

# Diffusion-convection equation in 2d plane

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The diffusion-convection equation reads

$$D\nabla^2 g + \nabla \cdot \left( \frac{\mathbf{f}}{\gamma_0} g \right) + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{u}g) = 0 \quad (1)$$

with boundary condition

$$g(r \rightarrow \infty) = 1 \quad (2)$$

For simplicity, set  $\gamma_0 = D = 1$ .

## I. PLANE GEOMETRY

$$\partial_x^2 g + \partial_x [-(\partial_x V)g] + U_x \partial_x g + \partial_y^2 g + \partial_y [-(\partial_y V)g] + U_y \partial_y g = 0 \quad (3)$$

with BC

$$g(r \rightarrow \infty) = 1 \quad (4)$$

The potential is

$$V(x, y) = \frac{K}{2}(x^2 + y^2) = v(x)v(y), \text{ with } v(x) = \frac{K}{2}x^2. \quad (5)$$

### A. Separation of variables(NOT applicable!)

Eq.(3) may be solved by separating the variables as  $g(x, y) = F(x)W(y)$ . So Eq.(3) is transformed to

$$WF'' + Wv_y(-v'_x F)' + WU_x F' + FW'' + FU_y W' + Fv_y(-v'_y W)' = 0 \quad (6)$$

However, the above eq. can not be separated. Noting that

$$F''/F + v_y(-v'_x F)' / F + U_x F' / F + W''/W + U_y W' / W + v_y(-v'_y W)' / W = 0 \quad (7)$$

Due to interaction, the term  $v_y(-v'_x F)'$  still depends on  $y$ . Physically, the equation is not separable because the interaction couples the equation in different dimensions.