

Boundary and Eigenvalue Problems

Exercise Sheet 3

Exercise 5

Consider the boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} -u'' = f & \text{on } (0, a) \\ u(0) = \gamma_0, \quad u(a) - u'(a) = \gamma_1 \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

- (a) Find all $a > 0$ such that for all $\gamma_0, \gamma_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $f \in C([0, a])$ the problem (1) has a unique solution u .
- (b) Compute the Green's function in the affirmative case.

Exercise 6

Consider the boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} -u'' + u = f & \text{in } (0, 1) \\ u'(0) = u'(1) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Show that for any $f \in C([0, 1])$ the problem (2) is uniquely solvable and compute the Green's function to (2).

Exercise 7

For a differential operator L of order m defined by

$$L\phi = \sum_{k=0}^m a_k \phi^{(k)}$$

with functions $a_k \in C^k([a, b])$ let L^* be its (formal) adjoint operator, given by

$$L^*\phi = \sum_{k=0}^m (-1)^k (a_k \phi)^{(k)}.$$

Assume that $L = L^*$ holds.

- (a) For $m = 2$, classify all a_0, a_1, a_2 , such that $L = L^*$.
- (b) For any $f, g \in C^m([a, b])$ compute $\int_a^b Lf g dx - \int_a^b f Lg dx$ only in terms of the values (and the derivatives) of f, g on the boundary $\{a, b\}$.
- (c) Consider now periodic boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} Lu = f & \text{on } (a, b) \\ u^{(\nu)}(b) - u^{(\nu)}(a) = 0 & \nu = 0, \dots, m-1. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

and assume that $u = 0$ is the unique solution to the homogeneous problem. Let G be the Green's function to (3) and

$$(L^{-1}f)(x) := \int_a^b G(x, \xi) f(\xi) d\xi$$

for $f \in C_0(a, b)$. Show that for all $f, g \in C_0(a, b)$ one has

$$\int_a^b (L^{-1}f) g dx = \int_a^b f (L^{-1}g) dx.$$

- (d) Use (c) to show that $G(x, \xi) = G(\xi, x)$ for all $(x, \xi) \in [a, b] \times [a, b]$.