

**MTH 166**

**Lecture-18**

**Partial Differential Equations (PDE)**

## **Unit 4: Partial Differential Equations**

**(Book: Advanced Engineering Mathematics by R.K.Jain and S.R.K Iyengar, Chapter-9)**

### **Topic:**

Partial Differential Equations (PDE)

### **Learning Outcomes:**

1. Formation of PDE by elimination of arbitrary constants
2. Formation of PDE by elimination of arbitrary functions
3. Classification of PDE: Hyperbolic, Parabolic and Elliptic

## Partial Derivatives:

Earlier: If  $u = f(x)$ , it means there is dependent variable  $y$  and one independent variable  $x$ .

So, we differentiate  $y$  with respect to  $x$  and denote it as:  $\frac{du}{dx}$

Now: If  $u = f(x, y)$ , it means there is dependent variable  $u$  and two independent

variable  $x$  and  $y$ . So, we can differentiate  $u$  with respect to  $x$  or  $y$ , denoted as:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$  or  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$

respectively.

### Standard Notations:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = u_x = p \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = u_y = q \end{array} \right\} \text{These are called first order partial derivatives.}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = u_{xx} = r \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} \text{ or } \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = u_{xy} \text{ or } u_{yx} = s \\ \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = u_{yy} = t \end{array} \right\} \text{These are called second order partial derivatives.}$$

### Partial Differential Equation:

An equation of the form:  $f(x, y, p, q) = 0$  is called first order partial differential equation.

An equation of the form:  $g(x, y, p, q, r, s, t) = 0$  is called second order partial differential equation.

## Methods of Formation of PDE:

### 1. By elimination of arbitrary constants

**Problem 1.** Form the PDE for:  $u = ax + by$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  are constants

**Solution.** Given  $u = ax + by$  (1)  $[u = f(x, y)]$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $x$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = a(1) + b(0) = a \Rightarrow p = a$$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $y$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = a(0) + b(1) = b \Rightarrow q = b$$

Putting values of  $a$  and  $b$  in equation (1):

$$u = px + qy \quad \text{or} \quad u = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)x + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)y \text{ which is the required PDE.}$$

**Problem 2.** Form the PDE for:  $u = ax + by + a^4 + b^4$ ,  $a$  and  $b$  are constants

**Solution.** Given  $u = ax + by + a^4 + b^4$  (1)  $[u = f(x, y)]$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $x$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = a(1) + b(0) = a \quad \Rightarrow p = a$$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $y$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = a(0) + b(1) = b \quad \Rightarrow q = b$$

Putting values of  $a$  and  $b$  in equation (1):

$$u = px + qy + p^4 + q^4 \quad \text{or} \quad u = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)x + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)y + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^4 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^4$$

which is required PDE.

**Problem 3. Form the PDE for:  $u = (x - \alpha)^2 + (y - \beta)^2$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are constants**

**Solution.** Given  $u = (x - \alpha)^2 + (y - \beta)^2$  (1)  $[u = f(x, y)]$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $x$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 2(x - \alpha) \Rightarrow p = 2(x - \alpha) \Rightarrow \frac{p}{2} = (x - \alpha)$$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $y$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 2(y - \beta) \Rightarrow q = 2(y - \beta) \Rightarrow \frac{q}{2} = (y - \beta)$$

Putting values of  $(x - \alpha)$  and  $(y - \beta)$  in equation (1):

$$u = \left(\frac{p}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{q}{2}\right)^2 \quad \text{or} \quad 4u = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)^2$$

which is required PDE.

## Methods of Formation of PDE:

### 2. By elimination of arbitrary functions

**Problem 1.** Form the PDE for:  $u = f(x^2 + y^2)$

**Solution.** Given  $u = f(x^2 + y^2)$  (1)  $[u = f(x, y)]$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $x$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = f'(x^2 + y^2)(2x) \Rightarrow p = f'(x^2 + y^2)(2x) \Rightarrow \frac{p}{2x} = f'(x^2 + y^2) \quad (2)$$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $y$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = f'(x^2 + y^2)(2y) \Rightarrow q = f'(x^2 + y^2)(2y) \Rightarrow \frac{q}{2y} = f'(x^2 + y^2) \quad (3)$$

Comparing (2) and (3), we get:  $\frac{p}{2x} = \frac{q}{2y}$

$$\Rightarrow py = qx \quad \text{or} \quad \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right) y = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right) x \text{ which is the required PDE.}$$



**Problem 2.** Form the PDE for:  $u = f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$

**Solution.** Given  $u = f\left(\frac{x}{y}\right)$  (1)  $[u = f(x, y)]$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $x$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = f'\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \Rightarrow p = f'\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \Rightarrow py = f'\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \quad (2)$$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $y$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = f'\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \left(\frac{-x}{y^2}\right) \Rightarrow q = f'\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \left(\frac{-x}{y^2}\right) \Rightarrow -q \frac{y^2}{x} = f'\left(\frac{x}{y}\right) \quad (3)$$

Comparing (2) and (3), we get:  $\frac{p}{2x} = \frac{q}{2y}$

$$\Rightarrow py = -q \frac{y^2}{x} \Rightarrow px + qy = 0 \text{ or } \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right) x + \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right) y = 0$$

which is the required PDE.

**Problem 3. Form the PDE for:  $u = f(ax + by)$**

**Solution.** Given  $u = f(ax + by)$  (1)  $[u = f(x, y)]$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $x$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = f'(ax + by)(a) \Rightarrow \frac{p}{a} = f'(ax + by) \quad (2)$$

Differentiating (1) partially w.r.t  $y$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = f'(ax + by)(b) \Rightarrow \frac{q}{b} = f'(ax + by) \quad (3)$$

Comparing (2) and (3), we get:  $\frac{p}{a} = \frac{q}{b}$

$$\Rightarrow pb = qa \quad \text{or} \quad \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right) b = \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right) a$$

which is the required PDE.

## **Classification/Nature of Partial Differential Equations:**

Let us consider a general second order homogeneous PDE:

$$A \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + B \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + C \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + D \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + E \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + Fu = 0 \quad \text{where } u = f(x, y)$$

or

$$Au_{xx} + Bu_{xy} + Cu_{yy} + Du_x + Eu_y + Fu = 0 \quad (1)$$

Equation (1) will be:

1. Hyperbolic iff  $(B^2 - 4AC) > 0$
2. Parabolic iff  $(B^2 - 4AC) = 0$
3. Elliptic iff  $(B^2 - 4AC) < 0$

Note: Coefficients of second order partial derivatives only decide nature of PDE.

**Classify the following PDE as Hyperbolic, Parabolic or Elliptic:**

**Problem 1.**  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = 3 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$

**Solution.** Given equ. is:  $u_{xy} - 3u_y = 0$  (1)

Comparing with:  $Au_{xx} + Bu_{xy} + Cu_{yy} + Du_x + Eu_y + Fu = 0$

We have  $A = 0, B = 1, C = 0$

Here  $(B^2 - 4AC) = (1)^2 - 4(0)(0) = 1 > 0$

So, equation (1) is Hyperbolic.

**Problem 2.**  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**Solution.** Given equ. is:  $u_{xx} + 2u_{xy} + u_{yy} = 0$  (1)

Comparing with:  $Au_{xx} + Bu_{xy} + Cu_{yy} + Du_x + Eu_y + Fu = 0$

We have  $A = 1, B = 2, C = 1$

Here  $(B^2 - 4AC) = (2)^2 - 4(1)(1) = 4 - 4 = 0$

So, equation (1) is Parabolic.

**Problem 3.**  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 3 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$

**Solution.** Given equ. is:  $u_{xx} + 3u_{yy} - u_x = 0$  (1)

Comparing with:  $Au_{xx} + Bu_{xy} + Cu_{yy} + Du_x + Eu_y + Fu = 0$

We have  $A = 1, B = 0, C = 3$

Here  $(B^2 - 4AC) = (0)^2 - 4(1)(3) = 0 - 12 < 0$

So, equation (1) is Elliptic.

**Problem 4.**  $y \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2x \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + y \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0$

**Solution.** Given equ. is:  $yu_{xx} + 2xyu_{xy} + yu_{yy} = 0$  (1)

Comparing with:  $Au_{xx} + Bu_{xy} + Cu_{yy} + Du_x + Eu_y + Fu = 0$

We have  $A = y, B = 2x, C = y$

Here  $(B^2 - 4AC) = (2x)^2 - 4(y)(y) = 4(x^2 - y^2)$

So, equation (1) is:

Hyperbolic iff  $(x^2 - y^2) > 0$

Parabolic iff  $(x^2 - y^2) = 0$

Elliptic iff  $(x^2 - y^2) < 0$



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