

PDE without tears for geometry students

Raffaele Vitolo

Dipartimento di Matematica e Fisica 'E. De Giorgi'

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1 Part 1

Conceptualization: S. Lie. Formalization: Ehresmann.

P.D.E. is

$$\begin{array}{ll} x^k & k = 1, \dots, n, \text{ independent variables} \\ u^i & i = 1, \dots, m, \text{ dependent variables} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} F^1(x^k, u^i, u_j^i) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ F^k(x^k, u^i, u_j^i) = 0 \end{array}$$

where

$$u_j^i = \frac{\partial^{|\sigma|} u^i}{(\partial u^i)^{\sigma_1} \dots (\partial x^m)^{\sigma_m}}$$

for some multi index $\sigma \in \mathbb{N}^n$ $\sigma = (\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m)$.

In general the u^i are functions; here we may think they are coordinates of some space since we want a geometric introduction to PDEs.

Let N be the spaces of independent variables, $\dim N = n$, and M the space of dependent variables of dimension m . Fields-unknowns are $u : U \subset N \rightarrow M$, $u = (u^i) = (u^1, \dots, u^m)$.

Now we can consider the field as a section of the trivial bundle: $s : N \rightarrow N \times M$, $s(x^k) = (x^k, u^i(x^k))$

Now we introduce the notion of contact, which has to do with the derivatives.

1-contact of sections $s_1, s_2 : N \rightarrow N \times M$ at $x_0 \in N$:

$$(0) \quad s_1(x_0) = s_2(x_0).$$

1. (The sections have two graphs that share the tangent plane) $\frac{\partial u^i_1}{\partial x^k}(x_0) = \frac{\partial u^i_2}{\partial x^k}(x_0).$

Higher contact:

$$\frac{\partial^{|\sigma|} u^i_1}{(\partial x^1)^{\sigma_1} \dots (\partial x^m)^{\sigma_m}}(x_0) = \frac{\partial^{|\sigma|} u^i_2}{(\partial x^1)^{\sigma_1} \dots (\partial x^n)^{\sigma_n}}(x_0)$$

$|\sigma| = \sum_{i=1}^m \sigma_i$, **order of derivative**, $\forall \sigma \in \mathbb{N}^m, 0 \leq |\sigma| \leq r$. This is **r-th contact**.

(if the Taylor polynomial unit a certain point is the same)

General notion of contact. E an $(n + m)$ -dimensional manifold and $L_1, L_2 \subset E$ two n -dimensional submanifolds. They have a contact of order r at x_0 if there exists a chart $(\underbrace{u^k}_n, \underbrace{u^i}_m)$ such that

- L_1 is the graph $(x^1) \rightarrow (x^k, u^i_1(x^k))$ and
- L_2 is the graph $(x^1) \rightarrow (x^k, u^i_2(x^k))$

have a contact of order r . (If the manifolds can be seen as graphs in the same chart.)

Now consider the class of all submanifolds touching at the point x_0 of order r , $[L]_{x_0, r}$. Now, the **jet space of order r at x_0 of (E, n) , n independent variables** is

$$\bigcup_{x_0 \in E} [L]_{x_0, r} := J_r(E, n)$$

That's a bundle. The fiber at each point is all the equivalence classes of manifolds that touch at contact etc.

$$\dots \longrightarrow J_2(E, u) \longrightarrow J_1(E, n) \longrightarrow E$$

$$\dots \longrightarrow [L]_{x_0, 2} \longmapsto [L]_{x_0, 1} \longmapsto x_0$$

Remark This bundle is in general a Grassmannian.

Coordinates on $J_2(E, u) : (x^1, u^i, J)$

1. $E \rightarrow N$ is a further bundle (e.g. $N \times M \rightarrow N$).
2. E is just a manifold.

Each has to be dealt with in a way:

1. For the trivial bundle $N \times M \rightarrow N$: Transformations of the type (u^μ, v^j) ,

$$\begin{cases} y^\mu = Y^\mu(x^k) \\ v^j = U^j(x^k) \end{cases}$$

For a bundle $E \rightarrow N$

$$\begin{cases} y^\mu = Y^\mu(x^k) \\ v^j = U^j(x^k, u^i) \end{cases}$$

2.

$$\begin{cases} y^\mu = Y^\mu(x^k, u^i) \\ v^j = U^j(x^k, u^i) \end{cases}$$

Definition A *partial differential equation of order r* is a subbundle $\mathcal{E} \subset J_r(E, m)$.

Example $n = m = 1, u_x = 1$. $\mathcal{E} \subset J_1(E, 1)$, $E = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$, so $J_1(E, 1) = \mathbb{R}^3$.

Now take $u(x) = u + c$. We get $j_1 u : N \rightarrow J_1(E, 1)$, $u_0 \mapsto [u]_{x_0, 1}$.

Example Riemann equation, or Hopf equation, or Inviscid Burgers equation.

$$u_t + \underbrace{u}_{\text{velocity of wave}} u_x = 0$$

u depends on t and x . $n = 2, m = 1, r = 1$.

... the speed is proportional to the ammount of cars...

Let's introduce a variable

$$\xi := x - tu.$$

We can complement this variable with two other variables that are unchanged:

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{t} = t \\ \xi = x - tu \\ v = u \end{cases}$$

now let's take derivatives so that we find the protagonists of Riemann equation:

$$\begin{cases} u_x = v_{\tilde{t}} \tilde{t}_x + v_{\xi} \xi_x = v_{\xi} (1 - tu_x) \\ u_t = v_{\tilde{t}} \tilde{t}_t + v_{\xi} \xi_t = v_{\tilde{t}} + v_{\xi} (-u - tu_t) \end{cases}$$

Now we want to express some in terms of others:

$$u_x = \frac{v_{\xi}}{1 + \tilde{t}v_{\xi}}, \quad u_t = \frac{v_{\tilde{t}} - v v_{\tilde{t}}}{1 + \tilde{t} + v_3}$$

Now condier

$$v \frac{v_{\xi}}{1 + \tilde{t}v_{\xi}} + \frac{(v_{\tilde{t}} - v v_{\tilde{t}})}{1 + \tilde{t}v_{\xi}} = 0$$

But things cancel (which?) and we get

$$\frac{v_{\tilde{t}}}{1 + \tilde{t}v_{\xi}} = 0$$

so we have a singularity given by

$$1 + \tilde{t}v\xi = 0 \iff v_\xi = -\frac{1}{\tilde{t}}$$

and outside the singularity we have an implicit solution of the Riemann equation:

$$v = f(\xi), \quad u = f(x - tu).$$

Upshot Look for symmetries and conservations laws, then a linearizing procedure that allows you to find a solution.

2 Part 2

Suppose we are given a submanifold $\mathcal{E} \subset J_r(E, u)$ of a jet space. Given $L \subset E$ an n -dimensional submanifold, we denote by $j_r L : L \rightarrow J_r(E, n)$

$$j_r L : L \longrightarrow J_2(E, u)$$

$$x_0 \longmapsto [L]_{x_0, r}$$

$$L : (x^k) \mapsto (x^k, u^i(x^k))$$

$$j_2 L : (x^k) \mapsto (x^k, u_\sigma^i(x^k))$$

L is a solution of \mathcal{E} if and only if $j_r L : L \rightarrow \mathcal{E} \subset J_r(E, n)$.

$$\mathcal{C} = \{Tj_r L(TL) : L \subset E \text{ an } n\text{-dimensional submanifold}\} \subset TJ_r(E, u)$$

So a subbundle of the tangent bundle of the jet-space. Its a distribution of prolonged...

Coordinates:

$$s(x^k) = (x^k, u^i(x^k))$$

$$T_{j_r} s \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial u^k} + \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial u^k} \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} + \frac{\partial^2 u^i}{\partial x^k \partial x^\mu} \frac{\partial}{\partial u_\mu^i} + \dots$$

One can prove that \mathcal{C} is generated by:

$$\mathcal{C} = \text{span} \left\{ D_\lambda, \frac{\partial}{\partial u_2^i} \right\}$$

Where

$$D_\lambda = \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + u_{\sigma+k}^i \frac{\partial}{\partial u_j^i}, |\sigma| \leq r-1$$

are called **total derivatives**. They are vector fields in the jet space.

Now if $|\tau| = r$,

$$[D_\lambda, D_\mu] = 0, \quad \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial u_{\tau_1}^{i_1}}, \frac{\partial}{\partial u_{\tau_2}^{i_2}} \right] = 0$$

and

$$\left[D_\mu, \frac{\partial}{\partial u_x^i} \right] \neq 0.$$

3 Part 3

Now we introduce *Lie maps* which are bundle morphisms $\phi : J_r(E, n) \rightarrow J_r(E, n)$ that preserve the contact distribution of each bundle, i.e.

$$T\phi(C_2) \subset C_r.$$

Theorem (Lie-Backlund) $m > 1$. All the morphisms have the form $\phi = \bar{\phi}^{(r)}$, $\bar{\phi} : E \rightarrow E$ defined as follows

$$\bar{\phi}^{(r)}(j_2 L) = j_r(\phi \circ L)$$

See Krasil'schik-Vigradov: symmetries and conservation laws of PDE of mathematical physics.

Now

$$\bar{\phi}^{(r)}(j_2 L) = j_r(\phi \circ L)$$

For $m = 1$, $\phi = \phi_1$. We have a contact transformation

$$\bar{\phi}_1 : J_1(E, n) \longrightarrow J_1(E, n), \quad \dim E = u + 1$$

Contact transformation help us linearize equations, like the Monge-Ampère equation $u_{xx}u_{yy} - u_{xy}^2 = 1$, which is a Hessian, using Euler transformation.
See Kushner-Lychagin-Roubtsov

Now let's define a *symmetry* of \mathcal{E} . It is a map $\phi : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ such that $T\phi(C|_{\mathcal{E}}) = C_{\mathcal{E}}$.

Now take a vector field tangent to the \mathcal{E} equation: $X : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow T\mathcal{E}$ and $L_X C|_{\mathcal{E}} \subset C_{\mathcal{E}}$.

How to find symmetries of a PDE? Simplest approach: point symmetries. $X = \bar{X}^{(r)}$.

$$\begin{cases} TF(X) = 0 \\ \mathcal{E} : F = 0 \end{cases}$$

So X_1, X_2 symmetries, then $[X_1, X_2]$ is a symmetry.

Why symmetries? for $n = 1$ ODE,

Theorem (Lie-Bianchi) If there exists a solvable Lie algebra of symmetries of an ODE, then the ODE is solvable by quadratures.

This is basically reduction of order.

Upshot Finding symmetries simplifies equation, e.g. less variables or turning PDE to ODE.

4 Part 4

In order to continue with symmetries, we want to look at vector fields on jets and prolonged vector fields of jets. This is a vector field on jets

$$X = X^k \frac{\partial}{\partial x^k} + x_\sigma^i \frac{\partial}{\partial u_\sigma^i} : J_r(E, u) \rightarrow TJ_r(E, u) = x^k D_\lambda + (X_\sigma^i - u_{j+\lambda}^i X^\lambda) \frac{\partial}{\partial u_j^i}$$

$$X = \bar{X} \iff (X_\sigma^i - u_{j+\lambda}^i X^\lambda) = D_\sigma(X^i - u_\lambda^i X^k) \quad (1)$$

$$\bar{X} = X^\lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial X^\lambda} + X^i \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} = X^\lambda \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} + u_\lambda^i \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i} \right) + (X^i - u_\lambda^i X^\lambda) \frac{\partial}{\partial u^i}$$

You can split it in a part that uses total derivatives (vertical, I guess) and a part that uses horizontal derivatives. So it's not a actual connection, it's a partial connection. More explicitly,

$$TE \times_E J_1(E, u) = H_1 \oplus_{J_1(E, u)} V_1$$

And if the vector field is a prolongation of a vector field, then *the vertical part must preserve eq. (1)*.

A *generalized symmetry* is

$$TF(X_v) = \frac{\partial F^k}{\partial u_j^i} \underbrace{D_\sigma(X^i - u_\lambda^i X^\lambda)}_{\ell_F(\bar{X}_v)} = 0$$

In other words, a generalized vector field $\varphi : J_R(E, u) \rightarrow VE$, $\varphi = \varphi^i \frac{\partial u^i}{\partial}$.

Now let's do

$$F = u_t + uu_x + u_{xx}u = 0 \quad (2)$$

So

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial u} = u_x, \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_t} = 1, \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_x} = u, \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial u_{xxx}} = 1$$

Let us compute the linearization operator ℓ_F :

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial u_j^i} D_j(\varphi) = u_x \varphi + D_t \varphi + u D_x \varphi + D_{xxx} \varphi = 0.$$

And then

$$\varphi = \varphi^u(t, x, u) - u_t \varphi^t(t, u, u) - u_x \varphi^x(t, x, u) \quad (3)$$

$$\varphi = \varphi(t, x, u, u_x).$$

Now suppose that $\varphi = u_t$. Let's insert it in eq. (3) and see that goes to zero. Of course, we must the eq. (2). OK:

$$\ell_F(u_t) = u_x u_t + \dots = 0$$

usually you do this with computer.

5 Conservation laws

They are differential forms that are closed on the equation.

So for example, for KDV, α_x is *density* and α_t the *flux*.

$$\alpha = \alpha_x dx + \alpha_t dt$$

$$\alpha_x = \alpha_x(t, x, u, u_t, u_x, \dots)$$

$$\alpha_t = \alpha_t(t, x, u, u_t, u_x, \dots)$$

So we want

$$d_{tt}\alpha = D_t\alpha_x dt \wedge dx + D_x\alpha_t dx \wedge dt \Big|_{F=0} = 0$$

$$D_t\alpha_x - D_x\alpha_t \Big|_{F=0} = 0$$

$$d_H\rho = D_x\rho dx - D_t\rho dt$$

$$d_H^2\rho = 0$$

We integrate:

$$D_t \int_a^b \alpha_x dx = \int_a^b D_t\alpha_x dx = \int_a^b D_x\alpha_t dx = \alpha_t \Big|_a^b$$

Upshot This is the higher-dimensional version of Poisson brackets, first integrals...