

1. NA
2. Using LaTeX
3. Consider the following problem:

$$u_t - 4u_{xx} = 0 \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 1$$

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} x & 0 < x < 1/2 \\ 1 - x & 1/2 < x < 1 \end{cases}$$

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

a) Plot the initial condition.

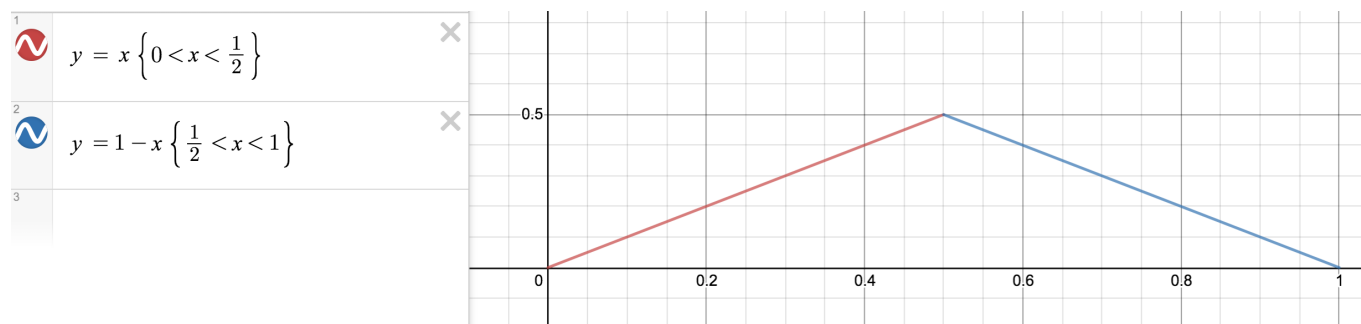


Figure 1:  $u(x, 0)$

b) Find the solution of the PDE that satisfies that initial condition and boundary conditions.

**Step 1: Separate variables**

Suppose  $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$ , then our PDE  $u_t - 4u_{xx} = 0$  can be written as:

$$XT' - 4X''T = 0$$

$$T'X = 4X''T$$

$$\frac{T'}{4T} = \frac{X''}{X} = \lambda$$

$$T' = 4\lambda T \quad X'' = \lambda X$$

**Step 2: Solve the X ODE using the given boundary conditions**

If  $\lambda < 0$  we can write  $\lambda = -\beta^2$ . Then our ODE becomes

$$X'' + \beta^2 X = 0$$

And the characteristic equation is  $r^2 + \beta^2 = 0$  so  $r = \pm\beta i$ . Then

$$X(x) = C \cos(\beta x) + D \sin(\beta x)$$

Now using the given boundary conditions we can solve for C and D. Since  $u(0, t) = 0$ , that means  $X(0)T(t) = 0$ , and since we don't want  $T(t)$  to be 0 for all t, this means

$$X(0) = 0$$

Also, since  $u(1, t) = 0$ , that means  $X(1)T(t) = 0$ , and for the same reason

$$X(1) = 0$$

So now we know

$$X(0) = C \cos(\beta \cdot 0) + D \sin(\beta \cdot 0) = 0$$

$$C = 0$$

$$X(1) = 0 \cdot \cos(\beta) + D \sin(\beta) = 0$$

$$D \sin(\beta) = 0$$

We want  $D \neq 0$  so that we don't have the zero eigenfunction, and  $\beta \neq 0$  so that means  $\sin(\beta) = 0$  or

$$\beta = n\pi, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

So  $\lambda$  can be  $< 0$ , now let's check the case where  $\lambda = 0$ . Then our ODE becomes

$$X'' = 0$$

Double integrating leaves

$$X = Cx + D$$

Using our initial conditions we have:

$$X(0) = C \cdot 0 + D = 0$$

$$D = 0$$

$$X(1) = C \cdot 1 + 0 = 0$$

$$C = 0$$

Thus,  $X$  is the zero eigenvector so  $\lambda = 0$  is NOT an eigenvalue.

Lastly, let's check  $\lambda > 0$  so let  $\lambda = \beta^2$ . Then our ODE becomes

$$X'' - \beta^2 X = 0$$

And the characteristic equation is  $r^2 - \beta^2 = 0$  so  $r = \pm\beta$ . Then

$$X(x) = Ce^{\beta x} + De^{-\beta x}$$

Now using the given boundary conditions we can solve for  $C$  and  $D$ .

$$X(0) = Ce^{\beta \cdot 0} + De^{-\beta \cdot 0} = 0$$

$$C = -D$$

$$X(1) = -De^{\beta} + De^{-\beta} = 0$$

$$De^{\beta} = De^{-\beta}$$

$$\beta = -\beta$$

This is only true if  $\beta = 0$  which is not the case here, so there are no eigenvalues  $> 0$ .

Thus,

$$\lambda = -\beta^2 = -(n\pi)^2, \quad X(x) = D \sin(n\pi x), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

This solution is for a given value of  $n$  so we can write

$$\lambda_n = -\beta^2 = -(n\pi)^2, \quad X_n(x) = D_n \sin(n\pi x), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

Recall that any scalar multiple of an eigenfunction is an eigenfunction, so we can write the eigenfunction more simply as

$$X_n(x) = \sin(n\pi x), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

**Step 3: Solve the T ODE**

$$\begin{aligned}
T' &= 4\lambda T \\
\int \frac{dT}{T} &= \int 4\lambda dt \\
\ln|T| &= 4\lambda t + c \\
T &= Ae^{-4n^2\pi^2 t}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}
\end{aligned}$$

Here we've incorporated the  $\pm$  into the constant.

**Step 4: Take a linear combination of solutions to get the series solution**

Given that  $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
u_n(x, t) &= \sin(n\pi x) \cdot A_n e^{-4n^2\pi^2 t} \\
u(x, t) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-4n^2\pi^2 t} \sin(n\pi x)
\end{aligned}$$

**Step 5: Consider the initial conditions**

Given the series solution, we can find  $\phi(x)$

$$\begin{aligned}
\phi(x) &= u(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-4n^2\pi^2(0)} \sin(n\pi x) \\
\phi(x) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^0 \sin(n\pi x) \\
\phi(x) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin(n\pi x)
\end{aligned}$$

Now let's solve for the Fourier Sine coefficients. By individual homework 9 problem 5c, we know that

$$A_m = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l \phi(x) X_m \, dx$$

For our PDE, we know  $l=1$  and that  $X_m = \sin(m\pi x)$ , so we have

$$A_m = 2 \int_0^1 \phi(x) \sin(m\pi x) \, dx$$

Now we can plug  $\phi(x) = \begin{cases} x & 0 < x < 1/2 \\ 1-x & 1/2 < x < 1 \end{cases}$  into our equation for  $A_m$

$$A_m = 2 \left[ \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} x \sin(m\pi x) \, dx + \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 (1-x) \sin(m\pi x) \, dx \right]$$

By using integration by parts, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
A_m &= 2 \left[ \left( -\frac{x}{m\pi} \cos(m\pi x) - \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}} -\frac{1}{m\pi} \cos(m\pi x) dx \right) + \left( -\frac{1-x}{m\pi} \cos(m\pi x) - \int_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 \frac{1}{m\pi} \cos(m\pi x) dx \right) \right] \\
A_m &= 2 \left[ \left( -\frac{x}{m\pi} \cos(m\pi x) + \frac{1}{m^2\pi^2} \sin(m\pi x) \right) \Big|_0^{\frac{1}{2}} + \left( -\frac{1-x}{m\pi} \cos(m\pi x) - \frac{1}{m^2\pi^2} \sin(m\pi x) \right) \Big|_{\frac{1}{2}}^1 \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$A_m = 2 \left[ \left( -\frac{1}{2m\pi} \cos\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) - 0 - \frac{1}{m^2\pi^2} \sin(0) \right) + \left( 0 - \frac{1}{m^2\pi^2} \sin(m\pi) + \frac{1}{2m\pi} \cos\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) \right) \right]$$

Notice that  $\sin(0) = 0$ , and because  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\sin(m\pi) = 0$ . Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_m &= 2 \left[ \left( -\frac{1}{2m\pi} \cos\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) \right) + \left( \frac{1}{2m\pi} \cos\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) \right) \right] \\ A_m &= -\frac{1}{m\pi} \cos\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{2}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{m\pi} \cos\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{2}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) \\ A_m &= \frac{2}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) + \frac{2}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) \\ A_m &= \frac{4}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Notice when  $m$  is even,  $\frac{m}{2} \in \mathbb{Z}$ , so  $\sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) = 0$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} A_m &= 0 && \text{when } m \text{ is even} \\ A_m &= \frac{4}{m^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{2}\right) && \text{when } m \text{ is odd} \end{aligned}$$

c) We can now plug the Fourier Coefficients into  $u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n e^{-4n^2\pi^2 t} \sin(n\pi x)$ , where  $A_n = \frac{4}{n^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right)$  when  $n$  is odd and  $A_n = 0$  when  $n$  is even, to find the first five terms of the series solution.

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right) e^{-4n^2\pi^2 t} \sin(n\pi x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \frac{4}{1^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) e^{-4(1)^2\pi^2 t} \sin(\pi x) + \frac{4}{3^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right) e^{-4(3)^2\pi^2 t} \sin(3\pi x) + \frac{4}{5^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{2}\right) e^{-4(5)^2\pi^2 t} \sin(5\pi x) \\ &\quad + \frac{4}{7^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{7\pi}{2}\right) e^{-4(7)^2\pi^2 t} \sin(7\pi x) + \frac{4}{9^2\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{9\pi}{2}\right) e^{-4(9)^2\pi^2 t} \sin(9\pi x) \end{aligned}$$

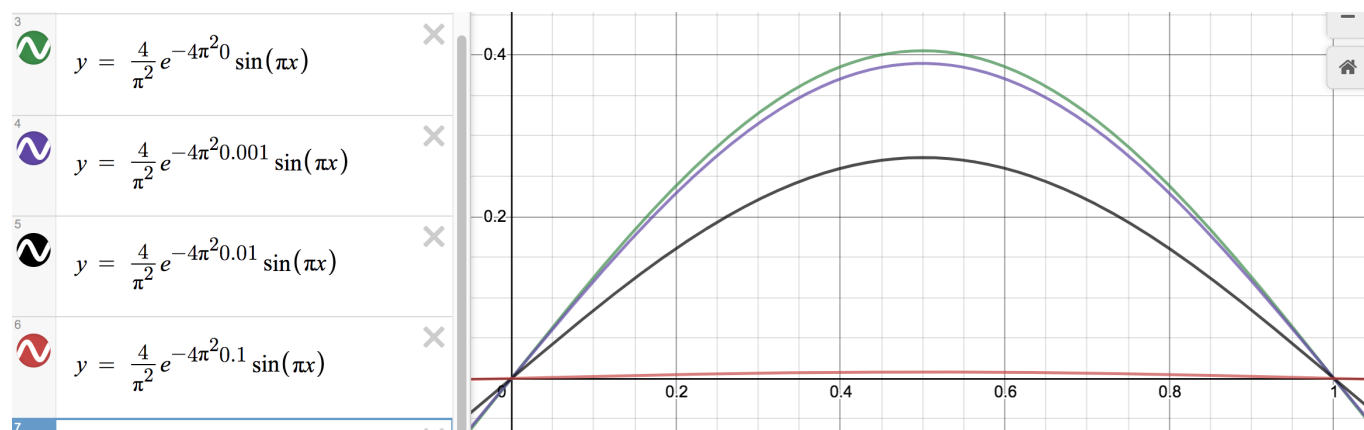
$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \frac{4}{\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) e^{-4\pi^2 t} \sin(\pi x) + \frac{4}{9\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{3\pi}{2}\right) e^{-36\pi^2 t} \sin(3\pi x) + \frac{4}{25\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{5\pi}{2}\right) e^{-100\pi^2 t} \sin(5\pi x) \\ &\quad + \frac{4}{49\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{7\pi}{2}\right) e^{-196\pi^2 t} \sin(7\pi x) + \frac{4}{81\pi^2} \sin\left(\frac{9\pi}{2}\right) e^{-324\pi^2 t} \sin(9\pi x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \frac{4}{\pi^2} (1) e^{-4\pi^2 t} \sin(\pi x) + \frac{4}{9\pi^2} (-1) e^{-36\pi^2 t} \sin(3\pi x) + \frac{4}{25\pi^2} (1) e^{-100\pi^2 t} \sin(5\pi x) \\ &\quad + \frac{4}{49\pi^2} (-1) e^{-196\pi^2 t} \sin(7\pi x) + \frac{4}{81\pi^2} (1) e^{-324\pi^2 t} \sin(9\pi x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \frac{4}{\pi^2} e^{-4\pi^2 t} \sin(\pi x) - \frac{4}{9\pi^2} e^{-36\pi^2 t} \sin(3\pi x) + \frac{4}{25\pi^2} e^{-100\pi^2 t} \sin(5\pi x) - \frac{4}{49\pi^2} e^{-196\pi^2 t} \sin(7\pi x) \\ &\quad + \frac{4}{81\pi^2} e^{-324\pi^2 t} \sin(9\pi x) \end{aligned}$$

d) The first term of our series solution dominates because of both the coefficient out front and the exponent of  $e$ . This term has a significantly larger front coefficient compared to subsequent terms ( $n^2$  is 1, so the denominator is not scaled), increasing its contribution to the solution. Its  $e$  exponent is also much less negative than other terms (again because  $n$  is 1), allowing the  $e$  term to notably contribute to the solution.

e) Plot the first term of the solution.

Figure 2:  $u(x,t)$