



## Lecture 22: Boundary Value Problems (BVPs)

### Meowth's Goals for the Day

- Learn how to set up BVPs
- Describe the applications of 3 classical PDEs
- Visualize solutions using Matlab

## 13.2 Classical PDEs and BVPs

When we specify data values for a DE, there are 2 types of conditions.

$$u(x, t)$$

↑      ↑  
space   time

① Initial condition (IC)

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

specify value at time  $t = 0$

② Boundary condition (BC)

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

specify value at position  $x = 0$

i.) Dirichlet BC

$$u(x_0, t) = f(t)$$

ii.) Neumann BC

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x_0, t) = f(t)$$

iii) Robin BC

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(x_0, t) + c u(x_0, t) = f(t)$$

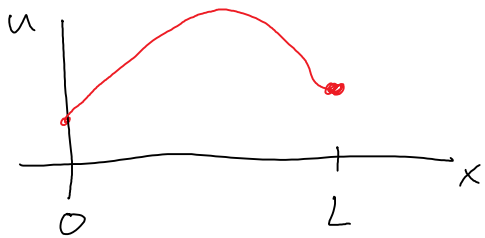
## I. The Heat Equation

A metal bar of uniform material has length  $L$ .

$$0 \leq x \leq L$$

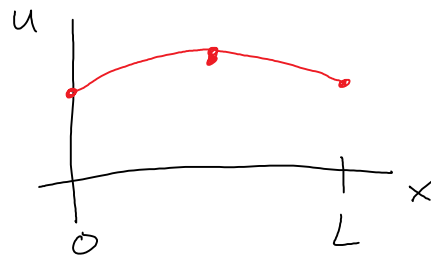


Let  $u(x, t)$  be temperature of bar at position  $x$  and time  $t$ .



$$u(x, 0)$$

Initial temperature profile



$$u(x, 1)$$

Temperature  
at time  $t=1$

1D Heat Equation:  $u_t = k u_{xx}$

$\rightarrow$  Thermal diffusivity constant

$$k = \frac{C}{\gamma \rho} = \frac{\text{conductivity}}{(\text{specific heat})(\text{density})}$$

IC: Specify the initial temperature profile  
 $u(x, 0) = f(x)$

BC: i.) Dirichlet BC  
 Fix the temperature at ends of bar.

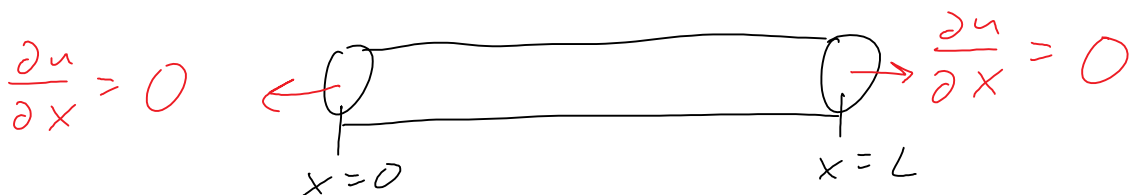
$$u(0, t) = T_{\text{left}}$$

$$u(L, t) = T_{\text{right}}$$



ii.) Neumann BC

The ends of the bar are insulated,



$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(0, t) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(L, t) = 0$$

iii.) Robin BC

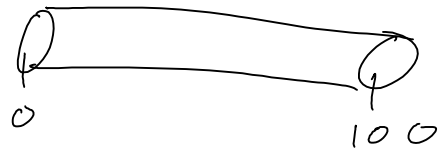
Newton's Law of Cooling:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = c(u - u_{\text{Ambient}})$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - cu = -C u_{\text{Ambient}}$$

This conditions holds for all  $0 \leq x \leq L$ .

Ex A bar of length 100m has diffusivity constant 41. The left end of the bar starts  $-10^\circ\text{C}$  and is heating up  $2^\circ\text{C}$  per second. The right end of the bar is insulated.

$$u_t = k u_{xx}$$



$$u_t = 41 u_{xx}$$

Left:

$$u(0, t) = -10 + 2t$$

Right:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(100, t) = 0$$

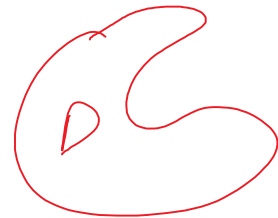
2D Heat Equation:  $u_t = k(u_{xx} + u_{yy})$

If we let the 2D Heat Equation run until it reaches steady-state, then we reach a temperature distribution  $u(x, y)$  where  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0$ .

$$\Rightarrow u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

II. Laplace's Equation

$u(x, y)$   
2D space

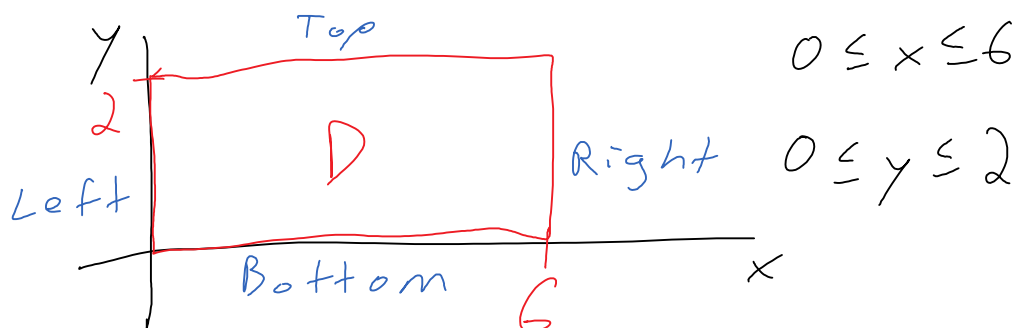


$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0 \quad \text{on some domain } D$$

Application: Laplace's Equation is the steady-state of the 2D Heat Equation.

An electrostatic field on a charged plate satisfies Laplace's Equation.

Generally, we solve Laplace's Equation on a rectangular domain  $D$ .



Dirichlet conditions specify values along a side.

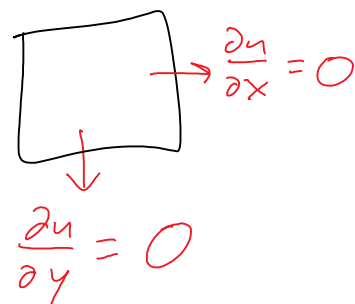
Left:  $u(0, y) = f(y) \quad 0 \leq y \leq 2$

Top:  $u(x, 2) = g(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq 6$

Neumann conditions specify how  $u$  flows through the boundary.

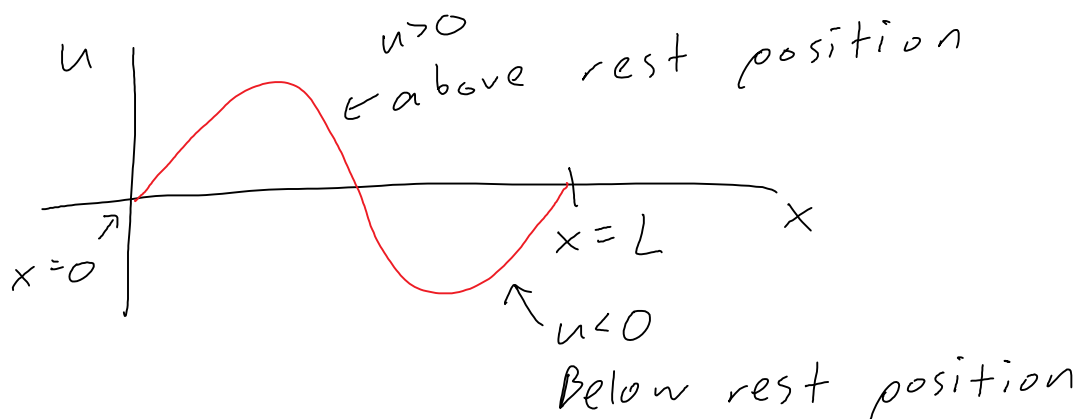
Right:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(6, y) = 0$

Bottom:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, 0) = 0$



### III. The Wave Equation

$u(x, t)$  = vertical displacement of a vibrating string



Assuming no external forces...

$$u_{tt} = a^2 u_{xx}$$

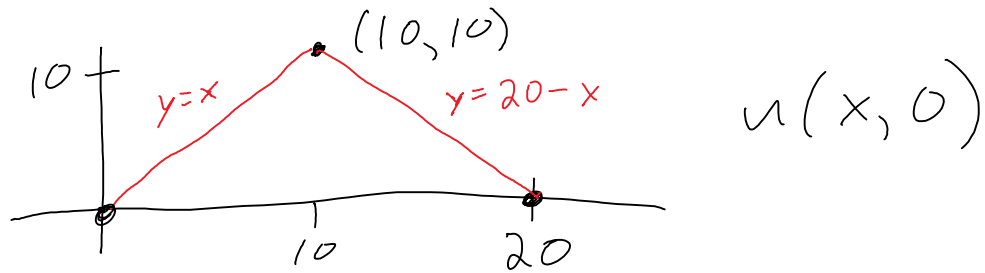
↙  
↘ Tension constant

$$a^2 = \frac{T}{\rho} = \frac{\text{Tension}}{\text{density}}$$

#### Ex Plucked String

A guitar string of length 20 has tension constant 4 and the ends are clamped to the x-axis. The

string is held at the center at a height 10 above rest. Then it is released.



$$u_{tt} = 4 u_{xx}$$

$$a^2 = 4$$

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

$$u(20, t) = 0$$

Clamp ends

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} x \\ 20 - x \end{cases}$$

$$0 < x < 10$$

$$10 < x < 20$$