



KENYATTA UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2010/2011
INSITUTIONAL BASED PROGRAMME (DECEMBER SESSION)
EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE
SMA 630: PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION I

DATE: Friday 29th April 2011

TIME: 9.00a.m – 12.00p.m

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any three questions

Question One (23 marks)

- a) i) Consider the heat equation $\mu_t - D\mu = 0$

Show that the solution of this equation, of the form

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{t^\alpha} V\left(\frac{x}{t^\beta}\right), \text{ is given by } \mu(x, t) = \frac{b}{t^{\frac{n}{2}}} e^{-\frac{1}{4t} \frac{x^2}{t^2}} \quad [9\text{marks}]$$

- ii) The function

$$\Phi(x, t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{n}{2}}} e^{-\frac{|x|^2}{4t}} & x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t > 0 \\ 0 & x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t < 0 \end{cases}$$

is called the fundamental solution of the heat equation. For each $t > 0$, show that

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(x, t) dx = 1. \quad [4\text{marks}]$$

Show that

- i) $U \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty))$

$$\text{ii)} \quad U_t(x, t) - \Delta U(x, t) = 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t > 0$$

$$\text{iii)} \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} u(x, t) = g(x^0) \text{ for each } x^0 \in \mathbb{R}^n,$$

$$(x, t) \rightarrow (x^0, 0)$$

[4marks]

Question Two (23 marks)

a) Given that

$$U_t - \Delta U = f \text{ in } U_T$$

$$U = g \text{ on } \Gamma_T$$

Where $U_T = B^o(y, \gamma)$ is a sphere centered at y with radius γ and Γ_T is the boundary of the sphere $B^o(y, \gamma)$. Show by use of energy methods that there exists atmost one solution $U \in C_1^2(\bar{U}_T)$ of the above. [10marks]

b) Given the wave equation

$$U_{tt} = \Delta u = 0 \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{0, \infty\}$$

$$U = g \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{t = 0\}$$

$$U_t = h \text{ on } \mathbb{R}^n \times \{t = 0\}$$

Fix $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and let u be the solution of the above initial value problem. Define

$$U(x', y, t) = \int_{\partial B(x, \gamma)} u(y, t) ds(y)$$

$$\partial B(x, \gamma)$$

$$G(x; \gamma) = \int_{\partial B(x, \gamma)} g(y) ds(y)$$

$$\partial B(x, \gamma)$$

$$H(x; \gamma) = \int_{\partial B(x, \gamma)} h(y) ds(y)$$

$$\partial B(x, \gamma)$$

Prove that

i) $U \in C^M(\mathbb{R}_+^n \times (0, \infty))$ [4marks]

ii) $U_{tt} - U_{rr} = \frac{n-1}{r} U_r = 0$ in $\mathbb{R}_+^n \times (0, \infty)$

$U = G, U_t = H$ on $\mathbb{R}_+^n \times \{t = 0\}$ [9marks]

Question Three (23 marks)

a) Prove the multinomial theorem

$$(x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)^K = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq K} \frac{K!}{\alpha!} x^\alpha \quad \text{where}$$

$\binom{|\alpha|}{\alpha} := \frac{|\alpha|!}{\alpha!}, \alpha! = \alpha_1! \alpha_2! \dots \alpha_n!$ and $x^\alpha = x_1^{\alpha_1} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n}$, the sum is taken over multi-indices $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$ with $|\alpha| = k$, [6marks]

b) Prove Leibniz' formula

$$D^\alpha(uv) = \sum_{\beta \leq \alpha} \binom{\alpha}{\beta} D^\beta u D^{\alpha-\beta} v,$$

Where $u, v \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are smooth, $\binom{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{\alpha!}{\beta!(\alpha-\beta)!}$ and $\beta \leq \alpha$ means $\beta_i \leq \alpha_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$),

[6marks]

c) Assume that $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is smooth, Prove that

$$f(x) = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \frac{1}{\alpha!} D^\alpha f(0) x^\alpha + o(|x|^{k+1}) \text{ as } x \rightarrow 0 \text{ for each } k = 1, 2, \dots$$
 [6marks]

d) State three physical interpretation of Laplace's equation and name their corresponding laws.

[5marks]

Question Four (23 marks)

a) Prove that the Laplace's equation $\Delta u = 0$ where $u : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is rotation.

[6marks]

b) Let $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $r = |x| = (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ by taking $u(x) = v(r)$,

Show that $\Delta u = 0$ can be expressed as $v''(r) + v'\left(\frac{n-1}{r}\right) = 0$ [8marks]

c) Show that $\Delta u = 0$ can be expressed as $v''(\gamma) + v'(\gamma) \left(\frac{n-1}{\gamma} \right) = 0$ in (b) is given by

$$v(\gamma) = \begin{cases} b \log \gamma & \text{for } n = 2 \\ \frac{b}{\gamma^{n-2}} & \text{for } n \geq 3. \end{cases}$$

Where b is a constant.

[9marks]

Question Five (23marks)

a) Suppose that $f \in C_c^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$ and

$$u(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \Phi(x-y) f(y) dy = \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \log(1-x-y^2) f(y) dy & n = 2 \\ \frac{1}{n(n-2)} \alpha(n) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(y)}{1-x-y^2} dy & n \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

Where $\alpha(n) = \frac{\pi^{\frac{n}{2}}}{\Gamma(1 + \frac{n}{2})}$

Prove that

i) $u \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$

[8marks]

ii) $-\Delta u = f$ in $\mathbb{R}^n$

[10marks]