

# Report Topics in Computational Science

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## Problem 1 :

Let  $m > 1$  and suppose that  $u$  is a twice continuously differentiable positive solution in the pressure porous medium equation

$$u_t - \Delta(u^m) = 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, t > 0. \quad (1)$$

Show that  $p(x, t) := \frac{m}{m-1} u^{m-1}(x, t)$  is a solution of the porous medium equation in the pressure form

$$p_t - (m-1)p\Delta p - |\nabla p|^2 = 0 \quad (2)$$

## Answer 1 :

Substitute

$$p(x, t) := \frac{m}{m-1} u^{m-1}(x, t) \quad (3)$$

, to equation (2), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} & p_t - (m-1)p\Delta p - |\nabla p|^2 \\ &= \left( \frac{m}{m-1} (m-1) u^{m-2} u_t \right) - \left( (m-1) \frac{m}{m-1} u^{m-1} m(m-2) u^{m-3} u_x^2 + m^2 u^{m-2} u_{xx} \right) - |m u^{m-2} u_x|^2 \\ &= m u^{m-2} u_t - (m^3 + m^2 - 2m) u^{2m-4} u_x^2 - m^3 u^{2m-3} u_{xx} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Remember we have

$$u_t - \Delta(u^m) = u_t - (m^2 - m) u^{m-2} u_x^2 - m^2 u^{m-1} u_{xx} = 0. \quad (5)$$

Then the equation (4) can be modified such that it is contain equation (5) such that

$$\begin{aligned} & m u^{m-2} u_t - (m^3 + m^2 - 2m) u^{2m-4} u_x^2 - m^3 u^{2m-3} u_{xx} \\ &= m u^{m-2} (u_t - (m^2 - m) u^{m-2} u_x^2 - m^2 u^{m-1} u_{xx}) + ((m^3 - m^2) - (m^3 - 2m^2) - m^2) u^{2m-4} u_x^2 + (m^3 - m^3) u^{2m-3} u_{xx} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

It is shown that  $p(x, t)$  as defined above, is a solution of the porous medium equation in the pressure form (2).

**Problem 2 :**

For dimension  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and constant  $m > 1, C > 0, \alpha > 0, \beta > 0$ . Define the function  $u : \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as

$$u(x, t) = t^{-\alpha} \left( \max \left( C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}}, 0 \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t > 0$$

where  $|x| := (\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2)^{1/2}$

1. Find  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in terms of  $m$  and  $n$  so that  $u$  is a solution of (1) in the set

$$\{(x, t) : x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t > 0, u(x, t) > 0\}.$$

**Answer :** We have  $p$  as defined in (3). Because the set, we should take  $u(x, t) > 0$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= t^{-\alpha} \left( C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} \\ p(x, t) &= \frac{m}{m-1} t^{-\alpha(m-1)} \left( C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right) \\ p_t(x, t) &= -\alpha m t^{-\alpha(m-1)-1} \left( C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} + \beta^2 |x|^2 t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta-1} \\ &= -\frac{\alpha}{t} (m-1) p(x, t) + \beta^2 |x|^2 t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta-1} \\ \nabla p(x, t) &= -\beta t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta} x \\ \Delta p(x, t) &= -\beta t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta} n \end{aligned}$$

From the information we had above, we can substitute it to (2) such that

$$\begin{aligned} & p_t - (m-1)p\Delta p - |\nabla p|^2 \\ &= \left( -\frac{\alpha}{t} (m-1) p(x, t) + \beta^2 |x|^2 t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta-1} \right) - \left( (m-1) p(x, t) (-\beta t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta} n) \right) - |(-\beta t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta} x)|^2 \\ &= \left( -\frac{\alpha}{t} + \beta n t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta} \right) (m-1) p(x, t) + \beta^2 |x|^2 \left( t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta-1} - t^{-2\alpha(m-1)-4\beta} \right) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Because  $\alpha, \beta, t, C > 0$ ,  $m > 1$  and by  $u(x, t) > 0$ , then  $p(x, t) > 0$ . Then to make the equation above holds. We can let

$$\begin{aligned} -\alpha t^{-1} + \beta n t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta} &= 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow \alpha t^{-1} &= \beta n t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta} \\ \Leftrightarrow \alpha &= \beta n \quad \text{and } t^{-1} = t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta} \\ \Leftrightarrow \alpha &= \beta n \quad \text{and } \beta = \frac{1}{n(m-1)+2} \\ \Leftrightarrow \alpha &= \frac{n}{n(m-1)+2} \quad \text{and } \beta = \frac{1}{n(m-1)+2} \end{aligned}$$

Substitute  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  we obtain into

$$\begin{aligned} t^{-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta-1} - t^{-2\alpha(m-1)-4\beta} &= 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow -\alpha(m-1) - 2\beta - 1 &= -2\alpha(m-1) - 4\beta \\ \Leftrightarrow -\frac{n}{n(m-1)+2} (m-1) - 2\frac{1}{n(m-1)+2} - 1 &= -2\frac{n}{n(m-1)+2} (m-1) - 4\frac{1}{n(m-1)+2} \\ \Leftrightarrow -n(m-1) - 2 - (n(m-1)+2) &= -2n(m-1) - 4 \\ \Leftrightarrow -2nm + 2n - 4 &= -2nm + 2n - 4 \end{aligned}$$

So the  $\alpha = \frac{n}{n(m-1)+2}$  and  $\beta = \frac{1}{n(m-1)+2}$  we got is satisfy the  $u$  solution of (1).

2. For given  $t > 0$ , the set  $\Omega(t) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : u(x, t) > 0\}$  is an  $n$ -dimensional ball. Find its radius  $r = r(t)$ . Find  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0+} r(t)$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} r(t)$ .

**Answer :**

Because of the definition of  $\Omega(t)$ , then we take

$$u(x, t) = t^{-\alpha} \left( C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}}$$

Then,  $u(x, t)$  should be positive for  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that

$$u(-x, t) = u(x, t).$$

So we can see that the center of ball is 0 and the  $|x| = r$ . To find the radius, we can use the fact that

$$\begin{aligned} C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{r^2}{t^{2\beta}} &= 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow \frac{r^2}{t^{2\beta}} &= \frac{2Cm}{\beta(m-1)} \\ \Leftrightarrow r(t) &= \sqrt{\frac{2Cmt^{2\beta}}{\beta(m-1)}} \end{aligned}$$

We could find

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0+} r(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0+} \sqrt{\frac{2Cmt^{2\beta}}{\beta(m-1)}} = 0$$

and

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} r(t) = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{2Cmt^{2\beta}}{\beta(m-1)}} = \infty$$

3. For  $n = 2$  and the constants  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  from (1), compute the value of

$$M(t) := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} u(x, t) \, dx$$

for  $t > 0$ . Does the solution conserve mass  $M(t)$  ?

**Answer :**

$$\begin{aligned}
M(t) &:= \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} u(x, t) \, dx \\
&= \int_{x_1} \int_{x_2} u(x, t) \, dx_1 dx_2 \\
&= \int_{\theta} \int_r r t^{-\alpha} \left( C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{r^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} dr d\theta \\
&= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{r(t)} t^{-\alpha} \left( C r - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{r^3}{t^{2\beta}} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} dr d\theta \\
&= t^{-\alpha} \int_0^{2\pi} \left[ \frac{C r^2}{2} - \frac{\beta(m-1) r^4}{8m t^{2\beta}} \right]_0^{r(t)} d\theta \\
&= t^{-\alpha} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{C \left( \frac{2C m t^{2\beta}}{\beta(m-1)} \right)}{2} - \frac{\beta(m-1) \left( \frac{2C m t^{2\beta}}{\beta(m-1)} \right)^2}{8m t^{2\beta}} d\theta \\
&= t^{-\alpha} \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{C^2 m t^{2\beta}}{2\beta(m-1)} d\theta \\
&= t^{-\alpha} \pi \frac{C^2 m t^{2\beta}}{\beta(m-1)}
\end{aligned}$$

Substitute  $\alpha = \frac{n}{n(m-1)+2}$  and  $\beta = \frac{1}{n(m-1)+2}$  we got

$$M(t) = \left( t^{-\left( \frac{n}{n(m-1)+2} \right)} \pi \right) \left( \frac{C^2 m t^{2\left( \frac{1}{n(m-1)+2} \right)}}{\left( \frac{1}{n(m-1)+2} \right) (m-1)} \right) = \frac{2C^2 m^2 \pi}{m-1}$$

As we can see,  $M(t)$  is constant and independent of  $t$ , so the solution is conserve mass  $M(t)$ .