

Integral form of heat eq.

$$\int_a^b \rho c_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} dx = \left[k \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right]_a^b + \int_a^b S dx$$

But $\int_a^b I(x) dx = 0 \Rightarrow I(x) = 0$ if a & b are arbitrary.

$$\Rightarrow \rho c_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + S \quad (\text{if } k \text{ is const.})$$

→ differential form

Scaling: often we can remove constant coeffs. by rescaling the independent variables. (e.g. $x = \alpha \hat{x}$, $t = \beta \hat{t}$)

This eliminates distracting constants (which are physically important as one must reconcile dimensional units, but not for subsequent math manipulation).

So, our equat. is basically $u_t = u_{xx} + q$

Solution by
Separation
of Variables of

$$u_t = u_{xx} \quad | \quad u=f(x) \text{ at } t=0.$$

(set $q=0$ for now)

$$\frac{T'}{T} = \frac{X''}{X} \quad (\text{prime is derivative w.r.t. argument})$$

Let $u=X(x)T(t)$ → & divide by XT ...

anticipate decay for diffusion

$f_{uu}(t) = f_{uu}(x)$
→ only true if both equal a const.

$$\therefore T' = -\lambda T, X'' = -\lambda X$$

$\lambda \equiv \text{separation const.}$

$$\Rightarrow u = (a \cos \sqrt{\lambda} x + b \sin \sqrt{\lambda} x) e^{-\lambda t} \quad \text{But } u=0 \text{ at } x=0 \Rightarrow a=0.$$

Then $u=0$ at $x=\pi \Rightarrow \lambda = n^2$ for $n=1, 2, 3, \dots$ Wrong sign choice for λ would fail here.

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

Last, $f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx$ is satisfied if $b_n = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} f \sin nx dx$