

PDE Spring 2016

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Lecture 4

~~Conservation Laws~~

Conservation Laws

EPDE: 3.2, 3.2.1

Reading: APDE: Section 1.2, Ex. 1.15
1.3, 1.7

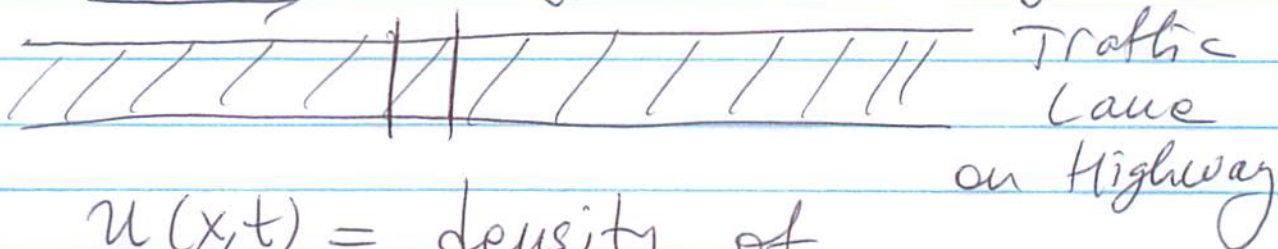
We consider the transport of a conserved quantity in 1D

Examples:

→ Traffic flow

→ Pollutant / smoke in air flow

→ Heat (energy) flow through metal



$u(x,t)$ = density of cars / molecules

~~Quantity~~ = $u(x,t) dx$

Flux $\psi(x,t)$ = amount of quantity passing through x

Positive means to the right (2)
E.g. Number of cars passing
through intersection / mile
marker per ~~hour~~ second

$f(x, t) =$ source / sink of
quantity

E.g.: Traffic coming onto
highway from entrance (+) or
leaving from exit (-)

Fundamental conservation law

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_a^b u(x, t) dx = \int_a^b f(x, t) dx + \psi(a, t) - \psi(b, t)$$

This is called a "weak form"
of a conservation PDE. Under
some assumptions, it can be

converted into a traditional PDE, which is called the "strong form" and is the focus of this course.

Recall from ODEs that

$x'(t) = f(x, t)$ is equivalent to ~~the~~ integral equation

$$x(t) = x(0) + \int_0^t f(x(t), t) dt$$

which is in fact more general than ODE (e.g. stochastic ODEs)

If function is sufficiently smooth, i.e. sufficiently continuously differentiable, we can convert conservation law to a PDE,

Lots of PDEs in practice come from conservation laws!

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_a^b u(x,t) dx = \int_a^b u_t dx \quad (4)$$

if u has continuous first partial derivatives

Similarly, if φ has continuous first partials, then fund. th. of calculus says

$$\varphi(a,t) - \varphi(b,t) = - \int_a^b \varphi_x dx$$

Conservation law becomes:

$$\int_a^b [u_t + \varphi_x - f] dx = 0$$

for all a and b

Since integrand is continuous (crucial!) and a and b are arbitrary, the above implies integrand identically vanishes

(5)

$$u_t + \psi_x = f$$

conservation law PDE

To turn this into a PDE
we need a constitutive law

$$\psi \equiv \psi(u, x, t)$$

which is problem-specific.

For traffic flow

$$\psi = u c$$

where ~~c~~ is speed of cars

If c is constant (boring!)
then we get advection
equation

$$u_t + c u_x = f$$

But in the real world

c depends on u (and
also x, t due to road/
weather conditions)

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So to get an actual PDE we need to do

mathematical modeling

E.g.

$$c = c_{\max} \left(1 - \frac{u}{u_{\max}} \right)$$

where u_{\max} is the "jamming" density of cars

\Rightarrow (derive as practice)

$$u_t + c_{\max} \left(1 - 2 \frac{u}{u_{\max}} \right) u_x = 0$$

Speed of traffic "waves" or speed of propagation of information through the highway

The above is a non linear ~~advection~~ advection equation similar to Burgers equation

We will not study nonlinear advection in detail but see text books for advanced students.

Here, as practice, let's show that the implicit solution

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u = F(\underbrace{x - c(u)t}_y) \\ \text{solves} \\ u_t + c(u)u_x = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$u_t = F'(y) [-c(u) - c'(u)u_t t]$$

$$u_x = F'(y) [1 - c'(u)u_x t]$$

$$c u_x = F'(y) [c - c' c u_x t]$$

$$u_t + c u_x = c F'(y) t [u_t + c u_x]$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{if } c' F' \neq 0 \quad \boxed{u_t + c u_x = 0}$$

Diffusion

as a conservation law

We all know that heat "flows" from hot to cold.

In general, the higher the gradient of temperature the larger the flow.

So it seems reasonable to postulate

$$\psi = -k u_x$$

where $k > 0$ is a diffusion constant

→ flux is "down the gradient"

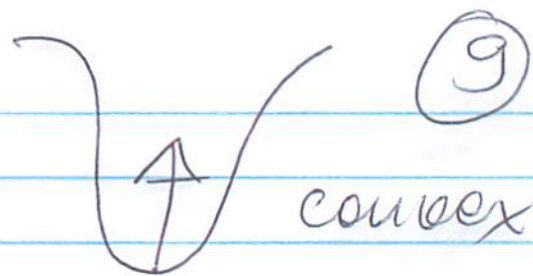
$$u_t + (k u_x)_x = 0$$

Heat equation as a conservation law

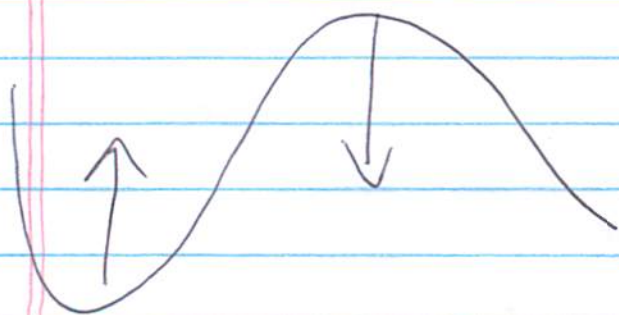
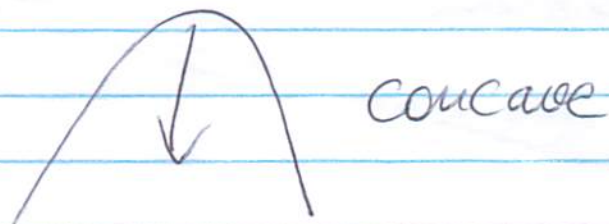
Here $k \equiv k(x)$ or even $k \equiv k(u, x, t) > 0$ works

$$\text{If } u_{xx} > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u_t > 0$$



$$\text{If } u_{xx} < 0$$



→ flat
as time goes

Diffusion "flattens" or "smears" the solution

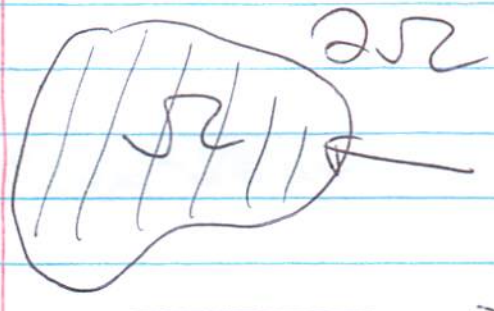
It makes it smoother with time

~~There is a deep connection between~~

There is a deep connection between diffusion and randomness or random walks, see 1.4 in

Applied PDE book if interested in details

Higher dimensions



$u(x,y) : (x,y) \in \Omega$

$\partial\Omega = \text{boundary of } \Omega$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_V u \, dV = \int_{\partial V} (\vec{\Psi} \cdot \vec{n}) \, dS + \int_V f \, dV$$

where $V \subseteq \Omega$ is an arbitrary sub volume

Here flux $\vec{\Psi}$ is a vector and $\vec{\Psi} \cdot \vec{n}$ is the normal flux through the boundary of a sub volume

Since V is fixed with time

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_V u \, dV = \int_V \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \, dV$$

Also recall divergence theorem

Green & Gauss generalised fund. theorem at call

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla \psi \, dV = \int_{\partial \Omega} \psi \vec{n} \, dS$$

$$\int_{\Omega} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\psi}) \, dV = \int_{\partial \Omega} \vec{\psi} \cdot \vec{n} \, dS$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_V \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\psi} - f \right) dV = 0$$

for all $V \subseteq \Omega$
(weak form)

⇓ certain assumptions

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\psi} = f$$

Strong form

A diffusion in higher dimensions $c \rightarrow \vec{c}$ (vector)

$\vec{c}(x,y) \rightarrow$ vector field in general

$$\vec{\psi} = u \vec{c}$$

$$\Rightarrow u_t + \vec{\nabla} \cdot (u \vec{c}) = 0$$

if \vec{c} is a constant vector

~~if \vec{c} is a constant vector~~

$$u + \vec{c} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} u) = 0$$

Diffusion in higher dimensions

$$\vec{\psi} = -k \vec{\nabla} u, \quad k > 0$$

$$u_t + \vec{\nabla} \cdot (-k \vec{\nabla} u) = 0$$

$\exists k$ constant

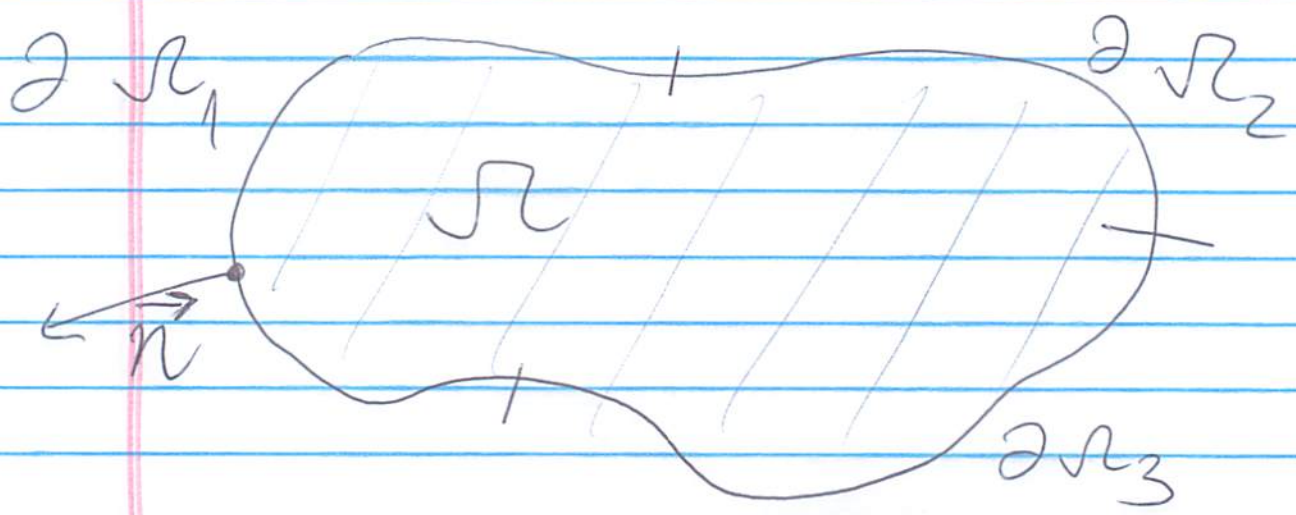
$$u_t = k \vec{\nabla} \cdot (\vec{\nabla} u) = k \nabla^2 u$$

Practice \uparrow : Show $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \equiv \nabla^2$

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Boundary conditions in higher dimensions

- Dirichlet BCs specify values of the solution on the boundary of the spatial (x, y, z) domain
- Neumann BCs specify values of the flux on the boundary.
E.g. flux = 0 means insulating / impenetrable boundary



$$\partial\Omega = \partial\Omega_1 \cup \partial\Omega_2 \cup \partial\Omega_3$$

↑ boundary of domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$

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Example BCs:

(a) Dirichlet on $\partial\Omega_1$:

$$u(\vec{r} = (x, y) \in \partial\Omega_1) = 0$$

or we write

$$\boxed{u(\partial\Omega_1) = 0}$$

(b) Neumann on $\partial\Omega_2$:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = (\vec{\nabla} u) \cdot \vec{n}$$

Normal derivative gradient normal to boundary
dot product

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial u}{\partial n}(\partial\Omega_2) = 0} = u_x n_x + u_y n_y$$

$$\vec{\nabla} u = \begin{pmatrix} \partial u / \partial x \\ \partial u / \partial y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_x \\ u_y \end{pmatrix}$$

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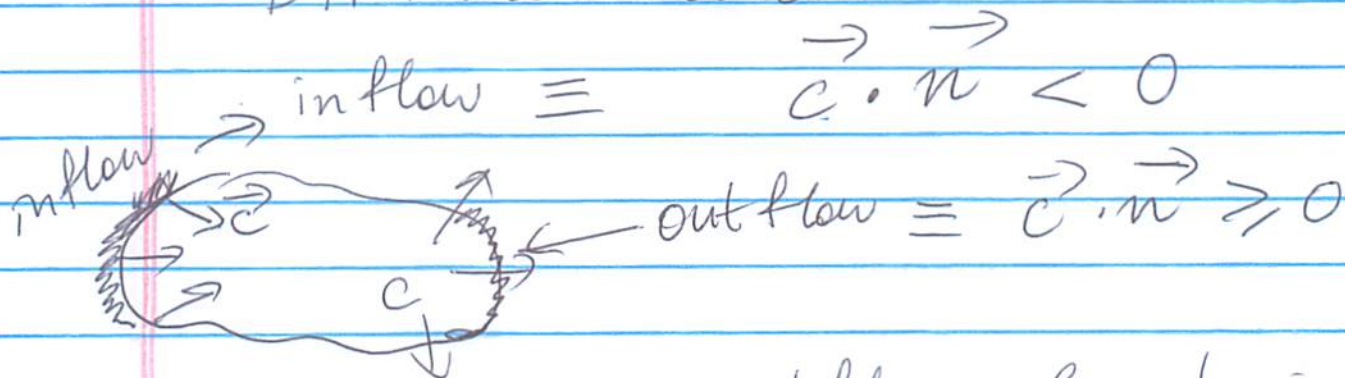
(c) No BC can be specified on $\partial\Omega_3$

Which type of BC is allowed on which part of boundary depends on equation

Examples

second order } (1) For diffusion/heat eq. or Poisson/Laplace
 $u_t = k \nabla^2 u$ in Ω
every part of the boundary must have a (Dirichlet/Neumann) BC

(2) For advection equation, inflow boundaries require a Dirichlet condition



No BC on outflow boundaries