Heat Equation

Find the general solution for $u_t = 2u_{xx}$ if u(0,t) = 0 = u(3,t) and $u(x,0) = 3x - x^2$.

The Fourier series of $f(x) = 3x - x^2$ on (-3, 3) will have cosines as well as sines, so we can't use it to find the particular solution. Instead we find the Fourier series of the **odd extension** of f(x) which I will denote as f_o . Draw the graph of f_o .



Find the F.S. f_o , called the **sine series expansion of** f(x), and then write the particular solution for $u_t = 2u_{xx}$ if u(0,t) = 0 = u(3,t) and $u(x,0) = 3x - x^2$.

Solve $u_t = u_{xx}$ if $u_x(0,t) = 0$, $u_x(2,t) = 0$, and u(x,0) = H(x-1). Since the Neumann B.C.'s produce a cosine series for a general solution, we will have to take the even extension of f(x) = u(x,0) to find the cosine series expansion of $f(x)^1$. I will use $f_e(x)$ to denote the even extension of f(x).

¹Some B.C.'s produce a general solution with both sines and cosines. In this case we would need to use the **Fourier Extension**, where we assume f(x) is periodic of period 2, not 4.

Solve $u_t = u_{xx}$ if u(0,t) = 10, u(2,t) = 0, and $u(x,0) = 3\sin(5\pi x) - 5x + 10$. Use superposition.

How do we derive the heat equation? It's best done for the 3-D version; we can obtain the 1-D version by setting y and z equal to zero. Let u(x, y, z, t) equal the temperature of some homogeneous material at a point (x, y, z) at time t. Also let

H(t) = Heat content of a solid chunk in region E at time $t = \iiint_E k_1 u(x, y, z, t) dV$ where k_1 is a constant depending on the properties of the material.

We express H'(t) in two different ways and set them equal.

(1)
$$H'(t) = \frac{d\left(\iiint_E k_1 u(x, y, z, t) \, dV\right)}{dt} = \iiint_E k_1 \frac{\partial u(x, y, z, t)}{\partial t} \, dV$$

But H'(t) is also proportional to the flux of ∇u out of the boundary of E, since if it is hotter outside E then the temperature of E will increase, so

and then applying the divergence theorem gives us:

(2)
$$H'(t) = \iiint_E k_2 \nabla \cdot \nabla u \, dV$$

Then (1) = (2) gives

$$\iiint_E k_2 \nabla \cdot \nabla u \, dV = \iiint_E k_1 \, \frac{\partial u(x, y, z, t)}{\partial t} \, dV$$

for every region E, no matter how small. If we assume u is continuously differentiable, then the integrands must be equal. Setting $k = \frac{k_2}{k_1}$ gives us the 3-D heat equation:

$$u_t = k(u_{xx} + u_{yy} + u_{zz}).$$

If y and z are identically zero, we then have the 1-D equation.

As time allows: how can we find temperature on a ring with insulated sides. We will use the 1-D heat equation over an interval [-L, L] where the ring meets at x = L and x = -L: so u(L, t) = u(-L, t) and $u_x(L, t) = u_x(-L, t)$ are the boundary conditions. Let u(x, 0) = f(x) be the initial condition.