

Given:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = \nabla \cdot \nabla u = f(x, y, z) \text{ in } \Omega$$

Boundary conditions:

$$u = g \text{ on } \Gamma$$

Not homogeneous so use $L = \nabla^2$. This is clearly a linear and self adjoint operator so check positiveness.

$$\int_{\Omega} u L u \, d\Omega = \int_{\Omega} \nabla^2 u^2 \, d\Omega \geq 0$$

$$J(u) = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} (u - g)(Lu + Lg) \, d\Omega - \int_{\Omega} u f \, d\Omega = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} (u - g)(\nabla^2 u + \nabla^2 g) \, d\Omega - \int_{\Omega} \nabla^2 u^2 \, d\Omega$$