

By Solutions of the Equation $\Delta u=f$, Find Uniform Approximation on Riemannian Manifolds

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to present several results of Runge type on uniform approximation by solutions of the equation $\Delta u=f$ on C^∞ Riemannian manifolds.

1. Introduction

Let Ω be an orientable Riemannian manifold and let Δ be the Laplacian of Ω . In this paper, we prove several approximation theorems for solutions of the equation $\Delta u = f$ where $f \in C^\infty(\Omega)$. Since f is C^∞ , any solution u of $\Delta u = f$ is necessarily C^∞ by elliptic regularity theory.

We say that a continuous function $u: \Omega \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty]$ is **Newtonian**

provided that there is a discrete set $A \subset \Omega$ with the following properties:

(i) $u|_A$ is harmonic, and

(ii) for each point $a \in A$, there is a regular subregion R satisfying $R \cap A = \{a\}$ and a constant c , such that the function $u - c G_R(\cdot, a)$ can be defined at a so as to be harmonic on R , where $G_R(\cdot, a)$ is the Green function of R .

We say that a continuous function $u: \Omega \rightarrow [-\infty, \infty]$ is a **singular solution** of the equation $\Delta u = f$ provided $u = v + w$ where v is Newtonian on Ω and where w is a regular (C^∞) solution of $\Delta w = f$ on Ω .

Thus $\Delta u = f$ on Ω except possibly for isolated singularities.

Lemma 1. Let Ω be an orientable compact C^∞ Riemannian manifold and let $f \in C^\infty(\Omega)$. There exists $u \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\Delta u = f$ on Ω if and only if $\int f d\lambda = 0$. The solution u is unique up to a constant.

Theorem 1. Let Ω be an orientable compact C^∞ Riemannian manifold and let $f \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\int f d\lambda = 0$. Let F be a closed subset of Ω and let u be a solution of $\Delta u = f$ on an open set containing F .

If $0 > \epsilon$, then there exists a singular solution v of $\Delta v = f$ on Ω such that $\sup_F |u - v| < \epsilon$

Proof. We may assume that F is not all of Ω and that u is a solution of $\Delta u = f$ on an open set $N \supset F$, which is not dense in Ω . By Lemma 1, there exists $u_1 \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\Delta u_1 = f$ on Ω . Since $\Delta(u - u_1) = \Delta u - \Delta u_1 = f - f = 0$ on N we see that $u - u_1$ is harmonic on N . By [2, Theorem 5.1], there exists a Newtonian function h on Ω such that $\sup_F |u - u_1 - h| < \epsilon$. We set $v = h + u_1$. Thus v is a singular solution of the equation $\Delta v = f$ on Ω which has the required property.

Theorem-2. Let Ω be an orientable compact C^∞ Riemannian manifold and let $f \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\int f d\lambda = 0$. Let F be a closed subset of Ω and let u be a singular solution of $\Delta u = f$ on an open set containing F . If $\epsilon > 0$ then there exists a singular solution v of $\Delta v = f$ on Ω such that $\sup_F |u - v| < \epsilon$

Proof. We may assume that F is not all of Ω and that u is a singular solution of $\Delta v = f$ on an open set $N \supset F$, which is not dense in Ω .

Then we may write $u = v + w$, where v is Newtonian on N and where w is a regular C^∞ solution of $\Delta w = f$ on N .

Therefore, there exists a Newtonian function v_1 on Ω such that $v - v_1$ is harmonic on N .

By Lemma 1, there exists $w_1 \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\Delta w_1 = f$ on Ω . Since $\Delta(w - w_1) = f - f = 0$ on N we see that $w - w_1$ is harmonic on N . By [2, Theorem 5], there exists a Newtonian function h_1 on Ω such that

$$\sup_F |v - v_1 + w - w_1 - h_1| < \varepsilon$$

We set $h = h_1 + v_1 + w_1$. Since the sum of two Newtonian functions is Newtonian we see that h is a singular solution of $\Delta h = f$ on Ω such that $\sup_F |u - h| < \varepsilon$.

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.

Lemma 2. Let Ω be an orientable noncompact C^∞ Riemannian manifold and let $f \in C^\infty(\Omega)$. There exists $u \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\Delta u = f$ on Ω .

Theorem 3. Let Ω be an orientable noncompact C^∞ Riemannian manifold and let $f \in C^\infty$. Let F be a closed subset of Ω and let u be a solution of $\Delta u = f$ on an open set containing F .

If $\varepsilon > 0$, then there exists a singular solution v of $\Delta v = f$ on Ω such

$$\sup_F |u - v| < \varepsilon$$

Proof. Let u be a solution of $\Delta u = f$ on an open set $N \supset F$. By Lemma 2, there exists $u_1 \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\Delta u_1 = f$ on Ω .

Since $\Delta(u - u_1) = \Delta u - \Delta u_1 = f - f = 0$ on N , we see that $u - u_1$ is harmonic on N . By [2, Theorem 5], there exists a Newtonian function h on Ω such that $\sup_F |u - u_1 - h| < \varepsilon$.

We set $v = h + u_1$. Thus v is a singular solution of $\Delta v = f$ on Ω which has the required property.

Theorem 4. Let Ω be an orientable noncompact C^∞ Riemannian manifold and let $f \in C^\infty(\Omega)$. Let F be a closed subset of Ω and let u be a singular solution of $\Delta u = f$ on an open set containing F . If $\varepsilon > 0$ then there exists a singular solution h of $\Delta h = f$ on Ω such that $\sup_F |u - h| < \varepsilon$.

Proof. Let u be a singular solution of $\Delta u = f$ on an open set $N \supset F$. We may write $u = v + w$, where v is Newtonian on N and where w is a regular C^∞ solution of $\Delta w = f$ on N . By [2, Theorem 5.3], there exists a Newtonian function v_1 on Ω such that $v - v_1$ is harmonic on N .

By Lemma 2, there exists $w_1 \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\Delta w_1 = f$ on Ω .

Since $\Delta(w - w_1) = \Delta w - \Delta w_1 = f - f = 0$ on N , we see that $w - w_1$ is harmonic on N . By [2, Theorem 5.1], there exists a Newtonian function h_1 on Ω such that $\sup_F |v - v_1 + w - w_1 - h_1| < \varepsilon$.

We set $h = h_1 + v_1 + w_1$. Since the sum of two Newtonian functions is Newtonian we see that h is a singular solution of $\Delta h = f$ on Ω such that $\sup_F |u - h| < \varepsilon$.

This completes the proof of Theorem 4.

Theorem 5. Let Ω be an orientable noncompact C^∞ Riemannian manifold and let $f \in C^\infty(\Omega)$. Let F be a closed subset of Ω such that $\Omega \setminus F$ is connected and locally connected. If u is a solution of $\Delta u = f$ on an open set containing F and if ε is a positive constant, then there exists $v \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ solution of $\Delta v = f$ on Ω such that $\sup_F |u - v| < \varepsilon$.

Proof. Let u be a solution of $\Delta u = f$ on an open set $N \supset F$. By Lemma 2, there exists $u_1 \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ such that $\Delta u_1 = f$ on Ω .

Since $\Delta(u - u_1) = \Delta u - \Delta u_1 = f - f = 0$ on N , we see that $u - u_1$ is harmonic on N . By [2, Theorem 5.3], there exists a harmonic function h on Ω such that $\sup_F |u - u_1 - h| < \varepsilon$.

We set $v = h + u_1$. Then $v \in C^\infty(\Omega)$ and $\Delta v = \Delta h + \Delta u_1 = 0 + f = f$ on Ω . In addition $\sup_F |u - v| < \varepsilon$.

This completes the proof of Theorem 5.

The definition of singular solution of $\Delta u = f$ should be compared with our definition of sub harmonic singular function presented in [4] and [5].

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