

**ON BOUNDARY-VALUE  
PROBLEMS FOR  
DIFFERENTIAL AND  
INTEGRO-  
DIFFERENTIAL  
EQUATIONS IN THE  
SPACES  $(W_{\{p_1 \dots$   
 $p_k\}^{\{m_1 \dots$   
 $m_k\}})$ ,  $(W_{\{p_1 \dots$   
 $p_k, b_1 \dots$   
 $b_n\}^{\{m_1 \dots$   
 $m_k\}})$**

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**Abstract**

**Full Text**

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**ON BOUNDARY-VALUE PROBLEMS FOR DIFFERENTIAL AND INTEGRO-DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS IN THE SPACES  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$ ,  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k, b_1 \dots b_n}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$**

*(Presented by Academician S. L. Sobolev, August 5, 1965)*

The idea of the investigation is as follows: to a functional space there is put in correspondence a class of partial differential equations determined by its metric. The properties of the functions of this space lead to natural formulations of boundary-value problems for the indicated equations and to the solution of the latter (the variational method, etc.). If the spaces are “weighted,” then the equations generated by their metric are degenerate. In the space  $x_1 \dots x_n$  let there be given a domain  $D$  with boundary

$$S = \sum_{s=1}^n S_{n-s}$$

—pieces of manifolds of dimension  $n - s$ . In  $D$  the functions

$$W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k} = \prod W_{p_i}^{m_i} (p_i > (np_{i+j}) : [n - (m_{i+j} - m_i)p_{i+j}])^* .$$

**Proposition 1.** If  $D$  is bounded, a function from  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$  can be characterized by assuming that it is summable in  $D$ , and that all its generalized derivatives (in the sense of S. L. Sobolev) of orders  $m_i$  are summable in  $D$ , respectively to the powers  $p_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ). The space is complete.

**Proposition 2.** On  $S_{n-s} \in D + S$  a function  $u$  from  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$  and all its derivatives up to order

$$\max(m_i - [s/p_i] - 1) = m_\gamma - [s/p_\gamma] - 1$$

inclusive have defined (up to a set of measure zero) traces (limiting values)

$$\varphi_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^l |_{S_{n-s}} \in \mathcal{L}_{q_\gamma}(S_{n-s}),$$

where 1)  $q_\gamma \leq p_\gamma(n-s)/[n-p_\gamma(m_j-l)]$  if  $n > p_\gamma(m_\gamma-l)$ ; 2)  $q_\gamma > 1$  is any number if  $n = p_\gamma(m_\gamma-l)$ ; 3) one may take  $C$  if  $n < p_\gamma(m_\gamma-l)$ .

**Example.**  $W_{2,1/2}^{2,1}(D_5)$ ,  $\partial u/\partial x_i|_{S_4} \in \mathcal{L}_{8/3}, \dots$ ,  $u|_{S_1} \in \mathcal{L}_9$ . Hence the difference between the embedding theorems for  $W_{2,1/2}^{2,1}(D_5)$  and  $W_2^2, W_{1/2}^1(D_5)$  is visible.

**Proposition 2a.** The embedding operator in Proposition 2 is completely continuous in  $\mathcal{L}_{q_\gamma^*}(S_{n-s})$ ,  $q_\gamma^* < q_\gamma$ .

The spaces  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$  are defined in an unbounded  $D$ . The functions  $u$  and their derivatives up to order  $m_i$  inclusive are summable in  $D$  to the powers  $p_i$ .

**Proposition 2b.** Proposition 2 is valid in an unbounded  $D$ . Below  $W$  are also defined in unbounded domains.

**Proposition 3.** Let: 1)  $S_{n-s} \in D + S$ ; 2)  $\varphi_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^l|_{S_{n-s}}$  be the trace on  $S_{n-s}$  of the derivative  $u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^l$  ( $l \leq m_\gamma - [s/p_\gamma] - 1$ ) of the function  $u$  ("admissible" for  $\varphi_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^l$ ) from  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$ . The set of those admissible for  $\varphi_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^l$  is an infinite set  $M$ . The set  $M$  is closed in  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$ .

Let: 1)

$$S = S^3 + S^c = (S_{n-1}^3 + \dots + S_0^3) + (S_{n-1}^c + \dots + S_0^c)$$

( $S^c$  is the "free" part of  $S$ ). 2)

$$W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}(S^3, 0)$$

are functions  $W$  equal to zero on  $S^3$  together with their derivatives, ending with order  $m_\gamma - [s/p_\gamma] - 1$  (by 2, 2b). 3)

$$W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}(S^3, 0) = W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}(0), \quad S^c = 0; \quad W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}(0) \in W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}(S^3, 0)$$

and is closed in it.

The proof of the propositions follows from the properties of the functions  $W_p^m$ .

\* Definition see (1), domain and boundary (1-5), history of the question (1-5, 7-9).

I shall present problem 1 in such a way that all the specific features in the formulation of boundary-value problems in  $W$  will be visible (boundary conditions, nonlinearities, etc.). Some notation from (1,4) is used, as well as the following.

$F_m^p(x, u \dots u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^m)|_{S_{n-s}} = F_m^p(u)|_{S_{n-s}}$  is a form admissible on  $S_{n-s}$  in  $W_p^m$  (or a homogeneous function) of degree  $p$  in the indicated arguments;

$$D_m^{p-1,1}[F(u, \xi)]_{S_{n-s}} = \int_{S_{n-s}} \dots \int \sum \frac{\partial F_m^p}{\partial u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^l} \xi_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n} ds.$$

**Problem 1.** In  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$ , find a function  $u$  satisfying the equation

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \sum_{\nu=0}^{m_i} \sum_{p_\nu, q_\nu \geq 1}^{q_i} (D_\nu^{p_\nu}[F(u)])^{q_\nu-1} D_\nu^{p_\nu-1,1}[F(u, \xi)] = 0 = J^{p-1,1}(u, \xi);$$

$$p_{m_i} = p_i; \quad q_{m_i} = \tau_i; \quad \xi \in W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}(0); \quad q_i \leq p_i n / [n - p_i(m_i - \nu)] \quad (1)$$

and so on (see Theorems 2 and 26).

The integro-differential equation has the form

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \left\{ \left( \int_D \dots \int F_{m_i}^{p_i}(u) dV \right)^{\tau_i-1} \sum_{0, \Sigma \alpha=l}^{l=m_i} (-1)^l \left( \frac{\partial F_{p_i}^{p_i}(u)}{\partial u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}} \right)_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^l \right\} + \dots = 0. \quad (1')$$

Here  $u$  must satisfy the boundary conditions

$$1. \quad J^{p-1,1}(u, \tilde{\xi}) + \sum_{i,s=1}^{k,n} \sum_{\nu=0}^{m_i-(s/p_i)-1} \sum_{p_{\nu,s}, q_{\nu,s} \leq 1}^{q_{\nu,i,s}} (D_\nu^{p_{\nu,s}}[F(u)])_{S_{n-s}^c}^{q_{\nu,s}-1} \times \\ \times D_\nu^{p_{\nu,s}-1,1}[F(u, \tilde{\xi})] \Big|_{S_{n-s}^c} = 0; \quad \tilde{\xi} \in W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}(S^3, 0). \quad (2)$$

It is possible that in (2) the integrals over  $S_{n-s}^c$  are absent (the second boundary condition). It is possible that  $S^3 = 0$  (the condition

$$\int_D \dots \int u dV = 0$$

and so forth <sup>(1)</sup>).

2. On the pieces  $S_{n-s}^3$ , for the function  $u$  the boundary conditions are as follows:

$$u|_{S_{n-s}^3} \quad \varphi_0(S_{n-s}^3) \cdots \frac{\partial^{m_\gamma - [s/p_\gamma] - 1} u}{\partial x_n^{m_\gamma - [s/p_\gamma] - 1}} \Big|_{S_{n-s}^3} = \varphi_{0,0,\dots,m_\gamma - [s/p_\gamma] - 1}(S_{n-s}^3). \quad (3)$$

Here  $\varphi_{\alpha_1 - \alpha_n}(S_{n-s}^3) \subset \mathcal{L}_{q_\gamma}(S_{n-s}^3)$  (see Propositions 2, 26) is a necessary condition for solving the problem by the variational method\*. (2) is the first variation of the functional

$$Z(u) = \sum_{i=1}^k \left\{ (D_{m_i}^{p_i}[F(u)])^{T_i} + \sum_{s=0}^n \sum_{\nu=0}^{m_i - [s/p_i] - 1} \sum_{p_{\nu,s}, q_{\nu,s} \geq 1}^{q_{\nu,i,s}} (D_\nu^{p_{\nu,s}}[F(u)])_{S_{n-s}^c}^{q_{\nu,s}} \right\}. \quad (2')$$

A function  $u \in W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$  for which the functional (2') has meaning and which satisfies conditions (3), according to assumptions 2, 26, is an admissible function of problem 1. Conditions are imposed on (2') ensuring its lower bound in the class of admissible functions (see (1,4)), etc.\*\*

**Proposition A.** Among the admissible functions of problem 1 there exists a unique one that gives the minimum of the functional (2'). It is the solution of problem 1.

\* On sufficient conditions for a number of cases of first boundary-value problems, see (1,6-8).

$$** \quad F_m^p = \sum_{\Sigma \alpha = m} A_\alpha(x) |u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^m|^p + \tilde{F}_m^p(u) = \Phi_m^p + \tilde{F}_m^p; \quad A_\alpha \geq a; \quad F_m^p \geq b \Phi_m^p; \quad a, b > 0.$$

**Example.**  $D$  is a domain in the plane  $x_1, x_2$ ;  $S = S_1^3 + S_2^3 + S^c$  is the boundary of  $D$ . In  $W'_{2,b}$ , find a function  $u$  such that ( $r_2^b$  is from  $D$  to  $D_2^3$ ):

$$\sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( r_2^b \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right) + c(x) \left( \iint_D |u|^p dV \right)^{q-1} u |u|^{p-2} dV = 0 \quad \text{in } D.$$

1)  $r_2^b \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} \Big|_{S^c} + \beta(S) \left( \int_{S^c} |u|^{p_1} dS \right)^{q-1} u |u|^{p_1-1} = 0;$  2)  $u|_{S_1^3} = \varphi(S);$  3)  $u|_{S_2^3} = 0.$

**Problem 2.** Among functions  $u \in W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$  satisfying the boundary conditions (3), according to Propositions 2, 2b (admissible functions), find one that gives the minimum to the functional

$$Z(u) = J \left( \underbrace{\int_D \dots \int F_{m_1}^{p_1}(u) dV}_n \cdots \underbrace{\int_{S_{n-s}^c} \dots \int F_s^{p_s}(u) dS}_{n-s} \cdots u(Q_{0,i}) \right). \quad (4)$$

Here the functional (4) satisfies the conditions:

$$1. \quad J \left( \int f \left( \frac{\varphi + \psi}{2} \right) dt \right) + J \left( \int f \left( \frac{\varphi - \psi}{2} \right) dt \right) \leq J \left( \int F^{1/2}(\gamma(\varphi) + \gamma(\psi)) dt \right), \quad (5_1)$$

$f(\cdot) = F(\gamma(\cdot))$ . This inequality is valid for broad types of functions  $J, F$  and  $\gamma$ . For example: 1)  $J = (\cdot)^q, F = (\cdot)^\tau, \gamma = |\cdot|^p$ ; 2)  $J = (\cdot)^q, F = (\cdot), \gamma = \gamma(\cdot), J = J(\cdot)$ , etc.\*

$$2J \left( \underbrace{\int_D \dots \int_D}_{n} F_{m_1}^{p_1}(u) dV \dots \right) \geq A \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^k \underbrace{\int_D \dots \int_D}_{n} \sum_{\Sigma \alpha = m_i} |u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^{m_i}|^{p_i} dV \right\}. \quad (5_2)$$

3. Some smoothness, lower semicontinuity.

The solution is carried out by the variational method. The passage from Problem 2 with the functional  $Z(u)$  to the corresponding boundary-value problem with a generalized solution is performed taking into account inequalities generalizing those given below. Instead of (4), one may consider in general a functional  $Z(u)$  defined on  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$ , with conditions analogous to (5). When the functional (4), (2') corresponds to equation (1), Proposition A is proved with the aid of Propositions 2, 2b, 3, relations (5<sub>1</sub>), and a number of inequalities. I give some of them.

$$1. \quad \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k D^{p_i}(\varphi_i) \right]^q - \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k D^{p_i}(\varphi_i - \psi_i) \right]^q \leq q \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k D^{p_i}(\varphi_i) \right]^{q-1} \sum_{i=1}^k p_{iD}^{p_i-1,1}(\varphi_i, \psi_i) + \sum c \left[ \sum D^{p_i}(\varphi_i) \right]^{q_1} \left[ \sum D^{p_{i-1,1}} \right]^{q_2} \left[ \sum D^{p_{i-2,2}} \right]^{q_3} \left[ \sum D^{p_i}(\psi_i) \right]^{q_4},$$

$\sum q_i \geq 2, \quad q$  an integer, and  $\sum q_i \geq q - ([q] - 1)$  in the other cases;  $q_i = 0, 1, \dots, q$ .

$$2. \quad \int |\varphi - \psi|^p dt \leq c \left\{ \int \varphi |\varphi|^{p-q-1} (\varphi |\varphi|^{q-1} - \psi |\psi|^{q-1}) dt + \int \psi |\psi|^{p-q-1} (\psi |\psi|^{q-1} - \varphi |\varphi|^{q-1}) dt \right\}; \quad p \geq 2; \quad 1 \leq q \leq p - 1.$$

On the smoothness of the solution of equation (1). Consider  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k=2}^{m_1 \dots m}$  ( $\max m_i = m_k = m$ ). We write equation (1) in the form ( $\tau_k = 1$ )

$$\underbrace{\int_D \dots \int_D}_n u \mathcal{L}^m(\xi) dV + \sum_{\nu=0}^{m-\lambda} \sum_{p_\nu, q_\nu} (D_\lambda^{p_\nu} [F(u)])^{q_\nu-1} D_\nu^{p_\nu-1,1} [F(u, \xi)] = 0, \quad (1_1)$$

\* Generalization of Clarkson's inequality.

$0 \leq n \leq m$ ,  $\mathcal{L}^m(\xi) = \sum_{\Sigma \alpha = m} (A_\alpha(x) \xi_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^m)_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^m$ ,  $A_\alpha$  are  $m$  times differentiable.

It is possible that  $A_\alpha = \tilde{A}_\alpha B$ ; in degenerating equations  $B(x) = \prod r_{n-s}^{b_s}$ , where  $r_{n-s}^{b_s}$  is the distance to  $S_{n-s}$  to the power  $b_s$ . Let the operator  $\mathcal{L}^m(\xi)$  be self-adjoint elliptic and admit a fundamental solution.

**Proposition 1a.** *Let us assume that the coefficients in the forms  $F_\nu^p$  are bounded in any  $\bar{D}_1 \in D$ . Then the function  $u$  (the solution of (1<sub>1</sub>)) will be continuous (more precisely, equivalent to the latter) in  $D$ , together with its derivatives up to order  $m + n - 1$  inclusive.*

**Proposition 1b.** *Suppose that the coefficients  $A_{l,q}$  in the terms*

$$A_{l,q} \prod |u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^{l_i}|^{q_i} \prod (u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^{l_j})^{q_j}$$

of the forms  $F_\nu^p$  have piecewise-continuous derivatives in  $D$  up to order

$$\max(l_1, \dots, l_r, \dots, l_H) + 1$$

(in the case of the function  $F_\nu^p$  the corresponding smoothness and the  $T$ -properties are required—substitution of a function into a function (5)). Then the function  $u$  satisfies the equation \*

$$\mathcal{L}_{b_1 \dots b_n}^m(u) + F \left( Q, u, \dots, u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^{2m-\lambda}, \dots, \int_D \dots \int_D^n F_\nu^p(u) dV \right) = 0. \quad (1_2)$$

Propositions 4a and 4b are proved by a generalization (development) of the method of S. L. Sobolev (2, 5) ( $\Delta^m(u) = 0$ ). This generalization was given by the author partially also in (1, 4). For clarity of exposition let us set  $\mathcal{L}^m(\cdot) = \Delta^m(\cdot)$ . From (1<sub>1</sub>) we obtain the equations

$$u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^l = \int_D \dots \int_D^n [ ] u_{\alpha_1 \dots \alpha_n}^k dV + \int_D \dots \int_D^n \sum \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_{\beta_1 \dots \beta_n}^l} \left( \omega \left( \frac{r}{h} \right) \right)_{\alpha_1 + \beta_1, \dots, \alpha_n + \beta_n}^{k+l} dV. \quad (1_3)$$

Here [ ] is the kernel of S. L. Sobolev. The second integral is the “potential” term. By investigating (1<sub>3</sub>) the smoothness properties of the solution of equation (1<sub>1</sub>) are established. The case when in (1<sub>1</sub>) all

$$A_\alpha(x) = B(x) \frac{m}{\alpha_1! \dots \alpha_n!}$$

(in degenerating equations  $B(x) \sim \prod_{s=1}^n r_{n-s}^{b_s}$ ) is reduced to the same question. In the functional (4), (2') the new function is  $V = \sqrt{A}u$ . In the general form of the operator  $\mathcal{L}^m(u)$ , its fundamental solution is used. There are also other cases of differentiability of solutions of problem 1. The investigation of differential properties of generalized solutions of a number of cases of the main problem 1 can also be carried out by other methods (finite differences, ellipticity of equations, smoothness of  $F_m^p(u)$ , etc.).\*\* The problems in  $W_{p_1 \dots p_k, b_1 \dots b_n}^{m_1 \dots m_k}$  are formulated and considered analogously to what was set out above. Problem 2 and the corresponding boundary problem naturally extend to other functional spaces (with fractional indices of S. L. Sobolev,  $K$ , and others). For detailed literature see (<sup>1, 5, 7</sup>).

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\* Clarifications: the theorems are formulated also with the Hölder condition; for  $\min(q_1, \dots, q_n) \leq \max(l_1, \dots, l_n) + 1$  ( $q_i$  not an integer) Proposition 1b will look somewhat different.

\*\* This method was also known earlier (works other than the present one)—Aronszajn, A. Douglis, S. M. Nikol'skii, L. Nirenberg, and others.

*Note: Figure translations are in progress. See original paper for figures.*

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