

PDE and Boundary-Value Problems (Winter Term 2013/2014)  
Assignment H4 - Homework

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**Problem 4.1 (Laplace Transform - 6 Points)**

Solve the problem

$$\text{PDE: } u_t = u_{xx}, \quad 0 < x < \infty, \quad 0 < t < \infty$$

$$\text{BC: } u(0, t) = \sin(t), \quad 0 < t < \infty$$

$$\text{IC: } u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 \leq x < \infty$$

by means of the Laplace transform (transform  $t$ ). What is the physical interpretation of this problem?

**Problem 4.2 (Laplace Transform and Maple - 8 Points)**

We seek the temperature distribution  $u(x, t)$  in a thin rod over the interval  $0 < x < \infty$  whose lateral surface is insulated. The left end of the rod is constrained at a varying temperature  $q(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}$ , and the rod has an initial temperature distribution  $u(x, 0) = 0$ . There is no heat source in the system and the thermal diffusivity of the rod is  $k = 1/50$ .

Using Maple solve the problem by means of the Laplace transform (transform  $t$ ). Show the animation of the spatial-time temperature distribution  $u(x, t)$  in the rod for  $0 \leq t \leq 5$ .

(*Hinweis:* use the Maple commands **laplace** and **invlaplace** for the Laplace transform and the inverse Laplace transform, respectively.)

**Problem 4.3 (Solving IBVP - 6 Points)**

Suppose we have a metal rod (laterally insulated) and we supply an *initial impulse of heat* at the right-hand side (the left-hand side is fixed at zero). Suppose the initial temperature of the rod is zero (some reference temperature) and the temperature at the midpoint  $x = 0.5$  is measured at various values of time, so that we have the following table:

Values of Time	Midpoint Temperature
$t_1$	$w_1$
$t_2 = 2t_1$	$w_2$
$t_3 = 3t_1$	$w_3$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$t_n = nt_1$	$w_n$

Using this data, how could we approximate the temperature response at the points  $u(0.5, t_n)$  due to the BCs

- (a)  $u(1, t) = \sin(t)$   
 (b)  $u(x, t) = f(t)$  (arbitrary  $f(t)$ )?

**Problem 4.4 (Duhamel's Principle - 4 Points)**

Using Duhamel's principle, what is the solution of the IBVP

$$\text{PDE: } u_t = \alpha^2 u_{xx}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 < t < \infty$$

$$\text{BCs: } \begin{cases} u(0, t) = 0 \\ u(1, t) = \sin(t) \end{cases}, \quad 0 < t < \infty$$

$$\text{IC: } u(x, 0) = 0, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

**Deadline for submission:** Wednesday, December 11, 10am