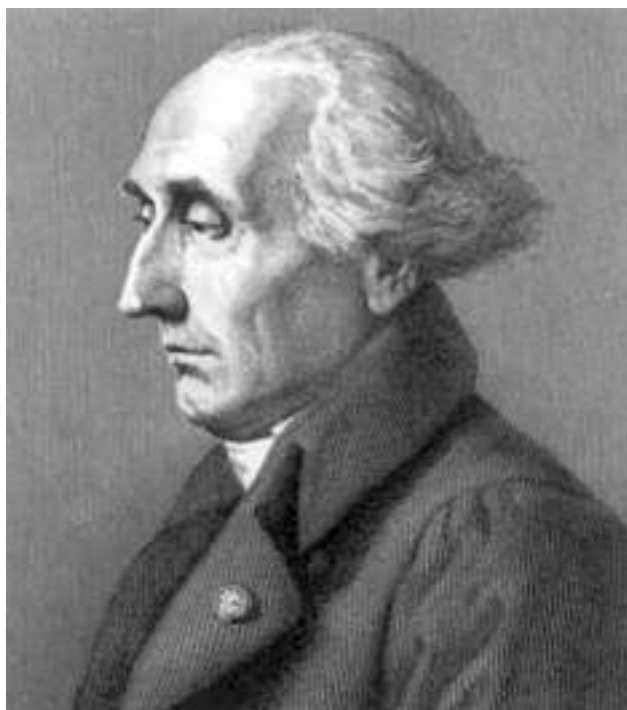


# MATH673 - Partial Differential equations I



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# 1 Homeworks

## 1.1 Homework1

**Problem . 2.5.3** Define

$$\phi(r) := \frac{1}{|\partial B(0, r)|} \int_{\partial B(0, r)} u(x) dS + \int_{B(0, r)} \Phi(x) f(x) dx - \Phi(r) \int_{B(0, r)} f(x) dx$$

Where  $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{n(n-2)|B(0, 1)|} \frac{1}{|x|^{n-2}}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \phi'(r) &= \frac{r}{n} \frac{1}{|B(0, r)|} \int_{B(0, r)} \Delta u(x) dx + \int_{\partial B(0, r)} \Phi(x) f(x) dS \\ &\quad - \Phi'(r) \int_{B(0, r)} f(x) dx - \Phi(r) \int_{\partial B(0, r)} f(x) dS \\ &= -\frac{r}{n} \frac{1}{|B(0, r)|} \int_{B(0, r)} f(x) dx + \frac{r}{n} \frac{1}{|B(0, r)|} \int_{B(0, r)} f(x) dx \\ &\quad + \int_{\partial B(0, r)} (\Phi(x) - \Phi(r)) f(x) dS \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(s) &= u(0) + \frac{1}{|\partial B(0, s)|} \int_{\partial B(0, s)} (u(x) - u(0)) dS + \int_{B(0, s)} \Phi(x) f(x) dx - \Phi(s) \int_{B(0, s)} f(x) dx \\ &:= u(0) + I_1 + I_2 + I_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$|I_1| \leq \frac{1}{|\partial B(0, s)|} \int_{\partial B(0, s)} |u(x) - u(0)| dS \rightarrow 0, s \rightarrow 0$$

By the continuity of  $u$

$$|I_2| \leq \|f\|_{L^\infty} \int_{B(0, s)} \Phi(x) dx = \|f\|_{L^\infty} \int_{B(0, s)} \Phi(x) dx = \frac{s^2 \|f\|_{L^\infty}}{2(n-2)} \rightarrow 0, s \rightarrow 0$$

$$|I_3| \leq \Phi(s) \|f\|_{L^\infty} \int_{B(0, s)} dx = \|f\|_{L^\infty} \int_{B(0, s)} \Phi(x) dx = \frac{s^2 \|f\|_{L^\infty}}{n(n-2)} \rightarrow 0, s \rightarrow 0$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} u(0) &= \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \phi(s) = \lim_{s \rightarrow r} \phi(s) \\ &= \frac{1}{|\partial B(0, r)|} \int_{\partial B(0, r)} g(x) dS + \int_{B(0, r)} (\Phi(x) - \Phi(r)) f(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

**Problem . 2.5.4 a)**

Since

$$\frac{d}{dr} \left\{ \frac{1}{|\partial B(x, r)|} \int_{\partial B(x, r)} v(y) dS \right\} = \frac{r}{n} \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} \Delta v(y) dy \geq 0$$

Thus

$$v(x) \leq \frac{1}{|\partial B(x, r)|} \int_{\partial B(x, r)} v(y) dS$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_{B(x, r)} v(y) dy &= \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_0^r \left( \int_{\partial B(x, s)} v(y) dS \right) ds \\ &\geq v(x) \frac{1}{|B(x, r)|} \int_0^r |\partial B(x, s)| ds \\ &= v(x) \end{aligned}$$

b)

Suppose  $v$  attains at  $x_0 \in U$  its maximum  $\max_{\bar{U}} v > \max_{\partial U} v$ , consider the connected component  $U_0$  which contains  $x_0$ , then by a) we know that the set  $\{x \in U_0 \mid v(x) = \max_{\bar{U}} v\}$  is both open and closed, thus  $\max_{\partial U_0} v = \max_{\bar{U}} v$  which is a contradiction.

c)

Since  $\phi$  is convex,  $\phi''(x) \geq 0$ , thus

$$\Delta v(x) = \Delta \phi(u(x)) = \phi'(u(x)) \Delta u + \phi''(u(x)) |\nabla u|^2 = \phi''(u(x)) |\nabla u|^2 \geq 0$$

Hence  $v$  is subharmonic.

d)

$$\Delta v = \Delta |\nabla u|^2 = 2 \sum_{i,j} u_{x_i x_j}^2 + 2 \nabla u \cdot \nabla (\Delta u) \geq 0$$

By a) we know  $v$  is subharmonic

**Problem . 2.5.5** Define  $M := \max_{B(0,1)} |f|$  and  $v := u + \frac{M}{2n} |x|^2$ , then we have  $\Delta v = \Delta u + M = M - f \geq 0$  in  $B^0(0,1)$ , thus  $v$  is subharmonic, maximum principle still holds, hence

$$\max_{B(0,1)} u \leq \max_{B(0,1)} v = \max_{\partial B(0,1)} v \leq \max_{\partial B(0,1)} |g| + \frac{M}{2n} = \max_{B(0,1)} |v| \leq \max_{\partial B(0,1)} |g| + \frac{1}{2n} \max_{B(0,1)} |f|$$

Similary, we could consider  $\begin{cases} -\Delta(-u) = -f \\ -u = -g \end{cases}$ , then we would have

$$-\min_{B(0,1)} u = \max_{B(0,1)} (-u) \leq \max_{\partial B(0,1)} |g| + \frac{1}{2n} \max_{B(0,1)} |f|$$

Therefore, we have

$$\max_{B(0,1)} |u| \leq \max_{\partial B(0,1)} |g| + \frac{1}{2n} \max_{B(0,1)} |f| \leq \max_{\partial B(0,1)} |g| + \max_{B(0,1)} |f|$$

**Problem . 2.5.6** Using Poisson's formula and the fact that  $u$  is harmonic, we have

$$\begin{aligned} u(x) &= \frac{r^2 - |x|^2}{|\partial B(0,1)|r} \int_{\partial B(0,r)} \frac{u(y)}{|x-y|^n} dS \\ &\leq \frac{r^2 - |x|^2}{|\partial B(0,1)|r} \int_{\partial B(0,r)} \frac{u(y)}{(r-|x|)^n} dS \\ &= \frac{r^2 - |x|^2}{|\partial B(0,1)|r} \frac{1}{(r-|x|)^n} \int_{\partial B(0,r)} u(y) dS \\ &= \frac{r^{n-2}(r+|x|)}{(r-|x|)^{n-1}} u(0) \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} u(x) &= \frac{r^2 - |x|^2}{|\partial B(0,1)|r} \int_{\partial B(0,r)} \frac{u(y)}{|x-y|^n} dS \\ &\geq \frac{r^2 - |x|^2}{|\partial B(0,1)|r} \int_{\partial B(0,r)} \frac{u(y)}{(r+|x|)^n} dS \\ &= \frac{r^2 - |x|^2}{|\partial B(0,1)|r} \frac{1}{(r+|x|)^n} \int_{\partial B(0,r)} u(y) dS \\ &= \frac{r^{n-2}(r-|x|)}{(r+|x|)^{n-1}} u(0) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus } \frac{r^{n-2}(r-|x|)}{(r+|x|)^{n-1}} u(0) \leq u(x) \leq \frac{r^{n-2}(r+|x|)}{(r-|x|)^{n-1}} u(0)$$

**Problem . 2.5.7** Since  $K(x, y) \in C^\infty(B^0(0, 1))$ , thus

$$u(x) := \int_{\partial B(0, r)} K(x, y) g(y) dS(y) \in C^\infty(B^0(0, 1))$$

Also,

$$\Delta u(x) = \int_{\partial B(0, r)} \Delta_x K(x, y) g(y) dS(y) = 0$$

Since  $\Delta_x K(x, y) = 0$ , when  $y \in \partial B(0, r)$

By taking  $u \equiv 1$  we get  $\int_{\partial B(0, r)} K(x, y) dS(y) = 1$

Since  $g \in C(\partial B(0, r))$ ,  $|g| \leq M$  for some  $M > 0$ , and  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \delta > 0$ , such that  $|g(y) - g(x^0)| \leq \epsilon, \forall y \in \partial B(0, r) \cap B(x^0, \delta)$ , hence, when  $|x - x^0| < \frac{\delta}{2}$ , we have  $|x - y| \geq |x^0 - y| - |x - x^0| > \frac{\delta}{2}, \forall y \in \partial B(0, r) - B(x^0, \delta)$ , hence

$$\begin{aligned} |u(x) - g(x^0)| &= \left| \int_{\partial B(0, r)} K(x, y) (g(y) - g(x^0)) dS(y) \right| \\ &\leq \left| \int_{\partial B(0, r) \cap B(x^0, \delta)} K(x, y) (g(y) - g(x^0)) dS(y) \right| \\ &\quad + \left| \int_{\partial B(0, r) - B(x^0, \delta)} K(x, y) (g(y) - g(x^0)) dS(y) \right| \\ &\leq \epsilon \int_{\partial B(0, r) \cap B(x^0, \delta)} K(x, y) dS(y) + 2M \int_{\partial B(0, r) - B(x^0, \delta)} K(x, y) dS(y) \\ &\leq \epsilon \int_{\partial B(0, r)} K(x, y) dS(y) + \frac{2M(r^2 - |x|^2)}{|\partial B(0, 1)|r} \int_{\partial B(0, r)} \frac{2^n}{\delta^n} dS(y) \\ &= \epsilon + \frac{2^{n+1} M r^{n-2} (r^2 - |x|^2)}{\delta^n} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow x^0 \\ x \in B^0(0, r)}} u(x) = g(x^0)$

**Problem . 1**[January 2010] **a)**

Suppose  $u, u_1$  are two bounded solution, then  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists R > 0$ , such that  $\forall r > R$

$$u(x) - \epsilon \ln |x| \leq u_1(x) \leq u(x) + \epsilon \ln |x|$$

on  $\partial B(0, r)$ , using maximum principle for  $u(x) - \epsilon \ln |x| - u_1(x)$  and  $u_1(x) - u(x) - \epsilon \ln |x|$  on  $B(0, r) - B^0(0, 1)$

Thus the inequality above holds for any  $\epsilon > 0$  and  $|x| > 1$ , let  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we have  $u = u_1$

**b)**

$u \equiv 1$  and  $u(x) = \frac{1}{|x|}$  are both bounded solutions with  $f \equiv 1$

One additional condition that ascertain the uniqueness of the solution could be  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} u(x) = 0$ , in this case we would have

$$u(x) - \epsilon \leq u_1(x) \leq u(x) + \epsilon$$

On  $\partial B(0, r)$  for sufficiently large  $r$

**Problem . 1**[January 2005] **Lemma:** If  $g = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k$  is a holomorphic fuction on  $\mathbb{C}$ , then

$$\int \int_{B(0, R)} |f'(z)|^2 dx dy = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |a_k|^2 \frac{\pi R^{2k+2}}{k+1}$$

**Proof:** Using the fact that

$$\int \int_{B(0,R)} z^k \bar{z}^l dx dy = \begin{cases} \frac{\pi R^{2k+2}}{k+1}, & k = l \\ 0, & k \neq l \end{cases}$$

**Method 1:**

Since  $u$  is harmonic on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , there exists a holomorphic function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{C}$ , such that  $\operatorname{Re} f = u$ , then  $|\nabla u| = |f'|$ , hence we have  $\int \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |\nabla u|^2 dx dy = \int \int_{\mathbb{C}} |f'(z)|^2 dx dy < \infty$ , according to the lemma above, we have  $f' \equiv 0$ , hence  $f$  is a constant, so is  $u$

**Method 2:**

According to **2.5.4 d)**, we know that  $|\nabla u|^2$  is subharmonic, thus

$$|\nabla u(x)|^2 \leq \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{B(x,r)} |\nabla u(y)|^2 dy \leq \frac{1}{|B(x,r)|} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} |\nabla u(y)|^2 dy$$

Which tends to 0 as  $r$  tends to 0, thus  $\nabla u \equiv 0$ ,  $u$  is a constant

**Problem . 1**[August 2004] Assume  $f \not\equiv 0$ , since  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , there is some  $B(x, \epsilon)$ , such that  $f$  is positive(negative) on it, consider  $v \equiv 1$ , then we have

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \int_{\partial B(x, \epsilon)} v \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} dS = \int_{B(x, \epsilon)} v \Delta u dx + \int_{B(x, \epsilon)} \nabla v \cdot \nabla u dx \\ &= \int_{B(x, \epsilon)} \nabla v \cdot \nabla u dx - \int_{B(x, \epsilon)} v f dx \\ &= - \int_{B(x, \epsilon)} f dx < (>) 0 \end{aligned}$$

Which is a contradiction, Thus  $f \equiv 0$

## 1.2 Homework2

### Problem . 2.5.13 (a)

We have  $u_t = -\frac{x}{2t^{\frac{3}{2}}}v'$  and  $u_{xx} = \frac{1}{t}v''$ , thus  $u_t - u_{xx} = 0 \Leftrightarrow -\frac{x}{2t^{\frac{3}{2}}}v' - \frac{1}{t}v'' = 0 \Leftrightarrow v'' + \frac{z}{2}v' = 0$

Multiply  $e^{\frac{z^2}{4}}$  on both sides, we get  $e^{\frac{z^2}{4}}v'' + \frac{ze^{\frac{z^2}{4}}}{2}v' = \left(e^{\frac{z^2}{4}}v'\right)' = 0$ , Thus  $e^{\frac{z^2}{4}}v' = c$  for some constant  $c$ ,  $v' = ce^{-\frac{z^2}{4}} \Rightarrow v = c \int_0^z e^{-\frac{s^2}{4}} ds + d$  for some other constant  $d$

(b)

According to (a), we have  $u(x, t) = c \int_0^{\frac{x}{\sqrt{t}}} e^{-\frac{s^2}{4}} ds + d$ , thus  $u_x = \frac{c}{\sqrt{t}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}}$ , which again solve the heat equation, in order to obtain a fundamental solution, we also need  $\lim_{t \downarrow 0} u_x(x, t) = u_x(x, 0) = \delta_0$ , thus we should have  $1 = \int_{\mathbb{R}} u_x(x, 0) dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \lim_{t \downarrow 0} u_x(x, t) dx = \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{R}} u_x(x, t) dx = \lim_{t \downarrow 0} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{c}{\sqrt{t}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}} dx = 2c\sqrt{\pi} \Rightarrow c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}}$

**Problem . 2.5.14** Consider  $v = ue^{ct}$ , we have  $v_t - \Delta v = e^{ct}(u_t - \Delta u + cu)$ , thus the initial value problem becomes

$$\begin{cases} v_t - \Delta v = fe^{ct}, \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty) \\ v = g, \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{t = 0\} \end{cases}$$

Solve it to get

$$v(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(x - y, t) g(y) dy + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(x - y, t - s) f(y, s) e^{cs} dy ds$$

Thus

$$u(x, t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(x - y, t) g(y) e^{-ct} dy + \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(x - y, t - s) f(y, s) e^{-c(t-s)} dy ds$$

### Problem . January 2013, Problem 4 (a)

Since  $u(x, t) = \int_0^x u_x(y, t) dy + u(0, t) = \int_0^x u_x(y, t) dy$

$$|u(x, t)|^2 = \left| \int_0^x u_x(y, t) dy \right|^2 \leq \left( \int_0^1 |u_x(y, t)| dy \right)^2 \leq \left( \int_0^1 |u_x(y, t)|^2 dy \right) \left( \int_0^1 1^2 dy \right) = \int_0^1 |u_x(y, t)|^2 dy$$

Hence  $\sup_x |u(x, t)|^2 \leq \int_0^1 |u_x(y, t)|^2 dy$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 u^3 dx &\leq \int_0^1 |u^3| dx \leq \left( \int_0^1 |u_x|^2 dx \right) \int_0^1 |u| dx \\ &\leq \left( \int_0^1 |u_x|^2 dx \right) \left( \int_0^1 |u|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( \int_0^1 1^2 dy \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \left( \int_0^1 |u_x|^2 dx \right) \left( \int_0^1 |u|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $u$  is smooth, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt} \int_0^1 |u|^2 dx &= \int_0^1 \frac{d}{dt} u^2 dx = \int_0^1 2u u_t dx = 2 \int_0^1 u(u_{xx} + cu^2) dx \\
&= 2u u_{xx}|_0^1 - 2 \int_0^1 |u_x|^2 dx + 2c \int_0^1 u^3 dx \\
&\leq -2 \int_0^1 |u_x|^2 dx + 2c \left( \int_0^1 |u_x|^2 dx \right) \left( \int_0^1 |u|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&= -2 \left( \int_0^1 |u_x|^2 dx \right) \left( 1 - c \left( \int_0^1 |u|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

(b)

Since  $u$  is smooth, so is  $F(t) := \left( \int_0^1 |u|^2 dx \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , suppose  $\exists t_0 \in (0, \infty)$  such that  $F(t_0) \geq \frac{1}{c^2}$ , then  $\emptyset \neq S := \left\{ t \in [0, t_0] \mid F(t) = \frac{1}{c^2} \right\}$  is closed, let  $0 < t_1 = \min_{t \in S} t$ , then we have  $F(t_1) = \frac{1}{c^2}$  and  $F(t) < \frac{1}{c^2}$  for  $t \in [0, t_1)$ , using intermediate value theorem, we have  $0 < F(t_1) - F(0) = F'(\xi)t_1$ , where  $\xi \in (0, t_1)$ , but according to (a), we have  $F'(\xi) \leq -2 \left( \int_0^1 |u_x|^2 dx \right) \left( 1 - cF(\xi)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \leq 0$  which leads to a contradiction

**Problem .** January 2012, Problem 2 (a)

This is equivalent to solve ODE  $\begin{cases} w' + w^3 = 0, & t > 0 \\ w(0) = c \end{cases}$ , thus  $w(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2t + \frac{1}{c^2}}}$

(b)

Assume otherwise, then  $\exists(t_0, x_0) \in (0, \infty) \times (0, 1)$  such that  $(w - u)(t_0, x_0) < 0$ , suppose  $w - u$  must attain the minimum of  $[0, t_0] \times [0, 1]$  at  $(t_1, x_1)$ , then  $(w - u)(t_1, x_1) < 0$ , thus  $0 \leq w(t_1, x_1) < u(t_1, x_1)$ , hence  $w^3(t_1, x_1) < u^3(t_1, x_1)$ , then we would have  $0 < u^3(t_1, x_1) - w^3(t_1, x_1) = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta \right)(w - u)(t_1, x_1) \geq 0$  which is a contradiction, hence  $u(t, x) \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2t + \frac{1}{c^2}}}$  on  $[0, \infty) \times [0, 1]$

**Problem .** August 2011, Problem 3 (a)

Assume  $\exists(x_0, t_0) \in \Omega \times (0, \infty)$  such that  $u(x_0, t_0) < 0$ , suppose  $u(x_1, t_1) = \min_{\bar{\Omega}_{t_0}} u < 0$ , since

$$|f'| \leq K, f(x) = \int_0^x f' dy \leq \int_0^x K dy = Kx \text{ if } x \geq 0, \text{ or } f(x) \geq Kx \text{ if } x < 0$$

let  $K_1 > K$ , then  $0 \geq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta \right)(ue^{-K_1 t}) = e^{-K_1 t} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta \right)u - K_1 u \right] = e^{-K_1 t} [f(u) - K_1 u] = e^{-K_1 t} \int_u^0 [K_1 - f'] dx > 0$  at  $(x_1, t_1)$  which is a contradiction

(b)

Assume  $\exists(x_0, t_0) \in \Omega \times (0, \infty)$  such that  $u(x_0, t_0) > Me^{Kt_0} \Rightarrow u(x_0, t_0)e^{-Kt_0} > M$  for some  $K_1 > K$ , suppose  $u(x_1, t_1)e^{-K_1 t_1} = \max_{\bar{\Omega}_{t_0}} ue^{-K_1 t} > 0$

$0 \leq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta \right)(ue^{-K_1 t}) = e^{-K_1 t} [f(u) - K_1 u] = e^{-K_1 t} \int_0^u [f' - K_1] dx < 0$  at  $(x_1, t_1)$  which is a contradiction

**Problem .** August 2005, Problem 6 Suppose  $|f'| < K$ ,  $u, w$  are both solutions, then  $(u - w)e^{Kt} = 0$  on  $\Omega \times \{0\} \cup \partial\Omega \times (0, \infty)$ , Assume  $\exists(x_0, t_0) \in \Omega \times (0, \infty)$  such that  $(u - w)(x_0, t_0)e^{Kt_0} < 0$ , suppose  $(u - w)(x_1, t_1)e^{-Kt_1} = \min_{\bar{\Omega}_{t_0}} (u - w)e^{Kt} < 0$ , then we have  $0 \geq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta \right)((u - w)e^{Kt}) = e^{-Kt} [(f(w) - f(u)) + K(u - w)] = e^{-Kt} \int_u^w [f' + K] dx > 0$  at  $(x_1, t_1)$ , which is a contradiction



**Problem . 2.5.15** Define  $v(x, t) = u(x, t) - g'(t)$  on  $x \geq 0$ , extend  $v$  to  $\{x < 0\}$  by odd reflection, then we have  $v(x, t) = -v(-x, t)$  on  $x < 0$ , thus the initial boundary problem becomes

$$\begin{cases} v_t - v_{xx} = -g'(t), & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_+ \times (0, \infty) \\ v_t - v_{xx} = g'(t), & \text{in } \mathbb{R}_- \times (0, \infty) \\ v = 0, & \text{on } \mathbb{R}_+ \times \{t = 0\} \\ v = 0, & \text{on } \{x = 0\} \times [0, \infty) \end{cases}$$

Define  $f(x, t) = \begin{cases} -g'(t), & x \geq 0 \\ g'(t), & x < 0 \end{cases}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} v(x, t) &= \int_0^t \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi(t-s)}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4(t-s)}} f(y, s) dy ds \\ &= \int_0^t \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi(t-s)}} \left( \int_{-\infty}^0 e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4(t-s)}} g'(s) dy - \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4(t-s)}} g'(s) dy \right) ds \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^t \left( \int_{-\infty}^{-\frac{x}{\sqrt{4(t-s)}}} e^{-y^2} dy - \int_{-\frac{x}{\sqrt{4(t-s)}}}^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy \right) g'(s) ds \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} g(s) \left( \int_{-\infty}^{-\frac{x}{\sqrt{4(t-s)}}} e^{-y^2} dy - \int_{-\frac{x}{\sqrt{4(t-s)}}}^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy \right) \Big|_0^t + \frac{x}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int_0^t \frac{1}{((t-s))^{\frac{3}{2}}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4(t-s)}} g(s) ds \\ &= -\operatorname{sgn}(x) \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} g(t) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy - \frac{x}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int_0^t \frac{1}{((t-s))^{\frac{3}{2}}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4(t-s)}} g(s) ds \\ &= -\operatorname{sgn}(x) g(t) - \frac{x}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int_0^t \frac{1}{((t-s))^{\frac{3}{2}}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4(t-s)}} g(s) ds \end{aligned}$$

Where  $\operatorname{sgn}(x) = \begin{cases} -1, & x < 0 \\ 0, & x = 0 \\ 1, & x > 0 \end{cases}$ , thus  $u(x, t) = \frac{x}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \int_0^t \frac{1}{((t-s))^{\frac{3}{2}}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4(t-s)}} g(s) ds$  is the solution

**Problem . 2.5.17 a)**

Define  $\phi(r) := \frac{1}{4r^n} \int \int_{E(0,0;r)} v(y, s) \frac{|y|^2}{s^2} dy ds$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \phi'(r) &= \frac{1}{r^{n+1}} \int \int_{E(0,0;r)} -n v_s \psi - \frac{n}{2s} \sum_{i=1}^n v_{y_i} y_i dy ds \\ &\geq \frac{1}{r^{n+1}} \int \int_{E(0,0;r)} -n \Delta v \psi - \frac{n}{2s} \sum_{i=1}^n v_{y_i} y_i dy ds \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\phi(r) = v(0, 0) + \frac{1}{4r^n} \int \int_{E(0,0;r)} (v(y, s) - v(0, 0)) \frac{|y|^2}{s^2} dy ds \rightarrow v(0, 0)$ ,  $r \rightarrow 0$ ,  $v(0, 0) = \lim_{s \rightarrow 0} \phi(r) \leq \lim_{s \rightarrow r} \phi(s) = \phi(r)$

Thus  $v(x, t) \leq \frac{1}{4r^n} \int \int_{E(x,t;r)} v(y, s) \frac{|x-y|^2}{(t-s)^2} dy ds$

**b)**

Define  $v_\epsilon(x, t) = v(x, t) + \epsilon|x|^2$ , then  $\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta\right) v_\epsilon = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta\right) v - 2n\epsilon < 0$ ,  $v_\epsilon$  can't attain its maximum at  $(x_0, t_0) \in \overline{U_T} \setminus \Gamma_T$ , otherwise  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} v_\epsilon(x_0, t_0) \geq 0$ ,  $\Delta v_\epsilon(x_0, t_0) \leq 0$ , then  $\Delta v_\epsilon(x_0, t_0) \geq 0$ , thus  $\max_{\overline{U_T}} (v + \epsilon|x|^2) \leq \max_{\Gamma_T} (v + \epsilon|x|^2) \leq \max_{\Gamma_T} v + C\epsilon$  since  $U$  is bounded, hence  $\max_{\overline{U_T}} v = \max_{\Gamma_T} v$  **c)**

Since  $\phi$  is convex,  $\phi''(x) \geq 0$

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta\right) v(x) = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta\right) \phi(v(x, t)) = \phi'(v) \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} - \Delta\right) v - \phi''(v) |\nabla v|^2 \leq 0$$

Thus  $v$  is a subsolution

**d)**

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta\right) v &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta\right) (|\nabla u|^2 + u_t^2) \\ &= 2\nabla u \cdot \nabla u_t + 2u_t u_{tt} - 2 \sum_{i,j} u_{x_i x_j}^2 - 2\nabla u \cdot \nabla(\Delta u) - 2|\nabla u_t|^2 - 2u_t(\Delta u)_t \\ &= 2\nabla u \cdot \nabla(u_t - \Delta u) + 2u_t(u_t - \Delta u)_t - 2 \sum_{i,j} u_{x_i x_j}^2 - 2|\nabla u_t|^2 \\ &\leq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $v$  is a subsolution

### 1.3 Homework3

**Problem . 2.5.24** Since the solution is given by d'Alembert's formula

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}[g(x+t) - g(x-t)] + \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} h(y) dy$$

and  $g, h$  are compactly supported,  $u(x, t)$  is also compactly supported for any fixed  $t$ , hence  $k(t), p(t)$  make sense

(a)

$$\frac{d}{dt}(p(t) + k(t)) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} u_t u_{tt} + u_x u_{xt} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} u_t u_{xx} + u_x u_{xt} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (u_t u_x) dx = u_t u_x \Big|_{-\infty}^{+\infty} = 0$$

Thus  $k(t) + p(t)$  is a constant in  $t$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned} u_t(x, t) &= \frac{1}{2}[g'(x+t) - g'(x-t)] + \frac{1}{2}[h(x+t) + h(x-t)] \\ u_x(x, t) &= \frac{1}{2}[g'(x+t) + g'(x-t)] + \frac{1}{2}[h(x+t) - h(x-t)] \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $\text{supp } g \cup \text{supp } h \subset D(0, T)$ , then consider  $t > T$ , one of  $g'(x+t), g'(x-t)$  must be zero and one of  $h(x+t), h(x-t)$  must be zero, thus  $u_t^2 = u_x^2$ ,  $p(t) = k(t)$

**Additional Problem**

$$\begin{aligned} |u(x, t)| &= \left| \frac{1}{4\pi t} \int_{\partial B(x, t)} f(y) dS_y \right| \\ &= \left| \frac{t}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} f(x + t\omega) dS_\omega \right| \\ &= \left| -\frac{t}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} \int_t^{-\infty} \frac{d}{d\lambda} f(x + \lambda\omega) d\lambda dS_\omega \right| \\ &= \left| -\frac{t}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} \int_t^{-\infty} (\nabla f \cdot \omega)(x + \lambda\omega) d\lambda dS_\omega \right| \\ &\leq \frac{t}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} \int_t^{-\infty} |\nabla f| |\omega| (x + \lambda\omega) d\lambda dS_\omega \\ &= \frac{t}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} \int_t^{-\infty} |\nabla f| (x + \lambda\omega) d\lambda dS_\omega \\ &= \frac{t}{4\pi} \int_{\partial B(x, \lambda)} \int_t^{-\infty} |\nabla f| (y) d\lambda dS_y \\ &\leq \frac{1}{4\pi t} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} |\nabla f| dy \end{aligned}$$

**Problem .** January 2007, Problem 2 (a)

Define

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial\Omega} u^2 dS + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \{u_t^2 + |\nabla u|^2 + V(x)u^2\} dx$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
E'(t) &= \int_{\partial\Omega} uu_t dS + \int_{\Omega} \{u_t u_{tt} + \nabla u \cdot \nabla u_t + V(x)uu_t\} dx \\
&= \int_{\partial\Omega} uu_t dS + \int_{\Omega} \{u_t (\Delta u - V(x)u) + \nabla u \cdot \nabla u_t + V(x)uu_t\} dx \\
&= \int_{\partial\Omega} uu_t dS + \int_{\Omega} \{u_t \Delta u + \nabla u \cdot \nabla u_t\} dx \\
&= \int_{\partial\Omega} uu_t dS + \int_{\partial\Omega} u_t \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} dS \\
&= \int_{\partial\Omega} u_t \left( u + \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} \right) dS \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

(b)

Uniqueness theorem: Suppose  $u, v$  are two solutions to the equation, then  $u = v$

Consider  $w = u - v$  which satisfies equation  $w_{tt} - \Delta w + V(x)w = 0$ ,  $x \in \Omega$ ,  $t > 0$ , with initial conditions  $w(x, 0) = 0$ ,  $w_t(x, 0) = 0$  and boundary conditions  $w + \frac{\partial w}{\partial n} = 0$

Since  $E(0) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial\Omega} w^2(x, 0) dS + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \{w_t^2(x, 0) + |\nabla w|^2(x, 0) + V(x)w^2(x, 0)\} dx = 0$  and  $E'(t) = 0$ , hence  $E(t) = 0$ , since  $V(x) \geq 0$ ,  $u = 0$

(c)

As for  $h \neq 0$ , the result is the same as (b)

**Problem .** August 2003, Problem 4 Suppose there are two solutions  $u, v$ , define  $w = u - v$ , which would satisfies equation

$$w_{tt} - w_{xx} - w_{yyt} = 0, (x, y) \in \Omega, t > 0$$

$$w(x, y, 0) = 0, w_t(x, y, 0) = 0$$

$$w(0, y, t) = w(1, y, t) = 0, w_y(x, 0, t) = w_y(x, 1, t) = 0$$

Consider  $E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} (w_t^2 + w_x^2) dx dy$ , since

$$w(0, y, t) = w(1, y, t) = 0 \Rightarrow w_t(0, y, t) = w_t(1, y, t) = 0$$

$$w_y(x, 0, t) = w_y(x, 1, t) = 0 \Rightarrow w_{yt}(x, 0, t) = w_{yt}(x, 1, t) = 0$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}
E'(t) &= \int_{\Omega} (w_t w_{tt} + w_x w_{xt}) dx dy \\
&= \int_{\Omega} (w_t w_{xx} + w_t w_{yyt} + w_x w_{xt}) dx dy \\
&= \int_0^1 \int_0^1 (w_t w_x)_x dx dy + \int_0^1 \int_0^1 (w_t w_{yt})_y dy dx - \int_{\Omega} w_{yt}^2 dx dy \\
&\leq \int_0^1 [w_t w_x(1, y, t) - w_t w_x(0, y, t)] dy + \int_0^1 [w_t w_{yt}(x, 1, t) - w_t w_{yt}(x, 0, t)] dx \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $u_x = 0$ , but  $u(0, y, t) = 0$ , hence  $u = 0$

**Problem .** August 2003, Problem 5 Since

$$\begin{aligned} u(0, t)^2 &= \left( \frac{1}{4\pi t} \int_{\partial B(0, t)} g(y) dS_y \right)^2 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{8\pi^2 t^2} \left( \int_{\partial B(0, t)} g(y)^2 dS_y \right) \left( \int_{\partial B(0, t)} 1^2 dS_y \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} g(y)^2 dS_y \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\int_0^\infty u(0, t)^2 dt \leq \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\partial B(0, t)} g(y)^2 dS_y dt = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} g(x)^2 dx$$

**Problem .** August 2006, Problem 3 (a)

Direct check to find  $u_{tt} - \Delta u = 0$  when  $r \neq 0$ , if  $t < 1$ , then  $\psi(t + r) = 0$  on a neighborhood of  $r = 0$ , thus  $u(x, t) = 0$  on this neighborhood, hence  $u_{tt} - \Delta u = 0$ , if  $t < 1$

(b)

The extended formula should be given by  $u(x, t) = \frac{\psi(t + r) - \psi(t - r)}{r} = \int_{-1}^1 \psi'(t + \lambda r) d\lambda$

(c)

Since  $\psi \in C^k$  by the formula of  $\psi$  we showed that  $u \in C^{k-1}$

(d)

Since  $\psi$  is compactly supported, so is  $u$

Define Energy to be  $E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (u_t^2 + |\nabla u|^2) dx$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} E'(t) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (u_t u_{tt} + \nabla u \cdot \nabla u_t) dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} (u_t \Delta u + \nabla u \cdot \nabla u_t) dx \\ &= \int_{B(0, R)} (u_t \Delta u + \nabla u \cdot \nabla u_t) dx \\ &= \int_{\partial B(0, R)} u_t \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} dS \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hence the energy is conserved

**Problem .** August 2001, Problem 1 (a)

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{4\pi t} \int_{\partial B(x, t)} g(y) dS_y = \frac{t}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} g(x + t\omega) dS_\omega$$

but  $|x + t\omega| \geq t|\omega| - |x| = t - |x| \geq \alpha$ ,  $g(x + t\omega) = 0$ , hence  $u(x, t) = 0$

(b)

First we prove  $g = 0$ , assume  $g(x_1) > 0$ , then  $u(x_0, |x_1 - x_0|) = \frac{|x_1 - x_0|}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} g(x_0 + |x_1 - x_0|\omega) dS_\omega > 0$ , since  $g \in C(\mathbb{R}^3)$ ,  $g \geq 0$ , that is a contradiction, thus  $g = 0$ ,  $u(x, t) = 0$

## 1.4 Homework4

**Problem .** August 2006, Problem 1 Define  $F(x, t, p, q, z) = q + xp - z^2$

The characteristics are

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = x \\ \dot{t} = 1 \\ \dot{z} = xp + q = z^2 \end{cases}$$

With initial condition

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = x^0 \\ t(0) = 0 \\ z(0) = f(x^0) \end{cases}$$

Thus we get

$$\begin{cases} x = x^0 e^s \\ t = s \\ z(0) = \frac{f(x^0)}{1 - sf(x^0)} \end{cases}$$

which is defined on  $\{tf(xe^{-t}) \neq 1\}$ , thus  $u(x, t) = \frac{f(xe^{-t})}{1 - tf(xe^{-t})}$

**Problem .** January 2005, Problem 2(b) Define  $F(x, t, p, q, z) = q + (2z + 1)p$

The characteristics are

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = 2z + 1 \\ \dot{t} = 1 \\ \dot{z} = 0 \end{cases}$$

With initial condition

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = x^0 \\ t(0) = 0 \\ z(0) = u(x^0, 0) \end{cases}$$

Thus we get

$$\begin{cases} x = x^0 + (2u(x^0, 0) + 1)s \\ t = s \\ z(0) = u(x^0, 0) \end{cases}$$

By Rankine-Hugoniot condition, we have  $0 = F(u_l) - F(u_r) = \dot{s}(t)(u_l - u_r) = 3\dot{s}(t)$

Thus we have a piecewise smooth solution

$$u(x, t) = \begin{cases} 1, & x < 0 \\ -2, & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

**Problem .** January 2000, Problem 2 Consider the initial condition to be

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ 1, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0, & x > 1 \end{cases}$$

Then

$$X(t) = \begin{cases} 1 + \frac{t}{3}, & 0 < t < \frac{3}{2} \\ \sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{4}t}, & t > \frac{3}{2} \end{cases} \quad f\left(\frac{x}{t}\right) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\frac{x}{t}}, & 0 < x < X(t), \frac{x}{t} < 1 \\ 1, & 0 < x < X(t), \frac{x}{t} > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\forall t \in [0, \frac{3}{2}], \int_0^\infty u(x, t) dx = \int_0^t \sqrt{\frac{x}{t}} dx + \int_t^{1+\frac{t}{3}} 1 dx = \frac{2}{3}t + \left(1 - \frac{2}{3}t\right) = 1$$

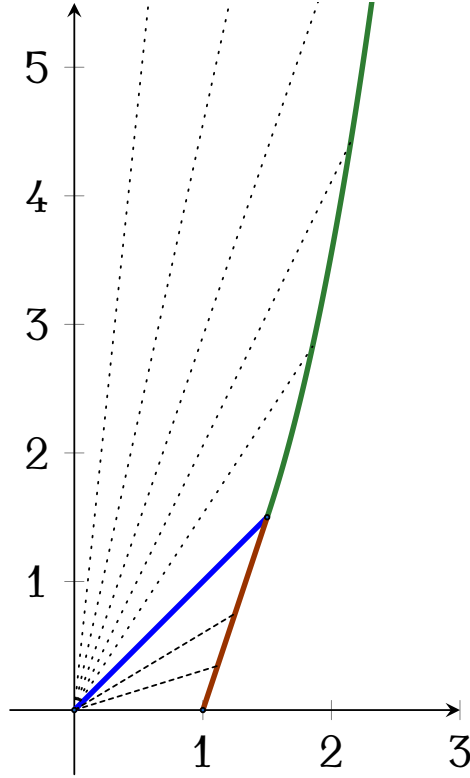
$$\forall t \in (\frac{3}{2}, \infty), \int_0^\infty u(x, t) dx = \int_0^{\sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{4}t}} \sqrt{\frac{x}{t}} dx = 1$$

Along  $x = t, 0 \leq t \leq \frac{3}{2}$ ,  $u_l = 1 = u_r$

Along  $x = 1 + \frac{t}{3}, 0 \leq t \leq \frac{3}{2}$ ,  $1 = u_l > \frac{1}{3} = \dot{X}(t) > 0 = u_r$

Along  $x = \sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{4}t}, t > \frac{3}{2}$ ,  $u_l = t^{-\frac{1}{3}}\sqrt[3]{\frac{3}{2}} > \frac{1}{3}t^{-\frac{2}{3}}\sqrt[3]{\frac{9}{4}} = \dot{X}(t) > 0 = u_r$

Which shows that  $u$  satisfies the entropy condition, and along  $x = t, 0 \leq t \leq \frac{3}{2}$ ,  $u$  is a rarefaction wave, along  $X(t)$ ,  $u$  is a shock wave



**Problem .** August 1998, Problem 5  $0 = u_t + uu_x = u_t + \left(\frac{1}{2}u^2\right)_x$ , since  $u$  and  $\xi(t)$  are both continuous, so is  $u(\xi(t), t)$ , there is a  $C^1$  function  $u_L$  in a neighborhood of  $C_l$  which agrees with  $u$  on  $C_l$  and curve  $C$ , and there is a  $C^1$  function  $u_R$  in a neighborhood of  $C_r$  which agrees with  $u$  on  $C_r$  and curve  $C$ ,  $\frac{d}{dt}u(\xi(t), t) = \frac{d}{dt}u_L(\xi(t), t)$  is continuous since  $u_L$  and  $\xi$  are both  $C^1$  function, then we have  $\frac{d}{dt}u_L(\xi(t), t) = \frac{d}{dt}u_R(\xi(t), t) \Rightarrow 0 = \frac{d}{dt}u_L(\xi(t), t) - \frac{d}{dt}u_R(\xi(t), t) = (u_x^- - u_x^+) \xi' + (u_t^- - u_t^+)$   
On the other hand, since  $u$  is continuous,  $0 = u_t^- + u^- u_x^- = u_t^- + uu_x^- = u_t^+ + u^+ u_x^+ = u_t^+ + uu_x^+ \Rightarrow 0 = (u_t^- + uu_x^-) - (u_t^+ + uu_x^+) = (u_x^- - u_x^+) u + (u_t^- - u_t^+)$   
But  $u_x$  has jump discontinuity on the curve, hence  $u_x^- - u_x^+ \neq 0$ , compare to get  $\xi'(t) = u$

## 1.5 Homework5

**Problem .** August 1996, Problem 1a Assume  $u$  attains its maximum  $\max_{\bar{\Omega}} u$  at  $x^0 \in \partial\Omega$ , since  $f \geq 0$ ,  $U$  is a domain which is bounded, maximum principle applies. Suppose  $u(x) < u(x^0), \forall x \in \Omega$ , then according to Hopf lemma,  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial n}(x^0) > 0$  since  $\Omega$  has a smooth boundary, which contradicts  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ . Thus  $\exists y \in \Omega$ , such that  $u(y) = u(x^0)$ , by strong maximum principle,  $u$  is a constant and  $f = \Delta u + a(x) \cdot \nabla u = 0$

**6.**

Since  $f$  is bounded, assume  $|f| < C$ , consider  $v := u - Cw$ , we have  $v(x^0) = 0$ ,  $v \leq 0$  on  $\partial U$  and  $Lv = Lu - CLw \leq Lu - C < 0$ , by maximum principle, we know  $v(x) < v(x^0), \forall x \in U$ , by Hopf lemma,  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial v}(x^0) - C \frac{\partial w}{\partial v}(x^0) = \frac{\partial v}{\partial v}(x^0) > 0$ , similarly, if we consider  $-u - Cw$  and  $-w$ , we have  $-\frac{\partial u}{\partial v}(x^0) - C \frac{\partial w}{\partial v}(x^0) > 0$  and  $-\frac{\partial w}{\partial v}(x^0) > 0$ . Also, since  $u = 0$  on  $\partial U$ ,  $|Du(x^0)| = \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial v}(x^0) \right|$ , hence we have

$$\begin{cases} -C \frac{\partial w}{\partial v}(x^0) > -\frac{\partial u}{\partial v}(x^0) \\ -C \frac{\partial w}{\partial v}(x^0) > \frac{\partial u}{\partial v}(x^0) \end{cases} \Rightarrow -C \frac{\partial w}{\partial v}(x^0) > \left| \frac{\partial u}{\partial v}(x^0) \right| \Rightarrow C \left| \frac{\partial w}{\partial v}(x^0) \right| > |Du(x^0)|$$

**Problem . 7. (a)**

$$0 = \int_U u \Delta u = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial U} u \frac{\partial u}{\partial v} - \frac{1}{2} \int_U |\nabla u|^2 \Rightarrow \int_U |\nabla u|^2 = 0 \Rightarrow |\nabla u| \equiv 0 \Rightarrow u \equiv \text{const}$$

**(b)**

Using maximum principle, let  $x^0 \in \partial U$  be a maximizer of  $u$ , suppose  $u(x) < u(x^0), \forall x \in U$ , by Hopf lemma,  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial v}(x^0) > 0$  which contradicts  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial v} = 0$  on  $\partial U$ , thus  $\exists y \in U$ , such that  $u(y) = u(x^0)$ , hence  $u$  is a constant by strong maximum principle



## References

- [1] *Partial Differential Equations* - Lawrence C. Evans