

Practice problems for Midterm 1

#1

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \square \\ \Omega \\ \Delta u = 0 \\ \square \\ 0 \end{array}$$

$$\Omega = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$$

a) Let $v, w, z: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be solutions to the following boundary value problems for the Laplace equation;

$$\begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \square \\ \Omega \\ \Delta v = 0 \\ \square \\ 0 \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \square \\ \Omega \\ \Delta w = 0 \\ \square \\ 1 \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \square \\ \Omega \\ \Delta z = 0 \\ \square \\ 0 \end{array}$$

By uniqueness of solutions, it follows that v, w, z can be obtained from u by composing with a rotation of the square Ω by $\frac{\pi}{2}$, π and $\frac{3\pi}{2}$ resp. about the central point $(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) \in \Omega$. In particular, $u(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) = v(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) = w(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) = z(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$. Moreover, by linearity (or the "principle of superposition"), we have that $\phi = u + v + w + z$ satisfies

$$\begin{array}{c} 1 \\ \square \\ \Delta \phi = 0 \\ \square \\ 1 \end{array} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \Delta \phi = 0 \text{ in } \Omega \\ \phi = 1 \text{ on } \partial \Omega \end{array} \right\}$$

By uniqueness of solutions, $\phi \equiv 1$ is a constant function, thus,

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \phi\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) = u\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) + v\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) + w\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) + z\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) \\ &= 4u\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $\boxed{u\left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{4}}$

b) By the maximum principle,

$$\max_{(x,y) \in \bar{\Omega}} u(x,y) = \max_{(x,y) \in \partial\Omega} u(x,y) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \min_{(x,y) \in \bar{\Omega}} u(x,y) = \min_{(x,y) \in \partial\Omega} u(x,y) = 0,$$

are attained at $\partial\Omega$.

#3 $u_t = u_{xx} + 4 \quad 0 < x < 1$

(BC) $u_x(0,t) = 5$
 $u_x(1,t) = \beta$

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

$$H(t) = \int_0^1 u(x,t) dx$$

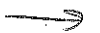
$$\begin{aligned} H'(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 u(x,t) dx = \int_0^1 u_t(x,t) dx = \int_0^1 (u_{xx}(x,t) + 4) dx \\ &= u_x(1,t) - u_x(0,t) + 4x \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \beta - 5 + 4 = \beta - 1 \end{aligned}$$

thus, $H(t) = (\beta - 1)t + H(0)$

where $H(0) = \int_0^1 u(x,0) dx = \int_0^1 f(x) dx,$

So $H(t) = (\beta - 1)t + \int_0^1 f(x) dx$

If the solution is an equilibrium, then $H(t) \equiv \text{const.}$, so we must have $\beta = 1$. (Let us see this in another way next)



$$\#2 \quad u_t = u_{xx} + 4$$

$$u_x(0,t) = 5$$

$$u_x(1,t) = \beta$$

If there is an equilibrium solution, then:

$$u_t(x,t) = 0 \Rightarrow u_{xx}(x,t) + 4 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u_x(x,t) = -4x + c$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x,t) = -2x^2 + cx + d$$

From $u_x(0,t) = 5$, we get $u_x(0,t) = \underline{c = 5}$.

From $u_x(1,t) = \beta$, it follows that

$$\beta = u_x(1,t) = -4 + c = \underline{1}$$

Thus $\beta = 1$ is a necessary condition for the existence of an equilibrium solution, which, up to the constant $d \in \mathbb{R}$, is given by

$$u(x,t) = -2x^2 + 5x + d$$

Remark: If we were given as (1c) $u(x,0) = f(x)$, then we could compute d in terms of $\int_0^1 f(x) dx$

$$\int_0^1 u(x,t) dx = \int_0^1 f(x) dx \Rightarrow \left(-\frac{2}{3}x^3 + \frac{5x^2}{2} + dx \right) \Big|_0^1 = \int_0^1 f(x) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{2}{3} + \frac{5}{2} + d = \int_0^1 f(x) dx \Rightarrow \boxed{d = -\frac{11}{6} + \int_0^1 f(x) dx}$$

#4. $u_t = 3u_{xx}, \quad 0 < x < 1$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} L=1 \\ k=3 \end{array} \right)$$

$$u(0,t) = u(1,t) = 0$$

$$u(x,0) = 2 \sin(\pi x) + 5 \sin(4\pi x)$$

By separation of variables, the general solution to the heat equation with Dirichlet boundary conditions is

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin(n\pi x) e^{-3(n\pi)^2 t}$$

Matching the initial condition, we get:

$$u(x,t) = 2 \sin(\pi x) e^{-3\pi^2 t} + 5 \sin(4\pi x) e^{-3 \cdot (4\pi)^2 t}$$

#5 $u_t = 3u_{xx}, \quad 0 < x < 1$

$$u_x(0,t) = u_x(1,t) = 0$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} L=1 \\ k=3 \end{array} \right)$$

$$u(x,0) = 2 + 3 \cos(4\pi x)$$

By separation of variables, the general solution to the heat equation with Neumann boundary conditions is:

$$u(x,t) = A_0 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \cos(n\pi x) e^{-3(n\pi)^2 t}$$

Matching the initial conditions, we get:

$$u(x,t) = 2 + 3 \cos(4\pi x) e^{-3(4\pi)^2 t}$$

#6 $u_{tt} = 4u_{xx} \quad 0 < x < 1$

$u(0,t) = u(1,t) = 0$

$\begin{pmatrix} L=1 \\ c=2 \end{pmatrix}$

$u(x,0) = 2 \sin(3\pi x) = f(x)$

$u_t(x,0) = 6 \sin(9\pi x) = g(x)$

By separation of variables, the general solution to the wave equation with Dirichlet conditions is

$$u(x,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(A_n \cos(2n\pi t) + B_n \sin(2n\pi t) \right) \sin(n\pi x)$$

Matching the initial conditions, we get:

$A_n = 2 \int_0^1 f(x) \sin(n\pi x) dx \implies A_3 = 2, \text{ all other } A_n = 0$

$B_n = \frac{2}{2n\pi} \int_0^1 g(x) \sin(n\pi x) dx \implies B_9 = \frac{1}{9\pi} \cdot 6 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{3\pi}$

Thus

$$u(x,t) = 2 \cos(6\pi t) \sin(3\pi x) + \frac{1}{3\pi} \sin(18\pi t) \sin(9\pi x)$$

#7 $u_{tt} = 4u_{xx}, \quad 0 < x < 1$

$u_x(0,t) = u_x(1,t) = 0$

$\begin{pmatrix} L=1 \\ c=2 \end{pmatrix}$

$u(x,0) = 1 + 2 \cos(3\pi x) = f(x)$

$u_t(x,0) = 2 + 6 \cos(9\pi x) = g(x)$

By separation of variables, the general solution to the wave equation with Neumann conditions is

$$u(x,t) = A_0 + B_0 t + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(A_n \cos(2n\pi t) + B_n \sin(2n\pi t) \right) \cos(n\pi x)$$

Matching the initial conditions, we get:

$$A_0 = 1$$

$$A_3 = 2$$

All other A_n and B_n
vanish.

$$B_0 = 2$$

$$B_9 = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 9\pi} \cdot 6 = \frac{1}{3\pi}$$

Thus,

$$u(x,t) = 1 + 2t + 2 \cos(6\pi t) \cos(3\pi x) + \frac{1}{3\pi} \sin(18\pi t) \cos(9\pi x)$$

$$\#8 \quad u_{tt} = 4u_{xx} \quad -\infty < x < \infty \quad (c=2)$$

$$u(x,0) = 2 \sin(3\pi x) = f(x)$$

$$u_t(x,0) = 6 \sin(9\pi x) = g(x)$$

By the d'Alembert solution,

$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2} (f(x+2t) + f(x-2t)) + \frac{1}{4} \int_{x-2t}^{x+2t} g(y) dy$$

So

$$u(x,t) = \sin(3\pi(x+2t)) + \sin(3\pi(x-2t)) + \frac{3}{2} \int_{x-2t}^{x+2t} \sin(9\pi y) dy$$

$$= \sin(3\pi x + 6\pi t) + \sin(3\pi x - 6\pi t) - \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{1}{9\pi} \cos(9\pi y) \Big|_{x-2t}^{x+2t} \right)$$

$$= \sin(3\pi x + 6\pi t) + \sin(3\pi x - 6\pi t) - \frac{1}{6\pi} (\cos(9\pi x + 18\pi t) - \cos(9\pi x - 18\pi t))$$

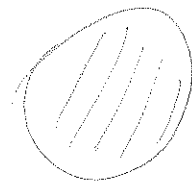
↑ this answer is already fine, no need to simplify further...

$$u(x,t) = 2 \sin(3\pi x) \cos(6\pi t) + \frac{1}{3\pi} \sin(9\pi x) \sin(18\pi t)$$

Remark: Compare with the solution to #6.

#9 $\Delta u = 0$ on disk of radius 1

$$u(1, \theta) = 7 + 9 \cos \theta, \quad |u(0, \theta)| < \infty$$



By separation of variables, the general solution is

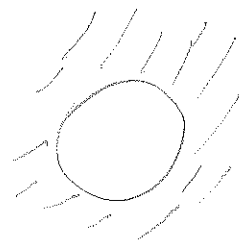
$$u(r, \theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n r^n \cos(n\theta) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n r^n \sin(n\theta)$$

Matching the boundary condition, $A_0 = 7$, $A_1 = 9$, all other A_n and B_n vanish. Thus,

$$u(r, \theta) = 7 + 9r \cos \theta$$

#10 $\Delta u = 0$ on outside of disk of radius 1

$$u(1, \theta) = 7 + 9 \cos \theta, \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} |u(r, \theta)| < \infty.$$



By separation of variables, the general solution is:

$$u(r, \theta) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n r^{-n} \cos(n\theta) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n r^{-n} \sin(n\theta)$$

Matching the boundary condition, $A_0 = 7$, $A_1 = 9$, all other A_n and B_n vanish. Thus,

$$u(r, \theta) = 7 + \frac{9}{r} \cos \theta$$

Remark: Notice that the max and min of $u(r, \theta)$ on both #9 and #10 are resp. 16 and -2, and achieved (only) at the boundary ($r=1$), as predicted by the maximum principle. Also, $u(0, \theta) = 7$ on #9, and the average value of $u(1, \theta) = 7 + \cos \theta$ is exactly 7, cf. Mean Value Property.

$$\#11 \quad \begin{cases} X''''(x) = \lambda X(x), & \lambda > 0 \\ X(0) = X(L) = 0 \\ X''(0) = X''(L) = 0 \end{cases}$$

The roots of the assoc. polynomial are $\pm\sqrt[4]{\lambda}$ and $\pm i\sqrt[4]{\lambda}$.

Let us call $\alpha = \sqrt[4]{\lambda}$, so these are $\pm\alpha$ and $\pm i\alpha$.

Then the basic solutions to the ODE $X'''' = \lambda X$ are

$$X_1(x) = e^{\alpha x}, \quad X_2(x) = e^{-\alpha x}, \quad X_3(x) = \cos(\alpha x), \quad X_4(x) = \sin(\alpha x)$$

Thus the general solution is:

$$X(x) = c_1 e^{\alpha x} + c_2 e^{-\alpha x} + c_3 \cos(\alpha x) + c_4 \sin(\alpha x)$$

From $X(0) = 0$ and $X''(0) = 0$ we get:

$$0 = X(0) = c_1 + c_2 + c_3$$

$$0 = X''(0) = \alpha^2 c_1 + \alpha^2 c_2 - \alpha^2 c_3 = \alpha^2 (c_1 + c_2 - c_3)$$

Thus $c_3 = c_1 + c_2 = -c_3$, so $\boxed{c_3 = 0}$ and $\boxed{c_1 + c_2 = 0}$

From $X(L) = 0$ and $X''(L) = 0$, we get:

$$0 = X(L) = c_1 e^{\alpha L} - c_1 e^{-\alpha L} + c_4 \sin(\alpha L)$$

$$0 = X''(L) = \alpha^2 c_1 e^{\alpha L} - \alpha^2 c_1 e^{-\alpha L} - \alpha^2 c_4 \sin(\alpha L) = \alpha^2 (c_1 e^{\alpha L} - c_1 e^{-\alpha L} - c_4 \sin(\alpha L))$$

$$\text{Thus } c_4 \sin(\alpha L) = c_1 e^{\alpha L} - c_1 e^{-\alpha L} = -c_4 \sin(\alpha L)$$

Thus $c_4 \sin(\alpha L) = 0$ and $c_1 (e^{\alpha L} - e^{-\alpha L}) = 0$, so since c

$\alpha \neq 0$ and $L \neq 0$, it follows that $\boxed{c_1 = 0}$ and $\boxed{\alpha L = n\pi}$ for some $n \in \mathbb{Z}$,

Thus $\alpha = \frac{n\pi}{L}$, which means that $\lambda = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^4$.

Moreover, $c_1 = 0$, hence $c_2 = 0$, and also we had $c_3 = 0$. So the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of this problem are:

$$\lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^4, \quad \phi_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right)$$

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

#12 $u_t + u_{xxxx} = 0, \quad 0 < x < L$

(Bc) $u(0,t) = u(L,t) = 0$
 $u_{xx}(0,t) = u_{xx}(L,t) = 0.$

To apply separation of variables, we look for solutions of the form $u(x,t) = X(x)T(t)$. The PDE then becomes

$$XT' + X''''T = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{T'}{T} = -\frac{X''''}{X} = -\lambda$$

function of t only
separation constant.
function of x only

$$\begin{cases} X'''' = \lambda X \\ T' = -\lambda T \end{cases}$$

The (Bc) give that either $T \equiv 0$ or $\begin{cases} X(0) = X(L) = 0 \\ X''(0) = X''(L) = 0 \end{cases}$.

thus, we have the eigenvalue problem from #11, whose eigenvalues and eigenfunctions are

$$\lambda_n = \left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^4, \quad \phi_n(x) = \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right), \quad n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

the solution of the equation for $T(t)$ is

$$T(t) = ce^{-\lambda t} = ce^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^4 t}$$

Therefore, we get solutions to our original problem:

$$u_n(x, t) = X_n(x)T_n(t) = B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^4 t}$$

By linearity (or the "principle of superposition"), the general solution to our original problem is:

$$u(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(x, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L}\right) e^{-\left(\frac{n\pi}{L}\right)^4 t}$$