

MATHEMATICAL TRIPOS      Part III

---

Friday, 5 June, 2009    9:00 am to 11:00 am

---

PAPER 71

A UNIFIED APPROACH TO BOUNDARY VALUE PROBLEMS

*Attempt no more than **TWO** questions.*

*There are **THREE** questions in total.*

*The questions carry equal weight.*

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

*Cover sheet*

*Treasury Tag*

*Script paper*

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**

*None*

**You may not start to read the questions  
printed on the subsequent pages until  
instructed to do so by the Invigilator.**

1 Let  $q(x, y)$  satisfy the following initial-boundary value problem:

$$q_t + q_x + q_{xxx} = 0, \quad 0 < x < \infty, \quad t > 0,$$

$$q(x, 0) = q_0(x), \quad 0 < x < \infty,$$

$$q(0, t) = g_0(t), \quad t > 0,$$

where  $q_0(x)$  has sufficient decay as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $q_0(x)$  and  $g_0(t)$  have sufficient smoothness and  $q_0(0) = g_0(0)$ .

Assume that  $q(x, t)$  has sufficient decay for all  $t$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$ .

(a) Write the above PDE in the form

$$\left( e^{-ikx + \omega(k)t} q \right)_t + \left( e^{-ikx + \omega(k)t} X \right)_x = 0, \quad k \in \mathbb{C},$$

where  $\omega(k)$  and  $X(x, t, k)$  are to be determined.

(b) Find an integral representation for  $q(x, t)$  in the complex  $k$ -plane involving appropriate transforms of  $q_0(x)$ ,  $g_0(t)$ ,  $q_x(0, t)$  and  $q_{xx}(0, t)$ .

(c) Use the associated global relation to eliminate the transforms of  $q_x(0, t)$  and  $q_{xx}(0, t)$  and hence obtain an integral representation for  $q(x, t)$  involving only transforms of  $q_0(x)$  and  $g_0(t)$ .

(d) Prove that the expression obtained in (c) solves the above initial-boundary value problem.

**2** Let  $\Omega$  be the interior of a convex polygon in the complex  $z$ -plane with corners  $z_1, \dots, z_n$ . Recall that if  $q$  satisfies Laplace's equation for  $z \in \Omega$ , then

$$q_z = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{j=1}^n \int_{l_j} e^{ikz} \hat{q}_j(k) dk, \quad z \in \Omega,$$

where

$$\hat{q}_j(k) = \int_{z_{j+1}}^{z_j} e^{-ikz} q_z dz, \quad j = 1, \dots, n, \quad z_{n+1} = z_1,$$

and  $\{l_j\}_1^n$  are the  $n$ -rays from the origin to infinity defined by

$$l_j = \{k \in \mathbb{C} : \arg k = -\arg(z_j - z_{j+1})\}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n, \quad z_{n+1} = z_1.$$

Using the above result, find an integral representation for  $q_z$  in the case that  $\Omega$  is the interior of the first quadrant of the complex  $z$ -plane and  $q$  satisfies the following boundary conditions:

$$-q_x(0, y) \sin \beta_1 + q_y(0, y) \cos \beta_1 = g_1(y), \quad 0 < y < \infty,$$

$$-q_y(x, 0) \sin \beta_2 + q_x(x, 0) \cos \beta_2 = g_2(x), \quad 0 < x < \infty,$$

where the complex-valued functions  $g_1(y)$  and  $g_2(x)$  have sufficient smoothness and decay and the real constants  $\beta_1, \beta_2$  satisfy

$$0 \leq \beta_1 < \pi, \quad 0 \leq \beta_2 < \pi, \quad \beta_1 + \beta_2 = \frac{n\pi}{2}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, 3.$$

*Hint:* You may find convenient to introduce the following unknown functions

$$u_1(y) = -q_y(0, y) \sin \beta_1 - q_x(0, y) \cos \beta_1, \quad 0 < y < \infty,$$

$$u_2(x) = q_x(x, 0) \sin \beta_2 + q_y(x, 0) \cos \beta_2, \quad 0 < x < \infty.$$

**3** Obtain an integral representation for the solution of the following initial-boundary value problem:

$$q_t = q_{xx} + \alpha q_x, \quad 0 < x < \infty, \quad t > 0,$$

$$q(x, 0) = e^{-ax}, \quad 0 < x < \infty,$$

$$q(0, t) = \cos t, \quad t > 0,$$

where  $\alpha$  and  $a$  are positive constants and  $\alpha \neq a$ .

Use appropriate contour deformation to obtain an integrand which decays exponentially for large  $k$ .

Suppose that  $\exp(-ax)$  is replaced with  $q_0(x)$ , where  $q_0(x)$  has sufficient decay. Can this problem be solved by an  $x$ -sine transform?

**END OF PAPER**