

This homework is due on Thursday, February 18.

1. Consider the linear second-order PDE

$$u_{tt} + (5 + 2x^2) u_{xt} + (1 + x^2)(4 + x^2) u_{xx} = 0.$$

- (a) Show that this PDE is hyperbolic.
(b) Show that the two families of characteristics are given by

$$\xi = \arctan x - t, \quad \eta = \frac{1}{2} \arctan \frac{x}{2} - t$$

for arbitrary ξ and η .

- (c) Plot¹ the domain of dependence of the point $(t, x) = (5, 1)$.
(d) Plot the domain of influence of the point $x = 1$.
(e) Show that this PDE can be expressed in the canonical form

$$u_{\xi\eta} + \frac{2}{9} x(4 + x^2)^2 u_{\xi} + \frac{2}{9} x(1 + x^2)^2 u_{\eta} = 0$$

for x solving

$$\xi - \eta = \arctan x - \frac{1}{2} \arctan \frac{x}{2}.$$

2. Let α be a constant with $\alpha \neq -c$. Let f and g be functions of class C^2 for $x > 0$ and vanish near $x = 0$.

- (a) Find the solution² $u(x, t)$ of

$$u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0$$

in the quadrant $t > 0, x > 0$ for which

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad u_t(x, 0) = g(x)$$

if $x > 0$ and

$$u_t(0, t) = \alpha u_x(0, t)$$

if $t > 0$.

- (b) Show that generally no solution exists when $\alpha = -c$.

¹I recommend that you use a software package of some sort.

²*Hint:* You know that a solution has the form $u(x, t) = F(x - ct) + G(x + ct)$ for some F and G .