

Applications of d'Alembert's formula to boundary value problems

Determine the distribution of temperature in the semi-infinite medium $x \geq 0$ when the end $x = 0$ is maintained at zero temperature and the initial distribution of temperature is $f(x)$.

Let $u(x, t)$ be the temperature at any point x and at any time t . Solving the heat flow equation.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad (x > 0, t > 0)$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x)$$

$$u(0, t) = 0$$

Taking the Fourier sine transform of eq (1) we get

①

Differentiating $F_s [u(x, t)] = \bar{u}_s$

$$\therefore \frac{d \cdot \bar{u}_s}{dt} = c^2 F_s \left[\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right]$$

$$= c^2 \left[\cancel{s^2} u \right] \rightarrow 0$$

$$= c^2 [s^2 u(0, t) - s^2 \bar{u}_s]$$

$$\text{or } \frac{d \bar{u}_s}{dt} + c^2 s^2 \bar{u}_s = 0 \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

The function \bar{u}_s is a transform of eq (2) w.r.

$$\bar{u}_s = \bar{f}_s(x) \quad \text{at } t=0 \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

\therefore Solving (4) & (5)

$$\frac{d \bar{u}_s}{dt} + c^2 s^2 \bar{f}_s(x)$$

$$\therefore \bar{u}_s = \bar{f}_s(x) e^{-c^2 s^2 t} \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

(2)