

1. (Easy question) Differentiating  $u(x, y) = x^2y^4 + e^{xy}$  gives,

$$u_x = 2xy^4 + ye^{xy}, \quad u_y = 4x^2y^3 + xe^{xy}.$$

$$u_{xx} = 2y^4 + y^2e^{xy} \quad u_{yy} = 12x^2y^2 + x^2e^{xy}, \quad u_{xy} = 8xy^3 + xy e^{xy} + e^{xy} = u_{yx}.$$

2. Differentiation  $u(x, y) = \ln \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$  gives

$$u_x = x(x^2 + y^2)^{-1}, \quad u_y = y(x^2 + y^2)^{-1},$$

$$u_{xx} = -2x^2(x^2 + y^2)^{-2} + (x^2 + y^2)^{-1} \quad u_{yy} = -2y^2(x^2 + y^2)^{-2} + (x^2 + y^2)^{-1}$$

Adding the two second derivatives gives:

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

Hence the given  $u(x, y)$  satisfies Laplace's equation in Cartesian co-ordinates. Converting to polar co-ordinates, using the relations  $x = r \cos \theta$ ,  $y = r \sin \theta$  gives  $u(x, y) = u(r, \theta)$ ,  $u(r, \theta) = \ln r$ . From the handout on classical PDEs, Laplace's equation in polar co-ordinates is  $u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r}u_r + \frac{1}{r^2}u_{\theta\theta} = 0$ . Differentiating  $u$  gives

$$u_r = \frac{1}{r}, u_{rr} = -\frac{1}{r^2}, u_{\theta} = 0 = u_{\theta\theta},$$

and so we obtain

$$u_{rr} + \frac{1}{r}u_r + \frac{1}{r^2}u_{\theta\theta} = -\frac{1}{r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{1}{r} + 0 = 0.$$

3. Differentiating  $u(x, t) = \frac{e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}}}{\sqrt{t}}$ , with respect to  $x$  gives,

$$u_x = -\frac{x}{2}t^{-\frac{3}{2}}e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}}, \quad u_{xx} = -\frac{1}{2}t^{-\frac{3}{2}}e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}} \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2t}\right).$$

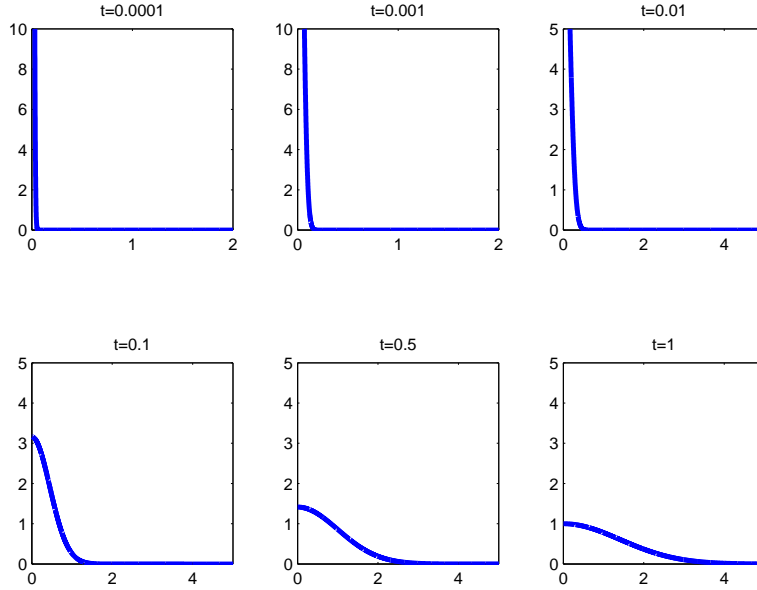
Differentiating  $u(x, t) = \frac{e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}}}{\sqrt{t}}$ , with respect to  $t$  gives,

$$u_t = \frac{x^2}{4}t^{-\frac{5}{2}}e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}} - \frac{1}{2}t^{-\frac{3}{2}}e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}} = -\frac{1}{2}t^{-\frac{3}{2}}e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}} \left(1 - \frac{x^2}{2t}\right).$$

Hence, the suggested  $u(x, t)$  does satisfy the equation:  $u_t = u_{xx}$ . You can also check that  $u(x, t)$  satisfies the following conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} u(0, t) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} & u(\infty, t) &= 0 & u_x(0, t) &= 0, \\ u(0, 0) &= \infty & u_t(x, 0) &= -\infty \end{aligned}$$

We can consider  $u(x, t)$  as representing the temperature in a one-dimensional wire of infinite length. At time  $t = 0$  there is a sudden influx of heat at  $x = 0$ . This heat then diffuses along the bar from the point  $x = 0$ . Since  $u_x(0, t) = 0$ , the end of the wire at  $x = 0$  is 'insulated' and no heat flows out of the bar in the left-hand direction. See below for graphs of  $u(x, t)$  for various values of  $t$ . In each picture, the horizontal axis is the  $x$  axis and we plot only a section of it (since the wire has infinite length).



4. The one-dimensional wave equation can be written in operator notation as  $Lu = 0$  where  $Lu = u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx}$ . Now, give any two solutions  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  (and one is not a scalar multiple of the other) we need to show that i)  $L(u_1 + u_2) = Lu_1 + Lu_2$  and ii)  $L(\alpha u_1) = \alpha Lu_1$  for any constant  $\alpha$ . Both of these conditions are trivial to check:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(u_1 + u_2) &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} (u_1 + u_2) - c^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (u_1 + u_2) \\
 &= \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} \right) + \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2} \right) = Lu_1 + Lu_2. \\
 L(\alpha u_1) &= \frac{\partial^2 \alpha u_1}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 \alpha u_1}{\partial x^2} = \alpha \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} \right) = \alpha Lu_1.
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the two-dimensional version of Laplace's equation is  $Lu = u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$ . We have,

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(u_1 + u_2) &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} (u_1 + u_2) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} (u_1 + u_2) \\
 &= \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial y^2} \\
 &= \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial y^2} \right) + \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_2}{\partial y^2} \right) = Lu_1 + Lu_2. \\
 L(\alpha u_1) &= \frac{\partial^2 \alpha u_1}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \alpha u_1}{\partial y^2} = \alpha \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_1}{\partial y^2} \right) = \alpha Lu_1.
 \end{aligned}$$

5. i) First-order. Non-linear (due to the term  $5uu_y$ ).  
 ii) Second-order. Linear. Homogeneous.  
 iii) First-order. Linear. Homogeneous.  
 iv) Second-order. Linear. Non-homogeneous (due to the term  $2xy$ ).

- v) Fourth-order. Linear. Homogeneous.
- vi) Second-order. Non-linear (due to the term  $\sinh u$ ).
6. Classify the following PDEs as being either elliptic, parabolic or hyperbolic:
- Linear and hyperbolic.  $B^2 - 4AC = +4c^2 > 0$ . (Parabolic if  $c = 0$ .)
  - Linear and elliptic.  $B^2 - 4AC = -4 < 0$ .
  - Linear and hyperbolic.  $B^2 - 4AC = +4 > 0$ .
  - Linear.  $B^2 - 4AC = -4x$ . Hence the PDE is elliptic when  $x > 0$ , parabolic when  $x = 0$  and hyperbolic when  $x < 0$ .
  - Linear.  $B^2 - 4AC = 4(y^2 - x)$ . Hence, the equation is elliptic when  $y^2 < x$ , parabolic when  $y^2 = x$  and hyperbolic when  $y^2 > x$ .
7. i) Find  $u(x, t)$  satisfying the one-dimensional heat equation:

$$u_t = 3.2u_{xx}, \quad \text{for } 0 < x < \pi, t > 0,$$

such that  $u_x(0, t) = 0, u_x(\pi, t) = 0, u(x, 0) = \cos(2x)$ .

- ii) Find  $u(x, t)$  satisfying the one-dimensional wave equation:

$$u_{tt} = (1.5)^2 u_{xx}, \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 2, 0 < t < 2,$$

such that  $u(0, t) = 0, u(2, t) = 0,$   
 and  $u(x, 0) = \sin(3x), u_t(x, 0) = 0$

Note that *two* initial conditions are required to define a unique solution to the wave equation.

- iii) Find  $u(x, y)$  satisfying the two-dimensional version of Laplace's equation:

$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0, \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 10, 0 < y < 10,$$

such that  $u_y(x, 0) = 0, u_y(x, 10) = 0, u(0, y) = 5, u(10, y) = 0.$