



Figure 14.14

Figure 14.14 shows a one-dimensional heat flow problem. The bottom end of a laterally insulated unit rod is immersed in a water solution at a fixed reference temperature. The temperature at the top end is also fixed at the same reference temperature. The *initial boundary value problem* (IBVP) of the heat flow problem is as follows:

PDE	$u_t = \alpha^2 u_{xx}$	$0 < x < 1$	$0 < t < \infty$

BCs	$u(0,t) = 0$	$0 < t < \infty$	homogeneous BCs
	$u_x(1,t) + hu(1,t) = 0$		

IC	$u(x,0) = x$	$0 \leq x \leq 1$	

Determine the function $u(x,t)$ by the **separation of variables method**.

where $u(x,t)$ represents the temperature at some point x along the rod and at some point in time, t .

$u_t = \delta u / \delta t$; $u_{xx} = \delta^2 u / \delta x^2$; h = heat exchange coefficient.

α^2 = diffusivity (cm²/sec)

PDE (partial differential equation)

BCs (boundary conditions)

IC (initial condition).

In Search Of The Function $u(x,t)$ By The Separation Of Variables Method.

Assertion 1: there exists functions $X_n(x)$ and $T_n(t)$ such that:

$$u_n(x,t) = X_n(x) T_n(t) \text{ -----(1) (called fundamental solutions)}$$

Assertion 2: the identity of $u(x,t)$ is the same as the identity of the infinite sum of $u_n(x,t)$ that satisfies the given IBVP. That is:

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n u_n(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n X_n(x) T_n(t) \text{ -----(2) (if IBVP is satisfied)}$$

Separating Variables:

$$u(x,t) = X(x)T(t) \text{ and } u_t = \alpha^2 u_{xx}$$

Implies:

$$X(x)T'(t) = \alpha^2 X''(x)T(t) \text{ -----(3)}$$

where $T'(t) = \delta T / \delta t = u_t = \delta u / \delta t$; and $X'' = \delta^2 X / \delta x^2 = u_{xx} = \delta^2 u / \delta x^2$

Dividing equation (3) by $\alpha^2 X(x)T(t)$, we have :

$$X(x)T'(t) / \alpha^2 X(x)T(t) = \alpha^2 X''(x)T(t) / \alpha^2 X(x)T(t)$$

So, $T'(t) / \alpha^2 T(t) = X''(x) / X(x) \text{ -----(4)}$

The left hand side of equation (4) depends only on t and the right hand side depends only on x. Since x and t are independent, equation (4) implies that:

$$T'(t) / \alpha^2 T(t) = \mu \text{ (where } \mu \text{ is the separation constant)}$$

and

$$X''(x) / X(x) = \mu$$

So, $T'(t) - \mu \alpha^2 T(t) = 0 \text{ -----(5)}$

and

$$X''(x) - \mu X(x) = 0 \text{ -----(6)}$$

Equations (5) and (6) separate the variables and reduce the PDE to two ODEs.

$$T'(t) - \mu \alpha^2 T(t) = 0 \text{-----}(5)$$

$$X''(x) - \mu X(x) = 0 \text{-----}(6)$$

$\mu < 0$ is the domain of μ for which equations (5) and (6) are meaningful.

If $\mu > 0$, $u(x,t) = X(x)T(t)$ tends to infinity. If $\mu = 0$, $u(x,t) = 0$.

μ is set equal to $-\lambda^2$ for $\mu < 0$. So, equations (5) and (6) become:

$$T'(t) + \lambda^2 \alpha^2 T(t) = 0 \text{-----}(7)$$

$$X''(x) + \lambda^2 X(x) = 0 \text{-----}(8)$$

The solutions for equations (7) and (8) are as follows:

$$T(t) = A e^{-(\lambda \alpha)^2 t} \text{-----}(9)$$

$$X(x) = B \sin(\lambda x) + C \cos(\lambda x) \text{-----}(10)$$

So, $u(x,t) = X(x)T(t) = e^{-(\lambda \alpha)^2 t} [A \sin(\lambda x) + B \cos(\lambda x)] \text{-----}(11)$

satisfies the PDE, $u_t = \alpha^2 u_{xx} \quad 0 < x < 1 \quad 0 < t < \infty$

for any λ and any A and B.

There are infinitely many $u(x,t)$, as expressed in equation (11) that satisfy the PDE. We now look for those that satisfy both the PDE and the boundary conditions (BCs):

$$\begin{aligned} u(0,t) &= 0 \\ u_x(1,t) + hu(1,t) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

So, substituting $e^{-(\lambda \alpha)^2 t} [A \sin(\lambda x) + B \cos(\lambda x)]$ into the BCs, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} B e^{-(\lambda \alpha)^2 t} &= 0 \Rightarrow B = 0 \\ A \lambda e^{-(\lambda \alpha)^2 t} \cos \lambda + h A e^{-(\lambda \alpha)^2 t} \sin \lambda &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

So, $\tan \lambda = -\lambda/h \text{-----}(12)$

$$\tan \lambda = -\lambda/h \text{ -----(12)}$$

The values of λ for a given value of h (can be computed numerically with the aid of a computer) for which equation (12) is satisfied are called the **eigenvalues** of the boundary-value problem:

$$X''(x) + \lambda^2 X(x) = 0 \text{ -----(13)}$$

$$X(0) = 0 \text{ -----(14)}$$

$$X(1) + hX(1) = 0 \text{ -----(15)}$$

These **eigenvalues** are the values of λ for which there exists a *nonzero solution* for the boundary-value problem. The solutions of the boundary-value problem derived from the eigenvalues λ_n are called the **eigenfunctions**, $X_n(x)$. For this boundary-value problem (equations 13 thru 15):

$$X_n(x) = \sin(\lambda_n x)$$

So, the infinite number of **fundamental functions** can be expressed as follows:

$$u_n(x,t) = X_n(x) T_n(t) = e^{-(\lambda_n a)^2 t} \sin(\lambda_n x) \text{ -----(16)}$$

Each of these functions satisfy the PDE and the BCs. Their sum such that the initial condition IC is satisfied is the identity of $u(x,t)$.

So,

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e^{-(\lambda_n a)^2 t} \sin(\lambda_n x) \text{ -----(17)}$$

such that the initial condition (IC), $u(x, 0) = 0$ is satisfied. That is:

$$u(x, 0) = x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin(\lambda_n x) \text{ -----(18)}$$

$$u(x, 0) = x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin(\lambda_n x) \text{ -----(18)}$$

The constants a_n in the eigenfunction expansion (equation 18) can be determined by multiplying each side of equation (18) by $\sin(\lambda_m x)$ and integrating x from 0 to 1:

$$\int_0^1 x \sin(\lambda_m x) dx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \int_0^1 \sin(\lambda_n x) \sin(\lambda_m x) dx \text{ -----(19)}$$

let $x = \xi$; then, $dx/d\xi = 1$

So, equation (19) becomes:

$$\int_0^1 \xi \sin(\lambda_m \xi) d\xi = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \int_0^1 \sin(\lambda_n \xi) \sin(\lambda_m \xi) d\xi \text{ -----(20)}$$

$$= a_m \int_0^1 \sin^2(\lambda_m \xi) d\xi$$

$$= a_m (\lambda_m - \sin \lambda_m \cos \lambda_m) / 2\lambda_m$$

$$\text{So, } a_m = 2\lambda_m / (\lambda_m - \sin \lambda_m \cos \lambda_m) \int_0^1 \xi \sin(\lambda_m \xi) d\xi$$

Changing notation to n , we have:

$$a_n = 2\lambda_n / (\lambda_n - \sin \lambda_n \cos \lambda_n) \int_0^1 \xi \sin(\lambda_n \xi) d\xi \text{ -----(21)}$$

So, the solution to the IBVP problem is:

$$\text{So, } u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n e^{-(\lambda_n^2 t)} \sin(\lambda_n x) \text{ -----(22)}$$

where the constants a_n are calculated from equation (21). Separation method is valid only for homogeneous IBVP. Other methods are used to solve non-homogeneous IBVP.

The String: $S_7P_2A_{21}$ (Identity – Physical Properties).

The Pj Problem of interest is of type *identity*. All problems of mathematical modeling are identity problems because the problems seek the mathematical structure of the physical problem being modeled.