

Part I

(i) This is a standard calculus exercise. On use of integration by parts, twice, it can be shown that

$$I_+(n) = \frac{n\pi(1 - e(-1)^n)}{1 + (n\pi)^2}, \quad I_-(n) = \frac{n\pi(1 - e^{-1}(-1)^n)}{1 + (n\pi)^2}.$$

(ii) Writing

$$\sinh y = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} c_m \sin(m\pi y)$$

and multiplying by $\sin(n\pi y)$ and integrating over the interval $[0, 1]$ we find

$$\int_0^1 \sinh y \sin(n\pi y) dy = \int_0^1 \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} c_m \sin(m\pi y) \sin(n\pi y) dy$$

giving

$$\frac{c_n}{2} = \frac{I_+(n) - I_-(n)}{2}, \quad \text{or} \quad c_n = I_+(n) - I_-(n). \quad (1)$$

Similarly, writing

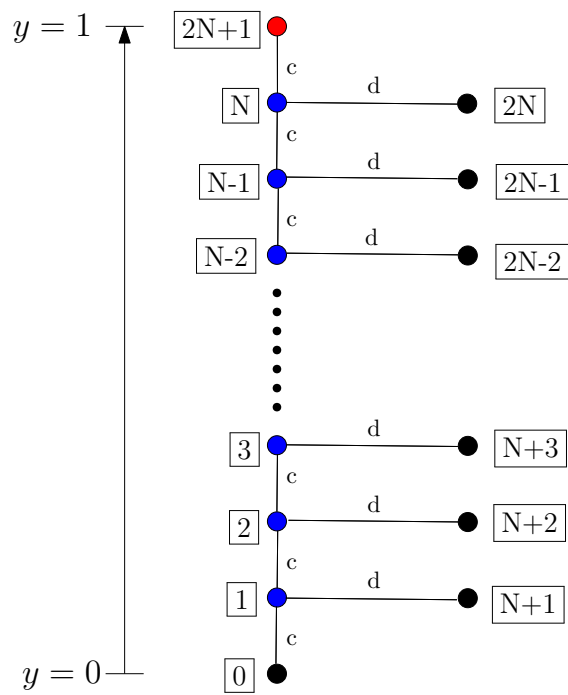
$$\cosh y = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} d_m \sin(m\pi y)$$

we find

$$\frac{d_n}{2} = \frac{I_+(n) + I_-(n)}{2}, \quad \text{or} \quad d_n = I_+(n) + I_-(n). \quad (2)$$

Part II

(a) For the graph



the generalized Laplacian can be found using the usual construction, and using the node ordering given in the question, to be

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} c\mathbf{K}_N + d\mathbf{I}_N & -d\mathbf{I}_N & -c\mathbf{P} \\ -d\mathbf{I}_N & d\mathbf{I}_N & \mathbf{0} \\ -c\mathbf{P}^T & \mathbf{0} & c\mathbf{I}_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

where the N -by-2 matrix

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(b) The subsystem to solve for $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ can therefore be found to be

$$(c\mathbf{K}_N + d\mathbf{I}_N)\hat{\mathbf{x}} = c\mathbf{P}\mathbf{e} = c \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}. \quad (3)$$

On division by c , and introduction of $\mu = d/c$, this becomes

$$(\mathbf{K}_N + \mu\mathbf{I}_N)\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It is known from lectures that the matrix

$$\mathbf{K}_N = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad N \geq 2$$

has orthonormal eigenvectors

$$\Phi_m = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N+1}} \begin{pmatrix} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{N+1}\right) \\ \sin\left(\frac{2m\pi}{N+1}\right) \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \sin\left(\frac{nm\pi}{N+1}\right) \end{pmatrix}, \quad m = 1, \dots, N$$

with corresponding eigenvalues

$$\lambda_m = 2 - 2\cos\left(\frac{\pi m}{N+1}\right).$$

Therefore, write

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \sum_{j=1}^N a_j \Phi_j \quad (4)$$

for some coefficients $\{a_j | j = 1, \dots, N\}$ to be found. On substitution into (3), we find

$$(\mathbf{K}_N + \mu \mathbf{I}_N) \hat{\mathbf{x}} = (\mathbf{K}_N + \mu \mathbf{I}_N) \sum_{j=1}^N a_j \boldsymbol{\Phi}_j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

or, using the properties of the eigenvectors,

$$\sum_{j=1}^N (\lambda_j + \mu) a_j \boldsymbol{\Phi}_j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now multiply this equation by $\boldsymbol{\Phi}_m^T$ and use the orthonormality of the eigenvectors:

$$\sum_{j=1}^N (\lambda_j + \mu) a_j \boldsymbol{\Phi}_m^T \boldsymbol{\Phi}_j = \boldsymbol{\Phi}_m^T \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N+1}} \sin\left(\frac{Nm\pi}{N+1}\right). \quad (5)$$

Since $\boldsymbol{\Phi}_m^T \boldsymbol{\Phi}_j = \delta_{mj}$ we infer that

$$a_m = \sqrt{\frac{2}{N+1}} \frac{1}{(\mu + \lambda_m)} \sin\left(\frac{Nm\pi}{N+1}\right)$$

so that

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}} = \sum_{m=1}^N \sqrt{\frac{2}{N+1}} \frac{1}{(\mu + \lambda_m)} \sin\left(\frac{Nm\pi}{N+1}\right) \boldsymbol{\Phi}_m. \quad (6)$$

Hence

$$\phi_n = \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{2}{N+1} \frac{1}{(\mu + \lambda_m)} \sin\left(\frac{Nm\pi}{N+1}\right) \sin\left(\frac{nm\pi}{N+1}\right)$$

or, on use of the trigonometric identity,

$$\sin\left(\frac{Nm\pi}{N+1}\right) = (-1)^{m+1} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{N+1}\right)$$

we can write this as

$$\phi_n = \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{2}{N+1} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{(\mu + \lambda_m)} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{N+1}\right) \sin\left(\frac{nm\pi}{N+1}\right). \quad (7)$$

(c) Using the “weighted mean value property” (which is just current balance at the internal nodes) we arrive at the recurrence relation

$$(2c + d)\phi_n = c\phi_{n+1} + c\phi_{n-1}$$

or

$$\phi_{n+1} - (2 + \mu)\phi_n + \phi_{n-1} = 0.$$

This is a constant-coefficient recurrence relation so therefore try solutions of the form $\phi_n = A\lambda^n$. It has general solution

$$\phi_n = C_1\lambda_+^n + C_2\lambda_-^n,$$

where

$$\lambda_{\pm}(\mu) = \frac{2 + \mu \pm \sqrt{4\mu + \mu^2}}{2} \quad (8)$$

(these are the two roots of $\lambda^2 - (2 + \mu)\lambda + 1 = 0$) and where we fix the constants C_1 and C_2 using the boundary conditions $\phi_0 = 0$ and “ $\phi_{N+1} = 0$ ” (where the inverted commas are there because we have slightly abused notation because the end node is really the node labelled $\boxed{2N+1}$ in the diagram). This leads to

$$\phi_n = \frac{\lambda_+(\mu)^n - \lambda_-(\mu)^n}{\lambda_+(\mu)^{N+1} - \lambda_-(\mu)^{N+1}}. \quad (9)$$

4 marks

(d) By the uniqueness theorem, the results in (7) and (9) must correspond. This gives the discrete identity

$$\phi_n = \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{2}{N+1} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{(\mu + \lambda_m)} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{N+1}\right) \sin\left(\frac{nm\pi}{N+1}\right) = \frac{\lambda_+(\mu)^n - \lambda_-(\mu)^n}{\lambda_+(\mu)^{N+1} - \lambda_-(\mu)^{N+1}}. \quad (10)$$

(e) We now take the continuum limit of both sides of this discrete identity.

Left hand side: Suppose we now think of $\phi_n = \Phi(y_n)$ where $y_n = n/(N+1)$ then we can write (7) as

$$\Phi(y_n) = \sum_{m=1}^N \frac{2}{N+1} \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{(\mu + \lambda_m)} \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{N+1}\right) \sin(m\pi y_n).$$

With $\mu = 1/(N+1)^2$ and on noting that for any fixed m , as N gets large

$$\lambda_m + \mu = 2 - 2 \cos\left(\frac{\pi m}{N+1}\right) + \frac{1}{(N+1)^2} \approx \frac{(\pi m)^2 + 1}{(N+1)^2}, \quad \sin\left(\frac{m\pi}{N+1}\right) \approx \frac{m\pi}{N+1}$$

then in the limit $N \rightarrow \infty$, we find that, as $N \rightarrow \infty$ and renaming $y_n \mapsto y$, (11) has the limit

$$\Phi(y) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+1} \frac{2m\pi}{1 + (m\pi)^2} \sin(m\pi y). \quad (11)$$

Right hand side: With $\mu = 1/(N+1)^2$ then as N gets large

$$\lambda_{\pm}(\mu) \approx 1 \pm \frac{1}{N+1} + \dots$$

Hence, since $n = y_n(N+1)$, we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_n = \Phi(y_n) &= \frac{\lambda_+(\mu)^n - \lambda_-(\mu)^n}{\lambda_+(\mu)^{N+1} - \lambda_-(\mu)^{N+1}} \\ &\approx \frac{(1 + 1/(N+1))^{(N+1)y_n} - (1 - 1/(N+1))^{(N+1)y_n}}{(1 + 1/(N+1))^{N+1} - (1 - 1/(N+1))^{N+1}} \\ &= \frac{((1 + 1/(N+1))^{N+1})^{y_n} - ((1 - 1/(N+1))^{N+1})^{y_n}}{(1 + 1/(N+1))^{N+1} - (1 - 1/(N+1))^{N+1}} \rightarrow \frac{\sinh y_n}{\sinh 1}, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the fact that

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 \pm \frac{1}{N+1}\right)^{N+1} = e^{\pm 1}.$$

Renaming $y_n \mapsto y$,

$$\Phi(y) = \frac{\sinh y}{\sinh 1}. \quad (12)$$

In summary, the continuous version of the identity is therefore

$$\frac{\sinh y}{\sinh 1} = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+1} \frac{2m\pi}{1 + (m\pi)^2} \sin(m\pi y).$$

Note: A check on the analysis in Part II can be made by referring to the answer in Part I where the Fourier sine series of $\sinh y$ is found to be

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sinh y &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (I_+(n) - I_-(n)) \sin(n\pi y) \\
 &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{n\pi(1 - e(-1)^n)}{1 + (n\pi)^2} - \frac{n\pi(1 - e^{-1}(-1)^n)}{1 + (n\pi)^2} \right) \sin(n\pi y) \\
 &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(\frac{n\pi(e(-1)^{n+1})}{1 + (n\pi)^2} - \frac{n\pi(e^{-1}(-1)^{n+1})}{1 + (n\pi)^2} \right) \sin(n\pi y) \\
 &= \sinh 1 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{2n\pi(-1)^{n+1}}{1 + (n\pi)^2} \sin(n\pi y)
 \end{aligned}$$

leaving

$$\frac{\sinh y}{\sinh 1} = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} (-1)^{m+1} \frac{2m\pi}{1 + (m\pi)^2} \sin(m\pi y)$$

which is the same identity as found in Part II.