

2.5.1 LAPLACE'S EQUATION INSIDE A RECTANGLE.

$$\nabla^2 u = \Delta u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0.$$

$$0 \leq x \leq L,$$

$$0 \leq y \leq H.$$

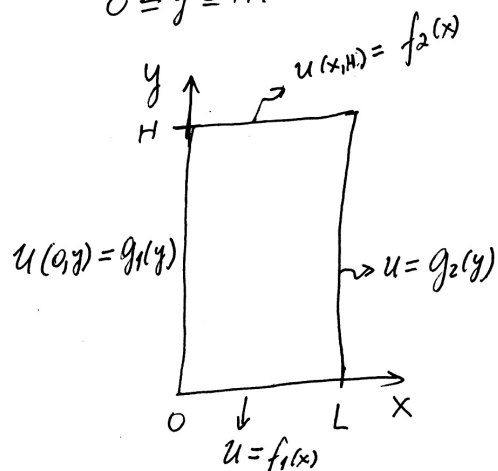
Boundary Conditions:

$$u(0, y) = g_1(y)$$

$$u(L, y) = g_2(y)$$

$$u(x, 0) = f_1(x)$$

$$u(x, H) = f_2(x)$$



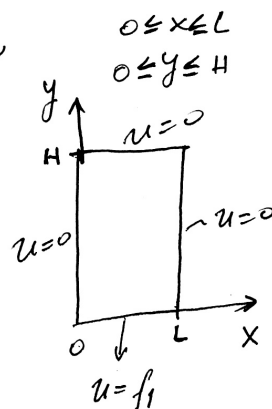
Non-homogeneous problem. Method of Separation of Variables can't be applied.

However, linearity allows a decomposition of the soln. as

$$u(x, y) = u_1(x, y) + u_2(x, y) + u_3(x, y) + u_4(x, y).$$

Where each $u_i(x, y)$ has only one non-homogeneous B.C. For example, consider

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla^2 u_1 = (u_1)_{xx} + (u_1)_{yy} = 0, \\ \text{B.C. } u_1(x, 0) = f_1(x) \\ u_1(x, H) = 0 \\ u_1(0, y) = 0 \\ u_1(L, y) = 0 \end{array} \right.$$



Sep. of Variables:

$$u_1(x, y) = h(y) \phi(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \phi''(x) h(y) + h''(y) \phi(x) = 0 \quad \text{dividing by } \phi(x) h(y).$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\phi''(x)}{\phi(x)} + \frac{h''(y)}{h(y)} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\phi''(x)}{\phi(x)} = -\frac{h''(y)}{h(y)} = -\lambda$$

$$\Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \phi''(x) + \lambda \phi(x) = 0 \\ u_1(0, y) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi(0) = 0 \\ u_1(L, y) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi(L) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{ and } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} h''(y) - \lambda h(y) = 0 \\ u_1(x, H) = 0 \Rightarrow h(H) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{ Eigenvalue problem}$$

$$\boxed{h''(y) - \lambda h(y) = 0}$$

$$u_1(x, H) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{h(H) = 0}$$

We know from previous heat conduction IBVP that

$$\lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2 \text{ and } \phi_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right), \quad n=1,2,\dots$$

Also $h''(y) - \lambda h(y) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow r^2 - \lambda = 0 \Rightarrow r = \pm \sqrt{\lambda} = \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^2} = \pm \frac{n\pi}{L}$$

$$\therefore h(y) = C_1 e^{\frac{n\pi}{L}y} + C_2 e^{-\frac{n\pi}{L}y}$$

$\{e^{\frac{n\pi}{L}y}, e^{-\frac{n\pi}{L}y}\}$ lin. indep. solutions

also $\{\cosh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}y\right), \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}y\right)\}$ lin. indep. solutions

also $\{\cosh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(y-H)\right), \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(y-H)\right)\}$ lin. indep. solutions.

This last set is more convenient for the B.C. of the present problem. Thus,

$$h(y) = C_1 \cosh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(y-H)\right) + C_2 \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(y-H)\right)$$

B.C. $h(H) = 0 \Rightarrow C_1 \cosh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(H-H)\right) + C_2 \sinh(0) = 0 \Rightarrow C_1 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow h(y) = C_2 \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(y-H)\right)$$

Product solutions:

$$\boxed{U_1(x, y) = B_n \underbrace{\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right)}_{\text{oscillates}} \underbrace{\sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(y-H)\right)}_{\text{exponential behavior}}}$$

Superposition Pple:

$$\boxed{U_1(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(y-H)\right)}$$

Using I.C.:

$$f_1(x) = U_1(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(-H)\right)$$

Using orthogonality:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^L \left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{L}x\right) \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}(-H)\right) \right] dx &= \\ &= \int_0^L f_1(x) \sin \frac{m\pi}{L}x \, dx \end{aligned}$$

Interchanging $\sum$ and $\int$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sinh\left(-\frac{n\pi H}{L}\right) \int_0^L \underbrace{\sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{L}x\right) dx}_{= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } n \neq m \\ \frac{L}{2}, & \text{if } n=m \end{cases}} =$$

$$= \int_0^L f_1(x) \sin \frac{m\pi}{L} x dx$$

$$\Rightarrow B_n \frac{L}{2} \sinh\left(-\frac{n\pi H}{L}\right) = \int_0^L f_1(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{L} x dx.$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{B_n = \frac{2}{L \sinh\left(-\frac{n\pi H}{L}\right)} \int_0^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}x\right) dx}$$

Laplace's Equation for a circular disk.

$$\begin{cases} \nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(r \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \theta^2} = 0. \\ u(a, \theta) = f(\theta), \quad -\pi < \theta < \pi \\ + \text{ more conditions?} \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} 0 < r < a, \quad -\pi < \theta < \pi \end{matrix}$$

