

intro to PDEs

Thus far, we have focused on (systems of) ODEs,
where you have one independent variable

e.g. $\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = f(x, t)$ \Rightarrow soln $x(t)$
 \nwarrow dependent \nwarrow independent satisfies this eqn

However, you may want to solve equations in \mathbb{R}^n
 $n > 1$ space, or something that varies in time & space.

e.g. modeling sound waves

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad [\text{wave eqn}]$$

e.g. chlorine spread in a static pool

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad [\text{diffusion eqn}]$$

e.g. algae in an active river

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (v u) \quad [\text{advection eqn}]$$

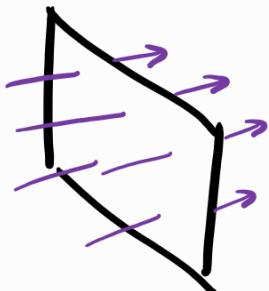
e.g. traffic flow

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = - u u_x \quad [\text{Burgers eqn}]$$

We will focus on eqns of the form:

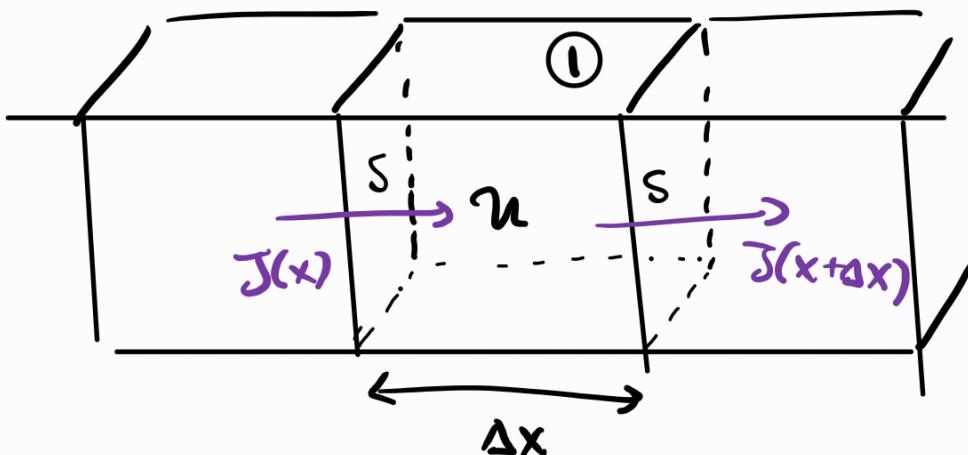
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial J}{\partial x} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{Some} \\ \text{concentration} \\ \text{or density} \end{matrix} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{Flux of } u \\ \text{Continuity Eqn} \end{matrix}$$

Consider some surface S :



flux $J = \# u$ "particles" crossing S per unit area unit time Δt

Suppose flux is only in the x -direction.



Change in # particles in ① over Δt time
 $= \Delta N = \Delta t S J(x) - \Delta t S J(x + \Delta x)$

$$\frac{\Delta N}{\Delta t} = -S(J(x + \Delta x) - J(x))$$

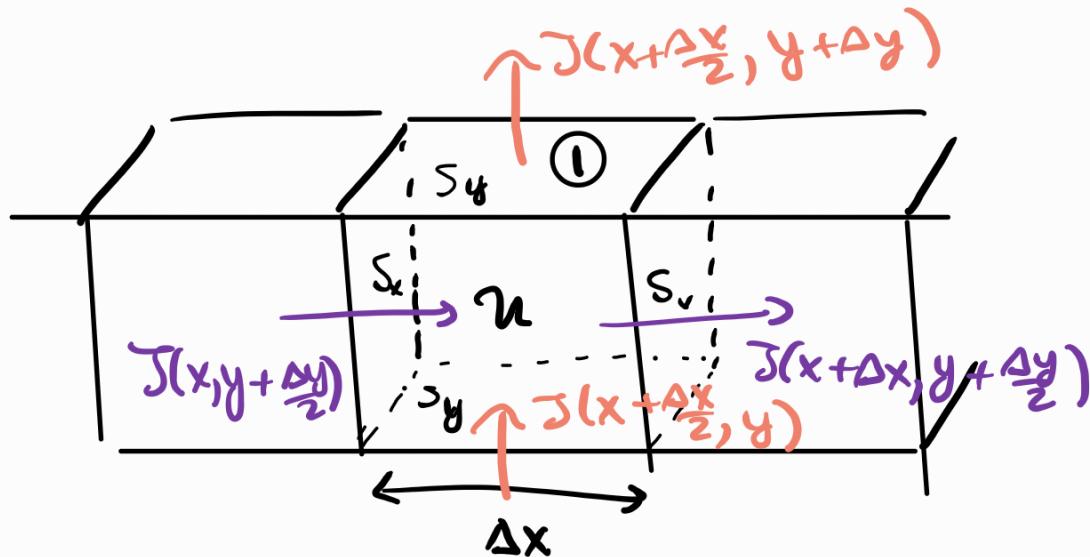
$$\frac{1}{\Delta t} \frac{\Delta N}{\Delta x S} = \frac{\Delta u}{\Delta t} = - \frac{(J(x + \Delta x) - J(x))}{\Delta x}$$

↓ $\Delta t \rightarrow 0, \Delta x \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial J}{\partial x}$$

partial derivatives
B/c $u = u(x, t)$

Suppose flow is also in y-direction?



$$\Delta N = \Delta t S_x \left[J(x, y + \frac{\Delta y}{2}) - J(x + \Delta x, y + \frac{\Delta y}{2}) \right]$$

$$+ \Delta t S_y \left[J(x + \frac{\Delta x}{2}, y) - J(x + \frac{\Delta x}{2}, y + \Delta y) \right]$$

$$= \Delta t \left(S_x \Delta x \left[\frac{\cdot}{\Delta x} \right] + S_y \Delta y \left[\frac{\cdot}{\Delta y} \right] \right)$$

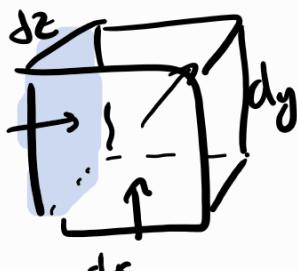
$$\frac{\Delta u}{\Delta t} = \frac{J(x, y + \frac{\Delta y}{2}) - J(x + \Delta x, y + \frac{\Delta y}{2})}{\Delta x} + \frac{J(x + \frac{\Delta x}{2}, y) - J(x + \frac{\Delta x}{2}, y + \Delta y)}{\Delta y}$$

$\downarrow \Delta t \rightarrow 0, \Delta x \rightarrow 0, \Delta y \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial J}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial J}{\partial y}$$

A different way to think about it (3D)

$\rho(\vec{x}, t)$ is mass density



Conservation of mass: mass cannot magically appear/disappear

\Rightarrow it comes/goes at boundaries

Total mass:

$$M(t) = \int_V g(\hat{x}, t) dV \rightarrow \frac{dM}{dt} = \frac{\text{in - out}}{\text{time}}$$

mass in during dt time:

$$= \int_I_x dy dz dt + \int_I_y dx dz dt + \int_I_z dx dy dt$$

mass out during dt time:

$$= \int_{x+\Delta x} dy dz dt + \int_{y+\Delta y} dx dz dt + \int_{z+\Delta z} dx dy dt$$

∴

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \int_V \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} dV = (\int_I_x - \int_{x+\Delta x}) dy dz + (\int_I_y - \int_{y+\Delta y}) dx dz + (\int_I_z - \int_{z+\Delta z}) dx dy$$

Fundamental Thm
of calculus

$$\int_V \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} dV = \int \left(-\frac{\partial J}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial J}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial J}{\partial z} \right) dx dy dz$$

Since this is true $\forall V$

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial J}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial J}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial J}{\partial z}$$

continuity
eqn

Different fluxes

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad [\text{diffusion eqn}]$$

$$\rightarrow J = -D \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(v u) \quad [\text{advection eqn}]$$

$$\rightarrow J = v u$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -u u_x \quad [\text{Burger's eqn}]$$

$$\rightarrow J = \frac{u^2}{2}$$

Initial conditions & boundary conditions

Recall: for ODEs $\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = f(x, t)$, you needed to prescribe an initial condition to get a unique soln (data we know)

e.g.

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = h \Rightarrow x = ht + c_0 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{constants of integration} \\ \downarrow \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 x}{\partial t^2} = h \Rightarrow \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = ht + c_0 \Rightarrow x(t) = \frac{ht^2}{2} + c_0 t + c_1 \quad \begin{matrix} \text{2nd time} \\ \downarrow \\ \downarrow \end{matrix}$$

Since the only data we know is at $t=0$, we set constants of integration using knowledges of $x(t)$ at $t=0$ (e.g. $x(0), x'(0), \dots$)

For PDEs, you similarly need conditions for spatial derivatives. You use data on the boundary
 ↳ Boundary conditions

The # boundary conditions you need depends on the order of that variable in your PDE

e.g. wave eqn: $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$ on $0 < x < L$

→ you could for example set:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} u(0,t) = u(L,t) = 0 \\ u(x,0) = f(x) \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,0) = g(x) \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{boundary conditions} \\ \text{initial conditions} \end{array}$$

e.g. Burger's eqn: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -u u_x$ on $0 < x < L$

→ you could for example set:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(L,t) = 0 \\ u(x,0) = f(x) \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{boundary cond.} \\ \text{initial cond.} \end{array}$$

Example

on $0 < X < L$ for $T \geq 0$

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial T} = - \frac{\partial J}{\partial X} \quad \text{with } J = B \cos(x/L) \exp(T/\tau)$$

Nondimensionalize

$$\begin{cases} X = Lx \\ T = \tau t \\ C = \frac{B\tau}{L} c \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{[C]}{[\tau]} \sim \frac{[J]}{[L]} \sim \frac{[B]}{[L]} \Rightarrow [c] \sim \frac{[B][T]}{[L]}$$

$$\frac{B\tau}{L} \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = - \frac{1}{L} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (B \cos(x) \exp(t))$$

$$\cancel{\frac{\partial c}{\partial t}} = + \cancel{\frac{B}{L}} \sin(x) \exp(t)$$

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = \sin(x) \exp(t)$$

nondimensional eqn

Conditions

just need an I.C. for $c \Rightarrow c(x, 0) = c_0(x)$

Solve

$$\int \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} dt = \int \sin(x) \exp(t) dt$$

"constant" of integration!

$$\text{gen soln } c(x, t) = \sin(x) \exp(t) + h(x)$$

to get unique soln, plug in I.C.

$$c(x, 0) = c_0(x) = \sin(x) + h(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow c(x, t) = \sin(x) \exp(t) - \sin(x) + c_0(x)$$

$$c(x, t) = \sin(x)(\exp(t) - 1) + c_0(x)$$

Interpret

The concentration increases over time exponentially but sinusoidally dependent on nondimensional position x . Concentration at $X=0$ will remain constant in time as such, and concentration will grow most at $X=L$

Quiz

Consider $\frac{\partial C}{\partial T} = -\frac{\partial J}{\partial X}$

Let the time-dependent flux J be a function of X and T :

$$J = -\frac{A}{L} X^2 \cos(T/\tau)$$

Here, A and τ are constant parameters.

We aim to solve this on $0 < X < L$.

(a) Assuming C is measured in #/cm³ and time in s, choose the scales and nondimensionalize

$$\begin{cases} T = \tau t \\ X = Lx \\ C = ATc \end{cases} \quad \frac{[A]}{[L]} [L]^2 \sim \frac{[C][L]}{[\tau]} \Rightarrow [A] \sim [C]/[\tau]$$

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial T} = -\frac{\partial J}{\partial X} = +\frac{2A}{L} X \cos(T/\tau)$$

$$\frac{AT}{\tau} \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = +\frac{2A}{L} Lx \cos(t) \Rightarrow \underline{\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = +2x \cos(t)}$$

(b) Do you need B.C.?

No because there are no x -derivatives

(c) Solve with $C(x,0) = g(x)$

$$c(x,t) = +2x \sin(t) + h_0(x)$$

"constant" of

time integration

$$c(x,0) = +2x \sin(0) + h_0(x) = h_0(x) = g(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{c(x,t) = +2x \sin(t) + g(x)}$$

(d) Explain in words the meaning of the soln

The concentration varies periodically around its initial condition with nondim period $2M$. The magnitude of oscillation is $2x$, so close to $x=0$ variation is small and at $x=L$ it is maximum $2L$.

(e) [BONUS] Do you notice any limits on the I.C.?

Yes \Rightarrow if $g(x) < 2x$, the soln is not physical, as concentration can end up being negative