

**WINTERSEMESTER 2015/16 - NICHTLINEARE PARTIELLE  
DIFFERENTIALGLEICHUNGEN**

**Homework #7** due 12/04/2015

**Problem 1.** Consider the biharmonic operator  $P(x, D) = \Delta^2 = \Delta\Delta$  in a smooth domain  $\Omega$  together with the boundary conditions

$$B_1u = u, \quad B_2u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial n}, \quad B_3 = \Delta, \quad B_4 = \frac{\partial}{\partial n}\Delta.$$

- a.) Show that exactly two scalar boundary conditions are needed in order to obtain a well-posed boundary value problem.
- b.) Which pairs of boundary conditions satisfy the Lopatinskii condition and which do not ?

**Problem 2.** Let  $P(x, \xi)$  be a *scalar* operator of order  $m$  on a smooth domain  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  and suppose  $d \geq 3$ . Then for all  $x \in \partial\Omega$  and  $\xi \perp n(x)$ ,  $\xi \neq 0$  we have the factorization  $P_m(x, \xi + i\lambda n(x)) = P_+(x, \xi, \lambda)P_-(x, \xi, \lambda)$  where the polynomial  $P_+$  has only roots with positive real part in  $\lambda$  and the polynomial  $P_-$  has only roots with negative real part in  $\lambda$ . (One can show that the the polynomials  $P_+$  and  $P_-$  can be chosen to have smooth coefficients.) Let  $B_1, \dots, B_l$  be  $l$  scalar boundary conditions where  $l = \deg P_-$ .

- a.) Using the fact that the zeros of  $P$  are continuous functions of  $(x, \xi)$ , show that  $l$  is independent of  $(x, \xi)$ . Here the condition  $d \geq 3$  is important.
- b.) Show that the Lopatinskii condition of Definition 2.5.8 is equivalent to the following condition. The polynomials

$$B_j(x, \xi + i\lambda n(x)), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, l$$

are a basis of  $\mathbb{C}[\lambda]/P_-(x, \xi, \lambda)$  for all  $\xi \perp n(x)$ ,  $\xi \neq 0$ . Here  $\mathbb{C}[\lambda]$  denotes the ring of polynomials with complex coefficients in  $\lambda$  and  $\mathbb{C}[\lambda]/P_-(x, \xi, \lambda)$  is the quotient ring of  $\mathbb{C}[\lambda]$  by the ideal generated by  $P_-(x, \xi, \lambda)$ .

**Problem 3.** Consider the boundary value problem

$$P(\partial)u = \begin{bmatrix} \nabla \times v + \nabla w \\ -\nabla \cdot v \end{bmatrix} = f \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3, \\ n \times v = g \quad \text{in } \partial\Omega.$$

Here  $u = \begin{bmatrix} v \\ w \end{bmatrix}$  is a vector-valued function with four components,  $v$  is a vector-valued function with three components, and the function  $w$  is scalar-valued.

- a.) Use the Divergence Theorem (Gauss's Theorem) to find an *integration by parts formula* for the curl operator. To be more precise, the task is to express the integral

$$\int_{\Omega} (\nabla \times v) \cdot q \, dx$$

where  $v$  and  $g$  are smooth vector-valued function with three components each, by integrals which do not contain any derivative of  $v$ .

b.) Define an unbounded operator  $\mathcal{P} : L_2(\Omega)^4 \rightarrow L_2(\Omega)^4$  with

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{P}) = \{u \in H^1(\Omega)^4 : n \times v = 0 \text{ in } \partial\Omega\}$$

and  $\mathcal{P}u = P(\partial)u$ . Find the (Hilbert space) adjoint  $\mathcal{P}^*$  in the sense of unbounded operators. Recall that

$$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{P}^*) = \{y \in L_2(\Omega)^4 : u \mapsto (\mathcal{P}u, y) \text{ is a bounded linear functional on } \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{P})\}.$$

c.) Suppose that  $\Omega$  is simply connected. Find  $\ker T$  and  $\text{coker } T$  where  $T$  is the operator is the continuous linear operator  $T : H^{k+1}(\Omega)^4 \rightarrow H^k(\Omega)^4 \times H^{1/2+k}(\partial\Omega)^3$  defined by

$$Tu = \left( P(\partial)u, n \times v \Big|_{\partial\Omega} \right).$$

d.) Use your answer of c.) to describe the solvability of the boundary value problem above. In particular, answer the following question. Is the boundary value problem solvable for all  $f \in L_2(\Omega)^4$  and  $g \in H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega)^3$ ? Is the solution unique? What regularity does the solution possess? If the data are more regular, say  $f \in H^k(\Omega)^4$  and  $g \in H^{k+1/2}(\partial\Omega)^3$  where  $k$  is a positive integer, what can you say about the solution?