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THE FOURIER METHOD  
FOR THE LINEAR PARTIAL  
DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS  
OF THE  $n$ -TH ORDER

JAROSLAV HANČL

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The Fourier method for linear partial differential equations with constant coefficients is well-known in mathematics. Combinating this method with Kummer transformation it is possible to solve a greater class of linear partial differential equations. This paper is a continuation of paper 3.

1. Introduction

We will solve the following equation

$$\sum_{k=0}^n a_k(t) \frac{\partial^k u}{\partial t^k} = \sum_{k=0}^n b_k(y) \frac{\partial^k u}{\partial y^k} \quad (1)$$

in intervals  $t \in J_1$ ,  $y \in J_2$  where  $J_1 = \langle t_0, t_1 \rangle$  or  $J_1 = \langle t_0, \infty \rangle$ ,  $t_0, t_1$  are real numbers and  $J_2 = \langle y_0, y_1 \rangle$  or  $J_2 = \langle y_0, \infty \rangle$ ,  $y_0, y_1$  are also real numbers.

## 2. Solutions and assumptions

Let  $B$  and  $C$  are real numbers such that for every  $t \in J_1$  and  $y \in J_2$  hold  $Ba_n(t), Cb_n(y) > 0$  and  $a_n(t) \in C^{(n)}(J_1)$ ,  $b_n(y) \in C^{(n)}(J_2)$ ,  $a_{n-1}(t) \in C^{(n-1)}(J_1)$ ,  $b_{n-1}(y) \in C^{(n-1)}(J_2)$ .

Definition:  $u(t, y)$  is a solution of equation (1) on  $(t, y) \in J_1 \times J_2$  if and only if  $u(t, y)$  satisfies equation (1) everywhere and  $u(t, y) \in C^{(n)}(J_1, J_2)$ .

## 3. Main result

Theorem 1: Let (1) be an equation and let us suppose above assumptions. Denote

$$x(t) = \int_{t_0}^t \left( \frac{1}{Ba_n(s)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} ds + K_1 \quad (2)$$

$$Y(y) = \int_{y_0}^y \left( \frac{1}{Cb_n(s)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} ds + K_2 \quad (3)$$

where  $K_1$  and  $K_2$  are positive real numbers and  $t \in J_1$ ,  $y \in J_2$ . Let  $B_i, C_i$  ( $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ ) are real numbers such that  $Q_1(z)$  is a solution of the equation

$$z^n Q_1^{(n)}(z) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} B_i z^i Q_1^{(i)}(z) = B z^n Q_1(z) \quad (4)$$

in the interval  $z \in (K_1, \infty)$  and  $Q_2(z)$  is a solution of the equation

$$z^n Q_2^{(n)}(z) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} C_i z^i Q_2^{(i)}(z) = C z^n Q_2(z) \quad (5)$$

in the interval  $z \in (K_2, \infty)$ .

Denote

$$F(t) = (x(t))^{\frac{n}{n-1}} (x'(t))^{-\frac{n-1}{2}} e^{\int_{t_0}^t \frac{a_{n-1}(t) dt}{na_n(t)}} \quad (6)$$

$$G(y) = (Y(y))^{\frac{n}{n-1}} (Y'(y))^{-\frac{n-1}{2}} e^{-\int_{y_0}^y \frac{b_{n-1}(y) dy}{nb_n(y)}} \quad (7)$$

and let us suppose that for  $a_k(t)$  and  $b_k(y)$  ( $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ) hold the following identities

$$a_k(t) = \begin{cases} 1, & \dots \\ \vdots & \dots \\ \frac{\frac{\partial^n}{\partial t^n} [(x(t+g) - x(t))^k F(t+g)]_{g=0}}{k! (x'(t))^k F(t)}, & \dots \\ \dots & a_n(t) \\ \vdots & \dots \\ \dots & B_k a_n(t) \left(\frac{x'(t)}{x(t)}\right)^{n-k} \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

thus  $a_k(t) = |D|$  where  $D = (d_{ij})_{i,j=1}^{n-k+1}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{\partial^{n+1}}{\partial s^{n+1-j}} \left[ (x(t+s) - x(t))^{n-i+1} F(t+s) \right]_{s=0} \quad \text{for } i \geq j, j \neq n-k+1 \\
 d_{i,j} = & \frac{(n+1-i)!}{(x'(t))^{n+1-i} F(t)} \cdot \\
 & = B_{n+1-i} a_n(t) \left( \frac{x'(t)}{x(t)} \right)^{i-1} \quad \text{for } i \neq j, j = n-k+1 \\
 & = a_n(t) \quad \text{for } i = 1, j = n-k+1 \\
 & = 0 \quad \text{for } i < j, j \neq n-k+1
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$b_k(y) = \begin{bmatrix} 1, & & & \dots \\ \vdots & & & \dots \\ \frac{\partial^n}{\partial s^n} \left[ (Y(s+y) - Y(y))^k G(s+y) \right]_{s=0}, & & & \dots \\ \dots & & & \\ c_k b_n(y) \left( \frac{Y'(y)}{Y(y)} \right)^{n-k} & & & \end{bmatrix} \quad (9)$$

thus  $b_k(y) = \{P\}$  where  $P = (p_{ij})_{i,j=1}^{n-k+1}$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_{ij} &= \frac{\frac{\partial^{n+1-j}}{\partial y^{n+1-j}} \left[ (Y(y+\varphi) - Y(y))^{n+1-i} G(y+\varphi) \right]_{\varphi=0}}{(n+1-i)! (Y'(y))^{n+1-i} G(y)} \quad \text{for } i \geq j, j \neq n-k+1 \\
 &= c_{n+1-i} b_n(y) \left( \frac{Y'(y)}{Y(y)} \right)^{i-1} \quad \text{for } i \neq 1, j = n-k+1 \\
 &= b_n(y) \quad \text{for } i = 1, j = n-k+1 \\
 &= 0 \quad \text{for } i < j, j \neq n-k+1
 \end{aligned}$$

We can make sure by the calculation that these identities agree with (4) and (5).

At the end let us suppose that the series

$$u(t, y) = \sum_{\lambda=1}^{\infty} A_{\lambda} Q_1(\lambda x(t)) F(t) Q_2(\lambda Y(y)) G(y) \in C^{(n)}(\mathcal{J}_1, \mathcal{J}_2) \quad (10)$$

(Where  $A_{\lambda}$  are real numbers for every natural number  $\lambda$ ), converges and the  $k$ -th partial derivatives ( $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ) with respect to  $t$  and  $y$  term by term of the series (10) are convergent to the  $k$ -th partial derivatives with respect to  $t$  and  $y$  of the function  $u(t, y)$ . Then  $u(t, y)$  is a solution of equation (1).

**Proof :** It is sufficient to prove that the single term of identity (10) is a solution of equation (1). It implies that it is sufficient to prove that equations

$$\sum_{k=0}^n a_k(t) \frac{\partial^k}{\partial t^k} (F(t) Q_1(\lambda x(t))) = \lambda^n F(t) Q_1(\lambda x(t)) \quad (11)$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n b_k(y) \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y^k} (G(y) Q_2(\lambda Y(y))) = \lambda^n G(y) Q_2(\lambda Y(y)) \quad (12)$$

hold for every natural number  $\lambda$ . We will only prove that

equation (11) holds. The proof that equation (12) holds is similar. Equation (11) is equivalent with the equation

$$\sum_{k=0}^n a_k(t) \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} \frac{\partial^j}{\partial t^j} Q_1(\lambda x(t)) F^{(k-j)}(t) = \lambda^n F(t) Q_1(\lambda x(t)) \quad (13)$$

Let us denote

$$\frac{\partial^j}{\partial t^j} Q_1(\lambda x(t)) = \sum_{i=0}^j S_i^j Q_1^{(i)}(\lambda x(t)) \lambda^i, \quad (14)$$

where  $S_i^j$  is the function of derivatives of the function  $x(t)$ .

Substituting (14) in (13) we have

$$\sum_{k=0}^n a_k(t) \sum_{j=0}^k \binom{k}{j} F^{(k-j)}(t) \sum_{i=0}^j S_i^j Q_1^{(i)}(\lambda x(t)) \lambda^i = \lambda^n F(t) Q_1(\lambda x(t))$$

Changing indexes we obtain the form

$$\sum_{i=0}^n \lambda^i Q_1^{(i)}(\lambda x(t)) \sum_{k=i}^n a_k(t) \sum_{j=i}^n \binom{k}{j} S_i^j F^{(k-j)}(t) = \lambda^n F(t) Q_1(\lambda x(t)) \quad (15)$$

Further substituting (4) to (15) we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \lambda^i Q_1^{(i)}(\lambda x(t)) \left( \sum_{k=i}^n a_k(t) \sum_{j=i}^k \binom{k}{j} S_i^j F^{(k-j)}(t) - \right. \\ & \quad \left. - B_i x(t)^{i-n} a_n(t) S_n^n F(t) + B \lambda^n a_n(t) Q_1(\lambda x(t)) S_n^n F(t) \right. \\ & \quad \left. = \lambda^n F(t) Q_1(\lambda x(t)) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Equation (16) implies that it is sufficient to prove that equations

$$B a_n(t) S_n^n F(t) = F(t) \quad (17)$$

$$\sum_{k=i}^n a_k(t) \sum_{j=i}^k {}_j^k S_i^j F^{(k-j)}(t) = B_i x(t)^{i-n} a_n(t) S_n^n F(t) \quad (18)$$

hold for every  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$ . Equation (17) is a consequence of equation (2). In 1866 Schlömilch 8 proved the identity

$$S_i^j = \frac{1}{i!} \frac{\partial^j}{\partial q^j} [(x(t+q) - x(t))^i] \Big|_{q=0} \quad (19)$$

Substituting (19) in (18) we obtain for every  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$

$$\begin{aligned} & B_i x(t)^{i-n} a_n(t) (x'(t))^n F(t) = \\ &= \sum_{k=i}^n a_k(t) \sum_{j=i}^k {}_j^k \frac{\partial^j}{\partial q^j} [(x(t+q) - x(t))^i] \Big|_{q=0} F^{(k-j)}(t) = \\ &= \sum_{k=i}^n \frac{1}{i!} a_k(t) \frac{\partial^k}{\partial q^k} [(x(t+q) - x(t))^i] F(t+q) \Big|_{q=0} \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

This is the system of  $n+1$  linear equations with  $n+1$  unknowns  $a_0(t), a_1(t), \dots, a_n(t)$ . If we solve this system with the help of determinants we get for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$

$$a_k(t) = \frac{|H_k|}{|H|}$$

$$\text{where } H = (h_{ij})_{i,j=1}^{n+1}, \quad H_k = (h_{ij}^k)_{i,j=1}^{n+1}$$

$$h_{ij} = \begin{cases} \frac{\partial^{n+1-j}}{\partial q^{n+1-j}} [(x(t+q) - x(t))^{n-i+1}] F(t+q) \Big|_{q=0} & \text{for } i \geq j \\ 0 & \text{for } i < j \end{cases}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 h_{ij}^k &= \frac{\frac{\partial^{n+1-j}}{\partial \zeta^{n+1-j}} [(x(t+\zeta) - x(t))^{n-i+1} F(t+\zeta)]_{\zeta=0}}{(n-i+1)!} \quad \text{for } i \geq j, j \neq n-k+1 \\
 &= 0 \quad \text{for } i < j, j \neq n-k+1 \\
 &= B_{n+1-j} (x(t))^{l-1} a_n(t) F(t) (x'(t))^n \quad \text{for } i \neq l, j = n-k+1 \\
 &= a_n(t) (x'(t))^n F(t) \quad \text{for } i = l, j = n-k+1
 \end{aligned}$$

Matrix H is a down triangle, thus

$$|H| = \prod_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{i!} \frac{\partial^i}{\partial \zeta^i} [(x(t+\zeta) - x(t))^i F(t+\zeta)]_{\zeta=0} = \prod_{i=0}^n F(t) (x'(t))^i$$

Similarly, because of  $h_{ij}^k = 0$  for  $i < j, j > n+1-k$ , we can write the determinant  $|H_k|$  as a product

$$\begin{aligned}
 |H_k| &= \left| \begin{array}{c} \frac{1}{n!} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial \zeta^n} [(x(t+\zeta) - x(t))^n F(t+\zeta)]_{\zeta=0}, \dots \\ \vdots \\ \frac{1}{k!} \frac{\partial^k}{\partial \zeta^k} [(x(t+\zeta) - x(t))^k F(t+\zeta)]_{\zeta=0}, \dots \\ \dots & a_n(t) (x'(t))^n F(t) \\ \vdots \\ \dots & B_k a_n(t) F(t) \frac{(x'(t))^n}{(x(t))^{n-k}} \end{array} \right|
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\cdot \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} F(t)(x'(t))^i$$

$$\text{Thus } a_k(t) = \frac{|H_k|}{|H|} =$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} 1, \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^n}{\partial \varrho^n} [(x(t+\varrho) - x(t))^k F(t+\varrho)] \Big|_{\varrho=0} \\ k! (x'(t))^k F(t) \end{vmatrix},$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} \cdots & a_n(t) \\ \vdots & \\ \cdots & B_k a_n(t) (\frac{x'(t)}{x(t)})^{n-k} \end{vmatrix}$$

and it holds because (8). It implies that identities (20), (18), (16) and (11) hold and thus  $u(t, y)$  defined in (10) satisfied equation (1).

Theorem 2: Let (1) be an equation and let us suppose above assumptions. Denote

$$x(t) = \int_{t_0}^t \left( \frac{1}{B a_n(s)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} ds \quad (21)$$

$$Y(y) = \int_{y_0}^y \left( \frac{1}{C b_n(s)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} ds \quad (22)$$

for  $t \in J_1$ ,  $y \in J_2$  and let  $Q_1(z)$  be a solution of the equation

$$Q_1^{(n)}(z) = B Q_1(z) \quad (23)$$

in interval  $z \in (0, \infty)$  and let  $Q_2(z)$  be a solution of the equation

$$Q_2^{(n)}(z) = C Q_2(z) \quad (24)$$

in interval  $z \in (0, \infty)$ . Further denote

$$F(t) = (B a_n(t))^{\frac{n-1}{2n}} \int_{t_0}^t \frac{a_{n-1}(s)}{n a_n(s)} ds \quad (25)$$

$$G(y) = (C b_n(y))^{\frac{n-1}{2n}} \int_{y_0}^y \frac{b_{n-1}(s)}{n b_n(s)} ds \quad (26)$$

Let us suppose, that for  $a_k(t)$ ,  $b_k(y)$  ( $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ) (8) and (9) hold, where  $x(t)$ ,  $Y(y)$ ,  $F(t)$  and  $G(y)$  are defined in (21), (22), (25) and (26). Let the function  $u(t, y)$  is defined as in (10) where  $x(t)$ ,  $Y(y)$ ,  $F(t)$  and  $G(y)$  are defined in (21), (22), (25) and (26). Let for  $Q_1(z)$  (23) holds and for  $Q_2(z)$  (24) holds. Let us assume that the function  $u(t, y)$  has same convergent properties as in Theorem 1. Then  $u(t, y)$  is a solution of partial differential equation (1).

The proof of Theorem 2 is similar to the proof of Theorem 1. We leave it out.

#### 4. Some remarks

Remark 1: In sum (10) it is possible to take not only  $\lambda \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$  but  $\lambda \in M$  where  $M$  is a countable subset of real positive numbers. The set  $M$  can be also finite. The condition

$u(t,y) \in C^{(n)}(J_1, J_2)$  is possible weaken. Then it is necessary to change same assumptions in Theorem 1 and 2.

Remark 2: We can also use the property of additivity of solutions of equation (1) i.e. if  $u_1(t,y)$  and  $u_2(t,y)$  are solutions of equation (1), then  $u(t,y) = u_1(t,y) + u_2(t,y)$  is also solution of equation (1).

Remark 3: For  $Q_1(z)$  and  $Q_2(z)$  in (23) and (24) it is advantageous to take e.g. functions  $\sin z$ ,  $\cos z$ ,  $e^z - e^{-z}$ , because they have a lot of suitable zero points.

Souhrn

### FOURIEROVA METODA PRO LINEÁRNÍ PARCIÁLNÍ DIFERENCIÁLNÍ ROVNICE n-TÉHO ŘÁDU

Článek popisuje možnost řešení lineární parciální diferenciální rovnice n-tého řádu

$$\sum_{k=0}^n a_k(t) \frac{\partial^k u}{\partial t^k} = \sum_{k=0}^n b_k(y) \frac{\partial^k u}{\partial y^k}$$

použitím kombinace Fourierovy metody a Kummerovy transformace. Na koeficienty  $a_k(t)$  a  $b_k(y)$  ( $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ) jsou kladeny dodatečné podmínky.

Ukazuje se, že touto kombinací můžeme řešit širší okruh diferenciálních rovnic, než když používáme Fourierovu metodu a Kummerovu transformaci samostatně.

## РЕЗЮМЕ

### МЕТОД ФУРЬЕ ДЛЯ ЛИНЕЙНЫХ ДИФФЕРЕНЦИАЛЬНЫХ УРАВНЕНИЙ В ЧАСТНЫХ ПРОИЗВОДНЫХ n-ТОГО ПОРЯДКА

В статье показывается возможность решить линейные дифференциальные уравнения в частных производных n-того порядка

$$\sum_{k=0}^n a_k(t) \frac{\partial^k u}{\partial t^k} = \sum_{k=0}^n b_k(y) \frac{\partial^k u}{\partial y^k}$$

при помощи комбинации метода Фурье и преобразования Куммера. Коэффициенты  $a_k(t)$  и  $b_k(y)$  ( $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ) должны выполнять данные условия.

Показывается, что при помощи этой комбинации можно решить более широкий класс дифференциальных уравнений чем использованием метода Фурье и преобразования Куммера самостоятельно.

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