

## Lecture Outline for Friday, Oct. 25, 2024

1. Example application of separation of variables method: Heat equation

$$k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad \text{with } u(0,t) = 0, \quad u(L,t) = 0, \quad \text{and } u(x,0) = f(x)$$

- a. Review: Application of SOV method results in two linked ODEs:

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad T' + \lambda k T = 0$$

- b. Boundary conditions become

$$\begin{aligned} u(0,t) = X(0)T(t) = 0 &\rightarrow X(0) = 0 \\ u(L,t) = X(L)T(t) = 0 &\rightarrow X(L) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- c. The  $X(x)$  problem is an S-L problem, and the  $T(t)$  problem is an IVP with a first-order ODE:

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0 \quad \text{with } X(0) = 0 \text{ and } X(L) = 0$$

$$T' + \lambda k T = 0 \rightarrow T(t) = c_3 e^{-k\lambda t}$$

- d. Since the  $X$  problem has closed boundaries and is an S-L problem (homogeneous BCs), the most convenient solution form is

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

- e. Apply BCs to obtain eigenfunctions and eigenvalues

$$X_n(x) = c_{2n} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad \text{with} \quad \lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \quad \text{for } n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

- f. Each eigensolution to the full problem ( $x$  and  $t$  domains) has the form:

$$u_n(x,t) = X(x)T(t) = A_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-k\lambda_n t}$$

The unknown coefficient in the  $T(t)$  solution has been subsumed into the composite constant  $A_n$ ; that is,  $A_n = c_{2n} c_3$ .

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- g. Each eigensolution  $u_n$  is a solution, but a linear combination of eigensolutions is also a solution. Full solution to the PDE for the general case:

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

- h. Determination of coefficients in summation:

Apply IC:  $f(x) = u(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$

Multiply by the  $m$ th eigenfunction and the weighting function [ $p(x) = 1$  in this case] and integrate over interval of interest:

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

Because the  $X(x)$  problem is an S-L problem, the eigenfunctions are orthogonal, and the inner products for  $m \neq n$  are therefore zero. Thus,

$$\int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = A_m \int_0^L \sin^2\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L}\right) dx = A_m \int_0^L \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2m\pi x}{L}\right) \right] dx = A_m \left(\frac{L}{2}\right)$$

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

For some initial value functions  $f(x)$ , the integral could be evaluated analytically. In general or perhaps to save time, the integral would be evaluated numerically.

## 2. Interpretation of solution

- How do we break it down?
- Does it satisfy BCs?
- Does it make sense? Behavior as  $t \rightarrow \infty$
- What can we learn from it?
- Matlab* simulation