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Announcement

No exercise class on monday

Auditorium Exercise 04

Differential Equations II for Students of Engineering Sciences
Summer Semester 2025

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June 6 2025



Universität Hamburg
DER FORSCHUNG | DER LEHRE | DER BILDUNG

Overview

Second Order Differential Equations

Harmonic Functions

Laplace Equation

Linear Second Order Differential Equations

Here just two variables. General case: see lecture notes.

$$a(x, t)u_{xx} + 2b(x, t)u_{xt} + c(x, t)u_{tt} = h(x, t, u, u_x, u_t)$$

Classification:

$D(x, t) = a(x, t)c(x, t) - (b(x, t))^2 < 0$: hyperbolic,

$D(x, t) = a(x, t)c(x, t) - (b(x, t))^2 = 0$: parabolic,

$D(x, t) = a(x, t)c(x, t) - (b(x, t))^2 > 0$: elliptic.

Different methods are suitable, different initial or boundary conditions are required for reasonable * problems.

*) Reasonable means well defined: There exists a unique solution, depending continuously on the initial and/or boundary data.

Examples

Compare HW1

Determine the type of the following differential equations:

1. $u_{xx} + 6 u_{xy} + 9 u_{yy} + y u_x - x u_y = 0$

2. $(2x^2 - 1) u_{xx} - 4xy u_{xy} + (2y^2 - 1) u_{yy} + x u_x = \cos(x)$

Linear PDE of second order with constant coefficients (derivatives of second order)

$$a_{11}u_{xx} + 2a_{12}u_{xt} + a_{22}u_{tt} + b_1(x, t)u_x + b_2(x, t)u_t + c(x, t)u = h(x, t)$$

Diagonal form: No mixed derivatives of second order

Normal form: No mixed derivatives of second order and coefficients of second derivatives take values $\in \{-1, 0, 1\}$.

Integrable form: Only mixed derivatives of second order

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(derivatives of second order)

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Diagonal form: No mixed derivatives of second order

Normal form: No mixed derivatives of second order and coefficients of second derivatives take values $\in \{-1, 0, 1\}$.

Integrable form: Only mixed derivatives of second order

hyperbolic: $u_{xx} - u_{tt} = G(x, t, u, u_x, u_t)$

or $u_{xt} = G(x, t, u, u_x, u_t)$

parabolic: $u_{xx} = G(x, t, u, u_x, u_t)$

elliptic: $u_{xx} + u_{tt} = G(x, t, u, u_x, u_t)$

Goal: Derive diagonal/normal/integrable form

We introduce new variables $\eta = \eta(x, t)$, $\tau = \tau(x, t)$,

and a function: $v(\eta(x, t), \tau(x, t)) = u(x, t)$

Regularity condition: $\eta_x \tau_t - \eta_t \tau_x \neq 0$.

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$$u_x = (v(\eta(x, t), \tau(x, t)))_x =$$

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$$u_{xx} =$$

$$= v_{\eta\eta} \cdot (\eta_x)^2 + 2v_{\eta\tau} \cdot \eta_x \tau_x + v_{\tau\tau} \cdot (\tau_x)^2 + (v_{\eta\eta_{xx}} + v_{\tau\tau_{xx}}),$$

$$u_{xt} = v_{\eta\eta} \cdot \eta_x \eta_t + v_{\eta\tau} \cdot (\tau_t \eta_x + \tau_x \eta_t) + v_{\tau\tau} \cdot \tau_t \tau_x + (v_{\eta\eta_{xt}} + v_{\tau\tau_{xt}}),$$

$$u_{tt} = v_{\eta\eta} \cdot (\eta_t)^2 + 2v_{\eta\tau} \cdot \eta_t \tau_t + v_{\tau\tau} \cdot (\tau_t)^2 + (v_{\eta\eta_{tt}} + v_{\tau\tau_{tt}}).$$

We plug this in and obtain another differential equation

$$Av_{\eta\eta} + 2Bv_{\eta\tau} + Cv_{\tau\tau} = \tilde{h}(\eta, \tau, v, v_\eta, v_\tau)$$

Question: How to choose η, τ ?

- ▶ Normal form: see lecture notes. Here: a short sketch of the method without example.
- ▶ Example for integrable form follows.

Example for Exercise 1 (Work sheet): Transform to integrable form

For $u_{tt} + (a + b)u_{tx} + abu_{xx} = 0$
substitute $\alpha = x - bt$, $\mu = x - at$.

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substitute $\alpha = x - bt$, $\mu = x - at$.

Example:

$$14u_{xx} + 9u_{xt} + u_{tt} = 0 \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}, t \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{z.B.: } u_0(x) = x + \sin(x),$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = v_0(x), \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R} \quad \text{z.B.: } v_0(x) = -7 - 2 \cos(x).$$

$$\alpha = x - 7t, \mu = x - 2t$$

$$u(x, t) = v(\alpha(x, t), \mu(x, t))$$

Formulas given on page 8 with α, μ instead of η and τ

$$u_x = \left(v(\alpha(x, t), \mu(x, t)) \right)_x =$$

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$$u_t = v_\alpha \cdot \alpha_t + v_\mu \cdot \mu_t$$

$$u_{xx} = v_{\alpha\alpha} \cdot (\alpha_x)^2 + 2v_{\alpha\mu} \cdot \alpha_x \mu_x + v_{\mu\mu} \cdot (\mu_x)^2 + (v_\alpha \alpha_{xx} + v_\mu \mu_{xx}),$$

$$u_{xt} = v_{\alpha\alpha} \cdot \alpha_x \alpha_t + v_{\alpha\mu} \cdot (\mu_t \alpha_x + \mu_x \alpha_t) + v_{\mu\mu} \cdot \mu_t \mu_x + (v_\alpha \alpha_{xt} + v_\mu \mu_{xt}),$$

$$u_{tt} = v_{\alpha\alpha} \cdot (\alpha_t)^2 + 2v_{\alpha\mu} \cdot \alpha_t \mu_t + v_{\mu\mu} \cdot (\mu_t)^2 + (v_\alpha \alpha_{tt} + v_\mu \mu_{tt}).$$

$$u_x = (v(\alpha(x, t), \mu(x, t)))_x =$$

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$$\text{Plug into differential equation } 14u_{xx} + 9u_{xt} + u_{tt} = 0$$

$$u_x = (v(\alpha(x, t), \mu(x, t)))_x =$$

$$u_t = v_\alpha \cdot \alpha_t + v_\mu \cdot \mu_t$$

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$$\text{Plug into differential equation } 14u_{xx} + 9u_{xt} + u_{tt} = 0$$

$$\text{New differential equation } v_{\alpha\mu} = 0.$$

Alternative

For linear transformations and the following differential equation

$$a_{11}u_{xx} + 2a_{12}u_{xt} + a_{22}u_{tt} + b_1(x, t)u_x + b_2(x, t)u_t + c(x, t)u = h(x, t)$$

Principal part: $\left(a_{11}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + 2a_{12}\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + a_{22}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right) u$

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Matrix notation:

$$(\nabla^T \mathbf{A} \nabla)u$$

Rewriting the first derivatives analogously yields:

$$(\nabla^T \mathbf{A} \nabla)u + (b^T \nabla)u + cu = h, \quad \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

Our differential equation: $14u_{xx} + 9u_{xt} + u_{tt} = 0$

$$\iff (\nabla^T \mathbf{A} \nabla) u = \nabla^T \begin{pmatrix} 14 & \frac{9}{2} \\ \frac{9}{2} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \nabla \cdot u = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\Longleftrightarrow (\nabla^T \mathbf{A} \nabla) u = \nabla^T \begin{pmatrix} 14 & \frac{9}{2} \\ \frac{9}{2} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \nabla \cdot u = \mathbf{0}$$

Transformation: $\alpha = x - 7t, \mu = x - 2t$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \mu \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -7 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ t \end{pmatrix} =: \mathbf{S}^T \begin{pmatrix} x \\ t \end{pmatrix}$$

From above:

$$u_x = 1 \cdot v_\alpha + 1 \cdot v_\mu,$$

$$u_t = -7 \cdot v_\alpha - 2 \cdot v_\mu$$

$$\iff (\nabla^T \mathbf{A} \nabla) u = \nabla^T \begin{pmatrix} 14 & \frac{9}{2} \\ \frac{9}{2} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \nabla \cdot u = \mathbf{0}$$

Transformation: $\alpha = x - 7t, \mu = x - 2t$

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From above:

$$\begin{aligned} u_x &= 1 \cdot v_\alpha + 1 \cdot v_\mu, \\ u_t &= -7 \cdot v_\alpha - 2 \cdot v_\mu \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla_{xt} \cdot \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -7 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_\alpha \\ v_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{S} \begin{pmatrix} v_\alpha \\ v_\mu \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{S} \nabla_{\alpha\mu} \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

Therefore $\nabla_{xt} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{S} \cdot \nabla_{\alpha\mu} = \mathbf{S} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \end{pmatrix}$

$$(\nabla_{xt}^T \mathbf{A} \nabla_{xt}) \mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{S} \cdot \nabla_{\alpha\mu})^T \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{S} \cdot \nabla_{\alpha\mu} \mathbf{v} = \nabla_{\alpha\mu}^T (\mathbf{S}^T \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{S}) \nabla_{\alpha\mu} \mathbf{v} = 0$$

Here it holds that:

$$\mathbf{S}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -7 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 14 & \frac{9}{2} \\ \frac{9}{2} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -7 & -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{25}{2} \\ -\frac{25}{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

New differential equation:

$$\nabla_{\alpha\mu}^T \mathbf{S}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{S} \nabla_{\alpha\mu} \mathbf{v} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \right) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{25}{2} \\ -\frac{25}{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \end{pmatrix} = -25 \mathbf{v}_{\alpha\mu} = 0$$

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$$\mathbf{v}_{\alpha\mu} = 0 \implies$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{\alpha} = \implies$$

$$\mathbf{v}(\alpha, \mu) = \Phi(\alpha) + \Psi(\mu) \implies u(x, t) =$$

Determine Φ and Ψ by the initial conditions:

$$u(x, 0) = u_0(x)$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = v_0(x)$$

For our example with

$$u(x, t) = \Phi(x - 7t) + \Psi(x - 2t)$$

and

$$u_0(x) = x + \sin(x), \quad v_0(x) = -7 - 2 \cos(x)$$

we obtain the conditions

$$u(x, 0) = \Phi(x) + \Psi(x) = x + \sin(x)$$

and

$$v(x, 0) =$$

Transformation to normal form

See lecture notes. Here: brief sketch

For linear partial differential equations of second order with constant coefficients

$$a_{11}u_{xx} + 2a_{12}u_{xt} + a_{22}u_{tt} + b_1(x, t)u_x + b_2(x, t)u_t + c(x, t)u = h(x, t)$$

Matrix notation:

$$(\nabla^T \mathbf{A} \nabla)u + (b^T \nabla)u + cu = h, \quad \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

\mathbf{A} is real and symmetric:

Determine eigenvalues λ_1, λ_2 and corresponding orthonormal eigenvectors $\mathbf{v}^{[1]}, \mathbf{v}^{[2]}$.

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Determine eigenvalues λ_1, λ_2 and corresponding orthonormal

eigenvectors $\mathbf{v}^{[1]}, \mathbf{v}^{[2]}$. Let $\mathbf{S} = (\mathbf{v}^{[1]}, \mathbf{v}^{[2]})$, $\begin{pmatrix} \eta \\ \tau \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{S}^T \begin{pmatrix} x \\ t \end{pmatrix}$

Change of coordinates gives the **diagonal form**:

$$\lambda_1 v_{\eta\eta} + \lambda_2 v_{\tau\tau} + p_1 v_{\eta} + p_2 v_{\tau} + dv = H$$

Hyperbolic: $\lambda_1 \cdot \lambda_2 < 0$, Elliptic: $\lambda_1 \cdot \lambda_2 > 0$, Parabolic: $\lambda_1 \cdot \lambda_2 = 0$.

For hyperbolic and elliptic equations scaling

$\hat{x} = \eta/\sqrt{\lambda_1}$, $\hat{t} = \tau/\sqrt{\lambda_2}$ gives the **normal forms**

$$\hat{u}_{\hat{x}\hat{x}} \pm \hat{u}_{\hat{t}\hat{t}} + p_1 \hat{u}_{\hat{x}} + p_2 \hat{u}_{\hat{t}} + d \hat{u} = H$$

For parabolic equations one eigenvalue, e.g., λ_2 , is zero. One of the second derivatives is missing, e.g.. $\tilde{u}_{\tau\tau}$. We divide the diagonal form by λ_1 .

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Examples Diagonal Forms

Hyperbolic: Wave equation $u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0$,

Elliptic: Potential-/Laplace equation $\Delta u = u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$,

Parabolic: Heat equation $u_t - c u_{xx} = 0$.

Harmonic functions

Definition

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a bounded connected and open region with boundary $\partial\Omega$. A function $u \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C(\Omega \cup \partial\Omega)$ is called **harmonic** in Ω , if

$$\Delta u(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n u_{x_i x_i}(x) = 0 \quad \forall x \in \Omega$$

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Example (Compare WS2a)

For which $k \in \mathbb{R}$ and $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is u harmonic in \mathbb{R}^2 ?

$$\Delta u = u_{xx} + u_{yy} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \quad \forall (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

a) $u(x, y) := (x + k \cdot y)^2$

b) $u(x, y) := e^{-3x} \cdot g(y)$

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b) $u(x, y) := e^{-3x} \cdot g(y)$

$$\begin{aligned} u_x &= -3e^{-3x} \cdot g(y), & u_y &= e^{-3x} \cdot g'(y) \\ u_{xx} &= 9e^{-3x} \cdot g(y), & u_{yy} &= e^{-3x} \cdot g''(y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta u(x, y) &= u_{xx}(x, y) + u_{yy}(x, y) \\ &= 9e^{-3x} \cdot g(y) + e^{-3x} \cdot g''(y) \\ &= e^{-3x} (g''(y) + 9g(y)) \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \end{aligned}$$

Properties of Harmonic Functions

Theorem (Mean Value Property)

Let u be harmonic in $B_a(x_0, y_0)$ and continuously extendable up on the boundary $\partial B_a(x_0, y_0)$ of this ball. Then it holds

$$u(x_0, y_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi a} \oint_{\partial B_a(x_0, y_0)} u(x, y) dS$$

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$$u(x_0, y_0) = \frac{1}{2\pi a} \oint_{\partial B_a(x_0, y_0)} u(x, y) dS$$

Theorem (Maximum Principle)

Let Ω be as before. Any harmonic function u on Ω reaches its max or min on the boundary of Ω , i.e. $\max_{\Omega} u = \max_{\partial\Omega} u$ and $\min_{\Omega} u = \min_{\partial\Omega} u$.

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Theorem (Uniqueness)

Let Ω be now only bounded and open and $f \in C^0(\Omega)$, $g \in C^0(\partial\Omega)$. Then there exists at most one solution $u \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^0(\bar{\Omega})$ to the BVP

$$\Delta u = f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad u = g \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega.$$

Solution Formula to the Laplace Equation

Poisson's integral formula

Consider the Laplace BVP

$$\begin{aligned}u_{xx} + u_{yy} &= 0, & x, y &\in B_R(x_0, y_0) \\ & \text{i.e. } (x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2 < R^2 \\ u_{xx} + u_{yy} &= g(x, y), & x, y &\in \partial B_R(x_0, y_0)\end{aligned}$$

Solution Formula to the Laplace Equation

Poisson's integral formula

Consider the Laplace BVP

$$\begin{aligned}u_{xx} + u_{yy} &= 0, & x, y &\in B_R(x_0, y_0) \\ & \text{i.e. } (x - x_0)^2 - (y - y_0)^2 < R^2 \\ u_{xx} + u_{yy} &= g(x, y), & x, y &\in \partial B_R(x_0, y_0)\end{aligned}$$

Then the solution is given by

$$u(x, y) = \frac{R^2 - (x - x_0)^2 - (y - y_0)^2}{2\pi R} \int_{\|z - (x_0, y_0)^T\| = R} \frac{g(z)}{\|z - (x, y)^t\|^2} dz$$

Fundamental Solution

Consider the Laplace BVP

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0, \quad x, y \in B_R(x_0, y_0)$$

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = g(x, y), \quad x, y \in \partial B_R(x_0, y_0)$$

Fundamental Solution

Consider the Laplace BVP

$$\begin{aligned}u_{xx} + u_{yy} &= 0, & x, y &\in B_R(x_0, y_0) \\ u_{xx} + u_{yy} &= g(x, y), & x, y &\in \partial B_R(x_0, y_0)\end{aligned}$$

We define the **fundamental solution**

$$n = 2 \quad \Phi(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \ln(\|x\|_2)$$

$$n > 2 \quad \Phi(x) = -\frac{1}{\alpha_n(n-2)}(\|x\|_2^{2-n})$$

α_n = volume of unit ball in \mathbb{R}^n

Fundamental Solution

Consider the Laplace BVP

$$\begin{aligned}u_{xx} + u_{yy} &= 0, & x, y &\in B_R(x_0, y_0) \\ u_{xx} + u_{yy} &= g(x, y), & x, y &\in \partial B_R(x_0, y_0)\end{aligned}$$

We define the **fundamental solution**

$$n = 2 \quad \Phi(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \ln(\|x\|_2)$$

$$n > 2 \quad \Phi(x) = -\frac{1}{\alpha_n(n-2)n} (\|x\|_2^{2-n})$$

α_n = volume of unit ball in \mathbb{R}^n

Every **rotationally symmetric** harmonic function on $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ has the form

$$u(x) = a\Phi(x) + b$$

for some $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ (see lecture notes p. 61-63).

Example (Compare WS2b, HW2)

We are looking for the value $u(1, 2)^T$ of the C^2 function which satisfies

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0 \quad \text{for } (x - 1)^2 + (y - 2)^2 < 9, \quad \text{and } \dots$$

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$$\text{b) } \dots u(x, y) = x^2 - y^2 + 2025 \quad \text{for } (x-1)^2 + (y-2)^2 = 9.$$

$$\text{Hint: } \cos(2t) = \cos^2(t) - \sin^2(t).$$

Method 1

Let K denote the disk with radius $r = 3$ around $(1, 2)^T$ (lecture $B_3(1, 2)$)

and

$$\mathbf{c}(t) = (1 + 3 \cos(t), 2 + 3 \sin(t))^T, \quad t \in [0, 2\pi]$$

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The mean value property then yields

$$u(1, 2) = \frac{1}{2\pi r} \int_{\partial K} u(x, y) d(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot r} \int_0^{2\pi} u(\mathbf{c}(t)) \cdot \|\dot{\mathbf{c}}(t)\| dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}
u(1, 2) &= \frac{1}{2\pi r} \int_{\partial K} u(x, y) d(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi \cdot 3} \int_{\partial K} (x^2 - y^2 + 2025) d(x, y) \\
&= \frac{1}{6\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} u(\mathbf{c}(t)) \cdot \|\dot{\mathbf{c}}(t)\| dt \\
&= \frac{1}{6\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} ((1 + 3 \cos(t))^2 - (2 + 3 \sin(t))^2 + 2025) \cdot 3 dt \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} (1 + 6 \cos(t) + 9 \cos^2(t) - 4 - 12 \sin(t) - 9 \sin^2(t) + 2025) dt \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} (9 \cos(2t) - 3 + 2025) dt \\
&= 2022
\end{aligned}$$

Method 2 Poisson's integral formula

$$u(x, y) = \frac{R^2 - (x - 1)^2 - (y - 2)^2}{2\pi R} \int_{\|z - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}\| = R} \frac{g(z)}{\|z - \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}\|^2} dz$$

$$\begin{aligned} u(1, 2) &= \frac{3^2 - 0^2 - 0^2}{2\pi 3} \int_{\|z - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}\| = 3} \frac{z_1^2 - z_2^2 + 2025}{\|z - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}\|^2} dz \\ &= \frac{9}{6\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{((1 + 3\cos(t))^2 - (2 + 3\sin(t))^2 + 2025)}{3^2} \cdot \|\dot{c}(t)\| dt \\ &= \frac{3}{6\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} (1 + 6\cos(t) + 9\cos^2(t) - 4 - 12\sin(t) - 9\sin^2(t) + 2025) dt \\ &= 2022. \end{aligned}$$

Method 3 The solution is unique. Due to

$$(x^2 - y^2 + 2025)_{xx} + (x^2 - y^2 + 2025)_{yy} = 2 - 2 = 0, \quad \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

we already know the solution $u(x, y) = x^2 - y^2 + 2025$. Thus,
 $u(1, 2) = 1^2 - 2^2 + 2025 = 2022$.

Rotational symmetric solutions

According to the lecture every rotational symmetric harmonic function on $\mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ can be expressed in terms of the fundamental solution $\Phi(x)$ as

$$u(x) = a\Phi(x) + b, \quad a, b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

In the case of **symmetric** data (Ω , $0 \notin \Omega$ and boundary values), use fundamental solutions.

Example (Compare WS3)

Determine a solution to

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta v &= 0 && \text{for } e^2 < x^2 + y^2 < e^6, \\ v(x, y) &= 1 && \text{on } x^2 + y^2 = e^2, \\ v(x, y) &= 0 && \text{on } x^2 + y^2 = e^6. \end{aligned}$$

The fundamental solution

$$\Phi(x, y) = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \ln(\|(x, y)\|_2)$$

yields the solutions

$$v(x, y) = a\Phi(x, y) + b$$

for the PDE.

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Let

$$v(x, y) = u(r, \phi) = w(r), \quad r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}.$$

This results in

$$u(r, \phi) = w(r) = -\frac{a}{2\pi} \ln(r) + b.$$

The boundary values give

$$\begin{aligned}u(e^1, \phi) = 1 &\implies -\frac{a}{2\pi} \ln(e^1) + b = 1 \\&\implies -\frac{a}{2\pi} + b = 1 \implies b = 1 + \frac{a}{2\pi}.\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}u(e^3, \phi) = 0 &\implies -\frac{a}{2\pi} \ln(e^3) + 1 + \frac{a}{2\pi} = 0 \implies \\&\implies a = \pi, \quad b = 1 + \frac{\pi}{2\pi}\end{aligned}$$

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$$u(r, \phi) = -\frac{\pi}{2\pi} \ln(r) + \frac{3}{2}.$$

$$v(x, y) = \frac{3 - \ln\left(\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}\right)}{2}.$$