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SOLVABILITY OF PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS
IN THE TRACES OF ANALYTIC SOLUTIONS OF THE HEAT EQUATION

by

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N. ARONSZAJN introduced in his lecture at this colloquium [1] an abstract FRECHET space \mathcal{H} : "the traces" of the analytic solutions of the heat equation. In this talk, we give additional properties and discuss the solvability of partial differential equations in \mathcal{H} . As examples, we prove the solvability in this space of some first order operators which are solvable neither in the space of distributions, nor in the space of SATO-MARTINEAU hyperfunctions .

The complete proofs will be published elsewhere ([2]).

I- Définitions, notations and basic properties

We denote by \mathbb{R}^n (resp. \mathbb{C}^n) the n dimensional real (resp. complex) space. We introduce the following notations:

$$\mathbb{C}_+ = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^1, \operatorname{Re} x > 0\}, \quad \bar{\mathbb{C}}_+ = \{x \in \mathbb{C}^1, \operatorname{Re} x \geq 0\}$$

$$\mathbb{C}_+^n = \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \mathbb{C}_+, \quad \bar{\mathbb{C}}_+^n = \mathbb{C}^{n-1} \times \bar{\mathbb{C}}_+ .$$

If $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$, $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) = (x', x_n)$

with

$$x' = (x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) ,$$

$$x^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \quad |x|^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^2$$

where $|x_i|$ denotes the modulus of the complex number x_i . If α is a multi-index, $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)$, α_i integer > 0 we denote

$$D_x^\alpha = D^\alpha = \frac{\partial^{\alpha_1}}{\partial x_1^{\alpha_1}} \dots \frac{\partial^{\alpha_n}}{\partial x_n^{\alpha_n}} , \quad x \in \mathbb{C}^n \quad \text{or} \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n .$$

If Ω is an open set in \mathbb{C}^n , we denote by $H(\Omega)$ the space of analytic functions defined in Ω , with the usual topology ; and $H'(\Omega)$ its dual, the space of analytic functionals in Ω .

We denote

$$E(x, t) = \frac{1}{(4\pi t)^{\frac{n}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4t}\right) , \quad (x, t) \in \mathbb{C}_+^{n+1}$$

Let $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_n$ be the space of analytic solutions u of the heat equation

$$(I.1) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i^2} = 0$$

defined in \mathbb{C}_+^{n+1} . \mathcal{H} is a closed subspace of $H(\mathbb{C}_+^{n+1})$.

The mapping

$$(I.2) \quad \mathcal{H}_n \rightarrow (H(\mathbb{C}_+^n))^2$$

$$u \mapsto (u_0, u_1)$$

where u_0 and u_1 are the CAUCHY data defined by

$$u_0(x', t) = u(x', 0, t)$$

$$u_1(x', t) = -\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_n}(x', 0, t) ,$$

is a topological isomorphism. (The inverse mapping is given by the solution of the

corresponding global CAUCHY problem).

If f is, say a tempered distribution defined on \mathbb{R}^n , we denote

$$(I.3) \quad \tilde{f}(x,t) = \langle f(y), E(x-y,t) \rangle$$

In fact, (I.3) defines a topological embedding of $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $H'(\mathbb{C}^n)$ into \mathcal{H}'_n with dense range. Therefore, we have a natural topological embedding of the dual \mathcal{H}'_n into $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap H(\mathbb{C}^n)$. We will give in the next section a complete characterization of \mathcal{H}'_n , as subspace of $\mathcal{S}(\mathbb{R}^n) \cap H(\mathbb{C}^n)$.

From now on, we consider \mathcal{H}'_n as an abstract space which contains $\mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R}^n), H'(\mathbb{C}^n)$, etc... . If $u \in \mathcal{H}'_n$, we denote

$$\tilde{u}(x,t)$$

the value of the corresponding solution of the heat equation at $(x,t) \in \mathbb{C}_+^{n+1}$. An element in \mathcal{H}'_n is called a "trace".

We refer to [1] where the space \mathcal{H}'_n is introduced and where other properties are discussed.

II. Characterization of the dual space, the multipliers and the convolutors

We consider \mathcal{H}'_n as a subspace of \mathcal{H}'_n . We have the following

PROPOSITION II.1.-

- (II.1) 1)- A trace u is in \mathcal{H}'_n if and only if there exists $F \in H'(\mathbb{C}_+^{n+1})$ (non-unique) such that, for $(x,t) \in \mathbb{C}_+^{n+1}$
- $$\tilde{u}(x,t) = \langle F(y,\tau), E(x-y, t + \tau) \rangle.$$
- 2)- For any $u \in \mathcal{H}'_n$, there exists a unique pair $(F_0, F_1) \in [H'(\mathbb{C}_+^n)]^2$ such that, for $(x,t) \in \mathbb{C}_+^{n+1}$.
- (II.2)
$$\tilde{u}(x,t) = \langle F_0(y',\tau) \otimes \delta(y_n) + F_1(y',\tau) \otimes \delta_0^!(y_n), E(x-y, t+\tau) \rangle$$

where δ is the DIRAC measure in one variable, and δ' its derivative.

Part 2) follows, in particular from the isomorphism (1.2).

THEOREM II.1.-

Let f be an entire function defined in \mathbb{C}^n . $f \in \mathcal{C}'$ if and only if there exist $C \geq 0$, $M \geq 0$, $A > B \geq 0$ such that for any $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$

(II.3) $|f(x)| < \exp (M|x| + B|x^2| - A \operatorname{Re} x^2).$

PROOF 1°) Necessity of (II.3)

From (II.1) we get

$$|\tilde{u}(x)| = |\langle F(y, \tau), E(x-y, \tau) \rangle| \leq C \sup_{(y, \tau) \in K} E(x-y, \tau)$$

where $C \geq 0$ and K is a compact set in \mathbb{C}_+^{n+1} .

The inequality (II.3) follows easily for $\tilde{u}(x)$.

2°) Sufficiency of (II.3)

If F is an analytic functional in \mathbb{C}^n , let us denote

$$\hat{F}(\zeta) = \langle F(x), \exp(-ix \cdot \zeta) \rangle$$

its Fourier-BOREL transform. If $f \in \mathcal{C}'$, it follows easily from (II.1)

and (II.2) that one can obtain the representations :

(II.4) $f(x) = \hat{G}(x, -ix^2), \quad G \in H'(\mathbb{C}_+^{n+1})$

or

(II.5) $f(x) = \hat{G}_0(x', -ix^2) + x_n \hat{G}_1(x', -ix^2), \quad G_0, G_1 \in H'(\mathbb{C}_+^n)$

In order to prove the sufficiency of (II.3), we assume that a given entire function f satisfies (II.3). We shall show that f may be written in the form

(II.5). The latter result is a consequence of the following lemmas.

LEMMA II.1.-

Let f be an entire function in n complex variables even with respect to x_n (i.e $f(x', x_n) = f(x', -x_n)$). There exists a unique entire function g defined in \mathbb{C}^n such that

$$f(x', x_n) = g(x', x_n^2).$$

In addition, f satisfies (II.3) if and only if there exist $C' > 0$, $M' > 0$, $A' > B' > 0$ such that for $y \in \mathbb{C}^n$ and $\tau \in \mathbb{C}$.

(II.6) $|g(y, \tau)| < C' \exp (M' |y| + B' |\tau| - A' \operatorname{Re} \tau).$

We observe here, that the condition (II.6) is equivalent to say that there exists $G \in H^+(\mathbb{C}_+^n)$ such that

$$g(y, \tau) = G(y, -i\tau)$$

(see [5], [6]).

LEMMA (II.2).-

Let f be an entire function satisfying (II.3), and P a polynomial in n variables with complex coefficients. If $\frac{f}{P}$ is entire it also satisfies (II.3).

The proof of lemma (II.2) uses the inequality

$$\left| \frac{f(x)}{P(x)} \right| \leq K \sup_{\substack{\zeta \in \mathbb{C}^n \\ |\zeta| < 1}} |f(x+\zeta)|$$

(see [5]).

Remark II.1.- Using the characterization (II.1) and (II.4), it is readily seen

that $\mathcal{H}_0^{(n)}$ is closed under the FOURIER transform.

From the characterization (II.3) one can obtain

THEOREM II.2.-

The multipliers of \mathcal{H}_b are the entire functions $u(x)$ in n variables

which satisfy the condition :

For any $\epsilon > 0$, there exist $C > 0$, $M > 0$, $A > B - \epsilon$ such that, for any

$x \in \mathbb{C}^n$

$$(II.7) \quad |u(x)| \leq C \exp (M|x| + B|x^2| - A \operatorname{Re} x^2).$$

Let us observe in particular, that the space of the multipliers contains the space of entire functions of exponential type.

Let us denote by \mathcal{H}_b the space of multipliers, namely the space of entire functions which satisfy (II.7).

The space $\hat{\mathcal{H}}_b = \mathcal{E}$ is the space of convolutors. We have in particular the inclusion

$$H'(\mathbb{C}^n) \subset \mathcal{E}.$$

Let $t_0 > 0$, we denote by Σ_{t_0} the subspace of \mathcal{H}_b defined by :

$$u \in \Sigma_{t_0} \iff \tilde{u}(x, t) = \tilde{v}(x, t + t_0)$$

where $v \in \mathcal{H}_b$.

The space Σ_{t_0} is the space of sections at t_0 . Σ_{t_0} is provided with the topology of uniform convergence on compact sets of $\mathbb{C}^n \times \{t \in \mathbb{C}, \operatorname{Re} t > t_0\}$.

We define the space of sections :

$$\Sigma = \operatorname{ind. lim.}_{t_0 \rightarrow 0} \Sigma_{t_0} \\ t_0 > 0$$

We have the following result :

THEOREM II.3.-

The dual Σ' of the space of sections Σ is equal as a subspace of $\mathcal{C}'\mathcal{H}_0$, to the space of convolutors. $\mathcal{E} = \widehat{\mathcal{C}}_0$.

In addition, a trace u is in Σ' if and only if there exists $F \in H'(\mathbb{C}_+^{n+1})$ (non-unique) such that, for $(x,t) \in \mathbb{C}_+^{n+1}$

$$\tilde{u}(x,t) = \langle F(y,\tau), E(x-y, t+\tau) \rangle.$$

III.- Solvability of P,D,E. with polynomial coefficients

We consider first, in this section, the constant coefficient case. We prove the possibility of the division by a polynomial in $\mathcal{C}'\mathcal{H}_0$. Using the Fourier transform, we get the solvability of P.D.E. with constant coefficients, as well as the approximation of the solution of homogeneous equations by exponential-polynomials.

The proofs are based on LEMMA(II.2). In the distribution case, similar ideas are used in [5].

We have the following results.

THEOREM III.I.-

Let $P \neq 0$ be a polynomial in n variables, with complex coefficients . For any $f \in \mathcal{C}'\mathcal{H}_n$, there exists

$u \in \mathcal{C}'\mathcal{H}_n$ such that

$$Pu = f .$$

COROLLARY III.1.-

Let $P(D) \neq 0$ be a partial differential operator in n variables with complex coefficients . For any $f \in \mathcal{C}'\mathcal{H}_n$, there exists $u \in \mathcal{C}'\mathcal{H}_n$

such that $P(D)u = f$

Let us call exponential-polynomial any entire function f of the form

$$f(x) = Q(x) \exp.(a.x) ,$$

where Q is a polynomial and $a \in \mathbb{C}^n$. We denote by $V(P(D))$ the space of traces spanned by the exponential-polynomials f satisfying

$$P(D)f = 0 .$$

THEOREM III.2.-

The space $V(P(D))$ is dense in the space

$$\{ u \in \mathcal{C}^{\infty}, P(D) u = 0 \}$$

We shall consider now the polynomial coefficient case. Let P be a differential operator in n variables x_1, \dots, x_n with polynomial coefficients

$$(III.1) \quad P = P(x, D_x) = \sum_{\alpha} a_{\alpha}(x) D^{\alpha}$$

$$a_{\alpha} \in \mathcal{C}[x_1, \dots, x_n].$$

We shall discuss the solvability in \mathcal{C}^{∞} of the equation

$$(III.2) \quad P(x, D_x) u = f .$$

Let us first consider the following operator

$$(III.3) \quad \tilde{P} = \tilde{P}(x, t, D_x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k}{k!} L_k(x, D_x)$$

with

$$L_0(x, D_x) = P(x, D_x)$$

$$L_{k+1}(x, D_x) = \Delta_x L_k(x, D_x) - L_k(x, D_x) \Delta_x$$

$$\left(\Delta_x = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} \right)$$

L_k vanishes for large k and the series (III.3) is in fact a finite sum.

The operator \tilde{P} satisfies the following properties :

$$(III.4) \quad \tilde{P}(x, 0, D_x) = P(x, D_x)$$

\tilde{P} commutes with the heat operator $\mathbb{H} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta_x$

$$(III.5) \quad \mathbb{H} \tilde{P} = \tilde{P} \mathbb{H}$$

For any trace u ; $x \in \mathbb{C}^n$, $t \in \mathbb{C}_+$:

$$(\tilde{P}u)(x, t) = \tilde{P}(x, t, D_x) \tilde{u}(x, t) .$$

Let us write \tilde{P} in the following form

$$(III.6) \quad \tilde{P}(x, t, D_x) = \sum_k M_k(x, t, D_x) D_{x_n}^{2k} + N_k(x, t, D_x) D_{x_n}^{2k+1} .$$

where M_k and N_k are differential operators in x' , their coefficient being polynomial in x and t .

THEOREM III.3.-

The solvability of (III.2) in $C^{\#} \mathcal{H}$ is equivalent to the solvability of the following problem :

For any $(f_0, f_1) \in (H(\mathbb{C}_+^n))^2$ find

$(u_0, u_1) \in (H(\mathbb{C}_+^n))^2$ such that

$$(III.7) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_k M_k(x', 0, t, D_x) \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta_x\right)^k u_0 + N_k(x', 0, t, D_x) \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta_x\right)^k u_1 &= f_0 \\ \sum_k \left(\frac{\partial M_k}{\partial x_n}\right)(x', 0, t, D_x) \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta_x\right)^k u_0 + N_k(x', 0, t, D_x) \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta_x\right)^{k+1} u_0 + \\ \left(\frac{\partial N_k}{\partial x_n}\right)(x', 0, t, D_x) \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta_x\right)^k u_1 + M_k(x', 0, t, D_x) \left(-\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \Delta_x\right)^k u_1 &= f_1 (*) \end{aligned}$$

The isomorphism (I.2) is used in the proof of theorem (III.3). This theorem reduces the solvability of (III.2) in $C^{\#} \mathcal{H}$ to the solvability of a system of two P.D.E. with polynomial coefficients in the space of holomorphic functions in \mathbb{C}_+^n , for which global CAUCHY-KOVALEVSKY type theorems may be used.

(*) if $Q(x, D) = \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha}(x) D^{\alpha}$ is a partial differential operator, we denote

$$\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x_i}\right)(x, D) = \sum \frac{\partial q_{\alpha}}{\partial x_i}(x) D^{\alpha}$$

Example 1 : Let us consider the operator

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + ix_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} .$$

It is well known that it is not solvable (even locally) in the space of distributions. ([4],[7],...). For the non-solvability in the space of hyperfunctions see [8]. (see also [9]).

THEOREM III.4

The operator

$$P = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + ix_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}$$

is solvable in \mathcal{H}_2 .

After a permissible change of variables, the operator \tilde{P} defined in (III.3) becomes in this case

$$\tilde{P} = it \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2^2} \right) + P$$

The system (III.7) is of the form

$$(III.8) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 u_0}{\partial x_1^2} &= g_0 + Q_0(u_0, u_1) \\ \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x_1^2} &= g_1 + Q_1(u_0, u_1) \end{aligned}$$

where g_0 and g_1 are given holomorphic functions in \mathbb{C}_+^2 and Q_0, Q_1 are differential operators of order 1, acting on u_0 and u_1 , with respect to the variables x_1 and t , with holomorphic coefficients in \mathbb{C}_+^2 . The solvability of (III.8) in $(\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{C}_+^2))^2$ may be proved using a global CAUCHY-KOVALEVSKY type theorem (see [3] for similar techniques).

Example 2.-

THEOREM III.5.-

Let α be a complex number.

The operator

$$P = x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} + \alpha x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}$$

is solvable in \mathcal{H}_2 if and only if $\alpha \neq -1$.

The idea of the proof is similar to that used in theorem (III.4). The non-solvability of (III.9) for $\alpha = -1$ was pointed out by R. MOYER.

Remark III.1. - The operator

$$(III.10) \quad x_2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} - x_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}$$

is not solvable in \mathcal{H}_2 . However it is possible to prove that, if we consider

the "traces of analytic solutions" of the operator

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} - \lambda \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2^2} ; \lambda > 0, \lambda \neq 1$$

instead of the heat operator, (III.10) is solvable in this new space.

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