Numerical Differential Equations I Problem Set 4

(Out Wed 10/16/2019, Due Wed 10/30/2019)

Problem 8

We would like to investigate whether it is better to install a radiator under a window or at the opposite wall. Consider the evolution of temperature u(x, y, t) be described by the heat equation

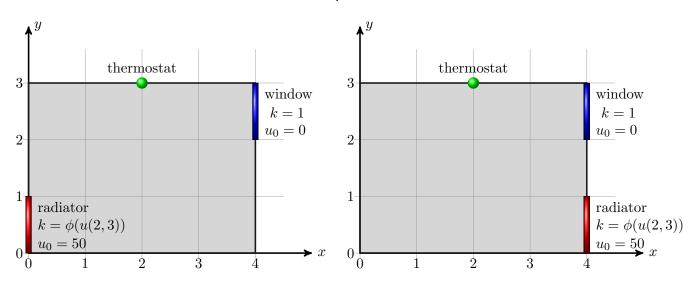
$$\begin{cases} u_t = \nabla^2 u & \text{in } \Omega \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = k(u_0 - u) & \text{on } \partial \Omega \\ u(x, y, 0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

in a 2D room $\Omega =]0, 4[\times]0, 3[$, where

- $u_0 = 0$ and k = 1 at a window $\{4\} \times [2, 3]$,
- $u_0 = 50$ and $k = \phi(u(2,3))$ at the radiator $\{0\} \times [0,1]$ or $\{4\} \times [0,1]$, and
- k = 0 (perfect insulation) everywhere else at the boundary.

The radiator's heating properties depend on the temperature at a thermostat via

$$\phi(u) = \begin{cases} 10 & u \le 20 \\ 0 & u > 20 \end{cases}.$$



- (1) Write a program that approximates the true solution with sufficient accuracy in space and time, and simulate both rooms.
- (2) In both rooms, plot the time evolution of the temperature at P = (1,2) and Q = (3,2). Choose the final time large enough that you see a time-periodic behavior towards the end.
- (3) What is the average temperature in each room (averaged over space and over one periodic cycle)?
- (4) Which room is more comfortable to be in, and why?
- (5) Which design is more energy efficient (the loss of energy is the integral over $\frac{\partial u}{\partial n}$ over the window)?