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NOTE ON STEADY FLOW OF HEAT  
IN A SEMI-INFINITE STRIP

RANJIT KUMAR CHAKRABORTY

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**1.** Let us consider a semi-infinite strip of homogeneous metal and let its two edges  $x = 0, x = \pi$  be kept at zero temperature.

Let the temperature  $U$  be given in the region  $0 < x < c, y = 0$  and  $\partial U / \partial y$  be prescribed on  $c < x < \pi, y = 0$ .

To determine the temperature function  $U$  we have to solve the differential equation (cf. [6])

$$\nabla^2 U = 0 \quad \text{in } 0 < x < \pi, \quad y > 0$$

subject to the boundary conditions:

- (i)  $U = f_2(x), \quad y = 0, \quad 0 < x < c,$
- (ii)  $\partial U / \partial y = -f_1(x), \quad y = 0, \quad c < x < \pi,$
- (iii)  $\partial U / \partial x = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad x = 0, \pi,$
- (iv)  $|U| < \infty \quad \text{as} \quad y \rightarrow \infty.$

The solution of this problem depends on the solution of a dual trigonometric series of the type

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin nx &= f_2(x), \quad 0 < x < c, \\ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n \sin nx &= f_1(x), \quad c < x < \pi, \end{aligned}$$

where  $f_1(x), f_2(x)$  belong to the space  $L(0, \pi)$ .

The formal solution of the dual trigonometric series of the type

$$(1.2) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n a_n \sin nx &= f_2(x), \quad 0 < x < c, \\ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \sin nx &= f_1(x), \quad c < x < \pi \end{aligned}$$

have been discussed by Tranter [1], Srivastav [2], Sneddon [3]. Noble and Whiteman [4] have proved the existence of (1.2), where the known functions are in  $L^2(0, \pi)$ . In this note we will discuss the existence of a solution of the dual sine series of the type (1.1).

2. It is well known that a solution of the Laplace's equation is the real or imaginary part of the function of a complex variable which is analytic in the region under consideration. Thus our problem is to determine an analytic function  $U(x, y) + iv(x, y)$  of the complex variable  $z = x + iy$  in the region  $0 < x < \pi$ ,  $y > 0$ , whose real part satisfy the conditions (i) to (iv).

Consider a pair of dual series

$$(2.1) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx = 0, \quad 0 < x < c,$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nb_n \sin nx = f_1(x), \quad c < x < \pi$$

and

$$(2.2) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \sin nx = f_2(x), \quad 0 < x < c,$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nc_n \sin nx = 0, \quad c < x < \pi,$$

where  $a_n = b_n + c_n$  will be the solutions of (1.1) provided  $b_n$  and  $c_n$  satisfy (2.1) and (2.2), respectively.

To determine  $b_n$ , consider a bounded analytic function

$$(2.3) \quad \varphi(z) = \int_c^{\pi} \frac{\cos(z/2)f(t) dt}{(\cos t - \cos z)} + ik.$$

From (2.1) and (2.3) we have

$$(2.4) \quad \frac{F(x)}{\cos(x/2)} = \int_x^{\pi} \frac{f(t) dt}{\sqrt{(\cos x - \cos t)}},$$

where  $F(x) = \int_p^{\pi} f_1(t) dt$ .

Equation (2.4) is an integral equation of Abel type, the solution of which gives

$$(2.5) \quad f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_x^{\pi} \frac{\cos(t/2) \tan(x/2)}{\sqrt{(\cos x - \cos t)}} f_1(t) dt.$$

Hence by (2.3), (2.5) we have

$$(2.6) \quad b_n = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_c^{\pi} [P_n(\cos \theta) + P_{n-1}(\cos \theta)] \tan(\theta/2) d\theta \int_{\theta}^{\pi} \frac{f_1(t) \cos(t/2) dt}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos t)}},$$

where we have used the result

$$\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} [P_{n-1}(\cos \theta) + P_n(\cos \theta)] \sin nx = \frac{\sqrt{2} \cos(x/2)}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos x)}},$$

which is obtained from the Mehler integral formula (cf. [5]).

To determine  $c_n$ , consider the analytic function

$$(2.7) \quad \psi(z) = \frac{\cos(z/2) g(t) dt}{\sqrt{(\cos t - \cos z)}} + ik.$$

From (2.2) and (2.7) we have an Abel type integral equation, the solution of which gives

$$(2.8) \quad g(x) = -\frac{2}{\pi} \frac{d}{dx} \int_0^x \frac{\sin(t/2) f_2(t) dt}{\sqrt{(\cos t - \cos x)}}.$$

Therefore by (2.7) and (2.8) we have

$$(2.9) \quad c_n = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_0^c [P_n(\cos \theta) + P_{n-1}(\cos \theta)] d\theta \frac{d}{d\theta} \int_0^\theta \frac{\sin(t/2) f_2(t) dt}{\sqrt{(\cos t - \cos \theta)}}.$$

Hence by (2.6) and (2.9) we have

$$(2.10) \quad a_n = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_c^\pi [P_n(\cos \theta) + P_{n-1}(\cos \theta)] \tan(\theta/2) d\theta \int_\theta^\pi \frac{f_1(t) \cos(t/2) dt}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos t)}} - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_0^c [P_n(\cos \theta) + P_{n-1}(\cos \theta)] d\theta \frac{d}{d\theta} \int_0^\theta \frac{\sin(t/2) f_2(t) dt}{(\cos t - \cos \theta)}.$$

**3.** The existence of a solution (1.1) depends on the following two theorems.

**Theorem 1.** Let  $f_1(x)$  be a function defined on  $(c, \pi)$  and satisfy Dirichlet's conditions in the same interval, then

$$(3.1) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n b_n \sin nx = \frac{1}{2} [f_1(x+0) + f_1(x-0)], \quad x \in (c, \pi),$$

$$(3.2) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} b_n \sin nx = 0, \quad x \in (0, c)$$

where

$$(3.3) \quad b_n = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_c^\pi [P_n(\cos \theta) + P_{n-1}(\cos \theta)] \tan(\theta/2) d\theta \int_\theta^\pi \frac{f_1(t) \cos(t/2) dt}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos t)}}.$$

$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

**Theorem 2.** Let  $f_2(x)$  be a function of  $x$  defined on  $(0, c)$  and let  $f'_2(x)$  exists almost everywhere in  $(0, c)$ . Moreover, let  $f_2(x)$  satisfy Dirichlet's conditions in the same interval; then

$$(3.4) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} nc_n \sin nx = 0, \quad x \in (c, \pi),$$

$$(3.5) \quad \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \sin nx = \frac{1}{2} [f_2(x+0) + f_2(x-0)], \quad x \in (0, c),$$

where

$$(3.6) \quad c_n = -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_0^c [P_n(\cos \theta) + P_{n-1}(\cos \theta)] \tan(\theta/2) d\theta \int_0^\theta \frac{f'_2(t) \cos(t/2)}{\sqrt{(\cos t - \cos \theta)}} dt,$$

$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Proof of Theorem 1. Let  $S_m(x) = \sum_{n=1}^m nb_n \sin nx$ ,  $x \in (c, \pi)$ . Then by (2.3) and

$$P_n(\cos \theta) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_0^\theta \frac{\cos(n + \frac{1}{2})\varphi}{\sqrt{(\cos \varphi - \cos \theta)}} d\varphi$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} S_m(x) &= \frac{4}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^m n \sin nx \int_c^\pi \tan(\theta/2) d\theta \int_0^\theta \frac{\cos n\varphi \cos \varphi/2}{\sqrt{(\cos \varphi - \cos \theta)}} d\varphi \times \\ &\quad \times \int_\theta^\pi \frac{f_1(t) \cos(t/2) dt}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos t)}} = \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^m n \sin nx \int_c^\pi \frac{\sin nt}{n} f_1(t) dt - \\ &- \frac{4}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^m n \sin nx \int_0^c \frac{\sin n\varphi}{n} d\varphi \int_c^\pi f_1(t) \frac{d}{d\varphi} \left\{ \arctan \left( \frac{\cos \varphi/2}{\cos t/2} \sqrt{\frac{\cos c - \cos t}{\cos \varphi - \cos c}} \right) \right\} dt. \end{aligned}$$

Interchanging the order of summation and integration, we get after some elementary mathematical operations

$$\begin{aligned} S_m(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_c^\pi \left[ \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(t-x)}{2 \sin\left(\frac{t-x}{2}\right)} - \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(t+x)}{2 \sin\left(\frac{t+x}{2}\right)} \right] f_1(t) dt - \\ &- \frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_0^c \left[ \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi-x)}{2 \sin\left(\frac{\varphi-x}{2}\right)} - \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi+x)}{2 \sin\left(\frac{\varphi+x}{2}\right)} \right] d\varphi \times \\ &\quad \times \int_c^\pi f_1(t) \frac{d}{d\varphi} \left\{ \arctan \left( \frac{\cos \varphi/2}{\cos t/2} \sqrt{\frac{\cos c - \cos t}{\cos \varphi - \cos c}} \right) \right\} dt, \end{aligned}$$

Now using the well known results

$$(3.7) \quad \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^a \frac{\sin mx}{\sin x} f(x) dx = \frac{\pi}{2} f(0+)$$

and

$$(3.8) \quad \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b \frac{\sin mx}{\sin x} f(x) dx = 0, \quad (b > a > 0)$$

we have

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} S_m(x) = \frac{1}{2}[f_1(x+0) + f_1(x-0)] \quad \text{in} \quad c < x < \pi,$$

i.e., we get (3.1).

To prove (3.2), consider

$$s_m(x) = \sum_{n=1}^m b_n \sin nx,$$

where  $x \in (0, c)$ . On the right hand side of the above expression, substitute the value of  $b_n$  given by (3.3) and

$$P_n(\cos \theta) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_{\theta}^{\pi} \frac{\sin(n + \frac{1}{2})\varphi}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos \varphi)}} d\varphi.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} s_m(x) &= \frac{4}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^m \sin nx \int_c^{\pi} \tan \theta/2 d\theta \int_{\theta}^{\pi} \frac{\sin n\varphi \cos \varphi/2}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos \varphi)}} d\varphi \int_{\theta}^{\pi} \frac{f_1(t) \cos(t/2)}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos t)}} dt = \\ &= \frac{4}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^m \sin nx \int_c^{\pi} \sin n\varphi F(\varphi) d\varphi, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} F(\varphi) &= \int_c^{\varphi} f_1(t) \left\{ \operatorname{arc \tanh} \left( \frac{\cos \varphi/2}{\cos t/2} \sqrt{\frac{\cos c - \cos t}{\cos \varphi - \cos c}} \right) \right\} dt + \\ &\quad + \int_{\varphi}^{\pi} f_1(t) \left\{ \operatorname{arc \tanh} \left( \frac{\cos t/2}{\cos \varphi/2} \sqrt{\frac{\cos \varphi - \cos c}{\cos c - \cos t}} \right) \right\} dt. \end{aligned}$$

Changing the order of integration and summation we have

$$\begin{aligned} s_m(x) &= \frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_c^{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^m [\cos(\varphi - x)n - \cos(\varphi + x)n] F(\varphi) d\varphi = \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_c^{\pi} \left[ \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi - x)}{2 \sin\left(\frac{\varphi - x}{2}\right)} - \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi + x)}{2 \sin\left(\frac{\varphi + x}{2}\right)} \right] F(\varphi) d\varphi. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $x \notin (c, \pi)$ , hence (3.8) implies

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} s_m(x) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x \in (0, c),$$

i.e., we get (3.2).

**Proof of Theorem 2.** From (3.6) and

$$P_n(\cos \theta) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_0^{\theta} \frac{\cos(n + \frac{1}{2})\varphi}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos \varphi)}} d\varphi$$

one can easily prove that

$$c_n = -\frac{4}{\pi^2} \int_0^c \frac{\sin n\varphi}{n} [G_1(\varphi) + G_2(\varphi)] d\varphi,$$

where

$$G_1(\varphi) = \int_{-\varphi}^c f'_2(t) \frac{d}{d\varphi} \left[ \operatorname{arc \tan} \left( \frac{\cos \varphi/2}{\cos t/2} \sqrt{\frac{\cos t - \cos c}{\cos \varphi - \cos c}} \right) \right] dt,$$

$$G_2(\varphi) = \int_0^\varphi f'_2(t) \frac{d}{d\varphi} \left[ \operatorname{arc \tan} \left( \frac{\cos t/2}{\cos \varphi/2} \sqrt{\frac{\cos \varphi - \cos c}{\cos t - \cos c}} \right) \right] dt.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} S'_m(x) &= \sum_{n=1}^m n c_n \sin nx = \\ &= -\frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_0^c \left[ \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi - x)}{2 \sin(\frac{\varphi - x}{2})} - \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi + x)}{2 \sin(\frac{\varphi + x}{2})} \right] [G_1(\varphi) + G_2(\varphi)] d\varphi. \end{aligned}$$

Hence from (3.8) it is obvious that

$$\forall x \in (c, \pi), \quad \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} S'_m(x) = 0,$$

i.e., we get (3.4).

To get (3.5) let us assume

$$s'_m(x) = \sum_{n=1}^m c_n \sin nx.$$

Using (3.6) and

$$\begin{aligned} P_n(\cos \theta) &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\pi} \int_\theta^\pi \frac{\sin(n + \frac{1}{2})\varphi}{\sqrt{(\cos \theta - \cos \varphi)}} d\varphi, \\ s'_m(x) &= \frac{2}{\pi} \sum_{n=1}^m \sin nx \int_0^c \sin n\varphi d\varphi \int_0^\varphi f'_2(t) dt + \\ &\quad + \frac{4}{\pi^2} \sum_{n=1}^m \sin nx \int_c^\pi \sin n\varphi d\varphi \int_0^\varphi f'_2(t) \left[ \operatorname{arc \tan} \left( \frac{\cos \varphi/2}{\cos t/2} \sqrt{\frac{\cos t - \cos c}{\cos \varphi - \cos c}} \right) \right] dt. \end{aligned}$$

Changing the order of integration and summation we have

$$\begin{aligned} s'_m(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^c \left[ \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi - x)}{2 \sin(\frac{\varphi - x}{2})} - \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi + x)}{2 \sin(\frac{\varphi + x}{2})} \right] d\varphi \int_0^\varphi f'_2(t) dt + \\ &\quad + \frac{2}{\pi^2} \int_c^\pi \left[ \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi - x)}{2 \sin(\frac{\varphi - x}{2})} - \frac{\sin(m + \frac{1}{2})(\varphi + x)}{2 \sin(\frac{\varphi + x}{2})} \right] d\varphi \int_0^c f'_2(t) \times \end{aligned}$$

$$\times \left[ \arctan \left( \frac{\cos \varphi / 2}{\cos t / 2} \sqrt{\frac{\cos t - \cos c}{\cos c - \cos \varphi}} \right) \right] dt.$$

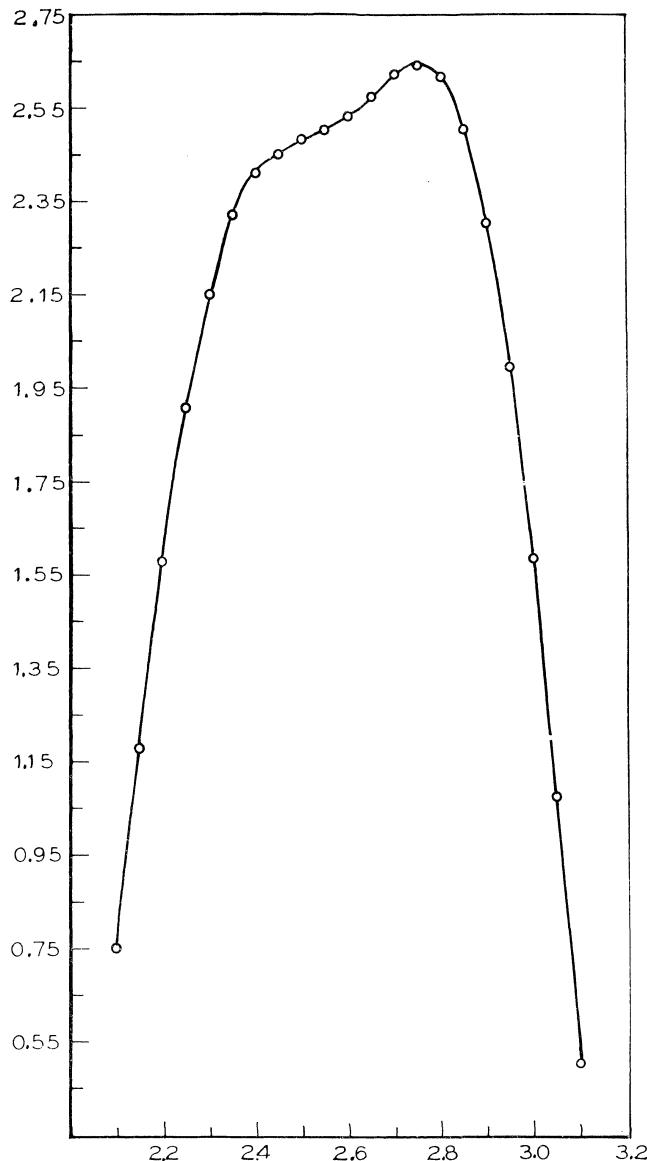


Fig. 1. Curve for temperature distribution.

Therefore, using (3.7) and making  $m \rightarrow \infty$  we have

$$\forall x \in (0, c), \quad \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} s'_m(x) = \frac{1}{2}[f_2(x + 0) + f_2(x - 0)],$$

i.e., we get (3.5).

4. For numerical evaluation let us take  $f_1(x) = x + 0.5x^2$  in  $2 < x < \pi$  and

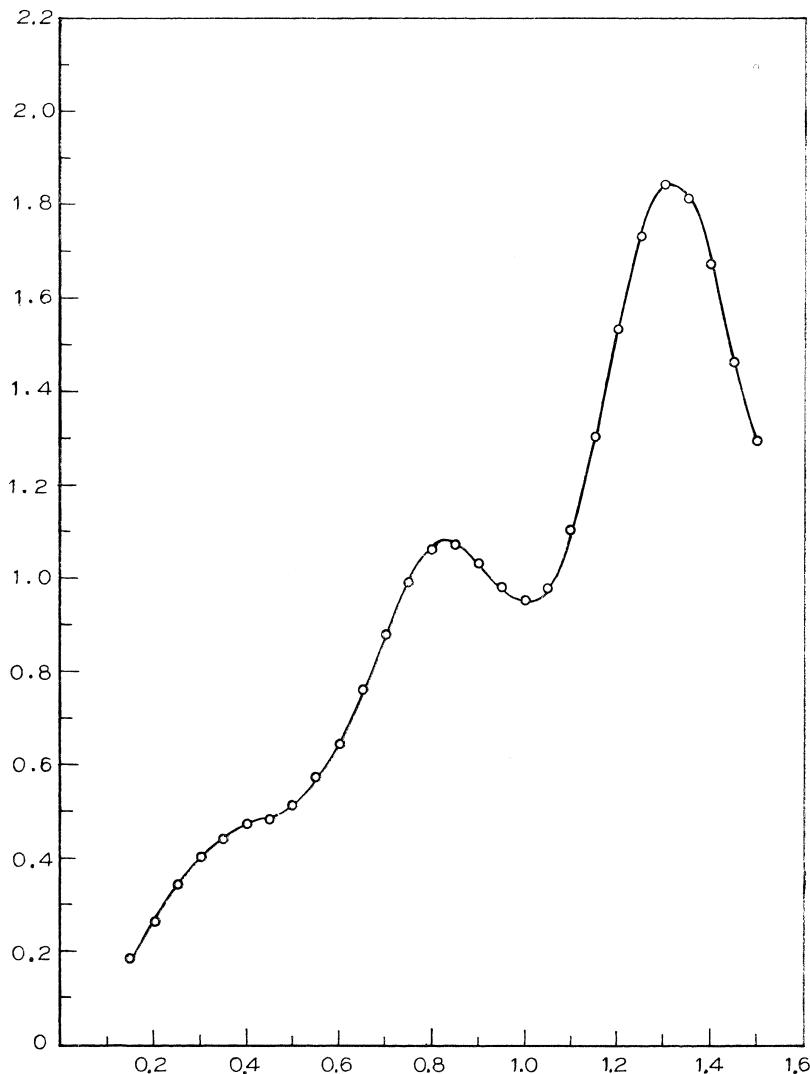


Fig. 2. Curve for normal flux.

$f_2(x) = x - x^3/3!$  in  $0 < x < 2$ . Knowing the nature of the function in one interval here, we calculate its nature in the other intervals.

After performing the numerical integration of equation (2.10) we have a set of values of  $a_n$ . Taking the first 20 terms of  $a_n$  we calculate the nature of the function in the other intervals

- i)  $\sum a_n \sin nx$  in  $2 < x < \pi$ ,
- ii)  $\sum n a_n \sin nx$  in  $0 < x < 2$ ,

and the corresponding shape of the curve for the temperature distribution and the normal flux given in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2.

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#### Souhrn

## POZNÁMKA O USTÁLENÉM TEPELNÉM TOKU V POLONEKONEČNÉM PÁSU

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Autor vyšetřuje existenci řešení dvoudimenzionální rovnice pro vedení tepla se smíšenými okrajovými podmínkami na polonekonečném pásu.

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