

**MATH 331-001**  
**Prof. Victor Matveev**  
**Midterm Examination #1**  
**October 4, 2007**

**Calculators not allowed. You must remain seated until you hand in the solution.**  
**Please read each problem carefully, and show all work.**

1. (10) Consider the heat equation for a 1D rod with **non-constant** thermal properties (i.e.  $c$ ,  $\rho$ ,  $K_0$  are not constant):

$$c(x)\rho(x)\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = K_0(x)\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \dots + Q(x,t)$$

- a) Write down the missing term “...”  
 b) Explain (in one sentence) the minus sign in the expression for the heat flux:

$$\phi = -K_0 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$

2. (20) Find the equilibrium solution, if it exists. If it does not exist, explain why:

$$\text{a) } \begin{cases} u_t = 2u_{xx} + x^2 \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(0,t) = 0 \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(L,t) = 1 \\ u(x,0) = \cos \frac{\pi x}{2L} \end{cases} \quad \text{b) } \begin{cases} u_t = u_{xx} - e^x \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(0,t) = 0 \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(1,t) = e - 1 \\ u(x,0) = e^x - x^2 / 2 \end{cases}$$

3. (20) Consider the heat equation for the symmetric temperature distribution  $u(\rho,t)$  inside a sphere of radius  $R_1$  ( $\rho$  is the distance from the center). The sphere is cooled at the surface, and has a core of radius  $R_0$  heated to 20 degrees:

$$\begin{cases} u_t = \frac{k}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} \left( \rho^2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial \rho} \right) \leftarrow \text{Laplacian for spherically symmetric case} \\ u(R_0,t) = 20 \\ u(R_1,t) = 0 \\ u(\rho,0) = 20 \frac{R_1 - \rho}{R_1 - R_0} \end{cases}$$

- a) Find the equilibrium temperature as a function of distance from center,  $u_{\text{eq}}(\rho)$   
 b) Separate the variables and write down the boundary value problem that we would need to consider in order to solve this PDE. **Do not solve.**

4. (50) Solve the Laplace's equation inside the rectangle  $[0, L] \times [0, H]$  with the following boundary conditions.

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, 0) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, H) = 0 \\ u(0, y) = 1 \\ u(L, y) = 3 \cos \frac{2\pi y}{H} \end{cases}$$

- Sketch the domain and label the boundary conditions. Use the linearity of the Laplace's equation to break up this problem into manageable parts.
- Separate the variables, and write down the resulting system of ODEs along with their boundary conditions.
- Complete the solution; determine all coefficients, and make sure to consider the cases  $\lambda=0$ ,  $\lambda>0$ ,  $\lambda<0$ . Check that your solution satisfies the boundary conditions.

[ Hint: It may help to shift the variable by L or H when solving one of the steps ]