

**Review Test 1**  
**Math 5339**

**Name**  
**Id**

Read each question carefully. Avoid simple mistakes. (Use the back of the page if necessary). **You must show your work in order to get credits or partial credits.**

1. [10pts] For each of the following equations, state the order and whether it is nonlinear, linear inhomogeneous, or linear homogeneous; provide reasons.
  - (a)  $u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} + u^3 = 0$
  - (b)  $u_t - k u_{xx} + 6 u_{xt} = 0$
  - (c)  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} + 2xy u_{xy} = 0$
  - (d)  $u_{tt} - u_{xx} = \sin u$
  - (e)  $u_t - u_{xxx} + 6uu_x = 0$
  - (f)  $\frac{du}{dt} = G(u)$
2. [15pts] Solve the first order  $2u_t + 3u_x = 0$  with auxiliary condition  $u = \sin x$  when  $t = 0$ . (Hint: Express the solution as, according to characteristic curve method,  $u(t, x) = f(bt - ax)$ )
3. [15pts] Solve  $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$ ,  $u(x, 0) = e^x$ ,  $u_t(x, 0) = \sin x$ .
4. [10pts] Find the solution of the Laplace equation  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$  for  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ . Use separation of variables.
5. [10pts] Solve the wave equation  $u_{tt} - u_{xx} = 0$  for  $x \in [0, \ell]$ ,  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .
6. [10pts] Use change of variables  $t' = at + bx$ ,  $x' = bt - ax$  to solve

$$au_t + bu_x = f(x, t), (t, x) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \quad (1)$$

7. [20pts] The solution to  $u_t - k u_{xx} = 0$ ,  $u(0, x) = f(x)$  is given by

$$u(t, x) = e^{-kt\Delta} f(x) = \frac{1}{(4k\pi t)^{n/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-\frac{|x-y|^2}{4kt}} f(y) dy := \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} p_t(x, y) f(y) dy,$$

where  $p_t(x, y)$  denote the fundamental solution or heat kernel. Show that

$$a) \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-|x|^2} dx = \pi^{n/2}$$

$$b) \int p_t(x, y) dx = 1 \quad \forall t > 0$$

$$c) \text{ Given any } \delta > 0, \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \int_{|x-y| \geq \delta} p_t(x, y) dy = 0$$

$$d) \text{ If } f \in L^p, 1 \leq p \leq \infty, \text{ then } u(t, x) \rightarrow f(x) \text{ as } t \rightarrow 0.$$

8. [20pts] a) Consider the Schrödinger equation

$$i\partial_t u + \Delta u + \varepsilon|u|^p u = 0$$

Show that the conserved quantities (constants of motion) are

$$Q(t) = \int |u|^2 dx$$

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int (|\nabla_x u|^2 + \frac{\varepsilon}{p+1} |u|^{p+1}) dx$$

(Hint: Use integration by parts to prove  $dE(t)/dt = 0$ , thus  $E(t)$  must be a constant)

- b) How about wave equation

$$\partial_{tt} u - u_{xx} + \varepsilon|u|^p u = 0$$

Is  $E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (u_t^2 + |\nabla u|^2 + \frac{\varepsilon}{p+1} |u|^{p+1}) dx$  conserved in time?

9. [15pts] Solve the heat equation with convection

$$u_t - k u_{xx} + V u_x = 0, \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

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

where  $V$  is a constant. (Hint: Sub  $y = x - Vt$ )

10. [10pts] Solve  $u_{tt} = 9u_{xx}$  in  $x \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2})$ ,  $u(x, 0) = \cos x$ ,  $u_t(x, 0) = 0$ ,  $u_x(0, t) = 0$ ,  $u(\frac{\pi}{2}, t) = 0$ .

11. [Bonus 10pts] Solve the inhomogeneous diffusion equation on the half-line with Dirichlet boundary condition

$$\begin{aligned}u_t - ku_{xx} &= f(x, t) & 0 < x, t < \infty \\u(x, 0) &= \phi(x), u(0, t) = 0\end{aligned}$$

using the method of reflection.

### Solutions

2. The general solution for the transport equation is given by  $u(x, t) = f(bt - ax)$ ; see Lecture notes or Section 1.2 in Strauss. Sub the initial condition with  $t = 0$  into this, we get  $f(-ax) = \sin x$ . Therefore  $f(x) = -\sin(x/a)$ .

3. The general solution for the wave equation on the line  $(-\infty, \infty)$  is given by  $u(x, t) = f(x + ct) + g(x - ct)$ . Substituting the initial conditions into this expression yields

$$\begin{cases} f(x) + g(x) = e^x \\ cf'(x) - cg'(x) = \sin x \end{cases}$$

Now taking derivative on the first equation we obtain  $f'(x) + g'(x) = e^x$ ; this, together with the second equation will lead to a solution of  $f'$  and  $g'$ . From there antiderivative will recover  $f$  and  $g$ .

4. Write  $u(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$  and sub into  $\Delta u = 0$ . We then have

$$\frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = -\frac{Y''(y)}{Y(y)} = -\lambda$$

where  $\lambda \geq 0$  is a constant (or eigenvalue of  $d^2/dx^2$ ).

5. Write  $u(x, y) = T(t)X(x), \dots$

6\*. (I) **Method I. Change of variables.** †This is a transport equation with inhomogeneous term  $f$ . As we will see that the solution is the  $u_{homog}$  plus a line integral along the characteristics. Let  $t' = at + bx, x' = bt - ax$ . Then, substituting into (1) yields

$$(a^2 + b^2) \frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \tilde{u}(t', x') = \tilde{f}(t', x'), \quad (2)$$

where we write  $\tilde{u}(t', x') = u(t, x)$ ,  $t = t(t', x')$ ,  $x = x(t', x')$ , and  $\tilde{f}(t', x') = f(t, x)$  and we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}u(t, x) &= a\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial t'}(t', x') + b\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial x'}(t', x') \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x}u(t, x) &= b\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial t'}(t', x') - a\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial x'}(t', x').\end{aligned}$$

Integrating (2) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}(a^2 + b^2)\tilde{u}(t', x') &= \int^{t'} \tilde{f}(s', x')ds' + C(x') \\ i.e., \quad (a^2 + b^2)u(t, x) &= \int^{t'} \tilde{f}(s', x')ds' + C(bt - ax)\end{aligned}$$

where  $t' = t'(t, x) = at + bx$ ,  $x' = bt - ax$ ;  $t(t', x') = (a^2 + b^2)^{-1}(at' + bx')$ ,  $x(t', x') = (a^2 + b^2)^{-1}(bt' - ax')$ ; We can choose the lower limit to be  $-(b/a)x'$  or  $-\infty$ , the latter choice would give an integral  $\int_{-bx'/a}^{t'} + \int_{-\infty}^{-bx'/a}$  which can be absorbed into  $C(x')$ , ( $x'$  being a constant independent of  $s'$ ). So let us simply write, by change of variable  $s' = t'(s, x) = as + bx$  ( $x$  a constant and  $x' = bt - ax$ )

$$\begin{aligned}(a^2 + b^2)u(t, x) &= \int_{-bx'/a}^{t'} \tilde{f}(t'(s, x), x')ds' + C(x') \\ &= \int_{-(x'/a+x)b/a}^{(t'-bx)/a} f(t(as + bx, x'), x(as + bx, x'))d(as + bx) + C(x') \\ &= a \int_{-b^2t/a^2}^t f\left(\frac{a(as + bx) + bx'}{a^2 + b^2}, \frac{b(as + bx) - ax'}{a^2 + b^2}\right)ds + C(x') \\ &= a \int_{-b^2t/a^2}^t f\left(\frac{a^2s + b^2t}{a^2 + b^2}, \frac{ab(s - t)}{a^2 + b^2} + x\right)ds + C(bt - ax).\end{aligned}$$

Note that the integral is a line integral starting from  $(0, -bt/a + x)$  to  $(t, x)$  with parametric equation  $t = t(s)$ ,  $x = x(s)$  and length element  $dL(s) = \sqrt{\dot{t}^2 + \dot{x}^2}ds = \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}ds$ ; each point on the curve satisfying  $bt(s) - ax(s) = constant = bt - ax$ . Therefore,

$$(a^2 + b^2)u(t, x) = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \int_L f(L(s))dL(s) + C(bt - ax)$$

which proves that  $u_{inhomog}$  is given by “Duhamel” (the  $\pm$  for  $s - t$  and  $s + t$  reflect the effect of forward and backward waves while in 3D it has reflection waves from all angles)

$$u(t, x) = \underbrace{C(bt - ax)}_{u_{homog}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \int_L f(L(s)) dL(s)}_{u_{particular}}, \quad (**)$$

where  $L$  is the characteristic line from  $(0, -bt/a)$  to  $(t, x)$ . □

**Remark** The ingredient of the whole idea is to use

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} t' \\ x' \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & -a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t \\ x \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} t \\ x \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{-1}{a^2 + b^2} \begin{pmatrix} -a & -b \\ -b & a \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} t' \\ x' \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

to transform a few times so the final integral can be realized as a line integral with a new (but more complicated) parametric equation for the characteristic line.

(II) **Second method: Characteristics** (without change of variables)

† We can also prove the solution formula via characteristic curve (ODE) method, as I discussed in the class. The result  $u = u_{homog} + u_p$  is the same as in (\*\*). In fact, from

$$a\partial_t u + b\partial_x u = f(t, x) \quad (*)$$

we have the characteristic curve  $C$  in the  $xt$  plane given by the following parametric equation

$$\begin{cases} x'(s) = b \\ t'(s) = a \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Then the PDE reduces to an ODE along  $L$  for  $U(s) := u(t(s), x(s))$ :

$$x = bs + x_0 \quad (4)$$

$$t = as + t_0, \quad s \in (-\infty, \infty) \quad (5)$$

(note that the parameter  $s$  here is not the one for arc-length).

If  $L$  starts at  $(x_0, t_0) = (x - bt/a, 0)$  to  $(x, t)$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{ds} [U(s)] &= f(t(s), x(s)) \\ \Rightarrow \text{for all } s \text{ or } (t, x) &= (t(s), x(s)) \in L \text{ along the curve} \\ u(t, x)|_{s=s} &= U(s) = \int f(as + t_0, bs + x_0) ds \\ &= \int_0^s f(t(s), x(s)) ds + \tilde{C}(x_0) \quad \because U(s) \text{ depends on } x_0 \text{ only, the } x\text{-intercept} \\ &= \int_0^s f(t(s), x(s)) ds + C(ax - bt). \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $s = 0$  corresponds to  $(x_0, 0)$  and  $s = t/a$  corresponds to  $(x, t)$ .  
Substituting  $s = t/a$  we obtain

$$u(t, x) = \int_0^{t/a} f(t(s), x(s)) ds + C(ax - bt). \quad (6)$$

† Here we can also apply fundamental theorem of Calculus for all  $s$

$$\begin{aligned} u(t(s), x(s)) &= \int_0^s f(t(\tau), x(\tau)) d\tau + u(t(0), x(0)) \\ &= \int_0^s f(t(\tau), x(\tau)) d\tau + u(0, x_0). \end{aligned}$$

Evaluate the above at  $s = t/a$  to obtain

$$u(t, x) = \int_0^{t/a} f(t(\tau), x(\tau)) d\tau + u_0(x - bt/a). \quad (7)$$

where  $u_0$  denotes the initial condition at  $t = 0$ .

On the other hand we look at the line integral in (\*\*) using parametric equations to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_L f(L(s)) dL(s) &= \int_{s=0}^{s=t/a} f(t(s), x(s)) d\ell \\ &= \sqrt{a^2 + b^2} \int_0^{t/a} f(t(s), x(s)) ds \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where if  $\mathbf{r}(s) = x(s)\mathbf{i} + t(s)\mathbf{j}$ , then  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{r}'(s)$  and the arc length element  $d\ell = |\mathbf{v}(s)|ds = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}ds$ .

Now compare (6) and (8) we conclude that

$$u(t, x) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} \int_L f(L(s)) dL}_{u_{particular}} + \underbrace{C(ax - bt)}_{u_{homog}} \quad (9)$$

(III) † The third method would be Duhamel principle from ODE for

$$u_t + Au = f$$

where  $A = m\partial_x$ , where  $m = b/a$ .

$$\begin{aligned} u(t, \cdot) &= e^{-tA} u_0(\cdot) + \int_0^t e^{-(t-s)A} f(s, \cdot) ds \\ &= e^{-mt\partial_x} u_0(\cdot) + \int_0^t e^{-m(t-s)\partial_x} f(s, \cdot) ds \end{aligned}$$

We arrive at (9) once noticing

$$e^{-mt\partial_x} \phi(x) = \phi(x - mt) = \phi(x - bt/a).$$

This can be verified by Taylor series expansion

$$\begin{aligned} e^{h\partial_x} &= 1 + h\partial_x + \frac{h^2}{2!} \partial_x^2 + \dots + \frac{h^n}{n!} \partial_x^n + \dots \\ \Rightarrow \phi(x + h) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{h^n}{n!} \phi^{(n)}(x). \end{aligned}$$

□

7. a)

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} e^{-|x|^2} dx &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x_1^2} \dots e^{-x_n^2} dx_1 \dots dx_n \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x_1^2} dx_1 \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x_n^2} dx_n \end{aligned}$$

There are a few ways to evaluate  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx$ . For instance using polar coordinate  $(r, \theta)$  in 2 dimensions for  $x = (x_1, x_2)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{-|x|^2} dx_1 dx_2 &= \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^2} r dr \\ &= 2\pi \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^2} r dr = -\pi \int_0^{\infty} d(e^{-r^2}) = \pi \end{aligned}$$

Meanwhile,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{-|x|^2} dx_1 dx_2 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{-x_1^2} e^{-x_2^2} dx_1 dx_2 \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-x_1^2} dx_1 \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-x_2^2} dx_2 \end{aligned}$$

which shows  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi}$

b)  $\int p_t(x, y) dx = 1$  follows from a) by scaling or change of variables.

c) For fixed  $\delta > 0$ , a change of variables  $u = (y - x)/\sqrt{4kt}$  gives

$$\int_{|x-y| \geq \delta} \frac{1}{(4k\pi t)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{|x-y|^2}{4kt}} dy = \int_{|u| \geq \delta/\sqrt{4kt}} e^{-|u|^2} du \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow 0$$

d) Let  $f \in L^p$ ,  $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ . We may assume  $f \in C_b(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , that is,  $f$  is bounded continuous function. Then

$$u(t, x) - f(x) =$$

$$\int_{|x-y| < \delta} p_t(x, y)[f(y) - f(x)] dy + \int_{|x-y| \geq \delta} p_t(x, y)[f(y) - f(x)] dy := I_1 + I_2.$$

Given  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that  $|f(y) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$  whenever  $|y - x| < \delta$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} |I_1| &\leq \varepsilon \int_{|x-y| < \delta} p_t(x, y) dy \leq \varepsilon \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} p_t(x, y) dy = \varepsilon \\ \text{and } |I_2| &\leq 2C \int_{|x-y| \geq \delta} p_t(x, y) dy \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } t \rightarrow 0, \end{aligned}$$

we see immediately that  $u(t, x) - f(x) \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow 0$ .

8. a) Show  $Q'(t) = 0$  using the Schrödinger equation and integration by parts.

b) Similar method.

9. Sub  $y = x - Vt$  and we have  $u(x, t) = u(y + Vt, t) := \tilde{u}(y, t)$ , where  $x = x(y, t) = y + Vt$ . By chain rule,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \tilde{u}(y, t) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [u(y + Vt, t)] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, t) \cdot V + \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(x, t) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \tilde{u}(y, t) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial y} [u(y + Vt, t)] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, t) \cdot 1. \end{aligned}$$



Sub the above into the  $u_t - ku_{xx} + Vu_x = 0$ ,  $u(x, 0) = \phi(x)$ . We find that  $\tilde{u}_t - k\tilde{u}_{yy} = 0$ ,  $\tilde{u}(y, 0) = \phi(y)$ . Thus  $\tilde{u}(y, t) = \int p_t(y, z)\phi(z)dz$  which gives that

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, t) &= \int p_t(x - Vt, z)\phi(z)dz \\ &= \frac{1}{(4k\pi t)^{n/2}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} e^{-\frac{|x-Vt-z|^2}{4kt}} \phi(z)dz. \end{aligned}$$

10. By reflection method as described in Section 3.3, extend  $u(x, t)$  as odd function on  $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ , and then periodically on  $\mathbb{R}$ , which we call  $v(x, t)$ . Also do the same for  $\phi$  and  $\psi$ . Then  $v$  satisfies the wave equation on  $\mathbb{R}$  with initial condition  $v(x, 0) = \tilde{\phi}$ ,  $v_t(x, 0) = \tilde{\psi}$ , with a little abuse of notation we will continue to call them  $\phi, \psi$ . Thus the solution is given by

$$v(x, t) = \frac{1}{2}(\phi(x + ct) + \phi(x - ct)) + \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} \psi(s)ds$$

Note that the boundary condition is automatically satisfied because of the odd symmetries on **both**  $x = 0, x = \pi/2$ . As in the text, the strip  $(0, \pi/2) \times \mathbb{R}$  divided into diamond regions. Inside each of these diamond, the wave propagates through a chain of reflections against the boundaries,  $\phi(x \pm ct)$  has different sign depending on the number of reflections, similarly for  $\pm\psi$ . After some simple calculations, the express of  $v(x, t)$  has a domain of dependence resulting from those reflections.

11. The inhomogeneous problem on the line has the solution

$$\begin{aligned} v(x, t) &= e^{t\Delta}\phi + \int_0^t e^{(t-s)\Delta}f(x, s)ds \\ &= \int p_t(x, y)\phi(y)dy + \int_0^t ds \int p_{t-s}(x, y)f(y, s)dy \end{aligned}$$

Make odd extension of  $u$  to  $v$  with  $\phi(-x) = -\phi(x)$ , then restrict  $u = v|_{\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R}_+}$  to obtain the solution.