

MECH 479/587

Computational Fluid Dynamics

Module 2b: PDE Classification

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(x, y, z, t)



What is PDE?

- A differential equation that contains unknown multivariable functions and their partial derivatives
 - ▶ PDEs are distinguished from ODEs by the fact that they contain derivatives more than one independent variable

Consider a scalar partial differential equation (PDE) of the general form

$\partial \Rightarrow$ partial

A general implicit form of PDE is:

$$F\left(\underline{x, y, \dots, u}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}, \dots, \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial xy}, \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}, \dots\right) = 0$$

where x, y, \dots are the independent variables, and $u = u(x, y, \dots)$ is the dependent variable.

Classification of PDEs

- ❑ PDEs are classified based on the mathematical concept of characteristics that are lines (2D) or surfaces (3D) along which certain properties remain constant
 - ▶ Certain derivatives may be discontinuous
 - ▶ Characteristics are related in which "information" can be transmitted in physical system

- ❑ PDEs can be classified into hyperbolic, parabolic and elliptic ones
 - ▶ Each class of PDEs models a different kind of physical processes
 - ▶ Number of initial/boundary conditions depends on the PDE type
 - ▶ Different solution methods are required for PDEs of different type

Classification of PDEs

□ Hyperbolic equations

- ▶ Information propagates in certain directions at finite speeds; the solution is a superposition of multiple simple waves

- ◊ *Wave-like* solutions

Information
Direction } Wave

□ Parabolic equations

- ▶ Information travels downstream/forward in time; the solution can be constructed using a marching/time-stepping method

- ◊ *Damped wave-like*

Marching
(Diffusion/damping) $\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$

□ Elliptic equations

- ▶ Information propagates in all directions at infinite speed; describe equilibrium phenomena (unsteady problems are never elliptic)

- ◊ Not wave-like

Equilibrium
(Blind)

Some Examples

□ 1D scalar equations

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = 0$$

Advection

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} - \nu \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

Diffusion

$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} - \nu \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

Wave propagation

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

Laplace equation

$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\phi(x, t)$$

Evolution in time

Link with the 2D Navier-Stokes Equation

□ X-momentum Diffusion

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}}_{\text{Advection part}} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \frac{\mu}{\rho} \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

□ Continuity

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0$$

Laplace-type

$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

$$u = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x}$$

$$v = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y}$$

Quasi-Linear 1st Order PDEs

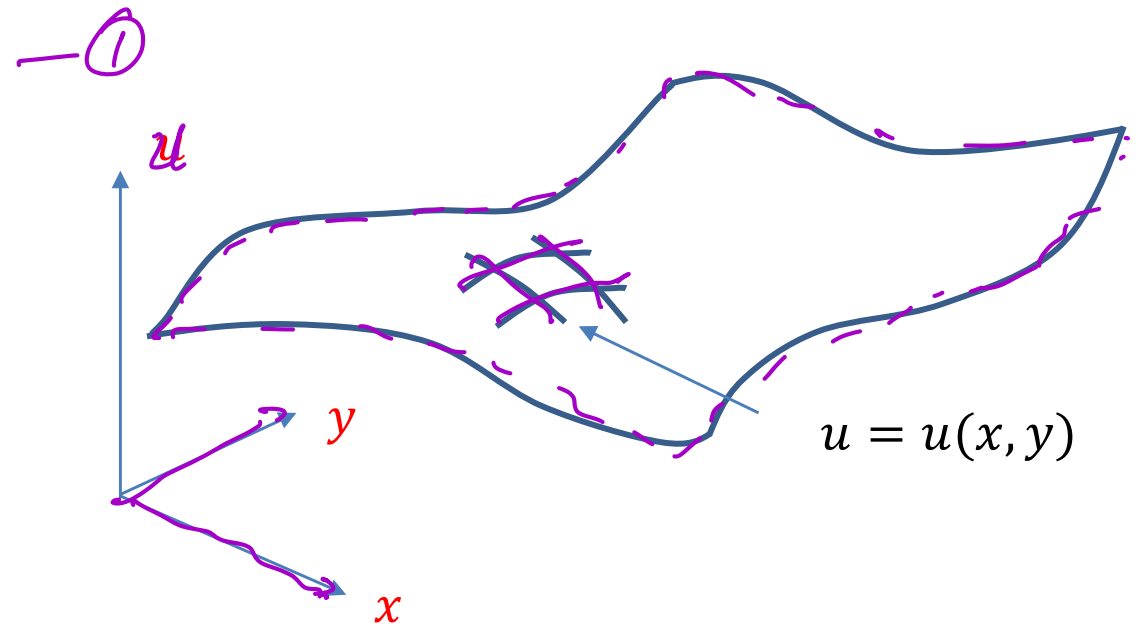
□ Quasi-linear first order equation

$$a \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + b \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = c$$

$$a = a(x, y, u)$$

$$b = b(x, y, u)$$

$$C = C(x, y, u)$$



Quasi-Linear PDE

- Arbitrary change in u is given by

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

- The original equation and the condition for an infinitesimal change

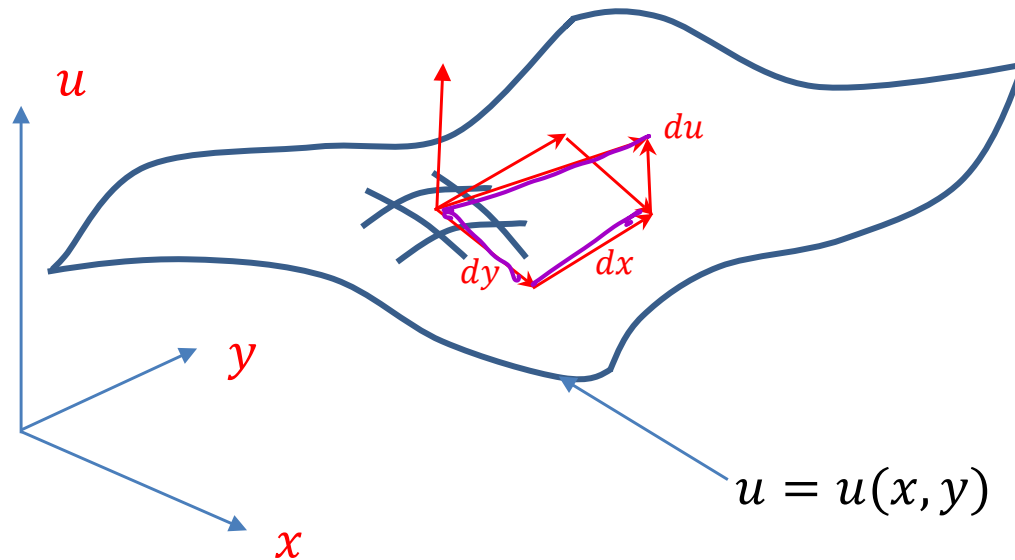
$$a \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + b \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = c \Rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}, -1 \right) \cdot \underbrace{(a, b, c)} = 0$$

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy \Rightarrow \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}, -1 \right) \cdot \underbrace{(dx, dy, du)} = 0$$

- Both (a, b, c) and (dx, dy, du) lie on the surface
 - The vector field (a, b, c) is tangent to the surface u

Visual Inspection

- The solution of this equation defines a single valued surface $u(x,y)$ in three-dimensional space:



- Total derivative

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy$$

Characteristics

→ Comparing (a, b, c)

$$(dx, dy, du) = \underline{ds} (a, b, c)$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\frac{dx}{ds}} = a, \quad \underline{\frac{dy}{ds}} = b, \quad \frac{du}{ds} = c$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{a}{b}}$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{\frac{du}{ds} = c}$$

$$d \rightarrow d$$

Characteristics Cont'd

- Three equations specify in the x-y plane *Characteristics*

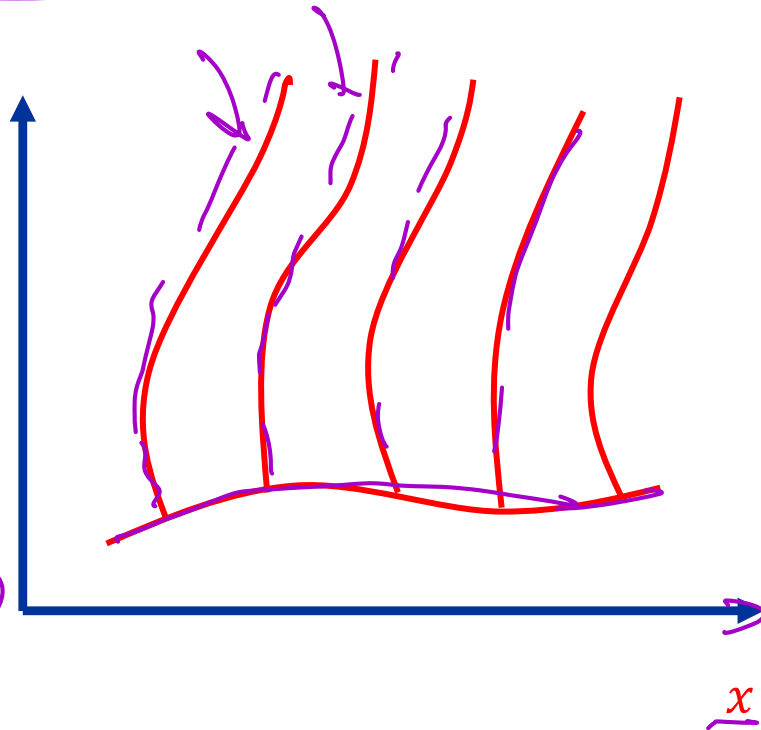
$$\frac{dx}{ds} = a; \quad \frac{dy}{ds} = b; \quad \frac{du}{ds} = c$$

Given initial conditions:

$$x = x(s, t_0), \quad y = y(s, t_0)$$

$$u = u(s, t_0)$$

$$\boxed{\frac{dx}{dy} = \frac{a}{b}}$$



- Along the characteristics, the original PDE becomes the ODE

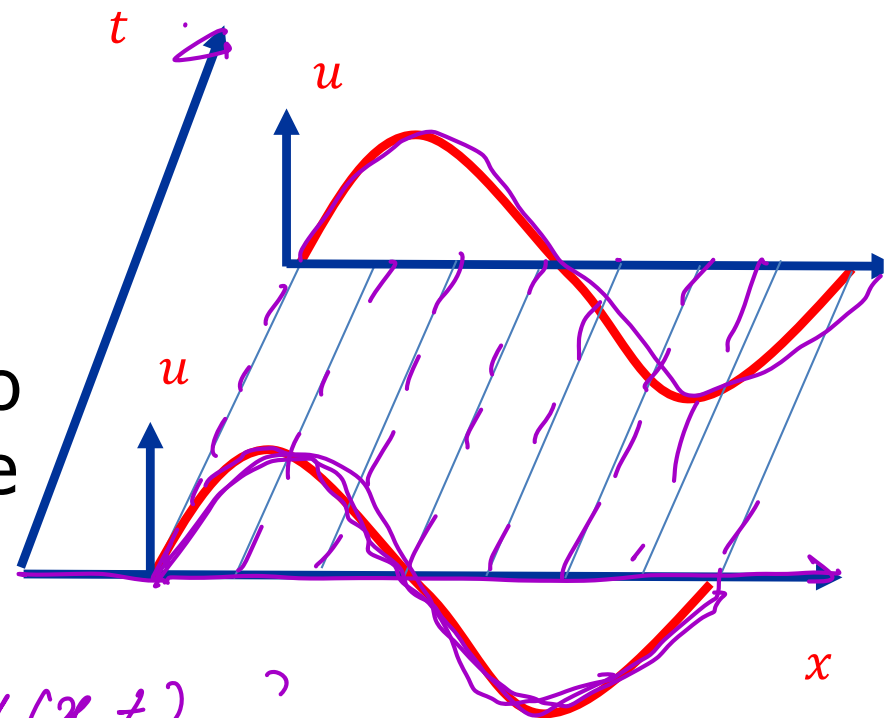
Example: Linear Advection Equation

- Goal: We want to transform this linear first-order PDE into an ODE along the appropriate curve

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \underset{\substack{\text{Speed} \\ \downarrow}}{c} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$u(x, t) ?$$

$$g(x_0) = \sin(x_0)$$



- Characteristics are given by

$$* \quad \frac{dt}{ds} = 1 ; \quad \frac{dx}{ds} = c ; \quad \frac{du}{ds} = 0$$

$$\boxed{\frac{dx}{dt} = c}, \quad \underline{du = 0}$$

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx$$



$$(dt, dx, du) = ds (1, c, 0)$$

Example: Linear Advection Equation

- Along the characteristics, the solution remains constant
 - ▶ Along the the characteristics $(x(s), t(s))$, the original PDE becomes the ODE
- To determine the general solution, it is enough to find the characteristics by solving the characteristic system of ODEs

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dt}{ds} &= 1 & \text{let } t(0) &= 0 \Rightarrow t = s \\ \frac{dx}{ds} &= c & \text{let } x(0) &= x_0 & \text{we know: } x = cs + x_0 \\ \frac{du}{ds} &= 0 & \text{let } u(0) &= g(x_0), & \text{we know} \\ & & u(x(t), t) &= g(x_0) \\ & & &= g(\underline{x - ct}) \end{aligned}$$

Linear Advection Equation

□ Graphically

$$u(x, t) = \underline{g(x - ct)}$$

where $g(x) = u(x, t=0)$

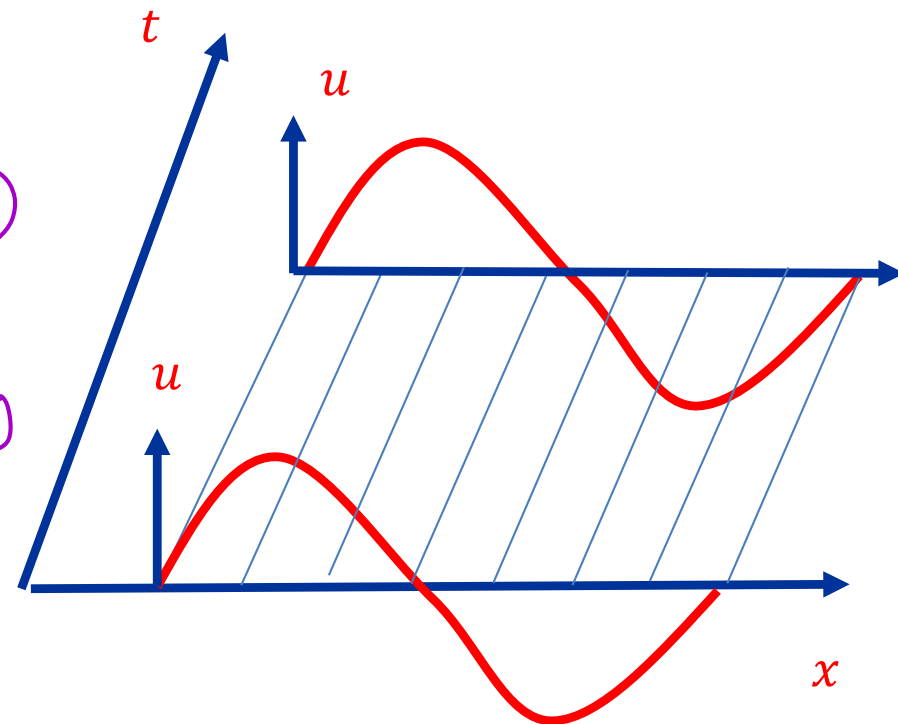
Verify:

$$\alpha(x, t) = x - ct$$

Then

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial \alpha} \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial \alpha} (-c)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= \frac{\partial g}{\partial \alpha} \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial \alpha} \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} (x - ct) \\ &= \frac{\partial g}{\partial \alpha} \end{aligned}$$



□ Solution:

- ▶ Waves travel with constant speed
- ▶ Preserve the initial waveform

Some Examples

- Add a source term

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = u$$

- Nonlinear (quasi-linear) advection equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

- Advection-diffusion (Burger) equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

Partial Differential Eqⁿs (PDE's)

→ Why we care for CFD?

→ Approximation / discretization
based on underlying character or
behavior!

→ Boundary conditions

Characteristics:

Can we come up with some curves
or surfaces (pathways) where
PDE's tend to behave like ODE's

→ Lines / Curves represent connection
or relationship among independent
variables!

$$\underline{f(x, y, z, t) = 0}$$

1D wave / advection Eqⁿ:

$$\textcircled{1} \rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0, \quad u = u_0(x) @ t=0$$

$$\textcircled{2} \rightarrow \frac{du}{dt} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt}$$

Compare $\textcircled{1}$ & $\textcircled{2}$:

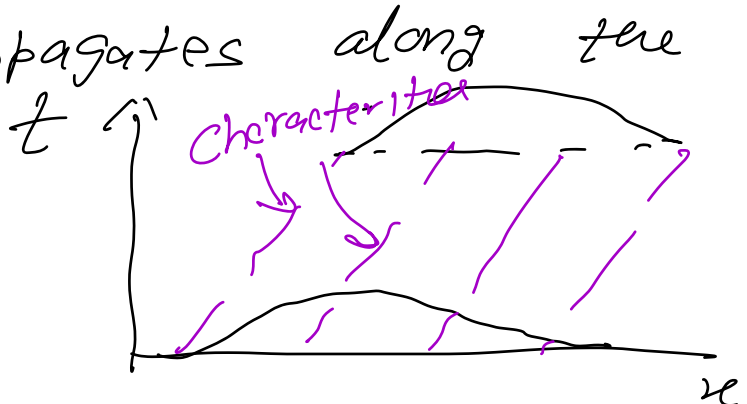
$$\boxed{\frac{dx}{dt} = c}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = ct + \text{const.} \quad (\text{Characteristic Eq}^n)$$

Along these lines:

$$\frac{du}{dt} = 0 \quad (\text{ODE})$$

u solution propagates along the lines



Classification of PDE using eigenvalue method

(u, v)

(x, y)

Set of First-order PDE's :

$$\rightarrow a_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + b_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + c_1 \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + d_1 \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0 \quad - (1)$$

$$a_2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + b_2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + c_2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + d_2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0 \quad - (2)$$

We can write in matrix form

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & c_2 \end{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \begin{Bmatrix} u \\ v \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & d_1 \\ b_2 & d_2 \end{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \begin{Bmatrix} u \\ v \end{Bmatrix} = 0$$

Denote:

$$\underline{w} = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \underline{w}}{\partial x} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & c_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & d_1 \\ b_2 & d_2 \end{bmatrix}}_A \frac{\partial \underline{w}}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial \underline{w}}{\partial x} + \underline{[A]} \frac{\partial \underline{w}}{\partial y} = 0$$

Determinant Condition to find
eigenvalues:

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$

$$A \underline{x} = \lambda \underline{x}$$

$\searrow \quad \swarrow$
eigenvectors
(characteristics)

If all eigenvalues are
real \Rightarrow System is
hyperbolic

If all eigenvalues
are complex \Rightarrow Elliptic

If eigenvalues are mixed
(real & complex) :

mixed
PDE's

Quasi-linear 2nd Order PDEs

variable: u

(x, y) independent

$$\underline{a} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \underline{b} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \underline{c} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \underline{d}$$

$$d = d \left(x, y, u, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}, \dots \right)$$

$$a = a \left(x, y, u, u_x, u_y \right)$$

$$b = b \left(\downarrow \right)$$

$$c = c \left(\downarrow \right)$$

$$u_x = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$

$$u_y = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$

Second-Order PDE

Define: $\phi = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$, $\psi = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$

$$a \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + b \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + c \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = d$$

$$\Rightarrow a \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + b \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} + c \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = d \quad - (1)$$

Other Eqⁿ: $\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y}$

(2)

Transformed Equations

(optional)

□ We can transform 2nd order PDE

see handout
for derivation

into first order PDE

$$a \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + b \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} + c \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} = d$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} = 0$$

In the matrix form

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{b}{a} & \frac{c}{a} \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{d}{a} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

⇒ Find the existence of characteristics

Determinant Condition (2)

□ Determinant

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$
$$-\lambda\left(\frac{b}{a} - \alpha\right) + \frac{c}{a} = 0$$

□ Solving:

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2a} \left(b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac} \right)$$

□ PDE types:

Hyperbolic $\leftarrow \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac} > 0$

Two
Characteristics

Parabolic $\leftarrow \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac} = 0$

One characteristic

Elliptic $\leftarrow \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac} < 0$

No real
characteristics

Example 1:

→
$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

□ Comparing

$$a \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + b \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + c \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = d$$

□ Gives: $a = 1$; $b = 0$; $c = -c^2$; $d = 0$;

$$b^2 - 4ac = 0^2 + 4 \cdot 1 \cdot c^2 = 4c^2 > 0$$

Hyperbolic!

Example 2:

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

□ Comparing

$$a \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + b \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + c \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = d$$

□ Gives: $a = 1$; $b = 0$; $c = 1$; $d = 0$;

$$\underline{b^2 - 4ac = 0^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = -4 < 0}$$

Elliptic

Example 3:

First order
derivatives
no
play
role!

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

$$-k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$

□ Comparing

$$a \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + b \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + c \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = d$$

$a=0$ $b=0$

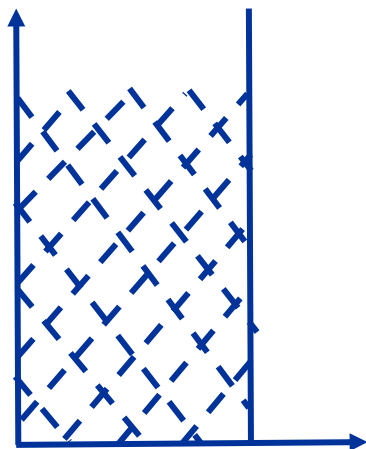
□ Gives: $\underline{a} = 0$; $\underline{b} = 0$; $\underline{c} = -k$; $d = 0$; $-\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \Rightarrow$ (doesn't matter)
both sign or value!

$$\underline{b^2 - 4ac} = 0^2 + \underline{4.0.1} = 0$$

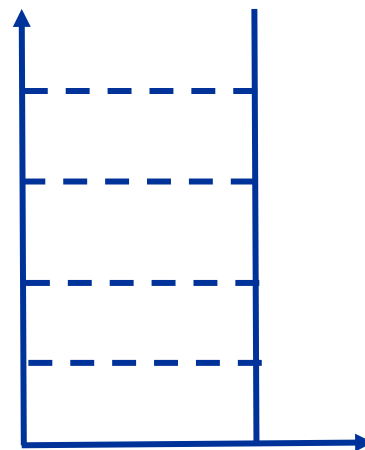
Parabolic

Relevance of PDE Classification

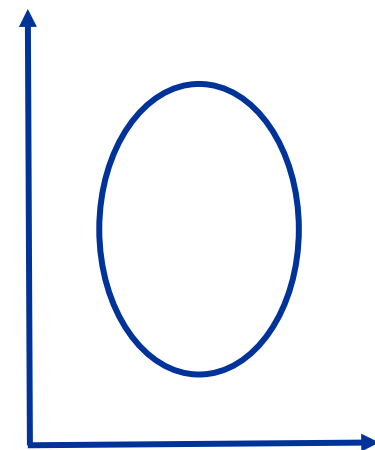
- ❑ Proper specifications of initial and boundary conditions
- ❑ Exploring and understanding different physical behaviors
- ❑ Development of appropriate numerical techniques



Hyperbolic



Parabolic



Elliptic

Link with the 2D Navier-Stokes Equation

□ X-momentum Parabolic

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}}_{\text{Hyperbolic part}} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \underbrace{\frac{\mu}{\rho} \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)}_{\text{Parabolic}}$$

□ Continuity

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0$$

Elliptic

Note on the Navier-Stokes Equations

- ❑ The Navier-Stokes equations are mixed and they contain the parabolic, hyperbolic and elliptic characteristics behavior
- ❑ The different types of the equation require specialized techniques.
- ❑ Based on the underlying physical parameters, one behavior can dominant
 - ▶ For example, for inviscid compressible flow, only the hyperbolic part sustains

Example: The Navier-Stokes Equations

□ Model problem for incompressible flow equations

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} + \frac{\nabla p}{\rho} = \nu \Delta \mathbf{u}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

These equations can be split into three pieces

$$\text{Hyperbolic : } \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\text{Parabolic : } \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} = \nu \Delta \mathbf{u}$$

$$\text{Elliptic : } \Delta p = \nabla \cdot (-\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} + \nu \Delta \mathbf{u})$$

Boundary Conditions (B.C.):

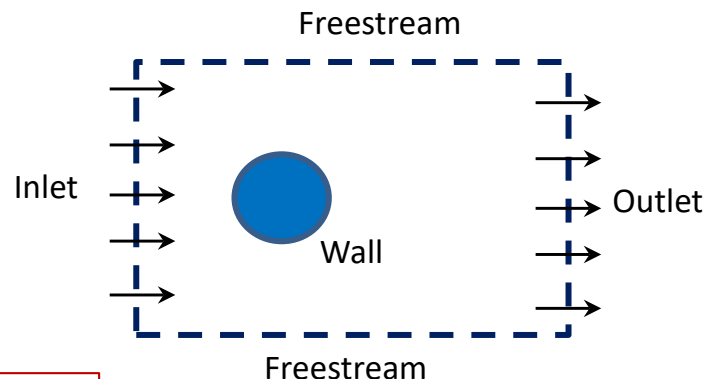
For **viscous** flow, we have $\mathbf{u}_{\text{fluid}} = \mathbf{u}_{\text{wall}}$ for the fluid on the solid wall.

This condition is known as no-slip condition.

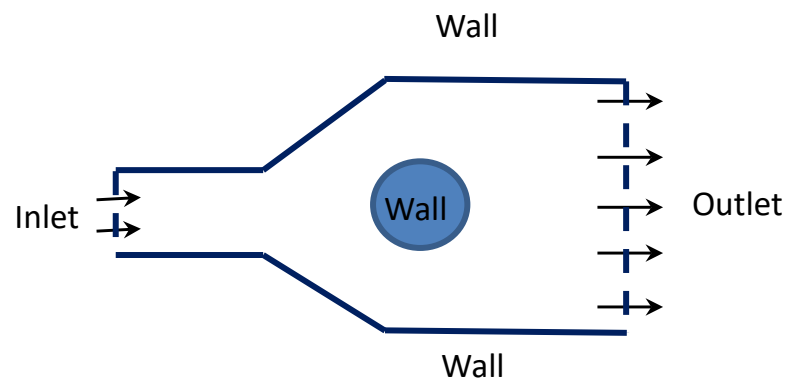
For **inviscid** flow, $(\mathbf{u}_{\text{fluid}}) \cdot (\mathbf{n}_{\text{wall}}) = 0$. This is called the no-penetration condition, or slip condition.

Initial Conditions (I.C.):

We need to provide \mathbf{u} at time $t = 0$.



External flow



Internal flow

Well-posed Problem

Definition: A mathematical problem is well-posed when there exists one solution to the problem (Existence), which must also be the only solution (Uniqueness) and depends continuously on all the given data (Continuity).

To determine whether or not a problem is well-posed, we must consider the governing equations, boundary conditions and initial conditions.

Demo: PDE Classification

□ Matlab code

```
% PDE demo - advection, diffusion, dissipation
```

```
% Discretization
```

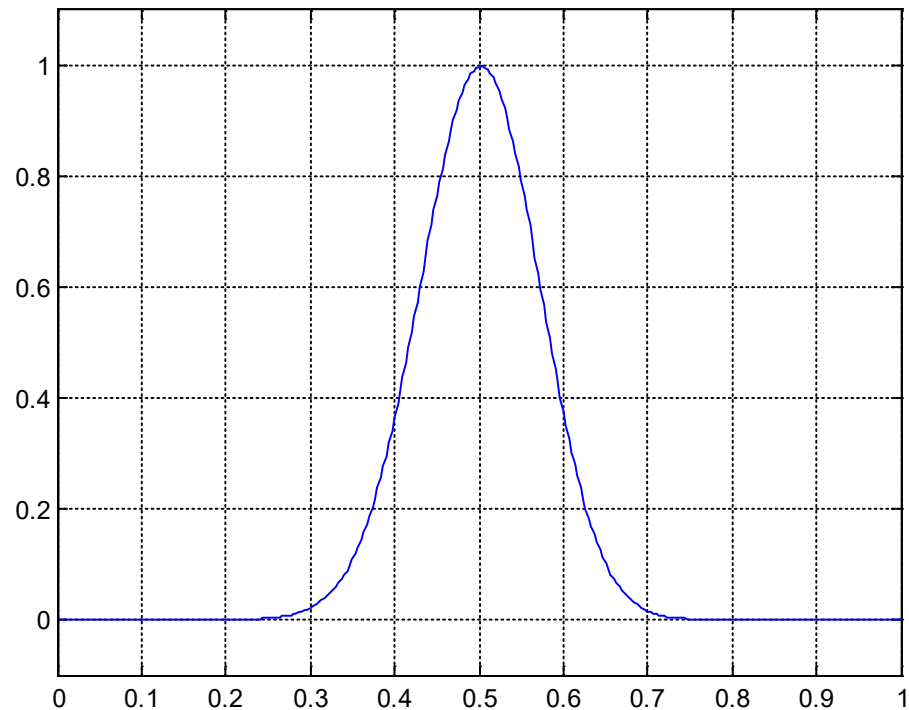
```
m = 300;
```

```
h = 1 / m;
```

```
x = h * (1:m)';
```

```
...
```

```
...
```



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