

Partial Differential Equations  
Qualifying Examination  
(Ramm, Li)  
April 11, 1988

Do any 7 problems.

1. (i) State carefully the maximum principle for the solution of Cauchy problem

$$\begin{aligned} u_t &= \Delta u, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, \quad t > 0 \\ u(0, x) &= f(x) \quad f \text{ is bounded, continuous in } \mathbb{R}^n \end{aligned}$$

- (ii) Write out a counter example that the solution of Cauchy problem of heat equation is not unique.

2. Suppose  $\Delta u = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .  $u \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ ,  $u \geq 0$ . What can you say about  $u$ ? Can you find all such  $u$ ?
3. Suppose  $\Delta u = 0$  in  $D \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ ,  $D$  is a bounded domain,  $\Gamma = \partial D$  is smooth. Assume that  $u = u_N = 0$  on  $\Gamma$ ,  $u_N$  is the normal derivative. Then  $u = 0$  in  $D$ , true or false?
4. In a wave propagation with external force under elastic constraint on boundary  $\partial\Omega$  as

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_{tt} = c^2 \Delta u + f(x, t) \\ u(x, 0) = \phi(x) \\ u_t(x, 0) = \psi(x) \\ \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} + \sigma u \right) \Big|_{\partial\Omega \times [0, T]} = p(x, t) \end{array} \right. \quad \begin{array}{l} x \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n, \quad 0 < t < T \\ f, \phi, \psi, p \text{ are smooth.} \end{array}$$

Show that the solution  $u(x, t)$  is stable with respect to the external force  $f(x, t)$ .

5. Consider the Conservation law

$$u_t + \left( \frac{u^2}{2} \right)_x = 0.$$

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

(i) What is the break time and locally classical solution?

(ii) Find the shock wave to this problem.

6. (i) Show that all eigenvalues of

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta u &= \lambda u \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n, \quad \partial\Omega \text{ is smooth}$$

are negative and that  $\phi_n \perp \phi_m$  where  $\phi_n, \phi_m$  are eigenfunctions corresponding to  $\lambda_n \neq \lambda_m$ .

(ii) State the Sturm-Liouville theory for this problem.

(iii) Using the method of separation of variable to solve heat equation

$$\begin{cases} u_t - a^2 \Delta u = 0 & t > 0, x \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n \\ u(x, t)|_{x \in \partial\Omega} = 0 & t > 0 \\ u(x, 0) = f(x) & x \in \Omega \end{cases}$$

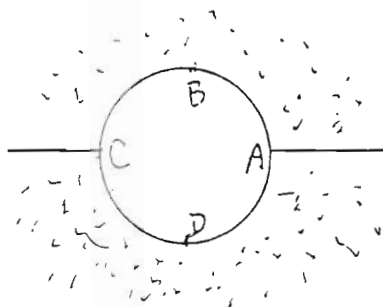
in terms of eigenfunction  $\phi_n$  s.

7. A continuous function  $u(x)$  is said to satisfy the MVP (Mean Value Property) if

$$u(y) = \frac{1}{|\partial B_R|} \int_{\partial B_R} u(s) ds$$

holds for every small ball  $B$  centered at  $y$  with radius  $R$ . Show that a continuous function  $u$  satisfying MVP must be harmonic function.

8. Suppose  $\Delta u + \Phi(u) = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .  $C_1(|u| + 1)^p \leq \Phi(u) \leq C_2(|u|^p + 1)$ ,  $C_1 > 0$ ,  $C_i$  are constants,  $i = 1, 2$ . Suppose  $p > 2$ . Can  $|u| = O\left(\frac{1}{|x|^\alpha}\right)$   $\alpha > 1$ ,  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$  be true?
9. An infinite Conducting plate has in it a circular hole of unit radius. Temperatures of  $20^\circ \text{C}$  and  $80^\circ \text{C}$  are applied to arcs ABC, ADC and maintained indefinitely. Find the Steady State temperature distribution of the plate.



[HINT: Perform a suitable Möbius Transform first.]

10. Let  $\Delta u = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- (a) Suppose  $|u(z, \theta_0)| \leq C \exp(-ar)$ ,  $a = \text{Const} > 0$ ,  $C = \text{Const} > 0$   $r = \|x\|$   $\theta = \frac{x}{r} \in S^2$ .  $\theta_0 \in S^2$  is fixed. Does this imply that  $u \equiv 0$ ?
- (b) Suppose  $\Delta u + u = 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .  $|u| \leq C(1 + r^2)^{-1}$ . Does this imply  $u \equiv 0$ ?