## PROPERTIES OF SOLUTIONS OF A CLASS OF PLANAR ELLIPTIC OPERATORS WITH DEGENERACIES

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In this lecture we will investigate properties of solutions of first and second order elliptic equations that degenerate along a simple closed curve in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . These equations are generated by a  $\mathbb{C}$ -valued vector field L. To the vector field L, we associate the second order operator  $\mathbb{P} = \operatorname{Re} \left[ L\overline{L} + pL \right]$ , where p is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -valued function.

We will establish a one-to-one correspondence between the solutions of the equation  $\mathbb{P}u = 0$  and those of an associated first order equation of type  $Lw = Aw + B\overline{w}$ .

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