

MATHEMATICAL TRIPOS      Part III

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Tuesday, 7 June, 2022    9:00 am to 12:00 pm

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PAPER 105

ANALYSIS OF PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

Before you begin please read these instructions carefully

Candidates have THREE HOURS to complete the written examination.

Attempt **QUESTION 1** and no more than **TWO** other questions.

There are **FOUR** questions in total.

Question 1 is worth 40% of the total marks. Questions 2, 3 and 4 carry equal weight.

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

Cover sheet  
Treasury tag  
Script paper  
Rough 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 You should attempt **all parts** of this question.

a) Consider the heat equation for  $(t, x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^3$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2},$$

with the following data:

$$u|_{\Sigma} = u_0, \quad \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu} \right|_{\Sigma} = u_1,$$

where  $\Sigma \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  is a real analytic hypersurface with unit normal  $\nu$ , and  $u_0, u_1 : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are real analytic. Find a condition on  $\Sigma$  such that a real analytic solution to this problem exists in a neighbourhood of  $\Sigma$ , clearly identifying any theorems you apply.

b) State the Lax–Milgram theorem. Explain briefly how the theorem may be used to find solutions to the following PDE problem:

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta u + u_{x_n} + u = f & \text{in } U, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial U, \end{cases}$$

where  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is an open, bounded set and  $f \in L^2(U)$  is given.

You may state without justification the weak formulation of this problem.

c) Let  $U, V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be open with  $V \subset\subset U$ . For  $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , define the  $i^{\text{th}}$  difference quotient  $\Delta_i^h u(x) := h^{-1} [u(x + he_i) - u(x)]$  for  $x \in V$ ,  $0 < |h| < \text{dist}(V, \partial U)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

i) Show that if  $u \in H^1(U)$ , then

$$\left\| \Delta_i^h u \right\|_{L^2(V)} \leq \|D_i u\|_{L^2(U)}, \quad \text{for all } 0 < |h| < \frac{1}{2} \text{dist}(V, \partial U), \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

ii) Suppose  $u \in L^2(U)$  satisfies

$$\left\| \Delta_i^h u \right\|_{L^2(V)} \leq C, \quad \text{for all } 0 < |h| < \frac{1}{2} \text{dist}(V, \partial U), \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Show that  $u \in H^1(V)$  with  $\|D_i u\|_{L^2(V)} \leq C$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

d) State the Rellich–Kondrachov theorem for  $H^1(U)$ , where  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is open and bounded, with smooth boundary. Give an example to show that the assumption that  $U$  be bounded is necessary.

[40]

2 You should attempt **at most two** from questions 2, 3, 4.

Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be open, connected, and bounded, with smooth boundary. Let

$$H = \left\{ u \in H^1(U) : \int_U u(x) dx = 0 \right\}.$$

- a) Show that  $H$  is a Hilbert space when equipped with the standard  $H^1$ -inner product.  
 b) Show that there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that

$$\|u\|_{L^2(U)} \leq C \|Du\|_{L^2(U)}, \quad \text{for all } u \in H.$$

You may assume the Rellich–Kondrachov theorem.

[Hint: assume for contradiction that the result is false, and consider a sequence  $(u_i)_{i=1}^\infty$  with  $u_i \in H$  satisfying  $\|u_i\|_{L^2} > i \|Du_i\|_{L^2}$ .]

- c) Suppose that there exist  $w \in H$  and  $\gamma > 0$  such that:

$$\|u\|_{L^2(U)} \leq \gamma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \|Du\|_{L^2(U)}, \quad \text{for all } u \in H,$$

with equality for  $u = w$ . By considering  $u = w + tv$  for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $v \in H$ , show that

$$0 \leq 2t [(Dw, Dv)_{L^2} - \gamma(w, v)_{L^2}] + t^2 [\|Dv\|_{L^2(U)}^2 - \gamma\|v\|_{L^2(U)}^2].$$

Deduce that  $w$  is the weak solution to the PDE problem:

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta w = \gamma w & \text{in } U, \\ \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} = 0 & \text{on } \partial U, \\ \int_U w(x) dx = 0. \end{cases}$$

[30]

**3** You should attempt **at most two** from questions 2, 3, 4.

- a) Prove the Lax–Milgram theorem for a bilinear form  $B$  defined on a real Hilbert space  $H$ .
- b) Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be open and bounded with  $C^\infty$  boundary, and let  $A : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \text{Mat}(2 \times 2)$  be a real-valued matrix whose components are  $C^\infty(\bar{U})$ . Consider the system of elliptic equations

$$-\Delta\phi + A\phi = F \quad \text{in } U, \quad (1)$$

where  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  are the unknowns,  $\Delta = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2}$  is the usual Laplacian acting on each component of  $\phi$ , and  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is given. We suppose that  $\phi$  is subject to the boundary conditions

$$\phi = (0 \ 0)^T \quad \text{on } \partial U. \quad (2)$$

- (i) Define a *weak solution* for the equations (1) subject to the boundary conditions (2), clearly identifying the space to which  $\phi$  belongs.

*Hint: it may be useful to use the notation  $v \in V^2$  to denote a vector  $v = (v_1 \ v_2)^T$  whose components  $v_1, v_2$  lie in a space  $V$ .*

- (ii) Show that if a weak solution is such that each component of  $\phi$  is in  $C^2(\bar{U})$ , then the equations (1), (2) hold classically.
- (iii) The *formal adjoint*  $P^\dagger$  of a linear differential operator  $P$  is defined to satisfy

$$(Pu, v)_{L^2(U)} = (u, P^\dagger v)_{L^2(U)} \quad \forall u, v \in C_c^\infty(U).$$

Compute the formal adjoint for the operator  $L = -\Delta + A$  appearing in (1) and show that  $L = L^\dagger$  if and only if the matrix  $A$  is symmetric.

- (iv) Suppose that  $A$  is a positive semi-definite matrix. Show that the equations (1), (2) admit a unique weak solution for any  $F$  in an appropriate space that you should specify. [30]

4 You should attempt **at most two** from questions 2, 3, 4.

Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  be open, and bounded with smooth boundary, and let  $T > 0$  be fixed. Define  $U_T := (0, T) \times U$ ,  $\Sigma_t := \{t\} \times U$ ,  $\partial^*U_T := [0, T] \times \partial U$ . Given  $\psi \in L^2(U)$  and  $f \in L^2(U_T)$ , a weak solution to the linear heat equation

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \Delta u + f & \text{in } U_T \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial^*U_T \\ u = \psi & \text{on } \Sigma_0 \end{cases} \quad (\diamond)$$

is a function  $u \in L^2((0, T); H_0^1(U))$  such that

$$\int_{U_T} (-uv_t + Du \cdot Dv) dx dt = \int_{\Sigma_0} \psi v dx + \int_{U_T} f v dx dt$$

holds for all  $v \in H^1(U_T)$  with  $v = 0$  on  $\Sigma_T$ . You may assume that for any  $\psi \in H_0^1(U)$  and  $f \in L^2(U_T)$ , a unique weak solution exists satisfying

$$\|u\|_{L_t^\infty H_x^1} := \operatorname{ess\,sup}_{t \in (0, T)} \|u(t, \cdot)\|_{H^1(U)} \leq \alpha(\|\psi\|_{H^1(U)} + \|f\|_{L^2(U_T)}),$$

for some constant  $\alpha$  depending only on  $U, T$ .

a) Let  $w \in L^\infty((0, T); H_0^1(U))$ . Show that  $w^3 \in L^2(U_T)$  with

$$\|w^3\|_{L^2(U_T)} \leq \beta T^{\frac{1}{2}} \|w\|_{L_t^\infty H_x^1}^3$$

for some  $\beta > 0$  depending only on  $U$ . If, further,  $\tilde{w} \in L^\infty((0, T); H_0^1(U))$ , show that

$$\|w^3 - \tilde{w}^3\|_{L^2(U_T)} \leq \gamma T^{\frac{1}{2}} \|w - \tilde{w}\|_{L_t^\infty H_x^1} (\|w\|_{L_t^\infty H_x^1}^2 + \|\tilde{w}\|_{L_t^\infty H_x^1}^2)$$

for some  $\gamma > 0$  depending only on  $U$ .

b) Fix  $\psi \in H_0^1(U)$ . Let  $X_{b, \tau} = \{u \in L^\infty((0, \tau); H_0^1(U)) : \|u\|_{L_t^\infty H_x^1} \leq b\}$ . Let  $A$  be the map which takes  $w \in X_{b, \tau}$  to the unique weak solution in  $L^\infty((0, \tau); H_0^1(U))$  of  $(\diamond)$  with  $f$  given by  $f = -w^3$ . Show that  $A : X_{b, \tau} \rightarrow X_{b, \tau}$  is a contraction map provided  $b > 0$  is sufficiently large and  $0 < \tau < T$  is sufficiently small.

c) Deduce that the nonlinear heat equation:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \Delta u - u^3 & \text{in } U_\tau \\ u = 0 & \text{on } \partial^*U_\tau \\ u = \psi & \text{on } \Sigma_0 \end{cases}$$

has a weak solution  $u \in L^\infty((0, \tau); H_0^1(U))$ , provided  $\tau$  is sufficiently small.

[30]

**END OF PAPER**