

Maths assignment  
(Heat equation)

Q Find solution of

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

for which

$$u(0, t) = u(l, t) = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}$$

by method of separation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{h^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

It's solution is

$$u = (C_1 \cos px + C_2 \sin px) C_3 e^{-\frac{p^2 t}{h^2}} \quad (1)$$

Put  $x=0$ ,  $u=0$  in (1), we have

$$0 = C_1 C_3 e^{-\frac{p^2 t}{h^2}} \Rightarrow C_1 = 0$$

Put  $C_1 = 0$  in (1)

$$u = C_2 C_3 \sin px e^{-\frac{p^2 t}{h^2}} \quad (2)$$

Put  $x=l$ ,  $u=0$  in (2), we have

$$0 = C_2 C_3 \sin pl e^{-\frac{p^2 t}{h^2}}$$

$$pl = n\pi$$

$$\boxed{p = \frac{n\pi}{l}}$$

Then (2) becomes

$$u = b_n \sin \left[ \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right] e^{-\frac{n^2 \pi^2 t}{l^2 h^2}} \quad (b_n = c_2 c_3)$$

∴ General equation

$$u = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \left[ \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right] e^{-\frac{n^2 \pi^2 t}{l^2 h^2}} \quad (3)$$

put  $t=0$ , and  $u = \sin \left( \frac{\pi x}{l} \right)$

$$\sin \left( \frac{\pi x}{l} \right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin \left( \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right)$$

~~$b_n = 1$~~

$$\sin \frac{\pi x}{l} = b_1 \sin \left( \frac{\pi x}{l} \right) + b_2 \sin \left( \frac{2\pi x}{l} \right) + \dots$$

$$\boxed{b_1 = 1}$$

Hence (3) becomes

$$\boxed{u = \sin \left[ \frac{\pi x}{l} \right] e^{-\frac{\pi^2 t}{l^2 h^2}}}$$