

# PDE Notes (Translated)

## Week 1

### What is PDE?

- PDE = Partial Differential Equation
- ODE = Ordinary Differential Equations

### What is ODE?

An equation that contains unknown function(s) of one variable.

$$\begin{aligned}x + 2x + 3 &= 5 \\ f(x) + \sin f(x) &= 5 \quad (\text{Not ODE})\end{aligned}$$

## Ordinary Differential Equations (ODEs)

An ordinary differential equation (ODE) is an equation involving a function and its derivatives. For example, consider the equation:

$$f'(x) = \sin f(x) \tag{1}$$

This is an ODE.

## Partial Differential Equations (PDEs)

A partial differential equation (PDE) is an equation that contains unknown functions and their partial derivatives. For example, a first-order PDE can be written as:

$$E(x, y, u(x, y), u_x(x, y), u_y(x, y)) = 0 \tag{2}$$

where  $u(x, y)$  is a function of two variables  $x$  and  $y$ , and  $u_x$  and  $u_y$  are the partial derivatives of  $u$  with respect to  $x$  and  $y$ , respectively.

Another way to express a PDE is:

$$F(x, y, u, u_x, u_y) = 0 \quad (3)$$

## Examples of Partial Differential Equations (PDEs)

1.  $U_x + U_y = 0$  (Transport Equation) (4)

2.  $U_x + yU_y = 0$  (Transport Equation) (5)

3.  $U_x + UU_y = 0$  (Shock Wave Equation) (6)

4.  $U_{xx} + U_{yy} = 0$  (Laplace Equation) (7)

5.  $U_{xx} + 4 = 0$  (Wave Equation / Interactor) (8)

6.  $U_t + UU_x + U_{xx} = 0$  (Dispersive Equation) (9)

7.  $U_{tt} + U_{xx} = 0$  (Vibration of a Bar) (10)

8.  $U - \nabla^2 U = 0$  (Quantum Mechanics) (11)

Parabolic Equation:  $U_t = U_{xx}$  (12)

## Linear and Nonlinear Equations

In linear algebra, a transformation  $T : V \rightarrow W$  is called a linear transformation if:

$$T(u + v) = T(u) + T(v), \quad (13)$$

$$T(au) = aT(u) \quad (14)$$

or equivalently,

$$T(au + bv) = aT(u) + bT(v) \quad (15)$$

### Definition

An operator is called linear if:

$$L(u + v) = L(u) + L(v), \quad (16)$$

$$L(au) = aL(u) \quad (17)$$

A differential operator is linear if:

$$L(u + v) = L(u) + L(v), \quad (18)$$

$$L(au) = aL(u) \quad (19)$$

### Example

Consider the differential equation:

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0 \quad (20)$$

This is an example of a linear partial differential equation (PDE).

The transport equation is given by:

$$u_x + u_y = 0 \quad (21)$$

A linear PDE can be written in the form:

$$Lu = f(x) \quad (22)$$

where  $L$  is a linear operator, and  $f(x)$  is a given function.

The system of linear equations can be represented as:

$$Ax = b \tag{23}$$

## Solutions to Linear Equations

Consider the linear equations:

$$Lu = f(x), \tag{24}$$

$$Ax = b. \tag{25}$$

For the homogeneous case, we have:

$$Qu = 0, \tag{26}$$

$$Ax = 0. \tag{27}$$

The general solution can be expressed as:

$$U = U_g + U_s, \tag{28}$$

$$X = X_g + X_s, \tag{29}$$

where:

- $U_g$  is a general solution of  $Lu = 0$ ,
- $U_s$  is a special solution,
- $X_g$  is a general solution of  $Ax = 0$ ,
- $X_s$  is a special solution of  $Ax = b$ .

## Proposition

Let  $U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n$  be solutions of  $Lu = 0$ . Then the linear combination

$$u(t) = c_1U_1 + c_2U_2 + \dots + c_nU_n \tag{30}$$

is also a solution of  $Lu = 0$ , where  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  are constants.

## Example 1

$$x(t) = f(t) \quad (31)$$

$$x(t) = \int f(t) dt + C \quad (32)$$

$$u(x) = 0, \quad x = G \quad (33)$$

$$u''(x) = 0 \quad (34)$$

$$2(f) = C_1 + C_2 \quad (35)$$

$$u_{xx} = 0 \quad (36)$$

$$u(x, y) = 0 \quad (37)$$

$$u_x = 0 \quad (38)$$

$$u_x = F(y) \quad (39)$$

$$u(x, y) = XF(y) + G(x) \quad (40)$$

## Example 2

$$U_x X + U = 0, \quad (41)$$

$$u'' + u = 0. \quad (42)$$

The solution for  $u(x, y)$  is given by:

$$u(x, y) = C_1(y) \cos x + C_2(y) \sin x$$

## Example 3

$$U_{xy} = 0, \quad (43)$$

$$u_{xx} = 0, \quad (44)$$

$$u_x = F(x). \quad (45)$$

The general solution is:

$$u = \int F(x) dx + H(x) + G(y)$$

## List of Calculus Facts

1. Partial derivatives are local.

2.  $U_{xy} = K_{yx}$

3. Chain rules:

$$\begin{aligned}f(g(x)) &= f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x) \\ &= f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)\end{aligned}$$

This is a special case of the chain rule. Assume  $f = f(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$  where  $y_i = g_i(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  in the most general form of the chain rule.

4. Green's formula (later):

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = F(b) - F(a)$$

5.

$$\begin{aligned}I(t) &= \int_{a(t)}^{b(t)} f(x, t) dx \\ I'(t) &= f(b(t), t) \cdot b'(t) - f(a(t), t) \cdot a'(t) + \int_{a(t)}^{b(t)} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(x, t) dx\end{aligned}$$

## Jacobian

Consider the function  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , where

$$F = (F_1, F_2, \dots, F_m)$$

## Infinite Series

*(to be covered later)*

## Directional Derivative (Geometry)

The directional derivative of a function  $u(x, y)$  in the direction of a vector  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2)$  is given by:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} u_1 + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} u_2$$

This represents the rate of change of the function  $u$  in the direction of the vector  $\mathbf{u}$ .

## Familiar with Math 3D

*(to be covered later)*

### Example 1: Transport Equations

Consider the transport equation:

$$au_x + bu_y = 0 \tag{46}$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants.

#### Method 1: Geometry / Gradient of $u$

The gradient of  $u$  is given by:

$$(a, b) \cdot (u_x, u_y) = -b \cdot a$$

The equation for the line is:

$$bx - ay = c \tag{47}$$

The solution is:

$$u(x, y) = F(bx - ay)$$

To check:

$$u_x = F' \cdot b, \quad u_y = F' \cdot (-a)$$

Substituting back into the transport equation:

$$au_x + bu_y = a \cdot F' \cdot b + b \cdot F' \cdot (-a) = 0$$

#### Method 2: Change of Variables

Let:

$$x' = ax + by, \quad y' = bx - ay$$

## Example 2

$$u_x = Hy - a + Hyb = alx + bu_y, \quad (48)$$

$$My = u_yb + Hy(-a) = bu_y - any, \quad (49)$$

$$0 = alx + bu_y = (a + b)u_x = Hx = 0, \quad (50)$$

$$x = F(y) = F(bx - ay). \quad (51)$$

$$u_x + yu_y = 0, \quad (52)$$

$$2 = +y^2u = 0. \quad (53)$$

$$(u_x, u_y) = 0, \quad (54)$$

$$(1, \% ) - y = +y = ce^y. \quad (55)$$

## Equations Along the Curve

Consider the following equations along the curve:

$$u(x, Ex + x) = 0 \quad (56)$$

$$u(x, x + c) = U_{10} \quad (57)$$

$$F(x) = F(y - Ex) = F(bx - ay) \quad (58)$$



## Review

### Example

$$ax + by = 0, \quad (59)$$

$$a + b = 70. \quad (60)$$

If we consider the equation:

$$y = Hx + My, \quad (61)$$

$$y = ux + My = 0. \quad (62)$$

We have:

$$u(x, x + c) = u(0, c), \quad (63)$$

$$u(x, y) = u(0, c) = u(0, y - tx) = F(y - Ex) = G(ay - bx) = H(bx - ay). \quad (64)$$

### Example 2

Consider the differential equation:

$$u_x + yu_y = 0. \quad (65)$$

We have the following conditions:

$$y' = -y, \quad (66)$$

$$y = ce^{-x}, \quad (67)$$

$$c = ye^x, \quad (68)$$

$$u(x, ce^{-x}) = u(0, c) = u(0, ye^x) = F(ye^x). \quad (69)$$

### Example ?

In the previous example, if in addition  $u(0, y) = 3$ , then what is the solution?

### Solution

The solution is given by:

$$u(x, y) = F(ye^x) = u(0, y) = F(y) = 3. \quad (70)$$

## Solution

The solution is given by

$$u(x, y) = F(ye) = (ye - x)^3$$

## Integrating Factor

Consider the integrating factor:

$$e^y = e^{-y}(y' - y) = 0$$

Thus, we have:

$$e^y + y = y$$

$$xf_y(y) = x + C$$

$$f(y) = x + C$$

$$\frac{1}{y} = e^y$$

$$e^y = e^x + 6$$

The missing solution is:

$$Y = 0$$

$$y = ce^x$$

## Example 4

Consider the partial differential equation:

$$U_x + 2xU_y = 0.$$

## Solution

We start by considering the characteristic equations:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2x}{1} \Rightarrow y = x^2 + C.$$

Thus, the general solution can be expressed as:

$$u(x, y) = f(y - x^2),$$

where  $f$  is an arbitrary function.

Given the initial condition  $u(0, -5) = 0$ , we substitute into the general solution:

$$u(0, -5) = f(-5 - 0^2) = f(-5) = 0.$$

Therefore, the specific solution satisfying the initial condition is:

$$u(x, y) = f(y - x^2),$$

where  $f(-5) = 0$ .

## Conclusion

The solution to the partial differential equation is determined by the function  $f$  which satisfies the initial condition. The characteristic curves are given by  $y = x^2 + C$ , and the solution is constant along these curves.

## Implicit Differentiation

Consider the equation:

$$1 + xy = 0. \quad (71)$$

The function  $u(x, y)$  is not defined on the curve  $y = -y$ .

In general, if  $a(x, y)(x + b(x, y))y = 0$ , the ordinary differential equation (ODE) is:

$$y = \dots \quad (72)$$

Assume  $y = Y(x)$  is implicitly defined by the equation  $U(x, y) = 0$ . Then:

$$u(x, y(x)) = 0. \quad (73)$$

Differentiating implicitly, we have:

$$u_x + y' u_y = 0, \quad (74)$$

$$y' = -\frac{u_x}{u_y}. \quad (75)$$

This is equivalent to:

$$S \cdot Nx + y = 0. \quad (76)$$

$$y = \dots \quad (77)$$

## Exercise 7 of Section 1.2

Solve the differential equation:

$$YU_x + Xy = 0 \quad (78)$$

with the initial condition:

$$x(0, y) = g \quad (79)$$

Determine in which region of the initial problem (IP) the solution is uniquely determined.

## Solution

Consider the differential equation:

$$y' = y \quad (80)$$

which implies:

$$y = x + c \quad (81)$$

where  $c$  is a constant. Rewriting, we have:

$$y - x = c \quad (82)$$

If  $c = 0$ , then:

$$y = x \quad (83)$$

If  $c \neq 0$ , then:

$$y^2 - x = 1 \quad (84)$$

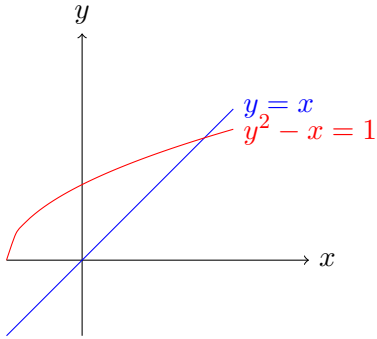
If  $c = 0$ , then:

$$y = x \quad (85)$$

If  $c \neq 0$ , then:

$$y = \ln U(x) \quad (86)$$

where  $U(x) = u(x, t) = e$ .



# Mathematical Physical Equations

## Wave Equations

$$u(x, y) = e^{\dots}$$
$$y = x \dots$$

On the other hand, in the green region, we have

$$y - x = c < 0$$
$$x = 1$$

$$u(1, y) = u(\dots, 0) = u(\dots, 0)$$

In the blue region,

$$u(x, y) = F(y)$$

In the green region, sometimes

$$F = G$$

## Heat Equations (Parabolic Equations)

## Laplace Equations (Elliptic Equations)

$$a, b, c, \dots$$

## Chapter 2: Wave and Diffusion

### 2.1 The Wave Equation

Assume  $U = U(x, t)$  and  $U_{tt} = c^2 U_{xx}$  with  $c > 0$ .

**Theorem:** The general solutions of the wave equation are given by

$$u(x, t) = f(x + ct) + g(x - ct),$$

where  $f$  and  $g$  are arbitrary functions.

**Proof:**

Assume

$$U_{tt} - c^2 U_{xx} = 0.$$

Let  $V = U_t + cU_x$  and  $W = U_t - cU_x$ . Then,

$$V_t - cV_x = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad W_t + cW_x = 0.$$

The solutions to these equations are

$$v(x, t) = h(x + ct) \quad \text{and} \quad w(x, t) = k(x - ct),$$

where  $h$  and  $k$  are arbitrary functions.

Thus, the general solution is

$$u(x, t) = f(x + ct) + g(x - ct).$$

## Wave Equation Solutions

### General Solution of the Homogeneous Equation

Find the general solution of the homogeneous equation, which is given by:

$$u_{tt} + c^2 u_{xx} = 0 \tag{87}$$

The solution can be expressed as:

$$u = g(x - ct) \tag{88}$$

### Particular Solution

Find a particular solution by assuming:

$$u = f(x + ct) \tag{89}$$

Then, we have:

$$u_t = cf'(x + ct) \quad (90)$$

$$u_x = f'(x + ct) \quad (91)$$

Substituting into the wave equation:

$$u_{tt} + c^2 u_{xx} = c^2 f''(x + ct) = h(x + ct) \quad (92)$$

Thus, we find:

$$f(x) = \int h(x) dx \quad (93)$$

The general solution of the wave equation is:

$$u = g(x - ct) + f(x + ct) \quad (94)$$

### Alternative Method: Change of Variables

Alternatively, we can solve the equation by changing variables. Let:

$$\xi = x + ct \quad (95)$$

$$\eta = x - ct \quad (96)$$

Then, the derivatives transform as follows:

$$u_t = cu_\xi - cu_\eta \quad (97)$$

$$u_x = u_\xi + u_\eta \quad (98)$$

This transformation simplifies the wave equation to:

$$u_{\xi\eta} = 0 \quad (99)$$

The solution in terms of the new variables is:

$$u(\xi, \eta) = F(\xi) + G(\eta) \quad (100)$$

where  $F$  and  $G$  are arbitrary functions determined by initial conditions.



## Equations and Solutions

$$U_g = U_{se} + U_s = c(U_{ss} - U_{su}) \quad (101)$$

$$U_n = U_g + U_{ng} = c(U_{gy} - U_{nn}) \quad (102)$$

$$U_H = 2(U_{es} + U_{ng}) - 2cU_{gy} \quad (103)$$

$$U_x = 4 + Y_y \quad (104)$$

$$U_{xx} = U_{gg} + U_{ny} + 213 \quad (105)$$

$$0 = U_H - in_x = -45U_{gy} \quad (106)$$

$$\text{KeyO: } \Theta U_g() = \text{fixtc} + \text{gla} \quad (107)$$

$$U_H - cU_{xx} = 0 \quad (108)$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \quad (109)$$

$$u_f(x, 0) = 4(X) \quad (110)$$

## Solution

$$u(x, t) = f(x + t) + g(x - ct) \quad (111)$$

Let  $t = 0$ , then

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) + f(x) \quad (112)$$

$$U^+(x, t) = cf'(x + t) - cg(x - t) \quad (113)$$

## Equations and Transformations

$$4(x) = (x + 0) = cf(x) - 38'(x) \quad (114)$$

$$\int (y(x)) dx = f(x) - g(x) \quad (115)$$

$$f + y = 4 \quad (116)$$

$$f - g = \int 4(x) dx \quad (117)$$

$$f = k + \int t(y(x)) dx \quad (118)$$

$$g = d - \int t(4(x)) dx \quad (119)$$

## Rewrite

$$f(x) = za(x) + So \quad (120)$$

$$g(x) = 1P(x) - E \quad (121)$$

## Function Transformation

$$u(x+) = f(x + H) + g(x - t) \quad (122)$$

$$= (d(x + t) + q(x - Ct)) + y(s) ds \quad (123)$$

## d'Alembert Formula

$$\int (d(x + t) + q(x - Ct)) + y(s) ds \quad (124)$$

## Wave Equation and d'Alembert's Solution

Assume that  $u = u(x, t)$  is a function of  $x$  and  $t$ . The wave equation is given by

$$u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0. \quad (125)$$

### General Solution

The general solution is given by

$$u(x, t) = f(x + ct) + g(x - ct), \quad (126)$$

where  $f$  and  $g$  are functions of one variable.

### Initial Value Problem

For the initial value problem

$$u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0, \quad (127)$$

$$u(x, 0) = \phi(x), \quad (128)$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = \psi(x), \quad (129)$$

we have the d'Alembert formula

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2} [\phi(x + ct) + \phi(x - ct)] + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(s) ds. \quad (130)$$

### Example 1

Assume  $\phi(x) = 0$  and  $\psi(x) = \cos x$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \psi(s) ds \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} \cos s ds \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [\sin(x + t) - \sin(x - t)] \\ &= \sin x \cos t + \cos x \sin t. \end{aligned}$$

## Example

The Plucked String

Assume  $\phi(x) = 0$  and  $\psi(x) = 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}u(x, t) &= \frac{1}{2} [\phi(x + ct) + \phi(x - ct)] + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(s) ds \\&= \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} 1 ds \\&= \frac{1}{2c} [(x + ct) - (x - ct)] \\&= t.\end{aligned}$$

## Example 3/Ex 11

Find the general solution of

$$3u'' + 10(x + 3)u = \sin(x + \pi). \quad (131)$$

### Solution

The linear operator is

$$\mathcal{L} = 3 \frac{d^2}{dx^2} + 10(x + 3). \quad (132)$$

So the equation can be written as

$$\mathcal{L}u = \sin(x + \pi). \quad (133)$$

To find a particular solution, we assume

$$u_p(x) = A \sin(x + \pi) + B \cos(x + \pi). \quad (134)$$

## General Solutions of Differential Equations

We need to find general solutions of the differential equation  $Lu = 0$ .

$$UH - U_{xx} = 0, \quad (135)$$

$$3UH + 10U_x + 3U_{xx} = 0. \quad (136)$$

Let  $v = (3 + 2)u$ . Then we have:

$$30 + U_x = 0, \quad (137)$$

$$v = f(3x - t), \quad (138)$$

$$u = g(3t - x) + H(3x - t). \quad (139)$$

## Causality and Energy

$$-TU_{xx} = 0 \quad (140)$$

where  $f, T$  are constants.

If we take  $c = E$ , then

$$-YU_x = 0 \quad (141)$$

Define Kinetic Energy  $E_{\text{mr}}$  as follows:

$$\text{KE} = \int U \, dy \quad (142)$$

$$= \int U E \, dx \quad (143)$$

$$= \int (fU) \, dx \quad (144)$$

$$= p(u + u + dx) \quad (145)$$

$$= u + u_{xx} \, dx \quad (146)$$

$$= \int u + du_x \quad (147)$$

$$= TTu_x \quad (148)$$

$$= -T(U_x U_x + dX) \quad (149)$$

## Potential Energy and Mechanical Energy Conservation

The potential energy is denoted by  $U$ . Then the total energy, which is the sum of kinetic energy (KE) and potential energy (PE), is given by:

$$\text{Total Energy} = \text{KE} + \text{PE} = 0$$

This defines the mechanical energy to be:

$$\text{Mechanical Energy} = \text{KE} + \text{PE}$$

Thus, we have the mechanical energy conservation equation:

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = 0$$

with boundary conditions:

$$u(0) = q(x) = b$$

and

$$U(x, 0) = 0$$

The energy equation can be expressed as:

$$E = \int \left( \frac{1}{2} y u p + \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \right) dx$$

## Mathematical Expressions

$$T(u)=\int u(x)\,dx$$

$$a+b=o$$

$$I+\int d(x)\,dx=b$$

$$-b < x < a$$

$$4(x)=2$$

$$b+t=-a$$

$$x_0=12a$$

$$P(x)=L$$

$$-a < x < 0$$

$$|x|<a$$

$$2b^2$$

$$\int k\,dx=2$$

$$u(x)=d(x)+t$$

$$u(x)=c+x$$

$$E(f)=KE+PE$$

$$=\int (i+u(x))\,dx$$

$$U_t=z(k'(x+c^+)-k'(x-t)),\tag{150}$$

$$J_uF=\int (k'(x+c^+)-q'(x-c^+))\,dx,\tag{151}$$

$$J_u x=\int (d'(x+c^+)+q'(x+c))\,dx,\tag{152}$$

$$E(t)=\int (d'(x+c^+)+q'(x-c))\,dx\tag{153}$$

$$=\int (k'(x+c^+)-c)(x-t)\,dx,\tag{154}$$

$$1'(x+c^+)\,dx=H,\tag{155}$$

$$'(y)\,dy=i,\tag{156}$$

$$E(CH)=2c\left(\int d\,dy-A\right).\tag{157}$$

# The Diffusion Equation

## Equation

$$u_t = Ru_{xx} \tag{158}$$

where  $u(x, t)$  is a function on the rectangular domain  $[0, e] \times [0, T]$ .

## Maximum Principle

### Theorem (Strong Maximum Principle)

The maximum value of  $u(x, t)$  can only be reached on the lines:

$$\begin{aligned} t &= 0, \\ x &= 0, \\ x &= e, \\ t &= T. \end{aligned}$$

### Theorem (Weak Maximum Principle)

$$\max u(x, t) = \max u(x, 0) \tag{159}$$

## Proof

What if at some point in the interior of  $\mathbb{R}$  that reaches the maximum value of  $U(x, y)$ , then  $(x_0, y_0)$  satisfies  $U_x(x_0, y_0) = 0$ .

The Hessian matrix is given by:

$$\begin{bmatrix} U_{xx} & U_{xy} \\ U_{xy} & U_{yy} \end{bmatrix}$$

For a maximum, the Hessian must be negative definite, which is equivalent to:

$$U_{xx} < 0 \quad \text{and} \quad U_{xx}U_{yy} - U_{xy}^2 > 0$$

At  $(x_0, y_0)$ , we have:

$$U_{xx}U_{yy} - U_{xy}^2 > 0$$

Let  $v(x, t) = u(x, t) + 2x^2$ . Then:

$$u_x = Ru_x = Ru_{xx} - 2kE$$



And:

$$U_{xx} + 2k$$

This leads to a contradiction if  $U(x_0, y_0) \neq 0$ .

## Assumptions and Maximum Conditions

Assume  $(X_0, Y_0)$  is an interior point such that  $I$  reaches a maximum. Then

$$U_t(X_0, Y_0) = 0, \tag{160}$$

$$U_{xx}(X_0, Y_0) \neq 0. \tag{161}$$

This leads to a contradiction:

$$0 = V(X_0, Y_0) = RV_{xx} - 2k^2 - 2\delta s_0. \tag{162}$$

## Maximum Value Analysis

Let  $(X_0, Y_0)$  be the maximum point of  $v$ . Then

$$\text{Max } v(x, t) = \text{Max } u(x, t) + 2. \tag{163}$$

Thus, we have

$$U(x, t) = v(x, t) - Ex, \tag{164}$$

$$\text{Max } u(x, t) < \text{Max } U(x, t). \tag{165}$$

Finally, we conclude

$$R = \text{Max } v(x, t) - \text{Max } U_t + 3. \tag{166}$$

## Uniqueness of the Diffusion Equation

### Theorem

Consider the diffusion equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
u_t &= Ru_{xx}, \\
u(x, 0) &= f(x), \\
u(0, t) &= g(t), \\
u(l, t) &= h(t).
\end{aligned}$$

Then the solution is unique.

### Proof

Let  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  be two solutions. Define

$$v(x, t) = u_1(x, t) - u_2(x, t).$$

Then  $v(x, t)$  satisfies:

$$\begin{aligned}
v_t &= Rv_{xx}, \\
v(x, 0) &= 0, \\
v(0, t) &= 0, \\
v(l, t) &= 0.
\end{aligned}$$

The maximum principle implies that

$$\max v(x, t) = \max v(x, 0) = 0.$$

Thus,  $v(x, t) = 0$  for all  $x$  and  $t$ , which implies  $u_1(x, t) = u_2(x, t)$ . Therefore, the solution is unique.

## Uniqueness Theorem for Wave Equation

Consider the wave equation:

$$U_{tt} - c^2 U_{xx} = 0 \tag{167}$$

with initial conditions:

$$u(x, 0) = 0, \tag{168}$$

$$u_t(x, 0) = 0. \tag{169}$$

We define the energy function  $E(t)$  as:

$$E(t) = \int \left( U_t^2 + c^2 U_x^2 \right) dx \quad (170)$$

At  $t = 0$ , the energy is:

$$E(0) = 0 \quad (171)$$

Since the energy  $E(t)$  is constant over time, we have:

$$E(t) = \text{const} = 0 \quad (172)$$

Thus,  $U_t = 0$  and  $U_x = 0$ , implying that the solution is unique and zero everywhere.