



Partial Differential Equations

- A p.d.e. contains one or more partial derivative
- many natural phenomena are ~~described by~~ involve 'interaction of three or more variables';
- A solution of p.d.e., is a function which satisfies the equation;

For example, $u(x, t) = \cos(2x) e^{-4x^2 t}$ is ~~the~~ a solution function ~~for~~ of;

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = a^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

- Some (rare) p.d.e. can be solved by inspection; consider the eqn.:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = -4 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \quad \dots (i) \quad (\text{1st order})$$

- There may be many solutions to (i); but a simple one easy to guess;

→ if ~~$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$~~ $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$ were both constant
could get a solution easily; we, therefore
try: $u(x, y) = Ax + By$, and then:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = A \quad \& \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = B \Rightarrow A = -4B$$

and, we can choose $B = 1$, & $A = -$

And then $u = -4x + y$ is a solution;

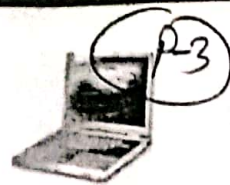
→ A p.d.e. ~~eqn.~~ is of order n if it
contains an n^{th} ~~partial~~ partial derivative,
but none higher.

(i) Laplace's eqn. $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2} = 0$
is second order;

(ii) Heat equation. $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$ is also
second order; &

(iii) ~~$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$~~ The wave eqn.:

$\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2} = a^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}$ is also of second
order;



→ Since, the non-linear p.d.e. is ~~too~~ very difficult to solve, we begin with linear p.d.e. Such as:

$$a(x, y) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + b(x, y) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + g(x, y) = 0 \quad \text{---(ii)}$$

~~is a general~~ is the general first order p.d.e. in three variables in which u is a dependent variables and x, y are the two independent variables

→ the general linear Second order p.d.e. in three variables has the form:

$$a(x, y) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + b(x, y) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + c(x, y) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + d(x, y) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + e(x, y) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + f(x, y)u + g(x, y) = 0 \quad \text{---(iii)}$$

→ eqns. (ii) & (iii) given above are homogeneous if $g(x, y) = 0$ for all (x, y) under consideration and non homogeneous if $g(x, y) \neq 0$ for some (x, y) .

& in homogeneous cases we always seek a non-trivial solution, that is, one which is not identically zero;

Example: Find a nontrivial solution of:

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

Soln Let $u = u(y)$, then

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (u(y)) = 0$$

$\therefore u = u(y)$, that is any function of y only will work!

H. W. Prob. #'s

Find the non-trivial solutions of the followings:

Ans (1) $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0$

Soln $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (u) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u \right)$

\Rightarrow let $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (u) = f(y)$, then



Then: $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(y) [=0]$

Let $u = x + f(y)$, then:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [x + f(y)] = 1 + 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (1) = 0$$

$\therefore u = x + f(y)$ is the general form of the solution function: \square

HW
(2) $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$

Soln: Let $u(x, y) = k(x - y)$, k constant

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [k(x - y)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [k(x - y)] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (kx) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (ky) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (kx) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (ky) \end{aligned}$$

$$= k - 0 + 0 - k = 0$$

$\therefore u(x, y) = k(x - y)$; k constant is a solution. \square checked

H.W.
(3) $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = y$.

Solⁿ Let $u(x, y) = \frac{1}{2}xy^2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left(\frac{1}{2}xy^2 \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{1}{2}x(2y) + y^2(0) \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (xy) = x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (y) + y \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x) \\ &= x(0) + y(1) = y. \quad \checkmark \square\end{aligned}$$

H.W. #4 $\frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} - x = 0$

Solⁿ : Let $u(x, y) = \frac{x^5}{120} + f(y)$, Then

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{x^4}{24}; \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{x^4}{24} \right) = \frac{x^3}{6}$$

$$\frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x^3} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{x^3}{6} \right) = \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{x^2}{2} \right) = x \quad \text{which matches}$$

The equation $\frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} - x = 0 \quad \square$

\Rightarrow



Example: Given $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$; $u(0,1) = 2$.
Find a solution satisfying the condition.

Solⁿ

~~Let $u(x,y) = 2(x+y)$~~

~~$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$~~

~~Let $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = A$ & $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = B$ then~~

~~$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = A$ & $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = B$~~

~~If $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$ and $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$ are both constant and equal we could get a solution easily; hence, we~~

try:

$u(x,y) = Ax + Ay$, then

$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = A$ & $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = A \Rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$ ✓

$\therefore u = A(x+y)$ is a general soln.

Now, we compute the particular solution satisfying $u(0,1) = 2$;

$$\Rightarrow 2 = A(0+1) \Rightarrow A = 2.$$

Hence, $u = 2(x+y)$ is the particular solution satisfying the given conditions.

H.W. #5 Solve $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0$; $u(1,1) = 1$

H.W. #6 Solve

~~Soln. If $u = u(x)$ If u is function~~

~~Soln. Let $u = Ax + Bf(y)$, then~~

~~$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (A + 0) = A$~~

~~$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (A) = 0$~~



H.W. #5

Solve $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0$, $u(1,1) = 1$.

Soln

Let ~~$u = Ax$~~ , then ~~$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = A$~~ , ~~$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0$~~

Since, $u(1,1) = 1$ is only one value, we can easily solve for one unknown coefficient.

Let $u(x,y) = A(x+y)$

Then $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = A$; $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = 0$

~~$\therefore u = Ax$~~ and $1 = A(1+1) = 2A \Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{2}$

$\therefore u(x,y) = \frac{1}{2}(x+y)$ will work!

~~$\therefore u = x$ will also work~~

Note: $u(x,y) = u(x) = x$ will also work,