# ONE DIMENSIONAL INVERSE SPECTRAL BOUNDARY PROBLEM 

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(1) What is an Inverse problem?
(2) Properties of 2nd order differential operators
(3) Formulation of the main problem

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## An Inverse problem



Direct problem


Inverse problem

- Does this problem have a solution?
- If there is a solution, is it unique?
- Do we have some prior information about the numbers?


## Vibrating string 1

Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}, a \neq 0$. Recall that the 2 nd order equation

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
a^{2} \frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}} v(x)=0, x \in(0,1) \\
u(0)=0, \frac{d}{d x} u(0)=b,
\end{array}\right.
$$

descripes the the motion of a vibrating string. Here $a$ is related to the material parameters of the string.


## Vibrating string 2

Direct Problem: If numbers $a, b$ are given then

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
a^{2} \frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}} v(x)=0, x \in(0,1) \\
u(0)=0, \frac{d}{d x} u(0)=b,
\end{array}\right.
$$

has a unique solution.
Inverse Problem: Find $a$, if some information about the operator $a^{2} \frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}$ is given.

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## Definitions and domain

In this talk we will consider 2nd order differential operators that have a general form

$$
A=a(x) \frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}+b(x) \frac{d}{d x}+c(x)
$$

where $x \in[0,1]$ and $a, b, c \in C^{\infty}([0,1]), a(x)>0$ and $a(0)=1$.

We define the domain of $A$

$$
D(A):=H_{0}^{1}(0,1) \cap H^{2}(0,1) \sim\left\{f \in C^{2}(0,1): f(0)=f(1)=0\right\}
$$

Then $A: D(A) \rightarrow L^{2}(0,1)$.

## Spectrum of a differential operator

Recall that a function $\varphi \in D(A)$ is an eigen function of $A$, if $\varphi \neq 0$ and there exists $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$
A \varphi=\lambda \varphi .
$$

Actually one can show that every eigen function of $A$ is smooth.

## Theorem

There exists a $L^{2}$-orthonormal sequence $\left(\varphi_{j}\right)_{j=1}^{\infty} \subset D(A)$ of eigen functions of differential operator $A$ such that

- $0<\lambda_{1} \leq \lambda_{2} \leq \lambda_{3} \leq \lambda_{4} \ldots \rightarrow \infty$
- $\varphi_{1}(x) \neq 0, x \in(0,1)$
- For any $f \in L^{2}(0,1), f(x)=\sum_{j=1}^{\infty}\left(f \mid \varphi_{j}\right)_{2} \varphi_{j}(x)$

Proof: Take a course PDE 2 (Spring 2017) or Spectral theorem (Fall 2016)

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## Spectral boundary data

We say that the spectral boundary data (SBD) of differential operator $A$ is the collection

$$
\left\{\left(\lambda_{j}\right)_{j=1}^{\infty},\left(\dot{\varphi}_{j}(0)\right)_{j=1}^{\infty}\right\}
$$

## Problem (Inverse spectral boundary problem)

Let

$$
A=a(x) \frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}+b(x) \frac{d}{d x}+c(x)
$$

where $x \in[0,1]$ and $a, b, c \in C^{\infty}([0,1]), a(x)>0, a(0)=1$.
Suppose that the spectral boundary data

$$
\left\{\left(\lambda_{j}\right)_{j=1}^{\infty},\left(\dot{\varphi}_{j}(0)\right)_{j=1}^{\infty}\right\}
$$

is given. Can you find functions $a, b, c$ ?

## Gauge transformations

Let $\kappa \in C^{\infty}([0,1])$ such that

$$
\kappa(0)=1, \text { and } \kappa(x)>0, x \in[0,1] .
$$

We define a Gauge transformation $A_{\kappa}$ of differential operator $A$ by formula

$$
A_{\kappa} f=\kappa A\left(\frac{f}{\kappa}\right), f \in D(A) .
$$

Let $\varphi \in D(A)$ be an eigen function of $A$ w.r.t. eigen value $\lambda$. Then function $\varphi_{\kappa}:=\kappa \varphi$ satisfies

$$
A_{\kappa} \varphi_{\kappa}=\lambda \varphi_{\kappa} \text { and } \frac{d}{d x} \varphi_{\kappa}(0)=\dot{\kappa}(0) \varphi(0)+\kappa(0) \dot{\varphi}(0)=\dot{\varphi}(0) .
$$

Therefore any Gauge transform of operator $A$ preserves the SBD.

## Changes of Coordinates 1

Let $\ell>0, X:[0, \ell] \rightarrow[0,1]$ be a smooth function such that

$$
\dot{X}(y)>0, X(0)=0, \dot{X}(0)=1 \text { and } X(\ell)=1
$$

Any such a function is called a change of coordinates. Recall that in these new coordinates we have

$$
\frac{d}{d x}=\left(\frac{d X}{d y}\right)^{-1} \frac{d}{d y}
$$

and

$$
\frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}=\left(\frac{d X}{d y}\right)^{-2}\left[\frac{d^{2}}{d y^{2}}-\frac{d^{2} X}{d y^{2}}\left(\frac{d X}{d y}\right)^{-1} \frac{d}{d y}\right]
$$

## Changes of Coordinates 2

Thus operator $A$ transforms to operator $A^{X}$ defined as

$$
A^{X} f(y):=a_{X}(y) \frac{d^{2}}{d y^{2}} f(y)+b_{X}(y) \frac{d}{d y} f(y)+c_{X}(y) f(y)
$$

where

$$
\begin{gathered}
a_{X}(y)=a(X(y)) \dot{X}(y)^{-2} \\
b_{X}(y)=-a(X(y)) \dot{X}(y)^{-3} \ddot{X}(y)+\dot{X}(y)^{-1} b(X(y)) \\
c_{X}(y)=c(X(y))
\end{gathered}
$$

Let $\varphi \in D(A)$ be an eigen function of $A$ w.r.t. eigen value $\lambda$. Define $\varphi_{X}:=\varphi \circ X$. Then

$$
A_{X} \varphi_{X}=\lambda \varphi_{X} \text { and } \dot{\varphi}_{X}(0)=\dot{\varphi}(X(0)) \dot{X}(0)=\dot{\varphi}(0)
$$

Thus a change of coordinates preserves SBD

## The invariance of the spectral boundary data

## Theorem

Let $A$ and $B$ be two second order differential operators as before. Then SBD of $A$ coincides with SBD of $B$ if and only if there exists a change of coordinates $X$ and a Gauge transform $\kappa$ such that

$$
B=\left(A^{X}\right)_{\kappa} .
$$

## Main theorem

We consider 2nd order differential operators with special forms

$$
A:=-\frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}+q(x) \text { and } B:=-a(x)^{2} \frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}
$$

where $q, a \in C^{\infty}([0,1]), a(x)>0, x \in[0,1]$ and $a(0)=1$.

## Theorem (Inverse spectral boundary problem)

Suppose that the boundary spectral data

$$
\left\{\left(\lambda_{j}\right)_{j=1}^{\infty},\left(\dot{\varphi}_{j}(0)\right)_{j=1}^{\infty}\right\}
$$

of operator $A$ (respectively $B$ ) is given. Then we can reconstruct the potential $q$ (respectively the wave speed a).

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We will provide a proof for the case

$$
A:=\frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}}+q(x)
$$

All we need to do is to recover the first eigen function $\varphi_{1}$ since then

$$
q(x)=\frac{\frac{d^{2}}{d x^{2}} \varphi_{1}(x)+\lambda_{1} \varphi_{1}(x)}{\varphi_{1}(x)}
$$

Recall that we know that $\varphi_{1}(x) \neq 0$.

## Initial/Boundary value problem of Wave equation

To solve the Inverse spectral boundary problem we will employ one dimensional wave equation

$$
(*)\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\left(\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}}-\frac{d^{2}}{\frac{d^{2}}{2}}+q(x)\right) u(t, x)=0,(t, x) \in(0,1) \times(0,1) \\
u(t, 0)=f(t), u(t, 1)=0 \\
u(0, x)=\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(0, x)=0,
\end{array}\right.
$$

where $f \in C_{0}^{\infty}(0,1)$ is called a boundary source.

## Theorem

Let $f \in C_{0}^{\infty}(0,1)$. Then there exists a unique $u^{f}(t, x) \in C^{\infty}((0,1) \times(0,1))$ that solves ( $*$ ).

Proof: Take course PDE 1 next fall!

## A series representation of waves

Recall that $\left(\varphi_{j}\right)_{j=1}^{\infty} \subset C^{\infty}((0,1))$ is an ON basis of $L^{2}(0,1)$.
Therefore for every boundary source $f \in C_{0}^{\infty}((0,1))$ we can write

$$
u^{f}(t, x)=\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} u_{j}^{f}(t) \varphi_{j}(x)
$$

where the Fourier coefficients are given by

$$
u_{j}^{f}(t):=\left(u^{f}(t, \cdot) \mid \varphi_{j}\right)_{L^{2}(0,1)}=\int_{0}^{1} u^{f}(t, x) \varphi_{j}(x) d x
$$

## Theorem (Fourier coefficients of waves)

For any $f \in C^{\infty}(0,1)$ we can find the Fourier coefficients $u_{j}^{f}(t)$ from $S B D$.

## Finding the Fourier coefficients from SBD 1

Since $u^{f}$ is smooth we can differentiate under the integral to get

$$
\begin{gathered}
\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} u_{j}^{f}(t)=\int_{0}^{1} \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial t^{2}} u^{f}(t, x) \varphi_{j}(x) d x \\
= \\
\int_{0}^{1}\left[\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} u^{f}(t, x)-q(x) u^{f}(t, x)\right] \varphi_{j}(x) d x \\
= \\
\int_{0}^{1} u^{f}(t, x) \underbrace{\left[\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} \varphi_{j}(x)-q(x) \varphi_{j}(x)\right]}_{=-\lambda_{j} \varphi_{j}(x)} d x \\
\\
+\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u^{f}(1, t) \underbrace{\varphi_{j}(1)}_{=0}-\underbrace{u^{f}(1, t)}_{=0} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \varphi_{j}(1) \\
\\
-\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u^{f}(0, t) \underbrace{\varphi_{j}(0)}_{=0}+\underbrace{u^{f}(0, t)}_{=f(t)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \varphi_{j}(0)
\end{gathered}
$$

## Finding the Fourier coefficients from SBD 2

Thus we obtain the following initial value problem:

$$
\left\{\begin{array}{l}
\frac{d^{2}}{d t^{2}} u_{j}^{f}(t)=-\lambda_{j} u_{j}^{f}(t)+\dot{\varphi}_{j}(0) f(t) \\
u_{j}^{f}(0)=\frac{d}{d t} u_{j}^{f}(0)=0
\end{array}\right.
$$

Solution: Take courses ODE 1 and ODE 2 (Spring 2017).
Thus we conclude that for all $f, h \in C_{0}^{\infty}(0,1)$ we have recovered the Fourier coefficients

$$
\left(u_{j}^{f}(t)\right)_{j=1}^{\infty}, \text { of the wave } u^{f}(t, x)
$$

and the inner products

$$
\left(u^{f}(t, \cdot) \mid u^{h}(t, \cdot)\right)_{L^{2}(0,1)}=\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} u_{j}^{f}(t) u_{j}^{h}(t)
$$

This is the Parseval identity (Funktionaali analyysin peruskurssi Spring 2017).

## Controllability

Next we ask can we control the end state of a wave. I.e.


## Theorem (Controllability)

Let $a \in C^{\infty}(0,1)$. There exists a unique $f \in C^{\infty}(0,1)$ such that

$$
u^{f}(1, x)=a(x) .
$$

## Projectors

Let $t \in[0,1]$ then we define a projection

$$
P_{t}: L^{2}(0,1) \rightarrow L^{2}(0,1), P_{t}(f)=\chi_{[0, t]} f .
$$

Define a function $M_{j k}:[0,1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by formula

$$
M_{j k}(t)=\left(P_{t} \varphi_{j} \mid \varphi_{k}\right)_{L^{2}(0,1)}=\int_{0}^{t} \varphi_{j}(x) \varphi_{k}(x) d x
$$

Suppose that function $M_{11}$ is known then

$$
\frac{d}{d t} M_{11}(t)=\varphi_{1}(t)^{2} \Rightarrow \text { eigen function } \varphi_{1} \text { is recovered. }
$$

## Recovery of matrix valued mapping $t \mapsto M_{j k}(t)$

Let $t_{0} \in[0,1]$.

- Choose any smooth orthogonal basis $\left(g_{k}\right)_{k=1}^{\infty}$ of $L^{2}\left(0, t_{0}\right)$. By controllability theorem

$$
\operatorname{span}\left(u^{g_{k}}\left(t_{0}, \cdot\right)\right)_{k=1}^{\infty} \subset L^{2}\left(0, t_{0}\right) \text { is dense. }
$$

- Use Gram-Schmidt to orthonormalise $u^{g_{k}}\left(t_{0}, \cdot\right)$ to orthonormal basis $\left(v_{k}\right)_{k=1}^{\infty}$ of $L^{2}\left(0, t_{0}\right)$.
- Since solution mapping $f \mapsto u^{f}$ is linear it holds that

$$
v_{k}(x)=u^{f_{k}}\left(x, t_{0}\right), f_{k}(t):=\sum_{j=1}^{k} d_{j k} g_{j}(t), d_{j k} \in \mathbb{R} .
$$

- Since $\left(v_{k}\right)_{k=1}^{\infty}$ of $L^{2}\left(0, t_{0}\right)$ is ON-basis it holds that

$$
P_{t_{0}} \varphi_{j}=\sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty}\left(\varphi_{j} \mid v_{\ell}\right)_{L^{2}\left(0, t_{0}\right)} v_{\ell}
$$

Thus

$$
M_{j k}\left(t_{0}\right)=\left(P_{t_{0}} \varphi_{j} \mid \varphi_{k}\right)_{L^{2}(0,1)}=\sum_{\ell=1}^{\infty}\left(\varphi_{j} \mid v_{\ell}\right)_{L^{2}(0,1)}\left(\varphi_{k} \mid v_{\ell}\right)_{L^{2}(0,1)}
$$

- Notice that $\left(\varphi_{j} \mid v_{\ell}\right)_{L^{2}(0,1)}$ is a Fourier coefficient of $v_{\ell}$ w.r.t basis $\left(\varphi_{j}\right)_{j=1}^{\infty}$ i.e

$$
\left(\varphi_{j} \mid v_{\ell}\right)_{L^{2}(0,1)}=u_{j}^{f_{\ell}}\left(t_{0}\right)
$$

By the Theorem for the Fourier coefficients of waves, we can recover these from SBD.

## Thank you for your attention!

