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# Homework #4

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Sam Fleischer

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<b>Problem 1</b>	2
<b>Problem 2</b>	2
<b>Problem 3</b>	3
<b>Problem 4</b>	3
<b>Problem 5</b>	3

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## Problem 1

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The following nonhomogeneous IBVP describes heat flow in a rod whose ends are held at temperatures  $u_0$ ,  $u_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} u_t &= u_{xx} & 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, t) &= u_0, \quad u(1, t) = u_1 \\ u(x, 0) &= f(x) \end{aligned}$$

- (a) Find the steady state temperature  $U(x)$  that satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} U_{xx} &= 0 & 0 < x < 1 \\ U(0) &= u_0, \quad U(1) = u_1 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Write  $u(x, t) = U(x) + v(x, t)$  and find the corresponding IBVP for  $v$ . Use separation of variables to solve for  $v$  and hence  $u$ .
- (c) How does  $u(x, t)$  behave as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ?

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## Problem 2

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Define a first-order differential operator with complex coefficients acting  $L^2(0, 2\pi)$  by

$$A = -i \frac{d}{dx}.$$

- (a) Show that  $A$  is formally self-adjoint.
- (b) Show that  $A$  with periodic boundary conditions  $u(0) = u(2\pi)$  is self-adjoint, and find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the corresponding eigenvalue problem

$$-i u' = \lambda u, \quad u(0) = u(2\pi).$$

- (c) What are the adjoint boundary conditions to the Dirichlet condition  $u(0) = 0$  at  $x = 0$ ? Is  $A$  with this Dirichlet boundary condition self-adjoint? Find all eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the corresponding eigenvalue problem

$$-i u' = \lambda u, \quad u(0) = 0.$$

How does your result compare with the properties of finite-dimensional eigenvalue problems for matrices?

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**Problem 3**

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Let  $A$  be a Sturm-Liouville operator, given by

$$Au = -(pu')' + qu,$$

acting in  $L^2(a, b)$ . Verify that  $A$  with the Robin boundary conditions

$$\alpha u'(a) + u(a) = 0, \quad u(b) + \beta u(b) = 0$$

is self adjoint.

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**Problem 4**

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Show that the eigenvalues of the Sturm-Liouville problem

$$\begin{aligned} -u'' &= \lambda u & 0 < x < 1 \\ u(0) &= 0, & u'(1) + \beta u(1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

are given by  $\lambda = k^2$  where  $k > 0$  satisfies the equation

$$\beta \tan k + k = 0.$$

Show graphically that there is an infinite sequence of simple eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \dots < \lambda_n < \dots$  with  $\lambda_n \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . What is the asymptotic behavior of  $\lambda_n$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ?

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**Problem 5**

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The following IBVP describes heat flow in a rod whose left end is held at temperature 0 and whose right end loses heat to the surroundings according to Newton's law of cooling (heat flux is proportional to the temperature difference):

$$\begin{aligned} u_t &= u_{xx} & 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, t) &= 0, & u'(1, t) = -\beta u(1, t) \\ u(x, 0) &= f(x) \end{aligned}$$

Solve this IBVP by the method of separation of variables.