

# Example

## Variation of Parameters

11/2020

122 prob 4,  $b=4$ . We want to solve

$$u_t = u_{xx} - 4u \text{ on } [0, \pi], t \geq 0; \quad u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(\pi, t) = 1;$$
$$u(x, 0) = 0.$$

We must convert boundary values at  $x=0, x=\pi$  to homogeneous type. Can put  $u = \frac{x}{\pi} + v$  as one very simple choice. Notice that  $v(0, t) = 0, v(\pi, t) = 0$ . Also notice that:

$$u_t = u_{xx} - 4u \iff v_t = 0 + v_{xx} - 4\left(\frac{x}{\pi} + v\right)$$
$$\iff v_t = (v_{xx} - 4v) - \frac{4}{\pi}x.$$

This is a non-homogeneous linear PDE:

$$v_t - v_{xx} + 4v = -\frac{4}{\pi}x \quad \text{for } \begin{cases} 0 \leq x \leq \pi \\ t \geq 0 \end{cases}.$$

Since we have  $v(0, t) = 0, v(\pi, t) = 0$ , this is a situation amenable to the variation of param. method!!  
"We simply blast through and see what we get."

Let

$$v(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n(t) \underline{\sin(nx)} \quad \cdot \quad \left\{ \text{FSS style} \right\}$$

Want

$$\sum_n B_n'(t) \sin(nx) - \sum_n B_n(t) (-n^2) \sin(nx) + 4 \sum_n B_n(t) \sin(nx)$$
$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [B_n'(t) + (n^2 + 4) B_n(t)] \underline{\sin(nx)} = -\frac{4}{\pi}x \quad \cdot$$

The above is a formal calculation, presuming that everything is nicely convergent at least for  $0 < x < \pi$  (and  $t > 0$ ). See famous footnote p. 117 (\*).

Know:  $x = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2}{n} (-1)^{n+1} \sin(nx)$  on  $0 < x < \pi$ , by 382.

Get:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [B_n'(t) + (n^2 + 4) B_n(t)] \sin(nx) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{8}{\pi n} (-1)^n \sin(nx).$$

Deduce that

**KEY ODE**

$$B_n'(t) + (n^2 + 4) B_n(t) = \frac{8}{\pi n} (-1)^n, \quad n \geq 1.$$

Easy ODE solution gives

$$B_n(t) = \frac{8}{\pi n} (-1)^n \frac{1}{n^2 + 4} + C e^{-(n^2 + 4)t}$$

for each  $n \geq 1$ .

Recall that  $v(x, 0) = -\frac{x}{\pi} \left( = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^n}{\pi n} \sin(nx) \right)$ .

Thus  $B_n(0) = \frac{2}{\pi n} (-1)^n$ . Hence, for each  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$C = \frac{2}{\pi n} (-1)^n - \frac{8(-1)^n}{\pi n(n^2 + 4)}.$$

Plug in to get:

$$v = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ \frac{8(-1)^n}{\pi n(n^2 + 4)} + \left( \frac{2(-1)^n}{\pi n} - \frac{8(-1)^n}{\pi n(n^2 + 4)} \right) e^{-(n^2 + 4)t} \right] \sin(nx)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{8(-1)^n}{\pi n(n^2 + 4)} \sin(nx) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^n}{\pi n} \left\{ 1 - \frac{4}{n^2 + 4} \right\} e^{-(n^2 + 4)t} \sin(nx)$$

$$= (\text{sum \#1}) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^n}{\pi} \frac{n}{n^2 + 4} e^{-(n^2 + 4)t} \sin(nx).$$

Finally, then,

$$u = \frac{x}{\pi} + v$$

$$u = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{\pi n} \sin(nx) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{8(-1)^n}{\pi n(n^2+4)} \sin(nx) \\ + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^n}{\pi} \frac{n}{n^2+4} e^{-(n^2+4)t} \sin(nx)$$

sum #1

But, note that [as on preceding page]

$$\frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{\pi n} + \frac{8(-1)^n}{\pi n(n^2+4)} = \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{\pi n} \left[ 1 - \frac{4}{n^2+4} \right] \\ = \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{\pi} \frac{n}{n^2+4}$$

So, V.P. leads to:

$$u = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^{n+1}}{\pi} \frac{n}{n^2+4} \sin(nx) \\ + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2(-1)^n}{\pi} \frac{n}{n^2+4} e^{-(n^2+4)t} \sin(nx)$$

this is  $\frac{\sinh(2x)}{\sinh(2\pi)}$  by p. 382

which agrees with p. 122 prob 4 ( $b=4$ ).

"math is consistent" ) GREAT!!