AM2580 HOMEWORK1

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1. Problem 1

1.(i). Find the smallest time t^* for which two characteristic lines of Burger's Equation:

$$\begin{cases} u_t + (\frac{u^2}{2})_x = 0\\ u(x,0) = \sin(x) \end{cases}$$

will intersect?

1.(ii). Can you generalize the result to the general case:

$$\begin{cases} u_t + f(u)_x = 0 \\ u(x,0) = u_0(x) \end{cases}$$

2. Problem 2

2.(i). How does $u_x(x(t),t)$ behave along the characteristic line x=x(t)?

2.(ii). If $u_x = 0$ at the foot of the characteristic line $x = x_0$, how does $u_x(x(t), t)$ behave along this characteristic line?

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2.(iii). If $u_x = 0$ at the foot of the characteristic line $x = x_0$, how does $u_{xx}(x(t), t)$ behave along this characteristic line?