

1086-60-1648

**Nathaniel Eldredge\*** (neldredge@math.cornell.edu) and **Laurent Saloff-Coste**  
(lsc@math.cornell.edu). *Widder's theorem for symmetric local Dirichlet forms.*

Classically, Widder's theorem says that any nonnegative solution  $u(t, x)$  of the heat equation  $(\partial_t - \frac{1}{2}\Delta)u = 0$  on  $(0, T) \times \mathbb{R}^d$  is uniquely determined by its initial values at time  $t = 0$ ; in particular, no growth conditions on  $u$  need be assumed. We present an extension of this theorem in which  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is replaced by a metric measure space equipped with a symmetric, strictly local, regular Dirichlet form  $(\mathcal{E}, \mathbb{D})$  satisfying certain assumptions. Examples include Riemannian and sub-Riemannian manifolds as well as various fractals. A key ingredient is a parabolic Harnack inequality for local weak solutions of the heat equation defined by  $(\mathcal{E}, \mathbb{D})$ . (Received September 23, 2012)