

# SOLVING PARTICULAR SOLUTION OF LAPLACE EQUATION

## WEEK 13: SOLVING PARTICULAR SOLUTION OF LAPLACE EQUATION

### 13.1 EIGENVALUE AND EIGENFUNCTION OF ODE (BACKGROUND - EXTRA INFO)

Find all the eigenvalues and eigenfunction of the following ODE, where  $Y'' = \frac{d^2Y}{dy^2}$

$$Y'' + \lambda Y = 0 \quad \text{where } Y(0) = 0 \text{ and } Y(2\pi) = 0$$

The ODE above can be transformed to an eigenvalue problem:

Let  $Y = A_1 \sin(\omega t + \theta_1)$  and

$$Y'' = -\omega^2 A_1 \sin(\omega t + \theta_1) = -\omega^2 Y$$

$$-\omega^2 Y + \lambda Y = 0$$

$$(\lambda - \omega^2)Y = 0$$

The solution  $Y$  can't be zero and hence  $|\lambda - \omega^2| = 0$ ,

where the **eigenvalue**,  $\lambda = \omega^2$  &

the **corresponding solution  $Y$  is the eigenfunction of the ODE.**

Recall that eigenfunction represents each of a set of independent functions, which are the solutions to a given differential equation.

Case	General solution of the ODE	Particular solution of the ODE
Case #1: ( $\lambda=0$ )	$Y'' = 0$ Let $r = \text{root}$ Characteristic equation: $r^2 = 0$ Repeated roots: $r_1 = 0, r_2 = 0$  $Y(y) = c_1 e^{0y} + c_2 y e^{0y}$ $\therefore Y(y) = c_1 + c_2 y$	Using boundary condition, $Y(0) = c_1 + c_2(0) = 0$ $c_1 = 0$ $\rightarrow Y = c_2 y$ $Y(2\pi) = 0 = c_2$  $\therefore Y = 0$ (No solution if $\lambda=0$ )
Case #2: ( $\lambda = -\alpha^2$ ) $\alpha > 0$	$Y'' + (-\alpha^2)Y = 0$ Let $r = \text{root}$ Characteristic equation: $r^2 - \alpha^2 = 0$ $r = \pm\sqrt{\alpha^2} = \pm\alpha$  Distinct roots: $r_1 = \alpha, r_2 = -\alpha$  $\therefore Y = c_3 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_4 \sinh(\alpha y)$  <i>Hint: Refer section 12.4</i>	Using boundary condition, $Y(0) = c_3 \cosh(0) + c_4 \sinh(0) = 0$ $c_3(1) + c_4(0) = 0$ $c_3 = 0$  $\rightarrow Y = c_4 \sinh \alpha y$  $Y(2\pi) = c_4 \sinh \alpha(2\pi) = 0$  Since $\alpha(2\pi) > 0$ & $\sinh(+ve)$ is never equal to zero for all $\alpha(2\pi)$ , thus $c_4 = 0$

<p>Case #3:  <math>(\lambda = +\alpha^2)</math>  <math>\alpha &gt; 0</math></p>	$Y'' + (\alpha^2)Y = 0$ <p>Let <math>r = \text{root}</math>          Characteristic equation:  <math>r^2 + \alpha^2 = 0</math>  <math>r = \pm\sqrt{-\alpha^2} = \pm\alpha i</math></p> <p>Complex conjugate roots:  <math>r_1 = \alpha i, \quad r_2 = -\alpha i</math></p> <p><math>\therefore Y(y) = c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)</math></p> <p><i>Hint: Refer section 12.4</i></p>	<p><math>\therefore Y = 0</math> (No solution if <math>\lambda = -\alpha^2</math>)</p> <p>Using boundary condition,  <math>Y(0) = c_5 \cos(0) + c_6 \sin(0) = 0</math>  <math>c_5(1) + c_6(0) = 0</math>  <math>c_5 = 0</math>  <math>\rightarrow Y = c_6 \sin(\alpha y)</math></p> <p><math>Y(2\pi) = c_6 \sin(2\pi\alpha) = 0</math></p> <p><b>Possibility 1:</b> If <math>c_6 = 0</math>, we will get no solution, <math>Y = 0</math>.</p> <p><b>Possibility 2:</b> So, we check if <math>\sin(2\pi\alpha)</math> can be zero.</p> <p>Since <math>2\pi\alpha &gt; 0</math> &amp; <math>\sin(2\pi\alpha) = 0</math> when <math>2\pi\alpha = n\pi</math>, where integer <math>n = 1, 2, 3, \dots</math></p> <p>Then, <math>c_6 \neq 0</math> in this condition.</p> <p><math>\therefore Y_n = c_{6,n} \sin(\alpha y)</math> where the <math>\alpha = \frac{n}{2}</math> for <math>n = 1, 2, 3, \dots</math>          (We have solution if <math>\lambda = +\alpha^2</math>)</p> <p>Think: Can the solution valid for <math>n = \dots, -2, -1, 0</math>? Hint: <math>2\pi\alpha &gt; 0</math></p>
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Eigenvalue for the ODE,  $\lambda = +\alpha^2 = \frac{n^2}{4}$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Eigenfunction for the ODE,  $Y_n = c_{6,n} \sin(\frac{n}{2} y)$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

$$n = 1 \rightarrow Y_1 = c_{6,1} \sin(\frac{1}{2} y)$$

$$n = 2 \rightarrow Y_2 = c_{6,2} \sin(\frac{2}{2} y)$$

Thus, we have infinite solutions in the 3<sup>rd</sup> case, by using the superposition principle:

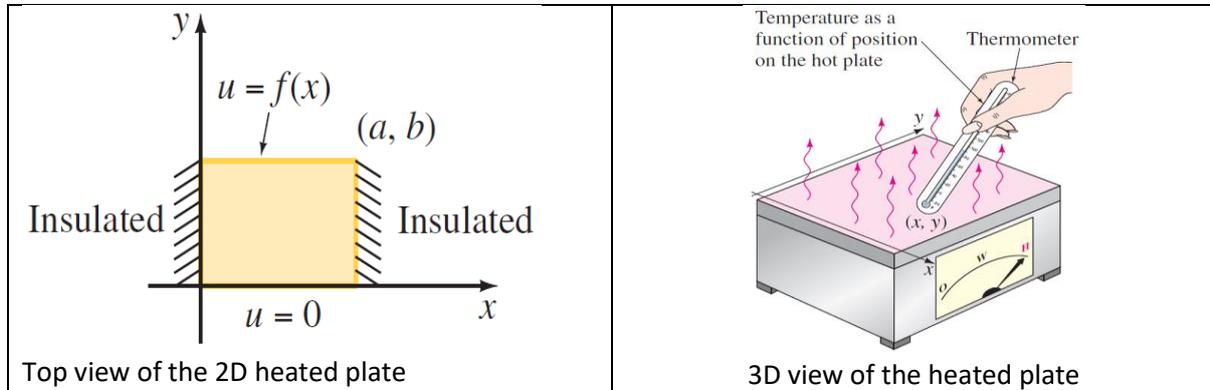
$$Y_{total} = Y_1 + Y_2 + \dots = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_{6,n} \sin(\frac{n}{2} y)$$

Note that  $c_{6,n}$  can be solved further with Fourier series expansion & additional initial/boundary condition. Then, the complete particular solution can be obtained.

The similar concepts discussed in section 13.1 can be used to solve the PDE problem.

### 13.2 SOLVING PARTICULAR SOLUTION OF ELLIPTIC PDE (LAPLACE EQUATION)

Consider a hot plate of area  $(xy)$ , find the steady state temperature distribution over the  $x$  and  $y$  location, i.e.  $u(x, y)$ .



- **Governing equation for the 2D Laplace equation**

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

- **Boundary condition 1 & 2:**  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=a} = 0$  for  $0 < y < b$

- **Boundary condition 3 & 4:**  $u(x, 0) = 0, u(x, b) = f(x)$  for  $0 < x < a$

Solution:

**Step 1:** Using separation of variable method: Let  $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$

$$X''Y + XY'' = 0$$

**Step 2:** Obtain 2 ODE equations

$$\frac{Y''}{-Y} = \frac{X''}{X} = -\lambda$$

$$Y'' - \lambda Y = 0 \text{ --- (ODE \#1)}$$

$$X'' + \lambda X = 0 \text{ --- (ODE \#2)}$$

Case	ODE #1	ODE #2	$u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$
Case #1: ( $\lambda=0$ )	$Y'' = 0$ Let $r = \text{root}$ Characteristic equation: $r^2 = 0$ Repeated roots: $r_1 = 0, r_2 = 0$ $Y(y) = c_1 e^{0y} + c_2 y e^{0y}$	$X'' = 0$ Let $r = \text{root}$ Characteristic equation: $r^2 = 0$ Repeated root: $r_1 = 0, r_2 = 0$ $X(x) = c_3 e^{0x} + c_4 x e^{0x}$	$\therefore u_1 = X_1(x)Y_1(y)$ $= (c_1 + c_2 y)(c_3 + c_4 x)$

	$\therefore Y(y) = c_1 + c_2y$	$\therefore X(x) = c_3 + c_4x$	
Case #2: ( $\lambda = -\alpha^2$ ) $\alpha > 0$	$Y'' + (\alpha^2)Y = 0$ Let $r = \text{root}$ Characteristic equation: $r^2 + \alpha^2 = 0$ $r = \pm\sqrt{-\alpha^2} = \pm\alpha i$ Complex conjugate roots: $r_1 = \alpha i, r_2 = -\alpha i$ $\therefore Y(y) = c_5\cos(\alpha y) + c_6\sin(\alpha y)$	$X'' - \alpha^2X = 0$ Let $r = \text{root}$ Characteristic equation: $r^2 - \alpha^2 = 0$ $r = \pm\sqrt{\alpha^2} = \pm\alpha$ Distinct roots: $r_1 = \alpha, r_2 = -\alpha$ $\therefore X(x) = c_7\cosh(\alpha x) + c_8\sinh(\alpha x)$	$\therefore u_2 = X_2(x)Y_2(y)$ $= (c_5\cos(\alpha y) + c_6\sin(\alpha y)) (c_7\cosh(\alpha x) + c_8\sinh(\alpha x))$
Case #3: ( $\lambda = +\alpha^2$ ) $\alpha > 0$	$Y'' + (-\alpha^2)Y = 0$ Let $r = \text{root}$ Characteristic equation: $r^2 - \alpha^2 = 0$ $r = \pm\sqrt{\alpha^2} = \pm\alpha$ Distinct roots: $r_1 = \alpha, r_2 = -\alpha$ $\therefore Y(y) = c_9\cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10}\sinh(\alpha y)$	$X'' + (\alpha^2)X = 0$ Let $r = \text{root}$ Characteristic equation: $r^2 + \alpha^2 = 0$ $r = \pm\sqrt{-\alpha^2} = \pm\alpha i$ Complex conjugate roots: $r_1 = \alpha i, r_2 = -\alpha i$ $\therefore X(x) = c_{11}\cos(\alpha x) + c_{12}\sin(\alpha x)$	$\therefore u_3 = X_3(x)Y_3(y)$ $= (c_9\cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10}\sinh(\alpha y)) (c_{11}\cos(\alpha x) + c_{12}\sin(\alpha x))$

In fact, we can find the general PDE solution to the problem by using superposition principle:

$$u(x, y) = \underbrace{(c_1 + c_2y)(c_3 + c_4x)}_{\text{Solution of Case 1}} + \underbrace{(c_5\cos(\alpha y) + c_6\sin(\alpha y)) (c_7\cosh(\alpha x) + c_8\sinh(\alpha x))}_{\text{Solution of Case 2}} + \underbrace{(c_9\cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10}\sinh(\alpha y)) (c_{11}\cos(\alpha x) + c_{12}\sin(\alpha x))}_{\text{Solution of Case 3}}$$

where there are 12 unknown coefficients ( $c_1 - c_{12}$ ). Next we will continue to solve those unknowns by applying the initial/ boundary conditions.

To apply the following boundary conditions, differentiation of the PDE solution is needed.

Boundary condition (BC) #1:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=0} = 0$  , BC #2:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\bigg|_{x=a} = 0$

Case	Differentiation of $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$ wrt $x$
Case #1: ( $\lambda=0$ )	$u_1 = X_1(x)Y_1(y)$ $= (c_1 + c_2y)(c_3 + c_4x)$ $\frac{\partial u_1}{\partial x} = (c_1 + c_2y)(c_4)$ Applying BC #1 or BC #2, we get $(c_1 + c_2y)(c_4) = 0$

	<p>Since <math>(c_1 + c_2y) \neq 0, c_4 = 0</math></p> <p><math>\therefore u_1(x, y) = (c_1 + c_2y)(c_3) = (A_1 + B_1y)</math></p>
<p>Case #2:  <math>(\lambda = -\alpha^2)</math>  <math>\alpha &gt; 0</math></p>	<p><math>u_2 = X_2(x)Y_2(y)</math>  <math>= (c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_7 \cosh(\alpha x) + c_8 \sinh(\alpha x))</math></p> <p><math>\frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} = (c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_7 \alpha \sinh(\alpha x) + c_8 \alpha \cosh(\alpha x))</math></p> <p>Applying BC #1: <math>(c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_8 \alpha) = 0</math>  Since <math>(c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) \neq 0, \alpha \neq 0</math>, thus <math>c_8 = 0</math></p> <p><math>\rightarrow u_2(x, y) = (c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_7 \cosh(\alpha x))</math>  <math>\rightarrow \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} = (c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_7 \alpha \sinh(\alpha x))</math></p> <p>Applying BC #2: <math>(c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_7 \alpha \sinh(\alpha a)) = 0</math>  Since <math>(c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) \neq 0, \alpha \neq 0, \sinh(\alpha a) \neq 0</math> for <math>\alpha a &gt; 0</math>  Hence, <math>c_7 = 0</math></p> <p><math>\therefore u_2(x, y) = 0</math> (No solution)</p>
<p>Case #3:  <math>(\lambda = +\alpha^2)</math>  <math>\alpha &gt; 0</math></p>	<p><math>\therefore u_3 = X_3(x)Y_3(y)</math></p> <p><math>= (c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (c_{11} \cos(\alpha x) + c_{12} \sin(\alpha x))</math></p> <p><math>\frac{\partial u_3}{\partial x} = (c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (-c_{11} \alpha \sin(\alpha x) + c_{12} \alpha \cos(\alpha x))</math></p> <p>Applying BC #1: <math>(c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (c_{12} \alpha) = 0</math>  Since <math>(c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) \neq 0</math> &amp; <math>\alpha \neq 0</math>  Hence, <math>c_{12} = 0</math></p> <p><math>\rightarrow u_3 = (c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (c_{11} \cos(\alpha x))</math>  <math>\rightarrow \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial x} = (c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (-c_{11} \alpha \sin(\alpha x))</math></p> <p>Applying BC #2: <math>(c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (-c_{11} \alpha \sin(\alpha a)) = 0</math>  Since <math>(c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) \neq 0</math> &amp; <math>\alpha \neq 0</math>  <math>c_{11} \neq 0</math> when <math>\sin(\alpha a) = 0</math> for <math>\alpha a = n\pi</math>, where <math>\alpha = \frac{n\pi}{a}, n = 1, 2, 3, \dots</math></p> <p>There are infinite solutions in Case #3:  <math>u_{3,n} = (c_{9,n} \cosh(\frac{n\pi}{a} y) + c_{10,n} \sinh(\frac{n\pi}{a} y)) (c_{11,n} \cos(\frac{n\pi}{a} x))</math>  <math>u_{3,n} = (A_{3,n} \cosh(\frac{n\pi}{a} y) + B_{3,n} \sinh(\frac{n\pi}{a} y)) (\cos(\frac{n\pi}{a} x))</math> where <math>n = 1, 2, 3, \dots</math></p>

In summary, the eigenvalue and eigenfunction of the PDE for each case are listed below:

Case	PDE solution	Eigenvalue and eigenfunction of PDE
Case #1:	$u_1(x, y) = A_1 + B_1y$	Eigenvalue, $\lambda=0$

$(\lambda=0)$		Eigenfunction = $A_1 + B_1y$
Case #2: $(\lambda = -\alpha^2)$ $\alpha > 0$	$u_2 = 0$	No solution hence no eigenvalue and no eigenfunction
Case #3: $(\lambda = +\alpha^2)$ $\alpha > 0$	$u_{3,n}$ $= \left( A_{3,n} \cosh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}y\right) + B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}y\right) \right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}x\right) \right)$ where $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$	Eigenvalue, $\lambda_n = +\alpha_n^2 = \left(\frac{n\pi}{a}\right)^2$ Eigenfunction $u_{3,n}$ $= \left( A_{3,n} \cosh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}y\right) + B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}y\right) \right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}x\right) \right)$

**Step 4:** Superposition Principle to find  $u_{total}(x, y) = X_1Y_1 + X_2Y_2 + X_3Y_3$

$$u_{total}(x, y) = \underbrace{(A_1 + B_1y)}_{\text{solution 1 from Case 1}} + \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( A_{3,n} \cosh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}y\right) + B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}y\right) \right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}x\right) \right)}_{\text{solution 2 from Case 3}}$$

Expanding it, we obtain

$$u_{total}(x, y) = (A_1 + B_1y) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( A_{3,n} \cosh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}y\right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}x\right) \right) \right) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}y\right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}x\right) \right) \right)$$

where there are 4 remaining unknowns (i.e.  $A_1, B_1, A_{3,n}$  &  $B_{3,n}$ ).

**Step 5:** Continue to apply the remaining BC & Fourier series expansion.

**BC #3:**  $u(x, 0) = 0$  for  $0 < x < a$

$$\begin{aligned} u_{total}(x, 0) &= A_1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( A_{3,n} \cosh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}(0)\right) + B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}(0)\right) \right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}x\right) \right) = 0 \\ &= A_1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_{3,n}) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}x\right) \right) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

Recall Half-range Fourier Cosine Series Expansion:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega x) \\ \text{where } a_0 &= \frac{1}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) dx; \\ a_n &= \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) \cos n\omega x dx; \end{aligned}$$

We notice  $f(x) = 0$  ;  $A_1 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) dx = 0$  ;  $A_{3,n} = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) \cos n\omega x dx = 0$

$$\rightarrow u_{total}(x, y) = (B_1y) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}y\right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a}x\right) \right) \right)$$

**Step 5:** Continue to apply the remaining BC & Fourier series expansion.

**BC #4:**  $u(x, b) = f(x)$  for  $0 < x < a$

$$u_{total}(x, b) = B_1(b) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} b\right) \right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} x\right) \right) = f(x)$$

Recall Half-range Fourier Cosine Series Expansion:

$$f(x) = a_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a_n \cos n\omega x)$$

where  $a_0 = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) dx$ ;

$$a_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) \cos n\omega x dx$$

We notice  $B_1 b = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) dx$  ;  $\left( B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} b\right) \right) = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) \cos n\omega x dx$

where angular frequency,  $\omega = \frac{\pi}{a}$  , period,  $p = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = 2a$

Finite interval,  $\tau = a$ , half period,  $L = \frac{p}{2} = \frac{2a}{2} = a$

$B_1 b = \frac{1}{a} \int_0^a f(x) dx$ $B_1 = \frac{\int_0^a f(x) dx}{ab}$	$B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} b\right) = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a f(x) \cos n \frac{\pi}{a} x dx$ $B_{3,n} = \frac{2}{a \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} b\right)} \int_0^a f(x) \cos n \frac{\pi}{a} x dx$
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Thus, we have solved all the unknowns and obtain the particular PDE solution:

$$\therefore u_{total}(x, y) = B_1 y + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( B_{3,n} \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} y\right) \right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} x\right) \right)$$

$$u_{total}(x, t) = \frac{\int_0^a f(x) dx}{ab} y + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{2}{a \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} b\right)} \int_0^a f(x) \cos n \frac{\pi}{a} x dx \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} y\right) \right) \left( \cos\left(\frac{n\pi}{a} x\right) \right)$$

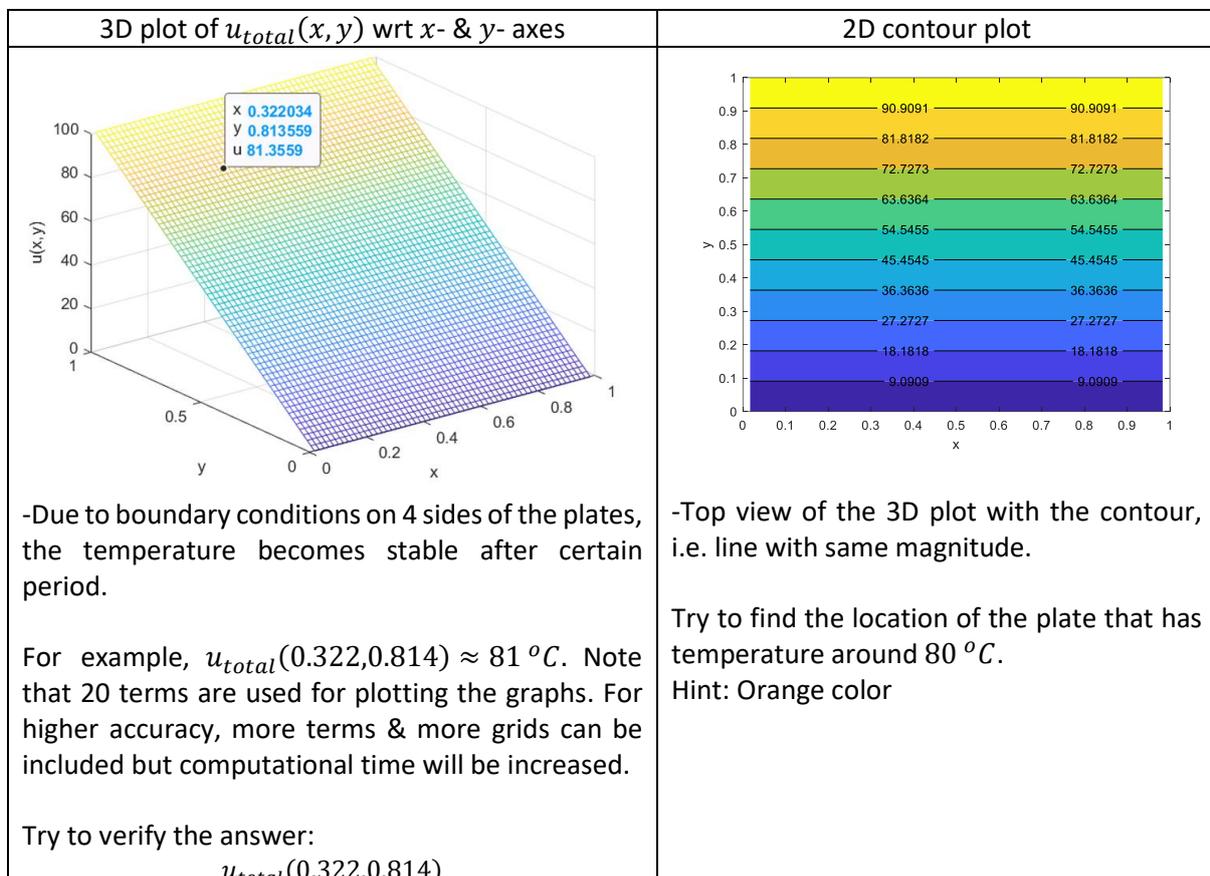
Example: Let the temperature at the top end,  $f(x) = 100$ , dimension,  $a = b = 1$  for the previous problem.

$B_1 = \frac{\int_0^a f(x) dx}{ab}$ $B_1 = \frac{\int_0^1 100 dx}{(1)(1)} = 100$	$B_{3,n} = \frac{2}{a \sinh(\frac{n\pi}{a} b)} \int_0^a f(x) \cos n \frac{\pi}{a} x dx$ $= \frac{2}{(1) \sinh(\frac{n\pi}{1} 1)} \int_0^1 100 \cos n \frac{\pi}{1} x dx$ $= \frac{2}{\sinh(n\pi)} \int_0^1 100 \cos n\pi x dx$ $= \frac{2}{\sinh(n\pi)} \left[ \frac{100 \sin n\pi x}{n\pi} \right]_0^1$ $= \frac{2}{\sinh(n\pi)} \left( \frac{100 \sin n\pi}{n\pi} \right)$
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$$\therefore u_{total}(x, y) = 100y + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{200}{\sinh(n\pi)} \left( \frac{\sin n\pi}{n\pi} \right) \sinh(n\pi y) \right) (\cos(n\pi x))$$

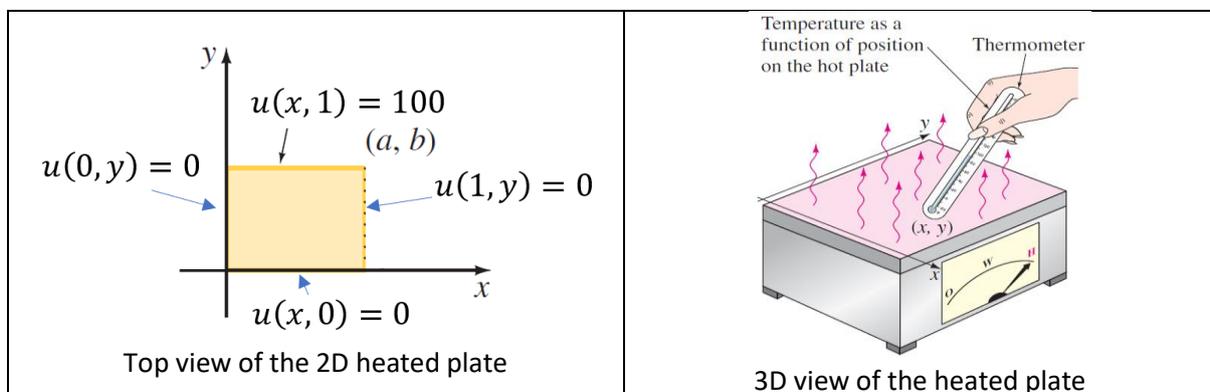
We can use the PDE solution to estimate the temperature distribution at any point on the heated plate.

Example: The temperature results at  $60 \times 60$  points of the  $(x, y)$  locations have been plotted below:



$$\approx \left( 100(0.814) + \sum_{n=1}^{20} \left( \frac{200}{\sinh(n\pi)} \left( \frac{\sin n\pi}{n\pi} \right) \sinh(0.814n\pi) \right) (\cos(0.322n\pi)) \right)$$

Consider a hot plate of area  $(xy)$ , find the steady state temperature distribution over the  $x$  and  $y$  location, i.e.  $u(x, y)$ .



- **Governing equation for the 2D Laplace equation**

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

- **Boundary condition:**  $u(0, y) = 0, u(1, y) = 0$  for  $0 < y < 1$
- **Boundary condition:**  $u(x, 0) = 0, u(x, 1) = 100$  for  $0 < x < 1$

Solution:

Note that the PDE equation remains the same while the boundary conditions are changing. Thus,

The general PDE solution remains the same as below:

$$u(x, y) = \underbrace{(c_1 + c_2 y)(c_3 + c_4 x)}_{\text{Solution of Case 1}} + \underbrace{(c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_7 \cosh(\alpha x) + c_8 \sinh(\alpha x))}_{\text{Solution of Case 2}} + \underbrace{(c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (c_{11} \cos(\alpha x) + c_{12} \sin(\alpha x))}_{\text{Solution of Case 3}}$$

where there are 12 unknown coefficients  $(c_1 - c_{12})$ .

To apply the following boundary conditions, differentiation of the PDE solution is no needed.

Boundary condition (BC) #1:  $u(0, y) = 0$ , BC #2:  $u(1, y) = 0$

Case	Applying BC #1 & BC #2
Case #1: ( $\lambda=0$ )	$u_1 = X_1(x)Y_1(y)$ $= (c_1 + c_2y)(c_3 + c_4x)$ <p>Applying BC #1, <math>(c_1 + c_2y)(c_3) = 0</math>            Since <math>(c_1 + c_2y) \neq 0</math>, <math>c_3 = 0</math>  <math>\rightarrow u_1 = (c_1 + c_2y)(c_4x)</math></p> <p>Applying BC #2, <math>(c_1 + c_2y)(c_4) = 0</math>            Since <math>(c_1 + c_2y) \neq 0</math>, <math>c_4 = 0</math></p> <p><math>\therefore u_1(x, y) = 0</math> (No Solution)</p>
Case #2: ( $\lambda = -\alpha^2$ ) $\alpha > 0$	$u_2 = X_2(x)Y_2(y)$ $= (c_5\cos(\alpha y) + c_6\sin(\alpha y))(c_7\cosh(\alpha x) + c_8\sinh(\alpha x))$ <p>Applying BC #1: <math>(c_5\cos(\alpha y) + c_6\sin(\alpha y))(c_7) = 0</math>            Since <math>(c_5\cos(\alpha y) + c_6\sin(\alpha y)) \neq 0</math>, thus <math>c_7 = 0</math>  <math>\rightarrow u_2(x, y) = (c_5\cos(\alpha y) + c_6\sin(\alpha y))(c_8\sinh(\alpha x))</math></p> <p>Applying BC #2: <math>(c_5\cos(\alpha y) + c_6\sin(\alpha y))(c_8\sinh(\alpha)) = 0</math>            Since <math>(c_5\cos(\alpha y) + c_6\sin(\alpha y)) \neq 0</math>, <math>\sinh(\alpha) \neq 0</math> for <math>\alpha &gt; 0</math>            Hence, <math>c_8 = 0</math></p> <p><math>\therefore u_2(x, y) = 0</math> (No solution)</p>
Case #3: ( $\lambda = +\alpha^2$ ) $\alpha > 0$	$\therefore u_3 = X_3(x)Y_3(y)$ $= (c_9\cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10}\sinh(\alpha y))(c_{11}\cos(\alpha x) + c_{12}\sin(\alpha x))$ <p>Applying BC #1: <math>(c_9\cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10}\sinh(\alpha y))(c_{11}) = 0</math>            Since <math>(c_9\cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10}\sinh(\alpha y)) \neq 0</math>, hence, <math>c_{11} = 0</math></p> <p><math>\rightarrow u_3 = (c_9\cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10}\sinh(\alpha y))(c_{12}\sin(\alpha x))</math></p> <p>Applying BC #2: <math>(c_9\cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10}\sinh(\alpha y))(c_{12}\sin(\alpha)) = 0</math>            Since <math>(c_9\cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10}\sinh(\alpha y)) \neq 0</math>,  <math>c_{12} \neq 0</math> when <math>\sin(\alpha) = 0</math> for <math>\alpha = n\pi</math>, where <math>n = 1, 2, 3, \dots</math></p> <p>There are infinite solutions in Case 3:  <math display="block">u_{3,n} = (c_{9,n}\cosh(n\pi y) + c_{10,n}\sinh(n\pi y))(c_{12,n}\sin(n\pi x))</math> <math display="block">u_{3,n} = (A_{3,n}\cosh(n\pi y) + B_{3,n}\sinh(n\pi y))(\sin(n\pi x))</math> where <math>n = 1, 2, 3, \dots</math></p>

In summary, the eigenvalue and eigenfunction of the PDE for each case are listed below:

Case	PDE solution	Eigenvalue and eigenfunction of PDE
Case #1:	$u_1 = 0$	No solution

$(\lambda=0)$		hence no eigenvalue and no eigenfunction
Case #2: $(\lambda = -\alpha^2)$ $\alpha > 0$	$u_2 = 0$	No solution hence no eigenvalue and no eigenfunction
Case #3: $(\lambda = +\alpha^2)$ $\alpha > 0$	$u_{3,n}$ $= (A_{3,n} \cosh(n\pi y)$ $+ B_{3,n} \sinh(n\pi y)) (\sin(n\pi x))$ where $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$	<i>Eigenvalue</i> , $\lambda_n = +\alpha_n^2 = (n\pi)^2$ <i>Eigenfunction</i> $u_{3,n}$ $= (A_{3,n} \cosh(n\pi y)$ $+ B_{3,n} \sinh(n\pi y)) (\sin(n\pi x))$

**Step 4:** Superposition Principle to find  $u_{total}(x, y) = X_1Y_1 + X_2Y_2 + X_3Y_3$

$$u_{total}(x, y) = \underbrace{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_{3,n} \cosh(n\pi y) + B_{3,n} \sinh(n\pi y)) (\sin(n\pi x))}_{\text{solution from Case 3}}$$

Expanding it, we obtain

$$u_{total}(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_{3,n} \cosh(n\pi y) (\sin(n\pi x))) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (B_{3,n} \sinh(n\pi y) (\sin(n\pi x)))$$

where there are 2 remaining unknowns ( $A_{3,n}$  &  $B_{3,n}$ ).

**Step 5:** Continue to apply the remaining BC & Fourier series expansion.

**BC #3:**  $u(x, 0) = 0$  for  $0 < x < a$

$$u_{total}(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (A_{3,n} (\sin(n\pi x))) = 0$$

Recall Half-range Fourier Sine Series Expansion:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (b_n \sin n\omega x)$$

$$\text{where } b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin n\omega x dx$$

We notice  $f(x) = 0$  ;  $A_{3,n} = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^L f(x) \sin n\omega x dx = 0$

$$\rightarrow u_{total}(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (B_{3,n} \sinh(n\pi y) (\sin(n\pi x)))$$

**BC #4:**  $u(x, 1) = 100$  for  $0 < x < 1$

$$u_{total}(x, 1) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (B_{3,n} \sinh(n\pi) (\sin(n\pi x))) = 100$$

Recall Half-range Fourier Sine Series Expansion:

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (b_n \sin n\omega x)$$

where  $b_n = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) \sin n\omega x dx$

We notice  $B_{3,n} \sinh(n\pi) = \frac{2}{L} \int_0^{\tau} f(x) \sin n\omega x dx$

where angular frequency,  $\omega = \pi$ , period,  $p = \frac{2\pi}{\omega} = 2$ ,  $f(x) = 100$

Finite interval,  $\tau=1$ , half period,  $L = \frac{p}{2} = \frac{2}{2} = 1$

$$B_{3,n} \sinh(n\pi) = \frac{2}{1} \int_0^1 100 \sin n\omega x dx$$

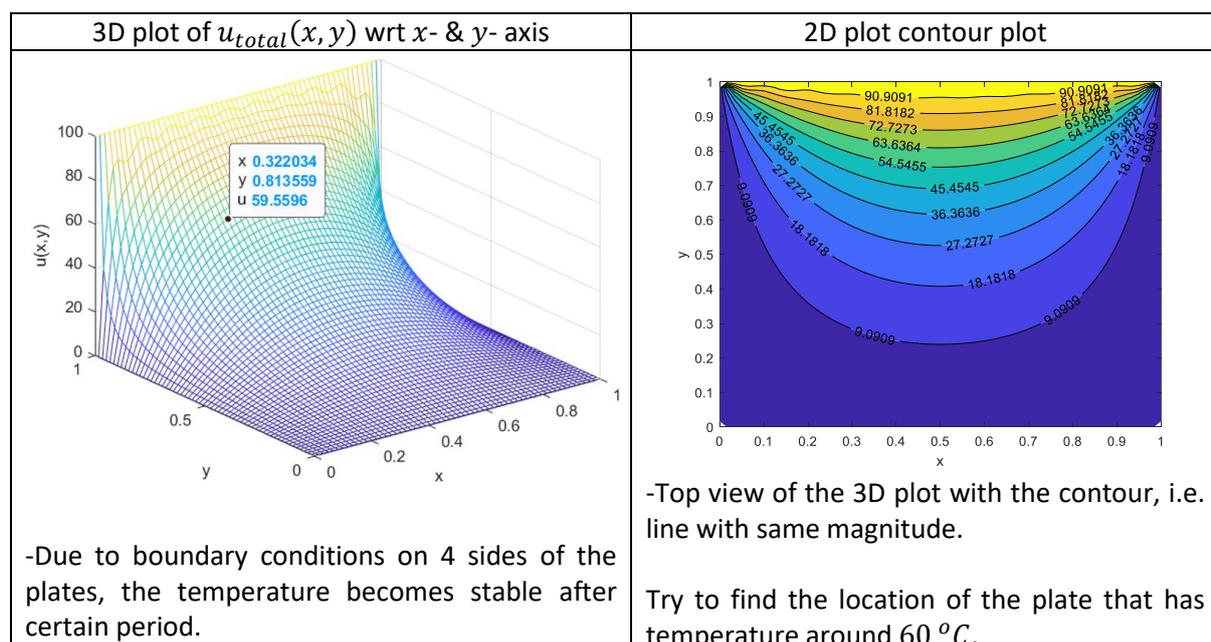
$$B_{3,n} = \frac{200}{\sinh(n\pi)} \int_0^1 \sin n\omega x dx = \frac{200}{\sinh(n\pi)} \left[ \frac{-\cos n\pi - (-1)}{n\pi} \right] = \frac{200}{n\pi \sinh(n\pi)} [1 - (-1)^n]$$

Thus, we have solved all the unknowns and obtain the particular PDE solution:

$$\therefore u_{total}(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (B_{3,n} \sinh(n\pi y) (\sin(n\pi x)))$$

$$u_{total}(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{200}{n\pi \sinh(n\pi)} [1 - (-1)^n] \sinh(n\pi y) (\sin(n\pi x)) \right)$$

We can use the PDE solution to estimate the temperature distribution at any point. Example: The temperature results at  $60 \times 60$  points of the  $(x, y)$  locations have been plotted below:



For example,  $u_{total}(0.322,0.814) \approx 60 \text{ } ^\circ\text{C}$ . Note that 20 terms are used for plotting the graphs. For higher accuracy, more terms & more grids can be included but computational time will be increased.

Try to verify the answer:

$$u_{total}(0.322,0.814) \approx \sum_{n=1}^{20} \left( \frac{200}{n \sinh(n\pi)} [1 - (-1)^n] \sinh(0.814n\pi) (\sin(0.322n\pi)) \right)$$

Hint: Green color

### 13.3 SOLVING NON-HOMOGENEOUS BOUNDARY CONDITION VIA SUPERPOSITION PRINCIPLE

A Dirichlet problem for a rectangle can be readily solved by separation of variables when homogeneous boundary conditions are specified on two parallel boundaries. However, the method of separation variables is not applicable to a Dirichlet problem when the boundary conditions on all four sides of the rectangle are non-homogeneous. For example,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} &= 0, & 0 < x < a, & \quad 0 < y < b \\ u(0, y) &= F(y), & u(a, y) &= G(y), & \quad 0 < y < b \\ u(x, 0) &= f(x), & u(x, b) &= g(x), & \quad 0 < x < a \end{aligned}$$

The general PDE solution remains the same as below:

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, y) &= \underbrace{(c_1 + c_2 y)(c_3 + c_4 x)}_{\text{Solution of Case 1}} + \underbrace{(c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y))(c_7 \cosh(\alpha x) + c_8 \sinh(\alpha x))}_{\text{Solution of Case 2}} \\ &+ \underbrace{(c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y))(c_{11} \cos(\alpha x) + c_{12} \sin(\alpha x))}_{\text{Solution of Case 3}} \end{aligned}$$

To apply the following boundary conditions:

Boundary condition (BC) #1:  $u(0, y) = F(y)$ , BC #2:  $u(a, y) = G(y)$

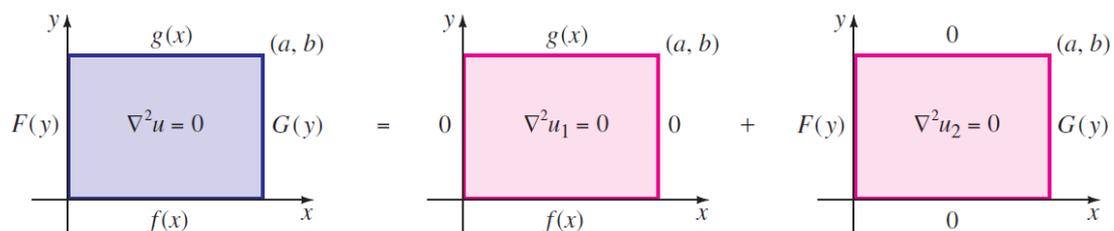
Case	Applying BC #1 & BC #2 or (BC #3 & BC #4 return same result)
Case #1: ( $\lambda=0$ )	$u_1 = X_1(x)Y_1(y)$ $= (c_1 + c_2 y)(c_3 + c_4 x)$ <p>Applying BC #1, <math>(c_1 + c_2 y)(c_3) = F(y)</math></p>

	<p>Applying BC #2, <math>(c_1 + c_2y)(c_4a) = G(y)</math></p> <p>Since no unique <math>c_1 - c_4</math> can be obtained via the BC #1-#4, no particular solution can be obtained. This is due to non-homogeneous BC.</p>
<p>Case #2:  <math>(\lambda = -\alpha^2)</math>  <math>\alpha &gt; 0</math></p>	$u_2 = X_2(x)Y_2(y)$ $= (c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_7 \cosh(\alpha x) + c_8 \sinh(\alpha x))$ <p>Applying BC #1: <math>(c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_7) = F(y)</math></p> <p>Applying BC #2:  <math>(c_5 \cos(\alpha y) + c_6 \sin(\alpha y)) (c_7 \cosh(\alpha a) + c_8 \sinh(\alpha a)) = G(y)</math></p> <p>Since no unique <math>c_5 - c_8</math> can be obtained via the BC #1-#4, no particular solution can be obtained. This is due to non-homogeneous BC.</p>
<p>Case #3:  <math>(\lambda = +\alpha^2)</math>  <math>\alpha &gt; 0</math></p>	$\therefore u_3 = X_3(x)Y_3(y)$ $= (c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (c_{11} \cos(\alpha x) + c_{12} \sin(\alpha x))$ <p>Applying BC #1: <math>(c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (c_{11}) = F(y)</math></p> <p>Applying BC #2:  <math>(c_9 \cosh(\alpha y) + c_{10} \sinh(\alpha y)) (c_{11} \cos(\alpha a) + c_{12} \sin(\alpha a)) = G(y)</math></p> <p>Since no unique <math>c_9 - c_{12}</math> can be obtained via the BC #1-#4, no particular solution can be obtained. This is due to non-homogeneous BC.</p>

In the previous examples, homogenous BC can ensure the unique particular solution of a boundary value problem to exist. However, it is difficulty to get the solution directly if non-homogeneous BC is encountered. The **PDE problem with non-homogeneous** can be solved if it can be separated into sub-problems with homogeneous BC. For example,

Sub-problem #1 with homogeneous BC:	Sub-problem #2 with homogeneous BC:
$\frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < a, 0 < y < b$	$\frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad 0 < x < a, 0 < y < b$
$u_1(0, y) = 0, u_1(a, y) = 0, \quad 0 < y < b$ $u_1(x, 0) = f(x), u_1(x, b) = g(x), \quad 0 < x < a$	$u_2(0, y) = F(y), u_2(a, y) = G(y), \quad 0 < y < b$ $u_2(x, 0) = 0, u_2(x, b) = 0, \quad 0 < x < a$

As shown in the figure below, PDE due to non-homogeneous PDE can be solved by separating it into two sub-problems, where the solutions of sub-problem #1,  $u_1(x, y)$  and sub-problem #2,  $u_2(x, y)$  can be added in the superposition manner to obtain the total solution,  $u(x, y)$ .



Note:  $\nabla^2$  is called Laplacian or Laplace operator. For 2D problem,  $\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$

In this way,  $u$  satisfies all boundary conditions in the original problem:

$$u(x, y) = u_1(x, y) + u_2(x, y)$$

For example,

**Solution of sub-problem 1:**

$$u_1(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ A_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{a} y + B_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} y \right\} \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x$$

where

$$A_n = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x dx \quad ; \quad B_n = \frac{1}{\sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} b} \left( \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x dx - A_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{a} b \right)$$

**Solution of sub-problem 2:**

$$u_2(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ C_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{b} x + D_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{b} x \right\} \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y$$

where

$$C_n = \frac{2}{b} \int_0^a F(y) \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y dy \quad ; \quad D_n = \frac{1}{\sinh \frac{n\pi}{b} a} \left( \frac{2}{b} \int_0^a G(y) \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y dy - C_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{b} a \right)$$

**Total Solution of original problem:**

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ A_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{a} y + B_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} y \right\} \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left\{ C_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{b} x + D_n \sinh \frac{n\pi}{b} x \right\} \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y$$

where

$$A_n = \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x dx \quad ; \quad B_n = \frac{1}{\sinh \frac{n\pi}{a} b} \left( \frac{2}{a} \int_0^a g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{a} x dx - A_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{a} b \right)$$

$$C_n = \frac{2}{b} \int_0^a F(y) \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y dy \quad ; \quad D_n = \frac{1}{\sinh \frac{n\pi}{b} a} \left( \frac{2}{b} \int_0^a G(y) \sin \frac{n\pi}{b} y dy - C_n \cosh \frac{n\pi}{b} a \right)$$