# Problem of Bitsadze–Samarskii Type for Second-Order Elliptic Systems in the Plane<sup>1</sup>

A. P. Soldatov

Presented by Academician E.I. Moiseev January 23, 2006

# FORMULATION OF THE PROBLEM

Let  $D \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  be a bounded domain with a piecewise smooth boundary  $\Gamma = \partial D$  without cuspidal points. Suppose that the set  $F = \{\tau_1, \tau_2, ..., \tau_m\} \subseteq \Gamma$  contains all the angular points of the curve. A function  $\varphi \in C(\Gamma F)$  is piecewise continuous on  $\Gamma$  if there exist one-sided limits  $\varphi(\tau \pm 0)$  at the points  $\tau \in F$ . A continuously differentiable mapping  $\alpha: \Gamma V F \rightarrow \overline{D}$  is called a shift if  $\alpha'$  and its derivative  $\alpha'$  (with respect to the arc length parameter measured in a fixed direction) are piecewise continuous on  $\Gamma$ ,  $\alpha(\tau \pm 0) \in F$ , and  $\alpha'(\tau \pm 0) \neq 0$  for all  $\alpha(\Gamma V F) \subseteq \Gamma$ . In what follows, we consider only boundary shifts when  $\alpha(\Gamma V F) \subseteq \Gamma$  and inner shifts for which this curve lies in *D* and is not tangent to  $\Gamma$  at the points  $\tau \in F$ . For example, the identity mapping e(t) = t is a boundary shift.

We consider the second-order elliptic system

.

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} - A_1 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \, \partial y} - A_0 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0 \tag{1}$$

with constant coefficients  $A_0, A_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{l \times l}$  for an unknown vector-valued function  $u = (u_1, u_2, ..., u_l) \in C^2(D)$ .

The problem of the Bitsadze–Samarskii type is formulated as follows: Find a solution  $u \in C(\overline{D})$  to system (1) that satisfies the boundary condition

$$\left(u + \sum_{s=1}^{n} b_{s} u \circ \beta_{s}\right)\Big|_{\Gamma} = f, \qquad (2)$$

where the  $l \times l$  matrix-valued functions  $b_s(t)$  and the right-hand-side f(t) are piecewise continuous on  $\Gamma$  and  $\beta_s$  are inner shifts.

Belgorod State University, ul. Pobedy 85, Belgorod, 308015 Russia e-mail: soldatov@bsu.edu.ru We can also consider the case when the coefficients  $b_s$  are defined only on a part  $\Gamma'$  of  $\Gamma$ . In this case, (2) is transformed into the following form:

$$u|_{\Gamma \setminus \Gamma'} = f_0, \quad \left( u + \sum_{s=1}^n b_s u \circ \beta_s \right) \bigg|_{\Gamma'} = f_1. \qquad (2')$$

This problem can always be reduced to form (2) by extending  $\beta_s$  to the whole  $\Gamma$  and setting  $b_s = 0$  on  $\Gamma \setminus \Gamma'$ .

In the case of a single shift, problem (1), (2') was first posed by Bitsadze and Samarskii [1] for the Laplace equation. For general elliptic systems and equations, it was investigated by many authors [2–7]. In this paper, a new approach to investigating this problem is developed. It is based on the reduction of the Bitsadze–Samarskii problem to a system of singular integral equations of the nonclassical type; the corresponding theory was developed in [8].

Note that, for the solvability of problem (1), (2), we need compatibility conditions imposed on the right side *f* at the points  $\tau \in F$ . They can be described as follows. There exists a function  $\tilde{u} \in C(\overline{D})$  such that the piecewise continuous function

$$\tilde{f} = \left(\tilde{u} + \sum_{s=1}^{n} b_s \tilde{u} \circ \beta_s\right)\Big|_{\Gamma}$$

coincides with *f* at the points  $\tau \in F$ ; i.e.  $f(\tau_j \pm 0) = f(\tau_j \pm 0)$ ,  $1 \le j \le m$ . Obviously, the number of these linearly independent conditions is no less than *ml*. For example, for the Dirichlet problem, which corresponds to  $b_s = 0$ , these conditions are reduced to  $f(\tau_i + 0) = f(\tau_i - 0)$  and their number is equal to *ml*. Let us consider a more general situation of this type.

Lemma 1. Suppose that there are sets

$$\begin{split} F &= F_0 \supset F_1 \supset \ldots \supset F_{n+1} = \phi, \\ F_p \backslash F_{p+1} \neq \phi, \quad 0 \leq p \leq n, \end{split}$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The article was translated by the author.

such that  $\beta_s(\tau \pm 0) \in F_{p+1}$  for  $\tau \in F_p$ ,  $b_s(\tau \pm 0) \neq 0$ ,  $0 \leq p \leq n$  (in particular,  $b(\tau + 0) = b(\tau - 0) = 0$  for  $\tau \in F_n$ ).

Then the number of linearly independent compatibility conditions is equal to ml

We may also consider problem (1), (2) in the class  $C(\overline{D} \setminus F)$  with a right side  $f \in C(\Gamma \setminus F)$ . In this case, no compatibility conditions are imposed.

The condition of ellipticity for (1) means that the determinant of the characteristic polynomial  $P(w) = w^2 - A_1w - A_0$  has no real roots. This system is closely connected with the first-order elliptic system

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} - J \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = 0, \qquad (3)$$

where  $J \in \mathbb{C}^{l \times l}$  is a Jordan matrix and the eigenvalues of its blocks lie in the upper half-plane. This system was first considered by Douglis [9], so its solutions are called analytic functions in the Douglis sense or, briefly, *J*-analytic functions. If the solution of the original system (1) is sought in the form

$$u = \operatorname{Re}B\phi \tag{4}$$

with some matrix  $B \in \mathbb{C}^{l \times l}$ , then, by virtue of (3), we have the matrix relation  $BJ^2 - A_1BJ - A_0B = 0$  for the pair *B*, *J*. It was shown in [10] that, on this pair, we can impose the supplementary condition

$$\det \left( \begin{array}{cc} B & \overline{B} \\ BJ & \overline{BJ} \end{array} \right) \neq 0$$

In this case, formula (4) describes the general solution of (1). In the upper half-plane Rew > 0, the zeroes of det P(w) coincide with the eigenvalues  $v \in \sigma(J)$ , including their multiplicities. The degrees of the poles of the matrix-valued functions  $P^{-1}(w)$  and  $(w - J)^{-1}$  coincide as well. The condition det  $B \neq 0$  defines so-called weakly connected elliptic systems (according to Bitsadze's nomenclature [11]). This condition is necessary for the Dirichlet problem to be Fredholm, so we assume that it is fulfilled for boundary condition (2).

The function  $\phi$  in (4) is defined up to a constant vector  $\eta \in \mathbb{C}^l$ ,  $\operatorname{Re}B\eta = 0$ . In general, it is a multivalued function in a multiply connected domain *D*. To be more precise, its derivative  $\phi' = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}$  is a univalent function in *D*. Thus, multivaluedness is of a logarithmic nature.

Representation (4) can be modified so that multivalued functions do not appear. Specifically, any solution to system (1) can be uniquely represented as

$$u = \operatorname{Re} B\phi + \sum_{j=1}^{k} u_j \xi_j, \quad \xi_j \in \mathbb{R}^l, \quad \phi(z_0) = 0, \quad (5)$$

where  $u_j \in C^{\infty}(\overline{D})$  are completely defined  $l \times l$  matrixvalued functions whose columns satisfy (1),  $z_0$  is a fixed point of *D*, and *k* is the number of connected components of  $\Gamma = \partial D$ 

With the help of (5), problem (1), (2) reduces to the equivalent problem

$$\operatorname{Re}\left(B\phi + \sum_{s=1}^{n} b_{s}B\phi \circ \beta_{s}\right)\bigg|_{\Gamma} + \sum_{j=1}^{k} c_{j}\xi_{j} = f, \quad (6)$$
$$\phi(z_{0}) = 0,$$

for a *J*-analytic function  $\phi$  and a vector  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^{kl}$ , where  $c_j$  are piecewise continuous matrix-valued functions defined by  $u_j$ . It is obvious that (6) is a finite-dimensional perturbation of the problem

$$\operatorname{Re}\left(G\phi + \sum_{s=1}^{n} G_{s}\phi \circ \beta_{s}\right)\Big|_{\Gamma} = f$$
(7)

with piecewise continuous  $l \times l$  matrix-valued functions G = B and  $G_s = b_s B$  on  $\Gamma$ .

The Fredholm solvability of problem (3), (7) was studied in [12] for the case of a single shift. Let us consider its particular case

$$\operatorname{Re}(G\phi)|_{\Gamma\setminus\Gamma} = f_0, \quad \operatorname{Re}(G\phi + G^0\phi \circ \beta)|_{\Gamma} = f_1,$$

where  $\Gamma'$  is a smooth arc and  $\beta(\Gamma')$  divides *D* into two subdomains. As was indicated in [13], this problem can be reduced to the so-called generalized Riemann–Hilbert problem for *J*-analytic functions. In this context, we can also note [14, 15], where this problem was considered for solutions of the linearized Stokes system and for usual analytic functions, respectively.

### MAIN RESULTS

We consider the problem in the weighted Hölder space  $C^{\mu}_{\lambda}(\overline{D}; F)$  where  $0 < \mu < 1$  and  $\lambda < 0$ , and in the modified weighted class  $C^{\mu}_{(\lambda)}(\overline{D}; F)$ , where  $0 < \lambda < 1$ . Let us recall their definitions [8]. Let  $C^{\mu}_{\lambda}$  with  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  be the space of all functions  $\varphi \in C(\overline{D}\setminus F)$  that belong to  $C^{\mu}(K)$  for every compact subset  $K \subseteq \overline{D}\setminus F$  and  $O(1)|z - \tau|^{\lambda}$  as  $z \to \tau \in F$ . To be more precise, in the curvilinear sectors  $D_i = D \cap \{|z - \tau_i| < \delta\}, i = 1, 2, ..., m$ , where  $\delta$ > 0 is sufficiently small, we have  $\varphi_i(z) = \varphi(z)|z - \tau_i|^{\mu - \lambda}$  $\in C^{\mu}(\overline{D}_i), \varphi_i(\tau_i) = 0$ . The space  $C^{\mu}_{(\lambda)}$  with  $0 < \lambda < 1$  is a finite-dimensional expansion of  $C^{\mu}_{\lambda}$  by smooth functions that are constant in a neighborhood on  $D_j$ . This space is embedded in  $C^{\min(\mu, \lambda)}(\overline{D})$ , and the embedding becomes an exact equality when  $\lambda = \mu$ .

We will also use these spaces for piecewise continuous functions defined on  $\Gamma VF$ . The boundary of the sector  $D_i$  consists of two smooth arcs  $\Gamma_{ik}$  (k = 1, 2) with a (

common endpoint  $\tau_i$ , which are called its lateral sides, and of an arc of the circle  $|z - \tau_i| = \delta$ . It is convenient to denote the one-sided limits  $\varphi(\tau \pm 0)$  at the point  $\tau_i$  by  $\varphi(\tau_{ik}) = \lim \varphi(t)$  as  $t \to \tau_i$ ,  $t \in \Gamma_{ik}$ . For definiteness, we numerate the lateral sides  $\Gamma_{ik}$  so that  $\tau_{i1} = \tau_i + 0$  and  $\tau_{i2}$  $= \tau_i - 0$ . Now the space  $C^{\mu}_{(\lambda)}(\Gamma, F)$  can be defined as above by replacing  $\overline{D}_i$  with  $\Gamma_{ik}$ .

We consider problem (1), (2) in the classes  $C_{\lambda}^{\mu}$ ,  $\lambda < 0$  and  $C_{(\lambda)}^{\mu}$ , 0 < l < 1, with respect to solutions  $\phi$  to (3), (5). It is assumed that the data *e*',  $\beta$ ', *G*, and *b* of the problem belong to the class  $C_{(+0)}^{\mu+0}(\Gamma, F) = \bigcup_{\epsilon>0} C_{(\epsilon)}^{\mu+\epsilon}$  in

the former case and to the class  $C_{(\lambda+0)}^{\mu+0}(\Gamma, F)$  in the latter case. Here, the derivatives on  $\Gamma VF$  are meant with respect to the parameter of length arc measured in the positive direction (so that *D* is on the left). Under these assumptions, the operators of the problems are bounded from the space  $C_{(\lambda)}^{\mu}(\overline{D}, F)$  of solutions to system (1) to the space  $C_{(\lambda)}^{\mu}(\overline{\Gamma}, F)$ ,  $0 < \lambda < 1$ , and the same is true for  $C_{\lambda}^{\mu}$ ,  $\lambda < 0$ . The Fredholm solvability and the index of the problems are meant with respect to these operators.

Recall that the eigenvalues of the matrix J of system (3) lie in the upper half-plane and coincide with the roots of the characteristic equation of the original system (1). For every nonzero complex number q, we introduce the invertible matrix  $q_I = \operatorname{Re} q + J \operatorname{Im} q$ . It will be used below for the derivatives  $q = \alpha'(\tau_{ik})$  of shifts at the points  $\tau_i \pm 0$ . These derivatives are meant with respect to the length arc parameter on  $\Gamma_{ik}$  measured from the point  $\tau_i$ . In particular, for the identity shift e(t)= t, the number  $e'(\tau_{ik})$  is a unique tangent vector on  $\Gamma_{ik}$ at the point  $\tau_i$ . By assumption, the arcs  $\Gamma_{i1}$  and  $\Gamma_{i2}$  are not tangent to each other at the point  $\tau_i$ , so  $e'(\tau_{i1}) \neq$  $e'(\tau_{i2})$ . From the same considerations, the limit values  $\beta(\tau_{ik})$  of an inner shift  $\beta = \beta_s$  belong to *F*, and if  $\beta(\tau_{ik}) =$  $\tau_i$ , then the arc  $\beta(\Gamma_{ik})$  is not tangent to the lateral sides of  $D_j$  at the point  $\tau_j$ . Hence, the vector  $\beta'(\tau_{ik})$  lies between the tangent vectors on  $\Gamma_{jk}$  at the point  $\tau_{j}$ .

In this notation, for each shift  $\alpha$ :  $\Gamma V F \rightarrow \overline{D}$ , we can introduce the matrices  $Q_{ik}(\alpha)$ 

$$Q_{ik}(\alpha) = [\alpha'(\tau_{ik})]_J [e'(\tau_{j1})]_J^{-1}, \quad \alpha(\tau_{ik}) = \tau_j,$$

whose eigenvalues do not lie on the positive half-axis. Therefore, we can define the matrices  $\ln Q$  as the values of the analytic functions  $\ln w (0 < \arg \arg w < 2\pi)$  of Q, and we can define the complex degrees  $Q_{ik}^{\zeta}(a) = \exp[\zeta \ln Q_{ik}(\alpha)]$  and  $\overline{Q}_{ik}^{\zeta}(\alpha) = \exp[\zeta \overline{\ln Q_{ik}(\alpha)}]$ .

On the basis of these degrees and a piecewise continuous matrix-valued function G on  $\Gamma$ , we introduce the following  $m \times m$  block matrices:

$$(G; \alpha)_{ij}^{\zeta} = \{(G; \alpha)_{ijkr}^{\zeta}\}_{1}^{\zeta},$$

$$G; \alpha)_{ijkr}^{\zeta} = \begin{cases} G(\tau_{ik})Q_{ik}^{\zeta}(\alpha), & \alpha(\tau_{ik}) = \tau_{j}, & r = 1, \\ \overline{G}(\tau_{ik})\overline{Q}_{ik}^{\zeta}(\alpha), & \alpha(\tau_{ik}) = \tau_{j}, & r = 2, \\ 0, & \alpha(\tau_{ik}) \neq \tau_{j}. \end{cases}$$
(8)

In the accepted notation, problem (1), (2) is associated with two matrices:

$$X = (B; e)^{'} + \sum_{s=1}^{n} (b_s B; \beta_s)^{'}, \quad Y = (1; e)^{'},$$

The former is called the end symbol of this problem.

The determinant of *Y* can be explicitly calculated. It expression shows that the function det  $Y(\zeta)$  has the unique zero  $\zeta = 0$  in the strip  $|\text{Re}\zeta| < \frac{1}{2}$  and its degree is equal to *ml*. For fixed  $\text{Re}\zeta = \lambda$ , the function det( $XY^{-1}$ )( $\zeta$ ) has a finite limit as  $\text{Im}\zeta \to \infty$ , which, by virtue of the assumption det  $B \neq 0$  is not equal to zero. Then, in the strips  $\lambda < \text{Re}\zeta < 0$  and  $0 \leq \text{Re}\zeta < \lambda$ , the function det $X(\zeta)$  has a finite number of zeroes. We denote this number, counting multiplicities, by  $-\Delta(\lambda)$ and  $\Delta(\lambda)$ , respectively. Thus, the piecewise constant function  $\Delta(\lambda)$  is monotone nondecreasing and, for  $\lambda_1 < \lambda_2$ , the difference  $\Delta(\lambda_2) - \Delta(\lambda_1)$  is equal to the number of zeroes of det $X(\zeta)$  counting multiplicities in the strip  $\lambda_1 \leq \text{Re}\zeta < \lambda_2$ .

Nevertheless, if

$$\operatorname{let} X(\zeta) \neq 0, \quad \operatorname{Re} \zeta = \lambda, \tag{9}$$

then we can introduce the increment  $\arg \det(XY^{-1})(\lambda + i\infty) - \arg \det(XY^{-1})(\lambda - i\infty)$  of a continuous branch of the argument, which is divisible by  $2\pi$ . Regarded as a function of  $\lambda$ , this increment is piecewise constant and, by Rouche's theorem,  $\arg \det(XY^{-1})|_{\lambda_2} - \arg \det(XY^{-1})|_{\lambda_1} = 2\pi[\Delta(\lambda_2) - \Delta(\lambda_1)]$ . In particular, we can set  $\limsup \det(XY^{-1})|_{\varepsilon}$  as  $\varepsilon \to 0$ ,  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

**Theorem 1.** Problem (1), (2) is Fredholm in the classes  $C^{\mu}_{\lambda}$ ,  $\lambda < 0$ , and  $C^{\mu}_{(\lambda)}$ ,  $0 < \lambda < 1$ , if and only if it is of the normal type and condition (9) holds. In this case, its index  $\kappa$  is given by the formula  $\kappa = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \arg \det(XY^{-1})|_{-0} - \Delta(\lambda)$ .

Let us consider the problem in the classes  $C_{-0}^{\mu} = \bigcap_{\epsilon>0} C_{-\epsilon}^{\mu}$  and  $C_{+0}^{\mu} = \bigcup_{\epsilon>0} C_{\epsilon}^{\mu}$ . It may happen that the function *f* in (2) belongs to  $C_{+0}^{\mu}(\Gamma, F)$  for some solution of

(1) in the class  $C_{-0}^{\mu}(\overline{D}, F)$ . The question arises about the asymptotics of this solution at the vertex  $\tau_i$  of the sector  $D_i$ . To formulate the corresponding result, we introduce the analytic functions  $\ln(z - \tau_i)$  in these sectors. As above, they define the matrix-valued functions  $\ln(z - \tau_i)_J$  and  $(z - \tau_i)_J^{\zeta}$ . Note that  $z - \tau_i)_J^{\zeta} [\ln(z - \tau_i)_J]^k \in$  $C_{-0}^{\mu}(\overline{D}_i, \tau_i)$ , Re $\zeta = 0, k = 0, 1, ...$ 

Let us introduce nonnegative integer-valued functions  $k(\zeta)$  and  $r(\zeta)$  that characterize the degrees of zeroes and poles of the functions det $X(\zeta)$  and  $X^{-1}(\zeta)$ , respectively. If det $X(\zeta) \neq 0$ , we set  $k(\zeta) = r(\zeta) = 0$ . Obviously,  $r(\zeta) \leq k(\zeta)$  for all  $\zeta$  and, in the above notations,  $\Delta(0)$  is equal to the sum of  $k(\zeta)$  over Re $\zeta = 0$ .

**Theorem 2.** Suppose that the function f in (2) belongs to  $C^{\mu}_{+0}(\Gamma, F)$  for some solution  $u(z) \in C^{\mu}_{-0}(\overline{D}, F)$  of (1).

Then, for any sector  $D_i$ , there exist  $c_k(\zeta) \in \mathbb{C}^l$ ,  $0 \le k \le r(\zeta) - 1$  such that

$$u(z) - \operatorname{Re} B\phi_i(z) \in C^{\mu}_{+0}(D_i, \tau_i),$$
  
$$_i(z) = \sum_{\operatorname{Re} \zeta = 0} \sum_{k=0}^{r(\zeta) - 1} (z - \tau_i)_J^{\zeta} [\ln(z - \tau_i)_J]^k c_k(\zeta)$$

φ

Of course, the inner sum in the expression for  $\phi_i$  is equal to zero for  $r(\zeta) = 0$ ; therefore, the outer sum is finite.

**Corollary.** If  $r(0) \le 1$ ,  $r(\zeta) = 0$  for  $\zeta \ne 0$ , and  $\operatorname{Re} \zeta = 0$ , then, under the assumptions of Theorem 2,  $u \in C^{\mu}_{(+0)}(\overline{D}_i, \tau_i)$ .

This corollary shows that if  $u \in C_{(-0)}^{\mu}(\overline{D}_i, F)$  and the function *f* does not satisfy the compatibility conditions, then the solution *u* permits logarithmic singularities at the points  $\tau \in F$ .

Note that the linear independent solvability conditions in the definition of the index of the problem include the compatibility conditions for  $0 < \lambda < 1$ . Let us denote by  $\kappa^+$  and  $\kappa^-$  the indices of problem (1), (2) in the classes  $C^{\mu}_{-0}$  and  $C^{\mu}_{(+0)}$ , respectively. According to Theorem 1, they are connected by the relation  $\kappa^- - \kappa^+ = \Delta(0)$ . If the conditions of the corollary are fulfilled, then  $\Delta(0) = k(0)$  and the number of compatibility conditions is equal to k(0).

In the scalar case l = 1, Eq. (1) reduces to the Laplace equation by a change of variables. In particular, the maximum principle holds for this equation. This fact allows us to completely study the solvability of the problem.

**Theorem 3.** Suppose that l = 1, the inequality  $\sum_{s=1}^{n} |b_s| \le 1$  holds, and the conditions of Lemma 1 are fulfilled. Then, under the compatibility conditions,

problem (1), (2) is uniquely solved in the class  $C^{\mu}_{\lambda}$ ,

$$-\frac{1}{2} < \lambda < 1/2.$$

Note that, in this theorem, the condition on  $r(\zeta)$  imposed in the corollary is satisfied and k(0) = m.

We can complete Theorems 1 and 2 by adding the corresponding result on the smoothness of the solution.

**Theorem 4.** Under the assumptions of Theorem 1, let the solution u be such that f in (2) is continuously differentiable on  $\Gamma VF$  and  $f \in C_{\lambda-1}^{\mu}(\Gamma, F)$ . Then the partial derivatives  $u_x$  and  $u_y$  of the solution u belong to  $C_{\lambda-1}^{\mu}(\overline{D}, F)$ . Analogously, if  $f \in C_{-1+0}^{\mu}(\Gamma, F)$  in Theorem 2, then the partial derivatives of the difference  $u(z) - \operatorname{ReB}\phi_i(z)$  belong to  $C_{-1+0}^{\mu}(\overline{D}_i, \tau_i)$  in the sector  $D_i$ .

If a shift  $\alpha$  satisfies the condition  $\alpha(\tau_i + 0) = \alpha(\tau_i - 0) = \tau_i$ ,  $1 \le i \le m$ , then matrix (8) has the block diagonal structure  $(G; \alpha)_{ij} = (G; \alpha)_i \delta_{ij}$ , where the diagonals blocks

$$(G; \alpha)_{i}^{\widehat{}} = \begin{pmatrix} G(\tau_{i1})Q_{i1}^{\zeta}(\alpha) & \overline{G}(\tau_{i1})\overline{Q}_{i1}^{\zeta}(\alpha) \\ G(\tau_{i2})Q_{i2}^{\zeta}(\alpha) & \overline{G}(\tau_{i2})\overline{Q}_{i2}^{\zeta}(\alpha) \end{pmatrix},$$
$$Q_{ik} = [\alpha'(\tau_{ik})]_{J}[e'(\tau_{i1})]_{J}^{-1}$$

are associated with the corresponding sectors  $D_i$ .

Let all the shifts  $\beta_s$  satisfy this condition. Then the end symbol X of the problem has the same block diagonal structure  $(X_i \delta_{ij})_m^1$  with diagonals blocks  $X_i = (B; e)_i^2 = \sum_s (b_s B; \beta_s)_i^2$ . Moreover, Y has the same structure with

 $Y_i = (1; e)_i^{-}$ . In this case, we can regard the weighted order  $\lambda$  as a vector whose coordinates  $\lambda_i$  are associated with the corresponding space  $C_{\lambda}^{\mu}$  ( $\overline{D}_i, \tau_i$ ).

Theorem 1 also holds in this case. It is only necessary to replace (9) by the condition det $X_i(\zeta) \neq 0$ , Re $\zeta = \lambda_i$ ,  $1 \le i \le m$ . The index formula in this case has the form

$$\kappa = \sum \kappa_i,$$
  

$$\kappa_i = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{1}^{m} \arg \det(X_i Y_i^{-1}) \Big|_{-0} - \sum_{i=1}^{m} \Delta_i(l_i),$$

where  $\Delta_i$  is defined with respect to  $X_i$  as above. In the same way, Theorem 2 is valid when the characteristic  $r(\zeta)$  of poles is meant with respect to  $X_i(\zeta)$ .

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This work was supported by the program "Universities of Russia," project no. UR 04.01.486.

## REFERENCES

- 1. A. V. Bitsadze and A. A. Samarskii, Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR **185**, 739–740 (1969).
- A. V. Bitsadze, Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR 277, 17–19 (1984).
- 3. A. L. Skubachevskii, Mat. Sb. **129** (171), 279–302 (1986).
- A. L. Skubachevskii, Russ. J. Math. Phys. 8, 365–374 (2001).
- 5. K. Yu. Kishkis, Differ. Uravn. 24, 105–110 (1988).
- 6. P. L. Gurevich, Funct. Differ. Equations 10 (1/2), 175–214 (2003).
- P. L. Gurevich, Izv. Ross. Akad. Nauk, Ser. Mat. 67 (6), 71–110 (2003).

- 8. A. P. Soldatov, One-Dimensional Singular Operators and Boundary Value Problems in Function Theory (Vysshaya Shkola, Moscow, 1991) [in Russian].
- 9. A. A. Douglis, Commun. Pure Appl. Math. 6, 259–289 (1953).
- 10. A. P. Soldatov, Differ. Equations **39**, 712–725 (2003) [Differ. Uravn. **39**, 674–686 (2003)].
- 11. A. V. Bitsadze, Boundary Value Problems for Second-Order Elliptic Equations (Moscow, 1966) [in Russian].
- 12. A. P. Soldatov, Differ. Equations **41**, 416–428 (2002) [Differ. Uravn. **41**, 396–407 (2005)].
- 13. A. P. Soldatov, Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR **299**, 825–828 (1988).
- 14. N. A. Zhura, Dokl. Akad. Nauk 331, 668–671 (1993).
- 15. I. V. Sidorova, Izv. Vyssh. Uchebn. Zaved., Mat., No. 8, 50–56 (1995).