

Partial Differential Equations

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Generalizations

Notations

Given: domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ ($d = 1, 2, 3 \dots$)

- Dot product: for $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = \sum_{i=1}^d x_i y_i$
- Bounded domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, with piecewise smooth boundary
- Scalar function $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- Vector function $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_d \end{pmatrix} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$
- Partial derivative $\partial_i u = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i}$
- Second partial derivative $\partial_{ij} u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}$

Basic Differential operators

- *Gradient* of scalar function $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$:

$$\text{grad} = \vec{\nabla} = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_1 \\ \vdots \\ \partial_d \end{pmatrix} : u \mapsto \vec{\nabla} u = \begin{pmatrix} \partial_1 u \\ \vdots \\ \partial_d u \end{pmatrix}$$

- *Divergence* of vector function $\vec{v} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$:

$$\text{div} = \nabla \cdot : \vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \nabla \cdot \vec{v} = \partial_1 v_1 + \cdots + \partial_d v_d$$

- *Laplace operator* of scalar function $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{div} \cdot \text{grad} &= \nabla \cdot \vec{\nabla} \\ &= \Delta : u \mapsto \Delta u = \partial_{11} u + \cdots + \partial_{dd} u \end{aligned}$$

Lipschitz domains

Definition: A connected open subset $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is called *domain*. If Ω is a bounded set, the domain is called *bounded*.

Definition:

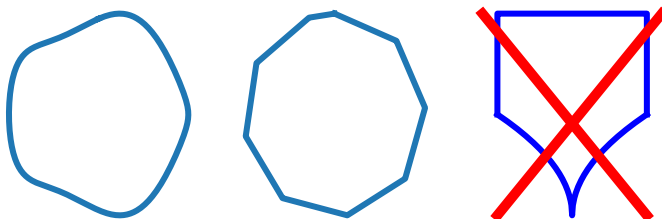
- Let $D \subset \mathbb{R}^n$. A function $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is called *Lipschitz continuous* if there exists $c > 0$ such that $\|f(x) - f(y)\| \leq c\|x - y\|$ for any $x, y \in D$
- A hypersurface in \mathbb{R}^n is a *graph* if for some k it can be represented on some domain $D \subset \mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ as

$$x_k = f(x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}, x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n)$$

- A domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ is a *Lipschitz domain* if for all $x \in \partial\Omega$, there exists a neighborhood of x on $\partial\Omega$ which can be represented as the graph of a Lipschitz continuous function.

Standard PDE calculus happens in Lipschitz domains

- Boundaries of Lipschitz domains are continuous
- Polygonal domains are Lipschitz
- Boundaries of Lipschitz domains have no cusps (e.g. the graph of $y = \sqrt{|x|}$ has a cusp at $x = 0$)



Divergence theorem (Gauss' theorem)

Theorem: Let Ω be a bounded Lipschitz domain and $\vec{v} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ be a continuously differentiable vector function. Let \vec{n} be the outward normal to Ω . Then,

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla \cdot \vec{v} \, d\vec{x} = \int_{\partial\Omega} \vec{v} \cdot \vec{n} \, ds$$

This is a generalization of the Newton-Leibniz rule of calculus:

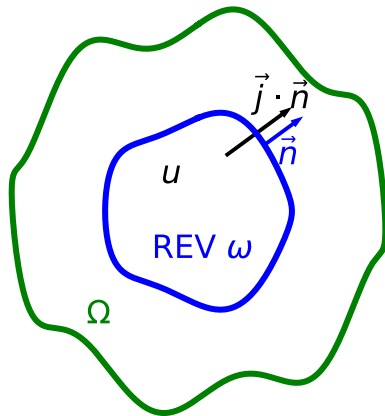
Let $d = 1$, $\Omega = (a, b)$. Then:

- $n_a = (-1)$
- $n_b = (1)$
- $\nabla \cdot v = v'$

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla \cdot \vec{v} \, d\vec{x} = \int_a^b v'(x) \, dx = v(b) - v(a) = v(a)n_a + v(b)n_b$$

Species balance in a REV

- Ω : Domain, $(0, T)$ evolution time interval
- $u(\vec{x}, t) : \Omega \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: time dependent *local amount of species*
- $f(\vec{x}, t) : \Omega \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: species *sources/sinks*
- $\vec{j}(\vec{x}, t)$: vector field of the species *flux*
- $\omega \subset \Omega$: *representative elementary volume (REV)*
- $(t_0, t_1) \subset (0, T)$: subset of the time interval



- $J(t) = \int_{\partial\omega} \vec{j}(\vec{x}, t) \cdot \vec{n} \, ds$: flux of species through $\partial\omega$ at moment t
- $U(t) = \int_{\omega} u(\vec{x}, t) \, d\vec{x}$: amount of species in ω at moment t
- $F(t) = \int_{\omega} f(\vec{x}, t) \, d\vec{x}$: rate of creation/destruction at moment t

Continuity equation

Integral form:

Change of amount of species in ω during (t_0, t_1) proportional to the sum of the amount transported through boundary and the amount created/destroyed

$$U(t_1) - U(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{t_1} J(t) dt = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} F(t) dt$$

Using the definitions of U, J, F , rewrite this as

$$\int_{\omega} (u(\vec{x}, t_1) - u(\vec{x}, t_0)) d\vec{x} + \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\partial\omega} \vec{j}(\vec{x}, t) \cdot \vec{n} ds dt = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\omega} f(\vec{x}, t) ds$$

Using Gauss' theorem, rewrite this as

$$0 = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\omega} \partial_t u(\vec{x}, t) d\vec{x} dt + \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\omega} \nabla \cdot \vec{j}(\vec{x}, t) d\vec{x} dt - \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \int_{\omega} f(\vec{x}, t) ds$$

The last equation is true for all $\omega \subset \Omega, (t_0, t_1) \subset (0, T)$. This allows to conclude:

Differential form:

$$\partial_t u(\vec{x}, t) + \nabla \cdot \vec{j}(\vec{x}, t) = f(\vec{x}, t)$$

That means that whenever one encounters the divergence operator, chances are that it describes a conservation law for certain species. This physical meaning is very concrete and, if possible should be preserved during the process of discretizing PDEs.

Flux expressions

As a rule, species flux $\vec{j}(\vec{x}, t)$ is proportional to $-\vec{\nabla}u(\vec{x}, t)$. This corresponds to the direction of steepest descend.

- Assumption: $\vec{j} = -\delta \vec{\nabla}u$, where $\delta > 0$ can be constant, space dependent or even depend on u . For simplicity, we assume δ to be constant, unless stated otherwise.

Heat conduction

- $u = T$: temperature
- $\delta = \lambda$: heat conduction coefficient
- f : heat source
- $\vec{j} = -\lambda \vec{\nabla}T$: *Fourier law*

Diffusion of molecules in a given medium (for low concentrations)

- $u = c$: concentration
- $\delta = D$: diffusion coefficient
- f : species source (e.g due to reactions)
- $\vec{j} = -D \vec{\nabla}c$: *Fick's law*

Flow in a saturated porous medium:

- $u = p$: pressure
- $\delta = k$: permeability
- $\vec{j} = -k\vec{\nabla}p$: Darcy's law

Electrical conduction:

- $u = \varphi$: electric potential
- $\delta = \sigma$: electric conductivity
- $\vec{j} = -\sigma\vec{\nabla}\varphi \equiv$ current density: Ohm's law

Electrostatics in a constant magnetic field:

- $u = \varphi$: electric potential
- $\delta = \varepsilon$: dielectric permittivity
- $\vec{E} = -\vec{\nabla}\varphi$: electric field
- $\vec{j} = \vec{D} = \varepsilon\vec{E} = \varepsilon\vec{\nabla}\varphi$: electric displacement field: Gauss's Law
- $f = \rho$: charge density

Second order partial differential equations (PDEs)

Combine continuity equation with flux expression.

Transient problem: *Parabolic PDE*:

$$\partial_t u(\vec{x}, t) - \nabla \cdot (\delta \vec{\nabla} u(\vec{x}, t)) = f(\vec{x}, t)$$

Stationary case: $\partial_t u = 0 \Rightarrow$ *Elliptic PDE*

$$-\nabla \cdot (\delta \vec{\nabla} u(\vec{x})) = f(\vec{x})$$

For solvability we need additional conditions:

- Initial condition in the time dependent case: $u(\vec{x}, 0) = u_0(\vec{x})$
- Boundary conditions: behavior of solution on $\partial\Omega \equiv$ interaction with surroundings

Boundary conditions

- Assume $\partial\Omega = \cup_{i=1}^{N_\Gamma} \Gamma_i$ is the union of a finite number of non-intersecting subsets Γ_i which are locally Lipschitz.

Define boundary conditions on each of Γ_i

Dirichlet boundary conditions

Let $g_i : \Gamma_i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

$$u(\vec{x}, t) = g_i(\vec{x}, t) \quad \text{for } \vec{x} \in \Gamma_i$$

- fixed solution at the boundary
- also called *boundary condition of first kind*
- called *homogeneous* for $g_i = 0$

Neumann boundary conditions

Let $g_i : \Gamma_i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

$$-\delta \vec{\nabla} u(\vec{x}, t) \cdot \vec{n} = g_i(\vec{x}, t) \quad \text{for } \vec{x} \in \Gamma_i$$

- fixed boundary normal flux
- also called *boundary condition of second kind*
- called *homogeneous* for $g_i = 0$

Robin boundary conditions

let $\alpha_i > 0, g_i : \Gamma_i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$-\delta \vec{\nabla} u(\vec{x}, t) \cdot \vec{n} + \alpha_i(\vec{x}, t)u(\vec{x}, t) = g_i(\vec{x}, t) \quad \text{for } \vec{x} \in \Gamma_i$$

- Boundary flux proportional to solution
- also called *third kind boundary condition*

- Neumann boundary conditions are a special case of Robin boundary conditions for $\alpha_i = 0$
- Dirichlet boundary conditions can be seen as a limit case $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ of another special case of Robin boundary conditions:

$$-\delta \vec{\nabla} u(\vec{x}, t) \cdot \vec{n} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} u = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} g_i^{Dirichlet}$$

- As a consequence, we will focus on treating Robin boundary conditions.

Generalizations

- δ may depend on \vec{x} , u , $|\vec{\nabla}u|$. . . \Rightarrow equations become nonlinear
- Coefficients can depend on other processes
 - temperature can influence conductivity
 - source terms can describe chemical reactions between different species
 - chemical reactions can generate/consume heat
 - Electric current generates heat ("Joule heating")
 - . . . \Rightarrow coupled PDEs
- Convective terms: $\vec{j} = -\delta \vec{\nabla}u + u\vec{v}$ where \vec{v} is a convective velocity
- PDEs for vector unknowns
 - Momentum balance \Rightarrow Navier-Stokes equations for fluid dynamics
 - Elasticity
 - Maxwell's electromagnetic field equations

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