

Homework # 6

1. Consider the mapping $f \mapsto Tf =: \phi$ given by

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \phi &= f && \text{in } (0, \pi), \\ \phi &= 0 && \text{on } \{0, \pi\}. \end{aligned}$$

We know that $T\phi_j = \kappa_j \phi_j$ if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \phi_j &= \kappa_j^{-1} \phi_j && \text{in } (0, \pi), \\ \phi_j &= 0 && \text{on } \{0, \pi\}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $\{\sin j \cdot\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ is the set of all eigenvectors of T and $\kappa_j = j^{-2}$. To show that $\{\sin j \cdot\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ is complete in $L^2(0, \pi)$, we only need to show that T is linear, bounded, self-adjoint and positive definite.

A simple computation gives us that

$$Tf(x) = \int_0^{\pi} G(x,s) f(s) ds \quad \text{where} \quad G(x,s) = \begin{cases} \frac{x(\pi-s)}{\pi} & x < s, \\ \frac{s(\pi-x)}{\pi} & s < x. \end{cases}$$

It is immediately clear that T is linear. Let us show that it is bounded. By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality, we get that

$$\begin{aligned} |Tf(x)| &\leq \left(\int_0^{\pi} G(x,s)^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_0^{\pi} f(s)^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \\ \Rightarrow \int_0^{\pi} |Tf(s)|^2 ds &\leq \left(\int_0^{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} G(x,s)^2 ds dx \right) \left(\int_0^{\pi} f(s)^2 ds \right) \end{aligned}$$

In other words

$$\|Tf\|_{L^2(0,\pi)} \leq M \|f\|_{L^2(0,\pi)}$$

where $M = \left(\int_0^\pi \int_0^\pi G^2(x,s) dx ds \right)^{1/2} = \frac{\pi^2}{\sqrt{90}}$. Hence

$$\|T\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2(0,\pi), L^2(0,\pi))} = \sup_{f \in L^2(0,\pi), \|f\|_{L^2(0,\pi)}=1} \|Tf\|_{L^2(0,\pi)} \leq M$$

and so, T is bounded.

Let us show that T is self-adjoint. For any two elements f_1 and f_2 in $L^2(0,\pi)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle Tf_1, f_2 \rangle &= \int_0^\pi Tf_1(s) f_2(s) ds \\ &= \int_0^\pi Tf_1(s) \left(-\frac{d^2}{ds^2} Tf_2 \right)(s) ds, \text{ by def. of } T, \\ &= \int_0^\pi -\frac{d^2}{ds^2} Tf_1(s) \cdot Tf_2(s) ds, \text{ by integration by parts} \\ &= \int_0^\pi f_1(s) Tf_2(s) ds, \text{ by def. of } T_2 \\ &= \langle f_1, Tf_2 \rangle. \end{aligned}$$

So, T is self-adjoint.

Finally, let us show that T is positive definite. Take any $f \in L^2(0,\pi)$, then, proceeding as above with $f_1 = f_2 = f$

we get that

$$\langle Tf, f \rangle = \int_0^{\pi} \left(\frac{d}{ds} Tf(s) \right)^2 ds$$

$$\geq 0$$

for all $f \in L^2(0, \pi)$. If equality holds, then $\frac{d}{ds} Tf(s) = 0$ and so Tf is a constant on $(0, \pi)$. But $Tf(0) = Tf(\pi) = 0$ implies that $Tf = 0$. Since $f = -\frac{d^2}{dx^2} Tf$, this implies that $f = 0$.

2. Take T as the operator defined in the previous exercise but this time from $H_0^1(0, \pi)$ to $H_0^1(0, \pi)$.

Clearly, $\{\sin j \cdot\}_{j=1}^{\infty} \subset H_0^1(0, \pi)$.

To show that $\{\sin j \cdot\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ is complete in $H_0^1(0, \pi)$, we must show that T is linear, bounded, self-adjoint and positive-definite.

We already proved it is linear. Let us prove it is bounded. This means, we have to show there is a constant M such that

$$\|T\|_{\mathcal{L}(H_0^1(0, \pi), H_0^1(0, \pi))} = \sup_{f \in H_0^1(0, \pi) \setminus \{0\}} \frac{\|Tf\|_{H_0^1(0, \pi)}}{\|f\|_{H_0^1(0, \pi)}} \leq M.$$

Since,

$$\|Tf\|_{H_0^1(0, \pi)}^2 = \int_0^{\pi} \frac{d}{dx} Tf(x) \frac{d}{dx} Tf(x) dx$$

we have to get a suitable expression for $\frac{d}{dx} Tf$.

So

$$\frac{d}{dx} T f(x) = \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} G(x, s) f(s) ds$$

and, since $f(0) = 0$ because $f \in H_0^1(0, \pi)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} T f(x) &= \int_0^{\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} G(x, s) \int_0^s \frac{df}{dy}(y) dy \\ &= \int_0^{\pi} \frac{df}{dy}(y) \int_y^{\pi} \frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(x, s) ds \end{aligned}$$

By the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{d}{dx} T f(x) \right| &\leq \left(\int_0^{\pi} \left(\frac{df}{dy}(y) \right)^2 dy \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_0^{\pi} \left(\int_y^{\pi} \frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(x, s) ds \right)^2 dy \right)^{1/2} \\ \Rightarrow \left\| \frac{d}{dx} T f \right\|_{L^2(0, \pi)}^2 &\leq \left\| \frac{df}{dy} \right\|_{L^2(0, \pi)}^2 \int_0^{\pi} \int_0^{\pi} \left(\int_y^{\pi} \frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(x, s) ds \right)^2 dy dx \end{aligned}$$

Since $\left| \frac{\partial G}{\partial x}(x, s) \right| \leq 1$, a simple upper bound is

$$\left\| \frac{d}{dx} T f \right\|_{L^2(0, \pi)}^2 \leq \left\| \frac{df}{dy} \right\|_{L^2(0, \pi)}^2 \pi^4$$

thus, we can take $M = \pi^2$.

Let us show that T is self-adjoint. For any two $f_1, f_2 \in H_0^1(0, \pi)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \langle T f_1, f_2 \rangle &= \int_0^{\pi} \frac{d}{dx} T f_1 \cdot \frac{d}{dx} f_2 dx \\ &= \int_0^{\pi} \left(-\frac{d^2}{dx^2} T f_1 \right) f_2 dx \quad \text{since } f_2 = 0 \text{ at } 0 \text{ and } \pi, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \int_0^{\pi} f_1(x) f_2(x) dx \\
 &= \langle f_1, T f_2 \rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

It remains to show that T is positive definite. But setting $f_1 = f_2 = f$, we get that

$$\langle T f, f \rangle = \int_0^{\pi} f^2(x) dx \geq 0$$

with equality if $f \equiv 0$.

3. Fix $x \in (a, b)$. Let $\pi_n G(x, \cdot)$ be the orthogonal projection of the function $y \mapsto G(x, y)$ into $W_n := \text{span} \{ \sin j \cdot \}_{j=1}^n$. Then

$$\pi_n G(x, \cdot)(y) = \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\langle G(x, \cdot), \phi_j \cdot \rangle}{\|\phi_j \cdot\|^2} \phi_j(y)$$

But

$$\langle G(x, \cdot), \phi_j \cdot \rangle = \int_a^b G(x, s) \phi_j(s) ds = (T \phi_j)(x) = k_j \phi_j(x)$$

then

$$\pi_n G(x, \cdot)(y) = \sum_{j=1}^n k_j \frac{\phi_j(x) \phi_j(y)}{\|\phi_j \cdot\|^2}$$

By Bessel's inequality

$$\|\pi_n G(x, \cdot)\|_{L^2(a,b)}^2 = \sum_{j=1}^n k_j^2 \frac{\phi_j(x)^2}{\|\phi_j \cdot\|^2} \leq \int_a^b G^2(x, y) dy$$

then

$$\int_a^b \left\| \frac{1}{n} G(x, \cdot) \right\|_{L(a,b)}^2 dx = \sum_{j=1}^n k_j^2 \leq \int_a^b \int_a^b G^2(x,s) dx ds$$

This is true for any n . Hence

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} k_j^2 \leq \int_a^b \int_a^b G^2(x,s) dx ds < \infty$$

implies that k_j must converge to zero as j goes to infinity.

4. By definition, $P_n u$ is the element of $W_n = \text{span} \{ \sin j \cdot \}_{j=1}^n$ such that

$$\int_0^{\pi} \frac{d}{dx} P_n u \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \sin jx dx = \int_0^{\pi} f(x) \sin jx dx \quad j=1, \dots, n.$$

Since $f = -\frac{d^2}{dx^2} u$ and since $u=0$ at $x=0, x=\pi$, we have that

$$(*) \quad \int_0^{\pi} \frac{d}{dx} P_n u \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \sin jx dx = \int_0^{\pi} \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} \cdot \frac{d}{dx} \sin jx dx \quad j=1, \dots, n$$

or, equivalently,

$$\begin{aligned} \langle P_n u, \sin j \cdot \rangle &= \langle u, \sin j \cdot \rangle & j=1, \dots, n \\ \Rightarrow \langle P_n u - u, w \rangle &= 0 & \forall w \in W_n \end{aligned}$$

In other words, P_n is the orthogonal projection of $u \in H_0^1(0, \pi)$ into W_n (with inner product $\langle f_1, f_2 \rangle = \int_0^{\pi} \frac{df_1}{dx} \cdot \frac{df_2}{dx} dx$.)

Integration by parts in (*) gives

$$\int_0^{\pi} P_n u(x) \left(-\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \sin jx\right) dx = \int_0^{\pi} u(x) \left(-\frac{d}{dx} \sin jx\right) dx \quad j=1, \dots, n$$

or, equivalently,

$$\int_0^{\pi} P_n u(x) \sin jx dx = \int_0^{\pi} u(x) \sin jx dx \quad j=1, \dots, n$$

which means that $P_n u = \Pi_n u$, as wanted.