

## Announcements:

Class for next 1.5 weeks

- No class next week (Tues. March 7, Thurs March 9)

- No live class on Thursday this week

- tomorrow I'll post video to Canvas, and will notify all
- have new content relevant for next HW assignment

Quizzes

- no quiz today/tomorrow

- no quiz next week

- will be a quiz on March 16-17 (cover topics from this week)

HW assignments

- HW #5 is posted

- due on March 16.

Office hours

- this week: Friday March 5, 12-1pm (special time)

no OH on Thursday.

- next week: OH as usual, and class time will be OH.

Most of the above: reflected on Canvas calendar.

# Laplace's equation

MATH 3150 Lecture 05

March 2, 2021

Haberman 5th edition: Section 2.5

# The heat equation

The heat equation for  $u(x, t)$  is

$$\begin{aligned}u_t &= k u_{xx}, \\ u(0, t) &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}u(x, 0) &= f(x), \\ u(L, t) &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

for  $0 \leq x \leq L$  and  $t \geq 0$ .



# The heat equation

The heat equation for  $u(x, t)$  is

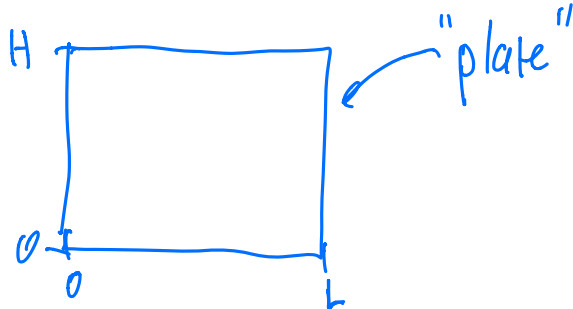
$$\begin{aligned} u_t &= k u_{xx}, \\ u(0, t) &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, 0) &= f(x), \\ u(L, t) &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

for  $0 \leq x \leq L$  and  $t \geq 0$ .

What about for domains that are not (essentially) one-dimensional?

Consider 2D domain (rectangle)



need IC's.  $u(x, y, t=0) = f(x, y)$

need BC's: 4 edges



# The two-dimensional heat equation

For a two-dimensional rectangle,  $0 \leq x \leq L$  and  $0 \leq y \leq H$ , the heat equation has a similar form,

$$u_t = k u_{xx} + k u_{yy},$$

IC.

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

where  $u(x, y, t)$  represents the temperature at location  $(x, y)$  at time  $t$ .

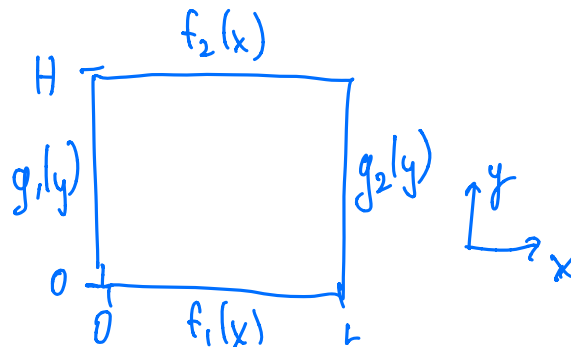
We also need boundary conditions on the four sides of the rectangle, e.g.,:

$$u(x, 0) = f_1(x),$$

$$u(x, H) = f_2(x)$$

$$u(0, y) = g_1(y),$$

$$u(L, y) = g_2(y)$$



Neumann conditions: specify "derivative"  
 $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ : variability/flux along  $x$ -direction  
 Neumann BC's: partial derivatives in  
 direction normal to boundary.

# The two-dimensional heat equation

For a two-dimensional rectangle,  $0 \leq x \leq L$  and  $0 \leq y \leq H$ , the heat equation has a similar form,

$$u_t = k u_{xx} + k u_{yy}, \quad u(x, y, 0) = f(x, y),$$

where  $u(x, y, t)$  represents the temperature at location  $(x, y)$  at time  $t$ .

We also need boundary conditions on the four sides of the rectangle, e.g.,:

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, 0) &= f_1(x), & u(x, H) &= f_2(x) \\ u(0, y) &= g_1(y), & u(L, y) &= g_2(x) \end{aligned}$$

Recall that, in two dimensions, we write  $\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$ .

The operator  $\Delta$  is the *Laplacian* operator.

$$u_t = \Delta u = u_{xx} + u_{yy}.$$

$$\text{In } n\text{-dim: } \Delta u = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_j^2}$$

$$\text{Heat eqn: } u_t = \Delta u.$$

# Equilibrium solutions

L05-S03

The equilibrium solution: long-time temperature distribution when transients have settled.

Like in 1D: equilibrium solutions are computed by setting time derivatives to 0.

# Equilibrium solutions

L05-S03

The equilibrium solution: long-time temperature distribution when transients have settled.

$$\cancel{u_t} = k \Delta u \rightarrow k \Delta u = 0 \rightarrow \Delta u = 0$$

$$\Delta u = u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

This is *Laplace's equation*, dictating the steady-state temperature that evolves according to the heat equation.

# Equilibrium solutions

The equilibrium solution: long-time temperature distribution when transients have settled.

$$\Delta u = u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

This is *Laplace's equation*, dictating the steady-state temperature that evolves according to the heat equation.

Unlike the 1D case, solving for equilibrium solutions is much harder in 2D.

However, it can be tackled using separation of variables, with some minor modifications.

## Example

Compute the solution  $u(x, y)$  to the following PDE:

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0,$$

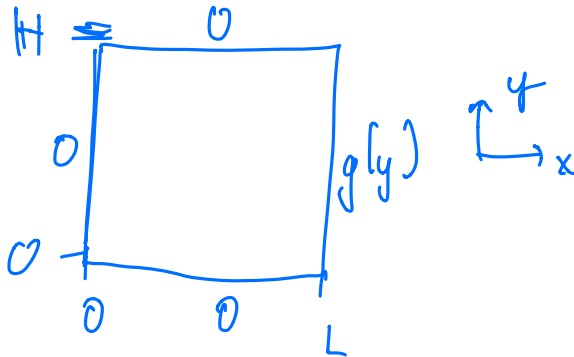
$$u(x, 0) = 0,$$

$$u(0, y) = 0,$$

$$0 < x < L, \quad 0 < y < H,$$

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

$$u(L, y) = g(y).$$



Use separation of variables, as we did with the heat equation.

Ansatz:  $u(x, y) = \phi(x) \psi(y)$

$$u_{xx} = \phi''(x) \psi(y)$$

$$u_{yy} = \phi(x) \psi''(y)$$

$$\text{PDE } u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

$$\phi''(x) Y(y) + \phi(x) Y''(y) = 0$$

$$-\phi''(x) Y(y) = \phi(x) Y''(y)$$

$$-\frac{\phi''(x)}{\phi(x)} = \frac{Y''(y)}{Y(y)} = -\lambda \quad (\lambda \text{ unknown constant})$$

$$\text{PDE} \rightarrow \text{ODE's: } \phi''(x) - \lambda \phi(x) = 0$$

$$Y''(y) + \lambda Y(y) = 0$$

$$(\text{right}) \quad u(L, y) = g(y) \rightarrow \phi(L) Y(y) = g(y) \rightarrow \text{no condition}$$

$$(\text{left}) \quad u(0, y) = 0 \rightarrow \phi(0) Y(y) = 0 \rightarrow \phi(0) = 0$$

$$(\text{bottom}) \quad u(x, 0) = 0 \rightarrow \phi(x) Y(0) = 0 \rightarrow Y(0) = 0$$

$$(\text{top}) \quad u(x, H) = 0 \rightarrow \phi(x) Y(H) = 0 \rightarrow Y(H) = 0$$

BC's

$$\phi''(x) - \lambda \phi(x) = 0$$

$$Y''(y) + \lambda Y(y) = 0$$

$$\phi(0) = 0$$

$$Y(0) = 0$$

$$Y(H) = 0$$

Start with eqn. for which we have 2 boundary conditions

Start with  $Y$  ODE to compute eigenvalues:

Compute values of  $\lambda$  and associated functions  $Y(y)$  such that there is a nontrivial solution to

$$Y'' + \lambda Y = 0 \quad , \quad 0 < y < H.$$

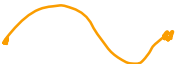
$$Y(0) = 0, \quad Y(H) = 0$$

we've solved this eigenvalue problem before, so I'll just write answer:

$n=1$



$n=2$



$n=3$



$$\lambda = \lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{H}\right)^2, \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$Y(y) = Y_n(y) = \sin(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{H}\right)$$

(In general you need to derive these.)

$$\text{Orthogonality conditions: } \int_0^H Y_n(y) Y_m(y) dy = \begin{cases} 0, & n \neq m \\ H/2, & n = m. \end{cases}$$

formula sheet

Use  $\lambda = \lambda_n$  in other ODE:  $\phi(x)$ .

Choose  $\lambda = \lambda_n \Rightarrow \phi$  depends on  $n$ , so write as  $\phi_n(x)$ .

$$\phi_n'' - \lambda_n \phi_n(x) = 0 \quad (n=1, 2, \dots)$$

$$\phi_n(0) = 0$$



$$\text{char. eqn} : r^2 - \lambda_n = 0 \rightarrow r = \pm \sqrt{\lambda_n}$$

$\lambda_n > 0$ , so roots are real, distinct.

$$\phi_n(x) = c_1 \exp(x\sqrt{\lambda_n}) + c_2 \exp(-x\sqrt{\lambda_n})$$

$$\phi_n(0) = 0 \rightarrow c_1 + c_2 = 0 \rightarrow c_2 = -c_1$$

$$\phi_n(x) = c_1 [\exp(x\sqrt{\lambda_n}) - \exp(-x\sqrt{\lambda_n})]$$

$$\text{recall: } \frac{e^w - e^{-w}}{2} = \sinh(w) \text{ (hyperbolic sine fn)}$$

$$= 2c_1 \sinh(x\sqrt{\lambda_n})$$

$$= a_1 \sinh(x\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \quad (a_1 = 2c_1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then: } u_n(x,y) &= \phi_n(x) \psi_n(y) = a_1 \sinh(x\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \sin(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \\ &= a_1 \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi x}{H}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{H}\right) \\ &= \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi x}{H}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{H}\right) \text{ (choose } a_1 = 1) \end{aligned}$$

$u_n(x,y)$  solves  $\Delta u = 0$ , and 3 of 4 BC's

4th BC's:  $u(L,y) = g(y)$

To satisfy this: superposition  $u(x,y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n u_n(x,y)$  (general sol'n)  
for unknown/arbitrary  $b_n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} u(L,y) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n u_n(L,y) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi L}{H}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{H}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$= g(y)$$

$$\text{or: } g(y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi L}{H}\right) \cdot Y_n(y)$$

mult. by  $Y_m$ , integrate from 0 to  $H$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^H g(y) Y_m(y) dy &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi L}{H}\right) \int_0^H Y_n(y) Y_m(y) dy \\ &= b_m \sinh\left(\frac{m\pi L}{H}\right) \cdot \frac{H}{2} \quad (\text{orthogonality}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow b_m = \frac{2}{H \sinh\left(\frac{m\pi L}{H}\right)} \int_0^H g(y) \sin\left(\frac{m\pi y}{H}\right) dy$$

all this is known.

$$\text{Solution: } u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi x}{H}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{H}\right)$$

## Example

Compute the solution  $u(x, y)$  to the following PDE:

$$\Delta u = u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0,$$

$$0 < x < L, \quad 0 < y < H,$$

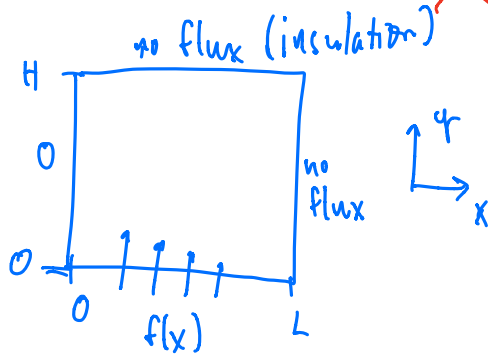
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, 0) = 0, \quad \text{ ~~$f(x)$~~ }$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, H) = 0$$

$$u(0, y) = \text{ ~~$f(x)$~~ }, \quad 0,$$

$$\text{ ~~$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(L, y) = g(y)$~~ }$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(L, y) = 0$$



Separation of variables  
Ansatz:  $u(x, y) = \phi(x) \psi(y)$

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$$

$$\phi'' Y + \phi Y'' = 0$$

$$\frac{\phi''(x)}{\phi(x)} = -\frac{Y''(y)}{Y(y)} = -\lambda \quad (\text{unknown const.})$$

$$\rightarrow \phi'' + \lambda \phi = 0, \quad Y'' - \lambda Y = 0$$

$$\text{BC's: } \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, H) = 0 \Rightarrow Y'(H) \phi(x) = 0 \\ \rightarrow Y'(H) = 0 \quad (\text{don't want } \phi(x) = 0)$$

$$u(0, y) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi(0) Y(y) = 0 \\ \rightarrow \phi(0) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(L, y) = 0 \Rightarrow \phi'(L) Y(y) = 0 \\ \rightarrow \phi'(L) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, 0) = f(x) \rightarrow \phi(x) Y'(0) = f(x) \\ \rightarrow \text{no condition.}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi''(x) + \lambda \phi(x) &= 0 & \phi(0) &= 0, \quad \phi'(L) = 0 \\ Y''(y) - \lambda Y(y) &= 0 & Y'(H) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Eigenvalue problem :  $\phi''(x) + \lambda \phi(x) = 0$   
 $\phi(0) = 0, \quad \phi'(L) = 0$

char. eqn:  $r^2 = -\lambda$ ,  $r = \pm\sqrt{-\lambda}$

$\lambda < 0$  :  $r$  values are real, ~~repeated~~ distinct.

$$\phi(x) = c_1 \exp(x\sqrt{-\lambda}) + c_2 \exp(-x\sqrt{-\lambda})$$

recall:  $\cosh x = \frac{1}{2}(e^x + e^{-x})$ ,  $\sinh x = \frac{1}{2}(e^x - e^{-x})$

$$= k_1 \cosh(x\sqrt{|\lambda|}) + k_2 \sinh(x\sqrt{|\lambda|})$$

(i.e.  $c_1 = \frac{1}{2}k_1 + \frac{1}{2}k_2$ ,  $c_2 = \frac{1}{2}k_1 - \frac{1}{2}k_2$ )

$$\phi(0) = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = k_1 \cosh(0) + k_2 \sinh(0)$$

$$= k_1$$

$$\phi'(x) = k_2 \sqrt{|\lambda|} \cosh(x\sqrt{|\lambda|}) \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \frac{d}{dx} \cosh x = \sinh x \\ \frac{d}{dx} \sinh x = \cosh x \end{array} \right)$$

$$\phi'(L) = 0 \rightarrow 0 = k_2 \underbrace{\sqrt{|\lambda|}}_{\text{strictly positive}} \underbrace{\cosh(L\sqrt{|\lambda|})}_{\substack{\frac{1}{2}(e^{L\sqrt{|\lambda|}} + e^{-L\sqrt{|\lambda|}}) \\ \begin{array}{cc} \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \text{positive number} & \text{positive number} \end{array} \\ \text{must be strictly positive.}}}$$

$$\Rightarrow k_2 = 0$$

$\phi(x) = 0$  is only solution (trivial), so no eigenvalues for  $\lambda < 0$ .

$\lambda = 0$  :  $r$  values are real, repeated  
 $r = 0, 0$

$$\phi(x) = c_1 \exp(0) + c_2 x \exp(0) = c_1 + c_2 x$$

$$\phi(0) = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = 0$$

$$\phi'(L) = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0$$

$\rightarrow \phi(x) = 0$ , so  $\lambda = 0$  is not an eigenvalue.

$\lambda > 0$  :  $r = \pm \sqrt{-\lambda} = \pm i \sqrt{\lambda}$

$$\phi(x) = c_1 \cos(x\sqrt{\lambda}) + c_2 \sin(x\sqrt{\lambda})$$

$$\phi(0) = 0 \rightarrow c_1 = 0$$

$$\phi'(L) = 0 \rightarrow \phi'(x) = \sqrt{\lambda} c_2 \cos(x\sqrt{\lambda})$$

$$\phi'(L) = 0 \Rightarrow \underbrace{\sqrt{\lambda}}_{\text{not zero}} c_2 \cos(L\sqrt{\lambda}) = 0$$

$$\cos(L\sqrt{\lambda}) = 0$$

$$L\sqrt{\lambda} = \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}, \frac{5\pi}{2}, \dots$$

$$\lambda_n = \left( \frac{(2n-1)\pi}{2L} \right)^2, \quad n=1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$\phi_n(x) = \sin(x\sqrt{\lambda_n}) = \sin\left(\frac{(2n-1)\pi x}{2L}\right)$$

(take  $c_2 = 1$ )

formula sheet:  $\int_0^L \phi_n(x) \phi_m(x) dx = \begin{cases} 0, & n \neq m \\ \frac{L}{2}, & n = m \end{cases}$

Back to  $Y$  variable: choose  $\lambda = \lambda_n$  (for some  $n=1, 2, \dots$ )

$$Y = Y_n \quad \curvearrowright$$

$$Y_n''(y) - \lambda_n Y_n(y) = 0$$

$$Y_n'(H) = 0$$

char. eqn:  $r^2 - \lambda_n = 0$

$$r = \pm \sqrt{\lambda_n} \quad (\text{real, distinct})$$

$$Y_n(y) = a_n \cosh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) + b_n \sinh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n})$$

$$Y_n'(y) = a_n \sqrt{\lambda_n} \sinh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) + b_n \sqrt{\lambda_n} \cosh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n})$$

$$Y_n'(H) = 0 \rightarrow a_n \sinh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) + b_n \cosh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) = 0$$

$$b_n = -a_n \frac{\sinh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n})}{\cosh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n})}$$

$$= -a_n \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \left( \tanh x = \frac{\sinh x}{\cosh x} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow Y_n(y) = a_n \left[ \overset{\text{cosh}}{\cancel{\sinh}}(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) - \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \cancel{\cosh} \overset{\text{sinh}}{\sinh}(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \right]$$

$$u_n(x, y) = \Phi_n(x) Y_n(y) = \sin(x\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \left[ \cosh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) - \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \sinh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \right]$$

$$(\text{choose } a_n = 1)$$

$$\text{Superposition: } u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_n u_n(x, y)$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_n \sin(x\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \left[ \cosh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) - \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \sinh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \right]$$

general solution.



Case BC:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, 0) = f(x)$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_n \sin(x\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \left[ \sqrt{\lambda_n} \sinh(0) - \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \sqrt{\lambda_n} \cosh(0) \right]$$

$$= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} -\sqrt{\lambda_n} \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) d_n \sin(x\sqrt{\lambda_n})$$

$$\stackrel{?}{=} f(x)$$

multiply by  $\phi_m(x) = \sin(x\sqrt{\lambda_m})$ , integrate for  $x=0, \dots, L$ .

$$\int_0^L f(x) \phi_m(x) dx = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} -\sqrt{\lambda_n} \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) d_n \cdot \int_0^L \phi_m(x) \phi_n(x) dx$$

$$\stackrel{\text{orthogonality}}{=} -\sqrt{\lambda_m} \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_m}) d_m \cdot \frac{L}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow d_m = \frac{-2}{L\sqrt{\lambda_m} \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_m})} \int_0^L f(x) \phi_m(x) dx$$

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} d_n u_n(x, y)$$

$$u_n(x, y) = \phi_n(x) \left[ \cosh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) - \tanh(H\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \sinh(y\sqrt{\lambda_n}) \right]$$

$$\phi_n(x) = \sin(x\sqrt{\lambda_n})$$

$$\lambda_n = \left( \frac{(2n-1)\pi}{2L} \right)^2, \quad n=1, 2, \dots$$

Can we solve Laplace's eqn. with all non-homogeneous BC's.?

E.g.:

$$\Delta u = 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f_1(x)$$

$$u(0, y) = f_3(y)$$

$$u(x, H) = f_2(x)$$

$$u(L, y) = f_4(y)$$

Standard separation of variables will fail.

To solve this problem: exploit linearity:

$$\text{write } u(x, y) = \sum_{j=1}^4 u_j(x, y), \text{ where } u_j(x, y)$$

for fixed  $j$ , solves Laplace's equation but  
with only 1 non-homogeneous BC.

I.e.,  $u_1(x, y)$  solves

$$\Delta u_1 = 0$$

$$u_1(x, 0) = f_1(x)$$

$$u_1(0, y) = 0$$

$$u_1(x, H) = 0$$

$$u_1(L, y) = 0$$

and  $u_2(x, y)$  solves

$$\Delta u_2 = 0$$

$$u_2(x, 0) = 0$$

$$u_2(0, y) = f_2(y)$$

$$u_2(x, H) = 0$$

$$u_2(L, y) = 0$$

(I.e.,  $u_j$  has a non-homogeneous BC associated to  $f_j$ .)

Note: We know how to solve for  $u_j$  individually using separation of vars.

$$\Rightarrow u(x,y) = \sum_{j=1}^4 u_j(x,y)$$

(i) solves PDE.

(ii) satisfies all 4 non-homogeneous  
BC's.