

## 9.5 Heat Equation and Separation of Variables

conducting (metal) rod length  $L$



heated, then temperature at

any point and at time  $t$  is  $u(x,t)$

$u(x,t)$  obeys the 1-D Heat Equation

heat only flows along rod  
(no up/down/side flow)

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad \text{or} \quad u_t = k u_{xx}$$

constant ( $k > 0$ )

$u_t = k u_{xx}$  is a partial differential equation (PDE)

↳ partial derivatives (max + cx' + cx = f(t) is ODE)

this PDE has two boundary conditions

$$u(0,t) = T_1 \quad \text{temp at left end } (x=0)$$

$$u(L,t) = T_2 \quad \text{temp at right end } (x=L)$$

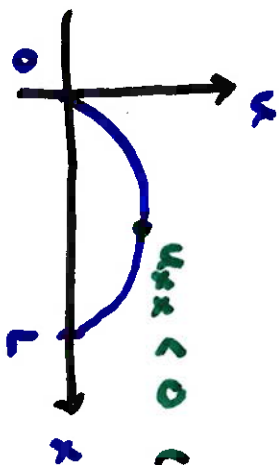
one initial condition

$$u(x,0) = f(x) \quad \text{initial temp. profile } (t=0)$$

} if  $T_1 = T_2 = 0$   
then the equation is said to be homogeneous

BC's are

what does  $u_t = k u_{xx}$  say?



$u_{xx} < 0$  (concave down)

if  $u_{xx} < 0$  at some  $x, t$

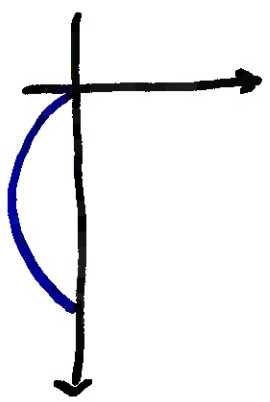
then  $u_t = k u_{xx} < 0$

$u_t < 0 \rightarrow$  heat is flowing away

(temp  $\downarrow$ )

$u_{xx} < 0 \rightarrow$  temp.  $>$  avg. at nearby

heat goes hot to cool



$u_{xx} > 0$

$u_t = k u_{xx} > 0$  heat flows in

temp  $<$  avg. temp nearby

if  $u_{xx} = 0 \rightarrow u_t = 0$

Solution method: separation of variables

$$u_t = k u_{xx} \quad \text{BC's: } u(0, t) = u(L, t) = 0 \quad (\text{homogeneous})$$

$$\text{IC: } u(x, 0) = f(x)$$

$u(x, t) = X(x) T(t)$  product of one function of  $x$  and one of  $t$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = u_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (X(x) T(t)) = X(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (T(t)) = X T'$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = u_x = X' T$$

$$u_{xx} = X'' T$$

$$u_t = k u_{xx}$$

$$X T' = k X'' T$$

$$\frac{X''}{X} = \frac{T'}{k T} = \text{constant} = -\lambda \quad (\lambda > 0) \quad \text{separation constant}$$

Solve

$$\frac{X''}{X} = -\lambda \rightarrow \boxed{X'' + \lambda X = 0}$$

this is now ODE

BC's:  $u(0,t) = X(0)T(t) = 0 \rightarrow X(0) = 0$   
 $u(L,t) = X(L)T(t) = 0 \rightarrow X(L) = 0$

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0$$

solution of  $X'' + \lambda X = 0$  (think  $X'' + \mu x = 0$ )

$$X = C_1 \cos(\sqrt{\lambda} x) + C_2 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} x)$$

$$X(0) = 0 \rightarrow C_1 = 0$$

$$X(L) = 0 \rightarrow C_2 \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} L) = 0 \quad C_2 \neq 0$$

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

$$\sqrt{\lambda} L = n\pi \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\lambda_n = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2}$$

eigenvalues

fundamental solution:  $X = \sin(\sqrt{\lambda} x)$

$$= \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

$$X_n = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

eigenfunctions

$$\text{now } \frac{T'}{kT} = -\lambda = -\frac{n^2\pi^2}{L^2}$$

$$T' + \frac{k n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} T = 0 \rightarrow T(t) = d_1 e^{-\frac{k n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} t}$$

for each  $n$ ,

$$T_n = e^{-\frac{k n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} t}$$

$$u(x,t) = \sum T$$

$$\text{so for each } n, \quad U_n = T_n \sum_n = e^{-\frac{k n^2 \pi^2}{L^2} t} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

General solution: sum all up

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

$$\text{IC: } u(x,0) = f(x)$$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \quad \text{Fourier series}$$

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

Example

$$u_t = 2u_{xx}$$

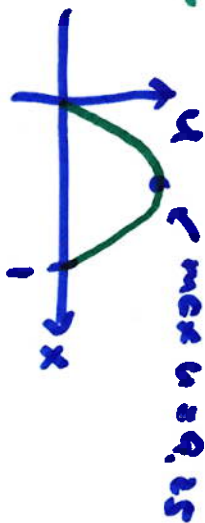
$k=2$

$$0 < x < 1, t > 0$$

$$u(0,t) = u(1,t) = 0 \text{ both ends at temp } = 0$$

$$u(x,0) = 9 \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{4} \sin(3\pi x)$$

$f(x)$



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

$$b_n = 2 \int_0^1 f(x) \sin(n\pi x) dx$$

for this one, since  $f(x) = 9 \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{4} \sin(3\pi x)$  is already a

Fourier series

$$u(x,0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\pi x) = 9 \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{4} \sin(3\pi x)$$

$$b_1 = 9, b_3 = -\frac{1}{4} \text{ all others } = 0$$

$$u(x,t) = 9 e^{-2\pi^2 t} \sin(\pi x) - \frac{1}{4} e^{-18\pi^2 t} \sin(3\pi x)$$

↳ surface

