

SERIE N° 4 : PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

Exercise 1 : First-order linear PDEs.

1/ Let $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $a^2 + b^2 \neq 0$ and $u \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$, we consider the homogeneous equation

$$(HE) \quad a \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + b \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0.$$

i) Let the following change of variables

$$s = bt - ax \quad \text{and} \quad y = at + bx.$$

Show that any solution to equation (HE) is of the form

$$u : (t, x) \mapsto u(t, x) = \varphi(bt - ax),$$

where $\varphi \in \mathcal{C}^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$.

ii) Show that, under the initial condition : $u(0, x) = h(x)$ for any x , with $a \neq 0$, the equation (HE) admits a unique solution.

2/ Under the same assumptions and notations above, let $f \in \mathcal{C}^0(\mathbb{R}^2, \mathbb{R})$ and we consider the equation

$$(E) \quad a \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + b \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = f.$$

We note $g : (s, y) \mapsto f(t, x)$ and G is a function such that $g = \frac{\partial G}{\partial y}$.

i) Proof that any solution to equation (E) is of the form

$$u : (t, x) \mapsto u(t, x) = \frac{1}{a^2 + b^2} G(bt - ax, at + bx) + \varphi(bt - ax).$$

ii) Show that, under the initial condition : $u(0, x) = \psi(x)$ for any x , with $a \neq 0$, the equation(E) admits a unique solution.

3/ Applications :

i) $f = 0$, $a = 4$, $b = -3$ and $h : x \mapsto x^3$.

ii) $f : (t, x) \mapsto \rho(4t + x)$, $a = 1$, $b = 1$ and $\psi : x \mapsto x^2$.

Exercise 2 :

Using the method of separation of variables, solve the following boundary value problem

$$\begin{cases} 4 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} & \text{on } \mathbb{R}_+ \times [0, \pi] \\ u(t, 0) = u(t, \pi) = 0 & \text{for any } t > 0, \\ u(0, x) = \pi - x & \text{for any } 0 < x < \pi, \end{cases}$$

Exercise 3 :

Solve the the following problem on $\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}$ using the Fourier transform

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \\ u(0, x) = e^{-x^2} \end{cases}$$