

# Nonlinear Partial Differential Equations 1

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## 1 Preliminaries

### 1.1 Measure theory

### 1.2 Sobolev spaces

**Definition 1.1.** A  $n$ -dimensional multi-index is a  $n$ -tuple in  $\mathbb{N}_0^n$ . And for such  $n$ -tuple  $\alpha$  we define  $|\alpha| = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $n$ -dimensional real Euclidean space. A measurable function  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is said to be locally integrable over  $U$  if for any compact subset  $K$  of  $U$ , the integral  $\int_K |f| dx$  is finite. The set of all such functions is denoted by  $L^1_{\text{loc}}(U)$ .

**Definition 1.3.** Let  $X$  be a topological space.  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be compactly supported if there is a compact subset  $K$  of  $X$  such that  $f(X - K) = \{0\}$ .

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . A test function  $\phi : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a function such that it is infinitely continuously differentiable and compactly supported. The set of all such functions over  $U$  is denoted by  $C_c^\infty(U)$ .

**Definition 1.5.** Let  $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a  $|\alpha|$  times continuously differentiable function over an open subset  $U$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Then the partial-derivative respect to  $\alpha$  is

$$D^\alpha u = \frac{\partial^{|\alpha|} u}{\partial x_1^{\alpha_1} \cdots \partial x_n^{\alpha_n}}.$$

**Definition 1.6.** Let  $u, v \in L^1_{\text{loc}}(U)$  where  $U$  is an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\alpha$  be a multi-index. We say that  $\alpha$ -th weak derivative of  $u$  is  $v$  (denoted as  $D^\alpha u = v$ ), if the following equality holds.

$$\int_U u D^\alpha \phi dx = (-1)^{|\alpha|} \int_U \phi dx$$

for any test function  $\phi$ .

**Remark 1.1.** In the definition above, if  $|\alpha| = 1$ , this means the integration by parts.

**Lemma 1.1.** *Weak derivatives are unique almost everywhere. In other words, if  $v_1, v_2$  are weak derivatives for  $u$ , then for any  $\phi \in C_C^\infty(U)$  we have*

$$\int_U (v_1 - v_2) \phi dx = 0.$$

*Proof.* The above equality is clear as the left-hand side equals to

$$\int_U u D^\alpha \phi dx - \int_U u D^\alpha \phi dx.$$

□

**Definition 1.7.** *Let  $U$  be an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $p \in [1, \infty]$ . We define the Sobolev space with  $k$  and  $p$  over  $U$  such that*

$$W^{k,p}(U) = \{u \in L_{\text{loc}}^1(U) \mid \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n, |\alpha| \leq k \Rightarrow D^\alpha u \in L^p(U)\}.$$

**Notation 1.1.** *For the case  $p = 2$  we denote  $W^{k,2}(U) = H^k(U)$ .*

**Remark 1.2.** *When  $k = 0$  we have  $W^{0,p}(U) = L^p(U)$ .*

**Definition 1.8.** *The essential supremum of a functional  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is*

$$\text{esssup}_U(f) = \inf\{c \in \mathbb{R} \mid \forall x \in U, f(x) \leq c\}.$$

**Definition 1.9.** *We define a norm on a Sobolev space  $W^{k,p}(U)$  such that for  $u \in W^{k,p}(U)$ ,*

$$\|u\|_{W^{k,p}(U)} = \begin{cases} \left( \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \int_U |D^\alpha u|^p dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} & (1 \leq p < \infty), \\ \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \text{esssup}_U(|D^\alpha u|) & (p = \infty). \end{cases}$$

**Definition 1.10.** *A sequence in the Sobolev space  $W^{k,p}(U)$  converges if it converges in its Sobolev norm.*

**Definition 1.11.** *For a sequence  $(u_m) \subset W^{k,p}(U)$ ,  $u_m \rightarrow u$  in  $W_{\text{loc}}^{k,p}(U)$  if for any compact subset  $K$  of  $U$ , we have  $u_m \rightarrow u$  in  $W_{\text{loc}}^{k,p}(K)$ .*

**Definition 1.12.** *The Sobolev space  $W_0^{k,p}(U)$  with boundary value zero at  $\partial U$  is the closure of  $C_C^\infty(U)$  in the topology induced by the Sobolev norm.*

### 1.3 Example

Let  $U = B(0, 1)$  be a unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be such that  $u(x) = \|x\|^{-\alpha}$  for any  $x$  except 0. Then we have the following statement,

$$u \in W^{1,p}(U) \Leftrightarrow \alpha < \frac{n-p}{p}.$$

Let us consider  $\{r_k\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \subset B(0,1) = U$  such that it is dense in  $U$ . The function

$$u(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k} |x - r_k|^{-\alpha},$$

is in  $W^{1,p}(U)$  if and only if  $\alpha = \frac{n-p}{p}$ . This function is not bounded in any ball contained in  $U$ . (Use the fact that  $p < n$ ) but  $u \notin L^\infty(U)$ .

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $U$  be an open and bounded set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Suppose that  $u \in W^{k,p}(U)$ , then there exists a sequence  $(u_m)_{m \in \mathbb{N}} \subset C^\infty(U) \cap W^{k,p}(U)$  such that  $u_m \rightarrow u$  in  $W^{k,p}(U)$ .*

## 1.4 Sobolev Inequalities

**Definition 1.13.** *Let  $p \in [1, \infty)$ . The Soolev conjugate of  $p$  is*

$$p^* = \frac{np}{n-p}.$$

**Remark 1.3.** *From the definition we see*

$$\frac{1}{p^*} = \frac{1}{p} - \frac{1}{n}.$$

*Thus  $p^* > p$ .*

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be an open bounded set and  $u \in W^{1,p}(U)$ . Then there exists a constant  $C$  only depending on  $n$  and  $U$  such that*

$$\|u - (u)_U\|_{L^2(U)} \leq C(n, U) \|Du\|_{L^2(U)},$$

*where*

$$(u)_U = \frac{1}{\mu(U)} \int_U u dx.$$

**Corollary 1.1.** *In Theorem 1.2, if we have  $u \in H_0^1(U)$ , then there exists a constant  $C$  only depending on  $n$  and  $U$  such that*

$$\|u\|_{L^2(U)} \leq C(n, U) \|Du\|_{L^2(U)},$$

**Remark 1.4.** *We may now replace the Sobolev norm in  $H_0^1(U)$  with  $\|Du\|_{L^2(U)}$ . Recall that the norm defined on  $H_0^1(U)$  is*

$$\|u\|_{H_0^1(U)} = \|u\|_{L^2(U)} + \|Du\|_{L^2(U)}.$$

*By the corollary, we obtain the inequality,*

$$\|Du\|_{L^2(U)} \leq \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)} \leq C(n, U) \|Du\|_{L^2(U)}.$$

*Therefore,  $\|Du\|_{L^2(U)}$  induces same topology as the Sobolev norm.*

## 2 Second Order Elliptic Equations

### 2.1 Definitions

**Notation 2.1.** For a function  $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  where  $U$  is an open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we use the following notation.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} = u_{x_i}.$$

**Definition 2.1.** Give an open bounded subset  $U$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . The second order elliptic equation is the problem to find functions  $u : \bar{U} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  which satisfies the following equations,

$$\begin{cases} Lu(x) = f(x) & (x \in U), \\ u(x) \equiv 0 & (x \in \partial U), \end{cases}$$

where  $L$  is called a second-order partial differential operator such that for any  $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$Lu = - \sum_{i,j=1}^n (a^{i,j}(x)u_{x_i})_{x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i(x)u_{x_i} + c(x)u, \quad (2.1)$$

where for each  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $a^{i,j}, b^i, c : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

**Remark 2.1.** If  $a^{i,j}$  are differentiable on  $U$  for each  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ , we can rewrite Equation 2.3 to be such that

$$Lu = - \sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{i,j}(x)u_{x_i x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n \bar{b}^i(x)u_{x_i} + c(x)u, \quad (2.2)$$

where for each  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,

$$\bar{b}^i(x) = b_i(x) - \sum_{j=1}^n (a^{i,j}(x))_{x_j}(x).$$

This is due to the Leibniz rule.

**Remark 2.2.** In the case  $u \in C^2(U)$ , we may assume that  $a_{i,j} = a^{j,i}$  for each  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$  from now on. This is justified by the following procedure. Given  $(a^{i,j})_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$  we define  $(\tilde{a}^{i,j})_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$  in the following way,

$$\tilde{a}^{i,j}(x) = \frac{1}{2}(a^{i,j}(x) + a^{j,i}(x)).$$

Because the first part of the equation 2.3 can be rewritten as

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{1}{2}(a^{i,j}(x) + a^{j,i}(x))u_{x_i x_j} + \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{1}{2}(a^{i,j}(x) - a^{j,i}(x))u_{x_i x_j}.$$

Using Young's theorem we derive that

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{1}{2} (a^{i,j}(x) - a^{j,i}(x)) u_{x_i} x_j = 0.$$

**Definition 2.2.** A second-order partial differential operator is said to be uniformly elliptic if there is  $\theta > 0$  such that for any  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{i,j}(x) \xi_i \xi_j \geq \theta \|\xi\|^2$$

holds for almost everywhere on  $U$ .

**Remark 2.3.** The above definition can be stated in a different manner. Given a quadratic form  $A(x) = (a^{i,j}(x))_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$ . The problem is uniformly elliptic if and only if

$$A(x) \geq \theta I$$

holds almost everywhere for a fixed constant  $\theta > 0$ .

**Example 2.1.** If we take  $a^{i,j} = \delta_{i,j}$ , and  $b^i, c \equiv 0$ , the problem is

$$Lu = -\Delta u.$$

## 2.2 Weak Solutions

In this subsection, we assume that  $a^{i,j}, b^i, c \in L^\infty(U)$  for each  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$  and  $f \in L^2(U)$ . Suppose we have a second-order elliptic equation. Then by multiplying  $v \in C_0^\infty(U)$ , we get

$$-\int_U \sum_{i,j=1}^n (a^{i,j}(x) u_{x_i})_{x_j} v dx = \int_U \sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{i,j}(x) u_{x_i} v_{x_j} dx$$

which is well-defined if  $\|Dv\| \in L^1(U)$ .

**Definition 2.3.** Given a second-order elliptic equation, we define a bilinear form  $B : H_0^1(U) \times H_0^1(U) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$B(u, v) = \int_U \sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{i,j}(x) u_{x_i} v_{x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i(x) u_{x_i} v + c(x) u v dx$$

**Remark 2.4.** Such  $B(u, v)$  is a well-defined continuous bilinear form.

**Definition 2.4.** Given a second-order elliptic equation

$$\begin{cases} Lu(x) = f(x) & (x \in U), \\ u(x) = 0 & (x \in \partial U). \end{cases}$$

A function  $u \in H_0^1(U)$  is called a weak solution to the problem if for any  $v \in H_0^1(U)$ , we have

$$B(u, v) = \langle f, v \rangle_{L^2(U)}.$$

**Remark 2.5.** Suppose we have a classical solution  $u$ , (in other words  $u \in \mathcal{C}^2(U)$  and  $a^{i,j} \in C^1(U)$ ). Then such  $u$  is also a weak solution.

**Remark 2.6.** Suppose for  $u \in H_0^1(U)$ , we have that for any  $v \in \mathcal{C}_0^\infty(U)$

$$B(u, v) = \langle f, v \rangle_{L^2(U)}.$$

Then such  $u$  is a weak-solution, as  $\mathcal{C}_0^\infty(U)$  is dense in  $H_0^1(U)$ .

We could also replace the condition on  $f$  which is that  $f \in L^2(U)$  to  $f \in H^{-1}(U)$ .

**Definition 2.5.** Given a second-order elliptic equation, we say that  $u \in H_0^1(U)$  is a weak solution of the problem if

$$B[u, v] = \langle f, v \rangle,$$

where

$$\langle f, v \rangle = \int_U f^0 v + \sum_{i=1}^n f^i v_{x_i} dx \quad (f^0, f^1, \dots, f^n \in L^2(U)),$$

is the duality pairing of  $H^{-1}(U)$  and  $H_0^1(U)$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** Suppose we have a problem

$$\begin{cases} Lu(x) = f(x) & (x \in U), \\ u(x) = g(x) & (x \in \partial U). \end{cases}$$

where  $\partial U$  is smoothly parametrizable. Furthermore, suppose there is  $w \in H^1(U)$  such that

$$w(x) = g(x) \quad (x \in \partial U).$$

Then for the modified problem,

$$\begin{cases} L(u(x)) = f(x) - Lw(x) & (x \in U), \\ u(x) = 0 & (x \in \partial U). \end{cases}$$

we can get solutions of the original problem given a solution of the second one and adding  $w$  to it.

*Proof.* In order to show that such modified problem is indeed well-defined, we have to prove that

$$f - Lw \in H^{-1}(U).$$

By definition,  $w \in H^1(U)$  thus  $w_{x_i} \in L^2(U)$  for any  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . For any  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $a^{i,j} \in L^\infty(U)$ . We now deduce that  $a^{i,j} w_{x_i} \in L^2(U)$ . Later.  $\square$

## 2.3 Existence of Weak Solutions

**Theorem 2.1** (Lax-Milgram). *Let  $(H, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_H)$  be a real Hilbert space and  $H^*$  be the dual of it. Assume that for a bilinear form  $B : H \times H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , there exists  $\alpha, \beta > 0$  such that*

$$i). \quad |B(u, v)| \leq \alpha \|u\| \|v\|,$$

$$ii). \quad \text{for any } v \in H, \quad \beta \|u\|^2 \leq B(u, v).$$

*Then for each  $f \in H^*$ , there is a unique  $u \in H$  such that*

$$B(u, v) = \langle f, v \rangle_H.$$

*Proof.* Given  $u \in H$ , the mapping  $v \mapsto B(u, v)$  is a bounded linear operator by the first condition on  $B$ . By Riesz representation theorem, there is unique  $w \in H$  such that

$$B(u, v) = \langle w, v \rangle_H.$$

Let us define  $A : H \rightarrow H$  to be such that  $A(u) = w$  where  $w$  is acquired through the above construction. We will show that  $A$  is a bounded linear operator.

We first show that it is linear. Given  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $u_1, u_2 \in H$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A(\lambda_1 u_1 + \lambda_2 u_2), v \rangle_H &= B(\lambda_1 u_1 + \lambda_2 u_2, v) \\ &= \lambda_1 B(u_1, v) + \lambda_2 B(u_2, v) \\ &= \lambda_1 \langle Au_1, v \rangle_H + \lambda_2 \langle Au_2, v \rangle_H \\ &= \langle A\lambda_1 u_1 + A\lambda_2 u_2, v \rangle_H \end{aligned}$$

holds for any  $v \in H$ . Thus by uniqueness from Riesz representation theorem, we have proved that  $A$  is linear.

We then prove that  $A$  is bounded.

$$\begin{aligned} \|Au\|^2 &= \langle Au, Au \rangle_H, \\ &= B(u, Au), \\ &\leq \alpha \|u\| \|Au\|, \\ &\Rightarrow \|Au\| \leq \alpha \|u\|, \end{aligned}$$

by the first condition on  $B$ .

Such  $A$  has following two properties.

- i).  $A$  is injective,
- ii).  $\mathcal{R}(A)$ , the range of  $A$  is closed.

Suppose  $Au = 0$  then by the second condition on  $B$  we derive

$$\begin{aligned}\beta\|u\|^2 &\leq B(u, u), \\ &= \langle Au, u \rangle_H, \\ &\leq \|Au\|\|u\| \\ &\Rightarrow \beta\|u\| \leq \|Au\| = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Let  $(Au_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset \mathcal{R}(A)$  be a convergent sequence with its limit  $w^*$ . Using the second condition on  $B$  and the previous argument on the norm of  $Au$  once again, we derive

$$\begin{aligned}\beta\|u_n - u_m\| &\leq \|A(u_n - u_m)\|, \\ &= \|Au_n - Au_m\|.\end{aligned}$$

Since  $(Au_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a Cauchy sequence we derived that  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is also a Cauchy sequence in a complete space, thus convergent. We define the limit to be  $u^*$ . By continuity of  $A$ , we have  $Au^* = w^*$ .

We now prove that  $\mathcal{R}(A) = H$ . Suppose not,  $\mathcal{R}(A) \neq H$ , then we know that  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  is closed therefore

$$(M^\perp)^\perp = M \neq H.$$

This shows that  $M^\perp \neq \{0\}$ . Take  $u^\perp \in \mathcal{R}(A)^\perp$  and  $u = Au^\perp$  which is in  $\mathcal{R}(A)$ . Then we have

$$\beta\|u^\perp\|^2 \leq B(u^\perp, u^\perp) = \langle Au^\perp, u^\perp \rangle_H = 0.$$

Therefore, we derived  $\|u^\perp\| = 0$  which is a contradiction. We conclude  $\mathcal{R}(A) = H$ .

Using Riesz representation theorem, there exists  $w \in H$  such that for any  $v \in H$ ,

$$\langle f, v \rangle_H = \langle w, v \rangle_H.$$

By the surjectivity of  $A$ , there is  $u \in H$  such that  $Au = w$ . Therefore we derive the formula,

$$B(u, v) = \langle Au, v \rangle_H = \langle w, v \rangle_H = \langle f, v \rangle_H.$$

Now we will prove the uniqueness of such  $u$ . Suppose  $u, \bar{u} \in H$  are such that

$$\langle u, v \rangle_H = \langle f, u \rangle_H = \langle \bar{u}, v \rangle_H.$$

Then by the linearity of the scalar product, we obtain that for any  $v \in H$ ,

$$B(u - \bar{u}, v) = 0.$$

In particular, when  $v = u - \bar{u}$ , we obtain,

$$\beta\|u - \bar{u}\|^2 = 0.$$

Thus the uniqueness is proven.  $\square$



**Remark 2.7.** *B does not have to be symmetric. In the case when B is symmetric, the theorem is trivial.*

*This comes from by defining  $(u, v) = B(u, v)$  a new scalar product which is possible since B is symmetric and by the second condition we have*

$$(u, u) \geq \beta \|u\|^2 \Rightarrow ((u, u) = 0 \Leftrightarrow u = 0).$$

*Using the Riesz representation theorem for  $(\cdot, \cdot)$ , we obtain that, for any  $v \in H$ ,*

$$(w, v) = \langle f, v \rangle_H.$$

**Theorem 2.2.** *Give an open bounded subset  $U$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $f : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . We consider the second order elliptic equation.*

$$\begin{cases} Lu(x) = f(x) & (x \in U), \\ u(x) \equiv 0 & (x \in \partial U), \end{cases}$$

*where  $L$  is a second-order partial differential operator such that for any  $u : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,*

$$Lu = - \sum_{i,j=1}^n (a^{i,j}(x)u_{x_i})_{x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i(x)u_{x_i} + c(x)u, \quad (2.3)$$

*where for each  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $a^{i,j}, b^i, c : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  belong to  $L^\infty(U)$ . Furthermore, we pose the uniformly elliptic condition to  $L$ .*

*Let us define  $B(u, v) : H_0^1(U) \times H_0^1(U) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  to be such that*

$$B(u, v) = \int_U \sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{i,j} u_{x_i} v_{x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n b^i u_{x_i} v + cuv \, dx,$$

*where  $a^{i,j}, b^i, c \in L^\infty(U)$ . Then there exists  $\alpha, \beta > 0$  and  $\gamma \geq 0$  such that,*

- 1).  $B(u, v) \leq \alpha \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)} \|v\|_{H_0^1(U)}.$
- 2).  $\beta \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)}^2 \leq B(u, u) + \gamma \|u\|_{L^2(U)}^2.$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} |B(u, v)| &\leq \sum_{i,j=1}^n \|a^{i,j}\|_{L^2(U)} \int_U |Du| |Dv| \, dx \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^n \|b^i\|_{L^\infty(U)} \int_U |Du| |v| \, dx \\ &\quad + \|c\|_{L^\infty(U)} \int_U |u| |v| \, dx. \end{aligned}$$

We then use the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality to deduce that

$$\begin{aligned}\int_U |Du| |Dv| dx &\leq \|Du\|_{L^2(U)} \|Dv\|_{L^2(U)}, \\ \int_U |Du| |v| dx &\leq \|Du\|_{L^2(U)} \|v\|_{L^2(U)}, \\ \int_U |u| |v| dx &\leq \|u\|_{L^2(U)} \|v\|_{L^2(U)}.\end{aligned}$$

Using Poincaré inequality, we derive that

$$B(u, v) \leq \alpha \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)} \|v\|_{H_0^1(U)}.$$

We now prove the second claim. First we note that, by the uniformly elliptic condition, there is  $\theta > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}\theta \int_U |Du|^2 &\leq \int_U \sum_{i,j=1}^n a^{i,j} u_{x_i} u_{x_j} dx, \\ &\leq B(u, u) - \int_U \sum_{i=1}^n b^i u_{x_i} u dx - \int_U c u^2 dx, \\ &\leq B(u, u) + \sum_{i=1}^n \|b^i\|_{L^\infty(U)} \|Du\|_{L^2(U)} \|u\|_{L^2(U)} + \|c\|_{L^\infty(U)} \|u\|_{L^2(U)}^2.\end{aligned}$$

By AM-GM inequality, we obtain for any  $x, y \leq 0$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ , we have,

$$xy \leq \epsilon x^2 + \frac{1}{4\epsilon} y^2.$$

Let us choose  $\epsilon > 0$  to be such that

$$\epsilon = \frac{\theta}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n \|b^i\|_{L^\infty(U)}}.$$

Substituting this to the inequality, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\theta \int_U |Du|^2 &\leq B(u, u) + \frac{\theta}{2} \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)}^2 + \gamma \|u\|_{L^2(U)}^2, \\ \frac{1}{2} \theta \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)}^2 &\leq B(u, u) + \gamma \|u\|_{L^2(U)}^2.\end{aligned}$$

Let  $\beta = \frac{1}{2}$ , we derived the claim. □

**Remark 2.8.** *In general the problem*

$$Lu = f, \quad u \in H_0^1(U),$$

*is not solvable.*

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let the second order elliptic operator  $L$  with boundaries. There exists  $\gamma \geq 0$  such that for any  $\mu \geq \gamma$  and each  $f \in L^2(U)$ , there exists a unique solution  $u \in H_0^1(U)$  such that*

$$B(u, v) + \mu \langle u, v \rangle_{H_0^1(U)} = \langle f, v \rangle_{H_0^1(U)}$$

*holds for any  $v \in H_0^1(U)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma \geq 0$  be as in Theorem ???. Now we define

$$B_\mu(u, v) = B(u, v) + \mu \langle u, v \rangle_{L^2(U)}.$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} B_\mu(u, v) &\leq |B(u, v)| + \mu |\langle u, v \rangle_{L^2(U)}|, \\ &\leq \alpha \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)} \|v\|_{H_0^1(U)} + \mu \|u\|_{L^2(U)} \|v\|_{L^2(U)}, \\ &\leq (\alpha + \mu) \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)} \|v\|_{H_0^1(U)}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus satisfies the first condition for Theorem ??. For the second part, we observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \beta \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)}^2 &\leq B(u, v) + \gamma \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)} \|v\|_{H_0^1(U)}, \\ B_\mu(u, u) - \mu \|u\|_{L^2(U)}^2 &+ \gamma \|u\|_{H_0^1(U)} \|v\|_{H_0^1(U)}, \\ &\leq B_\mu(u, u). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, there is a unique  $u \in H_0^1(U)$ , such that for any  $v \in H_0^1(U)$ , we have

$$B_\mu(u, v) = \langle f, v \rangle_{L^2(U)}.$$

(In other words, the problem has a weak solution). □

**Remark 2.9.**