

1. Consider the ODE  $y'' = 4y$ . We know that the general solution is  $y(t) = C_1e^{2t} + C_2e^{-2t}$ , i.e.,  $\{e^{2t}, e^{-2t}\}$  is a *basis* for the solution space. Use the fact that  $e^{2t} = \cosh 2t + \sinh 2t$  and  $e^{-2t} = \cosh 2t - \sinh 2t$ , and that any linear combination of solutions is a solution, to find two distinct solutions involving hyperbolic sines and cosines. Write the general solution using these functions.
2. We will solve for the function  $u(x, t)$ , defined for  $0 \leq x \leq \pi$  and  $t \geq 0$ , which satisfies the following conditions:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad u(0, t) = u(\pi, t) = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = 5 \sin x + 3 \sin 2x.$$

- (a) Briefly describe, and sketch, a physical situation which this models. Be sure to explain the effect of both boundary conditions (called *Dirichlet* boundary conditions) and the initial condition.
  - (b) Assume that  $u(x, t) = f(x)g(t)$ . Find  $u_t$  and  $u_{xx}$ . Also, determine the boundary conditions for  $f(x)$  (at  $x = 0$  and  $x = \pi$ ) from the boundary conditions for  $u(x, t)$ .
  - (c) Plug  $u = fg$  back into the PDE and divide both sides by  $c^2fg$  (i.e., “separate variables”) to get the *eigenvalue problem*. Briefly justify why this quantity must be a constant. Call this constant  $\lambda$ . Write down two ODEs: one for  $g(t)$  and one for  $f(x)$ .
  - (d) Solve for  $g(t)$ ,  $f(x)$ , and  $\lambda$ .
  - (e) Using your solution to Part (d) and the principle of superposition, find the general solution to the boundary value problem.
  - (f) Solve the *initial value problem*, i.e., find the particular solution  $u(x, t)$  that additionally satisfies  $u(x, 0) = 5 \sin x + 3 \sin 2x$ .
  - (g) What is the steady-state solution, i.e.,  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} u(x, t)$ ?
3. Consider a similar situation as the previous problem, but with slightly different boundary and initial conditions.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad u(0, t) = 30, \quad u(\pi, t) = 100$$

$$u(x, 0) = 30 + \frac{70}{\pi}x + 5 \sin x + 3 \sin 2x.$$

- (a) Describe (and sketch) a physical situation that this models. Be sure to describe the impact of *both* boundary conditions and the initial condition.
- (b) Use your physical intuition to determine what the steady-state solution  $u_{ss}(x)$  is.
- (c) Write down the solution to this initial/boundary value problem by adding the steady-state solution to the solution of the related homogeneous problem (see Part (f) of the previous problem).

- (d) How does this compare to the structure of the solution to the ODE for Newton's law of heating / cooling? [*Hint*: Consider an example, e.g.,  $T(t) = 72 + T_h(t) = 72 + Ce^{-kt}$ . Note that the heat equation is the 1-dimensional analog of Newton's law of heating / cooling (which is typically applied to a point-mass, or a "0-dimensional" object).]

4. Consider the following initial/boundary value problem for the heat equation:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad u(0, t) = 0, \quad u_x(\pi, t) = 0, \quad u(x, 0) = 3 \sin \frac{5x}{2}.$$

- (a) Describe (and sketch) a physical situation that this models. Be sure to describe the impact of *both* boundary conditions and the initial condition.
- (b) Assume that there is a solution of the form  $u(x, t) = f(x)g(t)$ . Find  $u_t$ ,  $u_x$ , and  $u_{xx}$ . Also, determine the boundary conditions for  $f(x)$  (at  $x = 0$  and  $x = \pi$ ) from the *mixed boundary conditions* for  $u(x, t)$ .
- (c) Plug  $u = fg$  back into the PDE and divide both sides by  $c^2 fg$  (i.e., "separate variables") to get the eigenvalue problem. Write down two ODEs: one for  $g(t)$  and one for  $f(x)$ .
- (d) Solve the ODEs from the previous part for  $f$  and  $g$ . You may assume that  $\lambda = -\omega^2$ , (i.e., that  $\lambda < 0$ ). Determine  $\omega$  (be sure to show your work for this part, the answer may surprise you!).
- (e) Write down the general solution  $u(x, t)$  for the boundary value problem.
- (f) Find the particular solution for  $u(x, t)$  that additionally satisfies the initial condition  $u(x, 0) = 3 \sin(5x/2)$ .
- (g) What is the steady-state solution?
5. Let  $u(x, t)$  be the temperature of a bar of length 10, at position  $x$  and time  $t$  (in hours). Suppose that the left endpoint of the bar is not insulated, but the right endpoint is fully insulated, and the bar is sitting in a  $70^\circ$  room. Moreover, suppose that initially, the temperature increases linearly from  $70^\circ$  at the left endpoint to  $80^\circ$  at the other end. Finally, suppose the interior of the bar is poorly insulated, so heat can escape.
- (a) Suppose that heat escapes at a constant rate of  $1^\circ$  per hour. Write an initial/boundary value problem for  $u(x, t)$  that could model this situation.
- (b) A more realistic situation would be for heat to escape not at a constant rate, but at a rate proportional to the *difference* between the temperature of the bar and the ambient temperature of the room. Write an initial/boundary value problem for  $u(x, t)$  that could model this situation. What is the steady-state solution and why?