

1. Let  $\Omega$  be an open bounded domain with smooth boundary in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Assume  $u \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^0(\overline{\Omega})$ .

(i)(10%) Prove the minimum principle for superharmonic functions, i.e., if  $\Delta u \leq 0$  in  $\Omega$ , then

$$\inf_{\Omega} u = \inf_{\partial\Omega} u.$$

(ii)(20%) Denote  $D(\Omega)$  the diameter of  $\Omega$ , i.e.,  $D(\Omega) = \sup\{|x - y| : x, y \in \Omega\}$ . Show that

$$|u(x)| \leq \max_{\partial\Omega} |u(x)| + \frac{D^2(\Omega)}{2n} \sup_{\Omega} |\Delta u(x)|, \quad \forall x \in \Omega.$$

(Hint: Construct an auxiliary function containing the term  $\max_{\partial\Omega} |u(x)| + \frac{1}{2n}[D^2(\Omega) - |x - x_0|^2] \cdot \sup_{\Omega} |\Delta u(x)|$  and function  $u(x)$  with  $x_0 \in \partial\Omega$ . Then apply (i).)

(iii)(10%) Let  $q(x) \in C^0(\overline{\Omega})$ . Show that if  $\max_{\overline{\Omega}} |q(x)| < \frac{D^2(\Omega)}{2n}$ , then the boundary value problem  $\Delta u + q(x)u = 0$  in  $\Omega$  and  $u = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$  admits only trivial solution.

2.(20%) Consider the heat equation with initial condition:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \partial_x^2 u = 0, & (t, x) \in (0, \infty) \times (-\infty, \infty), \\ u(0, x) = 1, & x < 0; 0, & x \geq 0. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Find a similarity solution  $u(t, x) = t^\alpha v(x^\beta/t^\gamma)$  with appropriate  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  and  $v(\cdot)$  solving (1).

3. Consider the initial value problem for the wave equation:

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t^2 u - \lambda_1 \partial_{x_1}^2 u - \lambda_2 \partial_{x_2}^2 u - \lambda_3 \partial_{x_3}^2 u = 0, & (t, x) \in (0, \infty) \times \mathbb{R}^3, \\ u(0, x) = \varphi(x), & \partial_t u(0, x) = \psi(x), \end{cases}$$

where  $\varphi, \psi \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^3)$ . Assume that  $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3 > 0$  are constants.

(a)(20%) Derive the representation formula of the solution  $u(x, t)$ .

(b)(20%) Assume that  $\varphi = 0$  and  $\text{supp}(\psi) \subset B(0, R)$ , the ball centered at 0 with radius  $R > 0$ . Determine the support of  $u(t, x)$  for  $t > 0$ .