

**Math 3150-1 PDEs for Engineers – Final Exam**  
**December 15 2008**

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All exercises are independent

**Total: 150/150 points**

**Problem 1 (25 pts)** Consider the 1D heat equation with homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions,

$$\begin{cases} u_t = 4u_{xx}, & 0 < x < 1 \text{ and } t > 0, \\ u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, & t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) = f(x), & 0 < x < 1. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

(a) Use separation of variables with  $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$  to show that a general solution to (1) is

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\pi x) \exp[-(2n\pi)^2 t].$$

Specify what are the coefficients  $b_n$  in terms of  $f(x)$ .

(b) Solve (1) with

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 100 & \text{if } 0 < x \leq \frac{1}{2}, \\ 0 & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} < x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

(c) Find the steady state solution  $s(x)$  to

$$\begin{cases} v_t = 4v_{xx}, & 0 < x < 1 \text{ and } t > 0, \\ v(0, t) = 0, v(1, t) = 100, & t > 0, \\ v(x, 0) = g(x), & 0 < x < 1. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

(d) Solve (2) with  $g(x) = f(x) + s(x)$  by using your answer to (b).

(a) Plugging  $u(x, t) = X(x)T(t)$  into PDE:

$$XT' = 4X''T \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \frac{X''}{X} = \frac{T'}{4T} = \text{constant} < 0 \quad \text{to get decay in temp}$$

$$= -\lambda^2$$

$$\begin{cases} X'' + \lambda^2 X = 0 \\ X(0) = X(1) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Solving for  $X$  we get:

$$X(x) = a \cos \lambda x + b \sin \lambda x$$

$$X(0) = a = 0$$

$$X(1) = b \sin \lambda = 0 \Rightarrow b = 0 \text{ (trivial sol)}$$

$$\text{or } \lambda = \lambda_n = n\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow X_n(x) = \sin n\pi x$$

The problem for  $T$  is:

$$T_n' = -4 \frac{(n\pi)^2}{\lambda^2} T_n \Rightarrow T_n(t) = b_n \exp[-(2n\pi)^2 t]$$

$u_n(x,t) = X_n(x) T_n(t)$  satisfies (1) by construction and so does its sum by the superposition principle:

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin n\pi x \exp[-(2n\pi)^2 t]$$

Using Initial Conditions:

$$u(x,0) = f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin(n\pi x)$$

$b_n$  = sine series coeff of  $f(x)$

$$(f, \sin n\pi x) = b_n (\sin n\pi x, \sin n\pi x) \quad \text{with } (u,v) = \int_0^1 u(x)v(x) dx$$

$$\text{Besides } (\sin n\pi x, \sin n\pi x) = \int_0^1 \sin^2 n\pi x dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \sin^2 n\pi x dx = \frac{1}{2}$$

↑  
formula sheet.

$$\Rightarrow b_n = 2 \int_0^1 f(x) \sin n\pi x dx$$

(b) With the given  $f(x)$ :

$$b_n = 200 \int_0^{1/2} \sin n\pi x dx = 200 \left. -\frac{\cos n\pi x}{n\pi} \right|_0^{1/2}$$

$$= \frac{200}{n\pi} \left( 1 - \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( 1 - \cos \frac{n\pi}{2} \right) \sin(n\pi x) \exp[-(2n\pi)^2 t]$$

(c) Steady state means  $\Delta t = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta_{xx} = 0$

$\Delta_{xx} = 0 \Rightarrow \Delta(x) = ax + b$

Using B.C.  $\Delta(0) = b = 0$   
 $\Delta(1) = 100 = a$  }  $\Rightarrow \Delta(x) = 100x$

(d)  $v = u + \Delta$       $v_t = u_t + \Delta_t = u_t$  }  $\Rightarrow v_t = 4v_{xx}$   
 $v_{xx} = u_{xx} + \Delta_{xx} = u_{xx}$

Also  $v(0, t) = u(0, t) + \Delta(0) = 0$

$v(1, t) = u(1, t) + \Delta(1) = 100$

and  $v(x, 0) = u(x, 0) + \Delta(x) = f(x) + s(x)$

Thus  $v(x, t)$  solves (2).

4  
**Problem 2 (20 pts)** Vibrations of a circular membrane of radius 1 with radially symmetric initial shape  $f(r)$  and zero initial velocity are governed by the 2D wave equation,

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} = \Delta u, & 0 < r < 1 \text{ and } t > 0, \\ u(1, t) = 0, & t > 0, \\ u(r, 0) = f(r), & 0 < r < 1, \\ u_t(r, 0) = 0, & 0 < r < 1. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

A general solution to (3) has the form

$$u(r, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos(\alpha_n t) J_0(\alpha_n r),$$

where  $\alpha_n$  is the  $n$ -th positive zero of  $J_0(r)$ .

(a) Use the initial conditions and the orthogonality relations for Bessel functions (see formula sheet), to show that

$$A_n = \frac{2}{J_1^2(\alpha_n)} \int_0^1 f(r) J_0(\alpha_n r) r dr.$$

(b) Solve (3) with  $f(r) = 1 - r^2$ . **Hint:** Use formula sheet.

(a)  $u(r, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos(\alpha_n t) J_0(\alpha_n r)$ . Using initial conditions:

$$u(r, 0) = f(r) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n J_0(\alpha_n r) = \text{Bessel series expansion of } f(r)$$

$$(f(r), J_0(\alpha_m r)) = \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n J_0(\alpha_n r), J_0(\alpha_m r) \right)$$

$$= A_m (J_0(\alpha_m r), J_0(\alpha_m r))$$

↑ orthogonality relations.

Also:  $(J_0(\alpha_m r), J_0(\alpha_m r)) = \frac{1}{2} J_1^2(\alpha_m)$

↓ Here:  
 $(u, v) = \int_0^1 r dr u(r) v(r)$ .

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{A_m = \frac{2}{J_1^2(\alpha_m)} \int_0^1 f(r) J_0(\alpha_m r) r dr}$$

(b) We need to compute:

$$A_n = \frac{2}{J_1^2(\alpha_n)} \int_0^1 (1-r^2) J_0(\alpha_n r) r dr$$

$$= \frac{2}{J_1^2(\alpha_n)} \frac{2}{\alpha_n^2} J_2(\alpha_n)$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{4}{\alpha_n^2} \frac{J_2(\alpha_n)}{J_1^2(\alpha_n)} \cos(\alpha_n t) J_0(\alpha_n r)$$

**Problem 3 (20 pts)** Consider the 2D Laplace equation below which models the steady state temperature distribution of a square plate where all the sides but the top one are dipped in an ice bath,

$$\begin{cases} u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0, & 0 < x < 1 \text{ and } 0 < y < 1, \\ u(0, y) = u(1, y) = 0, & 0 < y < 1, \\ u(x, 0) = 0, & 0 < x < 1, \\ u(x, 1) = f(x), & 0 < x < 1. \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Separation of variables with  $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$  gives

$$X'' + kX = 0, \quad X(0) = 0, \quad X(1) = 0$$

$$Y'' - kY = 0, \quad Y(0) = 0.$$

(a) Assuming  $k = \mu^2 > 0$ , obtain the product solutions to (4):

$$u_n(x, y) = B_n \sin(n\pi x) \sinh(n\pi y).$$

(b) Write down the general form of a solution to (4) and express  $B_n$  in terms of  $f(x)$ .

(c) Solve (4) with  $f(x) = 100$ .

(a) The problem for  $X$  is:

$$\begin{cases} X'' + \mu^2 X = 0 \\ X(0) = X(1) = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow X(x) = a \cos \mu x + b \sin \mu x$$

$$\begin{aligned} X(0) &= a = 0 \\ X(1) &= b \sin \mu = 0 \Rightarrow a = 0 \text{ (trivial sol)} \\ &\mu = \mu_n = n\pi \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow X_n(x) = \sin n\pi x$$

Problem for  $Y$  is:

$$\begin{cases} Y_n'' - (n\pi)^2 Y_n = 0 \\ Y_n(0) = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow Y_n(y) = a \cosh n\pi y + b \sinh n\pi y$$

$$Y_n(0) = a = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow Y_n(y) = b_n \sinh n\pi y$$

Product solutions are then:

$$u_n(x, y) = X_n(x) Y_n(y) = b_n \sin(n\pi x) \sinh(n\pi y)$$

(b) A general solution to (4) is:

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

To find  $B_n$  we use B.C.:

$$u(x, 1) = f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sinh(n\pi) \sin(n\pi x)$$

Fourier sine series coeff of  $f(x)$

$$\Rightarrow B_n \sinh(n\pi) = 2 \int_0^1 f(x) \sin(n\pi x) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow B_n = \frac{2}{\sinh(n\pi)} \int_0^1 f(x) \sin(n\pi x) dx$$

(c) For the particular  $f(x)$  we have:

$$B_n = \frac{200}{\sinh(n\pi)} \int_0^1 \sin(n\pi x) dx = \frac{200}{\sinh(n\pi)} \left. \frac{-\cos(n\pi x)}{n\pi} \right|_0^1$$

$$= \frac{200(1 - (-1)^n)}{(\sinh(n\pi))(n\pi)}$$

Problem 4 (20 pts) Use the Fourier transform method to find the solution  $u(x, t)$  of

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} + u_{xxxx} = 0, & x \in \mathbb{R}, t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) = f(x), & x \in \mathbb{R}, \\ u_t(x, 0) = 0, & x \in \mathbb{R}, \end{cases}$$

assuming  $f(x)$  has a Fourier transform. Give your answer in the form of an inverse Fourier transform.

$\mathcal{F}$

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \hat{u}(\omega, t) + \omega^4 \hat{u}(\omega, t) = 0$$

$$\hat{u}(\omega, t) = A(\omega) \cos(\omega^2 t) + B(\omega) \sin(\omega^2 t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{u}_t(\omega, t) = -A(\omega) \omega^2 \sin(\omega^2 t) + B(\omega) \omega^2 \cos(\omega^2 t)$$

$$\hat{u}(\omega, 0) = A(\omega) = \hat{f}(\omega)$$

$$\hat{u}_t(\omega, 0) = B(\omega) \omega^2 = 0 \Rightarrow B(\omega) = 0$$

Thus  $\hat{u}(\omega, t) = \hat{f}(\omega) \cos(\omega^2 t)$

and  $u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int d\omega e^{i\omega x} \hat{f}(\omega) \cos(\omega^2 t)$



Problem 5 (15 pts)

(a) Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Show that  $\mathcal{F}(f(x-a))(\omega) = \exp[-ia\omega]\hat{f}(\omega)$ .

(b) Show that

$$\frac{1}{2}\mathcal{F}(f(x-a)+f(x+a))(\omega) = \cos(a\omega)\hat{f}(\omega).$$

(a)  $\mathcal{F}(f(x-a))(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx f(x-a) e^{-ix\omega}$

c.o.v  
 $z = x-a$   
 $dz = dx$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz f(z) e^{-i(z+a)\omega}$$

$$= e^{-ia\omega} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dz f(z) e^{-iz\omega}$$

$= e^{-ia\omega} \hat{f}(\omega)$

(b)

$$\frac{1}{2} (\mathcal{F}(f(x-a))(\omega) + \mathcal{F}(f(x+a))(\omega))$$

$$= \frac{e^{-ia\omega} + e^{ia\omega}}{2} \hat{f}(\omega)$$

$= \cos(a\omega) \hat{f}(\omega)$

**Problem 6 (20 pts)**

- (a) Let  $c > 0$ . Use the Fourier transform method to show that the solution to the wave equation on an infinite string

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}, & x \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) = f(x), & x \in \mathbb{R}, \\ u_t(x, 0) = 0, & x \in \mathbb{R}. \end{cases}$$

is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}(\omega) \cos(c\omega t) e^{i\omega x} d\omega.$$

- (b) Use (a) and the identity of Problem 5 (b) to show D'Alembert's form of the solution to the wave equation, that is:

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} [f(x - ct) + f(x + ct)].$$

- (c) Explain the physical interpretation of D'Alembert's solution.

(a) Taking  $\mathcal{F}$  of PDE we get:

$$\frac{d^2}{dt^2} \hat{u}(\omega, t) = -c^2 \omega^2 \hat{u}(\omega, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{u}(\omega, t) = A(\omega) \cos c\omega t + B(\omega) \sin c\omega t$$

$$\hat{u}(\omega, 0) = \hat{f}(\omega) = A(\omega)$$

$$\hat{u}_t(\omega, t) = -A(\omega)(c\omega) \sin c\omega t + B(\omega)(c\omega) \cos c\omega t$$

$$\hat{u}_t(\omega, 0) = B(\omega)(c\omega) = 0 \Rightarrow B(\omega) = 0$$

$$\text{Thus } \hat{u}(\omega, t) = \hat{f}(\omega) \cos(c\omega t)$$

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\omega e^{i\omega x} \hat{f}(\omega) \cos(c\omega t)$$

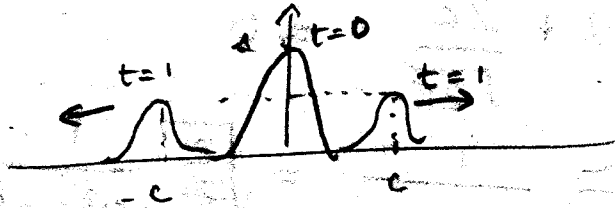
$$(b) \hat{u}(\omega, t) = \cos(c\omega t) \hat{f}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{F}(f(x-ct) + f(x+ct))(\omega)$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} [f(x-ct) + f(x+ct)]$$

(c) The physical interpretation is that the initial shape of the string creates two waves:

•  $\frac{1}{2}f(x+ct)$  is left going wave

$\frac{1}{2}f(x-ct)$  is right going wave



where waves move at a constant speed  $c$ .

**Problem 7 (10 pts)** Let  $a > 0$ . The function  $f(x) = e^{-a|x|}$  solves the differential equation  $f'' - a^2 f + 2a\delta_0(x) = 0$  in the sense of distributions. Deduce that

$$\hat{f}(\omega) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{a}{a^2 + \omega^2}$$

$$\mathcal{F}(f'' - a^2 f + 2a\delta_0)(\omega) = 0$$

$$-\omega^2 \hat{f}(\omega) - a^2 \hat{f}(\omega) + \frac{2a}{\sqrt{2\pi}} = 0$$

$$\boxed{\hat{f}(\omega) = \frac{2a}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{1}{\omega^2 + a^2} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{1}{\omega^2 + a^2}}$$

**Problem 8 (20 pts)**

(a) Let  $a, b > 0$ . Show that

$$\mathcal{F}(\exp[-ax^2] * \exp[-bx^2])(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{ab}} \exp\left[-\frac{\omega^2}{4ab}(a+b)\right].$$

(b) Use (a) to show that the convolution of two Gaussian functions is:

$$\exp[-ax^2] * \exp[-bx^2] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(a+b)}} \exp\left[-\frac{ab}{a+b}x^2\right].$$

(c) Recall that the solution to heat equation  $u_t = u_{xx}$  on the real line with initial temperature  $u(x, 0) = f(x)$  is  $u(x, t) = (g_t * f)(x)$ , where  $g_t(x)$  is the heat or Gauss kernel,

$$g_t(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2t}} \exp\left[-\frac{x^2}{4t}\right],$$

which is a Gaussian function of  $x$ . Show that when the initial temperature is the Gaussian function  $f(x) = \exp[-kx^2]$ , then  $u(x, t)$  is also a Gaussian function of  $x$ ,

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4kt+1}} \exp\left[-\frac{kx^2}{4kt+1}\right].$$

$$\begin{aligned} (a) \quad \mathcal{F}(e^{-ax^2} * e^{-bx^2})(\omega) &= \mathcal{F}(e^{-ax^2})(\omega) \times \mathcal{F}(e^{-bx^2})(\omega) \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2a}} e^{-\omega^2/4a} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2b}} e^{-\omega^2/4b} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{ab}} e^{-\frac{\omega^2}{4}\left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b}\right)} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{ab}} e^{-\omega^2 \frac{a+b}{4ab}} \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

$$(b) \quad (e^{-ax^2} * e^{-bx^2})(x) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2\sqrt{ab}} e^{-\omega^2 \frac{a+b}{4ab}}\right)(x)$$

The coefficient multiplying exponent in (\*) is  $\frac{a+b}{4ab} = \frac{1}{4a'}$

$$\Rightarrow a' = \frac{ab}{a+b}$$

$$\Rightarrow (e^{-ax^2} * e^{-bx^2})(x) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{ab}} \sqrt{\frac{2ab}{a+b}} e^{-\frac{ab}{a+b}x^2}$$

Simplifying we get result:

$$(e^{-ax^2} * e^{-bx^2})(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(a+b)}} e^{-\frac{ab}{a+b} x^2}$$

(c)  $u(x,t) = (g_t * e^{-kx^2})(x)$ . We need to apply formula from (b) with  $a = \frac{1}{4t}$  and  $b = k$ .

from  $g_t$  from  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{4kt}}$   $\Rightarrow \frac{ab}{a+b} = \frac{k/4t}{1/4t + k} = \frac{k}{4tk+1}$

$$\Rightarrow u(x,t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2t}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2(\frac{1}{4t} + k)}} \exp\left[-\frac{k}{4tk+1} x^2\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{4(\frac{1}{4} + kt)}} \exp\left[-\frac{k}{4tk+1} x^2\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+4kt}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+4kt}} \exp\left[-\frac{k}{4tk+1} x^2\right]$$