

Math 425 Midterm practice problem solutions

1. Find the general solution to $3u_x + u_{xy} = 1$.

2. Let $u(x, t)$ be a solution to

$$u_t = ku_{xx} - ru \quad 0 < x < L, 0 < t < \infty$$

where k and r are positive constants, with Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = 0 \quad u(L, t) = 0$$

(a) Show that the total energy

$$E(t) = \int_0^L u^2(x, t) dx,$$

is a decreasing function of t

(b) Prove that the solution to the above problem (if it exists) is unique.

3. Let $u(x, t)$ $0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq t \leq \infty$ be a solution to

$$u_t - u_{xx} = 3t^2$$

such that $u(x, 0) \leq 1$ and $u(0, t), u(1, t) \leq t^3 + 1$.

Show that $u(x, t) \leq t^3 + 1$ for all $0 \leq x \leq 1$ and $0 \leq t \leq \infty$.

4. The solution $u(x, t)$ to the heat equation

$$u_t = u_{xx} \quad -\infty < x < \infty, 0 \leq t < \infty$$

with initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = x^4$$

is

$$u(x, t) = x^4 + 12tx^2 + 12t^2$$

Use this fact to...

(a) Find $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p^4 e^{-p^2} dp$.

(b) Find the solution to the heat equation with initial condition $u(x, 0) = x^5$.

5. Solve the wave equation with friction

$$u_{xx} = u_{tt} + 2u_t \quad 0 < x < \pi, t > 0$$

with initial conditions

$$u(x, 0) = \sin(x) \quad u_t(x, 0) = 0.$$

(Hint: Look for separated solutions.)

6. Find the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions for

$$u'' + \lambda u = 0$$

with boundary conditions

$$u(0) = 0 \quad u(1) + u'(1) = 0$$

7. Let $f(x) = x(1 - x)$ $0 \leq x \leq 1$.

(a) Find the fourier sine series of f on $[0, 1]$.

(b) What is the solution to the wave equation

$$u_{tt} = u_{xx}$$

with Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = u(1, t)$$

and initial conditions

$$u(x, 0) = f(x)$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = 0$$