involves r^2 and it has a derivative with second derivative with respect to G the second term involves r and has involves first derivative with respect to G , while the third term does not involve any r it just has G .

So, the solution this is known as an Euler Cauchy differential equation, so standard form and the solution to this equation can be found is in terms of r to some power a , the solution if the differential equation is of this form it is a standard form. And what is that standard form, that standard form is known as the Euler Cauchy equation, and for the Euler Cauchy equation the solution is given by r raised to some power.

You can see if you raise if that is; obviously, going to satisfy that equation r^a if I take the second derivative of that, that is going to give me r^{a-2} r^{a-2} r^2 that is going to give me r^a . So, it will be some coefficient times r^a second term again is

going to give me r^{-1} times r , so that is going to be r a time some coefficient in terms of a , the third term is just going to be $r a$. So, every term is going to have r I pull out $r a$ and then I have an algebraic equation in terms of the coefficient a .

In this case since a second order it is a quadratic, it is a quadratic equation in a I solve that quadratic equation I get the roots of a in terms of n , but in this case the roots come out to be n and $n - 1$.

(Refer Slide Time: 30:14)


Legendre's Equation

This yields two solutions $G_n(r) = r^n, G_n^*(r) = \frac{1}{r^{n+1}}$. Next we solve (*) by setting $\cos \phi = w \Rightarrow \sin^2 \phi = 1 - w^2$ and $\frac{d}{d\phi} = \frac{d}{dw} \frac{dw}{d\phi} = -\sin \phi \frac{d}{dw}$

Then (*) becomes: $\frac{d}{dw} [(1-w^2) \frac{dH}{dw}] + n(n+1)H = 0$ (Legendre's eqn)

For integers $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ the Legendre's polynomials $H = P_n(w) = P_n(\cos \phi)$ are the solutions of this equation

Combining the expressions obtained for G and H we get two series solutions of Laplace's equation: (1) $\tilde{\phi}(r, \phi) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n r^n P_n(\cos \phi)$ and (2) $\tilde{\phi}(r, \phi) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} B_n \frac{1}{r^{n+1}} P_n(\cos \phi)$ where A_n and B_n are constants



So, what does that tell me that tells me that in this case the solution G there are 2 solutions 1 G involves r to the power n , the other solution involves r to the power $n + 1$ r to the power a is the solution. So, a was n and $n - 1$, so my G is there are 2 solutions 1 solution is G is G_n equal to r to the power n and the other part which I denote by G^* which is equal to $1/r^{n+1}$.

So, there we have solved the first the second equation, and we have solved that equation and found that the solution involves powers of n positive as well as negative powers of n . And now we want to solve this second equation you can see the terms like $\sin \phi d\phi$ so; obviously, this is the candidate for transformation of variables, this is the candidate for transformation of variables.

So, what is the transformation we do well we set $\cos \phi$ is equal to w , then $\sin^2 \phi$ is equal to $1 - w^2$ and $d\phi$ is can be written as $dw/d\phi$ which

is equal to $d w d \phi$. So, $-\sin \phi d w$ because, $\cos \phi$ is equal to w , so $d w d \phi$ is equal to $-\sin \phi d w$, so in that then if I substitute that in this equation, if I substitute that in this equation I finally, get an equation like this in terms of whether independent variable with the derivative is with respect to w .

So, $d d w (1 - w^2) d w + n(n+1)H = 0$ which is the famous Legendre's equation. And for integers $n = 0, 1, 2$ this Legendre's equation has solution in terms of the Legendre's polynomials $P_n(w)$, $P_n(w)$ is again $\cos \phi$, so $P_n(\cos \phi)$ are the solution of this equation.

So, if you remember these Legendre's polynomials they also are orthogonal to each other and they form a basis. So, they are orthogonal to each other, so combining, so they are lot the Legendre's polynomials are the probably one of most useful expansion, expansion in terms of Legendre's polynomials. In the very interesting properties, but at this point we do not want to go into that I just want to tell you that eventually we are going to solve Legendre's equation, solution of Legendre's equation is in terms of Legendre's polynomials.

And using those Legendre's polynomials we are going to construct our solution of Laplace's equation, construct our series solution for Laplace's equation like we did with using spherical harmonics. But, now we are instead of using spherical harmonics as our basis for our series solution, we are using the Legendre's polynomials, we are going to use the we are going to construct the series solution with the Legendre's polynomials as our basis.

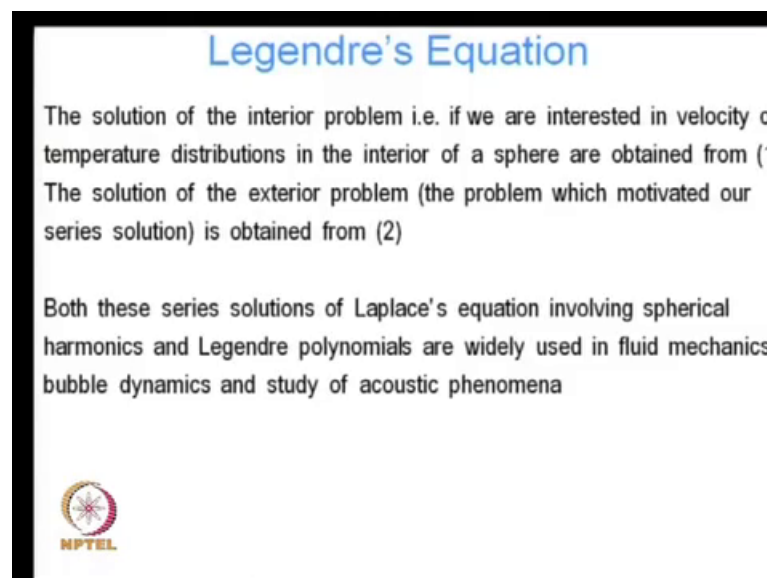
So, combining these expressions for G and H we get two series solutions for Legendre's equation, the first series solution involves the positive powers of r , we saw that G_n has got two solutions, the first solution was the positive powers of r Legendre's polynomials, the second solution involves the negative powers of r Legendre's polynomials.

And A_n and B_n are constants you can ((Refer Time: 34:12)) by looking at this equation, you can see that this gives the solution in two entirely different domains, two entirely different domains. Why because, this gives me the solution outside my rigid body, outside my sphere as r goes to infinity, this is going to go to 0 this cannot be the solution inside this sphere.

Because, when r goes to 0 this is going to blow up, so this is going to give me the solution outside the sphere that is going to give me the solution $A r^n P_n \cos \phi$. This part is going to give me solution inside the sphere, even when r goes to 0 this part remains well behaved. So, that is going to give me the solution inside this sphere inside my rigid sphere are my inclusion whatever it be, and this part this $B r^{-n-1} P_n \cos \phi$ is going to give me the solution outside this sphere.

Because, this solution is well behaved when it when we go to infinity, when r goes to infinity this part of the solution is well behaved, when r goes to 0 this part of the solution is well behaved, so this gives the solution in basically two different parts of the domain.

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The solution of the interior problem that is if we are interested in velocity or temperature, whatever if we are solving a different problem we were interested in temperature. In the interior of this sphere are obtained from 1 from the solution 1, the solution of the exterior problem, the problem which motivated our series solution. Because, we are interested in the velocity in the fluid due to the motion of that body in that infinite domain is obtained from the second part second solution.

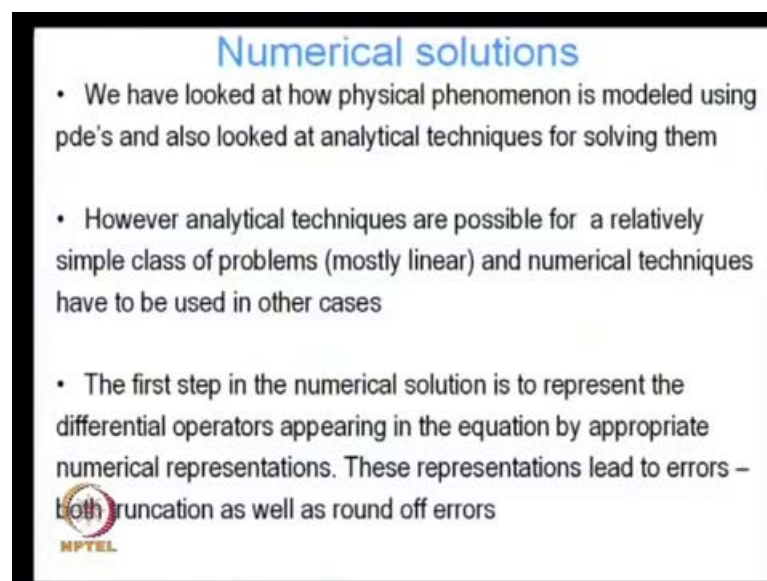
So, both this series solutions of Laplace's equation involving spherical harmonics as well as Legendre's polynomials are widely used in fluid mechanics, bubble dynamics and study of acoustic phenomena, there may be many other applications, but I am familiar with these applications have seen this when we use that. So, I am talking about this, but

there are I am sure there are many, many other applications of these series solution of Legendre's of equations is that clear.

So, that brings us to an end of our discussion of analytical methods for partial differential equations, just to recap we looked at the 3 canonical forms of partial second order partial differential equations, with constants. And then we looked at the solution elliptic we looked at hyperbolic solutions, we looked at d'alembert's solution, we looked at the solution in terms of Eigen functions, the Eigen function solutions. Then we looked at the parabolic solution, the parabolic equation the solution for the parabolic equation in terms of again Eigen functions.

And we also looked at the solution for the parabolic equation using transforms using Laplace's transforms. And finally, we looked at elliptic equations, Laplace's equation, we looked at the fundamental solution, we looked at how we can solve that equation using green's function, which is a very powerful technique. Because, it can used for very, very different boundary conditions, various boundary conditions and then finally, we looked at series solutions for Laplace's equation, using series both in terms of spherical harmonics as well as Legendre's polynomials. So, these are some powerful analytical techniques for solving second order partial differential equations.

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Numerical solutions

- We have looked at how physical phenomenon is modeled using pde's and also looked at analytical techniques for solving them
- However analytical techniques are possible for a relatively simple class of problems (mostly linear) and numerical techniques have to be used in other cases
- The first step in the numerical solution is to represent the differential operators appearing in the equation by appropriate numerical representations. These representations lead to errors – Both truncation as well as round off errors

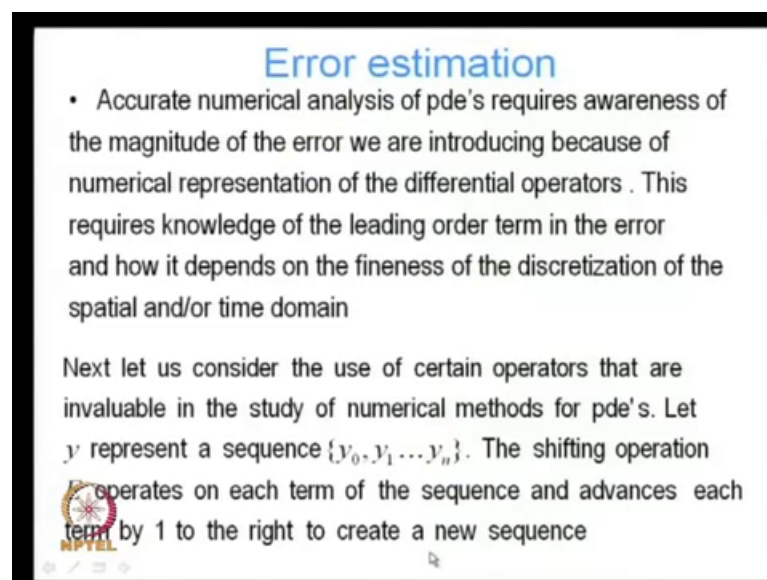
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Linear partial differential equations, very important to remember that, so we have looked at how physical phenomenal is modeled, using partial differential equations. And we

have also looked at analytical techniques for solving them; however, analytical techniques are possible for relatively limited class of problems, for instance we have seen mostly linear problems, and numerical techniques have to be used in other cases.

The first step in the numerical operation is to numerical solution is to represent all those differential operators, which we saw in our equations $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ all those things we have to represent them in terms of difference operators. This we have to represent them in terms of appropriate numerical representations, and inevitably those representations lead to errors both truncation errors as well as round off errors. So, we have to look at how we represent these operators, and most importantly we have to understand what is the error that gives rise to any particular representation.

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Error estimation

- Accurate numerical analysis of pde's requires awareness of the magnitude of the error we are introducing because of numerical representation of the differential operators . This requires knowledge of the leading order term in the error and how it depends on the fineness of the discretization of the spatial and/or time domain

Next let us consider the use of certain operators that are invaluable in the study of numerical methods for pde's. Let y represent a sequence $\{y_0, y_1 \dots y_n\}$. The shifting operation operates on each term of the sequence and advances each term by 1 to the right to create a new sequence

So, accurate numerical analysis of partial differential equations require awareness of the magnitude of the error we are introducing. Because, of numerical representation of the differential operators, this requires knowledge of the leading term in the error expression we want to know the leading term. So, we know the order of the error due to either discretization in this space are the time domain, so we will consider the use of certain operators that are invaluable in the study of numerical methods for partial differential equations.

And these two operators we have I am going to talk about first, first is the shift operator and then I am going to talk about the difference operator. What is the shift operator well

I have if I have a sequence $y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$, the shift operator basically shifts that sequence. So, it shifts each term to one term on the right, so y_0 becomes y_1 , y_1 becomes y_2 , y_n becomes y_{n+1} , the shifting operation E operates on each term of the sequence, and advances each term by 1 to the right to create a new sequence.

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Shift and differential operators

Thus $Ey = \{y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_{n+1}\}$. The difference operator Δ on the other hand creates a new sequence by subtracting each term in the sequence from the term to its immediate right. Hence,

$$\Delta y = \{y_1 - y_0, y_2 - y_1, y_3 - y_2, \dots, y_{n+1} - y_n\}$$

Repeated application of both shift operator and difference operator to a sequence $\{y\}$ leads to additional sequences e.g.

$E^k y = \{y_k, y_{k+1}, \dots\}$ while $\Delta^k y$, known as the k th difference of the sequence y is a sequence where each term in the sequence involves $k+1$ terms of the original sequence

This leads to rapid growth in the number of terms e.g.

$$\Delta^2 y = \Delta\{y_{n+1} - y_n\} = \{(y_{n+2} - y_{n+1}) - (y_{n+1} - y_n)\} = \{y_{n+2} - 2y_{n+1} + y_n\}$$

Thus $E y$ is equal to y_1, y_2, \dots , so $y_0, y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_n$ now becomes after I have operated with that on E it becomes y_1, y_2, y_3 through y_{n+1} . The differential operator Δ on the other hand creates a new sequence by subtracting each term in the sequence from the term to it is immediate. So, my original sequence was y_0, y_1, y_2, y_3 through y_n , so after I have operate on that sequence with the differential operator, my first term in the new sequence will be my second term in my original sequence minus the first term in my original sequence.

My second term in the new sequence will be my third term in my original sequence minus my second term in the original sequence and so on and so forth. So, my first term in my new sequence is y_1 minus y_0 , my second term is y_2 minus y_1 , my third term is y_3 minus y_2 and so on and so forth. So, this is the difference operator operating on the sequence y , so repeated application of both shift operator and difference, difference operator lead to additional sequences, you can see as you operate again and again I am going to get additional sequence.

For instance for the difference operator if I instead of taking let me call that as Δy I refer to the difference operator as Δ . So, instead of Δy if I have $\Delta^2 y$ that is going to not Δy of the first term of that sequence were involved $y_1 - y_0$, if $\Delta^2 y$ it is going to involve additional terms in the sequence functions $E^k y$. So, if now we are talking about the shift operator $E^k y$ basically shifts each term in the sequence k places.

So, y_0 becomes y_k , y_1 becomes y_{k+1} and so on and so forth, while $\Delta^k y$ known as the case difference of the sequence y is the sequence, where each term in the sequence involves $k+1$ terms in the original sequence, this leads to rapid growth in the number of terms. For example, $\Delta^2 y$ you can see that is equal to Δ operate on typical term if I consider typical term in my sequence to be y_n , it is $\Delta^2 y$ that is equal to Δ operating on Δy , Δy in a typical term y_n is $y_{n+1} - y_n$.


So, $\Delta y_{n+1} - y_n$ is equal to again this term has got to be shifted and subtracted from itself. So, $y_{n+2} - y_{n+1} - \Delta$ operating on this term that is going to shift that term to y_{n+1} and I am going to subtract y_n from that term, if I combine those together I have $y_{n+2} - 2y_{n+1} + y_n$. So, this operating on that gives me shift gives me $y_{n+2} - y_{n+1}$ this operating on y_n gives me $y_{n+1} - y_n$. So, eventually I have get this, so this is the if I apply the difference 2 times if I apply the difference k times, you can see that there will be many more terms in my difference expression.

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Shift and differential operators

It is important to remember that both the E and Δ operator operates on sequences. Thus while it is allowable shorthand to write $\Delta^2 y_0 = y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0$ we must keep in mind that this is just the first term in the above sequence

It can be shown that k operations of the difference operator Δ on a sequence leads to a new sequence, the $n+1^{\text{th}}$ term of which, represented by the action of Δ ' k ' times on the $n+1^{\text{th}}$ term in the original sequence y_n is represented in the following manner :

$$\Delta^k y_n = y_{n+k} - {}^k C_1 y_{n+k-1} + {}^k C_2 y_{n+k-2} + \dots + {}^k C_k (-1)^k y_n \quad (*)$$


Now, it is important to remember that both the E and the Δ operator operates on sequences, thus while it is allowable shorthand to write $\Delta^2 y_0 = y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0$, as we just saw. As we just saw, we must remember that this is just the first term of the sequence Δ^2 operating on y , so it is the first term in that sequence. The first term on that sequence meaning that term that results from Δ^2 operating on the first term in my original sequence.

Now, it can be shown that k operations of the difference operator Δ on a sequence leads to a new sequence. Then plus 1^{th} term of which is represented by the action of Δ k times on the $n+1^{\text{th}}$ term in the original sequence y_n , suppose in my original sequence by $n+1^{\text{th}}$ term was y_n because, I started from 0. So, my $n+1^{\text{th}}$ term was y_n , and if I operate on that in y_n term with n times with my difference operator then I am going to get this thing.

If I operate on this y_n $n+1^{\text{th}}$ term in my sequence in my original sequence k times I take the difference k times, then I will get something like this, where C is the combinatorial expression. So, ${}^k C_1$ is factorial k divided by factorial 1 times factorial $k-1$, so this is my operation, so this can be this is going to be this well I am going to show it, but I am going to show that by induction.

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The k^{th} difference operator

The above result can be proven using induction

For $k=1$, $\Delta y_n = y_{n+1} - {}^1C_1 y_n + {}^1C_2 y_{n-1} + {}^1C_3 y_{n-2} + \dots$

Since ${}^k C_{k'} = 0$ if $k' > k$, $\Delta y_n = y_{n+1} - y_n$. This agrees with the definition of the difference operator, hence the formula (*) holds for $k=1$

Let us suppose that it holds for $k=p$. Then for $k=p+1$ we have


$$\Delta^{p+1} y_n = \Delta^p \Delta(y_n) = \Delta^p (y_{n+1} - y_n)$$

From (*) $\Delta^p y_{n+1} = y_{n+1+p} - {}^p C_1 y_{n+p} + {}^p C_2 y_{n+p-1} + \dots + (-1)^p y_{n+1}$ (**)

$$\Delta^p y_n = y_{n+p} - {}^p C_1 y_{n+p-1} + {}^p C_2 y_{n+p-2} + \dots + (-1)^p y_n$$
 (***)

Subtracting (***) from (**):

$$\Delta^{p+1} y_n = y_{n+1+p} - ({}^p C_1 + {}^p C_0) y_{n+p} + ({}^p C_2 + {}^p C_1) y_{n+p-1} + \dots + ({}^p C_3 + {}^p C_2) y_{n+p-2} + \dots$$

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So, how am I going to do that well for k equal to 1 this expression, this expression is going to give me $\Delta^1 y_n$ that is going to give me $\Delta^1 y_n$. So, I have just denote it by Δy_n , and that this expression is going to give me $y_{n+1} - y_n$ plus 1 minus 1 $C_1 y_n$ plus 1 minus 1 that is $y_{n+1} - C_2 y_{n+1} + y_{n+1} - C_3 y_{n+1} + \dots$ and so on and so forth. But, you know that when this is 1 and that is 2, and this is greater than that all these things become 0.

So, only the first term is going to survive, the first term and second term are going to survive, so in that case what are we going to get, we are going to get $y_{n+1} - C_1 y_n$ plus 1 $C_2 y_{n+1} - C_3 y_{n+1} + \dots$, so on and so forth. And since $k C_{k'}$ is equal to 0, if k' is greater than k , so this is going to give me Δ operating on y_n is equal to $y_{n+1} - y_n$, which agrees with the definition. So, we know that this definition that we just gave holds for k equal to 1, now let us assume that it holds also for k equal to p .

So, it is the same thing if p is equal to 1 if p is equal to 1 then we can show that it is since it holds for k is equal to 1, we can show that it holds for k equal to 2. And suppose it is holds for p k equal to p , then if I can show that it is holds for k equal to $p+1$ then I am all set, I have proved it by induction I have shown that it holds for 1, and if I also show that if it holds for k equal to p it automatically holds for k equal to $p+1$ then I can then I have shown that it holds for all k .

So, if it holds for k let us suppose that it holds for k equal to p then for k equal to $p + 1$ we have $\Delta^{p+1} y_n$ is nothing, but $\Delta^p \Delta y_n$. So, I move out 1 I move out 1 of the operators out. So, $\Delta^p \Delta y_n$ that is equal to $\Delta^p y_{n+1} - \Delta^p y_n$ and from my expression here for k equal to p I get that expression $\Delta^p y_{n+1}$ is equal to $y_{n+1} + p y_n - \binom{p}{1} y_{n-1}$ and so on and so forth and $\Delta^p y_n$.

So, $\Delta^p y_{n+1}$ was that $\Delta^p y_n$ is just if I replace $n+1$ by n I get this and then I subtract this from that, if I subtract this from that what do I have on the left hand side I have $\Delta^p y_{n+1} - \Delta^p y_n$, which is exactly this $\Delta^p y_{n+1} - \Delta^p y_n$. And that I know is equal to $\Delta^{p+1} y_n$, so the left hand side becomes $\Delta^{p+1} y_n$ on the right hand side, this term is this term remains $y_{n+1} + p y_n$.

And then if I look at coefficients of y_{n+p} what do I have a $-\binom{p}{1}$, and then I have a 1 this 1 I can represent as $\binom{p}{0}$ because, $\binom{p}{0}$ is nothing, but factorial p by factorial p , so that is 1. So, that I can represent as $\binom{p}{0}$, then if I look at the coefficients of y_{n+p-1} what do I have I have $\binom{p}{2}$ minus I might have made a mistake here or I might have made a mistake here, so that term is that term.

So, that involves $\binom{p}{2}$ and $\binom{p}{1}$ that term involves $\binom{p}{2}$ and $\binom{p}{1}$ the next term is going to involve $\binom{p}{3}$ and $\binom{p}{2}$ and so on and so forth, and now this $\binom{p}{1} + \binom{p}{0}$ or this $\binom{p}{2} + \binom{p}{1}$ I can combine together.

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The k^{th} difference operator

In general, $\binom{p}{r} + \binom{p}{r-1} = \binom{p+1}{r}$

Hence $\Delta^{p+1} y_n = y_{n+1} - \binom{p+1}{1} y_n + \binom{p+1}{2} y_{n-1} + \dots - (-1)^p y_n$
 which is exactly as predicted by the formula

Recalling that $\Delta y = y_{n+1} - y_n$ while $E y = y_{n+1}$ we can write symbolically $\Delta y = (E - 1)y$ where Δy denotes Δ acting on the sequence y while $(E - 1)y$ denotes the result of E acting on the sequence y from which the sequence y is then subtracted

Using this symbolic notation, the above theorem can be written as



$$\Delta^k = (E - 1)^k$$

Why because, in general $\binom{p}{n} + \binom{p}{n-1}$ is equal to $\binom{p+1}{n}$ that is always true. So, this involves $\binom{p}{n} + \binom{p}{n-1}$ terms like that, so I can represent that as $\binom{p+1}{n}$, and hence I can write $\Delta \binom{p+1}{n} y^n$ is equal to $y^{n+1} + \binom{p}{n-1} y^n + \binom{p}{n} y^n + \dots$ and so on and so forth, which is exactly as predicted by the formula.

So, we have seen that we can write the k 'th difference operator in terms of this binomial expansion involving this binomial coefficients. And it depending on the order of the difference operator we get more and more terms in those expressions, so next time we are going to continue with this. And then we are going to use, we are going to try to establish relationships between these difference operators, between these various orders of difference operators and various orders of derivatives.

So, if I have $\frac{d^n}{dx^n}$ I want to be able to if I have the n 'th derivative of a function with respect to x , I want to relate that to my difference operator operating n times on that same function. And then I want to find out that what is going to be the difference between those two, between the derivative applied n times, and the difference operator applied n times, what will be the difference if I instead of using the derivative I use the difference operator what will be the error.

And how on what is going to be specifically, what is going to be the leading term in that error. And that will allow us to write our differential equations our partial differential equations in terms of differences, while at the same time being fully aware of what are the errors that we are introducing, when we introduce those differences in terms of instead of the derivatives.

Thank you.