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FINDING VARIATIONAL FUNCTIONALS BY THE GALERKIN PROCEDURE. APPLICATIONS TO THE HEAT TRANSFER

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Several methods are employed in order to determine functionals and variational principles for some boundary value problems (in mathematics, mechanics, physics). These methods apply: the energy functional, the Galerkin method, the Lax-Milgram lemma, the Gateaux derivatives or certain physical principles (the principle of the local potential).

1. Self-Adjoint Problems.

a) The Mixed Boundary Value Problem. Let us consider in the domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ a second order partial differential equation subject to conditions on the boundary $S (= \bar{\Omega} - \Omega)$

$$(1') \quad Au = \sum_{i,j=1}^n b_{ij}(x) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + b_0(x)u(x) = f(x)$$

$$x \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$B_m u = h_m, \quad x \in S_m, \quad m = \bar{1}, s$$

where B_m are the formal operators of the boundary conditions, that may also be reduced to the identity operator I . If we put

$$b_{ij} = -a_{ij}, \quad a_i = b_i - \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} b_{ij}, \quad b_0 = a_0$$

the equation (1') turns into the equation (1) (see below).

Let us consider the mixed boundary value problem on the domain bounded by S , for the function $u \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^1(\bar{\Omega})$

$$(1) \quad Au = - \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j}) + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} + a_0 u = f(x),$$

$$x \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$(2) \quad B_m u = g_m = \begin{cases} h_m(x), & x \in S_m, \quad m = \overline{1, p}, \quad p < s \\ \alpha_m(u - \beta_m), & x \in S_m, \quad m = \overline{p+1, s} \end{cases}$$

$$(m = \overline{1, s})$$

where A is a formal operator of the 2nd order of the equation, B_m are differential operators of the boundary conditions on S :

$$S = S_1 \cup \dots \cup S_s, \quad S_i \cap S_j = \emptyset, \quad i \neq j.$$

B_m cannot contain more than 1st order derivatives or they can be reduced to the identity operator I on certain pieces in S , while the coefficients $a_{ij} \in C^2(\bar{\Omega})$, $a_i \in C^1(\bar{\Omega})$, $a_0 \in C(\bar{\Omega})$, $f \in C(\bar{\Omega})$, $h_m \in C(S)$; $\alpha_m, \beta_m, m = \overline{1, s}$ can be considered constant.

b) The Finding of the Variational Functional for the Problem

(1)-(2) by the Galerkin Method. If the equality $\delta J(u) = 0$ (where δ is the operator of the variation while $J(u)$ is an integral functional) can be inferred from the problem (1)-(2), then $J(u)$ is called a variational functional for the differential problem (1)-(2). The equality $\delta J(u) = 0$ expresses a variational principle (stationarity) for the problem (1)-(2). This principle can be an extremal principle (minimum, maximum). Hence, if a functional $J(u)$ exists (can be found) so that both the equation (1) and the conditions (2) [with $B_m \neq I$] should result from the condition $\delta J = 0$ [i.e. (1) should be Euler-Lagrange equation for J], then $J(u)$ is a variational functional for the problem (1)-(2). The boundary conditions

(2), that results from the condition $\delta J=0$ if $B_m \neq I$ are called natural boundary conditions. The conditions (2) with $B=I$ (which does not result from $\delta J=0$) are called essential boundary conditions (they are verified by the set of the admissible functions in the problem of the stationarity of the functional J). From the definition of $J(u)$ there results that the solution of the problem (1)-(2) is a stationary point for the variational functional associated to the problem.

In order to find the variational functional, provided it exists, u is assumed to verify (1)-(2) and we write the equality (Galerkin formulation)

$$(3) \quad \int_{\Omega} (Au-f) \delta u \, dx = \sum_{m=1}^S \int_{S_m} (B_m u - g_m) \delta u \, dS$$

where δu (the variation of u on $\bar{\Omega}$) is an arbitrary function of the same class with u on Ω with the property $\delta u=0$ on S_1 , if u on S_1 is given (where $B_1=I$; essential boundary condition) and $\delta u \neq 0$ on S_m if, on S_m , $B_m u$ is a differential expression (natural boundary condition).

By using the Gauss-Ostrogradski formula, we obtain the identity (Green)

$$\int_{\Omega} (Au) \delta u \, dx = a(u, \delta u) - \sum_{m=1}^S \int_{S_m} \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_c} \delta u \, dS$$

if the bilinear form $a(u, \delta u)$ and the derivative along the conormal vector $\partial u / \partial n_c$ on S are introduced with the equalities

$$(4) \quad a(u, \delta u) = \int_{\Omega} \left[\sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} \frac{\partial \delta u}{\partial x_i} + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \delta u + a_0 u \delta u \right] dx$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial n_c} = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_j} n_i, \quad n_i = \cos(\vec{n}, Ox_i)$$

($\vec{n}$ is the unit vector of the exterior normal at S)

The formulation (3) turns into the following variational equation

$$(5) \quad a(u, \delta u) - \int_{\Omega} f u \, dx - \int_{S_m} \sum_{n=1}^s (B_m u - g_m + \frac{\partial u}{\partial n_e}) \delta u \, dS = 0$$

since, from a variational point of view, f is a fixed function.

Let us assume, now, that the bilinear form $a(u, \delta u)$ is symmetrical:

$$(6) \quad a_{ij} = a_{ji}; \quad a_i = 0 \text{ and, besides, that } a_{ij} = 0 \text{ for } i \neq j$$

In this case the formal operator A is symmetrical (self-adjoint).

Then, we have

$$\begin{aligned} a(u, \delta u) &= \int_{\Omega} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial (\delta u)}{\partial x_i} + a_0 u \delta u \right] dx = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right)^2 + a_0 u^2 \right] dx \end{aligned}$$

Let us take the differential expressions

$$\begin{aligned} B_1 u &= I u = u, \quad x \in S_1 \\ B_m u &= - \frac{\partial u(x)}{\partial n_c} = - \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} n_i, \quad x \in S_m, \quad m = \overline{2, s} \end{aligned}$$

Under these conditions, the equation (5) is transcribed in the form

$$\delta J(u) = 0$$

where the functional $J: U \rightarrow R^1$ is defined by means of the equality

$$\begin{aligned} J(u) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \right)^2 + a_0 u^2 - 2fu \right] dx + \\ (7) \quad &+ \sum_{r=2}^p \int_{S_r} h_r u \, dS + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j=1}^{s-p} \int_{S_{p+j}} \alpha'_{p+j} (u - \beta_{p+j})^2 dS; \end{aligned}$$

$$U = \{u \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^1(\bar{\Omega}) \mid B_1 u \equiv u(x) = h_1(x) \text{ on } S_1\}$$

The functional $J(u)$, (7) is the variational functional for the following mixed boundary value problem in the domain Ω with the

boundary $S(= \bigcup_{m=1}^s S_m)$:

$$(8) \quad \Delta u = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_i(x) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}) + a_0(x)u(x) = f(x), \quad x \in \Omega$$

$$B_1 u \equiv u(x) = h_1(x), \quad x \in S_1$$

$$(9) \quad B_m u \equiv - \sum_{i=1}^n a_i^{(m)} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} n_i = \begin{cases} h_m(x), & x \in S_m, m = \overline{2, p}, p < s \\ \alpha_m(u - \beta_m), & x \in S_m, m = \overline{p+1, s} \end{cases}$$

$$(m = \overline{1, s}, a_1^{(m)}(x) = a_1(x), \quad x \in S_m; S_1 \cap S_j = \emptyset, i \neq j)$$

Reciprocally. Let us consider the functional $J: U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^1$ given in (7). The linear space of the test functions (perturbation) U_0 is associated to the set U of the admissible functions in the stationarity problem of the functional J :

$$U_0 = \{ v \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^1(\bar{\Omega}) \mid v(x) = 0, x \in S_1 \}$$

The function f , of real variable $\xi \xrightarrow{f} J(u + \xi h)$ with $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^1$, $u \in U$ and $h \in U_0$ is introduced, supposing that $u \in U$ is the stationary point of J and $h \in U_0$ is an arbitrarily fixed element.

Some simple calculations shows that

$$(10) \quad f(\xi) = J(u + \xi h) = J(u) + \xi J'(u, h) + \frac{1}{2} \xi^2 J''(u, h, h)$$

that proves $J(u)$ to be a quadratic functional on U with Gateaux derivatives

$$(11) \quad J'(u, h) = \int_{\Omega} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x_i} + a_0 u h - f h \right) dx + \sum_{r=2}^p \int_{S_r} h_r h \, dS + \sum_{j=1}^{s-p} \int_{S_{p+j}} \alpha_{p+j} (u - \beta_{p+j}) h \, dS;$$

$$(12) \quad J''(u, h, h) = \int_{\Omega} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n a_i \left(\frac{\partial h}{\partial x_i} \right)^2 + a_0 h^2 \right] dx + \sum_{j=1}^{s-p} \int_{S_{p+j}} \alpha_{p+j} h^2 \, dS$$

$$J^{(m)}(u, h, \dots, h) = 0, \quad m = 3, 4, \dots$$

It results that for $a_1 > 0$, $i = \overline{0, n}$ and $\alpha_{p+\gamma} > 0$, $\gamma = \overline{1, s-p}$ we have, $\forall h \in U_0$, $J''(u, h, h) > 0$; then the stationary point u is a unique strong global (or local) minimizer of the quadratic functional J (according to (10)). Therefore, under these conditions, the functional $J(u)$, $u \in U$ is a minimizing functional.

The equations (8)-(9) are obtained from the stationarity condition $J'(u, h) = 0$, $\forall h \in U_0$, if we take into account that

$$\int_{\Omega} a_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial h}{\partial x_1} dx = - \int_{\Omega} h \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} (a_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1}) dx + \int_S a_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_1} n_1 h dS$$

Therefore, (8)-(9) are the Euler-Lagrange equations for the quadratic functional $J(u)$, (7). The function $u \in U$ that minimizes the functional $J(u)$, (7), is a solution for the differential problem (8)-(9). The solution of the problem (8)-(9) can be found by searching the function $u \in U$ [i.e. that must verify only the essential condition $u = h_1$ on S_1] that makes the functional $J(u)$, $u \in U$ stationary on the set U .

Example 1. The Problem of Heat Conduction in Solid Bodies.

The conductive stationary heat transfer in the solid body from the domain Ω bounded by the sufficiently smooth surface

$S [= S_1 \cup S_2 \cup S_3; S_1 \cap S_j = \emptyset, 1 \neq j]$ is characterized by divergence type equation and the mixed boundary conditions

$$(a) \quad -\nabla \cdot (k(x) \nabla T(x)) = f(x), \quad x \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n \quad (n = 1, 2, 3)$$

$$(b) \quad T = T_1 \quad \text{on } S_1$$

$$(c) \quad -k \vec{n} \cdot \nabla T = q_2 \quad \text{on } S_2; \quad -k \vec{n} \cdot \nabla T = \alpha(T - T_3) \quad \text{on } S_3$$

$$(T(x) > 0, k(x) > 0, x \in \bar{\Omega}; \alpha(x) > 0, q_2(x) \geq 0; T_1, T_3 > 0; f \in C(\Omega))$$

$$(T \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^1(\bar{\Omega}))$$

where $T(x)$ is the body temperature at the point x ; $k, f, T_1, q_2, \alpha, T_3$ with known physical significance are given functions (some are practically constant). The boundary conditions on S_2 express the Fourier's law while the boundary condition on S_3 express Newton's law (convective heat exchange with the exterior on the S_3 piece of S); the coefficient α is considered constant in the case of many practical problems. T_3 is a constant temperature (the temperature of a fluid that moves in the exterior over S_3).

In this case $a_1 = a_1^{(m)} = k, a_0 = 0$. The variational functional of the mixed boundary value problem (a)-(c), according with (7) is

$$(d) \quad J(T) = \int_{\Omega} \left[\frac{1}{2} k |\nabla T|^2 - fT \right] dx + \int_{S_2} q_2 T \, dS + \frac{1}{2} \int_{S_3} \alpha (T - T_3)^2 \, dS$$

$$T \in U = \{ T \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^1(\bar{\Omega}) \mid T = T_1 \text{ on } S_1 \}$$

Obviously, the formula (d) can be obtained if the Galerkin method is used directly in (a)-(c).

Remarks. 1°. The conditions (c) are natural conditions for the problem (a)-(c).

2°. The solution to the problem (a)-(c) minimizes the functional $J(T)$ on U , and can be determined by searching the function $T \in U$ that minimizes the functional $J(T)$ on the set U ; therefore the minimizer (stationarity point) T , for $J(T)$, has to verify only the essential conditions.

3°. If $k = k(T)$, Kirchoff transformation is performed by which instead of T , the unknown ϕ is introduced putting

$$\frac{d\phi}{dT} = k(T), \quad \phi(T) = \int_T k(T') \, dT' \Rightarrow \nabla \phi = k \nabla T$$

The problem (a)-(c) appears in T the form

$$-\Delta \phi = f(x)$$

$$\phi = \phi_1 \text{ on } S_1, \quad -\vec{n} \cdot \nabla \phi = \phi_2 \text{ on } S_2, \quad -\vec{n} \cdot \nabla \phi = \alpha(T(\phi) - T_3)$$

If the condition on S_3 is eliminated the problem is a linear one.

2. Non-Self-Adjoint Problems.

a) The Adjoint Problem. The function transformation $u=v+\varphi$ is performed, where v is the unknown function that verifies homogeneous boundary conditions, while φ is a given function that verifies the inhomogeneous boundary conditions. Then, according to the problem (1)-(2), we consider the mixed boundary problem with homogeneous conditions

$$(13) \quad A_1 v \equiv - \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_{ij} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_j}) + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} + a_0 v = f_1(x)$$

$$(13a) \quad B_m v = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{mi}(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} v(x) + a_{m0} v(x) = 0, \quad m=1, \dots, s$$

where

$$f_1(x) = f(x) - A_1 \varphi, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n a_{mi}(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \varphi(x) + a_{m0} \varphi(x) = h_m(x),$$

By means of direct calculation (integration by parts), Green's formula on $\Omega \subset R^n$ for the formal operator A_1 is obtained

$$(14) \quad \int_{\Omega} w A_1 v \, dx = \int_{\Omega} v A_1^* w \, dx + \int_S (v \frac{\partial w}{\partial n_c} - w \frac{\partial v}{\partial n_c}) \, dS + \\ + \int_S v w \sum_{i=1}^n a_i n_i \, dS$$

where $A_1^* w$ is the formal adjoint operator (or in the sense of Lagrange)

$$(15) \quad A_1^* w = - \sum_{i,j=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_{ij} \frac{\partial w}{\partial x_j}) - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (a_i w) + a_0 w$$

while $\partial h / \partial n_c$ is the derivative in the direction of the conormal vector at S .

Let us return to the boundary conditions. The boundary

condition $B_m^* w = 0$, $m = \overline{1, s^*}$ is called adjoint with $B_m v = 0$, $m = \overline{1, s}$ if

$$(16) \quad B_m v = 0, m = \overline{1, s} \text{ and } B_m^* w = 0, m = \overline{1, s^*} \quad v \frac{\partial w}{\partial n_c} - w \frac{\partial v}{\partial n_c} + \\ + v w \sum_{i=1}^n a_i n_i = 0$$

The boundary value problem

$$(17) \quad A_1^* w = g_1(x), x \in \Omega, B_m^* w(x) = 0, x \in S, m = \overline{1, s^*}$$

is called an adjoint problem with the problem (1)-(2).

Remarks. If $a_i = 0$, $i = \overline{1, n}$, then the last integral on S disappears in (14) and A_1^* coincides with A_1 ; in this case A_1 is called a formal self-adjoint operator (or in the sense of Lagrange). A boundary problem that coincides with the adjoint problem is called a self-adjoint problem (in this case it is necessary that $A_1 = A_1^*$ and $B_m = B_m^*$).

b) Operatorial Formulation. The second order problem (13)-(13a) is reduced to the operatorial equation

$$(18) \quad Av = f$$

where v is the unknown function, f is the given function, while the operator $A: D(A) \subset L_2(\Omega) \rightarrow L_2(\Omega)$ is defined by

$$D(A) = \{ v \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^1(\bar{\Omega}) \mid Av \in L_2(\Omega), B_m v(x) = 0, x \in S \}$$

$$Av = A_1 v$$

Thus, the functions v and f are considered as elements of the Hilbert space $H = L_2(\Omega)$; f is considered continuous and $f \in L_2(\Omega)$ - a condition, in fact non-obligatory in (13), however the latter provides the equivalence between the problems (13)-(13a) and (18).

With Ω - bounded, $D(A) \subset L_2(\Omega)$. It is known that the linear space $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ is dense in $L_2(\Omega)$ and because $C_0^\infty(\Omega) \subset D(A)$ it results that $D(A)$ is a dense subspace of $L_2(\Omega)$. The operator A is not closed (however it admits closeness). But, since $\overline{D(A)} = L_2(\Omega)$, the operator A has an adjoint that we note with the

symbol A^* . In order to define A^* , the scalar product $(Av, w)_{L_2(\Omega)}$, $v \in D(A)$, $w \in L_2(\Omega)$ is used and Green's formula (integration by parts) is applied. We obtain

$$(Av, w) = (v, A^*w), \quad v \in D(A), \quad w \in D(A^*)$$

If $A = A^*$, $\forall v, w \in D(A)$, A is symmetrical and if, besides, $D(A) = D(A^*)$ the operator A is self-adjoint. If $A \neq A^*$, the operator A is non-self-adjoint.

Analogously, the problem (17) can be reduced to the operatorial equation

$$A_{op}^* w = g_1, \quad g_1 \in L_2(\Omega)$$

where the operator $A_{op}^* : D(A_{op}^*) \subset L_2(\Omega) \rightarrow L_2(\Omega)$ is given by the formulas

$$D(A_{op}^*) = \{ w \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^1(\bar{\Omega}) \mid A_1^* w \in L_2(\Omega), B_m^* w(x) = 0, x \in S \},$$

$$A_{op}^* w = A_1^* w$$

By using the Green Formula (14) and the notation $(\dots)$ for the scalar product, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & v \in D(A), \quad \forall w \in D(A_{op}^*) \\ & \int_{\Omega} (w A_1 v - v A_1^* w) dx = (Av, w)_{L_2(\Omega)} - (v, A_{op}^* w)_{L_2(\Omega)} = \\ (19) \quad & = \int_S \left(v \frac{\partial w}{\partial n_c} - w \frac{\partial v}{\partial n_c} + v w \sum_{i=1}^n a_i n_i \right) dS = 0 \Rightarrow (Av, w) = (v, A_{op}^* w) \end{aligned}$$

With $D(A_{op}^*) \subset D(A)$ and $A_{op}^* = A^*$ on $D(A_{op}^*)$ it results that the operator A_{op}^* is the restriction of the operator A^* on $D(A_{op}^*)$ (symmetrical operator). Therefore, the operator of the adjoint problem, A_{op}^* , coincides on $D(A_{op}^*)$ with the adjoint operator A^* of the direct boundary value problem.

c) The Variational Functional. Let us consider the problem (13)-(13a) and its adjoint (17). The problem (13)-(13a) is not self-adjoint ($A_1 \neq A_1^*$). In this case a variational functional can be determined and a variational principle (the adjoint variational principle) can be formulated for the given problem and its adjoint.

By using the Galerkin procedure, where v and w verify (13)-(17) we write the equality

$$(20) \quad (Av - f, \delta\lambda)_{L_2(\Omega)} + (A^*w - g, \delta\mu)_{L_2(\Omega)} = 0,$$

where only the functions v and w are subject to variations.

We have

$$[(\dots) = (\dots)_{L_2(\cdot)} - \text{scalar product in } L_2(\Omega)]$$

$$(Av, \delta\lambda) - (f, \delta\lambda) + (w, A^*\delta\mu) - (g, \delta\mu) = 0$$

If we take $\delta\lambda = \delta w$ and $\delta\mu = \delta v$, we obtain

$$(Av, \delta w) + (w, \delta Av) - (f, \delta w) - (g, \delta v) = 0$$

or

$$\mathcal{J}(Av, w) - \mathcal{J}(f, w) - \mathcal{J}(g, v) = 0$$

The variational functional $J(v, w)$ for the problem (13) and its adjoint (17) is

$$(21) \quad J(v, w) = (Av - f, w) - (g, v)$$

Remark. From (20) it can also be inferred that

$$(v, A^*\delta\lambda) + (A^*w, \delta\mu) = (f, \delta\lambda) - (g, \delta\mu) = 0$$

We take $\delta\lambda = \delta w$, $\delta\mu = \delta v$ and, as above, we get

$$\mathcal{J}(A^*w, v) - \mathcal{J}(g, v) - \mathcal{J}(f, w) = 0$$

Thus, the variational functional in the form

$$(21') \quad J(v, w) = (A^*w - g, v) - (f, w)$$

is obtained.

Exemple 2. The Adjoint Variational Functional in the Problem of Heat Transfer in a Fluid Flow. Let us consider the energy equation for an incompressible fluid, in non-stationary motion and in the absence of interior sources, with mixed boundary conditions:

$$(a) \quad Au = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla u - \nabla \cdot (K \nabla u) = 0, \quad (x, t) \in \Omega \times (0, T)$$

$$(b) \quad u(x, t) = 0 \quad \text{on } S_1, \quad t \in (0, T]$$

$$(c) \quad K \vec{n} \cdot \nabla u + \alpha u = 0 \quad \text{on } S_2, \quad t \in (0, T]$$

$$(d) \quad u(x, 0) = 0, \quad x \in \bar{\Omega} (= \Omega \cup S)$$

$$(\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n, n = 1, 2, 3; S = \bar{\Omega} - \Omega = S_1 \cup S_2, S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset, \vec{\nu} \cdot \vec{\nu} = 0)$$

where $u(x, t)$ is the fluid temperature, K and α are functions of x and t (not necessarily continuous), that can also be reduced to constants; $\vec{n}$ is the unit vector of the exterior normal at S , and $\vec{v} = \vec{v}(x, t)$ is also a given function: the velocity of an incompressible fluid in which the heat transfer with the coefficient K takes place. Hence, u is not a component of the velocity $\vec{v}$ and therefore A is a linear operator.

Let $D(A)$ be the definition domain for the linear operator A . We assume that $D(A) \subset L_2(\Omega)$ for each t and that $D(A)$ contains functions $u \in C^{2,1}(\Omega \times (0, T))$ that verify (b)-(c).

The scalar product (Au, w) in $L_2(\Omega)$ is calculated and we get

$$\begin{aligned} (Au, w)_{L_2(\Omega)} = & - \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \left[\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla w + \nabla \cdot (K \nabla w) \right] u \, dx \, dt + \\ & + \int_0^T \int_{S_2} \left[u K \vec{n} \cdot \nabla w - w K \vec{n} \cdot \nabla u + u w \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n} \right] dS \, dt + \int_{\Omega} (u w) \Big|_0^T dx \end{aligned}$$

Hence, it results that A is not a symmetrical (self-adjoint) operator. Consequently, we associate the adjoint problem to the

(a)-(d).

$$(a^*) \quad A^* w = \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla w + \nabla \cdot (K \nabla w) = 0$$

$$(b^*) \quad B_1^* w = w = 0 \quad \text{on } S_1, \quad t \in [0, T]$$

$$(c^*) \quad B_2^* w = K \vec{n} \cdot \nabla w + \alpha w + w \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n} = 0 \quad \text{on } S_2, \quad t \in [0, T]$$

$$(d^*) \quad B_3^* w = w(x, T) = 0, \quad x \in \bar{\Omega}$$

We notice that A^* does not coincide with A and the condition (c^*) differs from (c) . The conditions (c) and (c^*) coincide only if $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{n} = 0$ on S , i.e. the fluid does not cross the surface S_2 (it does not go off it).

By using (21) the adjoint variational functional has the form

$$(e) \quad J(u, w) = \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} [K \nabla u \cdot \nabla w \, dx \, dt + \\ + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} [w \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - u \frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot (w \nabla u - u \nabla w)] \, dx \, dt + \\ + \int_0^T \int_{S_2} (\alpha + \frac{1}{2} \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n}) u w \, dS \, dt$$

$$u \in V = \{ u \in Q, u = 0 \text{ on } S_1, t \in (0, T], u(x, 0) = 0, x \in \bar{\Omega} \};$$

$$w \in V^* = \{ w \in Q, w = 0 \text{ on } S_1, t \in [0, T], w(x, T) = 0, x \in \bar{\Omega} \};$$

$$(Q = C^{2,1}(\Omega \times (0, T)) \cap C^{1,0}(\bar{\Omega} - S_1))$$

The condition $\delta J(u, w) = 0$ expresses an adjoint variational principle: the functional $J(u, w)$ is stationary on the solution to the direct and adjoint problem.

Verification. The function f of two real variables is calculated

$$\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2 \xrightarrow{f} J(u + \varepsilon_1 \varphi, w + \varepsilon_2 \psi)$$

u and w are considered the stationary function (points) for $J(u, w)$ while $\varphi \in V$ and $\psi \in V^*$ are arbitrary test function (arbitrarily fixed).

Consequently, $\varphi(x, t) = 0$, on S_1 and for $t=0$, $\psi(x, t)=0$ on S_1 and for $t=T$.

The Gateaux derivative $J'_w(u, \psi)$ of the functional $J(u, w)$

in terms of the function w is given by the equality

$$(f) \quad J'_w(u, \psi) = J(u, \psi)$$

if we use the above function.

By means of identity

$$K \nabla u \cdot \nabla \psi = \nabla \cdot (K \psi \nabla u) - \psi \nabla \cdot (K u)$$

we deduce

$$\begin{aligned} J'_w(u, \psi) = & \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} [-\nabla \cdot (K \nabla u) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla u] \psi \, dx \, dt - \\ & - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\psi u) + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla (\psi u) \right] \, dx \, dt + \\ & + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \left[K \vec{n} \cdot \nabla u + \left(\alpha + \frac{1}{2} \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n} \right) u \right] \, dS \, dt \end{aligned}$$

If we also use the formulas

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \vec{v} \cdot \nabla (\psi u) \, dx \, dt &= \int_0^T \int_{S_2} \psi u \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n} \, dS \, dt; \\ \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\psi u) \, dx \, dt &= \int_{\Omega} (\psi u)^T \, dx \quad (= 0) \end{aligned}$$

the condition $J'_w(u, \psi) = 0$, $\forall \psi \in V^*$, $u \in V$ provides:

1) the Euler-Lagrange equation for $J(u, w)$, supposing that only w is subject to variation (this equation is exactly (a));

2) the natural boundary condition (c).

These two results together with the fact that $u \in V$ represent the direct boundary problem (a)-(d) itself.

Analogously the condition $J'_u(w, \varphi) = 0$, $\forall \varphi \in V$ and $w \in V^*$ can be shown to lead to the adjoint problem (a*)-(d*).