

SOLUTIONS 4. 7.11.2011

Q1. The GS is $y = f(x + ct) + g(x - ct)$.

$$y(x, 0) = 0 : \quad f(x) + g(x) = 0 : \quad g(x) = -f(x).$$

So

$$y = f(x + ct) - f(x - ct), \quad \text{so} \quad y' = cf'(x + ct) - cf'(x - ct).$$

From the IC $y_t(x, 0) = h(x)$: $cf'(x) + cf'(x) = h(x)$:

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2}h(x), \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_a^x h(u) du$$

(using a for an arbitrary constant: c is the velocity here). So

$$y = f(x + ct) - f(x - ct) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_a^{x+ct} h(u) du - \frac{1}{2c} \int_a^{x-ct} h(u) du :$$

$$y = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} h(u) du.$$

Q2. By Problems 3 Q3, the GS to the wave equation with ICs $y(x, 0) = h_1(x)$, $y_t(x, 0) = 0$ is

$$y = \frac{1}{2}[h_1(x + ct) + h_1(x - ct)].$$

By Q1 above, the GS to the wave equation with ICs $y_t(x, 0) = h_2(x)$, $y(x, 0) = 0$ is

$$y = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} h_2(u) du.$$

By linearity (or superposition), the GS to the wave equation with ICs $y(x, 0) = h_1(x)$, $y_t(x, 0) = h_2(x)$ is

$$y = \frac{1}{2}[h_1(x + ct) + h_1(x - ct)] + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} h_2(u) du.$$

Q3.

$$\begin{aligned}
u &= u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi kt}} \exp\{-(x-s)^2/(4kt)\} : \\
u_x &= -\frac{(x-s)}{2kt} u, \quad u_{xx} = -\frac{u}{2kt} - \frac{(x-s)}{2kt} u_x = -\frac{u}{2kt} + \frac{(x-s)^2}{4k^2 t^2} u; \\
u_t &= -\frac{1}{2} \cdot t^{-3/2} \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi k}} \exp\{\dots\} + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi k}} \cdot t^{-1/2} \cdot \frac{(x-s)^2}{4k} \cdot t^{-2} \exp\{\dots\} \\
&= -\frac{1}{2t} u + \frac{(x-s)^2}{4kt^2} u, \\
u_t/k &= -\frac{u}{2kt} + \frac{(x-s)^2}{4k^2 t^2} u = u_{xx} :
\end{aligned}$$

u satisfies the heat equation $u_{xx} = u_t/k$.

Q4. Similarly,

$$u = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi kt}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(s) \exp\{-(x-s)^2/(4kt)\} ds$$

also satisfies the heat equation, whenever we can interchange integration $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots ds$ with partial differentiation $\partial/\partial x$, $\partial^2/\partial x^2$ and $\partial/\partial t$. We quote: for smooth enough f (and we shall only consider such f), such *differentiation under the integral sign* is permissible.

NHB