

Hadamard's variation of the Green kernels of heat equations and their traces I

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§1. Introduction. Let Ω be a bounded domain in R^n with smooth boundary γ . Let $\rho(x)$ be a C^∞ real valued function on γ and ν_x be the exterior unit normal vector at $x \in \gamma$. For any sufficiently small $\varepsilon \geq 0$, let Ω_ε be the bounded domain whose boundary γ_ε is defined by

$$\gamma_\varepsilon = \{x + \varepsilon \rho(x) \nu_x; x \in \gamma\}.$$

Let $G_\varepsilon(x, y)$ be the Green's function of the Dirichlet boundary value problem for the Laplacian, that is, $G_\varepsilon(x, y)$ has the following properties:

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta_x G_\varepsilon(x, y) = \delta(x - y) & x, y \in \Omega_\varepsilon \\ G_\varepsilon(x, y) = 0 & x \in \gamma_\varepsilon, y \in \Omega_\varepsilon. \end{cases}$$

We abbreviate $G_0(x, y)$ as $G(x, y)$. For any $x, y \in \Omega$ satisfying $x \neq y$, we put

$$\delta G(x, y) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \varepsilon^{-1} (G_\varepsilon(x, y) - G(x, y)).$$

Then the celebrated Hadamard variational formula is the following:

$$(1.1) \quad \delta G(x, y) = \int_\gamma \frac{\partial G(x, z)}{\partial \nu_z} \frac{\partial G(y, z)}{\partial \nu_z} \rho(z) d\sigma_z,$$

where $\partial/\partial \nu_z$ denotes the exterior normal derivative with respect to z and $d\sigma_z$ denotes the surface element of γ at z .

In [7], Hadamard proved the formula (1.1) in the case that $\rho(z)$ did not change its sign. And he also proved it when γ was of class C^ω .

Proof of the formula (1.1) for general $\rho(z) \in C^\infty(\gamma)$ can be found, for example, in Garabedian [5], Garabedian-Schiffer [6]. Based on (1.1), many authors derived interesting facts about the Green's function and the results about the theory of functions of one complex variable. See Bergmann-Schiffer [2] and Schiffer-Spencer [12]. Recently, new applications of the formula (1.1) have appeared.

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