

$$\int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos \frac{m\pi x}{L} dx = \frac{A_0}{2} \int_{-L}^L \cos \frac{m\pi x}{L} dx \rightarrow 0$$

$$+ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \int_{-L}^L \cos \frac{m\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$+ B_n \int_{-L}^L \cos \frac{m\pi x}{L} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \rightarrow 0$$

So,  $\int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos \frac{m\pi x}{L} dx = A_m \int_{-L}^L \cos^2 \frac{m\pi x}{L} dx$

$$= L A_m$$

$$\Rightarrow A_m = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos \frac{m\pi x}{L} dx \quad m = 1, 2, \dots$$

Also,  $B_m = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin \frac{m\pi x}{L} dx \quad m = 1, 2, \dots$

What about  $A_0$ ? Just integrate (\*) without multiplying

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

$$\Rightarrow A_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx$$

(so  $\frac{A_0}{2}$  is the ~~average~~ average of  $f(x)$ ).

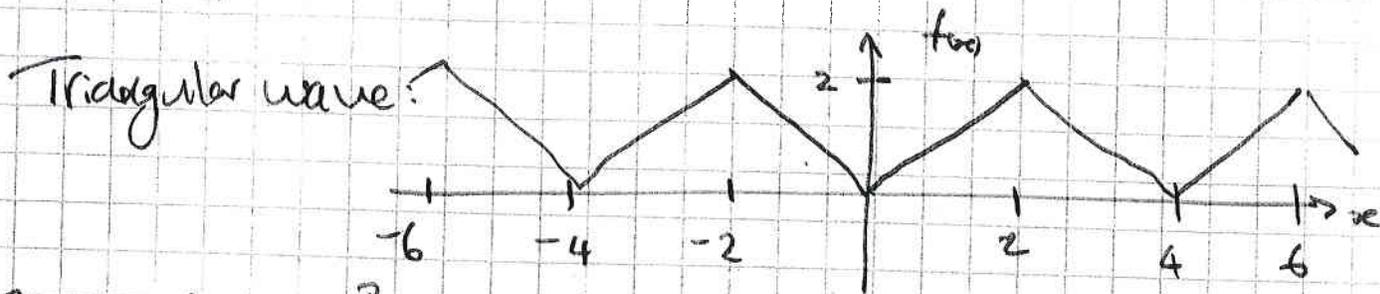
So  $A_m = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos \frac{m\pi x}{L} dx \quad m = \underline{0}, 1, 2, \dots$

$$B_m = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin \frac{m\pi x}{L} dx, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots$$

## Example

$$\bullet \text{ Let } f(x) = \begin{cases} -x & -2 \leq x < 0 \\ x & 0 \leq x < 2 \end{cases}$$

with period 4:  $f(x+4) = f(x)$ . So  $L = 2$ .



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then, } A_0 &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-2}^2 f(x) dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-2}^0 (-x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^2 x dx \\ &= 1 + 1 \\ &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \text{ For } m > 0, \quad A_m &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-2}^2 f(x) \cos \frac{m\pi x}{2} dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-2}^0 (-x) \cos \frac{m\pi x}{2} dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^2 x \cos \frac{m\pi x}{2} dx \\ &= \frac{4}{(m\pi)^2} (\cos m\pi - 1) \quad (\text{by parts}) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \begin{cases} -\frac{8}{(m\pi)^2} & m \text{ odd} \\ 0 & m \text{ even.} \end{cases}$$

$$\bullet \text{ Next, } B_m = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-2}^2 f(x) \sin \frac{m\pi x}{2} dx = 0;$$

Since  $f(x) \sin \frac{m\pi x}{2}$  is an odd function.

$$\lceil g(x) \text{ even} \Rightarrow g(-x) = g(x). \quad g(x) \text{ odd} \Rightarrow g(-x) = -g(x) \rceil$$

$$\text{So, } f(x) = \frac{A_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2} + B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow f(x) &= 1 + \sum_{n \text{ odd}} \frac{-8}{(n\pi)^2} \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2} \\ &= 1 - \frac{8}{\pi^2} \sum_{n \text{ odd}} \frac{\cos(n\pi x/2)}{n^2} \\ &= 1 - \frac{8}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\cos[(2n-1)\pi x/2]}{(2n-1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Note that in this example,  $B_n = 0$  all  $n$ .

In general, if  $f(x)$  is even, then  $B_n = 0$  all  $n$ .

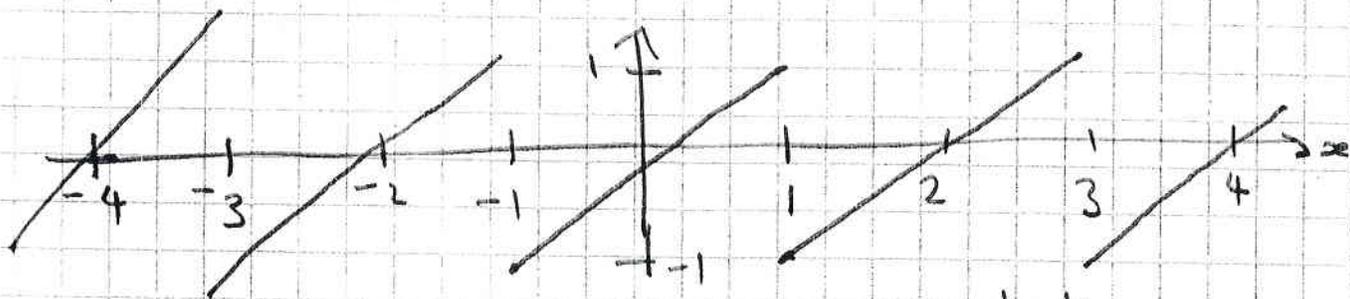
if  $f(x)$  is odd, then  $A_n = 0$  all  $n$ .

if  $f(x)$  is neither, then, we conclude nothing.

### Example

Let  $f(x) = x$  for  $-1 < x < 1$

and let  $f(x+2) = f(x)$ . So  $L=1$ .



Sawtooth wave

Then,  $f(x)$  is odd, so  $A_n = 0$ ,  $n=0, 1, 2, \dots$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{But, } B_n &= \int_{-1}^1 f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2} dx = \int_{-1}^1 x \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2} dx \\ &= \frac{-2}{n\pi} x \cos \frac{n\pi x}{2} \Big|_{-1}^1 + \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{2} dx \end{aligned}$$

$$= -\frac{2}{n\pi} \cos n\pi$$

$$= -\frac{2}{n\pi} (-1)^n$$

$$\text{So } f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{-2}{n\pi} (-1)^n \sin n\pi x.$$

we can simplify  $A_n, B_n$  for even/odd functions:  
let  $g(x)$  be even then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-L}^L g(x) dx &= \int_{-L}^0 g(x) dx + \int_0^L g(x) dx \\ &= \int_{-L}^0 g(-u) (-du) + \int_0^L g(x) dx \\ &= \int_0^L g(u) du + \int_0^L g(x) dx \\ &= 2 \int_0^L g(x) dx. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, if  $f(x)$  is even, then  $B_n = 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned} A_n &= \frac{2}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \end{aligned}$$

Also, if  $f(x)$  is odd, then  $A_n = 0$  and

$$\begin{aligned} B_n &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx \\ &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx. \end{aligned}$$

We can now build periodic functions:

let  $f(x)$  be given on  $0 < x < L$ .

We can build an even periodic function from  $f(x)$

by letting  $f_c(-x) = f_c(x)$  and  $f_c(x+2L) = f_c(x)$

odd or odd

$$\text{then } f_c(x) = \frac{A_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

$$\text{with } A_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Cosine series.

We can build an odd periodic function from  $f(x)$  by letting  $f_s(-x) = -f_s(x)$  and  $f_s(x+2L) = f_s(x)$ . Then,

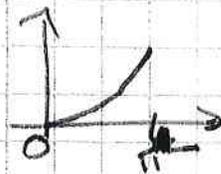
$$f_s(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

$$\text{with } B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

Sine series.

Example

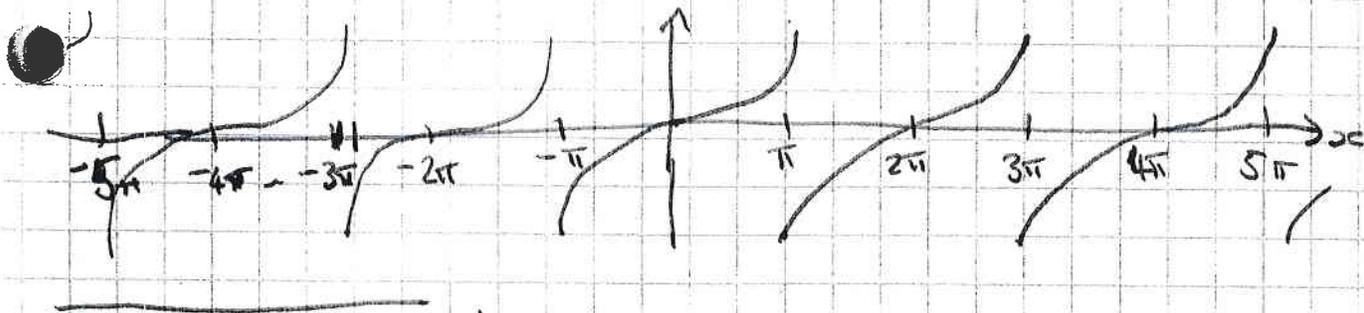
let  $f(x) = x^2$  for  $0 < x < \pi$   
(so  $L = \pi$ )



Cosine series  $f_c(x) = \frac{\pi^2}{3} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n^2} (-1)^n \cos nx$



Sine Series  $f_S(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{2\pi}{n} (-1)^{n+1} + \frac{4}{\pi n^3} ((-1)^n - 1) \right) \sin nx$



We will now show that Fourier series allow us to solve PDEs on simple domains.

## §7. Separation of variables for PDEs

For a linear PDE of the form for the function  $y(x,t)$  of the form

$$a_n \frac{\partial^{(n)} y}{\partial x^{(n)}} + a_{n-1} \frac{\partial^{(n-1)} y}{\partial x^{(n-1)}} + \dots + a_1 \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} + b_n \frac{\partial^{(n)} y}{\partial t^{(n)}} + \dots + b_1 \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} =$$

~~we can~~ with  $a < x < b$  and  $t > 0$

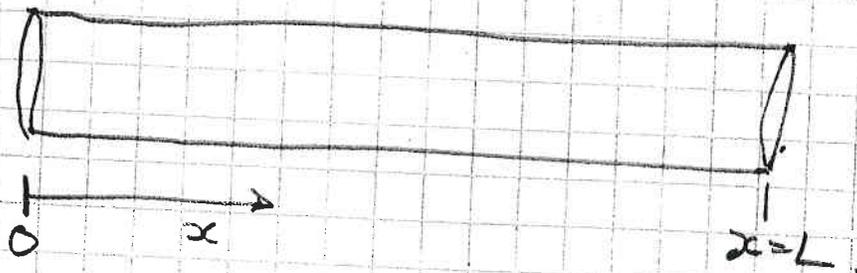
and IC  $y(x,0) = y_0(x)$  and BCs  $y(a,t) = y_a$ ,  $y(b,t) = y_b$ , (const), we can find a soln by separation of variables.

The key idea is to look for a soln of the form  $y(x,t) = X(x)T(t)$ .

We will do this for the heat equation and Laplace equations

## §7.1 Heat equation for a conducting rod with homogeneous boundary conditions

Consider a heat-conducting rod of length  $L$ :



The temperature inside the rod,  $y(x, t)$  satisfies the linear, homogeneous PDE:

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = \kappa \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$$

where  $\kappa = \frac{k}{\rho s}$  is the thermal diffusivity,

$k$  is the thermal conductivity,  $\rho$  is the density and  $s$  is the specific heat.

$\kappa$  has units  $\text{length}^2 / \text{time}$ .

We will consider the evolution of an initial temp. dist.

$y(x, 0) = f(x)$  subject to fixed temperature boundary conditions  $y(0, t) = a$ ,  $y(L, t) = b$ .

If  $a, b \neq 0$ , then the problem is inhomogeneous.  
We can solve  $a, b \neq 0$  via the soln for  $a=b=0$ , which is a

We look for a soln of the form

$$y(x,t) = X(x)T(t).$$

This is called separation of variables.

Then,  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = XT'$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = X''T$ .

So,  $XT' = \kappa X''T$

or,  $\frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{T'}{T} = \frac{X''}{X}$ .

Now, the LHS is a function of  $t$  only

and the RHS is a function of  $x$  only.

The only way this can be correct is if they are both constants, i.e.

$$\frac{1}{\kappa} \frac{T'}{T} = -\lambda \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{X''}{X} = -\lambda$$

or,  $T' = -\kappa \lambda T$  and  $X'' = -\lambda X$ .

Hence, we reduce the PDE with 2 variables to 2 ODEs.

The solution to  $T' = -\kappa \lambda T$  is  $T(t) = e^{-\kappa \lambda t}$

Some  $C = \text{const.}$

We also need to solve  $X'' = -\lambda X$  with 2 BCs.

We have  $y(0,t) = y(L,t) = 0$ , so  $X(0) = X(L) = 0$ .

The general soln to  $X'' = -\lambda X$  is one of:

$\lambda < 0$   $X = A e^{\sqrt{\lambda} x} + B e^{-\sqrt{\lambda} x}$ .

Then  $X(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A + B = 0 \Rightarrow A = -B$

$X(L) = 0 \Rightarrow A e^{\sqrt{\lambda} L} + B e^{-\sqrt{\lambda} L} = 0$

$\Rightarrow B (e^{-\sqrt{\lambda} L} - e^{\sqrt{\lambda} L}) = 0$

$\Rightarrow B = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0 \Rightarrow X = 0$

$\lambda = 0$

$X'' = 0 \Rightarrow X = Ax + B$ .

Then  $X(0) = 0 \Rightarrow B = 0$

$X(L) = 0 \Rightarrow AL = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0 \Rightarrow X = 0$ .

$\lambda > 0$   $X = A \cos \sqrt{\lambda} x + B \sin \sqrt{\lambda} x$

Then  $X(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0$

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

So, either  $B = 0$  (so  $X = 0$ ...) or  $\sqrt{\lambda} L = n\pi \Rightarrow \lambda =$   
some integer  $n$ .

So write solution  $X_n(x) = B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$ .

Then, we have  $y(x,t) = T(x) e^{-\lambda t}$

So  $T(x) = e^{-\lambda t}$

We therefore have solns  $y_n(x,t)$  given by

$$y_n(x,t) = X_n T_n = B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} e^{-\kappa n^2 \pi^2 t / L^2}, \quad n=1,2,\dots$$

but none of these  $y_n$  will satisfy  $y(x,0) = f(x)$  (in general).

### Observation

The PDE is linear and homogeneous and has homogeneous BCs. So if  $y_p$  and  $y_q$  both solve the eqn, then so do  $ay_p + by_q$  with  $a, b = \text{const}$ :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (ay_p + by_q) = b \frac{\partial y_q}{\partial t} + a \frac{\partial y_p}{\partial t} = \kappa a \frac{\partial^2 y_p}{\partial x^2} + \kappa b \frac{\partial^2 y_q}{\partial x^2}$$

$$\text{and } \kappa \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (ay_p + by_q) = \kappa a \frac{\partial^2 y_p}{\partial x^2} + \kappa b \frac{\partial^2 y_q}{\partial x^2}$$

$$\text{also, } (ay_p + by_q)(0 \text{ or } L, t)$$

$$= a y_p(0 \text{ or } L, t) + b y_q(0 \text{ or } L, t)$$

$$= 0 + 0 = 0.$$

### Idea

We have infinitely many solns  $y_n$ . If we add any number of  $y_n$  together, we still have a solution.

Let's add all solns together, and then try to satisfy  $y(x,0) = f(x)$ .

We write our soln as:

$$y(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} e^{-kn^2 t/L^2}$$

Then we need  $f(x) = y(x,0)$ , or:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \cdot 1$$

i.e. the  $B_n$  are the coeffs in the sine series of  $f(x)$ !

$$\text{So } B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx.$$

Example

Let  $f(x) = 1$ .

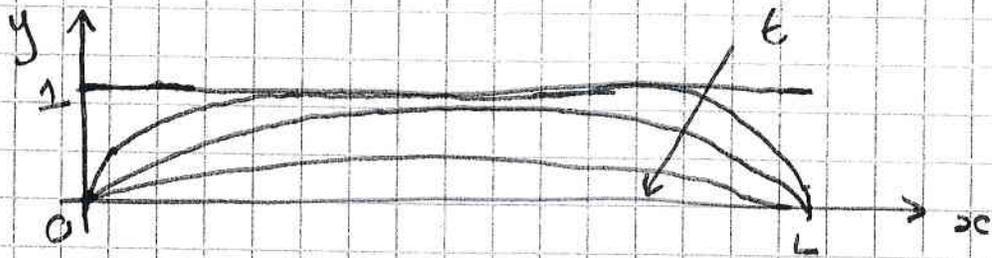
$$\text{Then } B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$= \frac{2}{L} \left( \frac{-L}{n\pi} \right) \cos \frac{n\pi x}{L} \Big|_0^L$$

$$= \frac{-2}{n\pi} (\cos n\pi - 1)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & n \text{ even} \\ \frac{4}{n\pi} & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{So } y(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{n\pi} \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} e^{-kn^2 t/L^2}$$



As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , each term in sum  $\rightarrow 0$ , so  $y(x,t) \rightarrow 0$  also.

This is true for any  $B_n$ :

$$y(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} e^{-\lambda_n^2 t / L^2}$$

$\rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

for every f(x) initial temp.

We'll now show how to solve the ~~equations~~ PDE when there are inhomogeneous BCs, i.e.

$$y(0,t) = a, \quad y(L,t) = b$$

not both zero.

## § 7.2 Heat equation for a conducting rod with inhomogeneous boundary conditions

Idea

As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , we might imagine that a steady temp distribution is reached, i.e.  $y(x,t) \rightarrow \bar{y}(x)$ .

Yes:

As  $t \rightarrow \infty$ , soln becomes independent of time, so

$$\nabla^2 \bar{y} = \frac{\partial \bar{y}}{\partial t} = 0$$

$$\text{or } \frac{d^2 \bar{y}}{dx^2} = 0.$$

This gives  $\bar{y} = Ax + B$ .

$$\text{Then, } \bar{y}(0) = a \Rightarrow B = a.$$

$$\text{and } \bar{y}(L) = b \Rightarrow AL + a = b \Rightarrow A = \frac{b-a}{L}.$$

$$\text{Hence, } \bar{y} = \frac{b-a}{L}x + a.$$

Now, let's write the full, time-dependent soln as

$$y(x, t) = \bar{y}(x) + y_0(x, t).$$

where we expect  $y_0(x, t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

First, ~~the~~ the BCs imply:

$$y(0, t) = \bar{y}(0) + y_0(0, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow a = a + y_0(0, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_0(0, t) = 0$$

$$\text{Also, } y_0(L, t) = 0$$

So  $y_0(x, t)$  satisfies homogeneous BCs.

What PDE does  $y_0(x, t)$  satisfy?

We have 
$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \bar{y}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial y_0}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial y_0}{\partial t}.$$

and 
$$\kappa \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \kappa \frac{\partial^2 \bar{y}}{\partial x^2} + \kappa \frac{\partial^2 y_0}{\partial x^2} = \kappa \frac{\partial^2 y_0}{\partial x^2}.$$

Hence, 
$$\frac{\partial y_0}{\partial t} = \kappa \frac{\partial^2 y_0}{\partial x^2}.$$

So  $y_0(x, t)$  satisfies the same eqn and BCs as §7.1

So 
$$y_0(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} e^{-\kappa n^2 t / L^2}.$$

Hence 
$$y(x, t) = \bar{y}(x) + y_0(x, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow y(x, t) = \frac{b-a}{L} x + b + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} e^{-\kappa n^2 t / L^2}.$$

Finally, the IC is  $y(x, 0) = f(x)$ , so

$$f(x) = \frac{b-a}{L} x + b + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$$

or, 
$$g(x) \equiv f(x) - \frac{b-a}{L} x - b = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}.$$

So 
$$B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx.$$

**NB/** Use  $g(x)$  not  $f(x)$  because IC applies to  $y$  not  $y_0$ .

## \*\* §7.3 Similarity solutions for the heat equation

Some PDEs admit a similarity solution, for which  $y(x,t) = y(s(x,t))$  so  $y$  depends on one special variable  $s(x,t)$ : ~~the~~  $s$

$$\text{Consider } \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = \kappa \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}.$$

$$\text{Let } y = y(s) \text{ with } s = \frac{x}{2\sqrt{\kappa t}}.$$

$$\text{Then, the chain rule gives } \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial s}{\partial t} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} = \frac{-s}{2t} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s}$$

$$\text{and } \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{2\kappa t} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial s^2}.$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{-s}{2t} \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} = \kappa \frac{1}{2\kappa t} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial s^2}$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial s^2} = -2s \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} \quad \text{an ODE.}$$

$$\text{Let } g = \frac{\partial y}{\partial s}. \text{ Then } \frac{\partial g}{\partial s} = -2sg \Rightarrow g = Ae^{-s^2}.$$

$$\text{So } \frac{\partial y}{\partial s} = Ae^{-s^2} \Rightarrow y = A \int_0^s e^{-\tilde{s}^2} d\tilde{s} + B.$$

This form is difficult to work with on  $0 < x < L$ ,

but we can consider  $L \rightarrow \infty$  with this form, whereas §7.1 and §7.2 don't work if  $L \rightarrow \infty$ .

## Example

Consider an infinitely long rod  $x > 0$  with  
 $y(x, 0) = 0$  and  $y(0, t) = 1$ .

$$\text{Then, } y = A \int_0^s e^{-s^2} ds + B.$$

Then  $y(0, t) = 1$  is at  $x=0$ , so  $s = \frac{x}{2\sqrt{kt}} = 0$

$$\text{So } 1 = A \int_0^0 e^{-s^2} ds + B$$

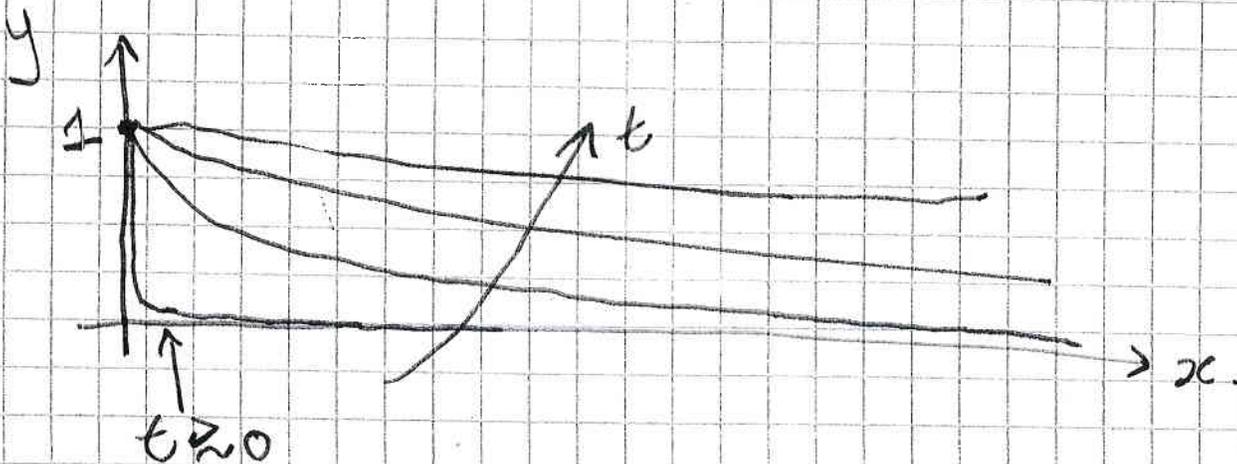
$$\Rightarrow B = 1.$$

Next, as  $t \rightarrow 0_+$ , we have  $s \rightarrow \infty$ , so

$$\cancel{\text{So}} \quad y(x, 0) = 0 = A \int_0^{\infty} e^{-s^2} ds + 1$$

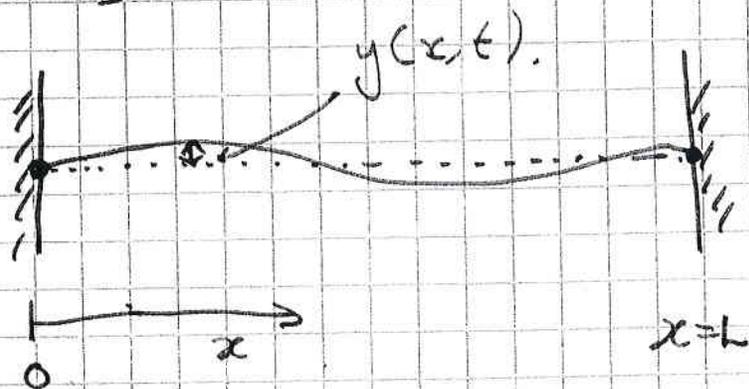
$$\Rightarrow A = -\frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}}$$

$$\text{So } y(x, t) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^{\frac{x}{2\sqrt{kt}}} e^{-s^2} ds + 1.$$



## §7-4 The wave equation for an elastic string of length $L$

Consider an elastic string stretched tightly between two walls:



If  $y(x,t)$  is the displacement of the string wrt the horizontal, then neglecting any damping,  $y$  satisfies:

$$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2},$$

where  $c = \sqrt{T/\rho}$  is the wave speed (units  $\frac{\text{length}}{\text{time}}$ )

and  $T$  is the tension in the string, and  $\rho$  is its density.

The boundary conditions on the displacement are:

$$y(0,t) = y(L,t) = 0.$$

We ~~can~~ can consider two types of IC:

Prescribed position

$$y(x,0) = f(x) \text{ and } \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}(x,0) = 0$$

Prescribed velocity

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}(x,0) = g(x)$$

In either case, the PDE is solved via separation of variables.

### Prescribed Position

$$\text{Let } \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}, \quad y(0, t) = y(L, t) = 0$$

$$\text{and } y(x, 0) = f(x), \quad \frac{\partial y}{\partial t}(x, 0) = 0.$$

Let's write  $y(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$ .

$$\text{Then, } XT'' = c^2 X''T, \text{ or}$$

$$\frac{X''}{X} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{T''}{T} = -\lambda.$$

$$\text{So } X'' = -\lambda X \text{ and } T'' = -\lambda c^2 T.$$

$$\text{We have } X(0) = X(L) = 0 \text{ and } T'(0) = 0$$

But any non-homogeneous BCs cannot be applied yet.

As before,  $X(0) = X(L) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda > 0$  for  $X \neq 0$

$$\text{and } X_n = B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \text{ and } \lambda = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2}$$

" with  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$\text{So, } T_n'' = -\frac{n^2 \pi^2 c^2}{L^2} T_n$$

$$\Rightarrow T_n = A \cos \frac{n\pi ct}{L} + B \sin \frac{n\pi ct}{L}$$

$$\text{But } T'(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0$$

So we have infinitely many solus:

$$y_n(x,t) = X_n T_n = B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{n\pi ct}{L}$$

and hence

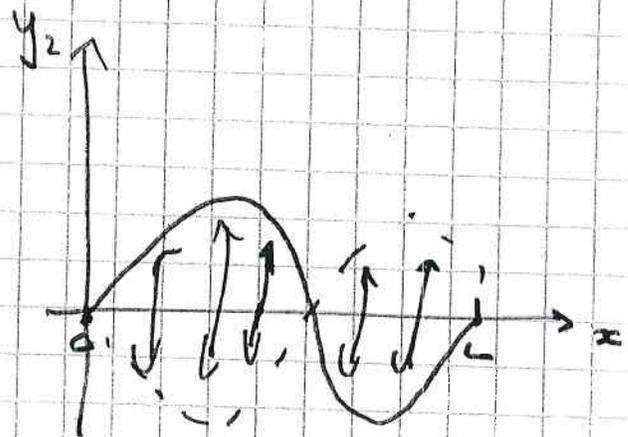
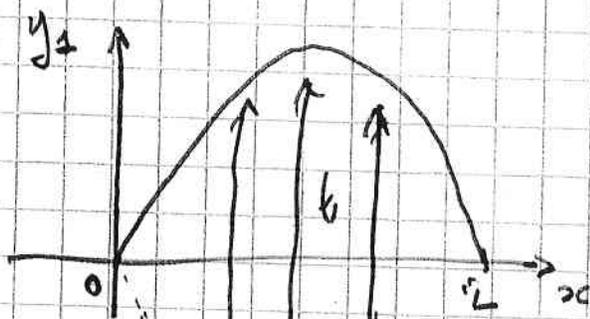
$$y(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \cos \frac{n\pi ct}{L}$$

Then,  $B_n$  found by setting  $y(x,0) = f(x)$ , or

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \cdot 1$$

so  $B_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$  sine series.

let's plot some  $y_n$ 's:



The normal modes

$\sin \frac{n\pi x}{L}$  are shapes

oscillating due to  $\cos \frac{n\pi ct}{L}$

~~Problem~~

## Prescribed Velocity

Now consider  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$ ,  $y(0,t) = y(L,t) = 0$

and ICs  $y(x,0) = 0$ ,  $\frac{\partial y(x,0)}{\partial t} = g(x)$ .

Let  $y = X(x)T(t)$ . Then, as before,  
 $X(0) = X(L) = 0$ ,  $T(0) = 0$

$$X'' = -\lambda X \quad \text{and} \quad T'' = -\lambda c^2 T, \quad \lambda > 0.$$

$$\text{So } X_n = B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{L^2}.$$

$$\text{Then } T_n'' = -\frac{n^2 \pi^2 c^2}{L^2} T_n$$

$$\text{So } T_n = A \cos \frac{n\pi c t}{L} + B \sin \frac{n\pi c t}{L}$$

$$\text{Now, } T(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A = 0.$$

$$\text{So } y_n = X_n T_n = B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \sin \frac{n\pi c t}{L}$$

$$\text{and } y(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} \sin \frac{n\pi c t}{L}.$$

We need  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}(x,0) = g(x)$ , or

$$g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{n\pi c}{L} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} = 1.$$

$$\text{So } B_n = \frac{2}{n\pi c} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx.$$

### Example

Let  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial t}(x, 0) = V \delta(x - L/2)$ ,  $\delta$ -function.

Impulsively stretched string at  $x = L/2$ .

$$\text{So } g(x) = V \delta(x - L/2)$$

$$\text{and } B_n = \frac{2}{n\pi c} \int_0^L g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$= \frac{2}{n\pi c} \int_0^L V \delta(x - L/2) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{L} dx$$

$$= \frac{2V}{n\pi c} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{2}\right)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & n \text{ even} \\ \frac{2V}{n\pi c} & n = 4k + 1 \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ -\frac{2V}{n\pi c} & n = 4k + 3 \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \end{cases}$$

## § 7.5 Propagation of waves on an infinite elastic spring.

Consider  $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$  for  $-\infty < x < \infty$ .

This eqn admits characteristic variables:

Let  $p = x + ct$  and  $q = x - ct$ .

$$\text{Then, } \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \frac{\partial y}{\partial p} + \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} \frac{\partial y}{\partial q} = \frac{\partial y}{\partial p} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial q}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Then, } \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( c \frac{\partial y}{\partial q} - c \frac{\partial y}{\partial p} \right) \\
 &= \left( c \frac{\partial}{\partial q} - c \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \right) \left( c \frac{\partial y}{\partial q} - c \frac{\partial y}{\partial p} \right) \\
 &= c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial q^2} - 2c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p \partial q} + c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Also, } \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial q^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p \partial q} + \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{So, } \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} &= c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} \\
 \Rightarrow c^2 \left( \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial q^2} - 2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p \partial q} + \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p^2} \right) \\
 &= c^2 \left( \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial q^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p \partial q} + \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p^2} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p \partial q} = 0$$

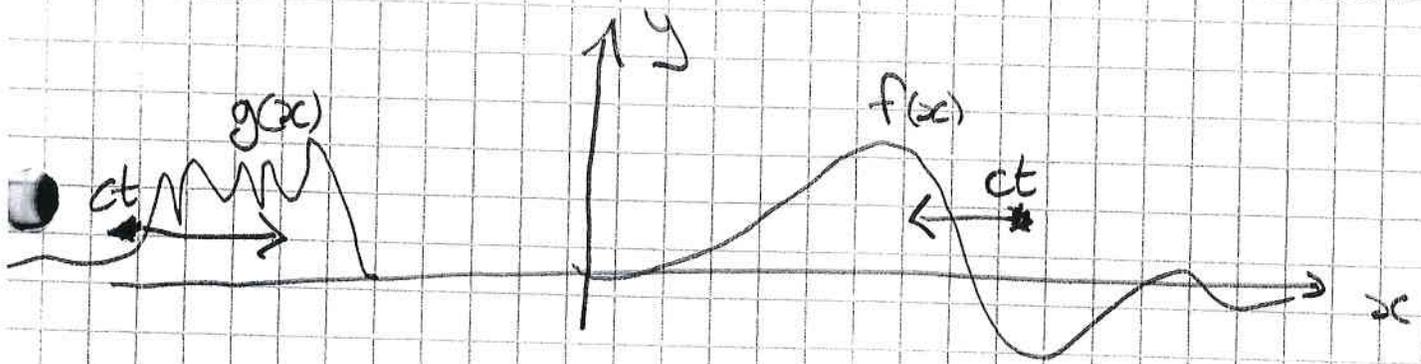
$$\text{or } \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial p \partial q} = 0$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{\partial y}{\partial q} = f(p)$$

$$\text{and } y = f(p) + g(q)$$

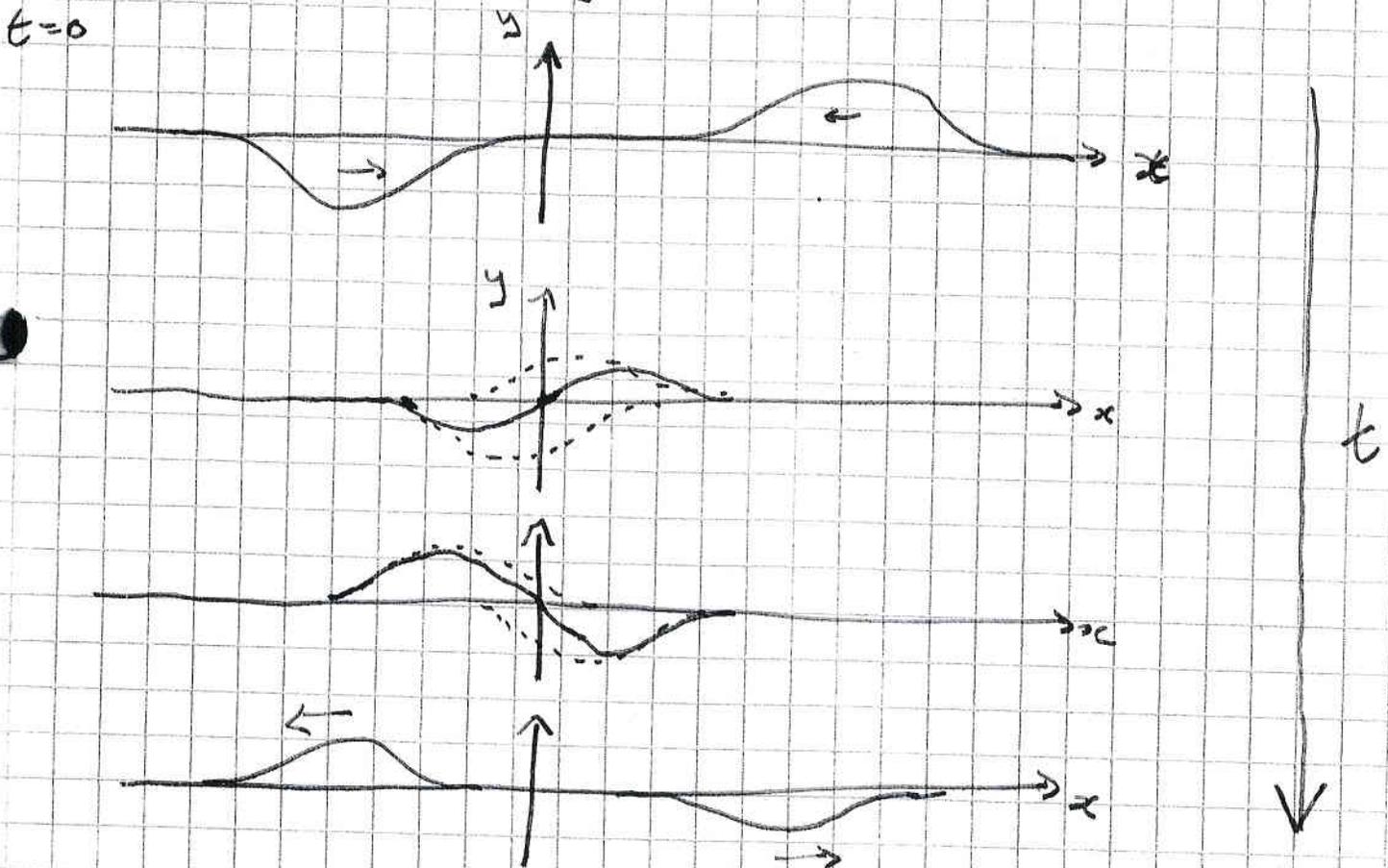
$$\text{or, } y(x, t) = f(x+ct) + g(x-ct)$$

The superposition of a ~~right~~ leftward propagating and rightward propagating disturbance.



### Example

Let  ~~$f(x)$~~   $g(x) = -f(x)$ .



Note that  $y(0, t) = 0$ . So this soln also solves wave eqn on  $x > 0$  only (if we ignore LHA) with the correct BC.

→ represents reflection at a boundary.

## §7.6 Laplace Equation

The Laplace equation is  ~~$\nabla^2 u = 0$~~   $\nabla^2 u = 0$   
for  $u(x)$ . In 2D this is:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0 \quad \text{for } u(x, y).$$

### Example

In more than 1D, the heat eqn is  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nabla^2 u$ .  
In steady state,  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0$ , so we solve  $\nabla^2 u = 0$ .

### Example

irrotational, incompressible

In ~~inviscid~~ inviscid fluid mechanics, the velocity field  
is a vector field  $\underline{u}(x, y)$  and it can be shown  
that  $\underline{u} = \nabla \phi$  with  $\nabla^2 \phi = 0$ .

---

Will will consider 2D domains that are bounded.  
Eg Rectangle  $0 < x < a$ ,  $0 < y < b$ .

We must apply BCs, that come in two forms:

Dirichlet:  $u$  given on boundary

Neuman:  $\underline{n} \cdot \nabla u$  given on boundary with normal  $\underline{n}$ .

In this course we will only consider the Dirichlet problem

We will <sup>now</sup> solve

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < a, \quad 0 < y < b.$$

with  $u(x, 0) = 0$ ,  $u(x, b) = f(x)$  for  $0 < x < a$

and  $u(0, y) = 0$ ,  $u(a, y) = 0$  for  $0 < y < b$

for some given  $f(x)$ .

We do this via separation of variables.

Let  $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$ .

Then,  $X''Y'' + XY'' = 0$

or,  $\frac{X''}{X} = -\frac{Y''}{Y} = -\lambda$ .

So  $X'' = -\lambda X$  and  $Y'' = +\lambda Y$ .

We have  $X(0) = X(a) = 0$ , so  $\lambda > 0$

~~$\lambda = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{a^2}$  and  $\lambda = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{b^2}$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$~~

and  $X_n = B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a}$  and  $\lambda = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{a^2}$ .

Then,  $Y_n'' = \frac{n^2 \pi^2}{a^2} Y_n$ , so

$$Y_n = A e^{\frac{n\pi y}{a}} + B e^{-\frac{n\pi y}{a}}$$

Then,  $Y_n(0) = 0 \Rightarrow A + B = 0 \Rightarrow B = -A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } Y_n &= A \left( e^{\frac{n\pi y}{a}} - e^{-\frac{n\pi y}{a}} \right) \\ &= 2A \sinh \frac{n\pi y}{a}. \end{aligned}$$

We have infinitely many solutions of the form:

$$u_n(x, y) = X_n Y_n = B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a} \sinh \frac{n\pi y}{a}$$

So, we write

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a} \sinh \frac{n\pi y}{a}.$$

Finally, we need  $u(x, b) = f(x)$ , or

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a} \cdot \underbrace{\sinh \frac{n\pi b}{a}}_{\text{const.}}$$

$$\text{So } B_n = \frac{2}{a \sinh(\frac{n\pi b}{a})} \int_0^L f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{a} dx$$

-  $u(0,t) = 5$ ,  $u(2,t) = 1$ ,  $u(x,0) = 4 - 2x$ ?

What is  $b_n$ ?



show that spiral if  $-1 < \alpha < 1$   
 and stable if  $\alpha > 0$   
 or  $\alpha < 0$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & -3 \\ \alpha & 1+\alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda^2 - (4+\alpha)\lambda + 3 = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{4+\alpha}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{16+8\alpha+\alpha^2-12}$$

$$= \frac{4+\alpha}{2} \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\alpha^2+8\alpha+4}$$

When is it a spiral