

**Solutions for Math 436 2008 Final**

*Question 1a:* The Fourier Series is defined as

$$\varphi(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\varphi, \varphi_k) \varphi_k(x).$$

*Question 1b:* The  $n^{th}$  partial sum is given by

$$\psi_n(x) = \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k) \varphi_k(x).$$

To show Bessel's Inequality, we begin with

$$\begin{aligned} 0 \leq \|\varphi(x) - \psi_n(x)\|^2 &= (\varphi - \psi_n, \varphi - \psi_n) = (\varphi, \varphi) - 2(\varphi, \psi_n) + (\psi_n, \psi_n) \\ &= (\varphi, \varphi) - 2 \left( \varphi, \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k) \varphi_k(x) \right) + \left( \sum_{m=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_m) \varphi_m(x), \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k) \varphi_k(x) \right) \\ &= (\varphi, \varphi) - 2 \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k) (\varphi, \varphi_k) + \sum_{m=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k) (\varphi, \varphi_m) (\varphi_m, \varphi_k) \\ &= (\varphi, \varphi) - 2 \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2 + \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2 = (\varphi, \varphi) - \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2 \\ &\implies \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2 \leq (\varphi, \varphi). \end{aligned}$$

Since the right-hand-side of this expression is independent of  $n$ , this inequality must hold for all  $n$  regardless of large it is, and thus in the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , it follows

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2 \leq (\varphi, \varphi).$$

*Question 1c:* Mean square convergence is defined as

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi(x) - \psi_n(x)\| = 0.$$

*Question 1d:* We must show that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi(x) - \psi_n(x)\| = 0 \iff \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2 = (\varphi, \varphi).$$

From Question 1b, we have

$$\|\varphi(x) - \psi_n(x)\|^2 = (\varphi, \varphi) - \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2.$$

Thus, provided the limit exists,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi(x) - \psi_n(x)\|^2 = (\varphi, \varphi) - \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{k=1}^n (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2.$$

Hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi(x) - \psi_n(x)\|^2 = 0 \implies \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2 = (\varphi, \varphi),$$

and

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\varphi, \varphi_k)^2 = (\varphi, \varphi) \implies \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\varphi(x) - \psi_n(x)\|^2 = 0.$$

*Question 2a:* The operator  $\mathcal{L}$  is positive and self-adjoint if for all  $f(x)$  and  $g(x)$  that are in  $L_2(G)$  and satisfy the boundary conditions, it follows that

$$(f, \mathcal{L}f) \geq 0 \text{ and } (f, \mathcal{L}g) = (g, \mathcal{L}f),$$

respectively.

*Question 2b(1):* The Eigenvalue problem is given by

$$\mathcal{L}M = \lambda M \text{ for } x \in G,$$

$$\alpha M + \beta \frac{\partial M}{\partial n} = 0 \text{ for } x \in \partial G.$$

It follows, since  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $x$  and  $\mathcal{L}$  are real-valued, that

$$\mathcal{L}M^* = \lambda^* M^* \text{ for } x \in G,$$

$$\alpha M^* + \beta \frac{\partial M^*}{\partial n} = 0 \text{ for } x \in \partial G,$$

where the  $*$  superscript is the complex-conjugate, i.e.,  $M^*$  and  $\lambda^*$  solves the Eigenvalue problem if  $M$  and  $\lambda$  does.

*Question 2b(2):* To show that  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , we exploit the self-adjointness of  $\mathcal{L}$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} (M^*, \mathcal{L}M) &= (\mathcal{L}M^*, M) \iff \lambda(M^*, M) = \lambda^*(M^*, M) \\ \iff (\lambda - \lambda^*) \int_G |M|^2 dx &= 0 \implies \lambda = \lambda^* \text{ since } \int_G |M|^2 dx > 0. \end{aligned}$$

*Question 2b(3):* To show that  $\lambda \geq 0$ , we exploit the positiveness of  $\mathcal{L}$  as follows:

$$(M, \mathcal{L}M) = \lambda(M, M) = \lambda \|M\|^2 \implies \lambda = \frac{(M, \mathcal{L}M)}{\|M\|^2} \geq 0.$$

*Question 3a:* Introduce the characteristic variables

$$\xi = x + t \text{ and } \eta = x - t.$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t &= \partial_\xi - \partial_\eta \implies \partial_{tt} = \partial_{\xi\xi} - 2\partial_{\eta\xi} + \partial_{\eta\eta}, \\ \partial_x &= \partial_\xi + \partial_\eta \implies \partial_{xx} = \partial_{\xi\xi} + 2\partial_{\eta\xi} + \partial_{\eta\eta},\end{aligned}$$

so that the pde maps to

$$u_{\xi\eta} = -2\xi e^{-\xi^2}.$$

*Question 3b:* The general solution can be obtained as follows. First, we integrate with respect to  $\xi$  and get

$$u_\eta = \phi(\eta) + e^{-\xi^2},$$

where  $\phi$  is an arbitrary function of its argument. Then, we integrate with respect to  $\eta$ , and obtain

$$u = \Psi(\xi) + \Phi(\eta) + \eta e^{-\xi^2},$$

where  $\Psi$  and  $\Phi$  are arbitrary functions of their arguments. Thus, finally we have

$$u(x, t) = \Psi(x+t) + \Phi(x-t) + (x-t)e^{-(x+t)^2}.$$

*Question 3c:* We have

$$\begin{aligned}u(x, 0) &= \Psi(x) + \Phi(x) + xe^{-x^2} = 0 \implies \Phi(x) = -\Psi(x) - xe^{-x^2}, \\ u_t(x, 0) &= \Psi'(x) - \Phi'(x) - (1+2x^2)e^{-x^2} = 0. \\ \implies \Psi'(x) + [\Psi(x) + xe^{-x^2}]' &= (1+2x^2)e^{-x^2} \\ \implies \Psi'(x) = 2x^2e^{-x^2} \implies \Psi(x) &= -xe^{-x^2} + \int_0^x e^{-\zeta^2} d\zeta \\ \implies \Phi(x) &= -\int_0^x e^{-\zeta^2} d\zeta = \int_x^0 e^{-\zeta^2} d\zeta. \\ \implies u(x, t) &= -(x+t)e^{-(x+t)^2} + (x-t)e^{-(x+t)^2} + \int_{x-t}^{x+t} e^{-\zeta^2} d\zeta \\ &= -2te^{-(x+t)^2} + \int_{x-t}^{x+t} e^{-\zeta^2} d\zeta.\end{aligned}$$

Alternatively, using the Method of Characteristics, we have shown in class that

$$\begin{aligned}u(x, t) &= 4 \int_0^t \int_{x-t+\tau}^{x+t-\tau} (\sigma + \tau) e^{-(\sigma+\tau)^2} d\sigma d\tau = -2 \int_0^t e^{-(\sigma+\tau)^2} \Big|_{x-t+\tau}^{x+t-\tau} d\tau \\ &= 2 \int_0^t e^{-(x-t+2\tau)^2} - e^{-(x+t)^2} d\tau = -2te^{-(x+t)^2} + \int_{x-t}^{x+t} e^{-\zeta^2} d\zeta.\end{aligned}$$

*Question 4:* The pde is

$$u_t - u_{xx} - u_x + au = 0.$$

To compute the stability index we assume a plane wave solution in the form

$$u = A \exp(ikx + \lambda t) + c.c..$$

Substitution into the pde yields

$$\lambda = -k^2 - a + ik \implies \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) = -k^2 - a.$$

Thus,

$$\Omega = \operatorname{lub}_k [\operatorname{Re}(\lambda)] = -a.$$

Hence, if  $a > 0$ , the pde is *strictly stable*, if  $a = 0$ , the pde is *neutrally stable* and if  $a < 0$ , the pde is *unstable*.