MAT 519 Practice Problems for Midterm Exam

1. Recall the Green's function $G(x,\xi) = \begin{cases} C\xi(1-x), & 0 \le \xi \le x \\ Cx(1-\xi), & x \le \xi \le 1 \end{cases}$ is used to solve the

problem y'' = f(x) for some specific boundary conditions.

- a. What are the boundary conditions?
- b. Prove that the Green's function is symmetric.
- c. Determine *C*.

2. Consider the boundary value problem
$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = 6\sin\frac{3x}{2}$$
, $y(0) = 0$, $y'(\pi) = 0$.

- a. Solve this problem by direct integration.
- b. Determine the Green's function for this problem, $\frac{\partial^2 G(x,\xi)}{\partial x^2} = \delta(x-\xi)$,

$$G(0,\xi) = 0, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x}G(\pi,\xi) = 0.$$

- c. Use the Green's function to solve the nonhomogeneous problem.
- d. Find the eigenfunctions of the corresponding eignenvalue problem, $\phi''(x) + \lambda \phi(x) = 0$, $\phi(0) = 0$, $\phi'(\pi) = 0$.
- e. Use these eigenfunctions to solve the nonhomogeneous problem; i.e., assume that $y(x) = \sum c_n \phi_n(x)$ and find the expansion coefficients.
- 3. Consider the boundary value problem $x^2y''-2xy+2y=0$, y(1)=0, y(2)=1.
 - a. Solve the given problem.
 - b. Using what you have learned in this course, describe how you would solve the nonhomogeneous problem: $x^2y''-2xy'+2y = f(x)$, y(1) = 0, y(2) = 1.
- 4. Use the Method of Variation of Parameters to solve: $y''+4y = \sec 2x$
- 5. Reduce $u_t = ku_{xx} + Q(x,t)$, u(x,0) = f(x) to homogeneous boundary conditions if u(0,t) = A(t), $u_x(L,t) = B(t)$.
- 6. Solve $u_t = ku_{xx} + Q(x,t)$, u(x,0) = f(x), u(0,t) = A(t), $u_x(L,t) = B(t)$, using an eigenfunction expansion.
- 7. Solve the problem: $\nabla^2 u = e^{2y} \sin x$, u(0, y) = 0, $u(\pi, y) = 0$, u(x, 0) = 0, u(x, 1) = f(x).
- 8. Find the Green's function for $\nabla^2 u = F(x, y)$, u(0, y) = 0, $u(\pi, y) = 0$, u(x, 0) = 0, u(x, 1) = f(x). From Green's identity, derive the representation of the solution to this problem.
- 9. Consider the problem $u_t + (1+u)u_x = 0$, $u(x,0) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \le 0, \\ 1-x, & 0 < x < 1, \\ 0, & x \ge 1. \end{cases}$
 - a. Use the Method of Characteristics to obtain the general solution



b. Label the graph and sketch the initial condition u(x, 0).

c. Label the graph and sketch the characteristics in the *xt* -plane.



d. At what time does the shock form? t =_____

- e. Determine the shock path, $x_s(t)$.
- 10. A general PDE for u = u(x, y) takes the form F(x, y, u, p, q) = 0, where $p = u_x$ and $q = u_y$. The Charpit equations for solving this equation are given by

$$\frac{dx}{F_p} = \frac{dy}{F_q} = \frac{du}{pF_p + qF_q} = -\frac{dp}{F_x + pF_u} = -\frac{dq}{F_y + qF_u}$$

For the special case that F = F(p,q), find the most general form for the solution, u = u(x, y).

- 11. Solve the following equations for u(x, y):
 - a. $u_x 2u_y = u, u(0, y) = y.$
 - b. $xu_x + yu_y = u$.