

HW4

October 10, 2025

In what follows, $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ will be a bounded domain, $T > 0$, and the parabolic interior Ω_T and boundary $\partial_p \Omega_T$ are given by

$$\Omega_T = (0, T] \times \Omega, \quad \partial_p \Omega_T = ([0, T] \times \partial\Omega) \cup (\{0\} \times \Omega).$$

Exercise 1 Consider the differential operator

$$(\mathcal{L}u)(t, x) = -\Delta u(t, x) + c(x)u(t, x),$$

where $c : \Omega \rightarrow [-M, +\infty)$ is continuous, $M \geq 0$. The goal is to establish the following **weak maximum principle**: if $u \in \mathcal{C}^{1,2}(\Omega_T) \cap \mathcal{C}(\overline{\Omega_T})$ and

$$(\partial_t + \mathcal{L})u \geq 0 \text{ in } \Omega_T, \quad \min_{\partial_p \Omega_T} u \geq 0 \implies \min_{\overline{\Omega_T}} u \geq 0. \quad (0.1)$$

1. Prove (0.1) under the condition $(\partial_t + \mathcal{L})u > 0$ in Ω_T and $M = 0$.
2. Prove (0.1) under the condition $(\partial_t + \mathcal{L})u \geq 0$ in Ω_T and $M = 0$.

Hint: consider $u_\varepsilon(t, x) = u(t, x) - t\varepsilon$.

3. Prove (0.1) under the condition $(\partial_t + \mathcal{L})u \geq 0$ in Ω_T and $M > 0$.

Hint: consider $v(t, x) = e^{\lambda t}u(t, x)$ for an appropriate λ .

Exercise 2 Let $\Omega = (0, \ell)$.

1. Let $u \in \mathcal{C}^{1,2}(\Omega_T) \cap \mathcal{C}^{1,0}(\partial_p \Omega_T)$ satisfy

$$\begin{cases} u_t - u_{xx} \geq 0, & (t, x) \in \Omega_T, \\ u|_{t=0} \geq 0, & x \in \Omega, \\ u(t, 0) \geq 0, & t > 0, \\ u_x(t, \ell) \geq 0, & t > 0. \end{cases}$$

Show that $u \geq 0$ on $\overline{\Omega_T}$.

Hint: you may consider $u_\varepsilon(t, x) = u(t, x) + \varepsilon x$.

2. Let $u \in \mathcal{C}^{1,2}(\Omega_T) \cap \mathcal{C}^{1,0}(\partial_p \Omega_T)$ satisfy

$$\begin{cases} u_t - u_{xx} = f, & (t, x) \in \Omega_T, \\ u|_{t=0} = \varphi, & x \in \Omega, \\ u(t, 0) = 0, & t > 0, \\ u_x(t, \ell) = g(t), & t > 0, \end{cases}$$

where f, φ, g are bounded, continuous functions in their domains. Show that

$$\max_{\Omega_T} |u| \leq C(|T| + 1)(F + G + \Phi)$$

for some constant C depending only on ℓ , where $F = \sup |f|$, $G = \sup |g|$ and $\Phi = \sup |\varphi|$.

Hint: consider $v(t, x) = tF + Gx + \Phi \pm u(t, x)$ and use part 1.

Exercise 3 Let $\Omega = (0, \ell)$. Suppose that $u \in \mathcal{C}^{1,2}(\Omega_T) \cap \mathcal{C}^{0,1}(\overline{\Omega_T})$ solves

$$\begin{cases} u_t - u_{xx} = f(t, x), & (t, x) \in \Omega_T, \\ u(0, x) = 0, & x \in [0, \ell], \\ -u_x + \alpha u = 0, & t > 0, x = 0, \\ u_x + \beta u = 0, & t > 0, x = \ell, \end{cases}$$

where $\alpha, \beta \geq 0$ are constants. Show that

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \int_0^\ell u^2(t, x) dx + \int_0^T \int_0^\ell u_x^2(t, x) dx dt \leq C \int_0^T \int_0^\ell f^2(t, x) dx dt,$$

for some constant C depending only on T .

Hint: multiply the equation by u on both sides, perform suitable integration by parts in x , then integrate in t ; use $|2ab| \leq a^2 + b^2$ and Gronwall at some point.

Exercise 4 Let $\Omega = (0, \ell)$ and $b, c \in \mathcal{C}(\overline{\Omega_T})$. Suppose that $u \in \mathcal{C}^{1,2}(\Omega_T) \cap \mathcal{C}^{0,1}(\overline{\Omega_T})$ solves

$$\begin{cases} u_t - u_{xx} + b(t, x)u_x + c(t, x)u = 0, & (t, x) \in \Omega_T, \\ u(0, x) = \varphi(x), & x \in [0, \ell], \\ u(t, 0) = u(t, \ell) = 0, & t \in [0, T]. \end{cases}$$

Show that

$$\sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \int_0^\ell u^2(t, x) dx + \int_0^T \int_0^\ell u_x^2(t, x) dx dt \leq C \int_0^\ell \varphi^2(x) dx,$$

for some constant C depending only on T , β and γ , where

$$\beta = \sup_{\overline{\Omega_T}} |b(t, x)|, \quad \gamma = \sup_{\overline{\Omega_T}} |c(t, x)|.$$

Ex 1. (1) 反证. 假设 $\min_{\bar{\Omega}_T} u < 0$

因 $\min_{\partial \bar{\Omega}_T} u \geq 0$, 故 $\exists (t^*, x^*) \in \bar{\Omega}_T$ s.t. $\min_{\bar{\Omega}_T} u = u(t^*, x^*) < 0$

因对 $\forall x$, $u(t^*, x^*) \leq u(t^*, x)$

故 $u(t^*, \cdot)$ 在 $x=x^*$ 处 Hessian 矩阵半正定, 从而 $\Delta u(t^*, x^*) \geq 0$

又由 $\forall t < t^*$, $u(t^*, x^*) \leq u(t, x^*) \geq 0$, $\partial_t u(t^*, x^*) \leq 0$

又 $c(x) \geq 0$, 故 $c(x^*) u(t^*, x^*) \leq 0$

从而 $\partial_t u(t^*, x^*) + L u(t^*, x^*) = \partial_t u(t^*, x^*) - \Delta u(t^*, x^*) + c(x^*) u(t^*, x^*) \leq 0$

与 $(\partial_t + L) u > 0$ in $\bar{\Omega}_T$ 矛盾

故即得结论

(2) 考虑 $u_\varepsilon(t, x) := u(t, x) + t\varepsilon$, $\varepsilon > 0$

则 $(\partial_t + L) u_\varepsilon(t, x) = (\partial_t + L) u(t, x) + \varepsilon + c(x) t \varepsilon \geq \varepsilon > 0$ in $\bar{\Omega}_T$

故类似以上问知, $\min_{(1)} u_\varepsilon \geq \min_{\partial \bar{\Omega}_T} u \geq 0 \Rightarrow \min_{\bar{\Omega}_T} u_\varepsilon \geq 0$

令 $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+$ 即得结论.

(3) 考虑 $v(t, x) := e^{-Mt} u(t, x)$

则 $(\partial_t + L) v(t, x) = e^{-Mt} (\partial_t + L) u(t, x) - M e^{-Mt} u(t, x)$

即 $(\partial_t + \hat{L}) v(t, x) = e^{-Mt} (\partial_t + L) u(t, x) \geq 0$ in $\bar{\Omega}_T$, 其中 $\hat{L} v = Lv + Mv$

又由 v 定义知 $\min_{\partial \bar{\Omega}_T} v \geq 0$, 且 $c+M \in [0, \infty)$

故类似以上问知, $\min_{(2)} v \geq 0$

从而 $\min_{\bar{\Omega}_T} u \geq 0$, 即得结论.

Ex 2. (1) 考虑 $u_\varepsilon(t, x) := u(t, x) + \varepsilon x$, $\varepsilon > 0$

则 $(\partial_t - \Delta) u_\varepsilon(t, x) = \partial_t u(t, x) - \Delta u(t, x) \geq 0$ in $\bar{\Omega}_T$

由 Weak maximum principle 知, $\min_{\bar{\Omega}_T} u_\varepsilon = \min_{\partial \bar{\Omega}_T} u_\varepsilon$

假设 $\min_{\bar{\Omega}_T} u_\varepsilon = u_\varepsilon(t^*, x^*) < 0$, with $(t^*, x^*) \in \partial \bar{\Omega}_T$

因 $u_\varepsilon|_{t=0} = u|_{t=0} + \varepsilon x > 0$, $\forall x \in \Omega$ 且 $u_\varepsilon(t, 0) = u(t, 0) > 0$, $\forall t > 0$

故 $x^* = l$

从而由 $u_\varepsilon(t^*, x^*) \geq u_\varepsilon(t^*, l)$, $\forall x \in \Omega$ 知 $\partial_x u_\varepsilon(t^*, l) \leq 0$

这与 $\partial_x u_\varepsilon(t^*, l) = \partial_x u(t^*, l) + \varepsilon > 0$ 矛盾

故 $u_\varepsilon \geq 0$ on $\bar{\Omega}_T$

令 $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+$ 即得 $u \geq 0$ on $\bar{\Omega}_T$

(2) 考慮 $v(t, x) = tF + Gx + \Phi \pm u(t, x)$

$$\text{則 } \begin{cases} (\partial_t - \Delta)v = F \pm f \geq 0, & (t, x) \in \bar{\Omega}_T \\ v|_{t=0} = Gx + \Phi \pm \psi \geq 0, & x \in \Omega \\ v(t, 0) = tF + \Phi \geq 0, & t > 0 \\ v_x(t, l) = G \pm g \geq 0, & t > 0 \end{cases}$$

由上可知, $v(t, x) \geq 0$ on $\bar{\Omega}_T$

$$\text{从而 } \max_{\bar{\Omega}_T} |u| \leq \max_{\bar{\Omega}_T} (tF + Gx + \Phi) = |T|F + Gl + \Phi \leq C(|T|+1)(F+G+\Phi)$$

其中 $C := \max\{l, 1\}$ 只依赖 l .

Ex3. 对 $\forall t \in [0, T]$, 有 $\int_0^l (u \cdot u_t - u \cdot u_{xx}) dx = \int_0^l u \cdot f dx$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{分部积分得, LHS} &= \int_0^l u \cdot u_t dx - u \cdot u_x \Big|_0^l + \int_0^l |u_x|^2 dx \\ &\geq \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^l u^2 dx + \int_0^l u_x^2 dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{又 RHS} \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l u^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l f^2 dx$$

两边关于变元 t 积分得 $\frac{1}{2} \int_0^l u^2(t, x) dx + \int_0^t ds \int_0^l u_x^2(s, x) dx \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t ds \int_0^l u^2(s, x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t ds \int_0^l f^2(s, x) dx$
- 方面, $\int_0^l u^2(t, x) dx \leq \int_0^t ds \int_0^l u^2(s, x) dx + \int_0^t ds \int_0^l f^2(s, x) dx, t \in [0, T]$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{由 Gronwall 不等式知, } \int_0^l u^2(t, x) dx &\leq \int_0^t ds \int_0^l f^2(s, x) dx + \int_0^t e^{t-s} \left(\int_0^s dr \int_0^l f^2(r, x) dx \right) ds \\ &\leq [1+t e^t] \int_0^t ds \int_0^l f^2(s, x) dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{从而 } \sup_{0 \leq t \leq T} \int_0^l u^2(t, x) dx \leq [1+Te^T] \int_0^T dt \int_0^l f^2(t, x) dx$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{另一方面, } \int_0^t ds \int_0^l u_x^2(s, x) dx &\leq \frac{t}{2} \int_0^l u^2(t, x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t ds \int_0^l f^2(s, x) dx \\ &\leq \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{T}{2} + \frac{1}{2} e^T \right] \int_0^t ds \int_0^l f^2(s, x) dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{从而 } \int_0^T ds \int_0^l u_x^2(s, x) dx \leq \left[\frac{1}{2} + \frac{T}{2} + \frac{1}{2} e^T \right] \int_0^T ds \int_0^l f^2(s, x) dx$$

整理即得结论.

Ex4. (与 Ex3. 证明类似)

$$\text{注意到, } \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^l u^2 dx + \int_0^l u_x^2 dx \leq \frac{\beta^2}{2} \int_0^l u^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l u_x^2 dx + \gamma \int_0^l u^2 dx$$

$$\text{两边关于变元 } t \text{ 积分得 } \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l u^2(t, x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t ds \int_0^l u_x^2(s, x) dx$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \int_0^l u^2(t, x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t ds \int_0^l u_x^2(s, x) dx \leq \left(\frac{\beta^2}{2} + \gamma \right) \int_0^t ds \int_0^l u^2(s, x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^l \varphi^2(x) dx$$

$$\text{一方面, 由 Gronwall 不等式知, } \int_0^l u^2(t, x) dx \leq \underbrace{[1 + (\beta^2 + 2\gamma)t + e^{(\beta^2 + 2\gamma)t}]}_{\text{记为 } \tilde{C}} \int_0^l \varphi^2(x) dx$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{另一方面, } \int_0^t ds \int_0^l u_x^2(s, x) dx &\leq (\beta^2 + 2\gamma) \int_0^t ds \int_0^l u^2(s, x) dx + \int_0^l \varphi^2(x) dx \\ &\leq [(\beta^2 + 2\gamma) + \tilde{C} + 1] \int_0^l \varphi^2(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

整理即得结论