

## Linear algebra parallel.

How do we understand a linear function

$$T(x) = Ax? \quad (A \text{ nonsingular}).$$

Suppose we're trying to solve

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{b}.$$

One approach is to solve the smaller

problems  $A\vec{x} = \vec{e}_j$  where  $\vec{e}_j$  is the  $j$ th

The Dirac "function".

$$\delta(x) := \left. \begin{array}{l} \delta(x) = 0 \quad x \neq 0 \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) dx = 1 \end{array} \right\} \text{ incompatible}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) f(x) dx = f(0)$$

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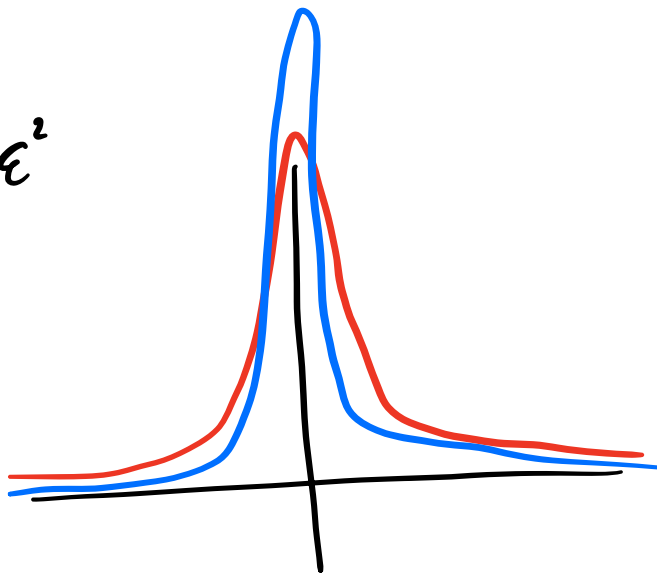
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x - \xi) f(\xi) d\xi = f(x).$$

idea: introduce an impulse modeled by  $\delta$  into a system and model its evolution by the PDE:

E.g.  $u_t = u_{xx}$   
 $u(0, x) = \delta(x - \xi)$

Let's look at some function families that "limit" to  $\delta(x)$ .

- $\delta_\epsilon(x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\epsilon}{x^2 + \epsilon^2}$



- $H_\epsilon(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi\epsilon^2}} e^{-x^2/\epsilon^2}$

In both cases,  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta_\epsilon(x) f(x) dx = f(0)$

$$\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H_\epsilon(x) f(x) dx = f(0)$$

So in some sense,  $\delta_\epsilon \rightarrow \delta$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .  
 $H_\epsilon \rightarrow \delta$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ .

If we cheat for a second, it almost looks like  
 $\langle \delta_\epsilon, f \rangle \rightarrow f(0)$        $\langle H_\epsilon, f \rangle \rightarrow f(0)$

Our goal now is to incorporate forcing into our analysis.

we'll begin with

$$u_t = k u_{xx} + f(x, t), \text{ the forced heat equation.}$$

to start, let's take a new approach to

$$u_t = k u_{xx}$$

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

$$u(t, 0) = u(t, l) = 0.$$

By superposition, if I knew the behavior of a concentrated unit bump at  $\xi \in (0, l)$ , I could build up behavior for a general  $f$ .

Basically, we want a function

$$G(x, \xi, t) \text{ so that } G(x, \xi, 0) = \delta(x - \xi)$$

$$\text{and } G_t = k G_{xx}.$$

Then if I wanted the total response

$$\text{to } u(0, x) = f(x)$$

$$u(t, x) = \int_0^l G(x, \xi, t) f(\xi) d\xi.$$

adding up a bunch of responses to an impulse of  $f(\xi)$  at  $x = \xi$ .

In this case,

$$u(t, x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n e^{-k\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}\right)^2 t} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(\xi) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi \xi}{l}\right) d\xi \right] e^{-k\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}\right)^2 t} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$$

$$\frac{2}{l} \int_0^l \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} f(\xi) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi \xi}{l}\right) e^{-k\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}\right)^2 t} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \right) d\xi.$$

$$= \int_0^l \left[ \frac{2}{l} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-k\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}\right)^2 t} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi \xi}{l}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \right] f(\xi) d\xi.$$

$$G(x, \xi, t).$$

$$G(x, \xi, t) = \frac{2}{l} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-t(\frac{n\pi}{l})^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi\xi}{l}\right) \sin(n\pi x)$$

$$u(t, x) = \int_0^l G(x, \xi, t) f(\xi) d\xi.$$

$$u(0, x) = \int_0^l \boxed{G(x, \xi, 0)} f(\xi) d\xi = f(x)$$

↑  
 $\delta(x - \xi).$

$$= \int_0^l \delta(x - \xi) f(\xi) d\xi = f(x).$$

so formally

$$G(x, \xi, 0) = \delta(x - \xi)$$

Dirac delta function

$G(x, \xi, t)$  is called the Green's function for the problem.

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