

§ 7.9 Nonhomogeneous Heat Equation

Welding torch (Example 7.9.1)

$$(1) \begin{cases} u_t = c^2 u_{xx} & x \in \mathbb{R}, t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = \delta_0(x) & x \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$

$$u(x, t) = g_t * \delta_0(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi c^2 t}} g_t(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi c^2 t}} e^{-x^2/(4c^2 t)}$$

where $g_t(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi c^2 t}} e^{-x^2/(4c^2 t)} = \text{heat kernel}$

little problem: $g_t(x)$ is only defined for $t > 0$, but we have an initial condition ($t=0$) ...

in fact initial condition holds in the sense of distributions.

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \langle u(x, t), f(x) \rangle = \langle \delta_0, f(x) \rangle$$

This is easy to check:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \langle u(x, t), f(x) \rangle &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi c^2 t}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g_t(x) f(x) dx \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi c^2 t}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g_t(0-x) f(x) dx \quad \leftarrow \text{given} \\ &= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi c^2 t}} (g_t * f)(0) \stackrel{\uparrow}{=} f(0) \quad \text{Theorem 7.4.1} \end{aligned}$$

$u(x, t)$ is called a weak solution of (1) because it satisfies (1) in the distribution sense
gen. fun.

however we will simply call them "solution"

Fundamental solution of the Heat Equation

$$\text{Let } \phi(x,t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2c\sqrt{\pi t}} e^{-x^2/(4c^2t)} & \text{if } t > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } t \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\hat{\phi}(\omega,t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-c^2\omega^2 t} & \text{if } t > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } t \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

Theorem $\phi(x,t)$ is a weak solution to the non homog heat eq:

$$u_t = c^2 u_{xx} + \delta_0(x) \delta_0(t), \quad t, x \in \mathbb{R}$$

ϕ is called fundamental sol or Green's function and it can be used to recover solutions for arbitrary non homogeneous heat eq.

Proof: it is easy to see ϕ is a sol to $u_t = c^2 u_{xx}$ (homog heat eq.)

To prove theorem take \int on both sides:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{u}(\omega, t) = -c^2 \omega^2 \hat{u}(\omega, t) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \delta_0(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{u}(\omega, t) + c^2 \omega^2 \hat{u}(\omega, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \delta_0(t) \quad (2)$$

now we must show that $\hat{\phi}$ is a weak solution to (2) i.e.:

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \frac{d}{dt} \hat{\phi}(\omega, t) + c^2 \omega^2 \hat{\phi}(\omega, t), f \right\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \langle \delta_0, f \rangle = f(0) \\ &= - \int_0^\infty \hat{\phi}(\omega, t) f'(t) dt + c^2 \omega^2 \int_0^\infty \hat{\phi}(\omega, t) f(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

$$t > 0: \hat{\phi}(\omega, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-c^2 \omega^2 t}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \hat{\phi}(\omega, t) = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} c^2 \omega^2 e^{-c^2 \omega^2 t}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow -\int_0^\infty \hat{\phi}(\omega, t) f'(t) dt &= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-c^2 \omega^2 t} f(t) \Big|_0^\infty - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} c^2 \omega^2 \int_0^\infty e^{-c^2 \omega^2 t} f(t) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} f(0) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} c^2 \omega^2 \int_0^\infty e^{-c^2 \omega^2 t} f(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

⇒ get result.

Theorem: The sol to:

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

is given by:

$$u(x, t) = \int_0^t \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \phi(x-y, t-s) f(y, s) dy ds$$

where $\phi(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} g_t(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c^2 t}} e^{-x^2/(4c^2 t)}$ if $t > 0$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}$

This solves heat equation with arbitrary source term