

Homework Assignment 2

Math 776
Due Wednesday October 9

From Evans' textbook, please do the following problems:

1. Write down an explicit formula for a solution of

$$\begin{aligned}u_t - \Delta u + cu &= f, \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty) \\ u &= g, \quad \text{on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{t = 0\},\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

where $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

2. (Equipartition of energy). Let $u \in C^2(\mathbb{R} \times [0, \infty))$ solve the initial-value problem for the wave equation in one-dimension. Suppose that the initial position of the solution, $g(x)$, and the initial velocity, $h(x)$, have compact support. The *kinetic energy* is $k(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u_t^2(x, t) dx$ and the *potential energy* is $p(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u_x^2(x, t) dx$. Prove that $k(t) = p(t)$ for all t sufficiently large. (Can you interpret the meaning of the smallest value T such that $k(t) = p(t)$ for all $t \geq T$?)

3. Use the method of characteristics to solve the following first order partial differential equations:

(a) $x_1 u_{x_1} + x_2 u_{x_2} = 2u, \quad u(x_1, 1) = g(x_1).$

(b) $u u_{x_1} + u_{x_2} = 1, \quad u(x_1, x_1) = x_1/2.$

(c) $x_1 u_{x_1} + 2x_2 u_{x_2} + u_{x_3} = 3u, \quad u(x_1, x_2, 0) = g(x_1, x_2).$

Then solve:

4. Consider the one-dimensional heat-equation on the half-line $x > 0$, with a perfectly insulating boundary condition at the origin - *i.e.* we assume that $u_x(0, t) = 0$ for all $t \geq 0$. If $u(x, 0) = g(x)$, for $x > 0$, show that one can write the solution of the initial value problem as

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi t}} \int_0^{\infty} [e^{-(x-y)^2/(4t)} + e^{-(x+y)^2/(4t)}] g(y) dy.$$

5. Let Ω be a bounded region in \mathbb{R}^2 with smooth boundary. The motion of a thin, vibrating plate with shape Ω and clamped edges is approximated by the equation

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} &= -\Delta^2 u \\ u(x, t) &= 0 \quad \text{for } x \in \partial\Omega \\ Du(x, t) \cdot \hat{n} &= 0 \quad \text{for } x \in \partial\Omega\end{aligned}$$

where \hat{n} is the outward pointing unit normal vector on the boundary of Ω . Show that if we specify initial conditions $u(x, 0) = g(x)$, $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x, 0) = h(x)$, this problem has at most one

solution. (*Hint:* Try to find a conserved “energy” for this problem.) Note the “bi-Laplacian” operator $\Delta^2 u = \Delta(\Delta u) = \partial_x^4 u + 2\partial_x^2 \partial_y^2 u + \partial_y^4 u$ in dimension two.

6. Suppose that $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R})$ and $g \in C_c^\infty(\mathbb{R})$. Show that the convolution of f and g

$$f * g(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x-y)g(y)dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(z)g(x-z)dz , \quad (2)$$

is in $C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$.

Hint: Use the dominated convergence theorem to establish that $f * g \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$ and then use an induction argument.