

26. Remarks on the Uniqueness in an Inverse Problem for the Heat Equation. I

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§ 1. Introduction. For $(p, h, H, a) \in C^1[0, 1] \times \mathcal{R} \times \mathcal{R} \times L^2(0, 1)$, let $(E_{p,h,H,a})$ denote the heat equation

$$(1.1) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \left(p(x) - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) u = 0 \quad (0 < t < \infty, 0 < x < 1)$$

with the boundary condition

$$(1.2) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - hu|_{x=0} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + Hu|_{x=1} = 0 \quad (0 < t < \infty)$$

and with the initial condition

$$(1.3) \quad u|_{t=0} = a(x) \quad (0 < x < 1).$$

Let $A_{p,h,H}$ be the realization in $L^2(0, 1)$ of the differential operator $p(x) - (\partial^2/\partial x^2)$ with the boundary condition (1.2), and let $\{\lambda_n | n=0, 1, \dots\}$ and $\{\phi(\cdot, \lambda_n) | n=0, 1, \dots\}$ be the eigenvalues and the eigenfunctions of $A_{p,h,H}$, respectively, the latter being normalized by $\phi(0, \lambda_n) = 1$ ($n=0, 1, \dots$). Noting that each λ_n ($n=0, 1, \dots$) is simple, we call

$$N = \#\{\lambda_n | (a, \phi(\cdot, \lambda_n)) = 0\}$$

the "degenerate number" of $a \in L^2(0, 1)$ with respect to $A_{p,h,H}$, where (\cdot, \cdot) means the L^2 -inner product.

Let T_1, T_2 in $0 \leq T_1 < T_2 < \infty$ be given. For the solution $u = u(t, x)$ of the equation $(E_{p,h,H,a})$, the following theorem was proved by Murayama [1] and Suzuki [4], differently:

Theorem 0. *The equality*

$$(1.4') \quad v(t, \xi) = u(t, \xi) \quad (T_1 \leq t \leq T_2; \xi = 0, 1)$$

implies

$$(1.5) \quad (q, j, J, b) = (p, h, H, a)$$

if and only if $N=0$, where $v = v(t, x)$ is the solution of $(E_{q,j,J,b})$

$((q, j, J, b) \in C^1[0, 1] \times \mathcal{R} \times \mathcal{R} \times L^2(0, 1))$.

In the present paper, for $x_0 \in (0, 1]$, we consider

$$(1.4) \quad v_x(t, x_0) = u_x(t, x_0), \quad v(t, \xi) = u(t, \xi) \quad (T_1 \leq t \leq T_2; \xi = 0, x_0)$$

instead of (1.4'), and study

Problem. *Under what condition on (p, h, H, a) , does (1.4) imply (1.5)?*

Namely, we show when

$$(1.6) \quad \hat{\mathcal{M}} = \{(p, h, H, a)\}$$

is satisfied, where $\hat{\mathcal{M}} = \{(q, j, J, b) | C^1[0, 1] \times \mathcal{R} \times \mathcal{R} \times L^2(0, 1) | (1.4) \text{ holds}$