



Spring 2018 - Math 3435  
Practice Exam 2 - March 28  
Time Limit: 50 Minutes

Name (Print): **Solution KEY**

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This exam contains 6 pages (including this cover page) an empty scratch paper and 5 problems. Check to see if any pages are missing. Enter all requested information on the top of this page.

You may *not* use your books or notes on this exam.

You are required to show your work on each problem on this exam.

Do not write in the table to the right.

Problem	Points	Score
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	0	
Total:	40	

1. Let

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{when } 0 \leq x \leq L, \\ 0 & \text{when } -L \leq x < 0. \end{cases}$$

- (a) (5 points) Find the Fourier series  $\mathcal{F}(x)$  of  $f(x)$  on  $[-L, L]$  **Solution:** Notice that the function is neither even nor odd. Hence we have to find all the terms. We start with  $a_0$

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) dx = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L 1 dx = 1.$$

Then  $a_n, n = 1, 2, \dots,$

$$\begin{aligned} a_n &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L 1 \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{L} \frac{\sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)}{\frac{n\pi}{L}} \Big|_0^L \\ &= \frac{1}{L} \frac{\sin(n\pi)}{\frac{n\pi}{L}} - \frac{1}{L} \frac{1}{\frac{n\pi}{L}} \\ &= \frac{\sin(n\pi)}{n\pi} - \frac{0}{n\pi} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

We next find  $b_n, n = 1, 2, \dots,$

$$\begin{aligned} b_n &= \frac{1}{L} \int_{-L}^L f(x) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L 1 \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{L} \left[ -\frac{\cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)}{\frac{n\pi}{L}} \right] \Big|_0^L \\ &= -\frac{\cos(n\pi)}{n\pi} + \frac{1}{n\pi} = -\frac{(-1)^n}{n\pi} + \frac{1}{n\pi} \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{F}(x) &= \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[ a_n \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) + b_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1 - (-1)^n}{\pi n} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) \end{aligned}$$

- (b) (2 points) At which points on  $[-L, L]$ , do  $\mathcal{F}(x)$  and  $f(x)$  **NOT** agree?

**Solution:** Except at the end points and the discontinuity point,  $\mathcal{F}(x) = f(x)$ . Hence we only need to check points  $x = -L, 0, L$ . At  $0$ ,  $f(0) = 1$  but  $\mathcal{F}(0) = 1/2$ . Similarly, at  $x = -L$ ,  $f(x) = 0$  whereas  $\mathcal{F}(-L) = 1/2$ . Finally, at  $x = L$  we have  $f(L) = 1$  and  $\mathcal{F}(L) = 1/2$ . They do not agree at  $x = -L, 0, L$  and at all other points they agree.

- (c) (3 points) Verify that

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{2k+1}.$$

**Solution:** Notice that  $1 - (-1)^n = 0$  when  $n$  is even and it is 2 when  $n$  is odd. Hence if we

replace  $n = 2k + 1$  we have

$$\mathcal{F}(x) = \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{\pi(2k+1)} \sin\left(\frac{(2k+1)\pi x}{L}\right).$$

From part (b) we know that  $\mathcal{F}(x) = f(x)$  at  $x = L/2$ . From this we get

$$1 = f\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2}{\pi(2k+1)} \sin\left((2k+1)\frac{\pi}{2}\right).$$

After some algebra we get

$$\frac{\pi}{4} = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{k+1}}{2k-1} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{2k+1}.$$

2. (10 points) Solve

$$\begin{cases} u_t - u_{xx} = e^{-4t} \cos(t) \sin(2x), & 0 \leq x \leq \pi, t \geq 0, \\ u(0, t) = 0, u(\pi, t) = 0, \\ u(x, 0) = \sin(3x). \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Solution: Since the boundary conditions are homogeneous, we can pass to the second step. That is we shall look for where  $u(x, t) = u_1(x, t) + u_2(x, t)$  where  $u_1$  solves the homogeneous heat equation;

$$\begin{cases} (u_1)_t - (u_1)_{xx} = 0, & 0 \leq x \leq \pi, t \geq 0, \\ u_1(0, t) = 0, u_1(\pi, t) = 0, \\ u_1(x, 0) = \sin(3x). \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

and  $u_2$  solves the non-homogeneous heat equation with zero initial condition

$$\begin{cases} (u_2)_t - (u_2)_{xx} = e^{-4t} \cos(t) \sin(2x), & 0 \leq x \leq \pi, t \geq 0, \\ u_2(0, t) = 0, u_2(\pi, t) = 0, \\ u_2(x, 0) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Then by linearity of the heat equation we conclude that  $u(x, t) = u_1(x, t) + u_2(x, t)$  solves our original equation (1). We shall first focus on  $u_1$ , we know the general solution is (you can use the proposition from the book, or our lecture notes)

$$u_1(x, t) = \sum_{n_1}^{\infty} C_n e^{-n^2 t} \sin(nx)$$

and using the initial condition for  $u_1$  we get

$$u_1(x, 0) = \sin(3x) = \sum_{n_1}^{\infty} C_n \sin(nx)$$

which tells us  $C_3 = 1$  and all other  $C_n = 0$ . Hence

$$u_1(x, t) = e^{-9t} \sin(3x).$$

solves (2). Now we focus on  $u_2$ . To solve (6), we shall use the Duhamel's principle. That is,

$$u_2(x, t) = \int_0^t \tilde{v}(x, t-s; s) ds$$

where  $\tilde{v}$  solves

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{v}_t - \tilde{v}_{xx} = 0, & 0 \leq x \leq \pi, t \geq 0, \\ \tilde{v}(0, t; s) = 0, \tilde{v}(\pi, t; s) = 0, \\ \tilde{v}(x, 0; s) = e^{-4s} \cos(s) \sin(2x). \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

Here you should think of  $e^{-4s} \cos(s)$  as a constant independent of  $t$ . We know that the general solution is

$$\tilde{v}(x, t; s) = \sum_{n_1}^{\infty} C_n e^{-n^2 t} \sin(nx)$$

and using the initial condition in (9) we get

$$\tilde{v}(x, 0; s) = \sum_{n_1}^{\infty} C_n \sin(nx) = e^{-4s} \cos(s) \sin(2x)$$

which tells us that  $C_2 = e^{-4s} \cos(s)$  and all other  $C_n = 0$ . Hence we have (for  $n = 2$ )

$$\tilde{v}(x, t; s) = e^{-4s} \cos(s) e^{-4t} \sin(2x).$$

Using Duhamel's principle we have

$$u_2(x, t) = \int_0^t \tilde{v}(x, t-s; s) ds = \int_0^t e^{-4s} \cos(s) e^{-4(t-s)} \sin(2x) ds$$

To find  $u_2$  we need to find that integral. After some algebra we see that

$$u_2(x, t) = \int_0^t e^{-4s} \cos(s) e^{-4(t-s)} \sin(2x) ds = e^{-4t} \sin(2x) \int_0^t \cos(s) ds = e^{-4t} \sin(2x) \sin(t)$$

Combining this with  $u_1$  we get

$$u(x, t) = u_1(x, t) + u_2(x, t) = e^{-9t} \sin(3x) + e^{-4t} \sin(2x) \sin(t)$$

is the solution of (1).

3. (10 points) Consider the Heat equation

$$\begin{cases} u_t - 2u_{xx} = 0, & 0 \leq x \leq 1, t \geq 0, \\ u(0, t) = -1, u_x(1, t) = 1, \\ u(x, 0) = x + \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{2}\right) - 1. \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

where the boundary conditions are **non-homogeneous**. Transform the equation into a new one with **homogeneous** boundary conditions. (You do not need to solve the new equation).

**Solution:** We first should make the non-homogeneous boundary conditions homogeneous. To this end, we look for time-independent or steady-state solution  $u_p(x, t)$  to heat equation. We know that the only steady state solution is  $u_p(x, t) = ax + b$  for some  $a, b$ . We will figure out  $a, b$  so that  $u_p(0, t) = -1$  and  $u_x(1, t) = 1$  (which are our non-homogeneous boundary conditions). Hence  $u_p(0, t) = b = -1$  and  $(u_p(x, t))_x = a$  which we want to be 1 when  $x = 1$ , i.e.  $(u_p(x, t))_x = a = 1$ . Hence we get  $u_p(x, t) = x - 1$ . We now let

$$v(x, t) = u(x, t) - u_p(x, t)$$

and hope that  $v$  will satisfy the heat equation with homogeneous boundary conditions. To see this, as  $u$  solves (5), and  $u_p$  is steady-state solution to heat equation, and heat equation is linear  $v$  solves the heat equation  $v_t = 2v_{xx}$ . Next, we check the boundary conditions

$$v(0, t) = u(0, t) - u_p(0, t) = -1 - (-1) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad v_x(1, t) = u_x(1, t) - (u_p(1, t))_x = 1 - 1 = 0.$$

Hence  $v$  satisfies the homogeneous boundary conditions. We next see the initial condition

$$v(x, 0) = u(x, 0) - u_p(x, 0) = x + \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{2}\right) - 1 - (x - 1) = \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{2}\right).$$

If we summarize what we got for  $v$  is that

$$\begin{cases} v_t = 2v_{xx} & 0 \leq x \leq 1, t \geq 0 \\ v(0, t) = 0 & v_x(1, t) = 0 \\ v(x, 0) = \sin\left(\frac{3\pi x}{2}\right). \end{cases}$$

4. (10 points) Describe the steps how to solve the following heat equation

$$\begin{cases} u_t - ku_{xx} = h(x, t), & 0 \leq x \leq L, t \geq 0, \\ u(0, t) = a(t), \quad u(L, t) = b(t), \\ u(x, 0) = f(x). \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

**Solution:**

**Step 1:** The boundary conditions are non-homogeneous, we will make them homogeneous. To do this, we let

$$u_p(x, t) := \frac{1}{L}(b(t) - a(t))x + a(t)$$

Now consider

$$v(x, t) = u(x, t) - u_p(x, t).$$

We should see that

$$v(0, t) = u(0, t) - u_p(0, t) = a(t) - a(t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad v(L, t) = u(L, t) - u_p(L, t) = b(t) - b(t) = 0.$$

On the other hand,

$$v_t - kv_{xx} = u_t - ku_{xx} - (u_p)_t + k(u_p)_{xx} = h(x, t) - \frac{1}{L}(b'(t) - a'(t))x - a'(t) =: H(x, t)$$

and

$$v(x, 0) = u(x, 0) - u_p(x, 0) = f(x) - \frac{1}{L}(b(0) - a(0))x + a(0) = F(x)$$

Hence  $v$  satisfies the following equation

$$\begin{cases} v_t - kv_{xx} = H(x, t) & 0 \leq x \leq L, t \geq 0 \\ v(0, t) = 0 & v(L, t) = 0 \\ v(x, 0) = F(x). \end{cases}$$

**Step 2:** From this we consider  $v(x, t) = v_1(x, t) + v_2(x, t)$  where  $u_1$  solves the homogeneous heat equation;

$$\begin{cases} (u_1)_t - (u_1)_{xx} = 0, & 0 \leq x \leq L, t \geq 0, \\ u_1(0, t) = 0, \quad u_1(L, t) = 0, \\ u_1(x, 0) = F(x). \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

and  $u_2$  solves the non-homogeneous heat equation with zero initial condition

$$\begin{cases} (u_2)_t - (u_2)_{xx} = H(x, t), & 0 \leq x \leq L, t \geq 0, \\ u_2(0, t) = 0, \quad u_2(L, t) = 0, \\ u_2(x, 0) = 0. \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

**Step 3:** Find  $v_1$ . In case  $F(x)$  is not given in terms of sine function we then need to do the half range extension and then find the Fourier series of  $F(x)$  and finally find  $v_1$ .

Step 4: Using Duhamel's principle find  $v_2$ . That is,

$$u_2(x, t) = \int_0^t \tilde{v}(x, t - s; s) ds$$

where  $\tilde{v}$  solves

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{v}_t - \tilde{v}_{xx} = 0, & 0 \leq x \leq L, t \geq 0, \\ \tilde{v}(0, t; s) = 0, \tilde{v}(L, t; s) = 0, \\ \tilde{v}(x, 0; s) = H(x, s; s). \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

Step 5: Find  $\tilde{v}$  first and in case  $H(x, s; s)$  is not given in terms of sine function we then need to do the half range extension and then find the Fourier series of  $H(x, s; s)$  and finally find  $\tilde{v}$ . Then find  $v_2$ .

Step 6: Combining all of these we get

$$u(x, t) = v(x, t) + u_p(x, t) = v_1(x, t) + v_2(x, t) + u_p(x, t).$$



5. (5 points (bonus)) Let  $u$  be a solution to the following heat equation

$$\begin{cases} u_t = u_{xx}, & 0 \leq x \leq \pi, t \geq 0, \\ u_x(0, t) = 0, u_x(\pi, t) = 0, & t \geq 0 \\ u(x, 0) = f(x), & 0 < x < \pi. \end{cases}$$

Show that

$$I(t) = \int_0^\pi e^{u(x,t)} dx$$

decreases as a function of  $t$  for  $t \geq 0$ .

**Solution:** To show  $I(t)$  decreases, we show that  $I'(t) \leq 0$  for every  $t \geq 0$ . To this end,

$$\begin{aligned} I'(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \left\{ \int_0^\pi e^{u(x,t)} dx \right\} \\ &= \int_0^\pi \frac{d}{dt} (e^{u(x,t)}) dx \\ &= \int_0^\pi u_t(x,t) e^{u(x,t)} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $u_t = u_{xx}$  for all  $t \geq 0$  and  $0 \leq x \leq \pi$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} I'(t) &= \int_0^\pi u_t(x,t) e^{u(x,t)} dx \\ &= \int_0^\pi u_{xx}(x,t) e^{u(x,t)} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Now we do integrate by parts and use the boundary conditions to get

$$\begin{aligned} I'(t) &= [u_x(x,t) e^{u(x,t)}]_0^\pi - \int_0^\pi u_x(x,t) \frac{d}{dt} e^{u(x,t)} dx \\ &= u_x(\pi, t) e^{u(\pi, t)} - u_x(0, t) e^{u(0, t)} - \int_0^\pi u_x^2(x,t) e^{u(x,t)} dx \\ &= 0 - 0 - \int_0^\pi u_x^2(x,t) e^{u(x,t)} dx. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $u_x^2(x,t)$  and  $e^{u(x,t)}$  are always non-negative, therefore the right-hand side is always non-positive. That is  $I'(t) \leq 0$  for every  $t$ . Hence  $I(t)$  decreases as a function of  $t$  for  $t \geq 0$ .