

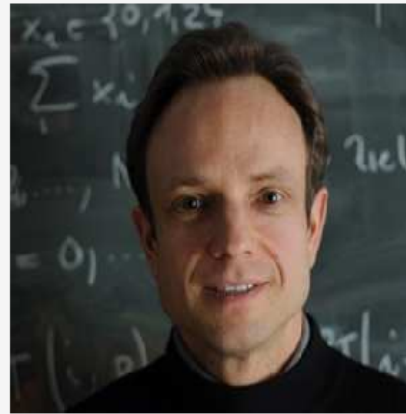
Course Video

Section 1.8: Second-Order Elliptic Variational Problems

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(C) Seminar für Angewandte Mathematik, ETH Zürich



Prerequisites.

- Multi-dimensional integration, [Lecture → Section 0.1.2.5] and
- Multi-dimensional integration by parts, [Lecture → Section 1.5.2]

Dependency. Depends on units on [Lecture → Section 1.6] and [Lecture → Section 1.7]

Note: Possible minor *mismatch of video and tablet notes!*

[Corrections and updates can be incorporated into tablet notes only]



I. Second-Order Scalar Elliptic BVPs

1.8. Second-Order Elliptic Variational Problems

Sect. 1.5 : $LVP \xRightarrow{IbP} BVP \text{ (strong form)}$
 Now $BVP \Rightarrow (L)VP$

Formal procedure: [tacitly assume "sufficient smoothness"]

Formal transition from boundary value problem for PDE to variational problem

STEP 1: *test* PDE with smooth functions

(do not test, where the solution is known, e.g., on the boundary)

STEP 2: *integrate* over domainSTEP 3: perform *integration by parts*

(e.g. by using Green's first formula, Thm. 1.5.2.6)

STEP 4: [optional] incorporate *boundary conditions* into boundary termsSTEP 5: Choose suitable function spaces (*Sobolev spaces*)

(Section 1.3.1: largest function space on which variational problem well posed)

② Example 1.8.0.2 : Dirichlet BVP

$$-\operatorname{div}(\kappa \operatorname{grad} u) = f \text{ in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$$

uniformly positive $\kappa = g$ on $\partial\Omega$ ← solution known here

Test with $v \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$, $v = 0$ on $\partial\Omega$ ←

Step 1 & 2:

$$\int_{\Omega} -\operatorname{div}(\kappa \operatorname{grad} u) v \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx$$

Step 3:

$$\underbrace{\int_{\Omega} \kappa \operatorname{grad} u \cdot \operatorname{grad} v \, dx}_{=: a(u, v)} - \underbrace{\int_{\partial\Omega} ((\kappa \operatorname{grad} u) \cdot n) v \, dS}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{Step 4} \\ = 0}} = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx \quad \forall v \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$$

Step 5: $v \in H_0^1(\Omega)$, $u \in H^1(\Omega)$

Variational form of (1.8.0.3): seek

$$\begin{array}{l} u \in H^1(\Omega) \\ u = g \text{ on } \partial\Omega \end{array} : \int_{\Omega} \kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot \operatorname{grad} v \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega). \quad (1.8.0.5)$$

trial space

Example 1.8.0.6 : Radiation BVP

BVP: $-\operatorname{div}(\kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u) = f$ in Ω , $-\kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot n = \Psi(u)$ on $\partial\Omega$. (1.8.0.7)

STEP 1 & 2: $u|_{\partial\Omega}$ not fixed $\Rightarrow$ test with $v \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega})$ ["test everywhere"]

$$\blacktriangleright - \int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div}(\kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u) v \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx \quad \forall v \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega}).$$

STEP 3 & 4: STEP 3 & 4: apply Green's first formula (1.5.2.7) and incorporate boundary conditions:

$$\blacktriangleright \int_{\Omega} \kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot \operatorname{grad} v \, dx - \int_{\partial\Omega} \underbrace{\kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot n}_{= -\Psi(u) \text{ (STEP 4)}} v \, dS = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx \quad \forall v \in C^\infty(\bar{\Omega}).$$

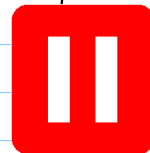
Step 5: $v, u \in H^1(\Omega)$ [for "nice" Ψ]

Variational formulation of (1.8.0.7): seek

$$u \in H^1(\Omega): \int_{\Omega} \kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot \operatorname{grad} v \, dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} \Psi(u) v \, dS = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx \quad \forall v \in H^1(\Omega). \quad (1.8.0.8)$$

! possibly non-linear V.P.

Special case: impedance BDC [linear !]



$$f \cdot n = q(u - u_0) =: \Psi(u) \quad \forall u \in H^1(\Omega)$$

$$\blacktriangleright \int_{\Omega} \kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot \operatorname{grad} v \, dx + \underbrace{\int_{\partial\Omega} q u \cdot v \, dS}_{=: \ell(v)} = \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} f v \, dx}_{=: a(u, v)} + \int_{\partial\Omega} q u_0 v \, dS$$

A LVP!

③ Example 1.8.0.10 : Neumann BVP

BVP:

$$\begin{aligned} -\operatorname{div}(\kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u) &= f \text{ in } \Omega, \\ \kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot n &= h(x) \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \end{aligned} \quad (1.8.0.11)$$

$\hookrightarrow$ uniformly positive

The previous BVP with $\Psi(u) = -h$

Variational formulation of (1.8.0.7): seek

$$u \in H^1(\Omega): \int_{\Omega} \kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot \operatorname{grad} v \, dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} \Psi(u) v \, dS = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx \quad \forall v \in H^1(\Omega). \quad (1.8.0.8)$$

$$\Downarrow \Psi(u) = -h$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &\in H^1(\Omega) \\ (NP) \quad \int_{\Omega} \kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot \operatorname{grad} v \, dx &= \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} f v \, dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} h v \, dS}_{=: \ell(v)} \\ &=: a(u, v) \quad \forall v \in H^1(\Omega) \end{aligned}$$

• Test with $v \equiv 1 \quad \triangleright$ balance condition on data

$$\triangleright \int_{\Omega} f \, dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} h \, dS = 0$$

Heat conduction: $\int_{\Omega} f \, dx$ $\uparrow$ heat generated in side Ω $\leftarrow$ heat flowing through $\partial\Omega$

Rem 1.8.0.14: Non-uniqueness of solutions of (NP)
if u solves (NP) $\Rightarrow u+c$ also solves (NP) $\forall c \in \mathbb{R}$

Idea: Impose a constraint to ensure uniqueness
 $u \in H^1_{\star}(\Omega) := \{v \in H^1(\Omega) : \int_{\Omega} v \, dx = 0\} \quad (1.8.0.15)$

Theorem 1.8.0.20. Second Poincaré-Friedrichs inequality

If $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, $d \in \mathbb{N}$, is bounded, then

$$\exists C = C(\Omega) > 0: \|u\|_0 \leq C \operatorname{diam}(\Omega) \|\operatorname{grad} u\|_0 \quad \forall u \in H^1_{\star}(\Omega).$$

$\triangleright$ $a(u, v)$ is s.p.d. on $H^1_{\star}(\Omega)$
+ norm equivalence: $\|u\|_a \sim \|u\|_1$

$\blacktriangleright$ Uniquely solvable variational formulation of Neumann problem:

$$u \in H^1_{\star}(\Omega): \int_{\Omega} \kappa(x) \operatorname{grad} u \cdot \operatorname{grad} v \, dx = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} h v \, dS \quad \forall v \in H^1_{\star}(\Omega). \quad (1.8.0.16)$$

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Review questions 1.8.0.31

Review question(s) 1.8.0.22(Elliptic variational problems)

(Q1.8.0.31.A) What is the meaning and relationship of *classical* and *weak* solutions of 2nd-order elliptic boundary value problems?

(Q1.8.0.31.B) State the linear variational equation and the corresponding quadratic minimization problem related to the second-order linear elliptic boundary value problem

$$-\operatorname{div}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \operatorname{grad} u\right) + u = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2, \quad u = 1 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega.$$

(Q1.8.0.31.C) Which linear variational problem gives the weak form of the boundary value problem

$$-\Delta u = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \begin{aligned} -\operatorname{grad} u \cdot \mathbf{n} &= u - 1 && \text{on } \Gamma_0, \\ u &= 0 && \text{on } \Gamma_1, \end{aligned}$$

where $\partial\Omega = \overline{\Gamma}_0 \cup \Gamma_1$ is a partition of the boundary $\partial\Omega$?

(Q1.8.0.31.D) Consider the pure Neumann boundary value problem

$$-\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{A}(x) \operatorname{grad} u) = f \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \quad \mathbf{A} \operatorname{grad} u \cdot \mathbf{n} = h \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega.$$

State the compatibility conditions on the data f and h that is necessary for existence of weak solutions.

Give a physical interpretation in the context of stationary heat conduction.

(Q1.8.0.31.E) Consider the partial differential equation

$$\operatorname{grad} \operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} + c(x) \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f} \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3,$$

where $c : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a bounded and uniformly positive definite coefficient function. Derive the formal variational formulations for boundary value problems for this PDE when equipped with the boundary conditions

1. $\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$ on $\partial\Omega$, where $\mathbf{n}$ is the exterior unit normal vectorfield on $\partial\Omega$.
2. $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} = 0$ on $\partial\Omega$.

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