

Topics in Computational Science Report

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1. Suppose that u is a twice continuously differentiable positive solution of the porous medium equation:

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

In the pressure form:

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

Then, we define:

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

Show that (3) is a solution of (1) in (2) form.

Answer:

First we compute:

$$p_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} p(x, t), \quad \Delta p = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} p(x, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \nabla p \quad (4)$$

$$\nabla p = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} p(x, t), \quad \Delta(u^m) = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u^m \quad (5)$$

Applied Chain Rule to (4),(5), we get:

$$\begin{aligned} p_t &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} p(x, t) \\ &= \frac{\partial p}{\partial u} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{m}{(m-1)} (m-1) u^{(m-2)} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u \\ &= m u^{(m-2)} u_t \end{aligned} \quad (6) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta p &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \nabla p \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (m u^{(m-2)} \nabla u) \\ &= (m(m-2) u^{(m-3)} \nabla u) \nabla u + m u^{(m-2)} \Delta u \\ &= m(m-2) u^{(m-3)} |\nabla u|^2 + m u^{(m-2)} \Delta u \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla p &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} p(x, t) \\ &= \frac{\partial p}{\partial u} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \\ &= \frac{m}{(m-1)} (m-1) u^{(m-2)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u \\ &= m u^{(m-2)} \nabla u \end{aligned} \quad (7) \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta(u^m) &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u^m \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} u^m \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(m u^{(m-1)} \nabla u \right) \\ &= (m(m-1) u^{(m-2)} \nabla u) \nabla u + (m u^{(m-1)}) \Delta u \\ &= m(m-1) u^{(m-2)} |\nabla u|^2 + m u^{(m-1)} \Delta u \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

Substitute (6), (7) \rightarrow (2), we get:

$$m u^{(m-2)} u_t - m u^{(m-1)} \Delta p - m^2 u^{2(m-2)} |\nabla u|^2 = 0 \quad (10)$$

Divide (10) with $m u^{(m-2)}$, we get:

$$u_t - u \Delta p - m u^{(m-2)} |\nabla u|^2 = 0 \quad (11)$$

Substitute (8) \rightarrow (11), we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
u_t - u \left(m(m-2)u^{(m-3)}|\nabla u|^2 + mu^{(m-2)}\Delta u \right) - mu^{(m-2)}|\nabla u|^2 &= 0 \\
u_t - \left(m(m-2)u^{(m-2)}|\nabla u|^2 + mu^{(m-1)}\Delta u \right) - mu^{(m-2)}|\nabla u|^2 &= 0 \\
u_t - mu^{(m-2)}|\nabla u|^2 \left((m-2) + 1 \right) - mu^{(m-1)}\Delta u &= 0 \\
u_t - m(m-1)u^{(m-2)}|\nabla u|^2 - mu^{(m-1)}\Delta u &= 0
\end{aligned} \tag{12}$$

Substitute (9) \rightarrow (12),

$$\therefore u_t - \Delta(u^m) = 0 \tag{13}$$

2. For $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and constants $m > 1, C > 0, \alpha > 0, \beta > 0$. We define function $u : \mathbb{R}^n(0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as

$$u(x, t) = t^{-\alpha} \left(\max \left(C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}}, 0 \right) \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n, t > 0, \quad (14)$$

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

Answer:

(a) We want to find α and β in terms of m and n so that u is a solution of (14) in the set

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

Because of the set of $u(x, t) > 0$, so we choose $u(x, t)$ as:

$$u(x, t) = t^{-\alpha} \left(C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right)^{\frac{1}{m-1}} \quad (15)$$

Then we substitute (15) \rightarrow (3), we get:

$$p(x, t) = \frac{m}{(m-1)} t^{-\alpha(m-1)} \left(C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right) \quad (16)$$

After that, we compute $p_t, \nabla p$, and Δp of (16).

$$p_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} p(x, t) = -\alpha m \left(C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right) t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-1)} + \beta^2 |x|^2 t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta-1)} \quad (17)$$

$$\nabla p = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} p(x, t) = -\beta x t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta)} \quad (18)$$

$$\Delta p = -\beta n t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta)} \quad (19)$$

Then, we substitute (17), (18), and (19) to (2), we get:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= -\alpha m \left(C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right) t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-1)} + \beta^2 |x|^2 t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta-1)} \\ &\quad + (m-1) p \beta n t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta)} - \beta^2 |x|^2 t^{2(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta-1)} \\ 0 &= p(x, t) (m-1) \left(-\frac{\alpha}{t} + \beta n t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta)} \right) + \beta^2 |x|^2 \left(t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta-1)} + t^{2(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta)} \right) \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

From here, we recall the set is $u(x, t) > 0, m > 1$, and $\beta > 0$ which implied $p(x, t) > 0$, therefore (20) holds for:

$$-\frac{\alpha}{t} + \beta n t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta)} = 0$$

Then,

$$\beta n t^{(-\alpha(m-1)-2\beta)} = \alpha t^{-1} \quad (21)$$

To satisfies (21),

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{(m-1)+2}, \quad \beta = \frac{1}{n(m-1)+2} \quad (22)$$

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

In the set Ω , for $\alpha > 0$,

$$u(x, t) > 0 \iff C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|x|^2}{t^{2\beta}} \geq 0$$

with x as its radius in domain Ω , hence,

$$\begin{aligned} C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|r|^2}{t^{2\beta}} &= 0 \\ \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{|r|^2}{t^{2\beta}} &= C \\ |r|^2 &= \frac{C 2m t}{\beta(m-1)} \\ \therefore r(t) &= \left(\frac{2m t C}{\beta(m-1)} \right)^{1/2} \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

Then we compute the limit:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0+} r(t) = 0, \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} r(t) \left(\frac{2mtC}{\beta(m-1)} \right)^{1/2} = \infty \quad (24)$$

(c) With α and β from (22), $n = 2$, we define:

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

in polar coordinates,

$$M(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} u(x, t) dx dy = \int \int ru(x, t) dr d\theta$$

then, we compute $M(t)$ for $t > 0$,

$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty ru(x, t) dr d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{r(t)} ru(x, t) dr d\theta + \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{r(t)}^\infty ru(x, t) dr d\theta \quad (25)$$

for $r > r(t)$, we know from (15), $u(x, t)$ tend to 0, hence (25) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty ru(x, t) dr d\theta &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{r(t)} ru(x, t) dr d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{r(t)} t^{-\alpha} r \left(C - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2m} \frac{r^2}{t^{2\beta}} \right) dr d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} t^{-\alpha} \left(\frac{C}{2} r^2 - \frac{\beta(m-1)}{2mt^{2\beta}} \frac{r^4}{4} \right) \Big|_0^{r(t)} d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} t^{-\alpha} \left(\frac{Cr^2(t)}{2} - \frac{\beta(m-1)r^4(t)}{8mt^{2\beta}} \right) d\theta \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

From here, we substitute $r(t)$ defined in (23) to (26), we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty ru(x, t) dr d\theta &= \int_0^{2\pi} t^{-\alpha} \left(\frac{C2mt^\beta C}{2\beta(m-1)} - \frac{\beta(m-1)4m^2 t^{4\beta} C^2}{8mt^{2\beta} \beta^2(m-1)^2} \right) d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} t^{-\alpha} \frac{mt^{2\beta} C^2}{2\beta(m-1)} d\theta \\ &= \frac{mt^{2\beta} C^2}{2\beta(m-1)} 2\pi \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

from here, we substitute α and β from (22) to (27), we get:

$$\therefore M(t) = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty ru(x, t) dr d\theta = \frac{2m^2 C^2 \pi}{m-1} \quad (28)$$

From (28) we know $M(t)$ on $t > 0$ is constant over time, therefore the mass $M(t)$ conserved.