

§ Consider the heat equation $u_t = u_{xx}$ on half line $x > 0$ and $t > 0$, with the boundary condition $u_x(0, t) = \alpha u(0, t), u_x(\infty, t) = 0$, for $t > 0$

And initial condition $u(x, 0) = f(x)$. Here, α is a constant and f is a smooth function with $f(\infty) = f_x(\infty) = 0$

Use heat kernel to construct solution.

The fundamental solution (heat kernel) for the heat equation on the entire real line is given

$$\text{by : } K(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi t}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4t}\right).$$

However, since we are working on the half-line $x > 0$, we need to modify the heat kernel to satisfy the boundary condition at $x = 0$.

Method of images (鏡像解):

To satisfy the boundary condition $u_x(0, t) = \alpha u(0, t)$, we use the method of images.

The idea is to extend the initial condition $f(x)$ to the entire real line in such a way that the boundary condition is automatically satisfied.

We construct the solution as:

$$u(x, t) = \int_0^\infty [K(x - y, t) + K(x + y, t)] f(y) dy.$$

However, this form does not yet satisfy the boundary condition $u_x(0, t) = \alpha u(0, t)$.

To satisfy this condition, we need to adjust the kernel.

we modify the kernel as follows:

$$u(x, t) = \int_0^\infty \left[K(x - y, t) + K(x + y, t) - 2\alpha \int_0^\infty e^{-\alpha z} K(x + y + z, t) dz \right] f(y) dy$$

This modified kernel ensures that the boundary condition is satisfied.

The solution to the heat equation on the half-line with the given boundary condition is:

$$u(x, t) = \int_0^\infty \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi t}} e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4t}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi t}} e^{-\frac{(x+y)^2}{4t}} - 2\alpha \int_0^\infty e^{-\alpha z} \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi t}} e^{-\frac{(x+y+z)^2}{4t}} dz \right] f(y) dy$$

The solution can be simplified further, but the above expression gives the general form of the solution using the heat kernel and the method of images, adjusted for the boundary condition $u_x(0, t) = \alpha u(0, t)$.

The solution to the heat equation on the half-line with the given boundary and initial conditions is constructed using the heat kernel and the method of images, with an additional term to satisfy the boundary condition at $x = 0$. The final solution involves an integral over the initial condition $f(y)$ and the modified heat kernel.