

MAT

Serie 

Conferencias, seminarios
y trabajos de Matemática

ISSN: 1515-4904



*VI Seminario sobre
Problemas de
Frontera Libre y
sus Aplicaciones.*

Primera Parte

Departamento
de Matemática,
Rosario,
Argentina
2001

UNIVERSIDAD AUSTRAL

FACULTAD DE CIENCIAS EMPRESARIALES



MAT

SERIE A : CONFERENCIAS, SEMINARIOS Y TRABAJOS DE MATEMÁTICA

No. 3

VI SEMINARIO SOBRE PROBLEMAS DE FRONTERA LIBRE Y SUS APLICACIONES

Primera Parte

Domingo A. Tarzia (Ed.)

INDICE

- **Ma. Cristina Sanziel**, “Conditions to obtain a waiting time for a discrete two-phase Stefan problem”, 1-6.
- **Ariel L. Lombardi – Domingo A. Tarzia**, “On similarity solutions for thawing processes”, 7-12.
- **Ricardo Weder**, “Direct and inverse scattering for the nonlinear Schrödinger equation with a potential”, 13-20.
- **Domingo A. Tarzia**, “Stefan problem for a non-classical heat equation”, 21-26.
- **Pedro Morin – Rubén D. Spies**, “A quasilinearization approach for parameter identification in nonlinear abstract Cauchy problems”, 27-41.

Rosario, Agosto 2001

A STEFAN PROBLEM FOR A NON-CLASSICAL HEAT EQUATION*

Domingo A. TARZIA

Depto de Matemática and CONICET, FCE, Universidad Austral,
Paraguay 1950, S2000FZF Rosario, Argentina.

E-mail: Domingo.Tarzia@fce.austral.edu.ar; tarzia@uaufrce.edu.ar

Abstract

We review some recent results concerning to the heat equation with a heat source depending on the heat flux occurring at the fixed $x=0$ of a semi-infinite material. We also present a new free boundary problem (one-phase Stefan-like problem) for a non-classical heat equation, and we obtain the temperature and the free boundary (the phase-change interface) through the solution of a system of two Volterra integral equations.

Resumen: Se da una revisión de algunos recientes resultados concernientes a la ecuación del calor con una fuente que depende del flujo de calor que ocurre en la frontera fija $x=0$ de un cuerpo semi-infinito. También se presenta un nuevo problema de frontera libre (problema de tipo Stefan a una fase) para una ecuación no clásica para la cual se obtiene la temperatura y la frontera libre (la frontera de cambio de fase) a través de la solución de un sistema de dos ecuaciones integrales de Volterra.

Key words: Non-classical heat equation, asymptotic behavior, Stefan problem, phase-change problem, free boundary problem, Volterra integral equation.

Palabras claves: Ecuación del calor no-clásico, comportamiento asintótico, problema de Stefan, problema de cambio de fase, problemas de frontera libre, ecuación integral de Volterra.

AMS Subject classification: 35R35, 80A22, 35K05, 45D05, 35B40.

1 Introduction

The following non-classical heat conduction problem for a semi-infinite material was studied in [17]

$$\begin{cases} u_t(x, t) - u_{xx}(x, t) = \Phi(x)F(u_x(0, t)), & x > 0, \quad t > 0, \\ u(0, t) = g(t), & t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) = h(x), & x > 0, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

*MAT - Serie A, 3 (2001), 21-26.

where Φ , g , h are real functions defined on \mathbb{R}^+ and F is defined on $\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}$ which depends on the heat flux at the extremum $x = 0$. Non-classical problems like (1) are motivated by the modelling of a system of temperature regulation in isotropic media and the source term $\Phi(x) F(u_x(0, t))$ describes a cooling or heating effect depending on the properties of F which are related to the evolution of the heat flux $u_x(0, t)$. It is called the thermostat problem. Related problems are considered in [4],[6],[9]. Under suitable assumptions on data, existence, uniqueness and monotone-continuous dependence on the data are established in [17] for problem (1).

It was consider in [2] the simple instance of problem (1) given by

$$\begin{cases} u_t - u_{xx} = -F(u_x(0, t)), & x > 0, \quad t > 0, \\ u(0, t) = 0, & t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) = h(x), & x > 0, \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where $h(x)$, $x > 0$, and $F(v)$, $v \in \mathbb{R}$, are continuous functions. The function F , referred as *control function*, was assumed to fulfill the following condition:

A) $v F(v) \geq 0, F(0) = 0$,

which intuitively means that the control attempts to stabilize the process at every time.

As it is shown in [18] (see also [17]), the solution to problem (2) can be represented by

$$u(x, t) = u_0(x, t) - \int_0^t \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{x}{2\sqrt{t-\tau}}\right) F(V(\tau)) d\tau, \quad (3)$$

where $u_0 = u_0(x, t)$, defined by

$$u_0(x, t) = \int_0^{+\infty} G(x, t; \xi, 0) h(\xi) d\xi, \quad (4)$$

is the solution to problem (2) with null source term $F = 0$. Function $V = V(t)$ in (3) represents the heat flux at the extremum of the slab, i.e.

$$V(t) = u_x(0, t), \quad t > 0, \quad (5)$$

and it satisfies the following Volterra integral equation

$$V(t) = V_0(t) - \int_0^t \frac{F(V(\tau))}{\sqrt{\pi(t-\tau)}} d\tau, \quad (6)$$

where the forcing function $V_0(t)$ is given by

$$V_0(t) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi t^{\frac{3}{2}}}} \int_0^{+\infty} \xi \exp\left(-\frac{\xi^2}{4t}\right) h(\xi) d\xi, \quad t > 0. \quad (7)$$

Function G in (4) denotes the Green function of the heat equation in the quarter plane and, as it is well-known, it can be written as $G(x, t; \xi, \tau) = K(x, t; \xi, \tau) - K(-x, t; \xi, \tau)$, $x, \xi > 0$, $t > \tau > 0$, where

$$K(x, t; \xi, \tau) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi(t-\tau)}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\xi)^2}{4(t-\tau)}\right),$$

is the one-dimensional heat kernel. Moreover, we also define the Neumann function of the heat equation in the quarter plane as $N(x, t; \xi, \tau) = K(x, t; \xi, \tau) + K(-x, t; \xi, \tau)$, $x, \xi > 0$, $t > \tau > 0$.

From now on, we suppose that h is a non-negative and non-identically null function which, in view of (7), implies $V_0(t) > 0$, $t > 0$. When the control function F satisfies condition (A) and, moreover, the initial temperature h is non-negative, then the solution $u(x, t)$ to problem (2) tends to zero when $t \rightarrow +\infty$ (see [17], [18]). In [2] was studied the problem of "controlling" problem (2) through F so that, by the stabilizing effect of the control, its solution should converge to zero (when the time goes to infinity) faster than that corresponding to problem (2) in absence of control; i.e. $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} u(x, t)/u_0(x, t) = 0$. The heat flux $w(x, t) = u_x(x, t)$ satisfies a classical heat conduction problem with a nonlinear convective condition at $x = 0$. The first papers in this direction are [10] and [13]. Other related problems are considered in [1], [8] and [12]. In [2], a general study of the above stated control problem for (2) was done finding spatially uniform bounds for the quotient $u(x, t)/u_0(x, t)$ which depend on the solution $V(t)$ to integral equation (6), from which becomes apparent that condition (A) is not sufficient to attain the objective of the control; i.e., to obtain $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} u(x, t)/u_0(x, t) = 0$. In Section 2, for linear control functions $F(v) = \lambda v$, we give an example to illustrate that there exists an exact solution to problem (6) providing $u(x, t)/u_0(x, t) \cong 1/(2\lambda^2 t)$, $t \rightarrow +\infty$. In Section 3, we present a one-phase Stefan problem for a semi-infinite material for a non-classical heat equation with a source term F which depends of the evolution of the heat flux at the extremum $x = 0$. Its solution is given by the solution of a system of two Volterra integral equations [3],[7],[11].

2 Constant initial temperature and their control function

We shall consider the instance of problem (2) corresponding to a constant initial temperature $h(x) = h_0 > 0$, $x \geq 0$. The solution to problem (2) is represented by (3) with

$$u_0(x, t) = h_0 \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{x}{2\sqrt{t}}\right), \quad x > 0, \quad t > 0, \quad (8)$$

while $V = V(t)$ becomes the solution to the Volterra integral equation

$$V(t) = \frac{h_0}{\sqrt{\pi t}} - \int_0^t \frac{F(V(\tau))}{\sqrt{\pi(t-\tau)}} d\tau, \quad t > 0. \quad (9)$$

Therefore, the following inequalities

$$\frac{\sqrt{\pi t}}{h_0} V(t) \leq \frac{u(x, t)}{u_0(x, t)} \leq \frac{1}{h_0} \int_0^t \frac{V(\tau)}{\sqrt{\pi(t-\tau)}} d\tau = 1 - \frac{1}{h_0} \int_0^t F(V(\tau)) d\tau, \quad (10)$$

hold for $x > 0, t > 0$ [2].

From now on we suppose the case of linear controls: i.e.,

$$F(v) = \lambda v, \quad (\lambda > 0), \quad (11)$$

and in order to obtain the explicit solutions u and V of the problems (2) and (9) respectively, we define the real function $Q(x) = \sqrt{\pi}x \exp(x^2) \operatorname{erfc}(x)$, defined for $x > 0$ [15] which satisfies the following properties: $Q(0) = 0, Q(+\infty) = 1, Q'(x) > 0, x > 0$. The most important facts on the behavior of the solution $V(t)$ to equation (9) corresponding to a linear control (11) are collected in the following result (See [2]).

Lemma 1 *If F is given by (11), then we have*

$$0 < V(t) = \frac{h_0}{\sqrt{\pi t}} \left[1 - Q(\lambda\sqrt{t}) \right] < \frac{h_0}{\sqrt{\pi t}}, \quad (12)$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{h_0} \int_0^t F(V(\tau)) d\tau = \exp(\lambda^2 t) \operatorname{erfc}(\lambda\sqrt{t}), \quad (13)$$

for all $t > 0$ and $\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} u(x, t)/u_0(x, t) = 0$, uniformly in $x > 0$. Furthermore, we have the estimates

$$\frac{1}{\pi\lambda^2 t} \leq \frac{u(x, t)}{u_0(x, t)} \leq \frac{1}{\lambda\sqrt{\pi t}}, \quad (14)$$

as $t \rightarrow +\infty$. Moreover, the temperature u is given by

$$u(x, t) = h_0 \exp(\lambda^2 t) \left[\operatorname{erfc}(\lambda\sqrt{t}) - \exp(\lambda x) \operatorname{erfc}\left(\lambda\sqrt{t} + \frac{x}{2\sqrt{t}}\right) \right], \quad (15)$$

and a more accurate estimation $\frac{u(x, t)}{u_0(x, t)} \sim 1/(2\lambda t^2)$, when $t \rightarrow +\infty$, uniformly in $x > 0$ is also obtained.

3 A Stefan problem for a non-classical heat equation.

We consider the following free boundary problem (one-phase Stefan problem) for the temperature $u = u(x, t)$ and the free boundary $x = s(t)$ (see [16]) with a control function F which depends on the evolution of the heat flux at the extremum $x = 0$ given by the following conditions:

$$\begin{cases} u_t - u_{xx} = -F(u_x(0, t)), & 0 < x < s(t), 0 < t < T, \\ u(0, t) = f(t) \geq 0, & 0 < t < T, \\ u(s(t), t) = 0, u_x(s(t), t) = -\dot{s}(t), & 0 < t < T, \\ u(x, 0) = h(x), & 0 \leq x \leq b = s(0). \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

Theorem 2 *The solution of the free boundary problem (16) is given by*

$$u(x, t) = \int_0^b G(x, t; \xi, 0)h(\xi)d\xi + \int_0^t G_\xi(x, t; 0, \tau)f(\tau)d\tau + \int_0^t G_\xi(x, t; s(\tau), \tau)v(\tau)d\tau \\ - \iint_{D(t)} G(x, t; \xi, \tau)F(V(\tau))d\xi d\tau, \\ s(t) = b - \int_0^t v(\tau)d\tau$$

where $D(t) = \{(x, \tau) / 0 < x < s(\tau), 0 < \tau < t\}$, and $v(t) = u_x(s(t), t) = -\dot{s}(t)$ and $V(t) = u_x(0, t)$ must satisfy the following system of two Volterra integral equations

$$v(t) = 2[h(0) - f(0)]N(s(t), t; 0, 0) + \int_0^b N(s(t), t; \xi, 0)h'(\xi)d\xi \\ - 2 \int_0^t N(s(t), t; 0, \tau) \dot{f}(\tau)d\tau + 2 \int_0^t G_x(s(t), t; s(\tau), \tau)v(\tau)d\tau \\ + 2 \int_0^t [N(s(t), t; s(\tau), \tau) - N(s(t), t; 0, \tau)] F(V(\tau))d\tau, \\ V(t) = [h(0) - f(0)]N(0, t; 0, 0) + \int_0^b N(0, t; \xi, 0)h'(\xi)d\xi - \int_0^t N(0, t; 0, \tau) \dot{f}(\tau)d\tau \\ + \int_0^t G_x(0, t; s(\tau), \tau)v(\tau)d\tau + \int_0^t [N(0, t; s(\tau), \tau) - N(0, t; 0, \tau)] F(V(\tau))d\tau,$$

where G and N are the Green and Neumann functions of the heat equation in the quarter plane, defined previously in Section 1.

Proof. We compute $u_x(x, t)$, and their corresponding limits as $x \rightarrow 0^+$ and $x \rightarrow s(t)^-$. By using the jump relations [5], [14] the system of two Volterra integral equations holds.

The corresponding study of the existence and uniqueness of the solution will be given in a forthcoming paper.

Acknowledgments: This paper has been partially sponsored by CONICET - UA (Rosario, Argentina). This financial support was granted to the Project PIP No. 4798/96 "Free Boundary Problems for the Heat Equation".

References

- [1] E.K. Afenya - C.P. Calderon, *A remark on a nonlinear integral equation*, Rev. Un. Mat. Argentina, 39 (1995), 223-227.
- [2] L.R. Berrone - D. A. Tarzia - L. T. Villa, *Asymptotic behavior of a non-classical heat conduction problem for a semi-infinite material*, Math. Meth. Appl. Sci., 23 (2000), 1161-1177.

- [3] J.R. Cannon, *The one-dimensional heat equation*, Addison-Wesley, Menlo Park (1984).
- [4] J.R. Cannon - H.M. Yin, *A class of non-linear non-classical parabolic equations*, J. Diff. Eq., 79 (1989), 266-288.
- [5] A. Friedman, *Free boundary problems for parabolic equations I. Melting of solids*, J. Math. Mech., 8 (1959), 499-517.
- [6] K. Glashoff - J. Sprekels, *The regulation of temperature by thermostats and set-valued integral equations*, J. Integral Eq., 4 (1982), 95-112.
- [7] G. Gripenberg - S.O. Londen - O. Staffans, *Volterra integral and functional equations*, Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge (1990).
- [8] R. A. Handelsman - W. E. Olmstead, *Asymptotic solution to a class of nonlinear Volterra integral equations*, SIAM J. Appl. Math., 22 (1972), 373-384.
- [9] N. Kenmochi - M. Primicerio, *One-dimensional heat conduction with a class of automatic heat source controls*, IMA J. Appl. Math. 40 (1988), 205-216.
- [10] W. R. Mann - F. Wolf, *Heat transfer between solid and gases under nonlinear boundary conditions*, Quart. Appl. Math., 9 (1951), 163-184.
- [11] R. K. Miller, *Nonlinear Volterra integral equations*, W. A. Benjamin, Menlo Park (1971).
- [12] W. E. Olmstead - R. A. Handelsman, *Diffusion in a semi-infinite region with nonlinear surface dissipation*, SIAM Rev., 18 (1976), 275-291.
- [13] J. H. Roberts - W. R. Mann, *A certain nonlinear integral equation of the Volterra type*, Pacific J. Math., 1 (1951), 431-445.
- [14] L.I. Rubinstein, *The Stefan problem*, Trans. Math. Monographs # 27, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence (1971).
- [15] D. A. Tarzia, *An inequality for the coefficient σ of the free boundary $s(t) = 2\sigma\sqrt{t}$ of the Neumann solution for the two-phase Stefan problem*, Quart. Appl. Math., 39 (1981-82), 491-497.
- [16] D. A. Tarzia, *A bibliography on moving-free boundary problems for the heat-diffusion equation. The Stefan and related problems*, MAT-Serie A, Rosario, # 2 (2000), (with 5869 titles on the subject, 300 pages). See [www.austral.edu.ar/MAT-SerieA/2\(2000\)/](http://www.austral.edu.ar/MAT-SerieA/2(2000)/)
- [17] D. A. Tarzia - L. T. Villa, *Some nonlinear heat conduction problems for a semi-infinite strip with a non-uniform heat source*, Rev. Un. Mat. Argentina, 41 (2000), 99-114.
- [18] L. T. Villa, *Problemas de control para una ecuación unidimensional del calor*, Rev. Un. Mat. Argentina, 32 (1986), 163-169.