## Fall 2016 Notes

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# **Probability**

We will devote this chapter to the material that is covered in MA 51900 (discrete probability) as it was covered in DasGupta's class. We will, for the most part, reference Feller's *An introduction to probability theory and its applications, Volume 1* [4] (especially for the discrete noncalculus portion of the class) and DasGupta's own book *Fundamentals of Probability: A First Course* [2].

#### 1.1 Discrete Probability

The material in this chapter is mostly pulled from Sheldon Ross's A First Course in Probability Theory [8] with some examples from [2] and [4]. I find Ross's book to be better structured than the latter two.

#### Combinatorial Analysis

These are the main results from this section.

**Theorem 1.1** (The basic principle of counting). Suppose that two experiments are to be performed. Then if experiment 1 can result in any one of m possible outcomes and if, for each outcome of experiment 1, there are n possible outcomes of experiment 2, then together there are mn possible outcomes of the two experiments.

**Theorem 1.2** (The generalized principle of counting). If r experiments that are to be performed are such that the first one may result in any of  $n_1$  possible outcomes; and if, for each of these  $n_1$  possible outcomes, there are  $n_2$  possible outcomes for the second experiment; and if, for each of the possible outcomes of the first two experiments, there are  $n_3$  possible outcomes for the third experiment; etc. ..., then there is a total of  $n_1 n_2 \cdots n_r$  possible outcomes of the r experiments.

Using notation as in [4], the number

$$(n)_r = n(n-1)\cdots(n-r+1)$$

represents the number of different ways that a group of r items could be selected from n items when the order of selection is relevant, and as each group of r items will be counted r! times in this count,

it follows that the number of different groups of r items that could be formed from a set of n items is

$$\frac{(n)_r}{r!} = \frac{n!}{(n-r)!r!}$$

for which we reserve the notation

$$\binom{n}{r}$$

read n choose r. (This is called a binomial coefficient since it appears in the binomial expansion  $(a+b)^n$ .)

A useful combinatorial identity on binomial coefficients is the following

$$\binom{n}{r} = \binom{n-1}{r-1} + \binom{n-1}{r}$$

for  $1 \le r \le n$ .

**Theorem 1.3** (The binomial theorem).

$$(a+b)^n = \sum_{i=1}^n \binom{n}{i} x^i y^{n-i}.$$

PROOF. We provide a combinational proof of the theorem. Consider the product

$$(a_1+b_1)\cdots(a_n+b_n).$$

Its expansion consists of the sum of  $2^n$  terms, each term being the product of n factors. Furthermore, each of the  $2^n$  terms in the sum will contain as a factor either  $a_i$  or  $b_i$  for each  $1 \le i \le n$ . Now, how many of the  $2^n$  terms in the sum will have k of the  $a_i$  and n-k of the  $b_i$  as factors? As each term consisting of k of the  $a_i$  and n-k of the  $b_i$  correspond to a choice of a group of k from the values  $a_1, \ldots, a_n$ , there are  $\binom{n}{k}$  such terms. Thus, letting  $a_i = a$ ,  $b_i = b$ ,  $1 \le i \le n$ , we see that

$$(a+b)^n = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} x^i y^{n-i}.$$

# Introduction to Partial Differential Equations

Here we summarize some important points about PDEs. The material is mostly taken from Evans's Partial Differential Equations [3] with occasional detours to Strauss's Partial Differential Equations: An Introduction [9]. We will be following Dr. Petrosyan's Course Log which can be found here https://www.math.purdue.edu/~arshak/F16/MA523/courselog/, i.e., summarizing the appropriate chapters from [3].

#### 2.1 Introduction

#### Partial differential equations

**Definition 2.1.** An expression of the form

$$F(D^k u(x), D^{k-1} u(x), \dots, Du(x), u(x), x) = 0, \quad x \in U,$$
(2.1)

is called a kth-order partial differential equation (PDE), where

$$F: \mathbb{R}^{n^k} \times \mathbb{R}^{n^{k-1}} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{R}^n \times U \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

is given, and

$$u: U \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

is the unknown.

Here are some more definitions,

#### Definition 2.2.

(i) The partial differential equation (2.1) is called *linear* if it has the form

$$\sum_{|\alpha| \le k} a_{\alpha}(x) D^{\alpha} u = f(x)$$

for given functions  $a_{\alpha}(|\alpha| \leq k)$ , f. This linear PDE is homogeneous if f = 0.

(ii) The PDE (2.1) is semilinear if it has the form

$$\sum_{|\alpha|=k} a_{\alpha} D^{\alpha} u + a_0 \left( D^{k-1} u, \dots, D u, u, x \right) = 0.$$

(iii) The PDE (2.1) is quasilinear if it has the form

$$\sum_{|\alpha|=k} a_{\alpha} (D^{k-1}u, \dots, Du, u, x) D^{\alpha}u + a_0 (D^{k-1}u, \dots, Du, u, x) = 0.$$

(iv) The PDE (2.1) is fully nonlinear if it depends upon the highest order derivatives.

A *system* of partial differential equations is, informally speaking, a collection of several PDEs for several unknown functions.

#### **Definition 2.3.** An expression of the form

$$\mathbf{F}(D^k \mathbf{u}(x), D^{k-1} \mathbf{u}(x), \dots, D\mathbf{u}(x), \mathbf{u}(x), x) = 0, \quad x \in U,$$
(2.2)

is called a kth-order system of PDEs, where

$$\mathbf{F} \colon \mathbb{R}^{mn^k} \times \mathbb{R}^{mn^{k-1}} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{R}^{mn} \times \mathbb{R}^m \times U \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$$

is given and

$$\mathbf{u} \colon U \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^m, \quad \mathbf{u} = (u^1, \dots, u^m)$$

is the unknown.

Remark 2.4. We haven't talked much about systems of PDEs and I suspect we will not do so very much in this course.

#### Examples

This is only a fraction of the PDEs listed in Evan's chapter.

#### Linear equations

1. Laplace's equation

$$\Delta u = \sum_{i=1}^{n} u_{x_i x_i} = 0.$$

2. Helmholtz's (or eigenvalue) equation

$$-\Delta u = \lambda u.$$

3. Linear transport equation

$$u_t + \sum_{i=1}^{n} b^i u_{x_i} = 0.$$

4. Liouville's equation

$$u_t - \sum_{i=1}^n (b^i u)_{x_i} = 0.$$

5. Heat (or diffusion) equation

$$u_t - \Delta u = 0.$$

6. Wave equation

$$u_{tt} - \Delta u = 0.$$

7. Telegraph equation

$$u_{tt} + du_t - u_{xx} = 0.$$

#### Nonlinear equations

1. Eikonal equation

$$|Du| = 1.$$

2. Nonlinear Poisson equation

$$-\Delta u = f(u).$$

3. Inviscid Burgers' equation

$$u_t + uu_x = 0.$$

and so on.

#### 2.2 The transport equation

We begin our study with one of the simplest PDEs, the *transport equation* with constant coefficients. This is the PDE

$$u_t + b \cdot Du = 0$$
, in  $\mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty)$ , (2.3)

where b is a fixed vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $b = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$ ,  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a typical point in space,  $t \geq 0$  denotes a typical time and  $u \colon \mathbb{R} \times [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$  is the unknown, u = u(x, t). We write  $Du = D_x u = (u_{x_1}, \dots, u_{x_n})$  for the gradient of u with respect to the spatial variable x.

So, which functions solve (2.3)? Well, let us suppose for a moment that u is a smooth solution to the PDE and let us try to compute it. To do so, we first recognize that (2.3) asserts that a particular directional derivative of u vanishes, namely,  $D_b u = 0$ . We exploit this by fixing a point  $(x,t) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times (0,\infty)$  and defining

$$z(s) := u(x+sb, t+s), \quad s \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then we calculate

$$\dot{z}(s) = Du(x+sb,t+s) \cdot b + u_t(x+sb,t+s)$$
  
= 0,

the second equality holding by (2.3). Thus, z is a constant function of s, and consequently for each (x,t), u is constant on the line through (x,t) with direction  $(b,1) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$ . Hence, if we know the value of u at any point on each such line, we know its value everywhere in  $\mathbb{R}^n \times (0,\infty)$ .

#### 2.3 Characteristics

#### Derivation of characteristic ODEs

Consider the nonlinear first-order PDE

$$F(Du, u, x) = 0 \quad \text{in } U, \tag{2.4}$$

subject now to the boundary condition

$$u = g \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$
 (2.5)

where  $\Gamma \subset \partial U$  and  $g \colon \Gamma \to \mathbb{R}$  are given. We hereafter suppose that F, g are smooth functions.

We now develop the method of *characteristics*, which solves (2.4) and (2.5) by converting the PDE into an appropriate system of ODEs. Suppose u solves the (2.4), (2.5) and fix any point  $x \in U$ . We would like to calculate u(x) by finding some curve lying within U, connecting x with a point  $x^0 \in \Gamma$  and along which we can compute u. Since (2.5) says u = g on  $\Gamma$ , we know the value of u at the one end  $x^0$ . We hope then to be able to calculate u all along the curve, and so in particular at x.

#### Finding the characteristic ODEs

How can we choose the curve so all this will work? Let us suppose it is described parametrically by the function  $\mathbf{x}(s) = (x^1(s), \dots, x^n(s))$ , the parameter s lying in some subinterval of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Assuming u is a  $\mathbb{C}^2$  solution of (2.4), we define also

$$z(s) := u(\mathbf{x}(s)).$$

In addition, set

$$\mathbf{p}(s) := Du(\mathbf{x}(s))$$
:

that is,  $\mathbf{p}(s) = (p^1(s), \dots, p^n(s))$ , where

$$p^{i}(s) = u_{x_{\delta}}(\mathbf{x}(s)), \tag{2.6}$$

 $1 \le i \le n$ . So z gives the values of u along the curve and **p** records the values of the gradient Du. We must choose a function **x** in such a way that we can compute z and **p**.

For this, first differentiate (2.6)

$$\dot{p}^i(s) = \sum_{j=1}^n u_{x_i x_j} (\mathbf{x}(s)) \dot{x}^j(s)$$

This expression is not too promising, since it involves the second derivatives of u. On the other hand, we can also differentiate the PDE (2.4) with respect to  $x_i$  to get

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{i}} F(Du, u, x) u_{x_{i}x_{i}} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} F(Du, u, x) u_{x_{i}} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}} F(Du, u, x) = 0.$$

We are able to employ this identity to get rid of the *dangerous* second derivative terms provided we first set

$$\dot{x}^{j}(s) = \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{i}} F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)).$$

Assuming now that the above equation holds, we can evaluate the partials

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{j}} F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)) + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)) p^{i}(s) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}} F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)) = 0.$$

Substitute this expression and the previous one into the derivative for  $\dot{p}^i$  and we get

$$\dot{p}^{i}(s) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{i}} F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s))$$

Finally, we differentiate z to get

$$\dot{z}(s) = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_{j}} u(\mathbf{x}(s)) \dot{x}^{j}(s) = \sum_{j=1}^{n} p^{j}(s) \frac{\partial}{\partial p_{j}} F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)),$$

the second equality holding by –fuck this guy for numbering every expression–(5) and (8)–whatever they are.

We summarize by rewriting equations (8)–(10) in vector notation:

$$\begin{cases}
(a) \dot{\mathbf{p}}(s) = -D_x F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)) - D_z F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)) \mathbf{p}(s), \\
(b) \dot{z}(s) = D_p F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)) \cdot \mathbf{p}(s), \\
(c) \dot{\mathbf{x}}(s) = D_p F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)).
\end{cases} (2.7)$$

This important system of 2n+1 first-order ODEs comprises the *characteristic equations* of the nonlinear first-order PDE (2.4). The functions  $\mathbf{p}=(p^1,\ldots,p^n),\ z,\ \mathbf{x}=(x^1,\ldots,x^n)$  are a called the *characteristics*. We will sometimes refer to  $\mathbf{x}$  as the *projected characteristics*: it is the projection of the full characteristics  $(\mathbf{p},z,\mathbf{x}) \subset \mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$  onto the physical region  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Theorem 2.5** (Structure of characteristic ODEs). Let  $u \in C^2(U)$  solve the nonlinear, first-order partial differential equation (2.4) in U. Assume  $\mathbf{x}$  solves the ODEs (2.7)(c), where  $\mathbf{p} = Du$ , z = u. Then  $\mathbf{p}$  solves the ODE (2.7)(a) and z solves the ODE (2.7)(b), for those s such that  $\mathbf{x} \in U$ .

#### Examples

#### $\boldsymbol{F}$ linear

Consider first the situation that (2.4) is linear and homogeneous, and thus has the form

$$F(Du, u, x) = \mathbf{b}(x) \cdot Du(x) + c(x)u(x) = 0, \qquad x \in U.$$

Then  $F(p, z, x) = \mathbf{b}(x) \cdot p + c(x)z$ , and so

$$D_p F = \mathbf{b}(x).$$

In this circumstance (2.7)(c) becomes

$$\mathbf{x}(s) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}(s)),$$

an ODE involving only the function x. Furthermore (2.7)(b) becomes

$$\dot{z}(s) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}(s)) \cdot \mathbf{p}(s). \tag{2.8}$$

Since  $\mathbf{p}(\cdot) = Du(\mathbf{x}(\cdot))$ , the PDE simplifies the above to

$$\dot{z}(s) = -c(\mathbf{x}(s))z(s).$$

This ODE is linear in z, once we know the function  $\mathbf{x}$  by solving its ODE. In summary,

$$\begin{cases} (a) \ \dot{\mathbf{x}}(s) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}(s)) \\ (b) \ \dot{z}(s) = -c(\mathbf{x}(s))z(s) \end{cases}$$
 (2.9)

comprise the characteristic equations for the linear, first-order PDE (2.8).

**Example 2.6.** We demonstrate the utility of equations (2.9) by explicitly solving the problem

$$\begin{cases} x_1 u_{x_2} - x_2 u_{x_1} = u & \text{in } U \\ u = g & \text{on } \Gamma, \end{cases}$$
 (2.10)

where U is the quadrant  $\{x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0\}$  and  $\Gamma = \{x_1 > 0, x_2 = 0\} \subset \partial U$ . The PDE in (2.10) is of the form (2.8), for  $\mathbf{b} = (-x_2, x_1)$  and c = -1. Thus the equations (2.9) read

$$\begin{cases} (x^1, x^2)(s) = (x^0 \cos s, x^0 \sin s) \\ z(s) = z^0 e^s = g(x^0) e^s, \end{cases}$$
 (2.11)

where  $x^0 \ge 0$ ,  $0 \le s \le \pi/2$ . Fix a point  $(x_1, x_2) \in U$ . We select s > 0,  $x^0 > 0$  so that  $(x_1, x_2) = (x^1(s), x^2(s)) = (x^0 \cos s, x^0 \sin s)$ . That is,  $x^0 = (x_1^2 + x_2^2)^{1/2}$ ,  $s = \arctan(x_2/x_1)$ . Therefore,

$$u(x_1, x_2) = u(x^1(s), x^2(s))$$

$$= z(s)$$

$$= g(x^0)e^s$$

$$= g((x_1^2 + x_2^2)^{1/2})e^{\arctan(x_2/x_1)}.$$

#### F quasilinear

The PDE (2.4) is quasilinear if it has the form

$$F(Du, u, x) = \mathbf{b}(x, u(x)) \cdot Du(x) + c(x, u(x)) = 0. \tag{2.12}$$

In this circumstance  $F(p, z, x) = \mathbf{b}(x, z) \cdot p + c(x, z)$ ; whence

$$D_n F = \mathbf{b}(x, z).$$

Hence equation (2.9)(c) reads

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}(s), z(s)),$$

and (2.9)(b) becomes

$$\dot{z}(s) = \mathbf{b}(\mathbf{x}(s), z(s)) \cdot \mathbf{p}(s)$$
$$= -c(\mathbf{x}(s), z(s))$$

by (2.12). Consequently

$$\begin{cases} (\mathbf{a}) \ \dot{\mathbf{x}}(s) = \mathbf{b} \big( \mathbf{x}(s), z(s) \big), \\ (\mathbf{b}) \ \dot{z}(s) = -c \big( \mathbf{x}(s), z(s) \big) \end{cases}$$

$$(2.13)$$

are the characteristic equations for the quasilinear first-order PDE.

**Example 2.7.** The characteristic ODEs (2.13) are in general difficult to solve, and so we work out in this example the simpler case of a boundary-value problem for a semilinear PDE:

$$\begin{cases} u_{x_1} + u_{x_2} = u^2 & \text{in } U \\ u = g & \text{on } \Gamma. \end{cases}$$
 (2.14)

Now U is the half-space  $\{x_2 > 0\}$  and  $\Gamma = \{x_2 = 0h\} = \partial U$ . Here  $\mathbf{b} = (1,1)$  and  $c = -z^2$ . Then (2.13) becomes

$$\begin{cases} (\dot{x}^1, \dot{x}^2) = 1 \\ \dot{z} = z^2. \end{cases}$$

Consequently

$$\begin{cases} (x^1, x^2)(s) = (x^0 + s, s) \\ z(s) = \frac{z^0}{1 - sz^0} \\ = \frac{g(x^0)}{1 - sg(x^0)}, \end{cases}$$

where  $x^0 \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $s \ge 0$ , provided the denominator is not zero.

Fix a point  $x_1, x_2 \in U$ . We select s > 0 and  $x^0 \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $(x_1, x_2) = (x^1(s), x^2(s)) = (x^0 + s, s)$ ; that is,  $x^0 = x_1 - x_2$ ,  $s = x_2$ . Then

$$u(x_1, x_2) = u(x^1(s), x^2(s))$$

$$= z(s)$$

$$= \frac{g(x^0)}{1 - sg(x^0)}$$

$$= \frac{g(x_1 - x_2)}{1 - x_2g(x_1 - x_2)}$$

This solution of course make sense only if  $1 - x_2 g(x_1 - x_2) \neq 0$ .

#### F fully nonlinear

In the general case, the full characteristic equations (2.7) must be integrated, if possible.

**Example 2.8.** Consider the fully nonlinear problem

$$\begin{cases} u_{x_1} u_{x_2} = u & \text{on } U \\ u = x_2^2 & \text{on } \Gamma \end{cases}$$
 (2.15)

where  $U = \{x_1 > 0\}, \Gamma = \{x_1 = 0\} = \partial U$ . Here  $F(p, z, x) = p_1 p_2 - z$ , and hence the characteristic ODEs (2.7) become

$$\begin{cases} (\dot{p}^1, \dot{p}^2) = (p^1, p^2) \\ \dot{z} = 2p^1p^2 \\ (\dot{x}^1, \dot{x}^2) = (p^2, p^1). \end{cases}$$

We integrate these equations to find

$$\begin{cases} (x^1, x^2)(s) = (p_2^0(e^s - 1), p_1^0(e^s - 1)) \\ z(s) = z^0 + p_1^0 p_2^0(e^{2s} - 1) \\ (p^1, p^2)(s) = (p_1^0 e^s, p_2^0 e^s), \end{cases}$$

where  $x^0 \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $z^0 = (x^0)^2$ . We must determine  $p^0 = (p_1^0, p_2^0)$ . Since  $u = x_2^2$  on  $\Gamma$ ,  $p_2^0 = u_{x_2}(0, x^0) = 2x^0$ . Furthermore the PDE  $u_{x_1}u_{x_2} = u$  itself implies  $p_1^0p_2^0 = z^0 = (x^0)^2$ , and so  $p_1^0 = x^2/2$ . Consequently the formulas above become

$$\begin{cases} (x^1, x^2)(s) = (2x^9(e^s - 1), x^0(e^s + 1)/2) \\ z(s) = (x^0)^2 e^{2s} \\ (p^1, p^2)(s) = (x^0 e^s / 2, 2x^0 e^s). \end{cases}$$

Fix a point  $(x_1, x_2) \in U$ . Select s and  $x^0$  so the

$$(x_1, x_2) = (x^1(s), x^2(s)) = (2x^0(e^s - 1), x^0(e^s + 1)/2).$$

This equality implies  $x^0 = (4x_2 - x_1)/4$ ,  $e^s = (x_1 + 4x_2)/(4x_2 - x_1)$ ; and so

$$u(x_1, x_2) = u(x^1(s), x^2(s))$$
$$= \frac{(x_1 + 4x_2)^2}{16}.$$

#### **Boundary conditions** 2.4

#### Straightening the boundary

We intend in the following section to invoke the characteristic ODE (2.7) to actually solve the boundary-value problem (2.4), (2.5), at least in a small region near an appropriate portion  $\Gamma$  of  $\partial U$ . In order to simplify the relevant calculations, it is convenient first fix any point  $x^0 \in \partial U$ . Then utilizing the notation from the appendix §C.1 of [3], we find smooth mappings  $\Phi, \Psi \colon \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\Psi = \Phi^{-1}$  and  $\Phi$  straightens  $\partial U$  near  $x^0$ .

Given a function  $u: U \to \mathbb{R}$ , let us write  $V := \Phi(U)$  and set

$$v(y) := u(\Psi(y)) \qquad y \in V. \tag{2.16}$$

Then

$$u(x) = v(\mathbf{\Phi}(x)) \qquad x \in U. \tag{2.17}$$

Now suppose that u is a  $C^1$  solution of our boundary-value problem (2.4), (2.5) in U. What PDE does v then satisfy in V?

According to (2.17), we have

$$u_{x_i}(x) = \sum_{k=1}^n v_{y_k} (\mathbf{\Phi}(x)) \Phi_{x_i}^k(x)$$

i.e.,

$$Du(x) = Dv(y)D\Phi(x).$$

Thus,

$$0 = F(Du(x), u(x), x)$$
  
=  $F(Dv(y), D\Phi(\Psi(y)), v(y), \Psi(y)).$ 

In addition v = h on  $\Delta$ , where  $\Delta := \Phi(\Gamma)$  and  $h(y) := g(\Psi(y))$ .

In summary, our problem (2.4), (2.5) converts into a problem having the same form.

#### Compatibility conditions on boundary

In view of the foregoing computations, if we are given a point  $x^0 \in \Gamma$  we may as well assume that the outset that  $\Gamma$  is flat near  $x^0$ , lying in the plane  $\{x_n = 0\}$ .

We intend now to utilize the characteristic ODE to construct a solution to (2.4), at least near  $x^0$ , and for this we must discover appropriate initial conditions

$$\mathbf{p}(0) = p^0, \quad z(0) = z^0, \quad \mathbf{x}(0) = x^0.$$
 (2.18)

Now clearly if the curve **x** passes through  $x^0$ , we should insist that

$$z^0 = g(x^0). (2.19)$$

What should we require concerning  $\mathbf{p}(0) = p^0$ ? Since (2.5) implies  $u(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, 0) = g(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$  near  $x^0$ , we may differentiate to find

$$u_{x_i}(x^0) = g_{x_i}(x^0)$$
  $i = 1, ..., n-1$ .

As we also want the PDE (2.4) to hold, we should therefore insist  $p^0 = (p_1^0, \dots, p_n^0)$  satisfies these relations

$$\begin{cases}
 p_i^0 = g_{x_i}(x^0) & i = 1, \dots, n-1 \\
 F(p^0, z^0, x^0) = 0.
\end{cases}$$
(2.20)

These identities provide n equations for the n quantities  $p^0 = (p_1^0, \dots, p_n^0)$ .

We call (2.19) and (2.20) the compatibility conditions. A triple  $(p^0, z^0, x^0) \in \mathbb{R}^{2n+1}$  verifying (2.19), (2.20) is admissible. Note that  $z^0$  is uniquely determined by the boundary condition and our choice of the point  $x^0$ , but a vector  $p^0$  satisfying (2.20) may not exist and it may not be unique.

#### Noncharacteristic boundary data

So now assume as above that  $x^0 \in \Gamma$ , that  $\Gamma$  near  $x^0$  lies in the plane  $\{x_n = 0\}$ , and that the triple  $(p^0, z^0, x^0)$  is admissible. We are planning to construct a solution u of (2.4), (2.5) in U near  $x^0$  by integrating by parts the characteristic ODE (2.7). So far we have ascertained  $\mathbf{x}(0) = x^0$ ,  $z(0) = z^0$ ,  $\mathbf{p}(0) = p^0$  are appropriate boundary conditions for the characteristic ODE, with  $\mathbf{x}$  intersecting  $\Gamma$  at  $x^0$ . But we will need in fact to solve these ODEs for nearby initial points as well, and must consequently now ask if we can somehow appropriately perturb  $(p^0, z^0, x^0)$ , keeping the compatibility conditions.

In other words, given a point  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_{n-1}, 0) \in \Gamma$ , with y close to  $x^0$ , we intend to solve the characteristic ODE

$$\begin{cases}
(a) \ \dot{\mathbf{p}}(s) = -D_x F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)) - D_z F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)) \\
(b) \ \dot{z}(s) = D_p F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)) \cdot \mathbf{p}(s) \\
(c) \ \dot{\mathbf{x}}(s) = D_p F(\mathbf{p}(s), z(s), \mathbf{x}(s)),
\end{cases} (2.21)$$

with the initial conditions

$$\mathbf{p}(0) = \mathbf{q}(y), \quad z(0) = g(y), \quad \mathbf{x}(0) = y.$$
 (2.22)

Our task then is to find a function  $\mathbf{q} = (q^1, \dots, q^n)$ , so that

$$\mathbf{q}(x^0) = p^0 \tag{2.23}$$

and  $(\mathbf{q}(y), g(y), y)$  is admissible; that is, the compatibility conditions

$$\begin{cases} q^{i}(y) = g_{x_{i}}(y) & 1 \leq i \leq n-1 \\ F(\mathbf{q}(y), g(y), y) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$(2.24)$$

hold for all  $y \in \Gamma$  close to  $x^0$ .

**Lemma 2.9** (Noncharacteristic boundary conditions). There exists a unique solution  $\mathbf{q}$  of (2.23), (2.24) for all  $y \in \Gamma$  sufficiently close to  $x^0$ , provided

$$F_{p_n}(p^0, z^0, x^0) \neq 0.$$
 (2.25)

We say the admissible triple  $(p^0, z^0, x^0)$  is noncharacteristic if (2.25) holds. We henceforth assume this condition.

*PROOF.* To simplify notation, let us now temporarily write  $y = (y_1, \ldots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . We apply the implicit function theorem to the mapping

$$\mathbf{G} \colon \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, \qquad \mathbf{G}(p,y) = (G^1(p,y), \dots, G^n(p,y)),$$

where

$$\begin{cases} G^{i}(p,y) = p_{i} - g_{x_{i}}(y) & 1 \leq i \leq n - 1, \\ G^{n}(p,y) = F(p,g(y),y). \end{cases}$$

Now  $\mathbf{G}(p^0, x^0) = 0$ , according to (2.19), (2.18). Also

$$D_{p}\mathbf{G}(p^{0}, x^{0}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 1 & 0 \\ F_{p_{1}}(p^{0}, z^{0}, x^{0}) & \cdots & F_{p_{n-1}}(p^{0}, z^{0}, x^{0}) & F_{p_{n}}(p^{0}, z^{0}, x^{0}) \end{bmatrix}$$

and thus

$$\det D_p \mathbf{G}(p^0, x^0) = F_{p_n}(p^0, z^0, x^0) \neq 0,$$

in view of the noncharacteristic condition (2.25).

#### 2.5 The One-Dimensional Wave Equation

We now turn our attention to second-order partial differential equations. In particular, the wave equation

$$u_{tt} - \Delta u = 0 \tag{2.26}$$

and the nonhomogeneous wave equation

$$u_{tt} - \Delta u = f, (2.27)$$

subject to the appropriate initial and boundary conditions. Here t > 0 and  $x \in U$ , where  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is open. The unknown is  $u : \bar{U} \times [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$ , u = u(x, t), and the Laplacian is taken with respect to the spatial variables  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ . In (2.27) the function  $f : U \times [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$  is given. It is common to abbreviate (2.27) as

$$\Box u = u_{tt} - \Delta u.$$

#### D'Alembert's formula

We first focus our attention on the initial-value problem for the one-dimensional wave equation in all of  $\mathbb{R}$ :

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} - u_{xx} = 0, & \text{in } \mathbb{R} \times (0, \infty), \\ u = g, & u_t = h, & \text{on } \mathbb{R} \times \{t = 0\}, \end{cases}$$
 (2.28)

where g, h are given. We desire to derive a formula for u in terms of g and h.

Let us first note the PDE in (2.28) can be factored, to read

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) u = u_{tt} - u_{xx} = 0.$$
 (2.29)

Write

$$v(x,t) := \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\right) u(x,t). \tag{2.30}$$

Then (2.29) says

$$v_t(x,t) + v_x(x,t) = 0$$

for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , t > 0. This is a transport equation with constant coefficient. Applying this formula, we find

$$v(x,t) = a(x-t) \tag{2.31}$$

for a(x) := v(x, 0). Combining these equations together, we obtain

$$u_t(x,t) - u_x(x,t) = a(x-t)$$

in  $\mathbb{R} \times (0, \infty)$ . This is a nonhomogeneous transport equation; and so formula (5) from §2.1.2 implies

$$u(x,t) = \int_0^t a(x + (t - s) - s) ds + b(x + t)$$
  
=  $\frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} a(y) dy + b(x,t),$  (2.32)

where we have (x) := u(x, 0).

# Algebraic Geometry

A summary to a course on an introduction to sheaf cohomology. We will mostly reference Donu's notes available here https://www.math.purdue.edu/~dvb/classroom.html, but also cite Ravi Vakil's Fundamentals of Algebraic Geometry [10] available here https://math216.wordpress.com/.

#### 3.1 The statement of de Rham's theorem

These are almost verbatim Arapura's notes on the de Rham Complex and cohomology.

Before doing anything fancy, let's start at the beginning. Let  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  be an open set. In calculus class, we learn about operations

$$\{\text{ functions }\} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \{\text{ vector fields }\} \xrightarrow{\nabla \times} \{\text{ vector fields }\} \xrightarrow{\nabla \cdot} \{\text{ functions }\}$$

such that  $(\nabla \times)(\nabla) = 0$  and  $(\nabla \cdot)(\nabla \times) = 0$ . This is a prototype for a *complex*. An obvious question: does  $\nabla \times v = 0$  imply that v is a gradient? Answer: sometimes yes (e.g. if  $U = \mathbb{R}^3$ ) and sometimes no (e.g. if  $U = \mathbb{R}^3$  minus a line). To quantify the failure we introduce the first de Rham cohomology

$$H^1_{\rm dR}(U) = \frac{\left\{\,v \text{ a vector field on } U : \nabla \times v = 0\,\right\}}{\left\{\,\nabla f\,\right\}}.$$

Contrary to first appearances, for reasonable U this is finite dimensional and computable. This follows from the de Rham's theorem, which we now explain. First, let's generalize this to an open set  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Once n > 3 vector calculus is useless, but there is a good replacement. A differential form of degree p, or p-form, is an expression

$$\alpha = \sum f_{i_1,\dots,i_p}(x_1,\dots,x_n) \, dx_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p}$$

such that the  $x_i$  are coordinates, the f are  $C^{\infty}$  functions,  $dx_{i_1} \wedge \cdots \wedge dx_{i_p}$  are symbols where  $\wedge$  is an anticommutative product. Let  $\mathcal{E}^p(U)$  denote the vector space of p-forms. Define the exterior derivative by

$$d\alpha = \sum_{j} \sum_{i} \frac{\partial f_{i_1,\dots,i_p}}{\partial x_j} dx_j \wedge \dots \wedge dx_{i_p}.$$

This is a (p+1)-form.

**Lemma 3.1.**  $d^2 = 0$ .

*PROOF.* We prove it for p = 0. In this case, we have

$$df = \sum_{i} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_{i}} dx_{i}$$
$$d(df) = \sum_{i,j} \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x_{j} \partial x_{i}} dx_{j} \wedge dx_{i}.$$

Using anticommutativity, we can rewrite this as

$$\sum_{j < i} \left( \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_j \partial x_i} - \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \right) dx_j \wedge dx_i = 0.$$

A cochain complex is a collection of Abelian groups  $M^i$  and homomorphisms  $d: M^i \to M^{i+1}$  such that  $d^2 = 0$ . We define the  $p^{\text{th}}$  cohomology of this by

$$H_{\mathrm{dR}}^p(M^{\bullet}, d) = \frac{\mathrm{Ker}\, d \colon M^p \to M^{p+1}}{\mathrm{Im}\, d \colon M^{p-1} \to M^p}.$$

So we have an example of a complex  $(\mathcal{E}^{\bullet}(U), d)$  called the de Rham complex of U. It's cohomology is the de Rham cohomology  $H^p_{dR}(U) = H^p(\mathcal{E}^{\bullet}(U), d)$ . Here is a basic computation.

Theorem 3.2 (Poincaré's lemma).

$$H^p_{\mathrm{dR}}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \begin{cases} \mathbb{R} & if \ p = 0, \\ 0 & otherwise. \end{cases}$$

PROOF. We show this for  $n \leq 2$ . We first treat the case n = 1. Clearly  $H^p_{dR}(\mathbb{R})$  consists of constant functions. If  $\alpha = f(x) dx$ , then

$$d\left(\int_0^x f(t) dt\right) = \alpha.$$

There are no *p*-forms for p > 1.

Next, we treat n=2 which contains all of the ideas of the general case. Let x,y be coordinates. We define some operators

$$\mathcal{E}^{\bullet}(\mathbb{R}^2) \underbrace{\overset{s*}{\underset{\pi^*}{\bigvee}}}_{\mathcal{E}^{\bullet}}(\mathbb{R}),$$

where  $\pi^*$  is the pullback along the projection  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ . It takes a form in x and treats it as a form in x, y. The pullback along the zero section  $s^*$  sets y and dy to zero. Note that  $s^* \circ \pi^*$  is the identity. Although  $\pi^* \circ s^*$  is not the identity, we will show that it induces the identity on cohomology. This

will show that  $H^*_{dR}(\mathbb{R}^2) \cong H^*_{dR}(\mathbb{R})$ , which is all we need. This involves a new concept. We introduce an operator  $H \colon \mathcal{E}^p(\mathbb{R}^2) \to \mathcal{E}^{p-1}(\mathbb{R}^2)$  of degree -1 called a *homotopy*. It integrates y as follows:

$$H(f(x,y)) = 0$$

$$H(f(x,y) dx) = 0$$

$$H(f(x,y) dy) = \int_0^y f(x,t) dt$$

$$H(f(x,y) dx \wedge dy) = \left[ \int_0^y f(x,t) dt \right] dx.$$

A computation using nothing more than the fundamental theorem of calculus shows that

$$1 - \pi^* s^* = \pm (Hd - dH).$$

This implies that the left side induces 0 on  $H^*_{dR}(\mathbb{R}^2)$ , or equivalently  $\pi^* \circ s^*$  acts like the identity on cohomology.

Before describing de Rham's theorem, we have to say what's happening at the othe rend. The standard n dimensional simplex, or n-simplex,  $\Delta^n \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  is the convex hull of the unit vectors  $(1,0,\ldots,0),(0,1,0,\ldots,0),\ldots$  The convex hull of the subset of these is called a face. This is homeomorphic to a simplex of smaller dimension. Omitting all but the  $i^{\text{th}}$  vertex is called the  $i^{\text{th}}$  face of  $\Delta^n$ . We have a standard homeomorphism

$$\delta_i : \Delta^{n-1} \to i^{\text{th}} \text{ face of } \Delta^n.$$

A geometric simplicial complex is given by a collection of simplices glued along faces. Historically, the first cohomology theory was defined for simplicial complexes. A bit later singular cohomology was developed, which is an arbitrary topological space X. A (real/complex) singular p-cochain  $\alpha$  is an integer (real/complex) valued function on the set of all continuous maps  $f: \Delta^p \to X$ . It might help to think of  $\alpha(f)$  as a combinatorial integral  $\int_f \alpha$ . Let  $S^p(X)$  ( $S^p(X, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $S^p(X, \mathbb{C})$ ) denote the group of these cochains. Define  $\delta: S^p(X) \to S^{p+1}(X)$  by

$$\delta(\alpha)(f) = \sum (-1)^i \alpha(f \circ \delta_i).$$

#### Lemma 3.3.

$$\delta^2 = 0$$

FOR p = 0. Let  $\alpha \in S^0$ . Fix  $f: \Delta^2 \to X$ . Label the restriction of f to the vertices by 0, 1, 2 and faces 01, 02, 12. Then

$$\delta^{2}(f) = \delta\alpha(12) - \delta\alpha(02) + \delta\alpha(01)$$
  
=  $\alpha(1) - \alpha(2) - \alpha(0) + \alpha(2) + \alpha(0) - \alpha(1)$   
= 0.

Thus we have a complex. Singular cohomology is defined by  $H^p(X,\mathbb{Z}) = H^p(S^{\bullet}(X),\delta)$ , and similarly for real or complex valued singular cohomology. These groups are highly computable.

**Theorem 3.4** (de Rham). If  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is open, or more generally a manifold, then  $H^p_{dR}(X,\mathbb{R}) \cong H^p(X,\mathbb{R})$  for all p.

We will give a proof of this later on as an easy application of sheaf theory. Sheaf methods will help obtain parallel theorems.

**Theorem 3.5** (Holomorphic de Rham). If  $X \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  is a complex manifold, then  $H^p(X,\mathbb{C})$  can be computed using algebraic differential forms.

The last theorem is due to Grothendieck. The proof is a lot harder, so we'll try to give the proof by the end of the semester, but there's no guarantee.

#### 3.2 A crash course in homological algebra

By the 1940s techniques from algebraic topology began to be applied to pure algebra, giving rise to a new subject. To begin with, recall that a category  $\mathscr C$  consists of a set or class of objects (e.g., sets, groups, topological spaces) and morphisms (e.g., functions, homomorphisms, continuous maps) between pairs of objects  $\operatorname{Hom}_{\mathscr C}(A,B)$ . We require an identity  $\operatorname{id}_A \in \operatorname{Hom}(A,A)$  for each object A, and associative composition law.

In this section, we will focus on one particular example. Let R be an associative (but possibly noncommutative ring) with identity 1, and let R-Mod be the category of left R-modules and homomorphisms. We write  $\operatorname{Hom}_R(-,-)$  for the morphisms. It is worth noting that  $\mathbb{Z}$ -Mod is the category of Abelian groups. These categories have the following features:

- 1.  $\operatorname{Hom}_R(-,-)$  is an Abelian group, and composition is distributive.
- 2. There is a zero object 0 such that  $\operatorname{Hom}_R(0,M) = \operatorname{Hom}_R(M,0) = 0$ .
- 3. Every pair of objects A, B has a direct sum  $A \oplus b$  characterized by certain universal properties.
- 4. Morphisms have kernels and images, characterized by the appropriate universal properties.

We will encounter other categories satisfying these conditions later on. Such categories are called Abelian. We have been a bit vague about the precise axioms; se Weibel's Homological Algebra for this.

#### **Diagram Chasing**

A sequence

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C$$

# Algebraic Topology

From my meetings with Mark. We reference Hatcher's *Algebraic Topology* [6] freely available here https://www.math.cornell.edu/~hatcher/#ATI.

#### 4.1 Cohomology

Let's look at some examples to get an idea of what cohomolgy is all about. Take the simplest case: Let X be a 1-dimensional  $\Delta$ -complex, i.e., an oriented graph. For a fixed abelian group G, the set of all functions from vertices of X to G forms an abelian group, which we denote by  $\Delta^0(X;G)$  in the natural sense, i.e., by point-wise addition. Similarly the set of all functions assigning an element of G to each edge of X forms an abelian group  $\Delta^1(X;G)$ . We are concerned about homomorphisms  $\delta \colon \Delta^0(X;G) \to \Delta^1(X;G)$  sending  $\varphi \in \Delta^0$  to the function  $\delta \varphi \in \Delta^1(X;G)$  whose value on an oriented edge  $[v_0,v_1]$  is the difference  $\varphi(v_1)-\varphi(v_0)$ . For example, X here might be the graph formed by a system of trails on a mountain, with vertices at the junctions between trails. The function  $\varphi$  could assign to each junction its elevation above sea level, in which case  $\delta \varphi$  would measure the net change in elevation along the trail from one junction to the next.

Regarding the map  $\delta \colon \Delta^0(X;G) \to \Delta^1(X;G)$  as a chain complex with 0s before and after the two terms, the homology of groups of this chain complex are by definition the simplicial cohomology groups of X, namely  $H^0(X;G) = \operatorname{Ker} \delta \subset \Delta^0(X;G)$  and  $H^1(X;G) = \Delta^1(X;G)/\operatorname{Im} \delta = \operatorname{Coker} \delta$ . For simplicity we are using here the same notation as will be used for singular cohomology; we later prove that for  $\Delta$ -complexes, the two theories in fact coincide.

The group  $H^0(X;G)$  is easy to describe explicitly. A function  $\varphi \in \Delta^0(X;G)$  has  $\delta \varphi = 0$  if and only if  $\varphi$  takes the same value at both ends of each edge of X. This is equivalent to saying that  $\varphi$  is constant on each component of X. So  $H^0(X;G)$  is the group of all functions from the set of components of X to G. This is a direct product of copies of G, one for each component of X.

The cohomology group  $H^1(X:G)=\Delta^1(X;G)/\mathrm{Im}\,\delta$  will be trivial if and only if  $\delta\varphi=\psi$  has a solution  $\varphi\in\Delta^0(X;G)$  for each  $\varphi\in\Delta^1(X;G)$ . Solving this equation means deciding whether specifying the change in  $\varphi$  across each edge of X determines an actual function  $\varphi\in\Delta^0(X;G)$ . This is rather like the calculus problem of finding a function having a specified derivative, with the difference operator  $\delta$  playing the role of differentiation. As in calculus, if a solution of  $\delta\varphi=\psi$  exists, it will be unique up to adding an element of the kernel of  $\delta$ , i.e., a function constant on each component of X.

The equation  $\delta \varphi = \psi$  is always solvable if X is a tree since if we choose arbitrarily a value for  $\varphi$  at a base point vertex  $v_0$ , then if the change in  $\varphi$  across each edge of X is specified, this uniquely determines the value of  $\varphi$  at ever other vertex v by induction along the unique path from  $v_0$  to v in a tree. Then, since every vertex lies in one of these maximal trees, the values of  $\psi$  on the edges of the maximal trees determine  $\varphi$  uniquely up to a constant on each component of X. But in order for the equation  $\delta \varphi = \psi$  to hold, the value of  $\psi$  on each edge is not in any of the maximal trees must equal the difference in the already-determined values of  $\varphi$  at the two ends of the edge. This condition need not be satisfied since  $\psi$  can have arbitrary values on these edges. Thus we see that the cohomology group  $H^1(X;G)$  is a direct product of copies of the group G, one copy for each edge of X not in one of the chosen maximal trees. This can be compared with the homology group  $H_1(X;G)$  which consists of a direct sum of copies of G, one for each edge of X not in one of the maximal trees. Note that the relation between  $H^1(X;G)$  and  $H^1(X;G)$  is the same as the relation between  $H^0(X;G)$  and  $H_0(X;G)$ , with  $H^0(X;G)$  being a direct product of copies of G and  $H_0(X;G)$  a direct sum, with one copy for each component of X in either case.

Now let us move up a dimensino, taking X to be a 2-dimensional  $\Delta$ -complex. Define  $\Delta^0(X;G)$  and  $\Delta^1(X;G)$  as before, as functions from vertices and edges of X to be Abelian group G, and define  $\Delta^2(X;G)$  to be functions from 2-simplices of X to G, and define  $\Delta^2(X;G)$  to be functions from 2-simplices of X to G. A homomorphism  $\delta \colon \Delta^1(X;G) \to \Delta^2(X;G)$  is defined by  $\delta \psi([v_0,v_1,v_2]) = \psi([v_0,v_1]) + \psi([v_1,v_2]) - \psi([v_0,v_2])$ , a signed sum of values of  $\psi$  on the three edges in the boundary of  $[v_0,v_1,v_2]$ , just as  $\delta \varphi([v_0,v_1])$  for  $\varphi \in \Delta^0(X;G)$  we have  $\delta \delta \varphi = (\varphi(v_1) - \varphi(v_0)) + (\varphi(v_2) - \varphi(v_2)) - (\varphi(v_2) - \varphi(v_0)) = 0$ . Extending this chain complex by 0s on each end, the resulting homology groups are by definition the cohomology groups  $H^i(X;G)$ .

# Group Theory and Differential Equations

This is a summary of Kuga's Galois' Dream: Group Theory and Differential Equations book.

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