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CASEY So today we're going to apply functional analysis to a simple Dirichlet problem, i.e., an Ordinary Differentiable
RODRIGUEZ: Equation, on a line with conditions at the boundary. Typically, when you encounter ODEs for the first time, say, in your Ordinary Differentiable Equations class, you always have an equation you want to solve, and then you specify maybe the function at a point and its first derivative, if it's the second-order derivative or just your second-order differentiable equation or just the function evaluated at that point.

But now this Dirichlet problem, you're going to be specifying the function at two endpoints. So what's the problem we're going to look at-- let V be a continuous real value function. And we will consider-- we'll call the Dirichlet problem-- minus u double prime of x , plus V of x . u of x equals f of x . And with boundary conditions, u of 0 equals 0 . u of 1 equals 0 .

So what do we want to do with this? So the question is given. So what's the input? You may think of f as being kind of a force.

So you're given a force and you would like to compute the solution or show there exists a solution on the interval $0, 1$ satisfying the equation. And we'll say a classical solution, meaning it's twice continuously differentiable. So this equation makes sense at every x .

So given f continuous function, does there exist a unique solution u of x . And in $C^2(0, 1)$, so the C^2 -- C^2 meaning two continuous derivatives. C^2 means two continuous derivatives.

So does there exist a unique solution to the Dirichlet problem here? Does there exist a unique solution to this ODE with these boundary conditions at 0 and 1 ? And the purpose of this section is to apply functional analysis that we've done to say the answer is yes if V is non-negative.

OK. If V is not necessarily non-negative, then the answer is it depends on f . All right, but given any f , does there exist a unique solution to the Dirichlet problem? When V is non-negative, the answer is yes. And this is what we're going to prove. This is the main goal of this section.

And I'll state this answer as two theorems. One thing that there exists a unique solution. And the other will be-- or I should say that a solution to this is unique. And then the second part, the more involved part, will be that there does exist at least one solution to this problem, assuming V is non-negative.

So the first thing we'll prove is that any solution to the Dirichlet problem is unique. f is a continuous function on $0, 1$. u_1, u_2 are twice continuously differentiable functions that satisfy the Dirichlet problem.

I should say we are now working under the assumption that V is non-negative. So I should also put that in here-- suppose V is non-negative. We won't always have to assume V is non-negative in some of these theorems that we'll prove about this problem or about certain operators. So it would be good if I specify when I'm assuming V is non-negative. So suppose V is non-negative and f is a continuous function and I have two solutions to the Dirichlet problem, then they must be the same.

Now the proof I think I've given this as an assignment or as a problem in an assignment in past classes, but when in doubt integrate by parts. So by subtracting let u be u_1 minus u_2 . Then u is a twice continuously differentiable function which satisfies u of x of V of x , times u of x equal 0. And u of 0 equals u of 1 equals 0.

Now what we'd like to conclude is that u is 0. And how we're going to do this if we're going to integrate by parts. So then multiply this equation by something and integrate by parts. So we have 0 is equal to the integral from 0 to 1 of minus u double prime of x , plus V of x , u of x times the complex conjugate of u of x , dx . Now this is equal to integral from 0 to 1, u prime of x times u of x , plus integral from 0 to 1, V of x times cancelled value of u of x squared.

And now we integrate by part. So integration by part says that if I have a derivative on a function, I can move it to the other function, and then plus boundary terms. And changing this, minus sine to a cosine. So this is equal to u prime of x -- u bar of x evaluated at 0, 1, with this minus gives me a plus. And we go from 0 to 1. We find with x the derivative of complex conjugate of u dx plus V of x , d of x squared, dx .

Now we use the boundary conditions that at 0 and at 1, u of x is 0. So its complex conjugate is 0, so please go away. And what I'm left with is integral from 0 to 1. And I'm not going to keep writing the x part. So integral from 0 to 1 of u prime squared, plus integral from 1 to 1, V times u prime-- or times the magnitude of u squared.

Now since V is non-negative, V times the absolute value of u squared is non-negative. So this is certainly bigger than 0, 1 , u prime squared. And remember, what I started off with was 0. So I showed 0 is bigger than or equal to this non-negative quantity.

Now u is twice continuously differentiable so that u prime, that's a continuous function-- non-negative continuous function. So since this equals 0, I get that u prime is identically 0, which implies u is constant. And because u is constant and u of 0 equals 0, I get that u is identically 0, the 0 function, which is what I wanted to show. u equals 0 means u_1 equals u_2 .

So that's uniqueness. That's half of what we wanted to show, which was if V is non-negative, then there exists a unique solution to the Dirichlet problem given any f , any input to the right-hand side.

Now we're going to turn to unique existence, which is more interesting and harder parts. So now we're going on to existence. So if you don't know how to do something, try and do something easier.

So let's start off with the V equals 0 case. So we'll look at-- so we have the following theorem that says we can uniquely solve the Dirichlet problem when equals 0. So that just means we want to solve minus u double prime equals f of x with these boundary conditions.

And we can actually write down explicitly the solution in terms of f as a compact self-adjoint operator, which I've alluded to maybe at a couple of points here in the class. So let K x , y be the function given by minus 1 times y here if y is less than or equal to x , is less than or equal to 1, and now switch.

So it's piece-wise defined across the diagonal. And it's continuous across the diagonal when y equals x . I get the same thing. So this thing, in fact, is a continuous function on $0, 1$ cross $0, 1$.

We have this function here. Define an operator, A f of x to be integral K of x , y , f of y , dy . And A is a bounded linear operator on L^2 .

And in fact, it's a self-adjoint compact operator. Self-adjoint operator. And basically A times f is the inverse of u double prime, or A times f solves the Dirichlet problem.

f is $C^0, 1$. And u equals Af is the peak solution to the Dirichlet problem when V equals 0. I'm not writing out all the argument of x , but it should be understood u of 0 equals u of 1 equals 0.

So when V equals 0, we can write down the explicit solution in terms of this, what's called an integral operator because you take a function, multiply it by another function, and integrate. This thing here is usually referred to as the Green's function for this differentiable operator. And what this theorem says is that the solution to your differentiable equation, your Dirichlet problem, is given by an integral operator, which is a compact self-adjoint operator on L^2 . So it shouldn't come too much of a surprise that the solution to a Dirichlet problem u can be written as an integral operator, right, because by the fundamental theorem of calculus integration and differentiation are inverse of each other.

So let's C be the sup over $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ of the absolute value of K . So I'm not writing x, y . So this is the supremum of K over the square of $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$, which is finite, since K is continuous.

And by the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality we get that A times f of x , Af of x , is equal to the integral from $[0, 1]$, $K(x, y)$, f of y dy , is less than or equal to-- now if I bring the absolute value inside and then bound K by C -- my name is Casey-- is bounded by C times the integral from $[0, 1]$ of f of y dy .

And now I apply Cauchy-Schwarz to this, this I can think of as this quantity times 1. So this is less than or equal to C times the integral $[0, 1]$, 1 squared raised to the $1/2$ power.

At certain points I will stop writing of x dx , or of y dy . And the meaning should be clear, integral $[0, 1]$ f squared $1/2$. And I get C times the L^2 norm of f .

So what have I done? I've bounded for every x in $[0, 1]$, Af of x , by a constant times f and L^2 . And I also have, if I look Af of x minus Af of z , so I can just again by bringing the absolute value inside the integral, bounded. And so the difference here is going to be K of x, y minus K of x, z times f of y and integrate it. So what I get is that this is less than or equal to sup y in $[0, 1]$, K of x, y minus K of x, z times the L^2 norm of f .

So I'm not going to give all the details because I've actually assigned this problem before, that if K is a continuous function, then this is a bounded compact operator on L^2 . So maybe you haven't done the exercises yet, but in any case I'll just sketch out from here that just based on these two estimates and the Arzela-Ascoli theorem, which gives you sufficient conditions that a sequence of continuous functions has a convergent subsequence in the space of continuous functions, you can conclude that A is the compact operator on L^2 .

Now so that shows is A compact operator on L^2 . A is itself adjoint. Let f, g be continuous functions on $[0, 1]$. Then if I look at A times f paired with g , this is in the L^2 pairing, this is equal to integral of $[0, 1]$, integral of $[0, 1]$, K of x, y , f of y dy , V of x dx .

Now I have a double integral involving nothing but a continuous function. So I can apply Fubini's theorem to interchange the integration. So this becomes $[0, 1]$, integral $[0, 1]$. I can write it this way-- f of y . So I haven't done anything yet, I'm just distributing, bringing this $g(x)$ inside and stating that this integral is equal to this double integral, dy dx . I guess I'm using Fubini's theorem there.

And Fubini's theorem says if you're integrating continuous functions over a box, then it doesn't matter if you integrate dy first or dx first. So then I can just undo this. And, oh, the pairing should have a complex conjugate over g .

And so if I just integrate dx first and kind of undo things, I can write this as the integral of f of y times the integral from $0, 1$ of K of x, y, g of $x dx$. Now the complex conjugate over K , all of this complex conjugate, dy .

Again, you can check that this is equal to this previous thing by Fubini, because then this iterated integral becomes just an integral $dx dy$, which again by Fubini doesn't matter what the order is. And the complex conjugate hits this complex conjugate. I get back K . This complex conjugate gets g , and I get that.

So this says that Af paired with g is equal to f paired with B times g , where Bg of x now. So I got out a function of y integrating x . So if I switch the dummy variables, I can write this as $K y, x, \text{complex conjugate}, dy dy$.

But now the thing to note is that K , what is K ? So K is this function here. It's a real value function. So the complex conjugate just doesn't matter. It's real value. So the complex conjugate is equal to the original function.

And it's symmetric in x and y . If I switch x and y , I get $K x, y$ back. So K of y, x is equal to K of x, y . So this is equal to $0, 1. K$ of x, y, g of $y dy$. But this is just by definition equal to A times g .

So we've proven that Af, g equals Af paired with Ag now for all f, g , which are continuous, which, remember, is a subset of $0, 1$.

But not just a subset, it's a dense subset. Since continuous functions on $0, 1$ are dense in L^2 , and the density argument implies that this relation has to hold for every f and g in L^2 . It's Af, g equals f, Ag , not just for all continuous functions, but for all functions in L^2 . That proves that A is self-adjoint.

All right, and so the last part, which is verifying that in fact defining u to be Af , gives you a twice continuously differentiable function which satisfies the Dirichlet problem when V equals 0 . It just follows from direct computation. So f is in $0, 1$, then if I define u of x to be Af of x , and I actually write out the integral over the various domains on how it's defined, this is first I pick up an integral 0 to x of x minus 1 times y, f of y, dy , plus x times $0, 1$ of y minus $1, dy$.

And now I can just apply the fundamental theorem of calculus to show that indeed by fundamental theorem of calculus that u is twice continuously differentiable. And minus u double prime gives me f .

And u is given by Af . This is the unique solution to that problem because we've already proven that when V is non-negative, there exists only one solution to the Dirichlet problem. So in the case V equals 0 , we can write down the explicit solution in terms of this integral operator, which on L^2 is the self-adjoint compact operator.

All right, so to solve the Dirichlet problem, so now what's the plan for V not equal to 0 ? So the plan is this-- that if I have minus u double prime plus V times u , so this is just kind of formal stuff, and then we'll actually prove rigorous statements and prove that there exists a solution in the end. We already have uniqueness, like I said.

How do we solve this differentiable equation with, again, the boundary conditions which I'm not going to write down? So let me just write it down here. So that implies that minus u double prime equals f minus Vu .

And so equals f plus minus Vu . Now think of this as just a fixed function g . And therefore by this existence and uniqueness result that we have for the V equals 0 case, so think of this as g . So now I have minus u double prime equals g .

So this implies that u equals A applied to f minus Vu . So the unique solution to minus u double prime is equal to A applied to g . g is f minus V , so I have this.

So I get-- by this if and only if here, which, if I distribute this through, is the same as saying the identity plus the operator given by A applied to the multiplication by V -- so when I write V here, I mean multiplication by V -- applied to u equals A applied to f .

And now this is good because we've gotten rid of this differentiation. And now we're talking about solving an equation that involves bounded operators. The identity is a bounded operator. Multiplication by a continuous function is a bounded operator on L^2 . And A is a compact self-adjoint operator on L^2 . So now we're solving an equation involving bounded operators on the Hilbert space.

What would make it even better is if this thing was-- so we already know it's a compact operator because A is compact. If we knew this was self-adjoint, but that doesn't necessarily hold because of the adjoint of AV will be V times A . So these don't exactly commute.

But we can get around that and reduce ourselves to studying an equation that involves compact self-adjoint operators by a nice little trick. So write u as-- but I'll say A to the $1/2$ V . A to the $1/2$ meaning its square gives me A . The fact that such a thing exists is not clear right now, but we will show it, in fact, exists.

Again, formal stuff. So write u as A to the $1/2$ applied to V , where now V is the thing we solve for. And if we stick this into this equation here, we get A . We pull out an A to the $1/2$ applied to I plus A to the $1/2$ V , A to the $1/2$, by to V equals Af . So this should be little v , not this capital V .

And therefore if I can believe I can cancel $1/2$ powers, I've reduced myself to study the equation A to the $1/2$ V times A to the $1/2$, applied to little v equals A to the $1/2$ f .

Remember, f is given. So whatever this thing is on the right side, we know that ahead of time. So our problem is to solve this equation here.

Now what's the great thing? The great thing is that because A is compact self-adjoint and in fact a non-negative operator, A to the $1/2$ exists is also a compact operator and it's also self-adjoint.

So then we have this self-adjoint operator on both sides of V . Both of them are compact. So this whole thing will be a compact self-adjoint operator.

So if we want to be able to solve for V -- i.e., invert this thing on the left side-- this is just a compact self-adjoint operator plus the identity, which you can think of as a compact self-adjoint operator minus 1 times the identity. So now that's an equation we know how to solve. We have the Fredholm alternative that says we can invert this operator if and only if this entire operator doesn't have a null space or doesn't have a non-trivial null space.

So that's the plan is we will reduce ourselves to studying-- or we will prove that we can invert this operator here. First, we have to prove that we can find such that $A^{-1/2}$, meaning an operator that's square gives me $A^{-1/2}$, prove the properties we need, and then also show that this operator is invertible, define V as inverse of this times this, u as $A^{-1/2}$ times V , and conclude that u solves our problem. So that's where we're headed.

So now to get this plan off the ground, we need to show that we can come up with such a compact self-adjoint operator whose square gives me $A^{-1/2}$. So as a first step in this direction, we are going to compute the spectrum of the operator $A^{-1/2}$, which again is the inverse of this Dirichlet problem.

So when f is continuous, it's the unique twice continuously differentiable function that's second derivative gives me f and 0 where at the end points. But in general, it's this integral operator.

So first thing I want to prove is that null space of $A^{-1/2}$ is the zero vector or the zero function. And so it has no non-trivial null space. And the orthonormal eigenvectors for $A^{-1/2}$ are given by u_k of x equals square root of 2, sine $k\pi$ of x . Here, k equals a natural number. With associated eigenvalues, λ_k equals $1/k^2$.

So let me just make a brief remark. We have via the spectral theorem that we proved last time that for a compact self-adjoint operator we can find or that the eigenvectors form an orthonormal basis for the range of the null space of $A^{-1/2}$. And then to complete it to an orthonormal basis of all of the Hilbert space, in this case L^2 , we just need to take an orthonormal basis of the null space of $A^{-1/2}$.

But the null space of $A^{-1/2}$ is the zero vector. So by the spectral theorem for compact self-adjoint operators, we get that square root of 2 sine $k\pi x$, k to a point infinity. So this is, orthonormal basis for $L^2(0, 1)$.

So we use the spectral theorem to conclude that this is an orthonormal basis for L^2 . You can also prove it directly using what we know about E to the I in x being an orthonormal basis for $[-\pi, \pi]$. Just by rescaling E to the I in πx is an orthonormal basis for L^2 to $[-1, 1]$.

Now we have functions here defined on $[-1, 1]$, which we can extend by odd parity to $[-1, 1]$. And the only parts of the E to the I in πx that any expansion for an odd function that come out only involve the sine-- these guys. So that's without knowing these are the eigenfunctions or eigenvectors for this operator $A^{-1/2}$, you could also conclude that this is an orthonormal basis for L^2 of $[-1, 1]$.

All right, so to prove this theorem, so what we're going to do is to prove that the null space of $A^{-1/2}$ is trivial is we will show-- so you can go about it a couple of different ways. We'll show that the range of $A^{-1/2}$ is, in fact, dense in L^2 .

So first thing we're showing is that the null space is trivial. So we'll show that the range of $A^{-1/2}$ closure equals all of L^2 . Remember, this is equal to the orthogonal complement of the null space. So if the orthogonal complement is the entire space, then that means the null space of $A^{-1/2}$ is just a trivial vector.

So I need to be able to show that a dense subspace of L^2 can be solved for by $A^{-1/2}$. So let u be polynomial on $[-1, 1]$, and f equals minus u'' .

Now by the previous theorem-- I should say-- [INAUDIBLE] apart-- with $u(0) = u(1) = 0$ and f equals minus u'' . Then by the previous theorem, $A^{-1/2}$ applied to f is the unique solution to the Dirichlet problem with that function V being 0.

But remember, u , so f -- write it this way-- i.e., f applied to u double prime should give me f . And Af of 0 equals Af of 1 equals 0.

But how do we define f ? f is minus u double prime. u is a polynomial on $[0, 1]$. That's 0 at the endpoints. And therefore I conclude that Af equals u . I hope this is clear.

Now since a set of polynomials on $[0, 1]$ are vanishing at x equals 0 and 1 are dense in L^2 . Now why is this? This is because we know that continuous functions that are vanishing at the two endpoints are dense in L^2 . And by the Weierstrass approximation theorem, every continuous function on $[0, 1]$ can be approximated by a polynomial.

And it's not too difficult to convince yourself that if that's the case, then I can also approximate every continuous function that's vanishing at the two endpoints by a polynomial that's vanishing at the two endpoints.

So since I can approximate every continuous function on $[0, 1]$ vanishing at the endpoints by a polynomial vanishing at the endpoints, then those polynomials vanish at the endpoint are dense in L^2 of $[0, 1]$. So we'll just say here that this follows from, like I said, density of $[0, 1]$. Now I'll put a 0 here, meaning it's 0 at the two endpoints, and Weierstrass approximation theorem.

So we've been able to solve for every u that's dense in L^2 , right. So every polynomial that's 0 at the endpoints is in the range of A . And therefore, range of A contains a dense subset of L^2 $[0, 1]$. And therefore, the closure has to be all of $[0, 1]$.

And then since null space of A is equal to the orthogonal complement-- or I should say the orthogonal complement of the null space of A is equal to the range-- the closure of the range, and this equals L^2 of $[0, 1]$, I conclude that the null space is just the trivial vector. So A has no null space. So that by the spectrum theorem and orthonormal basis for L^2 of $[0, 1]$ is given by the eigenvectors of A .

And so now we'll prove the eigenvectors are given by this form. Now I'll just give you a brief sketch of this. So let's solve for the eigenvalues and eigenvectors.

Suppose that λ does not equals 0, u is an element of L^2 that has unit length or unit norm, and A applied to u equals λ times u . Now then-- let's see-- write that a minute ago.

OK. Then u equals $1/\lambda$ times Au , which is fine, because λ is non-zero, so I can divide by that. Now I didn't say this when I was discussing-- let's see if we still have it up there. We do, so we can talk about it.

Now for any function in L^2 , by this estimate here, this also proves that A applied to f is a continuous function. So this also shows that A applied to f is, in fact, a continuous function. I hope that's clear.

Because why is this so? I need to make this thing on the left-hand side small if x and z are close together. Now that only depends on some number, the L^2 norm of f times this quantity here. K is a continuous function on $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$.

So as long as I make x and z close, then x, y and z, y will be close. And since K is continuous, this quantity here will be small. And therefore, the thing that's smaller than that will be small.

So that's why if I take a function which is in L^2 and hit it by A , I get a continuous function. So u equals $1/\lambda$ times this continuous function implies that u is continuous.

But now we're going to feed that back in. Because if u is continuous, then A applied to u is twice continuously differentiable, which implies that u equals $1/\lambda$ over Au is twice continuously differentiable. This is what's called a bootstrap argument, I guess. Is that the right word?

Anyways, that doesn't sound right. In any case, so we conclude that an eigenfunction of A is twice continuously differentiable, right. So now u is a twice continuously differentiable function, which is equal to $1/\lambda$ times Au . So another way to write this as A applied to u over λ , because A is a linear operator.

Now A applied to something is a unique function whose second derivatives times minus 1 gives me that thing inside. So I conclude that $u'' = 1/\lambda u$. And along with the boundary conditions, $u(0) = u(1) = 0$.

But now I know how to solve this equation. It has to be a superposition of two functions. And I get that. So $u(x)$ must be equal to $A \sin(1/\sqrt{\lambda} x) + B \cos(1/\sqrt{\lambda} x)$.

And now since $u(0) = 0$, that tells me that $B = 0$, which tells me $u(x) = A \sin(1/\sqrt{\lambda} x)$, and since u has unit length with $A \neq 0$. And now $u(1) = 0$ implies that $1/\sqrt{\lambda}$ has to be an integer multiple of π .

If $u(x)$ is to be non-zero. And therefore, $u(x) = A \sin(k\pi x)$ for some k . And the fact that we get $\sqrt{2}$ comes from the normalization condition. Implies that $u(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(k\pi x)$ for some k natural number.

So $\sqrt{2} \sin(k\pi x)$ as k varies over the natural numbers gives me an orthonormal basis for L^2 that consists of eigenvectors of A . The eigenvalues are $1/k^2 \pi^2$. So I can think of A as simply multiplying each eigenvector by $1/k^2 \pi^2$.

And if I want to define A to the $1/2$, which is why I'm doing all this, then we'll define an operator so that it takes something in this orthonormal basis and simply multiply this by $1/k\pi$, which is half of what A would do, or half power of what A would do. This is also how one could define what's called the functional calculus for self-adjoint compact operators, which you can then extend to self-adjoint operators as well.

So let's make this a definition. So if f is in $L^2(0, 1)$ with f given by this Fourier expansion with c_k given by $\int_0^1 f(x) \sqrt{2} \sin(k\pi x) dx$, and we define an operator which we call A to the $1/2$, although I'm not saying that its square is A just yet. We define linear operator A by $Af(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k\pi} c_k \sqrt{2} \sin(k\pi x)$.

So right now I just have this expression for given a function in L^2 with this expansion in terms of this orthonormal basis. I do this to the coefficients, I take the coefficients and multiply them by $1/k\pi$.

And my claim is that A to the $1/2$ is a compact self-adjoint operator on L^2 . And this notation is not just for show. I take A to the $1/2$ and compose it with itself, meaning I square it. I get the operator A , which remember was defined as this integral operator involving k , right.

If you like, though, so let me just [INAUDIBLE]. Remember A , when it hits each of these $\sin k\pi x$'s, spits out $1/k^2$. So A applied to f would be this thing multiplied by $1/k^2$. And so it makes sense that $A^{1/2}$ should be something that when I apply it again I get back A , since I have $1/k^2$ when I hit the A , I multiply the coefficients by $1/k$, then this should give me what I want.

And now it's just the process of confirming these facts that we need. But you may think of A as this integral operator. You can think of A as a solution operator for this Dirichlet problem. Or you may simply think of it as, I take a function f , expand it in terms of $\sin k\pi x$ in orthonormal basis for L^2 of $[0, 1]$, and I simply multiply by $1/k^2$.

How does this jive with what I just said about A also being the solution operator? Well, if I have A applied to this quantity, then I have $\sin k\pi x / k^2$. Now let's say I take two derivatives of that, then I get $k^2 / k^2 = 1$. So I get back out f for the minus sine. So all of those things jive.

All right, so proof of this theorem. You write, say, two functions in L^2 expanded in this basis. And so first thing I would like to show is that this operator is bounded, linear operator. So I want the L^2 norm of Af to be $\leq C \|f\|$. So this is the L^2 norm squared of the function with coefficients given by $1/k^2$ times $k\pi$, all squared.

And now, so the L^2 norm of this function given by this Fourier expansion here is just the sum of the squares of the coefficients appearing in front of the square root of 2 times $\sin k\pi x$. So this is equal to, by Parseval's identity equals $\sum c_k^2 / k^4$. And $1/k^4$ as k goes from 1 to infinity is bounded by $1/\pi^4$ equals $\sum c_k^2$ equals $\|f\|^2$, again, by Parseval's identity, or a completeness of this eigenbasis that gives me back the L^2 norm of that.

So that proves boundedness. What about self-adjointness? $A^{1/2} f$, but I take its inner product with g , again using how these things are defined and the fact that the inner product between two functions is given by just the little L^2 pairing of the coefficients that appear in front of the square root of 2 $\sin k\pi x$. This is c_k / k^2 times d_k .

And now we just move this over here. And these are real numbers, so I can move them over on the d without taking their complex conjugate. And that's just equal to f inner product $A^{1/2} g$. So that proves that A is self-adjoint.

And now finally, we show that $A^{1/2}$ squared gives me A . So let f be-- OK, so I rewrote that part. I don't need to write it again. If I look at $A^{1/2} f$, this is by definition equal to $A^{1/2}$ applied to now the function given in this eigenbasis or this orthonormal basis by $c_k / k^2 \sqrt{2} \sin k\pi x$.

Again, how do I apply $A^{1/2}$? I take the coefficients in front of the basis function and divide by k . So then I get $c_k / k^3 \sqrt{2} \sin k\pi x$. Let's leave it here.

Now going from here to what we have next, since each of these is an eigenfunction of A with eigenvalue $1/k^2$, this is also equal to A applied to the square root of 2 $\sin k\pi x$. And now it's perfectly legitimate to pull this A out of the infinite sum, because this is a basis for L^2 , or really by [INAUDIBLE]. In any case, I can pull the A out and I get square root of 2, $\sin k\pi x$.

Why can I do this? It's because so if I put a finite in here, then sum from k equals 1 to n converges in L^2 norm to this quantity here with an infinity. So since A is a bounded linear operator, the limit as n goes to infinity of A applied to the finite sum is equal to A applied to the infinite sum. Now A applied to a finite sum is given by this, letting n go to infinity again. This we can take the A in and out.

But this was just the expansion of f . So this is equal to Af . So we have proven that A to the $1/2$ squared, meaning A to the $1/2$ applied to A to the $1/2$ of f gives me back Af .

Now let me give a brief sketch on why this is a compact operator. We've shown it's a bounded self-adjoint operator whose square gives me A . So A is a compact operator. We'll show that the image of the unit ball has equi-small tails. I want to say here is suffices to show that, say, A applied to f has equi-small tails.

The fact that this has equi-small tails then implies that the closure also has equi-small tails. And therefore by this theorem we proved about characterizing compact subsets of Hilbert spaces, we conclude that the closure of this set is compact-- I should have $1/2$, $1/2$ -- and therefore A to the $1/2$ is a compact operator.

So let ϵ be positive, and choose N as a number so that 1 over N squared is less than ϵ squared. We can do that because 1 over capital N squared goes to 0 as capital N goes to infinity. So I can always find such an N .

And now we claim that this N is the one that works for showing this set has equi-small tails. Let f be in L^2 with norm less than or equal to 1 . And again, if I look at the sum of the Fourier coefficients given in this basis of square root 2 sine k pi x of A to the $1/2$ f , this is equal to, by definition of how A operates, this is equal to simply the coefficient of f squared over k squared pi squared.

And this is less than or equal to-- k is bigger than N , so this is less than or equal to 1 over n squared with a pi squared. But that's something like 9 . So I can leave it and still be less than or equal to, sum, sum, k . I can now take this to be all ck 's. And this is equal to 1 over N squared, 2 squared, which is less than or equal to 1 over N squared.

And then we chose an N so that 1 over N squared is less than ϵ squared. So that's less than ϵ squared, therefore showing that the set has equi-small tails. And therefore the closure of this set is compact.

So we had this A to the $1/2$ operator, which we needed to carry out this plan that we sketched at the beginning solving the Dirichlet problem. So now we just need to check that that operator I had before, which is A to the $1/2$ composed with multiplication by B composed with A to the $1/2$ is a compact self-adjoint operator.

So first, let me just state a theorem about multiplying by a continuous function. Let V be a real value continuous function. Define $m_{sub v}$ as in multiplication f of x to be this V of x f of x for f in L^2 . Then this is a bounded linear operator on L^2 , and it's self-adjoint.

So I'm actually going to leave this as an exercise. It's not too difficult to prove. Again, just multiplying by this function, which is continuous and bounded gives you boundedness automatically. And the fact that its real value will give you the self-adjointness.

So from this, you can conclude the following. Let V between a function be real value, then the operator T equals A to the $1/2$ composed with multiplication by v , composed with A to the $1/2$ satisfies the following.

One is T is a self-adjoint compact operator on L^2 . And one extra condition is T is bounded. So in fact T is a bounded operator from L^2 to continuous functions. And if I take an L^2 function and stick it into this function, I get out a continuous function in a bounded way.

So one follows immediately from what we've proven already in this exercise of a theorem that I gave, right. Multiplication by V is a self-adjoint operator. A to the $1/2$ is a self-adjoint operator. A to the $1/2$ is a self-adjoint operator.

So when I take the adjoint of this quantity, I will get the adjoint of A to the $1/2$ in front, adjoint of mv , adjoint of A to the $1/2$. They are equal to each other themselves. So I get out something self-adjoint.

This is the composition of, if you like, a bounded operator with a compact operator. So I get a compact operator. So that proves it's a self-adjoint compact operator on L^2 .

Why is this a bounded operator from L^2 to continuous functions? Well, it suffices to show that this A to the $1/2$ is a bounded operator from L^2 to continuous functions.

Why is that? Because if I take an L^2 function and feed it into this operator T , then A to the $1/2$ would be a continuous function. Multiplication by V will be a continuous function, again, because multiplication by V is continuous. So V is continuous.

And A to the $1/2$ applied to a continuous function again spits out a continuous function. So suffices to show that A to the $1/2$ is a bounded linear operator from L^2 to continuous function.

So let f be given in a Fourier expansion in terms of the sine $k\pi x$'s, then if A to the $1/2$ in f of x , this is equal to $k\pi$ square root of 2 sine $k\pi$ of x .

And now to show that A to the $1/2$ applied to f is a continuous function, we'll apply the Weierstrass M-test right. So this is an infinite sum of continuous functions. So to apply the Weierstrass M-test, I have to say that I can bound this thing by something which is summable.

So I have this. And then I also, if I take the absolute value of-- that's less than or equal to ck over $k\pi$ square root of 2, which is less than or equal to Tk over k . And I claim this is summable.

And if I sum from k equal 1 to infinity, ck over k by Cauchy-Schwarz, this is less than or equal to sum over k , 1 over k squared, $1/2$ sum k ck squared raised to the $1/2$. And remember, this is just the L^2 norm of f , because the sine $k\pi x$'s are in L^2 basis. So that equals something like π squared over 6. I don't know. Let's say it is, this thing here times L^2 norm.

So each of these continuous functions in this infinite sum is bounded by a constant. And those constants are summable by this computation. So thus, that implies A to the $1/2$ f is continuous function by Weierstrass M-test.

Not only that, this computation we did shows that A to the $1/2$ applied to f of x is less than or equal to π squared over 6 raised to the $1/2$ times the L^2 norm in f . So it's a bounded linear operator from L^2 to the space of continuous functions.

So where are we? We have all the pieces we need in place to solve our problem, Dirichlet problem. All the ingredients are ready. We just need to cook them.

So I was mentioning the Weierstrass M-test. That should have been covered in 18.100. There's an infinite sum of continuous functions. And each of those continuous functions is bounded by a constant. And those constants are summable, then you get a continuous function out in the end.

So now the theorem that concludes the existence part of the Dirichlet problem, let $V \in C^0,1$ continuous function be non-negative. So it's real value and non-negative. And let f be a continuous function. Then there exists a unique twice continuously differentiable function on $[0, 1]$, solving the Dirichlet problem, minus u'' , plus V multiplied by u equals f on $[0, 1]$ and boundary conditions $u(0) = u(1) = 0$.

All right, so I'll just recall for you the plan was to define u to be $A^{-1/2} \pi + A^{-1/2} m v$, $A^{-1/2}$ inverse, $A^{-1/2}$ applied to f . Now we just need to say why this thing exists, right. Why is this operator in the middle invertible? And then we'll get what we need.

So proof by the Fredholm alternative, right. So let me not skip ahead by previous theorem, this operator $m v$ is sandwiched between $A^{-1/2}$ is a self-adjoint compact operator. And therefore, the Fredholm alternative, the inverse exists if and only if the null space of the operator is trivial.

Now suppose we have something in the null space, and we'll show that it has to be 0, then if I pair this with g is an element in L^2 , if I pair it with g , so I get that 0 is equal to $I + A^{-1/2}$, applied to g , inner product g .

Now carrying this g through, and it'll get inner product with itself. So I get g squared plus $A^{-1/2}$ multiplication by V of $A^{-1/2}$ applied to g , inner product g .

Now since $A^{-1/2}$ is self-adjoint, I can move it over to the second entry. And let me just write this out. This is equal to g L^2 plus the inner world from 0 to 1 of V times $A^{-1/2} g$, times-- so this is all multiplication, pointwise multiplication-- times $A^{-1/2} g$ complex conjugate, dx , which this gives me $A^{-1/2} g$ on squared.

Now V is non-negative. So this quantity here is non-negative. So this is bigger than or equal to g squared, an L^2 norm of g . And we started out with 0 . So I get that g is 0 , and therefore the null space of I plus this self-adjoint compact operator is trivial. And therefore I plus this compact self-adjoint operator is invertible-- the Fredholm alternative.

So this inverse exists. And I define u to be what? $A^{-1/2}$. Let's say this way I'll define V to be $I + A^{-1/2}$ multiplication by V , $A^{-1/2}$ inverse applied to $A^{-1/2} f$, and u to be $A^{-1/2}$ of V .

So then what do I get? Then u plus A applied to multiplication by V of-- so I'll say $A^{-1/2} V u$, this is equal to, by definition, $A^{-1/2} V$ plus $A^{-1/2}$, simply because A is equal to $A^{-1/2}$ squared applied to V .

So I get $A^{-1/2}$, $I + A^{-1/2}$ of V , $A^{-1/2}$ applied to V . And now V is given by this thing. So I just get, when it hits that, I just get back $A^{-1/2} f$ multiplied by $A^{-1/2}$ to get Af .