

**MTH 166**

**Lecture-21**

**Solution of Heat Equation**

**Topic:**

Solution of Partial Differential Equations

**Learning Outcomes:**

To solve one dimensional Heat Equation

**Problem.** Solve  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = C^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$  [1D-Heat Equation];  $c^2$  is Diffusivity constant.

**Solution.** The given one dimensional wave equation is:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = C^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

(1)  $0 \leq x \leq l$  (length),  $t > 0$  (time)

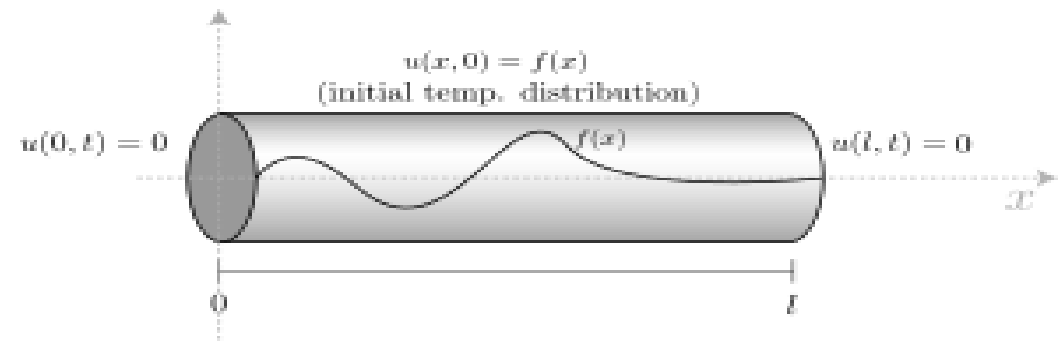
Let solution be:  $u(x, t) = XT$

(2) where  $X = f(x), T = g(t)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = XT' \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = X''T$$

Equation (1) becomes:  $XT' = C^2 X''T$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} = \frac{1}{C^2} \frac{T'}{T} = k \quad (\text{Say})$$



As  $k$  can take three values: zero, positive or negative, so we have following three cases.

**Case 1.** When  $k = 0$

$$\frac{X''}{X} = k \quad \Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow X'' = 0 \quad \Rightarrow X = ax + b$$

$$\text{Also } \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{T'}{T} = k \quad \Rightarrow \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{T'}{T} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow T' = 0 \quad \Rightarrow T = c$$

Required solution of equation (1) is:

$$u(x, t) = XT = (ax + b)c = Ax + B$$

**Case 2.** When  $k = p^2$  (Positive)

$$\frac{X''}{X} = k \quad \Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} = p^2 \quad \Rightarrow X'' - p^2 X = 0$$

$$\text{S.F. } (D^2 - p^2)X = 0$$

$$\text{A.E. } (D^2 - p^2) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow D = \pm p$$

$$\therefore X = ae^{px} + be^{-px}$$

$$\text{Also } \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{T'}{T} = k \quad \Rightarrow \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{T'}{T} = p^2 \quad \Rightarrow T' - C^2 p^2 T = 0$$

$$\underline{\text{S.F.}} (D - C^2 p^2)T = 0$$

$$\underline{\text{A.E.}} (D - C^2 p^2) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow D = C^2 p^2$$

$$\therefore T = ce^{C^2 p^2 t}$$

Required solution of equation (1) is:

$$u(x, t) = XT = (ae^{px} + be^{-px})(ce^{C^2 p^2 t}) = (Ae^{px} + Be^{-px})e^{C^2 p^2 t}$$

**Case 3.** When  $k = -p^2$  (Negative)

$$\frac{X''}{X} = k \quad \Rightarrow \frac{X''}{X} = -p^2 \quad \Rightarrow X'' + p^2 X = 0$$

$$\underline{\text{S.F.}} (D^2 + p^2)X = 0$$

$$\underline{\text{A.E.}} (D^2 + p^2) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow D = \pm ip$$

$$\therefore X = e^{0x}(a \cos px + b \sin px)$$

$$\text{Also } \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{T'}{T} = k \quad \Rightarrow \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{T'}{T} = -p^2 \quad \Rightarrow T' + C^2 p^2 T = 0$$

$$\underline{\text{S.F.}} (D + C^2 p^2)T = 0$$

$$\underline{\text{A.E.}} (D + C^2 p^2) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow D = -C^2 p^2$$

$$\therefore T = c e^{-C^2 p^2 t}$$

Required solution of equation (1) is:

$$u(x, t) = XT = (a \cos px + b \sin px) (c e^{-C^2 p^2 t}) = (A \cos px + B \sin px) e^{-C^2 p^2 t}$$

This is the most suitable and practically feasible solution of wave equation.

**Note:** For Heat Equation

Equation:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = C^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$

Nature: Parabolic

Solution: 1.  $u(x, t) = Ax + B$

2.  $u(x, t) = (Ae^{px} + Be^{-px})e^{C^2 p^2 t}$

3.  $u(x, t) = (A \cos px + B \sin px) e^{-C^2 p^2 t}$  (Most suitable one)



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC-ND](#)