

1. Set up an initial-boundary value problem (IBVP) that models the temperature in the bar, in following scenario. Do not solve!

A metal bar, of length 1 meter and thermal diffusivity 2, is taken out of a  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$  oven and then fully insulated except for one end, which is placed into a large ice bucket at  $0^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

2. The Dirichlet IBVP for the cable equation is given by

$$\begin{aligned}v_t &= \alpha^2 v_{xx} - \beta v, & 0 < x < L, \beta > 0 \\v(x, 0) &= f(x), & 0 \leq x \leq L, \\v(0, t) &= v(L, t) = 0 & t > 0,\end{aligned}$$

(a) By setting the time derivative in the differential equation to zero, solve for the steady state solution.

(b) Solve the IBVP and compare the solution as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  to that in part (a)

**Solutions:**

**Part a:**

**Step 1:** Find the roots

$$0 = a^2 r^2 - b \tag{1}$$

$$r^2 = \frac{b}{a^2} \tag{2}$$

$$r = \pm \sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} \tag{3}$$

**Step 2:** Find the general solution

The general solution for real, distinct roots is:

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{r_1 x} + c_2 e^{r_2 x} \tag{4}$$

$$= c_1 e^{\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} x} + c_2 e^{-\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} x} \tag{5}$$

Now, let's plug-in both BCs to equation (5).

**Step 3:** Plug-in the first BC:  $u(0, t)$

$$0 = y(0) = c_1 + c_2 \tag{6}$$

$$\implies c_2 = -c_1 \tag{7}$$

**Step 4:** Plug-in the second BC:  $u(L, t) = 0$

$$0 = y(L) = c_1 e^{\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} L} + c_2 e^{-\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} L} \tag{8}$$

$$= c_1 e^{\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} L} + c_2 e^{-\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} L} \tag{9}$$

$$= c_1 (e^{\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} L} - e^{-\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}} L}) \tag{10}$$

It's not possible for  $e^{\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}}L} - e^{-\sqrt{\frac{b}{a}}L}$  to equal zero; therefore,  $c_1$  must equal 0.

$$\boxed{\hat{v}(x) = 0} \quad (11)$$

**Part b:**

**Step 1:** Assume the solution has the following form:

$$v = T(t) X(x) \quad (12)$$

**Step 2:** Substitute (12) into the given equation ( $V_t = A^2 V_{xx} - bv$ )

$$T_t X = a^2 T X_{xx} - b T X \quad (13)$$

$$\frac{T_t}{T a^2} = \frac{X_{xx}}{X} - \frac{b}{a^2} \quad (14)$$

$$\frac{T_t}{T a^2} + \frac{b}{a^2} = \frac{X_{xx}}{X} \quad (15)$$

$$\frac{T_t + T b}{T a^2} = \frac{X_{xx}}{X} = C \quad (16)$$

In equation (14) we divided by  $XTa^2$ . In equation (16), we factored out an  $a^2$  in the numerator and the denominator on the LHS. Also, notice the LHS is a function of  $T$  and the RHS is a function of  $X$ . The only way for those two equations, which are functions of different variables, is for both to equal the same constant.

**Step 3:** Write out both ODEs

At this point, we have two separate ODEs both equal to the same constant. Let's write out both ODEs, and we'll replace  $C$  with  $-\lambda^2$  for convenience.

The first ODE (the time ODE) is:

$$0 = T_t + T b + \lambda^2 T a^2 \quad (17)$$

$$= T_t + T(b + \lambda^2 T a^2) \quad (18)$$

$$(19)$$

This is simply the LHS of (16) rewritten.

And now the second ODE (the spatial ODE) is:

$$0 = X_{xx} + \lambda^2 X \quad (20)$$

**Step 4:** Solve both ODEs

Let's solve the spatial ODE first. We'll start by finding the characteristic equation.

$$0 = r^2 + \lambda^2 \quad (21)$$

$$r^2 = -\lambda^2 \quad (22)$$

$$r = \lambda i \quad (23)$$

In equation (23) we used the following fact:  $\sqrt{-\lambda^2} = \sqrt{i^2 \lambda^2} = \lambda i$

This is a complex root. Recall, the general solution for complex roots is:

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{ax} \cos(ux) + c_2 e^{ax} \sin(ux) \quad (24)$$

where we have:  $r_{1,2} = a \pm ui$ .

So, for our characteristic equation the  $\lambda$  corresponds to the  $u$  in the general equation. And the  $a$  in the general solution corresponds to 0 in our characteristic equation, because our characteristic equation is technically  $0 \pm \lambda i$ . Writing out the general equation we have:

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{0x} \cos(\lambda x) + c_2 e^{0x} \sin(\lambda x) \quad (25)$$

From here, we can see the exponential terms fall away because they're raised to 0.

**Step 5:** Plug-in Boundary conditions

Let's plug-in the first boundary condition,  $v(0, t) = 0$ , to the general equation.

$$0 = y(0) = c_1 \cos(0) + c_2 \sin(0) \quad (26)$$

$$\implies c_1 = 0 \quad (27)$$

Let's plug-in the second BC,  $v(L, t) = 0$ , to the general equation.

$$0 = y(L) = c_2 \sin(\lambda L) \quad (28)$$

At this point, we want to avoid the trivial solution (i.e.  $u(x, t) = 0$ ). Since  $c_1$  already equals 0, we don't want to set  $c_2 = 0$  because that'd be trivial. So, we need  $\sin(\lambda L) = 0$ , which can be achieved by setting  $\lambda L = \pi$ .

$$\lambda L = \pi \quad (29)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{n\pi}{L} \quad \forall n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (30)$$

The  $n$  is because all integer multiples of  $\pi$  are 0. Therefore, the eigenvalues are  $\lambda = \frac{n\pi}{L}$  and the eigenfunction is  $\sin(\lambda_n \pi)$ , where  $\lambda_n = \frac{n\pi}{L}$ , and we plugged that into the general solution (equation (25)).

Now, let's solve the time ODE.

$$0 = T_t + T(b + a^2 \lambda^2) \quad (31)$$

This is a first order, separable, ODE. The solution is:

$$T = e^{(-b-c^2 a^2)+c_1} \quad (32)$$

Recall,  $c_1 = 0$  so we can drop that. Also, since the solution above is periodic, we excluded the  $c_2$  term in the eigensolution (i.e.  $\sin(\lambda_n \pi)$ ) because we're absorbing it into  $T(t)$ . Thus we have the following:

$$T_n(t) = T_n(0) e^{-(b+a^2 \lambda_n^2)t} \quad (33)$$

Remember,  $\lambda = \frac{n\pi}{L} \quad \forall \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

**Step 6:** Find the coefficients by applying the initial condition (IC)

Let's apply the IC to find  $T_n$ .

$$v(x, t) = f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n(0) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (34)$$

$$\implies T_n(0) = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \quad (35)$$

In equation (34) the  $e^{-(b+a^2 \lambda_n^2)t}$  term falls away because  $t = 0$ . And we found equation (35) via definition of the Fourier Sine Series.

To solve the original problem, we plug-in the ODE solutions to (12). The solutions to our two ODEs are:

$$X = \sin(\lambda_n \pi) \quad (36)$$

$$T = T_n(0) \quad (37)$$

**Step 7:** Plug our ODE solutions into our assumed solution (i.e.  $V = T(t)X(x)$ )

Plugging this into (12) we have:

$$v(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n(0) e^{-(b+a^2 \lambda_n^2)t} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (38)$$

with

$$T_n(0) = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \quad (39)$$

3. The following IBVP :

$$\begin{aligned} u_{tt} &= c^2 u_{xx}, & 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) &= f(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = 0 & 0 \leq x \leq L, \\ u(0, t) &= u(L, t) = 0 & t > 0, \\ f(x) &= \begin{cases} 2hx/L & 0 \leq x \leq L/2 \\ 2h(L-x)/L & L/2 \leq x \leq L, \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

represents a string (both ends fixed) with the mid-point pulled aside a distance  $h$  and released from rest. Solve for the displacement  $u(x, t)$  using method of separation of variables.

**Solution:**

First, let's note that since there is a second derivative with respect to  $t$  in the PDE, we need two initial conditions (ICs). There will be undetermined constants in the solution if we don't specify the second IC.

We can think of  $u(x, 0) = f(x)$  as the initial displacement, and  $u_t(x, 0) = 0$  as the shape of the initial velocity ( in this case there is no shape since it equals 0).

**Step 1: Assume the PDE has a Product Solution**

Let's begin solving this problem via separation of variables. We assume the solution has the following form:

$$u(x, t) = T(t) X(x) \tag{40}$$

Let's plug (40) into the given equation.

$$T_{tt} X = c^2 X_{xx} \tag{41}$$

$$\frac{T_{tt}}{c^2 T} = \frac{X_{xx}}{X} = -\lambda^2 \tag{42}$$

In (42) we're dividing by  $XTc^2$ , and the  $-\lambda^2$  is the separation constant.

**Step 2: Write the Original PDE has Two ODEs**

Let's write out both ODEs.

$$0 = X_{xx} + \lambda^2 X \tag{43}$$

$$0 = T_{tt} + \lambda^2 c^2 T \tag{44}$$

**Step 3: Solve the first ODE**

Let's solve the first ODE, equation :

$$0 = r^2 \lambda^2 \quad (45)$$

$$r = \sqrt{i^2 \lambda^2} \quad (46)$$

$$= \lambda i \quad (47)$$

Recall, the general solution for complex roots is:

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{ax} \cos(ux) + c_2 e^{ax} \sin(ux) \quad (48)$$

where

$$r_{1,2} = a \pm u i \quad (49)$$

Let's plug equation (47) into the general solution:

$$y(x) = c_1 e^{0x} \cos(\lambda x) + c_2 e^{0x} \sin(\lambda x) \quad (50)$$

$$= c_1 \cos(\lambda x) + c_2 \sin(\lambda x) \quad (51)$$

Now, let's apply the left BC to (51)

$$0 = v(0) = c_1 \quad (52)$$

$$\implies c_1 = 0 \quad (53)$$

Apply the right BC

$$0 = v(L) = c_2 \sin(\lambda L) \quad (54)$$

In this equation,  $c_1 \cos(\lambda x)$  falls away because  $c_1 = 0$ . To avoid the trivial solution (i.e.  $u(x, t) = 0$ ) we need  $c_2 \neq 0$ . Therefore, we need the following:

$$\sin(\lambda L) = 0 \quad (55)$$

$$\implies \lambda L = n\pi \quad \forall n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (56)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{n\pi}{L} \quad (57)$$

Plugging this into (51) we get

$$X = c_2 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (58)$$

**Step 4: Solve the Second ODE**

Now, we can solve the second ODE (equation (44)). The characteristic equation is:

$$0 = r^2 + \lambda^2 c^2 \quad (59)$$

$$r^2 = -\lambda^2 c^2 \quad (60)$$

$$r = \pm \lambda c i \quad (61)$$

Plug this into the general solution for complex numbers (equation (51)) we get:

$$T = c_1 e^{0t} \cos(\lambda c t) + c_2 e^{0t} \sin(\lambda c t) \quad (62)$$

$$= c_1 \cos(w_n t) + c_2 \sin(w_n t) \quad (63)$$

Where  $w = \lambda_n c = \frac{cn\pi}{L}$ . We denote  $\lambda$  with a subscript  $n$  because the solution is periodic and has infinite solutions.

### Step 5: Plug the ODE Solutions into the Product Solution

At this point, we can put it all together.

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n(t) X_n(x) \quad (64)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [A_n \sin(w_n t) + B_n \cos(w_n t)] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (65)$$

### Step 6: Find the Coefficients by Applying the ICs

Now, we need to find the coefficients by applying the IC. Given equation (65), let's solve for  $A_n$  by applying the first IC to (65).

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (66)$$

And now let's apply the second IC to the derivative of (65).

$$u_t(x, 0) = 0 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} w_n A_n \cos(w_n t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (67)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{cn\pi}{L} A_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (68)$$

where  $w_n = \frac{cn\pi}{L}$  and  $\cos(w_n, 0) = 1$ .

### Step 7: Apply Fourier Sine Series

Notice, that (66) and (68) is a Fourier Sine Series. Recall a Fourier Sine Series, if we have a function  $f(x)$ :

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (69)$$



then we can define  $B_n$  via the following:

$$B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \quad \forall \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (70)$$

Applying (70) to (68) we get the following:

$$A_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L u_t(x, 0) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \quad (71)$$

$$= 0 \quad (72)$$

In (72) we applied the fact that  $u_t(x, 0) = 0$ .

And now let's apply (70) to (66):

$$B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L u(x, 0) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \quad (73)$$

$$= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \quad (74)$$

$$= \frac{2}{L} \left[ \int_0^{L/2} \frac{2hx}{L} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx + \int_{L/2}^L \frac{2h(L-X)}{L} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \right] \quad (75)$$

$$= \frac{4h}{L^2} \left[ \int_0^{L/2} x \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) L dx + \int_{L/2}^L (L-X) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \right] \quad (76)$$

$$= \frac{4h}{L^2} \left[ -\frac{L^2}{2n\pi} \cos(n\pi) + \frac{L^2}{n^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right] \Big|_0^{L/2} + \dots$$

$$\dots \left[ \frac{L^2}{2n\pi} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) - \frac{L^2}{n^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right] \Big|_{L/2}^L \quad (77)$$

$$= \frac{8h}{n^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) \quad (78)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \frac{8h(-1)^{\frac{n-1}{2}}}{n^2\pi^2} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases} \quad (79)$$

Let's recap what exactly happened. In equation, (75) we replaced the  $f(x)$  term with its piecewise equivalent, which was provided in the problem. In equation (76) we rewrote the previous equation by factoring out the constants (i.e.  $2h$  and  $L$ ). To get to (77) we integrated by parts.

**Step 8: Plug-in  $A_n$  and  $B_n$  terms to find solution**

Finally, we'll plug our  $A_n$  and  $B_n$  terms into equation (65).

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [A_n \sin(w_n t) + B_n \cos(w_n t)] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (80)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ 0 * \sin(w_n t) + \frac{8h(-1)^{\frac{n-1}{2}}}{n^2 \pi^2} \cos(w_n t) \right] \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (81)$$

$$= \frac{8h}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{\frac{n-1}{2}}}{n^2} \cos(w_n t) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (82)$$

Recall that  $w_n = \lambda_n c = \frac{cn\pi}{L}$ .

4. A uniform insulated metal bar 1 meter long is stored at room temperature of 20° C. An experimenter places one end of the bar in boiling water and the other end in an ice bucket.

- (a) Set up an IBVP that models the temperature in the bar.  
 (b) Solve the IBVP (hint: read Chapter 3, section 3.2 of Professor Tung's lecture notes).

**Solution:**

**Part a:**

$$u_t = a^2 u_{xx} \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0 \quad (83)$$

$$u(x, 0) = 20 \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1 \quad (84)$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 100, \quad t > 0 \quad (85)$$

**Part b:**

We need to make the problem homogeneous - we can do this by defining a new term  $v(x, t)$ .

$$v(x, t) = u(x, t) - \left[ T_1 + \frac{X}{L}(T_2 - T_1) \right] \quad (86)$$

**Step 1: Rewrite the PDE so it's homogeneous**

Plugging in our given numbers we get:

$$v(x, t) = u(x, t) - \left[ 0 + \frac{x}{1}(100 - 0) \right] \quad (87)$$

$$= u(x, t) - 100x \quad (88)$$

which gives the following reformulated PDE:

$$v_t = a^2 v_{xx} \quad 0 < x < 1 \quad t > 0 \quad (89)$$

$$v(0, t) = v(L, t) = 0 \quad t > 0 \quad (90)$$

$$v(x, 0) = u(x, 0) - \left[ T_1 + \frac{X}{L}(T_2 - T_1) \right] \quad (91)$$

$$= 20 - 100x \quad (92)$$

**Step 2: Assume the PDE has a Product Solution**

Let's solve the PDE by assuming it has the following form:

$$v = T(t) X(x) \quad (93)$$

Let's plug (93) into (89).

$$T_t X = a^2 T X_{xx} \quad (94)$$

$$\frac{T_t}{a^2 T} = \frac{X_{xx}}{X} = -\lambda^2 \quad (95)$$

In (95) we divided by  $a^2 T X$  and set the equation equal to a constant  $(-\lambda^2)$ .

**Step 3: Write out both ODEs**

$$0 = T_t + \lambda^2 a^2 T \quad (96)$$

$$0 = X_{xx} + \lambda^2 X \quad (97)$$

**Step 4: Solve the ODEs**

Let's begin by solving (111). The characteristic equation is:

$$0 = r^2 + \lambda^2 \quad (98)$$

$$r = \lambda i \quad (99)$$

The general solution for complex equations is:

$$y(t) = c_1 e^{at} \cos(ut) + c_2 e^{at} \sin(ut) \quad (100)$$

where  $r_{1,2} = a \pm ui$ .

Plugging in our values into the general solution we get:

$$X = c_1 e^{0t} \cos(\lambda t) + c_2 e^{0t} \sin(\lambda t) \quad (101)$$

Apply the first BC to :  $v(0, t) = 0$

$$0 = c_1 \quad (102)$$

Apply the second BC to labelgen sol:  $v(1, 5) = 0$

$$0 = c_2 \sin(\lambda) \quad (103)$$

To avoid the trivial solution  $\sin(\lambda)$  needs to equal 0. Therefore, we get:

$$0 = \sin(\lambda) \quad (104)$$

$$\implies \lambda i = n\pi \quad \forall n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (105)$$

$$\lambda = n\pi \quad (106)$$

After applying the BCs, we plug our results (i.e.  $\lambda n = \pi$  and  $c_1 = 0$ ) into (101), resulting in:

$$X = c_2 \sin(n\pi t) \quad (107)$$

Let's solve the first ODE (equation (96)).

$$0 = T_t + \lambda^2 a^2 T \quad (108)$$

This is a first order, separable ODE with the following solution:

$$T = e^{-\lambda^2 a^2 t + c_1} \quad (109)$$

Now, let's recall that  $c_1 = 0$ .

### Step 5: Plug ODE solutions into Product Solution

Plug both solutions into (93)

$$V = T(t)X(x) \quad (110)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-(n\pi a)^2 t} \sin(n\pi x) \quad (111)$$

where  $\lambda = n\pi$ .

### Step 6: Solve for the coefficients

Let's solve for  $A_n$  by applying the IC.

$$v(x, 0) = 20 - 100x \quad (112)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin(n\pi x) \quad (113)$$

This is a Fourier Sine Series, which can be denoted as:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad (114)$$

where  $B_n$  is defined as:

$$B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \quad \forall n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (115)$$

Applying the Fourier Sine Series to (113) we get:

$$A_n = \frac{2}{1} \int_0^L (20 - 100x) \sin(n\pi x) dx \quad (116)$$

$$= \frac{40}{n\pi} (4(-1)^n - 1) \quad (117)$$

In (117) we integrated by parts.  
 Plugging this  $A_n$  value into (111) we get:

$$V = T(t)X(x) \tag{118}$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{40}{n\pi} (4(-1)^n - 1) e^{-(n\pi a)^2 t} \sin(n\pi x) \tag{119}$$

### Step 7: Plug Coefficients into the Solution

Apply this to the final solution which can be written as:

$$u(x, t) = v(x, t) + 100x \tag{120}$$

$$= \left[ \frac{40}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4(-1)^n - 1}{n} e^{-(n\pi a)^2 t} \sin(n\pi x) \right] + 100x \tag{121}$$

In equatin (120) we simply rewrote equation (88).