

The problems on this worksheet refer to material from sections §§10.2, 10.3, and 10.4 of our text. Please report any typos, omissions and errors to aiffam@ucalgary.ca

Heat Equation

01. Solve the initial-boundary value problems for the heat conduction in a wire.

a.

$$\begin{cases} 4 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, & 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = x - x^2, & 0 < x < 1 \end{cases}$$

b.

$$\begin{cases} 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, & 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = 2 \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{3} \sin(3\pi x) & 0 < x < 1 \end{cases}$$

02. Solve the initial-boundary value problem for the heat conduction in a wire.

a.

$$\begin{cases} 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, & 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = 4 \sin(\pi x) \cos^3(\pi x), & 0 < x < 1 \end{cases}$$

b.

$$\begin{cases} 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, & 0 < x < 3, \quad t > 0 \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(0, t) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(3, t) = 0, & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = 4 \cos\left(\frac{2}{3}\pi x\right) \cos^3\left(\frac{4}{3}\pi x\right), & 0 < x < 3 \end{cases}$$

Wave Equation

- 03.** Solve the initial-boundary value problem for the vibrating string

$$\begin{cases} 4 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, & 0 < x < 2, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, t) = u(2, t) = 0, & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = f(x) & \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = 0, 0 < x < 2 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{where } f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 2 - x & \text{if } 1 < x \leq 2 \end{cases}$$

- 04.** Solve the initial-boundary value problem for the vibrating string

$$\begin{cases} 4 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, & 0 < x < 2, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, t) = u(2, t) = 0, & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = 0 & \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = 8 \sin(3\pi x), 0 < x < 2 \end{cases}$$

Laplace Equation

- 05.** Solve

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, & 0 < x < L, \quad 0 \leq y \leq H \\ u(x, 0) = 0 & u(x, H) = 0, \quad 0 < x < L \\ u(0, y) = y(H - y) & u(L, y) = 0, \quad 0 < y < H \end{cases}$$

The solution of the initial-boundary value problem for the heat conduction in a wire

$$\begin{cases} k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, & 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0, & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = f(x), & 0 < x < L \end{cases} \quad \text{is} \quad u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{L} x\right) e^{-\left(n \frac{\pi}{L}\right)^2 k t}, \quad \text{with}$$

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{L} x\right) dx \quad \text{A convenient way to remember what the coefficients } b_n \text{ are, is}$$

to set $t = 0$ in the formula defining $u(x, t)$ to get $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{L} x\right)$. In other words,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{L} x\right) \text{ is the Fourier sine series of } f(x), \quad 0 < x < L.$$

Similarly, the solution of the initial-boundary value problem for the heat equation

$$\begin{cases} k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, & 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0 \\ u_x(0, t) = u_x(L, t) = 0, & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = f(x), & 0 < x < L \end{cases} \quad \text{is} \quad u(x, t) = \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} a_n \cos\left(n \frac{\pi}{L} x\right) e^{-\left(n \frac{\pi}{L}\right)^2 k t}, \quad \text{with}$$

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(n \frac{\pi}{L} x\right) dx$$

01a. Here $k = 4$, $L = 1$, $\frac{\pi}{L} = \pi$. It follows

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{4(1 - \cos(n\pi))}{n^3 \pi^3} \sin(n\pi x) e^{-4\pi^2 n^2 t} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{8}{(2n-1)^3 \pi^3} \sin((2n-1)\pi x) e^{-4\pi^2 (2n-1)^2 t} \end{aligned}$$

01b. Here $k = 2$, $L = 1$, $\frac{\pi}{L} = \pi$. It follows

$$u(x, t) = 2 \sin(\pi x) e^{-2\pi^2 t} - \frac{1}{3} \sin(3\pi x) e^{-18\pi^2 t}$$

Notice that in this problem, there is no need to integrate to find the Fourier coefficients b_n .

Indeed $u(x, 0) = 2 \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{3} \sin(3\pi x)$ leads to

$$\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin(n\pi x) = 2 \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{3} \sin(3\pi x) \iff \begin{cases} b_1 = 2 \\ b_3 = -1/3 \\ b_2 = b_4 = b_5 = \dots = 0 \end{cases}$$

02a. First linearize $4 \sin(\pi x) \cos^3(\pi x)$ as $\sin(2\pi x) + \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi x)$

The solution is

$$u(x, t) = \sin(2\pi x) e^{-8\pi^2 t} + \frac{1}{2} \sin(4\pi x) e^{-32\pi^2 t}$$

02b. Linearizing, we get

$$4 \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{3}x\right) \cos^3\left(\frac{4\pi}{3}x\right) = \frac{3}{2} \cos\left(2\frac{\pi}{3}x\right) + \frac{3}{2} \cos\left(6\frac{\pi}{3}x\right) + \frac{1}{2} \cos\left(10\frac{\pi}{3}x\right) + \frac{1}{2} \cos\left(14\frac{\pi}{3}x\right)$$

The solution is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{3}{2} \cos\left(2\frac{\pi}{3}x\right) e^{-2\left(2\pi/3\right)^2 t} + \frac{3}{2} \cos\left(6\frac{\pi}{3}x\right) e^{-2\left(6\pi/3\right)^2 t} + \frac{3}{2} \cos\left(10\frac{\pi}{3}x\right) e^{-2\left(10\pi/3\right)^2 t} \\ + \frac{3}{2} \cos\left(14\frac{\pi}{3}x\right) e^{-2\left(14\pi/3\right)^2 t}$$

The solution of the initial-boundary value problem for the wave equation of a vibrating string

$$\begin{cases} c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}, & 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0, & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = g(x), & 0 < x < L \end{cases}$$

is

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \sin\left(n\frac{\pi}{L}x\right) \left(b_n \cos\left(n\frac{\pi}{L}ct\right) + b_n^* \sin\left(n\frac{\pi}{L}ct\right) \right)$$

where

$$b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(n\frac{\pi}{L}x\right) dx \quad \text{and} \quad b_n^* = \frac{2}{n\pi c} \int_0^L g(x) \sin\left(n\frac{\pi}{L}x\right) dx$$

A convenient way to remember what the coefficients b_n and b_n^* are, is to set $t = 0$ in the formulas defining $u(x, t)$ and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, t)$ to get

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin\left(n\frac{\pi}{L}x\right) \quad \text{and} \quad g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{n\pi c}{L} b_n^* \cos\left(n\frac{\pi}{L}x\right)$$

which suggests that,

$$\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin\left(n\frac{\pi}{L}x\right) \quad \text{is the Fourier sine series of } f(x), \quad 0 < x < L$$

and

$$\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{n\pi c}{L} b_n^* \cos\left(n\frac{\pi}{L}x\right) \quad \text{is the Fourier cosine series of } g(x), \quad 0 < x < L$$

03. Here $c = 2$, $L = 2$, $\frac{\pi}{L} = \frac{\pi}{2}$, $\frac{\pi}{L} c = \pi$. It follows

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \left(b_n \cos(n \pi t) + b_n^* \sin(n \pi t) \right)$$

Setting $t = 0$, leads to

$$u(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \iff f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right)$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^2 f(x) \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) dx = \int_0^1 x \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) dx + \int_1^2 (2-x) \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) dx \\ &= \frac{8 \sin(n \pi / 2)}{n^2 \pi^2} \end{aligned}$$

Differentiating with respect to t and setting $t = 0$, leads to

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} n \pi b_n^* \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \iff 0 = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} n \pi b_n^* \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \implies b_n^* = 0, n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Hence the solution is

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{8 \sin(n \pi / 2)}{n^2 \pi^2} \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \cos(n \pi t)$$

04. Here $c = 2$, $L = 2$, $\frac{\pi}{L} = \frac{\pi}{2}$, $\frac{\pi}{L} c = \pi$. It follows

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \left(b_n \cos(n \pi t) + b_n^* \sin(n \pi t) \right)$$

Setting $t = 0$, leads to

$$u(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \iff 0 = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} b_n \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \implies b_n = 0, n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Differentiating with respect to t and setting $t = 0$, leads to

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) &= \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} n \pi b_n^* \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \iff 8 \sin(3 \pi x) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} n \pi b_n^* \sin\left(n \frac{\pi}{2} x\right) \\ &\implies \begin{cases} b_6^* = 8 \\ b_n^* = 0, n \neq 6 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Hence the solution

$$u(x, t) = \frac{4}{3 \pi} \sin(3 \pi x) \sin(6 \pi t)$$

The solution of the boundary value problem for Laplace equation

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, & 0 < x < L, \quad 0 < y < H \\ u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u(x, H) = 0, & 0 < x < L \\ u(0, y) = g(y), \quad u(L, y) = 0, & 0 < y < H \end{cases}$$

is

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} c_n \sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} (L - x) \right) \sin \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} y \right)$$

where the coefficients c_n are selected so that

$$u(0, y) = g(y) \iff \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} c_n \sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} L \right) \sin \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} y \right) = g(y)$$

Hence $c_n \sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} L \right)$ are the coefficients of the Fourier sine series of $g(y)$.

$$c_n \sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} L \right) = \frac{2}{H} \int_0^H g(y) \sin \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} y \right) dy$$

05. The solution is given by

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} c_n \sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} (L - x) \right) \sin \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} y \right)$$

Setting $x = 0$ and equating the result to $y(H - y)$, leads to

$$u(0, y) = y(H - y) \iff \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} c_n \sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} L \right) \sin \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} y \right) = y(H - y)$$

It follows that

$$c_n \sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} L \right) = \frac{2}{H} \int_0^H y(H - y) \sin \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} y \right) dy = \frac{4H^2}{n^3 \pi^3} (1 - \cos(n\pi)) \frac{1}{\sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} L \right)}$$

Hence

$$u(x, y) = \frac{4H^2}{\pi^3} \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{1 - \cos(n\pi)}{n^3} \frac{\sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} (L - x) \right)}{\sinh \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} L \right)} \sin \left(n \frac{\pi}{H} y \right)$$