

Sec. 1.6, p. 31.

#1. What are the types of the following equations?

$$(a) \quad u_{xx} - u_{xy} + 2u_y + u_{yy} - 3u_{yx} + 4u = 0.$$

$$(b) \quad 9u_{xx} + 6u_{xy} + u_{yy} + u_x = 0.$$

$$(a) \quad A = 1, B = -4, C = 1$$

$$B^2 - 4AC = 16 - 4 = 12 > 0 \quad \boxed{\text{hyperbolic}}$$

$$(b) \quad A = 9, B = 6, C = 1$$

$$B^2 - 4AC = 36 - 36 = 0 \quad \boxed{\text{parabolic}}$$

#2. Find the regions in the  $xy$ -plane where the equation

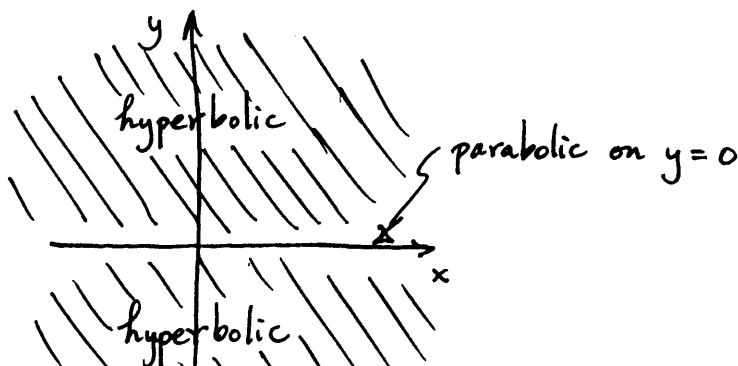
$$(1+x)u_{xx} + 2xyu_{xy} - y^2u_{yy} = 0$$

is elliptic, hyperbolic, or parabolic. Sketch them.

$$A = 1+x, B = 2xy, C = -y^2.$$

$$\begin{aligned} B^2 - 4AC &= 4x^2y^2 + 4(1+x)y^2 = 4y^2(x^2 + x + 1) = 4y^2\left(x^2 + x + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4}\right) \\ &= 4y^2\left[\left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{3}{4}\right] \geq 0 \quad \text{with equality if and only if } y=0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the equation is parabolic on the line  $y=0$  (the  $x$ -axis) and elsewhere in the  $xy$ -plane it is hyperbolic.



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#4. What is the type of the equation

$$u_{xx} - 4u_{xy} + 4u_{yy} = 0?$$

Show by direct substitution that  $u(x,y) = f(y+2x) + xg(y+2x)$  is a solution for arbitrary twice-differentiable functions  $f$  and  $g$  of a single variable.

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$$A = 1, B = -4, C = 4.$$

$$B^2 - 4AC = 16 - 16 = 0 \quad \boxed{\text{parabolic}}$$

$$u_x = 2f'(y+2x) + g(y+2x) + 2xg'(y+2x)$$

$$u_y = f'(y+2x) + xg'(y+2x)$$

$$u_{xy} = 2f''(y+2x) + g'(y+2x) + 2xg''(y+2x)$$

$$u_{xx} = 4f''(y+2x) + 4g'(y+2x) + 4xg''(y+2x)$$

$$u_{yy} = f''(y+2x) + xg''(y+2x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore u_{xx} - 4u_{xy} + 4u_{yy} &= (4 - 8 + 4)f''(y+2x) + (4 - 4)g'(y+2x) \\ &\quad + (4 - 8 + 4)xg''(y+2x) \\ &\stackrel{\checkmark}{=} 0. \end{aligned}$$

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#6. Consider the equation  $3u_y + u_{xy} = 0$ .

(a) What is its type?

(b) Find the general solution.

(c) With the auxiliary conditions  $u(x,0) = e^{-3x}$  and  $u_y(x,0) = 0$ , does a solution exist? Is it unique?

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#6 (cont.) (a)  $A = C = 0$ ,  $B = 1$ .  $B^2 - 4AC = 1 > 0$  hyperbolic

$$(b) \quad 3u_y + u_{xy} = 0$$

$$(3u + u_x)_y = 0$$

$$3u + u_x = f(x)$$

$$e^{3x} u_x + 3e^{3x} u = f(x) e^{3x}$$

(Linear first-order); integrating factor:  
 $e^{\int 3 dx} = e^{3x}$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (e^{3x} u) = f(x) e^{3x}$$

$$e^{3x} u = \int f(x) e^{3x} dx + g(y)$$

$$u(x, y) = e^{-3x} \int f(x) e^{3x} dx + g(y) e^{-3x}$$

$$(c) \quad e^{-3x} = u(x, 0) = e^{-3x} \int f(x) e^{3x} dx + g(0) e^{-3x}$$

$$1 = \int f(x) e^{3x} dx + g(0) \quad (\text{for all real } x!)$$

Therefore  $f = 0$  and  $g(0) = 1$ .

$$u_y(x, y) = g'(y) e^{-3x}$$

$$0 = u_y(x, 0) = g'(0) e^{-3x}$$

Therefore  $g'(0) = 0$ .

Conclusion: Solutions to the I.V.P. exist. In fact, if  $g$  is any differentiable function of a single variable such that  $g(0) = 1$  and  $g'(0) = 0$ , then  $u(x, y) = g(y) e^{-3x}$  is a solution. Clearly solutions to the I.V.P. are not unique.

Supplementary problem for Sect. 6.

Consider

$$(2) \quad \left( \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right)^2 u = 0$$

in the plane  $-\infty < x < \infty$ ,  $-\infty < y < \infty$ , where  $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 > 0$ .

Let

$$\xi = \beta x - \alpha y,$$

$$\eta = \alpha x + \beta y.$$

Show that the general  $C^2$ -solution to (2) in the plane is

$$u = \eta f(\xi) + g(\xi)$$

where  $f$  and  $g$  are arbitrary  $C^2$ -functions of a single real variable.

One first solve for the variables  $x$  and  $y$  in terms of  $\xi$  and  $\eta$ . By Cramer's rule,

$$(*) \quad \begin{cases} x = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} \xi & -\alpha \\ \eta & \beta \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} \beta & -\alpha \\ \alpha & \beta \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{\beta\xi + \alpha\eta}{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}, \\ y = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} \beta & \xi \\ \alpha & \eta \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} \beta & -\alpha \\ \alpha & \beta \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{\beta\eta - \alpha\xi}{\alpha^2 + \beta^2}. \end{cases}$$

Next, we claim that as operators

$$(**) \quad \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial y} = (\alpha^2 + \beta^2) \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta}.$$

To see this, let  $v = v(x, y)$  be any  $C^1$ -function in the plane.

By the chain rule <sup>and (\*\*)</sup> we have

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial \eta} = \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial \eta} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \frac{\partial y}{\partial \eta} = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha^2 + \beta^2} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{\beta}{\alpha^2 + \beta^2} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y},$$

and consequently,

$$(\alpha^2 + \beta^2) \frac{\partial v}{\partial \eta} = \alpha \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \beta \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = \left( \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial x} + \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right) v.$$

Since  $v \in C^1(\mathbb{R}^2)$  was arbitrary, **(\*\*)** follows.

According to **(\*\*)**, equation (2) is equivalent to

$$(\alpha^2 + \beta^2)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial \eta^2} = 0.$$

Since  $\alpha^2 + \beta^2 > 0$ , this means  $u_{\eta\eta} = 0$ . Integrating with respect to

$\eta$  once, holding  $\xi$  fixed, we find

$$u_{\eta} = c_1(\xi).$$

(The "constant" of integration may vary with  $\xi$ , but is independent of  $\eta$ .)

Integrating again with respect to  $\eta$ , holding  $\xi$  fixed,

yields

$$u = \eta c_1(\xi) + c_2(\xi)$$

(Again, the "constant" of integration may vary with  $\xi$ .)

In order for  $u$  to be a  $C^2$ -function in the plane, the functions  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  of the single variable  $\xi$  must be twice differentiable.

Replacing  $c_1$  and  $c_2$  by the more appropriate function letters  $f$  and  $g$ , we have

$$u = \eta f(\xi) + g(\xi)$$

where  $f$  and  $g$  are  $C^2$ -functions on  $\mathbb{R}$ , or equivalently

$$u(x, y) = (\alpha x + \beta y) f(\beta x - \alpha y) + g(\beta x - \alpha y).$$