

MATH 425  
LECTURE 8

: Review for Midterm 1.

- P2 of practice exam → see solution there.
- P4 (Problems from previous exams)

$$\left. \begin{aligned} y u_x + u_y &= x \\ u(x, 0) &= x^2 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

Let  $(x(t), y(t))$  be a parametrization of the characteristic curves, defined by

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x'(t) &= y \\ y'(t) &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow \begin{aligned} x'(t) &= t + y(c_0) \rightarrow x(t) = \frac{t^2}{2} + y(c_0)t + x(c_0), \\ y(t) &= t + y(c_0). \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\frac{d}{dt} (u^*(x(t), y(t))) = x'(t) = \frac{t^2}{2} + y(c_0)t + x(c_0).$$

That is,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u'(t) &= \frac{t^2}{2} + y(c_0)t + x(c_0) \\ u(c_0) &= u(x(c_0), y(c_0)) = u(c, 0) = c^2 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

choose  $x(c_0) = c, y(c_0) = 0$

$$u'(t) = t^2/2 + c \Rightarrow u(t) = t^3/6 + ct + c_1, \quad \int \rightarrow$$

$$u(0) = c_1 = c^2$$

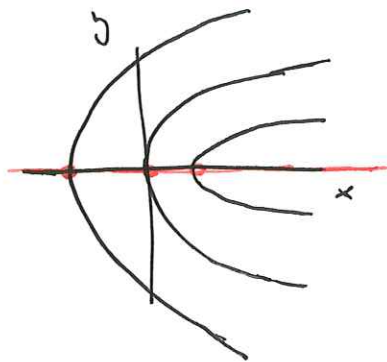
$$\Rightarrow u(t) = t^3/6 + ct + c^2.$$

Finally, substitute back: 
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x = t^2/2 + c \\ y = t \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow \begin{cases} c = x - y^2/2 \\ t = y \end{cases}$$

$$\| u(x, y) = y^3/6 + (x - y^2/2)y + (x - y^2/2)^2$$

- Region: Notice that for all  $(x, y)$  we have  $t, c$  well-defined (and viceversa).

Also, the characteristic ~~lines~~<sup>curves</sup> are  $x = y^2/2 + c$ :



so any point  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  is in a characteristic curve, and the initial data crosses all these curves.

P2 (previous exams)

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} u_t = k u_{xx}, \quad 0 \leq x \leq L \\ u(x, 0) = \phi(x), \quad t \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{ with } \phi(0) = \phi(L) = 0 \text{ and } \phi(x) > 0 \text{ for } 0 < x < L.$$

a) If in addition

$$u_x(0, t) = 0 = u_x(L, t) \text{ for } t \geq 0,$$

show that  $A(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L u(x, t) dx$  is constant.

Sol:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}(A(t)) &\equiv A'(t) = \frac{1}{L} \int_0^L u_t(x, t) dx = \frac{k}{L} \int_0^L u_{xx}(x, t) dx = \\ &= \frac{k}{L} (u_x(L, t) - u_x(0, t)) = 0 \Rightarrow A(t) = A(0) \equiv \text{const.} \end{aligned}$$

b) If now  $u(0, t) = 0 = u(L, t)$ , show that

$$u(x, t) \geq 0 \text{ for } 0 < x < L, t > 0.$$

Sol: By the Minimum Principle for the heat equation,

$$u(x, t) \geq \min_{\substack{0 \leq x \leq L \\ t \geq 0}} \{ u(0, t), u(L, t), u(x, 0) \} =$$

$$= \min_{\substack{0 \leq x < L \\ t > 0}} \{0, 0, \phi(x)\} = 0 \quad (\text{since } \phi(x) \geq 0).$$

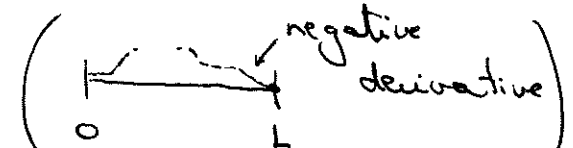
c) Show, with the conditions of part b), that  $A(t)$  is a non-increasing function of  $t$ .

Sol:

From a),

$$A'(t) = \frac{k}{L} (u_x(L, t) - u_x(0, t)).$$

But now, notice that  $u_x(L, t) \leq 0$ ,  $u_x(0, t) \geq 0$ , which proves  $A'(t) \leq 0$ . Indeed:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} u(L, t) = 0 \\ u(x, t) \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow u_x(L, t) \leq 0 \quad \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{negative} \\ \text{derivative} \end{array} \right)$$


$$\left. \begin{array}{l} u(0, t) = 0 \\ u(x, t) \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow u_x(0, t) \geq 0 //$$

$$\boxed{\text{P5}} \left. \begin{aligned} u_{tt} + 2u_t + u &= u_{xx} \\ u(x, 0) &= x e^{-x^2} \\ u_t(x, 0) &= 1 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{Hint: } w(x, t) = e^t u(x, t).$$

Sol:

$$w_x = e^t u_{xx} \rightarrow w_{xx} = e^t u_{xx}$$

$$w_t = e^t u + e^t u_t \rightarrow w_{tt} = e^t u + 2e^t u_t + e^t u_{tt}.$$

Therefore,

$$u + 2u_t + u_{tt} = e^{-t} w_{tt} = u_{xx} = e^{-t} w_{xx} \Rightarrow \{e^{-t} > 0\}$$

$$\Rightarrow w_{tt} = w_{xx}.$$

$$\text{Initial conditions: } w(x, 0) = u(x, 0) = x e^{-x^2}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} w_t(x, 0) &= u(x, 0) + u_t(x, 0) = \\ &= x e^{-x^2} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, using D'Alembert formula:

$$\begin{aligned} w(x, t) &= \frac{1}{2} \left( (x+t) e^{-\frac{(x+t)^2}{2}} + (x-t) e^{-\frac{(x-t)^2}{2}} \right) + \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \int_{x-t}^{x+t} (s e^{-s^2} + 1) ds = \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Finally, } \parallel u(x, t) = e^{-t} w(x, t) \parallel.$$

$$\boxed{P10} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} u_t = k u_{xx} - r u, \quad 0 \leq x \leq L \\ u(x, 0) = \phi(x), \quad t \geq 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{with } \begin{cases} \phi(x) > 0 \text{ for } x \in (0, L) \\ \phi(0) = \phi(L) = 0 \end{cases}$$

a) If  $u(0, t) = 0 = u(L, t)$  for  $t \geq 0$ , show that

$E(t) = \int_0^L u^2(x, t) dx$  is strictly decreasing in time.

sol:

$$E'(t) = 2 \int_0^L u(x, t) u_t(x, t) dx = 2k \int_0^L u(x, t) u_{xx}(x, t) dx +$$

$$- 2r \int_0^L (u(x, t))^2 dx =$$

$$= -2k \int_0^L (u_x(x, t))^2 dx - 2r \int_0^L (u(x, t))^2 dx + \underbrace{2k \int_0^L u(x, t) u_{xx}(x, t) dx}_{=0} \Bigg|_{x=0}^{x=L} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow E'(t) \leq 0.$$

→ But we need to show  $E'(t) < 0$  for all  $t \geq 0$ .

We have that

$$E'(t) \leq -2r \int_0^L (u(x, t))^2 dx$$

Remark: As I commented in class, here we cannot conclude that  $E'(t) < 0$  in the following simple way:

By contradiction, assume  $\int_0^L (u(x,t))^2 dx = 0$ . Then,

$$u(x,t) = 0 \text{ for } 0 \leq x \leq L.$$

But this is not a contradiction right now (unless  $t=0$ ).

→ So we need indeed a maximum principle.

It turns out that it is quite simple to obtain it:

Let's do the change  $w(x,t) = e^{rt} u(x,t)$ . Then, one can check that

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} w_t = k w_{xx} \\ w(x,0) = u(x,0) = \phi(x) \\ w(0,t) = w(L,t) = 0 \end{array} \right\} \text{ so } w \text{ satisfies the strong } \begin{array}{l} \text{minimum} \\ \text{principle, and hence,} \end{array}$$

$$\| w(x,t) > 0 \text{ for all } 0 < x < L, t > 0 \|.$$

Therefore,  $u(x,t) = e^{-rt} w(x,t) > 0$  for all  $0 < x < L, t > 0$ .

Now we can really conclude that

$$\int_0^L (u(x,t))^2 dx > 0 \text{ for all } t \geq 0, \text{ and thus } \underline{E'(t) < 0}.$$

b) Follows as a).

$$c) E'(t) = -2r \int_0^L (u(x,t))^2 dx = -2r E(t) \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow E(t) = E(0) e^{-2rt} \Rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} E(t) = 0.$$

Since  $E(t) \geq 0$ , we have that  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} E(t) = 0$  ✓.

**P11**

a) Check that  $u(x+2L, t) = u(x, t)$  by writing D'Alembert formula.

b) Same as a), with time period  $2L/c$ .

c) Take  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty}$  in D'Alembert formula.

( $\rightarrow$  see solution in Dennis Deturk website: Midterm 1, March 2, 2010).