

PDE

$$u_t = k u_{xx} \quad -l < x < l$$

B.C.

$$u(-l, t) = u(l, t)$$

$$u_x(-l, t) = u_x(l, t)$$

I.C.

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



Step 1

Assume

$$u(x, t) = F(x) G(t)$$

So,

$$u_{xx} = F''(x) G(t)$$

$$u_t = F(x) G'(t)$$

PDE  $\Rightarrow$  After usual steps one gets

$$\frac{F''(x)}{F(x)} = \frac{1}{k} \frac{G'(t)}{G(t)} = \lambda \text{ (say)}$$

B.C.:  $u(-l, t) = u(l, t) \Rightarrow F(-l)G(t) = F(l)G(t)$

$$\Rightarrow F(-l) = F(l) \quad \text{--- (a)}$$

$u_x(-l, t) = u_x(l, t) \Rightarrow F'(-l)G(t) = F'(l)G(t)$

$$\Rightarrow F'(-l) = F'(l) \quad \text{--- (b)}$$

(a) and (b) are separated boundary conditions. The corresponding D.E. is

$$F''(x) = \lambda F(x)$$

$\lambda=0$ : In this case  $F(x) = Ax + B$

$$F(-l) = F(l) \Rightarrow -Al + B = Al + B$$

$$\Rightarrow A = 0$$

Thus  $F(x) = B$  (arbitrary constant)  
corresponding to  $\lambda = 0$ .

$\lambda > 0$  In this case take  $\lambda = k^2$ ,  $k$  real. ②

$$\text{Then } F'' - k^2 F = 0$$

The auxiliary equation:  $m^2 - k^2 = 0$   
 $m = \pm k$

The general solution

$$F(x) = C_1 e^{kx} + C_2 e^{-kx}$$

$$\text{also } F'(x) = C_1 k e^{kx} + C_2 (-k) e^{-kx} \\ = k(C_1 e^{kx} - C_2 e^{-kx})$$

$$F(l) = F(-l) \Rightarrow C_1 e^{kl} + C_2 e^{-kl} = C_1 e^{-kl} + C_2 e^{kl}$$

$$\text{or } C_1(e^{kl} - e^{-kl}) + C_2(e^{-kl} - e^{kl}) = 0 \quad (b_1)$$

$$F'(-l) = F'(l) \Rightarrow C_1 k l e^{kl} - C_2 k l e^{-kl} = C_1 k l e^{-kl} - C_2 k l e^{kl}$$

$$\text{or } C_1(k l e^{kl} - k l e^{-kl}) + C_2(k l e^{-kl} - k l e^{kl}) = 0 \quad (b_2)$$

(b<sub>1</sub>) and (b<sub>2</sub>) will have non-trivial solutions in  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  if  $\det(\text{coeff}) = 0$  i.e.

$$\begin{vmatrix} kl - kl & -kl + kl \\ e - e & e - e \\ kl - kl & kl - kl \\ e - e & e - e \end{vmatrix} = (e^{kl} - e^{-kl})^2 + (e^{-kl} - e^{kl})^2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow e^{kl} - e^{-kl} = 0 \Rightarrow k=0 \text{ as in above}$$

case.

$\lambda < 0$ : For this  $\lambda = -k^2$ ,  $k = \text{real}$

The auxiliary equation is  $m^2 + k^2 = 0$   
 $\text{or } m^2 = \pm ik$

(3)

The general solution is

$$F(x) = C_1 \cos kx + C_2 \sin kx$$

$$F'(x) = -kC_1 \sin kx + kC_2 \cos kx$$

$$F(l) = F(-l) \Rightarrow C_1 \cos kl + C_2 \sin kl$$

$$= C_1 \cos kl - C_2 \sin kl$$

$$\Rightarrow 2C_2 \sin kl \Rightarrow 0 \text{ or } \sin kl = 0 (C_2 \neq 0)$$

$$\text{This gives } kl = n\pi \text{ or } k = \frac{n\pi}{l}, n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$F'(l) = F'(-l)$  will also lead to

$$-kC_1 \sin kl + kC_2 \cos kl = kC_1 \sin kl + kC_2 \cos kl$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \frac{n\pi}{l}$$

$$\text{As } F(x) = C_1 \cos kx + C_2 \sin kx$$

$C_1, C_2$  arbitrary, we get two linearly independent eigenfunctions corresponding

$$\text{to } k_n = \frac{n\pi}{l} \quad (\lambda_n = -\frac{n^2\pi^2}{l^2}) \quad (\text{label by } n)$$

$$\text{For, } C_1 = 1, C_2 = 0$$

$$F_n^{(1)} = \cos \frac{n\pi}{l} x \quad \left. \right\} n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\text{For } C_1 = 0, C_2 = 1,$$

$$F_n^{(2)} = \sin \frac{n\pi}{l} x$$

Thus we have

$$F_n = A_0 \cdot 1 + A_n \cos \frac{n\pi}{l} x + B_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{l} x. \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\text{or } F_n = A_n \cos \frac{n\pi}{l} x + B_n \sin \frac{n\pi}{l} x \quad n=0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Step 2  $\frac{1}{k} \frac{G'(t)}{G(t)} = \lambda = -\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{l^2}$  gives (4)

$$G'(t) = -\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{l^2} k$$

$$\text{or } \frac{dG}{dt} = -\frac{n^2 \pi^2}{l^2} k$$

which has solution

$$G_n(t) = C_n e^{-\frac{n^2 \pi^2 k t}{l^2}} \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Step 3:  $u_n(x, t) = F_n(x) G_n(t)$

$$= A_0 + \left( \tilde{A}_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right) + \tilde{B}_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right) \right) e^{-\frac{n^2 \pi^2 k t}{l^2}}$$

By principle of superposition,  $(\tilde{A}_n = C_n A_n, \tilde{B}_n = C_n B_n)$

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

$$= A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \tilde{A}_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right) + \tilde{B}_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right) \right] e^{-\frac{n^2 \pi^2 k t}{l^2}}$$

Step 4: Determination of  $A_0, \tilde{A}_n, \tilde{B}_n$ .

$$u(x, 0) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \tilde{A}_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right) + \tilde{B}_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{l}x\right)$$

$$= f(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & 0 < x < l \\ 1, & -l < x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Integrate both sides w.r.t. x

from  $-l$  to  $l$

$$\int_{-l}^l A_0 dx = 2l A_0 = \int_{-l}^l f(x) dx = \int_{-l}^0 dx + \int_0^l 0 dx$$

$$= [x]_{-l}^0 = l.$$

$$A_0 = \frac{l}{2}$$

To determine  $\hat{A}_n$ , multiply throughout by  $\cos(m\pi x/l)$  and integrate from  $-l$  to  $l$  (5)

$$\int_{-l}^l f(x) \cos \frac{m\pi x}{l} dx = A \int_{-l}^l \cos \frac{m\pi x}{l} dx$$

$$0 = \text{constant} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \hat{A}_n \int_{-l}^l \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \cos \frac{m\pi x}{l} dx$$

$$+ \hat{B}_n \int_{-l}^l \sin \left( \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right) \cos \left( \frac{m\pi x}{l} \right) dx$$

$$\text{But } \int_{-l}^l \cos \frac{m\pi x}{l} dx = \frac{l}{m\pi} [\sin \frac{m\pi x}{l}]_{-l}^l = 0.$$

$$\int_{-l}^l \cos \frac{n\pi x}{l} \cos \frac{m\pi x}{l} dx = 0 \quad m \neq n \quad (\text{as shown before})$$

$m = n$  gives

$$\int_{-l}^l \cos^2 \frac{m\pi x}{l} dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-l}^l (1 + \cos \frac{2m\pi x}{l}) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [x]_{-l}^l = \frac{1}{2} 2l = l.$$

$$\text{Also } \int_{-l}^l f(x) \cos \frac{m\pi x}{l} dx = \int_{-l}^l \cos \frac{m\pi x}{l} dx$$

$$= \frac{l}{m\pi} [\sin \frac{m\pi x}{l}]_{-l}^l = 0.$$

Combining, we get  $\hat{A}_m = 0$  or  $\hat{A}_n = 0$ .

Now multiply by  $\sin(m\pi x/l)$  throughout and integrate

$$\int_{-l}^l f(x) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) dx = A_0 \int_{-l}^l \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) dx + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \hat{A}_n \int_{-l}^l \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) dx$$

$$+ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \hat{B}_n \int_{-l}^l \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) dx \quad (6)$$

Again,  $\int_{-l}^l \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) dx = -\frac{l}{m\pi} \left[ \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) \right]_{-l}^l$

$$= -\frac{l}{m\pi} [\cos(m\pi) - \cos(-m\pi)] = 0$$

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

$$\int_{-l}^l \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) dx = 0 \quad \text{if } m \neq n$$

$$\text{and } \int_{-l}^l f(x) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) dx = \int_{-l}^l \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) dx$$

$$= \left[ -\frac{l}{m\pi} \cos\left(\frac{m\pi x}{l}\right) \right]_{-l}^l = \frac{l}{m\pi} [1 - (-1)^m]$$

This gives  $\hat{B}_n = \frac{l}{m\pi} [1 - (-1)^m] \cdot \frac{1}{l}$

$$= \frac{1}{m\pi} [(-1)^m - 1]$$

$\hat{B}_0 = 0$  (as  $m=0$  is not included)

so that  $f(x) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \hat{B}_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{l}\right)$