

Objective } First-order PDE  
 } method of characteristics

(I) Review

- Euler model for fluid flow.

mass conservation

$$\rho_t + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{u}) = 0$$

- general: consider concentration C

$$C_t + \nabla \cdot (C \vec{u}) = 0$$

convection Equation (Eq)

for  $C(\vec{x}, t)$

1st-order Eq.

(II) 1st order PDE

- General form.

$$F(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, u, u_{x_1}, \dots, u_{x_n}) = 0$$

$u(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  unknown.

- we focus on  $n=2$

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

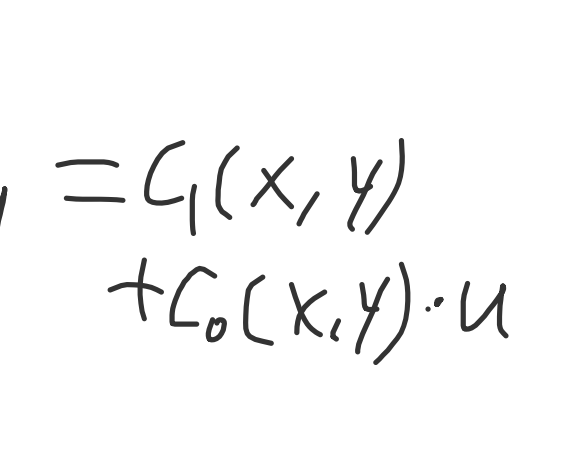
domain  $(x, y) \in D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$

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

The graph of  $u$

is a surface

in  $\mathbb{R}^3$



(III) Quasilinear Equation

- $a(x, y, u) u_x + b(x, y, u) u_y = c(x, y, u)$  (\*)

- semi-linear

$$a(x, y) u_x + b(x, y) u_y = c(x, y, u)$$

- linear:

$$a(x, y) u_x + b(x, y) u_y = c_1(x, y) + c_0(x, y) \cdot u$$

- Example:

$$u_x = c_0 u + c_1(x, y)$$

$a=1, b=0, c_0$  is constant.

[RK: review PDE]

$$I = e^{c_0 x}$$

$$u(x, y) = e^{c_0 x} \left[ \int_0^x e^{-c_0 s} c_1(s, y) ds + C(y) \right] \quad (**)$$

Initial condition

Case I:  $u(0, y) = y$

$$\text{By (**): } u(0, y) = e^0 [0 + C(y)] = y$$

$$\Rightarrow C(y) = y$$

$$\text{So } u(x, y) = e^{c_0 x} \left[ \int_0^x e^{-c_0 s} c_1(s, y) ds + y \right]$$

unique solution

Case 2:  $u(x, 0) = x$ ,

we consider  $c_1 = 0$ .

$$u(x, 0) = e^{c_0 x} [0 + C(0)] = C(0) \cdot e^{c_0 x}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{C(0) e^{c_0 x} = x} \text{ for all } x$$

Contradiction.

No solution!

RK: if  $u(x, 0) = e^{c_0 x}$  and  $Q=0$ .

$\infty$  many solutions! [Exercise]

(IV) method of characteristics

$$a(x, y, u) u_x + b(x, y, u) u_y = c(x, y, u) \quad (*)$$

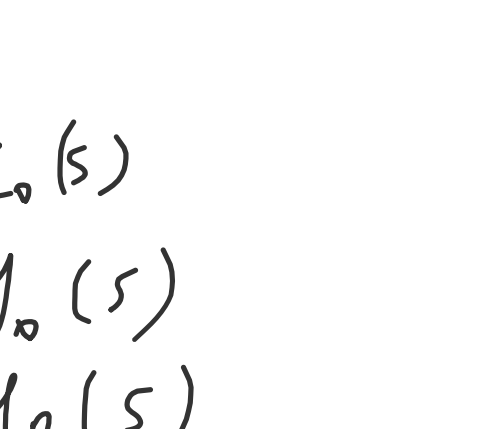
Derivation

parameter  $t$ .

$$x = x(t), y = y(t)$$

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

set  $x_t = a, y_t = b$



chain rule:

$$u_t = u_x x_t + u_y y_t$$

$$= a u_x + b u_y$$

$$\stackrel{(*)}{=} c$$

$\Rightarrow$  characteristic equations (CE)

$$CE: \begin{cases} x_t = a(x, y, u) \\ y_t = b(x, y, u) \\ u_t = c(x, y, u) \end{cases}$$

RK1: It is autonomous system.

RK2: geometric interpretation

$$a u_x + b u_y = c$$

$$\Rightarrow a u_x + b u_y - c = 0$$

$$(a, b, c) \cdot (u_x, u_y, -1) = 0$$

$\vec{n} = (u_x, u_y, -1)$  is normal vector

$$\vec{T} = (x_t, y_t, u_t) \stackrel{CE}{=} (a, b, c)$$

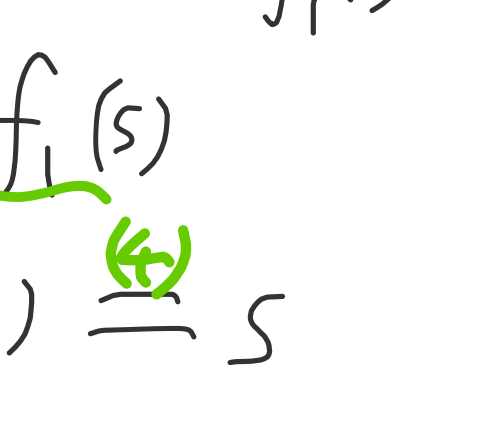
$\Rightarrow \vec{T} \perp \vec{n}$   $\vec{T}$  is orthogonal to  $\vec{n}$ .

Initial condition.

$$u(x, 0) = f(x)$$

$$\text{or } u(0, y) = g(y)$$

or more general.



$$x = x(t, s), y = y(t, s), u = u(t, s)$$

at  $t=0, \Gamma(s)$

$$IC: \begin{cases} x(0, s) = x_0(s) \\ y(0, s) = y_0(s) \\ u(0, s) = u_0(s) \end{cases}$$

Summary:

- system: CE + IC

- solution:  $(x(t, s), y(t, s), u(t, s))$

- convert  $u = u(x, y)$

$$(t, s) \leftrightarrow (x, y) \quad ?$$

convertible if

$$J = \begin{vmatrix} x_t & y_t \\ x_s & y_s \end{vmatrix} \neq 0$$

unique solution.

(V) Example

$$\textcircled{1} u_x + u_y = 2$$

$$u(x, 0) = e^x \rightarrow u(s, 0) = e^s$$

solution: step 1:

$$CE \begin{cases} x_t = a = 1 & (1) \\ y_t = b = 1 & (2) \\ u_t = c = 2 & (3) \end{cases}$$

$$IC: \begin{cases} x(0, s) = s & \text{(assume) (4)} \\ y(0, s) = 0 & (5) \\ u(0, s) = u|_{x=s, y=0} & (6) \end{cases}$$

$$\text{at } t=0 \quad u(0, s) = u|_{x=s, y=0} = e^s$$

$$\text{step 2: (1) } \Rightarrow x(t, s) = \int_0^t 1 dt + f_1(s) = t + f_1(s)$$

$$\text{use (4) } \Rightarrow x(0, s) = f_1(s) \stackrel{(4)}{=} s$$

$$x(t, s) = t + s$$

$$(2) (5) \Rightarrow y = \int_0^t 1 dt + y(0, s) = t + 0 = t$$

$$(3) (6) \Rightarrow u(t, s) = \int_0^t 2 dt + u(0, s) = 2t + e^s$$

$$\text{So } x = t + s, y = t, u = 2t + e^s$$

step 3: convert  $(s, t) \leftrightarrow (x, y)$ .

$$t = y, s = x - t = x - y$$

$$\Rightarrow u = 2y + e^{x-y}$$

unique solution

To do list:

① HW #3

② Exercise.