

93. Note on Balayage and Maximum Principles

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1. Let Ω be a locally compact Hausdorff space, every compact subset of which is separable, and G be a positive lower semicontinuous kernel on Ω such that $G(x, y)$ is locally bounded at any point $(x, y) \in \Omega \times \Omega$ with $x \neq y$. The *adjoint* kernel \check{G} of G is defined by $\check{G}(x, y) = G(y, x)$. Given a positive measure μ , its potential $G\mu(x)$ and adjoint potential $\check{G}\mu(x)$ are defined by

$$G\mu(x) = \int G(x, y) d\mu(y) \quad \text{and} \quad \check{G}\mu(x) = \int \check{G}(x, y) d\mu(y)$$

respectively.

This note is a summary of some relations among the balayage principle and related maximum principles in the potential theory. The details will be published later elsewhere.

2. **Definitions.** We say that a property holds *G-p.p.p.* on a subset $X \subset \Omega$, when any compact subset of the set of points in X at which the property is missing does not support any positive measure $\nu \neq 0$ with finite G -energy $\int G\nu d\nu$.

(I) *Continuity principle.* For any positive measure μ with compact support $S\mu$, if the restriction of $G\mu(x)$ to $S\mu$ is finite and continuous, then $G\mu(x)$ is finite and continuous in the whole space Ω .

(II) *Balayage principle.* For any compact set K and any positive measure μ , there exists a positive measure μ' , supported by K , such that

$$\begin{aligned} G\mu'(x) &\leq G\mu(x) \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ G\mu'(x) &= G\mu(x) \quad G\text{-p.p.p. on } K. \end{aligned}$$

(III) *Equilibrium principle.* For any compact set K , there exists a positive measure μ , supported by K , such that

$$\begin{aligned} G\mu(x) &\leq 1 \quad \text{in } \Omega, \\ G\mu(x) &= 1 \quad G\text{-p.p.p. on } K. \end{aligned}$$

(IV) *Domination principle.* For a positive measure μ with compact support and finite G -energy and for a positive measure ν with compact support, an inequality $G\mu(x) \leq G\nu(x)$ on $S\mu$, the support of μ , implies the same inequality in Ω .

(V) *Maximum principle.* For a positive measure μ with compact support, the validity of an inequality $G\mu(x) \leq 1$ on $S\mu$ implies that of the same inequality in Ω .

(VI) *Complete maximum principle.* For a positive measure μ with compact support and finite G -energy and for a positive measure ν with compact support, if an inequality $G\mu(x) \leq G\nu(x) + a$ with a non-negative number a holds on $S\mu$, then the same inequality holds in Ω .

(VII) *Strong maximum principle.* If μ is a positive measure with compact support and finite G -energy and ν is a positive measure with compact support such that $G\mu(x) \leq G\nu(x) + a$ on $S\mu \cup S\nu$ with $a \geq 0$, then the same inequality holds in Ω .

3. Theorems. The following is fundamental.

Theorem 1. *Assume that the adjoint kernel \check{G} satisfies the continuity principle. If $u(x)$ is a positive finite upper semicontinuous function on a compact set K , then there exists a positive measure μ , supported by K , such that*

$$\begin{aligned} G\mu(x) &\geq u(x) \quad G\text{-p.p. on } K, \\ G\mu(x) &\leq u(x) \quad \text{everywhere on } S\mu. \end{aligned}$$

This follows from

Theorem 2. *Given positive finite numbers a_{ki} and u_k ($k, i=1, 2, \dots, n$), there exist non-negative finite numbers t_i ($i=1, 2, \dots, n$) such that*

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ki} t_i &\geq u_k \quad \text{for } k=1, 2, \dots, n, \\ \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ji} t_i &= u_j \quad \text{for every } j \text{ with } t_j \neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 3. *If both G and its adjoint \check{G} satisfy the continuity principle, then the following four statements are equivalent;*

- (1) G satisfies the balayage principle,
- (2) \check{G} satisfies the balayage principle,
- (3) G satisfies the domination principle,
- (4) \check{G} satisfies the domination principle.

Contrary to these equivalences, even if G satisfies the equilibrium principle, the adjoint \check{G} does not in general, except for specific kernels, for example convolution kernels. We can state only

Theorem 4. *When G and \check{G} satisfy the continuity principle, G satisfies the equilibrium principle if and only if G satisfies the maximum principle.*

Theorem 5. *Let \check{G} satisfy the continuity principle. Then G satisfies the complete maximum principle if and only if G satisfies the domination and maximum principles.*

Theorem 6. *Let \check{G} satisfy the continuity principle. Then G satisfies the complete maximum principle if and only if G does the strong maximum principle.*

The complete maximum principle can be also characterized by the

following *complete balayage principle*.

Theorem 7. *Let G and \check{G} satisfy the continuity principle. Then G satisfies the complete maximum principle if and only if G satisfies the complete balayage principle, that is, for any positive measure μ with compact support and any compact set K there exists a positive measure μ' , supported by K , such that*

$$\begin{aligned} G\mu'(x) &= G\mu(x) + 1 && G\text{-p.p.p. on } K \\ G\mu'(x) &\leq G\mu(x) + 1 && \text{in } \Omega. \end{aligned}$$

Now let N be another positive lower semicontinuous kernel.

(VIII) *Balayage principle with respect to N .* For any compact set K and any positive measure μ with compact support, there exists a positive measure μ' , supported by K , such that

$$\begin{aligned} G\mu'(x) &= N\mu(x) && G\text{-p.p.p. on } K \\ G\mu'(x) &\leq N\mu(x) && \text{in } \Omega. \end{aligned}$$

(IX) *Domination principle with respect to N .* For any positive measure μ with compact support and finite G -energy and for any positive measure ν with compact support, the inequality $G\mu(x) \leq N\nu(x)$ on $S\mu$ implies the same inequality in Ω .

Theorem 8. *Let G and \check{G} satisfy the continuity principle. Then G satisfies the domination principle with respect to N , if and only if G satisfies the balayage principle with respect to N .*

4. Comments. For symmetric kernels G (i.e. $G \equiv \check{G}$) Theorem 1 is well-known. It is verified by using the Gauss-Ninomiya variation. For non-symmetric kernels the variation is useless in its original form.

Theorem 2 follows from Kronecker's existence theorem [1] in the theory of combinatorial topology.

Ninomiya [6] first obtained Theorem 3 for symmetric kernels. Deny [4] followed to show the equivalence between (1) and (4) for strictly increasing diffusion kernels. Choquet and Deny [3] obtained Theorem 3 for regular kernels on a compact space which consists of a finite number of points.

Theorem 4 was obtained by Ninomiya [6] for symmetric kernels.

The complete maximum principle was first introduced by Cartan and Deny [2]. They obtained Theorem 5 for symmetric kernels of positive type.

Theorems 6 and 7 are new. The former is an answer to the question raised by Deny [5].

The balayage and domination principles with respect to N were introduced by Ninomiya [7]. Theorem 8 is a generalization of the result of Ninomiya who discussed symmetric kernels.

Theorems 6 and 7 in [6] can be verified for our non-symmetric kernels.

References

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