

160. On Green's Functions of Elliptic and Parabolic Boundary Value Problems

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1. Introduction. Let $A(x, D)$ be an elliptic operator of order m defined in a domain Ω of R^n , and $B_j(x, D)$, $j=1, \dots, m/2$, be operators of order $m_j < m$ defined on $\partial\Omega$. We assume

(i) the system $(A(x, D), \{B_j(x, D)\}_{j=1}^{m/2}, \Omega)$ as well as its adjoint system $(A'(x, D), \{B'_j(x, D)\}_{j=1}^{m/2}, \Omega)$ formally constructed are both regular systems in the sense of S. Amon [1];

(ii) there is an angle $\theta_0 \in (0, \pi/2)$ such that $(e^{i\theta} D_t^m - A(x, D_x), \{B_j(x, D_x)\}_{j=1}^{m/2}, \Omega \times (-\infty < t < \infty))$ is an elliptic boundary value problem satisfying the coerciveness condition for any $\theta \in [\theta_0, 2\pi - \theta_0]$ (cf. S. Agmon [1]).

Let A be the operator defined by

$$D(A) = \{u \in H_m(\Omega) : B_j(x, D)u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, j=1, \dots, m/2\}$$

and $(Au)(x) = A(x, D)u(x)$ for $u \in D(A)$. It is known that the operator defined analogously by the adjoint system $(A'(x, D), \{B'_j(x, D)\}, \Omega)$ coincides with the adjoint of A (F.E. Browder [5], [6]).

In this paper we describe a method of establishing global estimates for the Green's function of the resolvent of A as well as the semigroup $\exp(-tA)$ generated by $-A$. Under the present assumptions the resolvent $(A - \lambda)^{-1}$ exists for λ in the set defined by $A = \{\lambda : \theta_0 \leq \arg \lambda \leq 2\pi - \theta_0, |\lambda| > C_0\}$ for some $C_0 > 0$ ([1]) and $-A$ generates a semigroup which is analytic in the sector $\Sigma = \{t : |\arg t| < \pi/2 - \theta_0\}$.

Theorem 1. *Let $K_i(x, y)$ be the kernel of $(A - \lambda)^{-1}$. Then there exist constants C and $\delta > 0$ such that*

$$(a) \quad |K_i(x, y)| \leq C e^{-\delta|\lambda|^{1/m}|x-y|} |\lambda|^{n/m-1} \quad \text{if } m > n,$$

$$(b) \quad |K_i(x, y)| \leq C e^{-\delta|\lambda|^{1/m}|x-y|} |x-y|^{m-n} \quad \text{if } m < n,$$

$$(c) \quad |K_i(x, y)| \leq C e^{-\delta|\lambda|^{1/m}|x-y|} \{1 + \log^+ (|\lambda|^{-1/m} |x-y|^{-1})\} \quad \text{if } m = n$$

for $x, y \in \Omega$ and $\lambda \in A$.

Theorem 2. *Let $G(x, y, t)$ be the kernel of $\exp(-tA)$. Then there exist positive constants C and c such that*

$$|G(x, y, t)| \leq C |t|^{-n/m} \exp(-c|x-y|^{m/(m-1)} / |t|^{1/(m-1)}) e^{C|t|}$$

for $x, y \in \Omega$ and $t \in \Sigma$.

Remark 1. The boundedness of Ω is required in the assumption (i); however, it is not essential. The same results remain valid if Ω is an unbounded domain uniformly regular of class C^m and locally regular

of class C^{2m} in the sense of F.E. Browder [5],[6] and the system $(A(x, D), \{B_j(x, D)\})$ as well as its adjoint satisfies the assumptions stated above uniformly in $\bar{\Omega}$.

Remark 2. If the coefficients of $A(x, D)$ are Hölder continuous it would be possible to derive the Theorems with the aid of the result of R. Arima [3].

Remark 3. With the aid of Theorem 2 we may establish a result similar to that of K. Masuda [8] and H.B. Stewart [9] which asserts that $-A$ generates an analytic semigroup in the space of bounded and continuous functions vanishing at $\partial\Omega$ and at infinity if the boundary conditions are of Dirichlet type.

Remark 4. Using Theorem 1 it is possible to derive some global version of L. Hörmander's results ([7]) on the Riesz means of the spectral function of A if A is self-adjoint.

2. Outline of the proof of the theorems.

Lemma 1. For $u \in H_m(\Omega)$ and $\lambda \in \Lambda$ we have

$$|\lambda| \|u\| + \|u\|_m \leq C \left\{ \|(A(x, D) - \lambda)u\| + \sum_{j=1}^{m/2} |\lambda|^{(m-m_j)/m} \|g_j\| + \sum_{j=1}^{m/2} \|g_j\|_{m-m_j} \right\}$$

where g_j is an arbitrary function in $H_{m-m_j}(\Omega)$ satisfying $B_j(x, D)u = g_j$ on $\partial\Omega$. The analogue holds for the adjoint system.

Proof. The Lemma is a slight modification of Theorem 2.1 of [1].

For $\eta \in R^n$ let A_η be the operator defined by the system $(A(x, D + i\eta), \{B_j(x, D + i\eta)\}, \Omega)$. Applying Lemma 1 to a function $u \in D(A_\eta)$ we get

Lemma 2. There exist positive constants C and δ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \|(A_\eta - \lambda)^{-1}\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^2} &\leq C/|\lambda|, \\ \|(A_\eta - \lambda)^{-1}\|_{L^2 \rightarrow H_m} &\leq C, \\ \|((A_\eta - \lambda)^{-1})^*\|_{L^2 \rightarrow H_m} &\leq C \end{aligned}$$

for $\lambda \in \Lambda$ and $|\eta| \leq \delta |\lambda|^{1/m}$.

If $K_\lambda^?(x, y)$ is the kernel of $(A_\eta - \lambda)^{-1}$, then $K_\lambda^?(x, y) = e^{\langle x-\eta, y \rangle} K_\lambda(x, y)$. Hence (a) of Theorem 1 is a simple consequence of Lemma 2 and Theorem 3.1 of S. Agmon [2].

In what follows we assume $C_0 = 0$ adding some positive constant to A if necessary (recall the definition of Λ).

Lemma 3 (R. Beals [4]). If S and T are bounded operators from $L^2(\Omega)$ to itself such that the ranges of S and T^* are contained in $L^\infty(\Omega)$. Then the operator ST has a bounded kernel $k(x, y)$ satisfying

$$|k(x, y)| \leq \|S\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^\infty} \|T^*\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^\infty}.$$

Next we assume $m > n/2$. For $t \in \Sigma$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} (1) \quad \exp(-2tA) &= (\exp(-tA))^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^2} \int_r \int_r e^{-t\lambda} e^{-t\mu} (A - \lambda)^{-1} (A - \mu)^{-1} d\lambda d\mu. \end{aligned}$$

In view of Lemma 2 and Sobolev's inequality we have if $|\eta| \leq \delta \min(|\lambda|^{1/m}, |\mu|^{1/m})$

$$\begin{aligned} \|(A_\eta - \lambda)^{-1}\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^\infty} &\leq C |\lambda|^{n/2m-1}, \\ \|((A_\eta - \mu)^{-1})^*\|_{L^2 \rightarrow L^\infty} &\leq C |\mu|^{n/2m-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence by Lemma 3 we see that the kernel $K_{\lambda,\mu}^\eta(x, y)$ of $(A_\eta - \lambda)^{-1}(A_\eta - \mu)^{-1}$ satisfies

$$(2) \quad |K_{\lambda,\mu}^\eta(x, y)| \leq C |\lambda|^{n/2m-1} |\mu|^{n/2m-1}.$$

If $K_{\lambda,\mu}(x, y)$ is the kernel of $(A - \lambda)^{-1}(A - \mu)^{-1}$, it is readily seen that $K_{\lambda,\mu}^\eta(x, y) = e^{\langle x-y, \eta \rangle} K_{\lambda,\mu}(x, y)$. Hence in view of (2) we get

$$\begin{aligned} |K_{\lambda,\mu}^\eta(x, y)| &\leq C |\lambda|^{n/2m-1} |\mu|^{n/2m-1} \exp\{-\delta \min(|\lambda|^{1/m}, |\mu|^{1/m}) |x-y|\} \\ &\leq C |\lambda|^{n/2m-1} |\mu|^{n/2m-1} \{e^{-\delta |\lambda|^{1/m} |x-y|} + e^{-\delta |\mu|^{1/m} |x-y|}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the kernels of the members of (1) and then deforming Γ to

$$\{\lambda: \lambda = r e^{\pm i\theta_0}, r \geq a\} \cup \{\lambda: \lambda = a e^{i\phi}, \theta_0 \leq \phi \leq 2\pi - \theta_0\}$$

where $a = \varepsilon(|x-y|/|t|)^{m/(m-1)}$ we get without difficulty

$$\begin{aligned} |G(x, y, 2t)| &\leq C |t|^{-n/m} \exp\{-(\delta \varepsilon^{1/m} - 4\varepsilon) |x-y|^{m/(m-1)} / |t|^{1/(m-1)}\}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking ε sufficiently small we get Theorem 2 for the case $m > n/2$. The case $m \leq n/2$ can be dealt with following the method of R. Beals [4]. The assertions (b) and (c) of Theorem 1 can be established by Theorem 2 and

$$(A - \lambda)^{-1} = \int e^{it} \exp(-tA) dt$$

where we integrate along the ray $\{t = |t| e^{\pm i\theta_0}\}$ according as $\text{Im } \lambda \geq 0$.

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