

Chapter 1: Basic notions of PDEs

1.1 PDEs of 2nd order

let $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\Omega_1, \Omega_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$,

$L: \mathcal{F}_1(\Omega_1) \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_2(\Omega_2)$ differential operator,

e.g. $C^2(\Omega_1) \xrightarrow{\text{e.g.}} C^0(\Omega_2)$

$u \in \mathcal{F}_1(\Omega_1): \Omega_1 \rightarrow \Omega_2$

Notation: $u_{x_i} \equiv \partial_i u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x^i}$, $u_{x_i x_j} = \partial_i \partial_j u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^i \partial x^j}$

Def (classification):

(i) non-linear PDEs of 2nd order:

$Lu = 0$, with $L = L(x, u, \{u_{x_i}\}, \{u_{x_i x_j}\})$

and $\frac{\partial L}{\partial u_{x_i x_j}} \neq 0$ for at least one pair of indices $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

Example: consider $\Omega_1 = \Omega_2 = \mathbb{R}^2$ and

$$Lu = u_{x_1 x_1} u_{x_2 x_2} - u_{x_1 x_2}^2 = 0$$

(ii) Quasi-linear PDEs of 2nd order:

$$Lu \equiv \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x, u, \{u_{x_i}\}) u_{x_i x_j} + b(x, u, \{u_{x_i}\}) = 0$$

Example: $\mathcal{D}_1 = \mathcal{D}_2 = \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n \left(\delta_{ij} - \frac{u_{x_i} u_{x_j}}{1 + |\nabla u|^2} \right) u_{x_i x_j} = 0 \quad \text{minimal surfaces}$$

(iii) Semi-linear PDEs of 2nd order:

$$Lu \equiv \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) u_{x_i x_j} + b(x, u, \{u_{x_i}\}) = 0$$

Example: $-\Delta u = |\nabla u|^2 u$

(iv) Linear PDEs of 2nd order

$$\begin{aligned} Lu &\equiv \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) u_{x_i x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(x) u_{x_i} + a(x) u + f(x) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Example: $\Delta u = 0$

Remark: If we are looking for a solution
 $u \in C^2(\mathbb{R}_1)$:

$$a_{ij} = a_{ji} \quad (\text{derivatives commute})$$

$(A = (a_{ij})_{\substack{i,j=1,\dots,n}} \text{ is symmetric} \Rightarrow \text{real eigenvalues})$

Def: Let $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ the (real) eigenvalues
of $A = (a_{ij}(x_0))_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$, and

$$t = \#\{\lambda_i < 0\}$$

$$d_0 = \#\{\lambda_i = 0\}.$$

At $x = x_0$ the linear PDE / differential operator

$$Lu = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) u_{x_i x_j} + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(x) u_{x_i} + a(x) u + f(x) = 0$$

is called

elliptic $\Leftrightarrow d_0 = 0$ and ($t = 0$ or $t = n$)

hyperbolic $\Leftrightarrow d_0 = 0$ and ($t = 1$ or $t = n-1$)

ultra-hyperbolic $\Leftrightarrow d_0 = 0$ and $t \in \{2, \dots, n-2\}$

parabolic $\Leftrightarrow d_0 > 0$

Remarks:

- 1) classification depends on the location $x=x_0$
(for quasi-linear PDEs classification also depends on the solution itself)
- 2) classification only depends on 2nd order terms

Geometric interpretation: (principal part)

$$\text{Diagonalize } A = CDC^*, D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$$

$$CC^* = C^*C = \mathbb{1}$$

and consider quadratic form

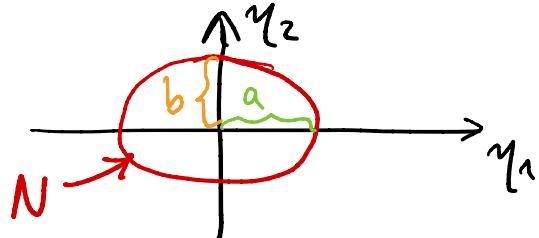
$$Q(\zeta) = \zeta^T A \zeta = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij} \zeta_i \zeta_j (= CDC^* \zeta \cdot \zeta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left. \begin{aligned} & \text{(principle} \\ & \text{axis} \\ & \text{theorem}) \end{aligned} \right\} = \zeta^T \underbrace{\mathbb{1}}_{CC^*CDC^*} \underbrace{A}_{\zeta} = DC^* \zeta \cdot C^* \zeta = \gamma^T D \gamma \\ & = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \gamma_i^2 \quad \equiv \tilde{Q}(\gamma), \quad \gamma \equiv C^* \zeta \end{aligned}$$

Consider level sets $N = \{\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \tilde{Q}(\gamma) = \text{const.}\}$

Example: $n=2$ $\Rightarrow N = \{\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \lambda_1 \gamma_1^2 + \lambda_2 \gamma_2^2 = \text{const.}\}$

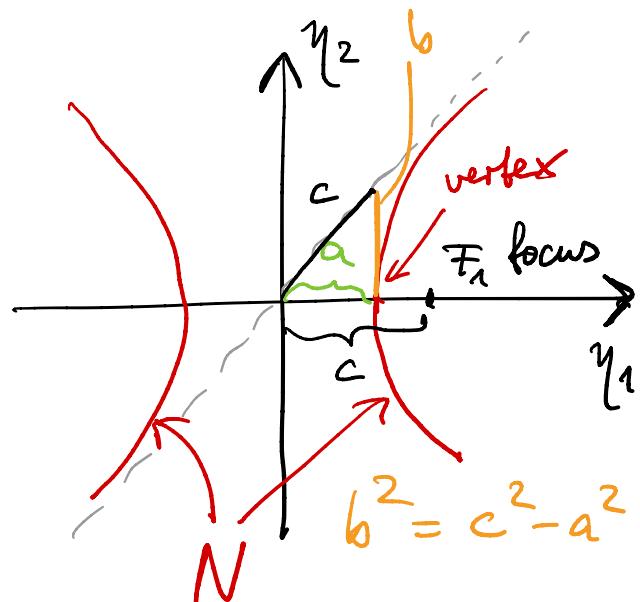
elliptic case: $\lambda_1, \lambda_2 > 0$



$$\frac{y_1^2}{(\text{const.})/\lambda_1} + \frac{y_2^2}{(\text{const.})/\lambda_2} = \frac{y_1^2}{a^2} + \frac{y_2^2}{b^2} = 1$$

hyperbolic case: $\lambda_1 > 0, \lambda_2 < 0$

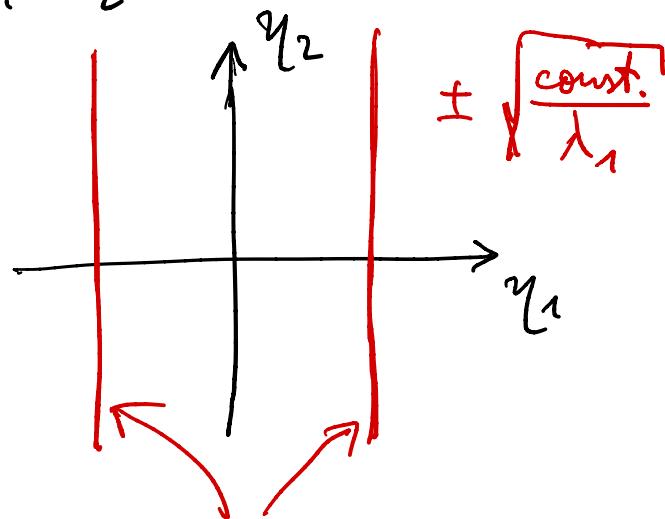
$$\frac{y_1^2}{\text{const.}/\lambda_1} + \frac{y_2^2}{\text{const.}/\lambda_2} = \frac{y_1^2}{a^2} - \frac{y_2^2}{b^2} = 1$$



parabolic case: $\lambda_1 > 0, \lambda_2 = 0$

$$\lambda_1 y_1^2 = \text{const.}$$

degenerate parabola



(if lower order terms are taken into account
may recover actual parabola
e.g. $\lambda_1 y_1^2 + y_2 = \text{const.}$)

Typical examples for principal types:

assume $a_{ij} = \text{const.}$ and consider

$$\begin{aligned} Lu &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij} u_{x_i x_j} = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n C_{ik} \lambda_k C_{kj}^* u_{x_i x_j} \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k \left(\sum_{i,j=1}^n u_{x_i x_j} C_{ik} C_{jk} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{define } v(y) &= u(Cy), \quad x = Cy \\ \Rightarrow v_{y_i}(y) &= \sum_{k=1}^n u_{x_k}(Cy) C_{ki} \\ v_{y_k y_k} &= \sum_{i,j=1}^n u_{x_i x_j}(Cy) C_{jk} C_{ik} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k v_{y_k y_k}(y)$$

elliptic case: $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n > 0$ $y = \sqrt{D} \tilde{y}$

set $\tilde{v}(\tilde{y}) \equiv v(\sqrt{\lambda_1} \tilde{y}_1, \dots, \sqrt{\lambda_n} \tilde{y}_n)$, $y_i = \sqrt{\lambda_i} \tilde{y}_i$

$$\text{so } \sum_{k=1}^n \tilde{v}_{y_k y_k}(\tilde{y}) = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k v_{y_k y_k}(\sqrt{\lambda_1} \tilde{y}_1, \dots, \sqrt{\lambda_n} \tilde{y}_n) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{\tilde{\Delta} \tilde{v} = 0} \quad \text{so} \quad -\Delta u = f$$

Poisson equation

hyperbolic case: $\lambda_1 < 0, \lambda_j > 0$ ($j = 2, \dots, n$)

set $\tilde{v}(\tilde{y}) \equiv v(\sqrt{-\lambda_1} \tilde{y}_1, \sqrt{\lambda_2} \tilde{y}_2, \dots, \sqrt{\lambda_n} \tilde{y}_n)$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{v}_{\tilde{y}_1 \tilde{y}_1} - \sum_{k=2}^n \tilde{v}_{\tilde{y}_k \tilde{y}_k} = 0$$

rename $x = (t, x)$

$$\Rightarrow \square u = u_{tt} - \Delta u = 0$$

linear wave equation

parabolic case: $\lambda_1 = 0$, assume $\lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n > 0$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{j=2}^n \lambda_j v_{y_j y_j} \equiv \sum_{j=2}^n \tilde{v}_{\tilde{y}_j \tilde{y}_j} = 0$$

elliptic in \mathbb{R}^{n-1} !

take 1st-order terms into account as well

\Rightarrow can obtain eqn of the form

$$u_t - \Delta_{n-1} u = 0$$

\uparrow
 $i \in \{2, \dots, n\}$

heat conduction equation

(diffusion equation)

1.2 First-order PDEs

Def (classification):

(i) non-linear

$$Lu = L(x, u, \{u_{x_i}\}) = 0$$

and $\frac{\partial L}{\partial u_i} \neq 0$ for at least one $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

Example: $u_{x_1} - u_{x_2}^2 = 0$

(ii) quasi-linear:

$$Lu = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k(x, u) u_{x_k} + b(x, u) = 0$$

Example: $u_{x_1} + uu_{x_2} = 0$

$$\partial_t u + u \partial_x u = 0$$

$$(x = (x_1, x_2) \rightarrow (t, x))$$

Inviscid
Burgers
equation

(iii) semi-linear:

$$Lu = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k(x) u_{x_k} + b(x, u) = 0$$

Example: $u_{x_1} = u$

(iv) linear:

$$Lu = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k(x) u_{x_k} + b(x) = 0$$

Example: $u_{x_1} + a u_{x_2} = 0$ linear
 $\partial_t u + a \partial_x u = 0$ advection
equation

We are mostly interested in systems of
quasi-linear 1st order eqns ($i=1, \dots, m$)

Def: let $B, U = (u_1, \dots, u_m) : I \subseteq \mathbb{R} \times \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$,

$x, \} \in \Omega, A_i(t, x, U)$ $m \times m$ matrices $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$,

and

$$\Phi(t, x, U; \beta) = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i(t, x, U) \beta_i.$$

The quasi-linear system

$$(*) \quad U_t + \sum_{i=1}^n A_i(t, x, u) U_{x_i} + B(t, x, u) = 0$$

\mathcal{B} called hyperbolic at (t, x) if $\mathcal{A}(t, x, u; \{\})$

\mathcal{B} diagonalizable for all $x, \{\} \in \mathbb{R}, t \in I$. In particular, $(*)$ is hyperbolic if $\forall x, \{\} \in \mathbb{R}, t \in I$ \mathcal{A} has m real eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1(t, x, u; \{\}) \leq \lambda_2(t, x, u; \{\}) \leq \dots \leq \lambda_m(t, x, u; \{\})$$

and corresponding eigenvectors

$$\left\{ v_i(x, t, u; \{\}) \right\}_{i=1, \dots, m}$$

which form a basis of \mathbb{R}^m . Two special cases:

1) $A_i(t, x, u)$ symmetric $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ symmetric $\forall \{\} \in \mathbb{R}$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ diagonalizable

" $(*)$ is symmetric hyperbolic"

2) $\mathcal{A}(t, x, u; \{\})$ has m real, distinct eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1(t, x, u; \{\}) < \lambda_2(\dots) \dots < \lambda_m(\dots)$$

$$\forall x, \{\} \in \mathbb{R}, t \in I$$

$\Rightarrow A(t, x, u; \{ \})$ is diagonalizable

" \star " is strictly hyperbolic"

Examples:

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix}_t + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix}_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ strictly hyperbolic}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix}_t + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix}_x = \begin{pmatrix} b_1(x, t) \\ b_2(x, t) \end{pmatrix} \text{ symmetric hyperbolic}$$

Remarks: 1) The system \star is elliptic at (t, x)

if none of the eigenvalues $\lambda_i(t, x, u; \{ \})$ are real.

2) The term "hyperbolic" is related to the fact that 2nd order hyperbolic PDEs can be recast as systems of 1st order hyperbolic PDEs (Exercise)

Note: distinguishing feature of wave equation

B the existence of plane wave solutions

$$u(x, t) = f(\xi \cdot x - \sigma t), \text{ with } \sigma = \pm c \begin{matrix} \uparrow \\ (=1) \end{matrix}$$

for any $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$

we make this a defining feature of
1st order systems:

require m distinct plane wave solutions

for each $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$.

Ausatz: $U(x, t; \xi) = V(\xi \cdot x - \sigma t)$

$$\downarrow \alpha(\xi) \text{ with } B = 0$$

$$-\sigma V^i + \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i A_i V^i = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{\alpha V^i = \sigma V^i}$$

and if $\alpha = \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i A_i$ is diagonalizable ($n \times n$)

\Rightarrow there are m distinct plane wave solns
(the eigenvectors of α corresponding)
to the eigenvalues $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m$

Def (Conservation laws): Conservation laws are systems of 1st order PDEs that can be written in the form

$$u_t + \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{F^i(u)}_{\partial_{x_i} F^i(u)} = S(t, x, u)$$

$u = (u_1, \dots, u_m)$: "conserved variables"

$F^i(u) = (f_1^i(u), \dots, f_m^i(u))$, $i = 1, \dots, n$

"vector of fluxes"

$S(t, x, u)$: "source terms"

The Jacobians of the flux functions $F^i(u)$

is

$$A_i(u) = \frac{\partial F^i}{\partial u} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1^i}{\partial u_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1^i}{\partial u_m} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_m^i}{\partial u_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_m^i}{\partial u_m} \end{pmatrix}$$

Remarks: 1) conservation laws can be written as a system (~~of~~) of quasi-linear PDEs of 1st order by applying the chain rule:

$$\partial_{x_i} F^i(u) = \frac{\partial F^i}{\partial u} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} = A_i(u) u_{x_i}$$

- 2) the source terms $S = B(t, x, u)$ can arise
- due to physical sources or sinks for otherwise conserved quantities
 - due to change of coordinates "geometric source terms"

3) Motivation: consider integral form

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_U dV = - \int \partial_{x_i} F^i(U) dV \quad V: \text{control volume with surface } S$$

divergence theorem $\Rightarrow - \int_S F^i(U) n_i dS$

↑ outward pointing normal

time-rate change of U inside V depends only on the total flux through the surface S

no " U is conserved"

Examples: The inviscid Burgers eqn and the linear advection eqn are conservation laws:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f(u)}{\partial x} = 0, \quad f(u) = au \quad \frac{\text{advection}}{\text{eqn}}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f(u)}{\partial x} = 0, \quad f(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2 \quad \frac{\text{inviscid}}{\text{Burgers}} \quad \underline{\text{eqn}}$$

1.3 Some properties of 1st order hyperbolic systems

1.3.1 Characteristics

1) Linear hyperbolic systems

Consider hyperbolic system of the form

$$U_t + A U_x = 0$$

\nwarrow constant
coefficients

hyperbolicity $\Rightarrow \exists Q$ with $A = Q \Lambda Q^{-1}$

where $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_m \end{pmatrix}$

\curvearrowright eigenvalues of A

$$Q = (\underbrace{\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_m}_{\text{columns}}) \quad \gamma_i: \text{eigenvectors of } \Lambda \text{ corresponding to } \lambda_i$$

Note: if system symmetric hyperbolic

$\Rightarrow \gamma_i$ orthonormal and $Q^{-1} = Q^T$

$$\text{and } U_t + Q \Lambda Q^{-1} U_x = 0 \quad | \times Q^{-1}$$

define $V = Q^{-1}U$ characteristic variables

so
$$V_t + \Delta V_x = 0$$

decoupled system!

(Note: $Q^{-1}U_x \rightarrow V_x$ requires A to have const. coefficients)

Characteristics: curves $\gamma(t)$ along which the PDE becomes an ODE

Consider $x = \gamma(t)$, $v_i = v_i(\gamma(t), t)$

so $\frac{dv_i}{dt} = \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial t} + \frac{dx}{dt} \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial t} + \gamma'(t) \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x}$

choose: $\gamma'(t) = \lambda_i$ characteristic speeds

$\Rightarrow \frac{dv_i}{dt} = 0$ i.e. v_i are constant along characteristics

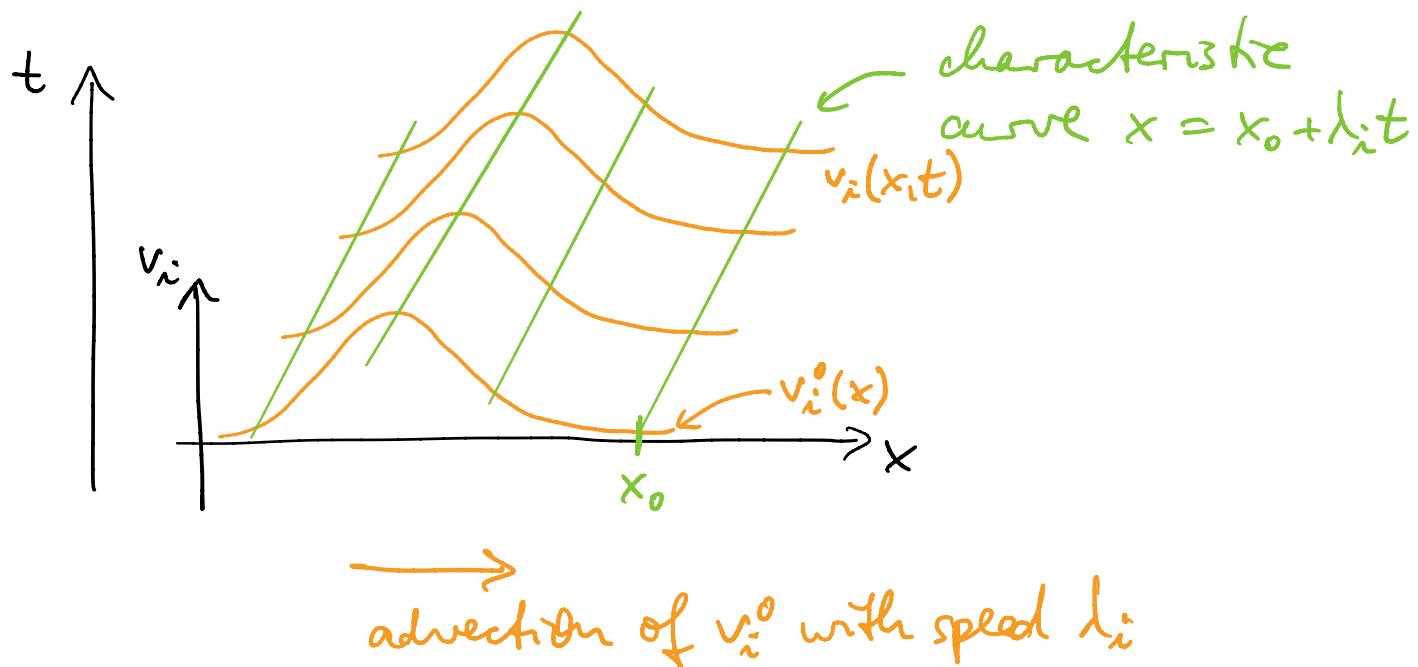
Therefore: given $v_i(x, 0) = v_i^0(x)$ at $t = 0$

$$v_i(x, t) = v_i^0(x_0) = v_i^0(x - \lambda_i t)$$

where $x(t) = x_0 + \lambda_i t$ is the characteristic of $f(t)$ that passes through x at t .

⇒ v_i at (x, t) is entirely determined by initial data v_i^0 at x_0 , i.e. the PDE will translate the profile v_i^0 with velocity λ_i (the shape remains unchanged)

⇒ "advection equation"



General initial value problem:

Given $\begin{cases} u_t + \lambda u_x = 0 \\ u^0 = (u_1^0, \dots, u_m^0) \end{cases}$ (I)

↓ introduce characteristic variables $V = Q^{-1}U$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} V_t + \Delta V_x = 0 \\ V^0 = Q^{-1}U^0 = (v_1^0, \dots, v_m^0) \end{array} \right.$$

$$V = \{v_i(x,t)\} = \{v_i^0(x - \lambda_i t)\}, \quad i=1, \dots, m$$

↓ transform back

$$\begin{aligned} U(x,t) &= QV(x,t) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m v_i(x,t) r_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^m v_i^0(x - \lambda_i t) r_i \end{aligned}$$

solution to (I)

- Remarks:
- $U(x,t)$ is superposition of eigenvectors, i.e. waves propagating at finite speeds $\lambda_i \neq 0$.
 - $U(x,t)$ entirely determined by initial data v_i^0 at points $x_0^i = x - \lambda_i t$.

2) Scalar conservation laws (quasi-linear case)

$$u_t + f(u)_x = u_t + \lambda(u) u_x = 0$$

$$\lambda(u) = \frac{df}{du} = f'(u)$$

consider characteristics $\Gamma_{x_0} = (\gamma(t), t)$ satisfying

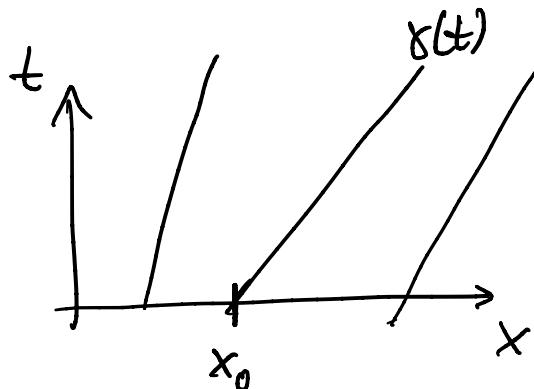
$$\gamma'(t) = \frac{dx}{dt} = \lambda(u), \quad \gamma(0) = x(0) = x_0$$

characteristic speed

If we assume $u(t, x)$ is smooth

$$\Rightarrow \frac{du}{dt} = u_t + \underbrace{\frac{dx}{dt} u_x}_{\lambda(u)} = 0$$

$\Rightarrow u(t, x)$ is constant on characteristics, which are straight lines ($u = \text{const} \Rightarrow x' = \lambda = f'(u) = \text{const.}$), as long as $u(t, x)$ is / remains smooth



$$x = x_0 + \lambda(u_0(x_0))t$$

$$u(x, t) = u_0(x - \lambda(u_0(x_0))t)$$

Remark: properties of $f(u)$ influence properties of the solution $u(x,t)$, in particular the monotonicity properties:

(no wave steepening etc., see Chap. 4)

- $\lambda(u)$ is monotone increasing \Leftrightarrow convex flux

$$\frac{d\lambda(u)}{du} = \lambda'(u) = f''(u) > 0$$

- $\lambda(u)$ is monotone decreasing \Leftrightarrow concave flux

$$\frac{d\lambda(u)}{du} = \lambda'(u) = f''(u) < 0$$

- $\lambda(u)$ has extrema for some u and non-convex, non-concave flux

$$\frac{d\lambda(u)}{du} = \lambda'(u) = f''(u) = 0$$

Exercise: characterize flux of inviscid Burger's eqn, traffic flow eqn, Buckley-Leverett eqn

3) System of conservation laws

Consider hyperbolic system

$$U_t + F(U)_x = 0$$

we can locally transform into decoupled system

$$\text{hyperbolicity} \Rightarrow \exists Q = Q(x, t, U), A = \frac{\partial F}{\partial U} = Q \Lambda Q^{-1}$$

where $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_m \end{pmatrix}, \lambda_i = \lambda_i(x, t, U)$

$$Q = (r_1, \dots, r_m), \text{ eigenvectors } r_i$$

\nwarrow
columns

depend on x, t, U

$$\left(\text{and locally: } V_t + \Delta V_x = 0 \right)$$

meaning of V depends on U

Δ and characteristics depend on state vector U

and the state/solution is "self-propagating"

1.3.2 Domain of dependence & range of influence

Def: The domain of dependence $\mathcal{D}(x, t) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ is the domain of the initial data $U^0(x)$ that entirely determines the solution $U(x, t)$ of a hyperbolic system $U_t + \sum_{i=1}^n A_i U_{x_i} = 0$.

Theorem: Let U be solution of symmetric hyperbolic system

$$U_t + \sum_{i=1}^n A_i U_{x_i} = 0,$$

with A_i having constant coefficients.

Let $(x_0, t_0) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty)$, $0 \leq t_1 \leq t_0$, and

$$B \equiv \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x - x_0| \leq M t_0\}$$

$$C \equiv \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid |x - x_0| \leq M(t_0 - t_1)\}$$

with

$$M \equiv \max_{\substack{i=1, \dots, n \\ \xi \in \mathbb{R}^n, |\xi|=1}} \{\lambda_i^\xi\},$$

where λ_i^ξ are the eigenvalues of $A(\xi) = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i \xi_i$.

If $|U| \equiv 0$ on B , then $|U| \equiv 0$ on C .

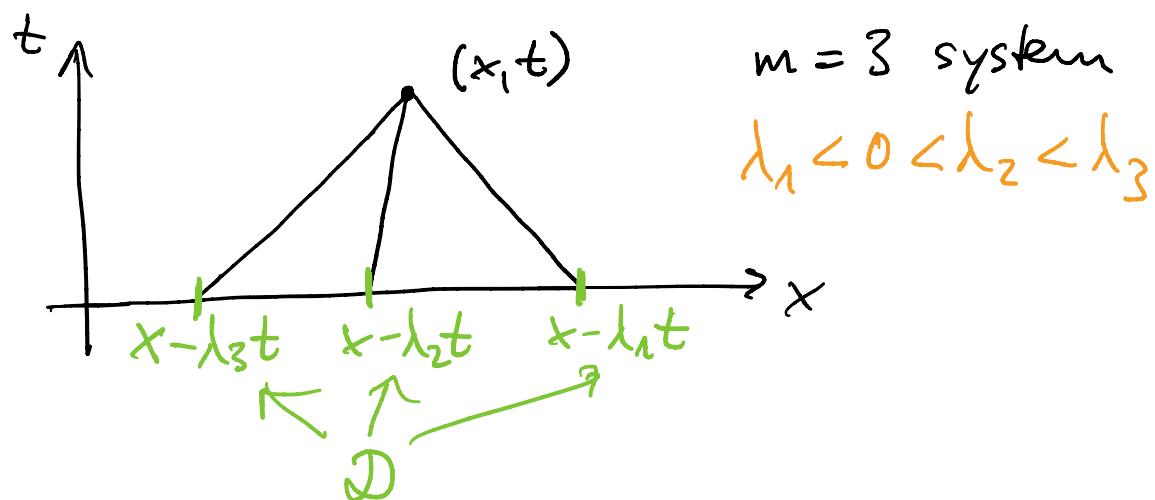
Proof: Evans.

- Remarks:
- 1) \mathcal{D} is determined by fastest and slowest characteristic speed
 - 2) \mathcal{D} is bounded, which is because characteristic speeds are finite $\lambda_i^{\pm} \neq 0$, $\lambda_i^{\pm} < \infty$.
Boundedness also applies to non-linear systems.
"information propagates at finite speed"

Example: Linear 1D system $U_t + A U_x = 0$
with const. coefficients

$$\text{and } U(x,t) = \sum_{i=1}^m v_i^0 (x - \lambda_i t) r_i \quad (\text{see above})$$

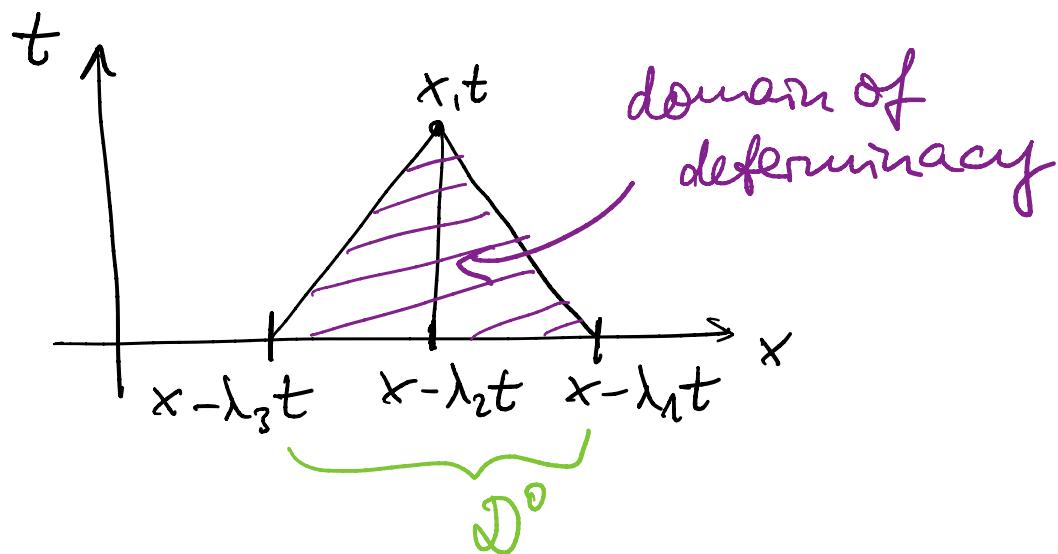
$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{D}(x,t) = \{x - \lambda_i t \mid i=1, \dots, m\}$$



(for non-linear systems may be entire interval $[x - \lambda_3 t, x - \lambda_1 t] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$)

Def: Given a domain $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ of the initial data, the domain of determinacy D^- is the set of points $(x, t) \in D^- \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty)$, within the domain of existence of $U(x, t)$, in which $U(x, t)$ is solely determined by initial data on D .

Example:



Def: let $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$. The range of influence $D^+ \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \times (0, \infty)$ is the set of points (x, t) in which the solution $U(x, t)$ is influenced by initial data $U^0(x_0)$ at the point $(x_0, 0)$.

