

01:640:423 - Homework 3

Pranav Tikkawar

October 5, 2024

1. Section 2.1 Problem 5

(The hammer blow) Let $\phi(x) \equiv 0$ and $\psi(x) = 1$ for $|x| < a$ and $\psi(x) = 0$ for $|x| \geq a$. Sketch the string profile (u vs x) at each of the successive instances: $t = a/2c, a/c, 3a/2c, 2a/c$, and $5a/c$. Hint: [Calculate

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(s) ds = \frac{1}{2c} \text{length of } (x - ct, x + ct) \cap (-a, a)$$

Then $u(x, a/2c) = (1/2c) \text{length of } (x - ct, x + ct) \cap (-a, a)$ This takes on different values for $|x| < a/2$ for $a/2 < x < 3a/2$ and for $x > 3a/2$. Continue this for the other times.]

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} &= c^2 u_{xx} \\ u(x, 0) &= 0 \\ u_t(x, 0) &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |x| \geq a \\ 1 & \text{if } |x| < a \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

We can use D'Alembert's formula to solve this problem. We have

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} [\phi(x + ct) + \phi(x - ct)] + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(s) ds$$

Since $\phi(x) = 0$, we have

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(s) ds$$

Clearly since $\psi(x) = 1$ for $|x| < a$ We only need to consider:

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} ds = \frac{1}{2c} \text{length of } (x - ct, x + ct) \cap (-a, a)$$

Since we know that the wave function is even, ie $u(x, t) = u(-x, t)$, we only need to consider the case when $x > 0$ and for any interval that a function of x will need to have

a negative x for the corresponding interval.

Case 1: $t = a/2c$

We can see that $x \pm a/2$ becomes the boundary of the interval.

We can consider the following cases:

- $x \in (-a/2, a/2)$
- $x \in (a/2, 3a/2)$
- $x \in (3a/2, \infty)$

Subcase 1: $x \in (-a/2, a/2)$

$$(x - a/2, x + a/2) \cap (-a, a) = (x - a/2, x + a/2)$$

$$u(x, a/2c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-a/2}^{x+a/2} ds = \frac{a}{2c}$$

Subcase 2: $x \in (a/2, 3a/2)$

$$(x - a/2, x + a/2) \cap (-a, a) = (x - a/2, a)$$

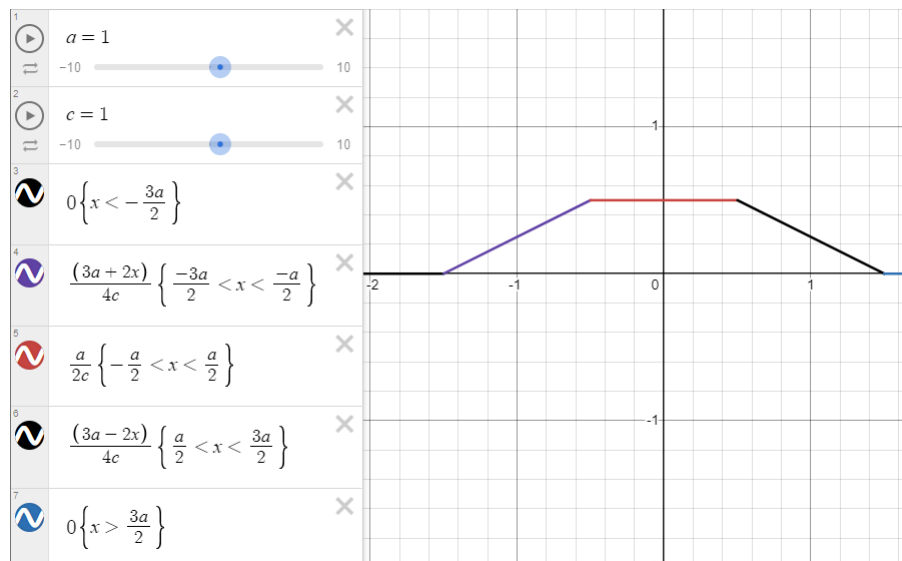
$$u(x, a/2c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-a/2}^a ds = \frac{3a - 2x}{4c}$$

Subcase 3: $x \in (3a/2, \infty)$

$$(x - a/2, x + a/2) \cap (-a, a) = \emptyset$$

$$u(x, a/2c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_a^a ds = 0$$

Plotting the graph



Case 2: $t = a/c$

We can see that $x \pm a$ becomes the boundary of the interval.

We can consider the following cases:

- $x \in (0, 2a)$
- $x \in (2a, \infty)$

Subcase 1: $x \in (0, 2a)$

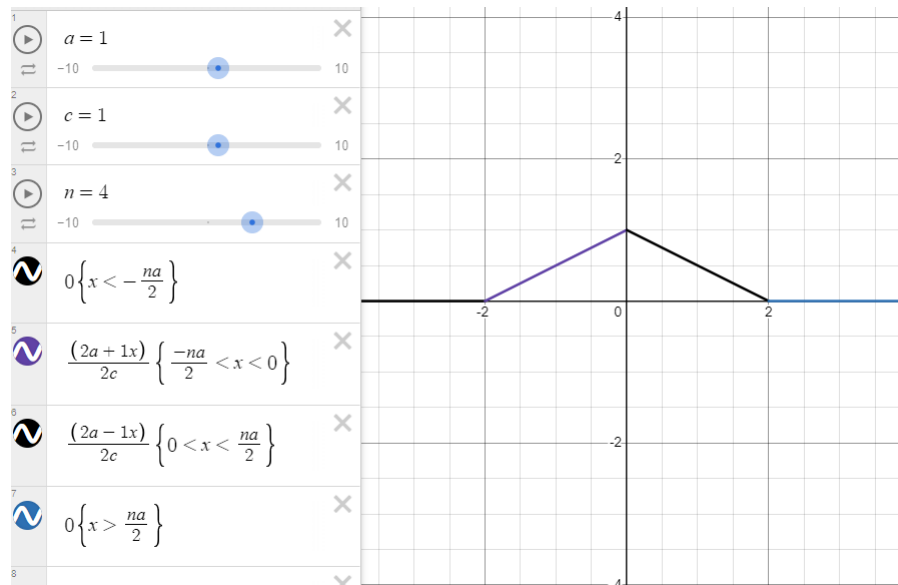
$$(x - a, x + a) \cap (-a, a) = (x - a, a)$$

$$u(x, a/c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-a}^a ds = \frac{2a - x}{2c}$$

Subcase 2: $x \in (2a, \infty)$

$$(x - a, x + a) \cap (-a, a) = \emptyset$$

$$u(x, a/c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_a^a ds = 0$$

Plotting the graph**Case 3:** $t = 3a/2c$

We can see that $x \pm 3a/2$ becomes the boundary of the interval.

We can consider the following cases:

- $x \in (-a/2, a/2)$
- $x \in (a/2, 5a/2)$

- $x \in (5a/2, \infty)$

Subcase 1: $x \in (-a/2, a/2)$

$$(x - 3a/2, x + 3a/2) \cap (-a, a) = (-a, a)$$

$$u(x, 3a/2c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{-a}^a ds = \frac{a}{c}$$

Subcase 2: $x \in (a/2, 5a/2)$

$$(x - 3a/2, x + 3a/2) \cap (-a, a) = (x - 3a/2, a)$$

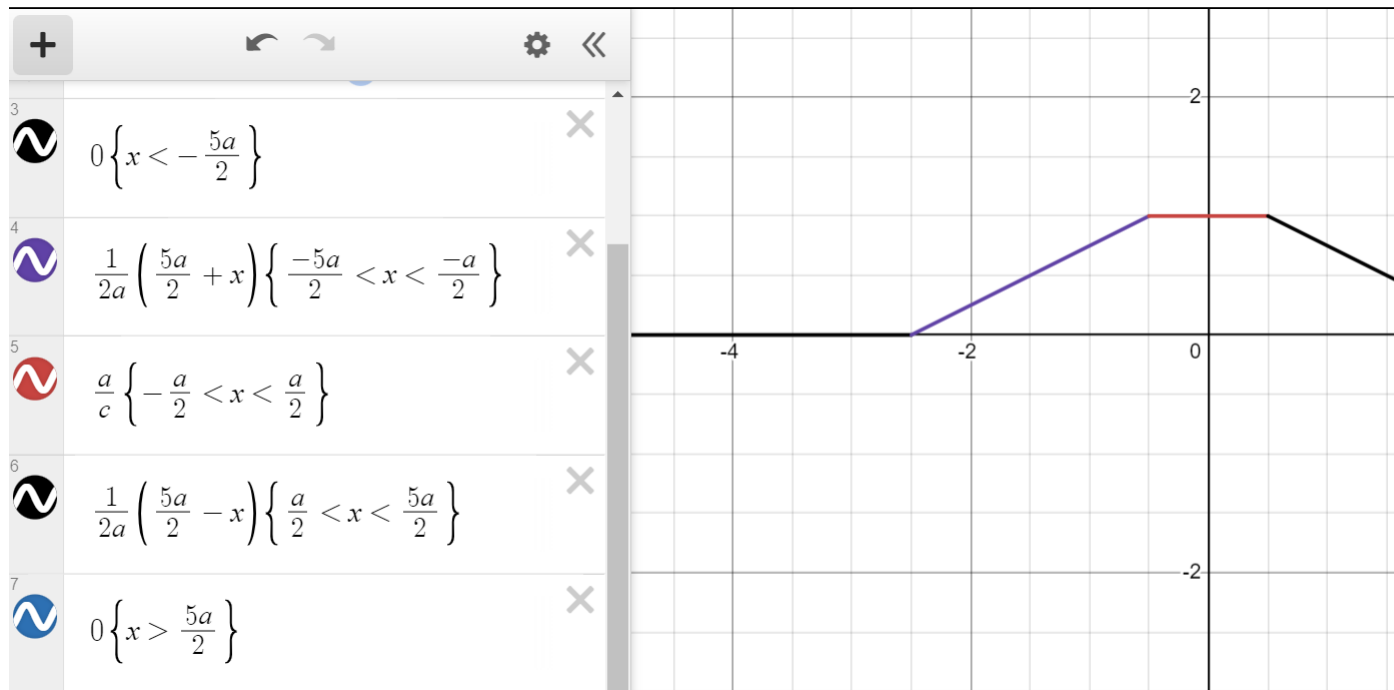
$$u(x, 3a/2c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-3a/2}^a ds = \frac{1}{2c} \left(\frac{5a}{2} - x \right)$$

Subcase 3: $x \in (5a/2, \infty)$

$$(x - 3a/2, x + 3a/2) \cap (-a, a) = \emptyset$$

$$u(x, 3a/2c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_a^a ds = 0$$

Plotting the graph



Case 4: $t = 2a/c$

We can see that $x \pm 2a$ becomes the boundary of the interval.

We can consider the following cases:

- $x \in (-a, a)$
- $x \in (a, 3a)$
- $x \in (3a, \infty)$

Subcase 1: $x \in (-a, a)$

$$(x - 2a, x + 2a) \cap (-a, a) = (-a, a)$$

$$u(x, 2a/c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{-a}^a ds = \frac{a}{c}$$

Subcase 2: $x \in (a, 3a)$

$$(x - 2a, x + 2a) \cap (-a, a) = (x - 2a, a)$$

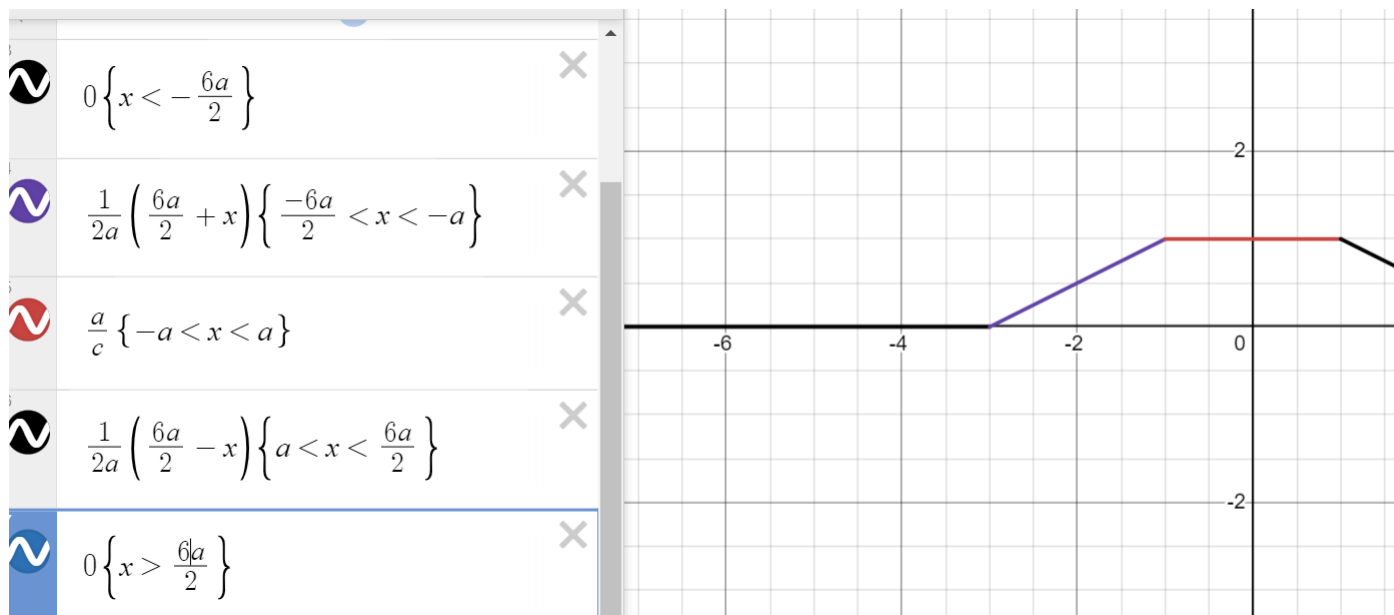
$$u(x, 2a/c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-2a}^a ds = \frac{1}{2c}(3a - x)$$

Subcase 3: $x \in (3a, \infty)$

$$(x - 2a, x + 2a) \cap (-a, a) = \emptyset$$

$$u(x, 2a/c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_a^a ds = 0$$

Plotting the graph



Case 5: $t = 5a/c$

We can see that $x \pm 5a$ becomes the boundary of the interval.

We can consider the following cases:

- $x \in (-4a, 4a)$
- $x \in (4a, 6a)$
- $x \in (6a, \infty)$

Subcase 1: $x \in (-4a, 4a)$

$$(x - 5a, x + 5a) \cap (-a, a) = (-a, a)$$

$$u(x, 5a/c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{-a}^a ds = \frac{a}{c}$$

Subcase 2: $x \in (4a, 6a)$

$$(x - 5a, x + 5a) \cap (-a, a) = (x - 5a, a)$$

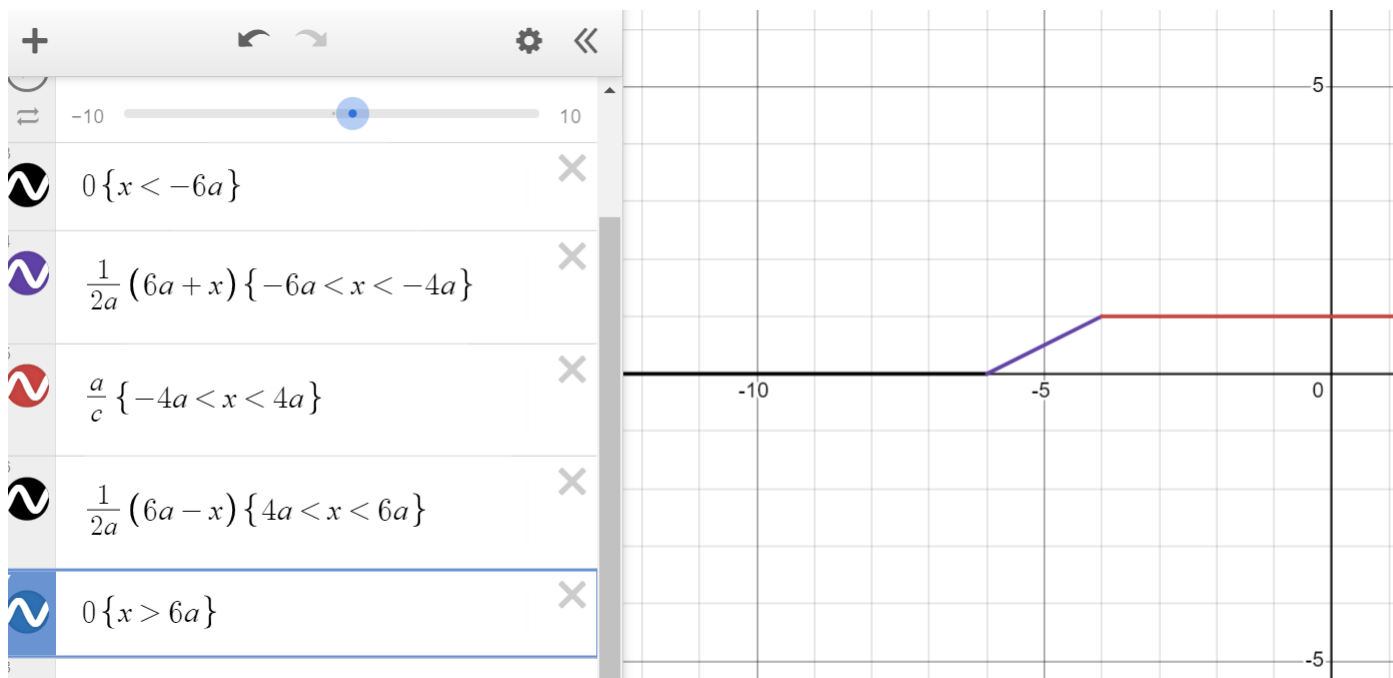
$$u(x, 5a/c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-5a}^a ds = \frac{1}{2c}(6a - x)$$

Subcase 3: $x \in (6a, \infty)$

$$(x - 5a, x + 5a) \cap (-a, a) = \emptyset$$

$$u(x, 5a/c) = \frac{1}{2c} \int_a^a ds = 0$$

Plotting the graph



2. Section 2.1 Problem 9 Solve $u_{xx} - 3u_{xt} - 4u_{tt} = 0$ for $u(x, 0) = x^2$ and $u_t(x, 0) = e^t$.

Solution:

To solve this we can use the factorization method. We can write the equation as:

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} - 4\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)u = 0$$

Let $v = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$. We can write the equation as:

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} - 4\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\right)v = 0$$

We now have a system of first second order odes:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = v \\ -\frac{1}{4}\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} = 0 \end{cases}$$

We can see that along the curves of the tx plane:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

Thus we can rewrite the solution v as a function of $x + \frac{1}{4}t$ and $x(\xi, 0) = \xi$ as we know this is the solution on this characteristic curve.

We can also plug this back into the first equation to get:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = v = f\left(x + \frac{1}{4}t\right)$$

We can now solve this equation using the method of characteristics. We have:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 1$$

Thus $x(\eta, 0) = \eta$ Thus the equation becomes:

$$\frac{du}{dt} = f(x + \frac{1}{4}t)$$

We also know that $\eta = x - t$ Thus:

$$\frac{du}{dt} = f(\eta + \frac{5}{4}t)$$

Integrating both sides get

$$u = \int f(\eta + \frac{5}{4}t)dt + g(\eta)$$

For arbitrary functions f and g . Now converting back to the original variables we get:

$$u(x, t) = \int f(x + \frac{1}{4}t)dt + g(x - t)$$

We can now use the initial conditions to solve for f and g . We have:

$$u(x, 0) = x^2 = f(x)dt + g(x)$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = e^t = \frac{1}{4}f'(x) + g'(x)$$

We can now solve for f and g to get the solution.

Solving for f and g

We can see that $f' + g' = 2x$ and $\frac{1}{4}f' + g' = e^t$

We can see that $f' = \frac{8}{5}x + \frac{4}{5}e^t$ and $g' = \frac{2}{5}x - \frac{4}{5}e^t$

Thus

$$f = \frac{4}{5}x^2 + \frac{4}{5}e^t$$

$$g = \frac{1}{5}x^2 - \frac{4}{5}e^t$$

Now plugging back in the $x + \frac{1}{4}t$ and $x - t$ we get:

$$u(x, t) = x^2 + \frac{1}{4}x^2 + \frac{4}{5}e^{x-t}(e^{5t/4} - 1)$$

3. Section 2.2 Problem 2 for a solution $u(x, t)$ of the wave equation with $\rho = T = C = 1$, the energy density is defined as $e = \frac{1}{2}(u_t^2 + u_x^2)$ and the momentum density as $p = u_t u_x$.
 - a) Show that $\frac{\partial e}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial e}{\partial x}$
 - b) Show that both $e(x, t)$ and $p(x, t)$ satisfy the wave equation.

Solution:

a:

Since we know that u solves the wave equation we have that:

$$u_{tt} = u_{xx}$$

We can now calculate the partial derivatives of e and p :

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial t} = u_t u_{tt} + u_x u_{xt}$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} = u_{tx} u_x + u_t u_{xx}$$

We can sub $u_{tt} = u_{xx}$ to get:

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial t} = u_t u_{xx} + u_x u_{xt} = u_t u_{xx} + u_x u_{tx} = u_t u_{xx} + u_x u_{tt} = u_t u_{xx} + u_x u_{xx} = (u_t u_x)_x = \frac{\partial p}{\partial x}$$

Similarly we can calculate the other partial derivative:

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = u_{tt} u_x + u_t u_{xt} = u_{xx} u_x + u_t u_{xt} = u_{xx} u_x + u_{tx} u_t = u_{xx} u_x + u_{xt} u_t = (u_x u_t)_x = \frac{\partial e}{\partial x}$$

b:

Since we know from part a that

$$\begin{cases} p_t = e_x \\ e_t = p_x \end{cases}$$

We can take the t and x derivative of both sides for the top and bottom respectively

$$\begin{cases} p_{tt} = e_{xt} \\ e_{tx} = p_{xx} \end{cases}$$

Clearly p solves the wave equation.

Now if we switch the derivative to take the x and t derivatives for top and bottom respectively we get:

$$\begin{cases} p_{xt} = e_{xx} \\ e_{tt} = p_{tx} \end{cases}$$

Thus e also solves the wave equation.

4. Section 2.2 Problem 5 For a damped string, equation (1.3.3), show that the energy decreases.

The equation is defined by $u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} + ru_t = 0$

Solution:

We need to show that the t derivative of the $KE + PE$ is negative.

We have that the $KE = \frac{1}{2} u_t^2 = \frac{1}{2} \rho \int_R u_t^2 dx$

$$KE_t = \frac{1}{2} \rho \int_R 2u_t u_{tt} dx$$

Upon subbing in the wave equation we get:

$$KE_t = \rho \int_R u_t(c^2 u_{xx} - ru_t) dx = \rho c^2 \int_R u_t u_{xx} dx - \rho r \int_R u_t^2 dx$$

Once we integrate by parts and consider that $c^2 = T/\rho$ we get

$$KE_t = T(u_t u_x)|_R - T \int_R u_{tx} u_x dx - \rho r \int_R u_t^2 dx$$

$$KE_t = -\frac{1}{2}T \frac{d}{dt} \int_R u_x^2 dx - \rho r \int_R u_t^2 dx$$

Potential energy is defined as

$$PE = \frac{1}{2}T \int_R u_x^2 dx$$

Thus the time derivative total energy is:

$$KE_t + PE_t = -\rho r \int_R u_t^2 dx < 0$$

Thus the energy decreases.

5. Section 2.3 Problem 4 Consider the diffusion equation $u_t = u_{xx}$ in $x \in (0, 1)$ and $t \in (0, \infty)$ with $u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0$ and $u(x, 0) = 4x(1 - x)$.
- Show that $0 < u(x, t) < 1$ for all $x \in (0, 1)$ and $t > 0$.
 - Show that $u(x, t) = u(1 - x, t)$ for all $x \in (0, 1)$ and $t > 0$.
 - Use the energy method to show that $\int_0^1 u^2 dt$ is a strictly decreasing function of t .

Solution:

a:

We can utilize the minimum and maximum principles

For the bottom bound we can use the minimum principle and see that on the Γ boundary we have $u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0$ and $u(x, 0) = 4x(1 - x)$ which is clearly positive. Thus the minimum value of $u(x, t)$ is 0.

For the upper bound we can use the maximum principle and see that the maximum value on the boundary is at $x = \frac{1}{2}$ and $t = 0$ which is 1. Thus the maximum value of $u(x, t)$ is 1.

Thus $0 < u(x, t) < 1$ for all $x \in (0, 1)$ and $t > 0$.

b:

We can clearly see that $u(1 - x, t)$ solves the diffusion equation as

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(1 - x, t) = u_t$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(1 - x, t) = -u_x$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(1 - x, t) = u_{xx}$$

Since $u_t = u_{xx}$ we have that $u(1-x, t)$ solves the diffusion equation.

Additionally

The range of $u(x, t)$ is $(0, 1)$ and the range of $u(1-x, t)$ is also $(0, 1)$

Additionally

$$u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0 \implies u(1, t) = u(0, t) = 0$$

As well as

$$u(x, 0) = 4x(1-x) \implies u(1-x, 0) = 4(1-x)x$$

c:

We can first consider the diffusion equation in the form of $u_t = u_{xx}$

Then we can multiply by u on both sides to get $uu_t = uu_{xx}$

We can rewrite to get $\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u^2 = (u_x u)_x - u_x^2$

Now integrating over the interval $(0, 1)$ we get:

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u^2 dx = \int_0^1 (u_x u)_x dx - \int_0^1 u_x^2 dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 u^2 dx = (u_x u)|_0^1 - \int_0^1 u_x^2 dx$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 u^2 dx = -2 \int_0^1 u_x^2 dx$$

Clearly since the RHS is always negative, the LHS is always negative. Thus the integral is a strictly decreasing function of t .

6. Section 2.3 Problem 6 Prove the comparison principle for the diffusion equation: If u and v are two solutions, and if $u \leq v$ for $t = 0$, for $x = 0$, and for $x = l$, then $u \leq v$ for $0 \leq t < \infty, 0 \leq x \leq l$. **Solution:**

Since we know that u and v are solutions to the diffusion equation we have that $u_t = u_{xx}$ and $v_t = v_{xx}$

Also we can consider the function $w = u - v$

Since we know that $u \leq v$ for $t = 0$, for $x = 0$, and for $x = l$, we have that $w \leq 0$ for $t = 0$, for $x = 0$, and for $x = l$

We can also consider that $w_t = u_t - v_t = u_{xx} - v_{xx} = w_{xx}$

The middle terms of the equation can factor to get: $(u - v)_t = (u - v)_{xx}$

Since clearly w solves the diffusion equation and $w \leq 0$ for $t = 0$, for $x = 0$, and for $x = l$, we have that $w \leq 0$ for $0 \leq t < \infty, 0 \leq x \leq l$

Thus we can say that $u \leq v$ for $0 \leq t < \infty, 0 \leq x \leq l$ due to the minimum principle of $u - v$

7. Section 2.3 Problem 8 Consider the diffusion equation on $(0, l)$ with the Robin BC $u_x(0, t) - a_0 u(0, t) = 0$ and $u_x(l, t) + a_l u(l, t) = 0$ If $a_0 > 0$ and $a_l > 0$, use the energy method to show that the endpoints contribute to the decrease of $\int_0^l u^2 dx$

Solution:

The boundary conditions are:

$$u_x(0, t) - a_0 u(0, t) = 0 \rightarrow u_x(0, t) = a_0 u(0, t)$$

$$u_x(l, t) + a_l u(l, t) = 0 \rightarrow u_x(l, t) = -a_l u(l, t)$$

We can then consider the diffusion equation: $u_t = k u_{xx}$

We can multiply by u on both sides to get $u u_t = k u u_{xx}$

We can rewrite to get $\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u^2 = (u_x u)_x - u_x^2$

Then integrating over the interval $(0, l)$ we get:

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_0^l \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u^2 dx = k \int_0^l (u_x u)_x dx - k \int_0^l u_x^2 dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^l u^2 dx = k (u_x u)|_0^l - k \int_0^l u_x^2 dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^l u^2 dx = k [u_x(l, t) u(l, t) - u_x(0, t) u(0, t)] - k \int_0^l u_x^2 dx$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_0^l u^2 dx = 2k [-a_l u^2(l, t) - a_0 u^2(0, t)] - 2k \int_0^l u_x^2 dx$$

Since $a_0 > 0$ and $a_l > 0$ the lhs is all negative. Thus the endpoints contribute to the decrease of $\int_0^l u^2 dx$