

MATH 401 HOMEWORK 1

PROBLEM 1

- (i) SHOW THAT $x \delta'(x) + \delta(x) = 0$.
- (ii) LET $f(x) = H(x-1) \sin x$ WHERE $H(z)$ IS THE HEAVYSIDE FUNCTION. FIND THE DERIVATIVE OF THE GENERALIZED FUNCTION $f(x)$.
- (iii) EXPRESS $\delta(x^2 - a^2)$ AS A SUM OF DELTA FUNCTIONS
- (iv) SHOW THAT $f(x) \delta'(x) = f(0) \delta'(x) - f'(0) \delta(x)$.

PROBLEM 2 DEFINE $Lu \equiv u'' - k^2 u$ ON $0 < x < 1$ WITH $k > 0$.

- (i) FIND THE GREEN'S FUNCTION FOR Lu WITH $u(0) = u(1) = 0$.
- (ii) FIND AN INTEGRAL REPRESENTATION FOR THE SOLUTION TO
$$Lu = f(x), \quad 0 < x < 1$$

$$u(0) = 1, \quad u(1) = 0 \quad (\text{NOTICE INHOMOGENEOUS BC HERE}).$$
- (iii) SUPPOSE THAT $f(x)$ DEPENDS ON A PARAMETER ϵ AS
$$f(x) \equiv \frac{1}{\epsilon} \operatorname{sech}^2 \left(\frac{x-1/2}{\epsilon} \right).$$

FIND A GOOD APPROXIMATION WHEN $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ FOR THE SOLUTION TO
$$Lu = f(x) \quad \text{ON} \quad 0 < x < 1$$

WITH $u(0) = 0, \quad u(1) = 0$.

PROBLEM 3 CONSIDER $Lu \equiv u'' - k^2 u$ WITH $k > 0$.

- (i) FIND THE GREEN'S FUNCTION FOR Lu ON $-\infty < x < \infty$ WITH $u \rightarrow 0$ AS $|x| \rightarrow \infty$.
- (ii) FIND THE GREEN'S FUNCTION FOR Lu ON $0 \leq x < \infty$ WITH $u(0) = 0$ AND $u \rightarrow 0$ AS $x \rightarrow \infty$.

PROBLEM 4

(i) FIND THE GREEN'S FUNCTION FOR

$$L u \equiv (x u')' - \frac{1}{x} u = f(x) \text{ ON } 0 < x < 1$$

WITH $u(0)$ FINITE, $u(1) = 0$.

(ii) LET $U(r, \varphi)$ WITH r, φ BEING POLAR COORDINATES SATISFYING

$$U_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} U_r + \frac{1}{r^2} U_{\varphi\varphi} = \delta(r-r_0) \cos \varphi \text{ IN } 0 \leq r \leq 1, 0 \leq \varphi \leq 2\pi, \text{ WITH } 0 < r_0 < 1,$$

AND WITH

$$U = 0 \text{ ON } r=1; U \text{ BOUNDED AS } r \rightarrow 0$$

$$U, U_{\varphi} \text{ } 2\pi \text{ PERIODIC IN } \varphi.$$

FIND AN EXPLICIT SOLUTION FOR $U(r, \varphi)$ IN TERMS OF $\cos \varphi$ AND YOUR 1-D GREEN'S FUNCTION IN PART (i).

PROBLEM 5 DEFINE $L u \equiv u'' + \kappa^2 u$ ON $0 \leq x \leq a$ WITH $a > 0$ AND $\kappa > 0$.

(i) FIND THE GREEN'S FUNCTION FOR $L u$ WITH $u'(0) = u'(a) = 0$.

(ii) SHOW THAT THE GREEN'S FUNCTION IN (i) DOES NOT EXIST WHEN $\kappa = n\pi/a$ WITH $n = 1, 2, \dots$

(iii) SUPPOSE THAT $L u = f(x)$ ON $0 \leq x \leq a$

$$\text{WITH } u'(0) = 0 \text{ AND } u'(a) = 1.$$

LET $\kappa = n\pi/a$. FIND THE CONDITION ON $f(x)$ REQUIRED FOR THIS PROBLEM TO HAVE A SOLUTION.

(HINT: NOTICE THAT u HAS INHOMOGENEOUS BOUNDARY CONDITIONS).

PROBLEM 1

(i) SHOW THAT $x \delta'(x) + \delta(x) = 0$.

LET ϕ BE ANY TEST FUNCTION. THEN INTEGRATING BY PARTS:

$$(x \delta', \phi) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta' x \phi dx = x \phi \delta \Big|_{-\infty}^{\infty} - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) (x \phi)' dx.$$

SINCE ϕ HAS COMPACT SUPPORT, $\phi(\pm\infty) = 0$ AND

$$(x \delta', \phi) = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) [x \phi' + \phi] dx = -\phi(0) \text{ BY SHIFTING PROPERTY.}$$

THUS $(x \delta', \phi) = -\phi(0) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (-\delta(x)) \phi dx = (-\delta, \phi).$

WE CONCLUDE THAT $x \delta' = -\delta$ IN SENSE OF DISTRIBUTIONS.

(ii) FIND GENERALIZED DERIVATIVE OF $f(x) = H(x-1) \sin x$.

LET ϕ BE ANY TEST FUNCTION. THEN INTEGRATING BY PARTS

$$(f'(x), \phi(x)) = - (f(x), \phi'(x)) = - (H(x-1) \sin x, \phi'(x)) = - \int_1^{\infty} \sin x \phi'(x) dx.$$

NOW INTEGRATING BY PARTS,

$$(f'(x), \phi(x)) = - \sin x \phi(x) \Big|_1^{\infty} + \int_1^{\infty} \cos x \phi(x) dx = + \sin(1) \phi(1) + \int_1^{\infty} H(x-1) \cos x \phi(x) dx.$$

HENCE $(f'(x), \phi(x)) = (\delta(x-1) \sin x, \phi(x)) + (H(x-1) \cos x, \phi(x))$
 $= (\delta(x-1) \sin x + H(x-1) \cos x, \phi(x)).$

WE CONCLUDE THAT $f'(x) = \delta(x-1) \sin x + H(x-1) \cos x$ IN DISTRIBUTION SENSE.

(iii) EXPRESS $\delta(x^2 - a^2)$ AS A SUM OF DELTA FUNCTIONS.

WE RECALL THAT IF $f(x_k) = 0$, $f'(x_k) \neq 0$ THEN $\delta(f(x)) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\delta(x-x_k)}{|f'(x_k)|}$.
 FOR $k=1, \dots, n$

HERE $n=2$ AND $f(x) = x^2 - a^2$ WITH $x_1 = a$, $x_2 = -a$ AND

$$|f'(x_j)| = 2a. \text{ THUS YIELD } \delta(x^2 - a^2) = \frac{1}{2a} [\delta(x+a) + \delta(x-a)].$$

(iv) SHOW THAT $f(x) \delta'(x) = f(0) \delta'(x) - f'(0) \delta(x)$.

LET $\phi(x)$ BE ANY TEST FUNCTION. WE INTEGRATE BY PARTS AND USE SHIFTING PROPERTY

$$(f(x) \delta'(x), \phi(x)) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta'(x) f(x) \phi(x) dx = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) (f \phi)' dx = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) (f \phi' + f' \phi) dx$$

$$= -f'(0) \phi(0) - f(0) \phi'(0) = -f'(0) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) \phi(x) dx - f(0) \phi'(0).$$

BUT $\phi'(0) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(x) \phi'(x) dx = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta'(x) \phi(x) dx$. THUS $(f \delta', \phi) = -(\delta f'(0), \phi) + (\delta' f(0), \phi)$

THUS YIELD $f(x) \delta'(x) = -\delta(x) f'(0) + \delta'(x) f(0)$

PROBLEM 2

$Lu = u'' - k^2 u$ ON $0 < x < 1$ WITH $k > 0$.

(i) FIND G-FUNCTION FOR Lu WITH $u(0) = u(1) = 0$.

SINCE L IS SELF ADJOINT AND BC ARE SEPARATED, WE HAVE THAT THE G-FUNCTION $v(t; x)$ SATISFIES

$$\begin{cases} v'' - k^2 v = \delta(t-x) & \text{ON } 0 < t < 1 \\ v(0) = v(1) = 0. \end{cases}$$

THE TWO SOLUTIONS ARE SPAN $\{ \cosh[k(t-x)], \sinh[k(t-x)] \}$.

BY INSPECTION TO SATISFY THE BC WE TAKE

$$v = \begin{cases} C_1 \sinh[kt], & 0 < t < x \\ C_2 \sinh[k(t-1)], & x < t < 1 \end{cases}$$

NOW IMPOSING CONTINUITY ACROSS $t = x$ WE HAVE

$$v = \begin{cases} C \sinh[kx] \sinh[k(x-1)], & 0 < t < x \\ C \sinh[kx] \sinh[k(t-1)], & x < t < 1. \end{cases}$$

NOW THE JUMP CONDITION IS $v'(x^+) - v'(x^-) = 1$.

$$\text{THUS } C \left(\sinh[kx] k \cosh[k(t-1)] \Big|_{t=x} - \sinh[k(x-1)] k \cosh[kx] \Big|_{t=x} \right) = 1.$$

$$\text{HENCE } C k [\sinh[kx] \cosh[k(x-1)] - \sinh[k(x-1)] \cosh[kx]] = 1.$$

SINCE $\sinh(A-B) = \sinh A \cosh B - \cosh A \sinh B$ WE HAVE

$$C k \sinh[kx - k(x-1)] = 1 \rightarrow C = \frac{1}{k \sinh k}.$$

WE CONCLUDE THAT

$$v = \frac{1}{k \sinh k} \begin{cases} \sinh[kt] \sinh[k(x-1)], & 0 < t < x \\ \sinh[kx] \sinh[k(t-1)], & x < t < 1. \end{cases} \quad (*)$$

(ii) NOW FIND INTEGRAL REPRESENTATION FOR SOLUTION TO

$$Lu = f(x), \quad 0 < x < 1$$

$$u(0) = 1, \quad u(1) = 0.$$

WE HAVE BY LAGRANGE $(v, Lu) = (v u' - u v') \Big|_0^1 + (u, Lv)$.

SINCE $v = 0$ AT $t = 0, 1$ AND $Lv = \delta(t-x)$ WE GET $(v, f) = -u(0) v'(0) + u(x)$.

$$u(x) = -v'(0) + \int_0^1 v f dt. \quad (v' \equiv v_t(t; x) \Big|_{t=0})$$

$$\text{NOW } v'(0) = \frac{1}{k \sinh k} k \cosh[kx] \Big|_{t=0} \sinh[k(x-1)] = \frac{\sinh[k(x-1)]}{\sinh k}.$$

WE CONCLUDE THAT

$$u(x) = -\frac{\sinh[\eta(x-1)]}{\sinh \eta} + \int_0^1 v(t; x) f(t) dt \quad (++)$$

WHERE $v(x)$ IS DEFINED BY (*).

(iii) NOW SUPPOSE THAT

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{x-1/2}{\varepsilon}\right)$$

FIND A GOOD APPROXIMATION TO THE SOLUTION OF

$$Lu = f(x) \text{ on } 0 < x < 1; \quad u(0) = 1, \quad u(1) = 0$$

As $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+$, WE OBSERVE THAT SINCE $\operatorname{sech}^2 z = \frac{4}{(e^z + e^{-z})^2}$ THAT

$$\lim_{\substack{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+ \\ x \neq 1/2}} f(x) = 0, \quad f(0) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} > 0 \quad \text{AND} \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \operatorname{sech}^2\left(\frac{x-1/2}{\varepsilon}\right) dx \\ = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \operatorname{sech}^2 z dz < \infty.$$

$$\text{THU,} \quad f(x) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \left(\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \operatorname{sech}^2 z dz \right) \delta(x-1/2).$$

$$\text{NOW SINCE } d/dz \tanh z = \operatorname{sech}^2 z \text{ WE HAVE } \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \operatorname{sech}^2 z dz = \tanh z \Big|_{-\infty}^{\infty} = 2.$$

$$\text{HENCE } f(x) \rightarrow 2 \delta(x-1/2) \text{ AS } \varepsilon \rightarrow 0.$$

WE THEN USE (++) FROM PART (ii) TO OBTAIN AS $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ THAT

$$u(x) = -\frac{\sinh[\eta(x-1)]}{\sinh \eta} + \int_0^1 v(t; x) 2 \delta(t-1/2) dt.$$

$$\rightarrow u(x) = -\frac{\sinh[\eta(x-1)]}{\sinh \eta} + 2 v(1/2; x).$$

where from (*)

$$v(1/2; x) = \frac{1}{\eta \sinh \eta} \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \sinh(\eta/2) \sinh(\eta(x-1)) & \text{if } 1 > x > 1/2 \\ \sinh(\eta x) \sinh(\eta(\frac{1}{2}-1)) & \text{if } 0 < x < 1/2. \end{array} \right.$$

PROBLEM 3

CONSIDER $Lu = u'' - \eta^2 u$ WITH $\eta > 0$.

(i) FIND THE G-FUNCTION FOR Lu ON $-\infty < x < \infty$ WITH $u \rightarrow 0$ AS $|x| \rightarrow \infty$.

SINCE L IS A SELF-ADJOINT OPERATOR, THE G-FUNCTION $V(t; x)$ SATISFIES

$$V'' - \eta^2 V = \delta(t-x), \quad -\infty < t < \infty$$

$$V \rightarrow 0 \text{ AS } t \rightarrow \pm \infty.$$

FOR $V'' - \eta^2 V = 0$ THEN $V = \text{SPAN} \{ e^{-\eta t}, e^{\eta t} \}$. TO HAVE DECAY AS $t \rightarrow \pm \infty$

WE HAVE

$$V = \begin{cases} c_1 e^{\eta t}, & -\infty < t < x \\ c_2 e^{-\eta t}, & x < t < \infty \end{cases}$$

NOW TO HAVE CONTINUITY AT $t=x$ WE PUT

$$V = \begin{cases} c e^{\eta t} e^{-\eta x}, & -\infty < t < x \\ c e^{-\eta t} e^{\eta x}, & x < t < \infty \end{cases}$$

WHERE c IS FOUND FROM JUMP CONDITION $V'(x^+) - V'(x^-) = 1$.

$$\text{THUS } -\eta c e^{-\eta x} e^{\eta x} - (c \eta e^{\eta x} e^{-\eta x}) \Big|_{t=x} = 1 \rightarrow c = -\frac{1}{2\eta}.$$

THUS

$$V = -\frac{1}{2\eta} \begin{cases} e^{\eta(t-x)}, & -\infty < t < x \\ e^{-\eta(t-x)}, & x < t < \infty \end{cases}$$

WE CONCLUDE THAT

$$V(t; x) = -\frac{1}{2\eta} e^{-\eta|t-x|}$$

(ii) NOW FIND G-FUNCTION FOR Lu WITH $0 < x < \infty$, $u(0) = 0$ AND $u \rightarrow 0$ AS $x \rightarrow \infty$.

THE G-FUNCTION SATISFIES

$$V'' - \eta^2 V = \delta(t-x), \quad 0 < t < \infty$$

$$V = 0 \text{ AT } t=0, \quad V \rightarrow 0 \text{ AS } t \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\text{SO } V = \begin{cases} c_1 [e^{\eta t} - e^{-\eta t}], & 0 < t < x \\ c_2 e^{-\eta t}, & t > x. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{IMPOSING CONTINUITY } V = \begin{cases} c(e^{\eta t} - e^{-\eta t})e^{-\eta x}, & 0 < t < x \\ c e^{-\eta t} (e^{\eta x} - e^{-\eta x}), & t > x. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{NOW } V'(x^+) - V'(x^-) = 1 \text{ OBTAINING } c. \text{ SO } -c\eta e^{-\eta x} (e^{\eta x} - e^{-\eta x}) - c(\eta e^{\eta x} - \eta e^{-\eta x})e^{-\eta x} = 1$$

$$\text{THIS YIELDS } -2c\eta = 1 \text{ SO } c = -1/2\eta. \text{ HENCE } V = -\frac{1}{2\eta} \begin{cases} e^{\eta(t-x)} - e^{-\eta(t+x)}, & 0 < t < x \\ e^{-\eta(t-x)} - e^{-\eta(t+x)}, & t > x \end{cases}$$

WE CONCLUDE THAT

$$V(t; x) = -\frac{1}{2\eta} (e^{-\eta|t-x|} - e^{-\eta(t+x)}) \text{ ON } t > 0.$$

PROBLEM 4

(i) FIND THE G-FUNCTION FOR

$$L u \equiv (x u')' - \frac{1}{x} u = f(x) \text{ ON } 0 < x < 1 \text{ WITH } u(0) \text{ FINITE AND } u(1) = 0.$$

SOLUTION SINCE L IS A SELF-ADJOINT OPERATOR WITH SEPARATED BC WE HAVE

THAT THE G-FUNCTION SATISFIES

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (t v')' - \frac{1}{t} v &= \delta(t-x) \text{ ON } 0 < t < 1 \\ \text{WITH } v &= 0 \text{ AT } t=0, 1. \end{aligned} \right\} (*)$$

FOR $t \neq x$ WE HAVE $t v'' + v' - \frac{1}{t} v = 0 \rightarrow t^2 v'' + t v' - v = 0$ EULER'S EQUATION.

WE PUT $v = t^r$ SO THAT $r(r-1) + r - 1 = 0 \rightarrow r^2 = 1$ SO $r = \pm 1$.

THUS $v = \text{SPAN} \{ t, 1/t \}$. TO SATISFY THE BC WE WRITE

$$v = \begin{cases} c_1 t, & 0 < t < x \\ c_2 (t - 1/t), & x < t < 1 \end{cases}$$

NEXT IMPOSING CONTINUITY AT $t=x$,

$$v = \begin{cases} c t (x - 1/x), & 0 < t < x \\ c (t - 1/t) x, & x < t < 1 \end{cases}$$

WHERE c IS FOUND FROM JUMP CONDITION $v'(x^+) - v'(x^-) = \frac{1}{x}$.

$$\text{NOW THIS GIVES } c \left[\left(1 + \frac{1}{x^2}\right)x - \left(x - \frac{1}{x}\right) \right] = \frac{1}{x} \rightarrow c = \frac{1}{2}.$$

$$\text{THUS } v = \frac{1}{2} \begin{cases} t (x - 1/x), & 0 < t < x \\ x (t - 1/t), & x < t < 1 \end{cases} (+)$$

(ii) NOW LET $\bar{u}(r, \varphi)$ SATISFY, FOR $0 < r_0 < 1$,

$$\bar{u}_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} \bar{u}_r + \frac{1}{r^2} \bar{u}_{\varphi\varphi} = \delta(r-r_0) \cos \varphi \text{ IN } 0 \leq r \leq 1, 0 \leq \varphi \leq 2\pi$$

$$\bar{u} = 0 \text{ ON } r=1; \bar{u} \text{ BOUNDED AS } r \rightarrow 0; \bar{u}, \bar{u}_{\varphi} \text{ } 2\pi \text{ PERIODIC.}$$

SOLVE FOR $\bar{u}(r, \varphi)$ IN TERMS OF SOLUTION IN (i).

WRITE $\bar{u}(r, \varphi) = u(r) \cos \varphi$. WE WILL OBTAIN $u(r)$. UPON SUBSTITUTING

$$\text{WE OBTAIN THAT } u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r} u_r - \frac{1}{r^2} u = \delta(r-r_0).$$

$$\text{MULTIPLYING BY } r: L u \equiv (r u_r)_r - \frac{1}{r} u = r \delta(r-r_0) = r_0 \delta(r-r_0)$$

$$u = 0 \text{ AT } r=1, u \text{ BOUNDED AS } r \rightarrow 0.$$

$$\text{ALL WE NEED IS TO REPLACE } t \mapsto r \implies u = \frac{r_0}{2} \begin{cases} r (r_0 - 1/r_0), & 0 < r < r_0 \\ r_0 (r - 1/r), & r_0 < r < 1 \end{cases}$$

AND $x \mapsto r_0$ IN (+) AND MULTIPLY BY r_0

PROBLEM 5

DEFINE $LU \equiv U'' + \eta^2 U$ ON $0 \leq x \leq a$ WITH $a > 0$ AND $\eta > 0$.

(i) FIND GREEN'S FUNCTION FOR LU WITH $U'(0) = U'(a) = 0$.

SOLUTION SINCE L IS A SELF-ADJOINT OPERATOR AND WE HAVE WELL-SEPARATED BC

WE HAVE THAT THE G-FUNCTION V SATISFIES

$$\left. \begin{aligned} LV &\equiv V'' + \eta^2 V = \delta(t-x) \text{ ON } 0 < t < a \\ V' &= 0 \text{ AT } t=0, a \end{aligned} \right\} (*)$$

FOR $t \neq x$ $V = \text{SPAN} \{ \cos(\eta(t-x)), \sin(\eta(t-x)) \}$ AND SO SATISFYING THE BC

$$V = \begin{cases} C_1 \cos(\eta t), & 0 < t < x \\ C_2 \cos(\eta(t-a)), & x < t < a \end{cases}$$

NOW IMPOSING CONTINUITY AT $t=x$ WE HAVE

$$V = \begin{cases} C \cos(\eta t) \cos(\eta(x-a)), & 0 < t < x \\ C \cos(\eta(t-a)) \cos(\eta x), & x < t < a \end{cases}$$

WHERE C IS FOUND BY JUMP CONDITION $V'(x^+) - V'(x^-) = 1$.

$$\text{WE OBTAIN } -C\eta \sin(\eta(x-a)) \cos(\eta x) + C\eta \sin(\eta x) \cos(\eta(x-a)) = 1.$$

SINCE $\sin(A-B) = \sin A \cos B - \sin B \cos A$ WE GET

$$C\eta \sin[\eta x - \eta(x-a)] = 1 \rightarrow C\eta \sin(\eta a) = 1.$$

$$\text{WE CONCLUDE THAT } C = \frac{1}{\eta \sin(\eta a)}$$

$$\text{HENCE } V(t; x) = \frac{1}{\eta \sin(\eta a)} \begin{cases} \cos(\eta t) \cos(\eta(x-a)), & 0 < t < x \\ \cos(\eta(t-a)) \cos(\eta x), & x < t < a \end{cases}$$

(ii) WHEN $\eta = n\pi/a$ WITH $n=1, 2, \dots$ WE HAVE THAT V IS UNDEFINED AT THESE VALUES, $\exists$ A NONTRIVIAL HOMOGENEOUS SOLUTION TO (*) GIVEN BY

$$\phi = \cos[n\pi t/a]$$

BY LAGRANGE IF V EXIST WE HAVE $(\phi, LV) = (V, L\phi) \Rightarrow \phi(x) \equiv 0$ WHICH IS A CONTRADICTION. NO G-FUNCTION WHEN $\eta = n\pi/a$.

(iii) LET $LU \equiv U'' + \eta^2 U = f(x)$ ON $0 < x < a$ WITH $U'(0) = 0$ AND $U'(a) = 1$, WITH $\eta = \frac{n\pi}{a}$.

THE HOMOGENEOUS PROBLEM HAS A NONTRIVIAL SOLUTION $\phi = \cos(n\pi x/a)$.

USE LAGRANGE: $(\phi, LU) = (\phi U' - \phi' U)|_0^a + (U, L\phi) \Rightarrow (\phi, f) = \phi(a)$, SINCE $L\phi = 0$ WITH $\phi(0) = \phi'(a) = 0$ AND $U'(0) = 0$. FOR A SOLUTION TO EXIST WE

$$\text{THUS REQUIRE } (\phi, f) = \phi(a) \rightarrow \int_0^a \cos\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right) f(x) dx = \cos(n\pi) = (-1)^n.$$