

## Chapter 2

### Method of Separation of Variables

Goal: obtain solutions to the heat equation of the form

$$u(x,t) = \phi(x) \mathcal{G}(t). \quad (\text{separated solution}).$$

where  $\phi(x)$  is a function of  $x$  and  $\mathcal{G}(t)$  is a function only in  $t$ .

This method is used when the PDE & boundary conditions

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{Q(x,t)}{\rho c_p}, \quad \begin{array}{l} t > 0 \\ 0 < x < L \end{array}$$

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

$$u(0,t) = T_1(t), \quad u(L,t) = T_2(t)$$

is are linear and homogeneous

### LINEARITY

An ode operator  $L$  satisfies the property

$$L(c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2) = c_1 L(u_1) + c_2 L(u_2)$$

where  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  are functions and  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  are constants.

### HEAT OPERATOR

$$L(u) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

is a linear operator.

PROOF

$$L(c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2) - k \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2)$$

$$= c_1 \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial t} + c_2 \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial t} - k c_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} - k c_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2}$$

$$= c_1 \left( \frac{\partial u_1}{\partial t} - k \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} \right) + c_2 \left( \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial t} - k \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2} \right)$$

$$= c_1 L u_1 + c_2 L u_2 \quad \square$$

We can write our pde in functional notation as

$$L(u) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = f(x,t)$$

If  $f(x,t) = 0 \Rightarrow L(u) = 0$  the problem is called a linear homogeneous equation.

### Remarks

1.  $u=0$  is the trivial solution of  $L(u)=0$

If  $f \neq 0$  the equation is non-homogeneous.

### Principle of Superposition

The linear property allows the following:

If  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  satisfy the linear homogeneous equation, then an arbitrary linear combination,  $c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2$  also satisfies the same linear homogeneous equation.

### Proof

$u_1$  and  $u_2$  are homogeneous solutions, therefore  $L(u_1) = 0$  &  $L(u_2) = 0$

Compute  $L(c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2) \stackrel{\uparrow}{=} c_1 L(u_1) + c_2 L(u_2) = c_1 \cdot 0 + c_2 \cdot 0$

linearity property

therefore  $c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2$  are solutions to the homogeneous problem  $L(u) = 0$ .

The concepts of linearity and homogeneity also apply to boundary conditions.

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u(0,t) &= f(t) \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(L,t) &= g(t) \end{aligned} \right\} \text{non-homogeneous}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u(0,t) &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(L,t) &= 0 \end{aligned} \text{ are homogeneous.}$$

# HEAT EQUATION WITH HOMOGENEOUS DIRICHLET CONDITIONS

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad 0 < x < L, \quad t > 0 \quad (P).$$

B.C.:

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

Initial condition:

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

## Remarks (Why P?)

1. We can use the method of separation of variables to solve (P)
2. Relevant physical problem - 1D rod with ends immersed in a bath of temp  $0^\circ$ .
3. Solving the non-homogeneous problem requires knowing how to solve the homogeneous problem.

## METHOD (Separation of variables)

1. Plug in the form of the solution

$$u(x, t) = \phi(x) G(t)$$

into (P) while ignoring the initial conditions for now.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\phi(x) G(t)) = k \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (\phi(x) G(t))$$

$$\phi(x) \frac{dG}{dt} = k \frac{d^2 \phi}{dx^2} G(t).$$

divide both sides by  $k \phi(x) G(t)$  to separate the variables

$$\frac{1}{kG} \frac{dG}{dt} = \frac{1}{\phi} \frac{d^2 \phi}{dx^2}$$

function only  
Int

function only in  $x$ .

The only way we can have a function of  $t$  to be equal to a function in  $x$  ( $t$  and  $x$  are independent) is if both sides are equal to a constant.

$$\frac{1}{k\psi} \frac{d\psi}{dt} = \frac{1}{\phi} \frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} = -\lambda.$$

where  $\lambda$  is the separation constant.

Separation yields

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} = -\lambda\phi \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{d\psi}{dt} = -\lambda k\psi$$

$u(x,t) = \phi(x)\psi(t)$  must also satisfy the boundary conditions  $u(0,t) = 0$  &  $u(L,t) = 0$ .

i.e.  $u(0,t) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi(0)\psi(t) = 0 \Rightarrow$  either  $\phi(0) = 0$  or  $\psi(t) \equiv 0$

If  $\psi(t) \equiv 0$ , then  $u(x,t) \equiv 0$  is a trivial solution. We are interested in non-trivial solutions! It must be the case that  $\phi(0) = 0$ .

Similarly  $\phi(L) = 0$ .

Time dependent ODE

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = -\lambda k\psi \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{first-order linear homogeneous ODE} \\ \text{w/ constant coefficients} \end{array} \right)$$

We seek exponential solutions of the form  $\psi = e^{rt}$

the characteristic polynomial is

$r = -\lambda k$ . so the general solutions

$$\psi = \boxed{\psi(t) = ce^{-\lambda kt}}$$

$\lambda$  is an arbitrary separation constant.

1. If  $\lambda > 0$ ,  $\psi(t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$
2. If  $\lambda < 0$ ,  $\psi(t) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$
3. If  $\lambda = 0$ ,  $\psi(t)$  is constant.

$\Rightarrow$  since  $u(x,t) = \phi(x)\psi(t)$  is the temperature of the rod, we can eliminate case 2.  $\Rightarrow$   $\lambda > 0$

This is the reason we picked  $-\lambda$ .

## Allowable separation constants (BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEM)

We solve the Boundary value problem (Eigenvalue problem)

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} &= -\lambda\phi & (P) \\ \phi(0) &= 0, \phi(L) = 0. \end{aligned}}$$

- There is no simple theory that determines when the solution to (P) exists.
- It is clear that  $\phi(x) = 0$  is a trivial solution - the key question is for what values of  $\lambda$  can we have non-trivial solutions?

### Key (Eigenvalues)

1. There exist certain values of  $\lambda$  for which non-trivial solutions exist.

These values are called eigenvalues of the boundary value (P).

2. The non-trivial solutions corresponding to the eigenvalues  $\lambda$  are called eigenfunctions.

We solve  $\phi''(x) = \lambda\phi(x)$  by seeking solutions of the form

$$\phi(x) = e^{rx} \Rightarrow \phi''(x) = r^2 e^{rx}$$

Recall the method of the characteristic polynomial

$$r^2 e^{rx} = -\lambda e^{rx} \Rightarrow r^2 = -\lambda \text{ because } e^{rx} \neq 0$$

### Cases

1.  $\lambda > 0 \Rightarrow$  2 roots are purely imaginary,  $r = \pm i\sqrt{\lambda}$  ✓
2.  $\lambda = 0 \Rightarrow$  2 roots coalesce,  $r = 0$  (twice) ✓
3.  $\lambda < 0 \Rightarrow$  2 distinct real roots  $r = \pm\sqrt{-\lambda}$  ✗
4.  $\lambda$  is complex. ✗

We will prove that  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  so we can discount 4.

Physical intuition  $\Rightarrow \lambda \geq 0$ , we will prove that Case 3 also needs to go.



Case I :  $\lambda > 0$  (Eigenvalues and eigenfunctions)

$$\frac{d^2 \phi}{dx^2} = -\lambda \phi$$

$$\phi(0) = 0, \phi(L) = 0.$$

If  $\lambda > 0$ , the exponential solutions are  $\phi = e^{rx}$  satisfying  $r^2 = -\lambda \Rightarrow r = \pm i\sqrt{\lambda}$

so  $\phi(x) = e^{\pm i\sqrt{\lambda}x}$  (these solutions are oscillatory)

Since we seek real independent solutions, the choices  $\cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$  and  $\sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$  are usually made.

Note:  $\cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$  and  $\sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$  are linear combinations of  $e^{\pm i\sqrt{\lambda}x}$  from Euler's formula

$$e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin(x)$$

as any linear combination is a solution! (principle of superposition.)

$$\frac{1}{2} (e^{i\sqrt{\lambda}x} + e^{-i\sqrt{\lambda}x}) = \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$$

$$\frac{1}{2i} (e^{i\sqrt{\lambda}x} - e^{-i\sqrt{\lambda}x}) = \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$$

The general solution is thus

$$\phi(x) = c_1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x) + c_2 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$$

\*  $\cos(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$  and  $\sin(\sqrt{\lambda}x)$  are more convenient but  $e^{i\sqrt{\lambda}x}$  and  $e^{-i\sqrt{\lambda}x}$  can be used.

\*\* eigenvalue comes from the German word eigenwert meaning characteristic value.

\*\*\* Other independent solutions may be chosen e.g.  $\cos \sqrt{\lambda}(x-a)$  and  $\sin \sqrt{\lambda}(x-a)$

Applying boundary conditions

$$\phi(0) = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = 0.$$

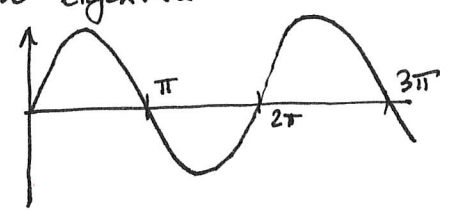
$$\phi(L) = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda}L) = 0$$

(If  $c_2 = 0$ , then  $\phi(x) \equiv 0$  this is a trivial solution)

This means that the eigenvalues should satisfy

$$\sin \sqrt{\lambda}L = 0 \Rightarrow \sqrt{\lambda}L = n\pi, n \neq 0$$

as  $\sqrt{\lambda} > 0$



The eigenvalues are

$$\lambda = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

The eigen functions are

$$\phi(x) = c_2 \sin \sqrt{\lambda} x = c_2 \sin \left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad \text{where } c_2 \text{ is an arbitrary constant.}$$

constant.

We can pick a convenient value of  $c_2$  e.g.  $\pm$ .

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\phi(x) = \pm c_2 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)}$$

$$\boxed{\lambda = 0}$$

Is  $\lambda = 0$  is an eigenvalue of

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} = -\lambda\phi$$

$$\phi(0) = 0, \quad \phi(L) = 0 \quad ?$$

If  $\lambda = 0$ ,  $\phi''(x) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi = c_1 + c_2 x$ .

Applying boundary conditions

$\phi(0) = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = 0$  and  $\phi(L) = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 L = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0$  as  $L > 0$   
 so  $c_2 = 0$ . This means that  $\phi(x) \equiv 0$  a trivial solution!

Note: that  $\lambda = 0$  may be an eigenvalue for other problems. One always has to check

$$\boxed{\lambda < 0}$$

If  $\lambda < 0$  then the solution of

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} = -\lambda\phi$$

is of the form  $\phi(x) = e^{rx}$ , where  $r = \pm\sqrt{-\lambda}$ , let  $-\lambda = s$ ,  $s > 0$

so that  $\frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} = s\phi$  with 2 independent solutions  $e^{\sqrt{s}x}$  and  $e^{-\sqrt{s}x}$

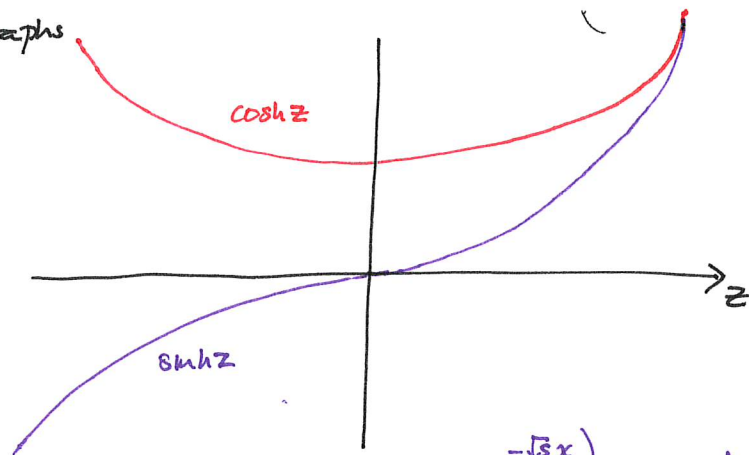
with a general solution

$$\boxed{\phi(x) = c_1 e^{\sqrt{s}x} + c_2 e^{-\sqrt{s}x}}$$

Recall the hyperbolic functions

$$\cosh z \equiv \frac{e^z + e^{-z}}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \sinh z \equiv \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{2}$$

with graphs



Using the hyperbolic functions (instead of  $e^{-\sqrt{\lambda}x}$ ) we have

$$\phi(x) = c_3 \cosh \sqrt{\lambda}x + c_4 \sinh \sqrt{\lambda}x$$

We need to ensure that  $\phi(x)$  satisfies the boundary conditions.

$$\phi(0) = 0 \Rightarrow c_3 \cosh \sqrt{\lambda}x = 0 \Rightarrow c_3 = 0$$

$$\phi(L) = 0 \Rightarrow c_4 \sinh \sqrt{\lambda}L = 0 \Rightarrow c_4 = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} c_3 = 0 \\ c_4 = 0 \end{cases}$$

because  $\sqrt{\lambda}L > 0$   
and  $\sinh \sqrt{\lambda}x > 0$   
for  $x > 0$ .

This means that  $\phi(x) \equiv 0$  (a trivial solution!) so  $\lambda < 0$  is NOT  
an eigenvalue.



# PRODUCT SOLUTIONS and the PRINCIPLE OF Superposition

## Summary

We have solved the heat equation  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$  satisfying

$$u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0 \text{ corresponding to } \lambda > 0.$$

The solutions,  $u(x, t) = \phi(x) G(t)$ , where

$$G(t) = C e^{-\lambda k t} \text{ and } \phi(x) = C_2 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} x)$$

with  $\lambda = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2$ ,  $n \geq 1$ .

$$u(x, t) = C C_2 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-k \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 t}, \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (*)$$

are solutions to the heat equation.

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(x, t) = 0, \text{ due to the exponential term.}$$

$$u(x, 0) = C C_2 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

## Initial value problems

We can use the form of the product solution (\*) to solve an initial value problem provided the initial condition fits a specific form.

e.g.  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$

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

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

$$u(x, 0) = 4 \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right)$$

## Summary - Eigenvalues

7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 

$\lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  are called the eigenvalues of and

$\phi_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$  are the eigenfunctions.

Rationale:

$$-\frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} = \lambda\phi, \quad \phi(0) = \phi(L) = 0$$

Let  $L(\phi)$  denote the operator  $-\frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2}$  acting on functions

satisfying  $\phi(0) = \phi(L) = 0$ .

We can write the ODE as

$$L(\phi) = \lambda\phi \quad (1)$$

From linear algebra, recall that an eigenfunction is a solution  $\phi \neq 0$  of (1).

Remarks \* For an  $N \times N$  matrix we have at most  $N$  eigenvalue.

\* In our case we have an infinite dimensional system with an infinite number of eigenvalues

$$\lambda_n = \frac{\pi^2}{L^2}, \frac{4\pi^2}{L^2}, \frac{9\pi^2}{L^2}, \dots$$

## Normal Modes,

In physics the eigenfunctions are called the normal modes because they are the natural shapes of the solutions that persist for all time.

Our solution from (\*) is of the form

$$u(x,t) = B \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-k\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 t}, \quad B = \text{c/c a constant}$$

with initial conditions

$$u(x,0) = B \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

The initial condition of the problem is  $4 \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right)$  so

If we pick  $B=4$  and  $n=3$ , then the solution becomes

$$u(x,t) = 4 \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-k\left(\frac{3\pi}{L}\right)^2 t}$$

### Principle of superposition

If the initial condition takes the form

$$u(x,0) = 4 \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) + 7 \sin\left(\frac{8\pi x}{L}\right)$$

i.e. linear combinations of the general initial condition

$$u(x,0) = B \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

then the solution is a linear combination of 2 simpler solutions

$$u(x,t) = 4 \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-k\left(\frac{3\pi}{L}\right)^2 t} + 7 \sin\left(\frac{8\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-k\left(\frac{8\pi}{L}\right)^2 t}$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$B=4, n=3$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$B=7, n=8$$

### More Superposition

In general, if  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_M$  are solutions to the linear homogeneous problem, then any linear combination of  $\{u_i\}_{i=1}^M$  is a solution.

i.e.  $c_1 u_1 + c_2 u_2 + \dots + c_M u_M = \sum_{n=1}^M c_n u_n$  is a solution.

We have established that

$$u(x,t) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-k\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 t}$$

is a solution to the linear homogeneous equation then

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^M B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-k\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 t} \quad (\text{for any finite } M)$$

is a solution, provided

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

What if the initial condition  $u(x,0) = f(x)$  is not a linear combination of sine functions? .

### FOURIER SERIES!

#### FACTS

- Any piecewise continuous function can be approximated by a linear combination of sine functions.
- As  $M \rightarrow \infty$ , the series converges to  $f(x)$ . i.e. for any initial condition  $f(x)$  (piecewise continuous)

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad \text{so that the solution}$$

to the heat equation can be written as

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

Given an initial condition of the form

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

our goal is to write  $f(x)$  in the form

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

We need a way to compute  $B_n$ .

We introduce the following notion of orthogonality

$$\int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & m \neq n \\ \frac{L}{2}, & m = n. \end{cases} \quad (**)$$

i.e. The set of functions  $\sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$  is an orthogonal set.

multiply both sides of  $(*)$  by  $\sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right)$  and integrate

$$\int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \int_0^L B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

(here we assume that the series is convergent so we can switch the order of integration & summation)

$$\int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = B_m \int_0^L \sin^2\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \frac{L}{2}$$

because of  $(**)$

$$\text{so } B_m = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx.$$

FACT

For most boundary value problems, the eigenfunctions form an orthogonal set of functions

Example

1D rod with an initial temperature of 100°C and place the ends of the rod in large well-stirred baths of ice water, 0°C.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad t > 0, \quad 0 < x < L \quad (P)$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(L, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = 100.$$

The general solution to (P) is

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

where

$$B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L 100 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) = 100^\circ\text{C}$$

$$B_n = \frac{200}{L} \int_0^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \frac{200}{L} \left( -\frac{L}{n\pi} \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right) \Big|_{x=0}^L$$

$$u = \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

$$= -\frac{200}{n\pi} \cos(n\pi) + \left( \frac{200}{n\pi} \right)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 0, & n \text{ is even } (\cos(n\pi) = 1) \\ \frac{400}{n\pi}, & n \text{ is odd } (\cos(n\pi) = -1) \end{cases}$$

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

$$\text{where } B_n = \begin{cases} 0, & n \text{ even} \\ \frac{400}{n\pi}, & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

\* we will come back to the series to reconcile the fact that  $u(x, 0) = 100$  but the series is zero at the boundary points.



$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad 0 < x < l$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(0, t) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(l, t) = 0 \quad (\text{Insulated Rod})$$

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

We can use the method of separation of variables because

- (a) PDE is homogeneous i.e.  $f(x) = 0$  / no sources
- (b) The boundary conditions are also homogeneous.

Let  $u(x, t) = \phi(x) G(t)$  so that

$$\frac{dG}{dt} = -\lambda k G \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{d^2 \phi}{dx^2} = -\lambda \phi, \quad \lambda \text{ is the separation constant.}$$

Recall that this comes from plugging in  $u(x, t) = \phi(x) G(t)$  into the PDE taking the derivatives and separating the variables.

Time dependent problem has solution

$$G(t) = c e^{-\lambda t}$$

The eigenvalue problem

$$\frac{d^2 \phi}{dx^2} = -\lambda \phi$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dx}(0) = 0, \quad \frac{d\phi}{dx}(l) = 0.$$

We repeat the eigenvalue analysis as before.

$$\underline{\lambda > 0} \quad \phi(x) = C_1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} x) + C_2 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} x)$$

Applying boundary conditions:

$$\frac{d\phi}{dx} = 0 \Rightarrow \sqrt{\lambda} \left( -C_1 \sin \sqrt{\lambda} x + C_2 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} x) \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dx}(0) = 0 \quad \sqrt{\lambda} C_2 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} \cdot 0) = 0 \Rightarrow C_2 = 0 \quad \text{because } \lambda > 0$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dx}(L) = 0 \Rightarrow \sqrt{\lambda} (c_1 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} L)) = 0 \Rightarrow \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} L) = 0 \quad \text{as } c_1 = 0 \text{ leads to trivial solution} \quad \text{B3}$$

So we get the same eigenvalues as in the homogeneous Dirichlet

case

$$\lambda = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2, \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Recall that

$$\phi(x) = c_1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} x) + c_2 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} x) \quad (\text{and } c_2 = 0)$$

$\Rightarrow$  the eigenfunctions are

$$\phi(x) = c_1 \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right), \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} u(x,t) &= \phi(x) g(t) \\ &= c_1 \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) c e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 k t}, \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots \\ &= A \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 k t}, \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (A = c_1 c) \end{aligned}$$

$\lambda = 0$

$$\frac{d^2\phi}{dx^2} = 0 \Rightarrow \phi(x) = c_1 + c_2 x$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dx}(0) = 0, \quad \frac{d\phi}{dx}(L) = 0$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dx} = c_2$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dx}(0) = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dx}(L) = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0$$

This means  $\phi(x) = c_1$  is an eigenfunction corresponding to  $\lambda = 0$ .

Fact  $\lambda < 0$  does not yield any eigenfunctions.

By the principle of superposition,

$$u(x,t) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 kt}$$

Constant solution corresponding to  $\lambda=0$

$\lambda > 0$  solutions.

The initial condition  $u(x,0)$  is satisfied if

$$f(x) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$u(x,t)$  can also be written as

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 kt}$$

Given any function  $f$ , we need to write  $f$  as a Fourier cosine series.

Conveniently  $\left\{ \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right\}$  is also an orthogonal set of functions due to

$$\int_0^L \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & n \neq m \\ \frac{L}{2}, & n = m \neq 0 \\ L, & n = m = 0. \end{cases} \quad (*)$$

To obtain the Fourier coefficients

Indeed,

$$\int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n \int_0^L \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

using (\*) on RHS, we have

$$A_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx$$

and

$$A_m = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx.$$

Note

$\lambda=0$

$$u(x,t) = A_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx$$

$\lambda > 0$ .

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 kt} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow \infty$$

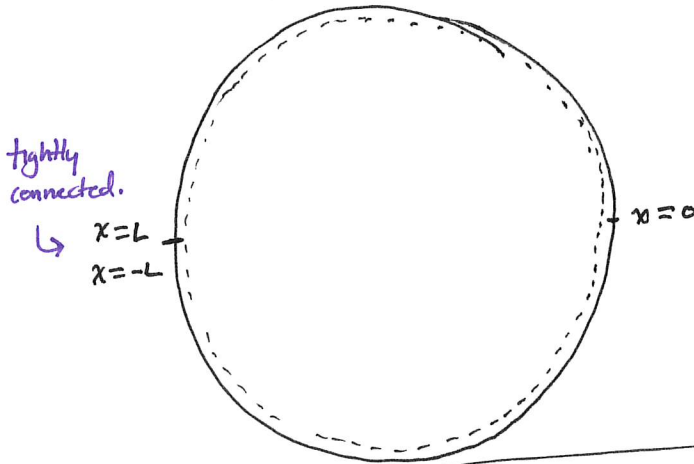
therefore

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(x,t) = A_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L f(x) dx$$

(the solution to the steady state problem).

### HEAT CONDUCTION IN A THIN CIRCULAR RING

(Eigenfunctions that are combinations of sine and cosine functions)



### PDE

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad -L < x < L, \quad t > 0$$

$u(-L, t) = u(L, t)$  (perfect thermal contact).

$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(-L, t) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(L, t)$  (continuous heat flux)

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

Boundary conditions of this type are called periodic  $-L < x < L$

First, we note that we have a linear homogeneous PDE with linear boundary conditions so we can use the method of separation of variables.

let  $u(x,t) = \phi(x) G(t)$

As before,  $G(t) = ce^{-\lambda kt}$ , with the eigenvalue problem

(EVP)

$$\frac{d^2 \phi}{dx^2} = -\lambda \phi$$

$$\phi(-L) = \phi(L)$$

$$\frac{d\phi}{dx}(-L) = \frac{d\phi}{dx}(L)$$

B.c of this type are called MIXED/~~mixed~~ boundary conditions.



When the initial condition is satisfied if

$$u(x,0) = f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

therefore given  $f(x)$  we find  $a_0, a_n, b_n$ .

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

using the following orthogonality conditions

$$\int_{-L}^L \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & n \neq m \\ L, & n = m \neq 0 \\ 2L, & n = m = 0 \end{cases},$$

$$\int_{-L}^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & n \neq m \\ L, & n = m \neq 0 \end{cases},$$

$$\text{and} \quad \int_{-L}^L \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = 0$$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{2L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx$$

$$a_m = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$

$$b_m = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx$$



