

University, Sri Lanka

**EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA**  
**SPECIAL DEGREE EXAMINATION**  
**IN MATHEMATICS, (2001/2002)**  
**(Jan.' 2004)**

**MT 404 - PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS**

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Answer **all** questions ,

Time allowed: **3 Hours**

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Q1. State the connection between the solutions of the first order quasi-linear partial differential equation

$$P(x, y, u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + Q(x, y, u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = R(x, y, u) \quad (1)$$

and the solutions of the system

$$\frac{dx}{P} = \frac{dy}{Q} = \frac{du}{R}.$$

Define the characteristic curves of the partial differential equation (1).

[20 Marks]

(i) Find the solution  $u = u(x, y)$  of the partial differential equation

$$(x - y) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + (y - x - u) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = u$$

which passes through the circle

$$u = 1, \quad x^2 + y^2 = 1.$$

[40 Marks]

ii) Damped nonlinear waves are described by the partial differential equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \rho^n \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} = -a\rho$$

where  $\rho = \rho(x, t)$  and  $a > 0$  and  $n > 0$  are positive constants. Initially

$$\rho(x, 0) = f(x), \quad -\infty < x < \infty.$$

Formulate the problem as a Cauchy initial value problem and show that the wavelet emanating from the point  $x = \tau$  at  $t = 0$  breaks at time

$$t^*(\tau) = -\frac{1}{na} \ln \left( 1 + \frac{a}{f^{n-1}(\tau) f'(\tau)} \right)$$

provided

$$\frac{d}{d\tau}(f^n(\tau)) < -na.$$

[40 Marks]

Q2. Explain the significance of the Monge cone at a point on an integral surface of the first order nonlinear partial differential equation

$$F(x, y, u, p, q) = 0$$

where

$$u = u(x, y), \quad p = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \quad q = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y},$$

and find the equation of the Monge cone at the point  $(x_0, y_0, u_0)$  of an integral surface of the partial differential equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = u.$$

[25 Marks]

Obtain the solution of the equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = u,$$

for  $u(x, y)$  subject to the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = x^2.$$

Show also that for general initial data in parametric form

$$x = x_0(\tau), \quad y = y_0(\tau), \quad u = u_0(\tau)$$

a necessary condition for a real solution of (2) to exist is

$$\left(\frac{du_0}{d\tau}\right)^2 \geq 4u_0 \frac{dx_0}{d\tau} \frac{dy_0}{d\tau}.$$

[75 Marks]

Q3. State the condition for the second order partial differential equation

$$R(x, y) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + S(x, y) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + T(x, y) \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = F\left(x, y, u, \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}\right)$$

to be parabolic.

[10 Marks]

Reduce the partial differential equation

$$y^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - 2xy \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + x^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \frac{y^2}{x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{x^2}{y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$$

to canonical form in the domain  $x > 0, y > 0$ .

[55 Marks]

Obtain the solution  $u(x, y)$  which satisfies the boundary conditions

$$u = 0, \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 2x^2 \quad \text{on the line } y = 1.$$

[35 Marks]

Q4. Define the adjoint operator  $L^*$  of the operator

$$L[u] = u_{xy} + a(x, y)u_x + b(x, y)u_y + c(x, y)u.$$

[10 Marks]

By looking for a solution of the adjoint equation

$$L^*[v] = 0$$

of the form

$$v(x, y) = \frac{x}{y} W(x, y)$$

show that the Riemann function of the operator

$$L[u] = u_{xy} - \frac{1}{y}u_x + \frac{1}{x}u_y - \frac{1}{xy}u$$

is

$$R(x, y; x_1, y_1) = \frac{xy_1}{yx_1}.$$

[50 Marks]

Hence solve the partial differential equation

$$u_{xy} - \frac{1}{y}u_x + \frac{1}{x}u_y - \frac{1}{xy}u = \frac{y}{x}$$

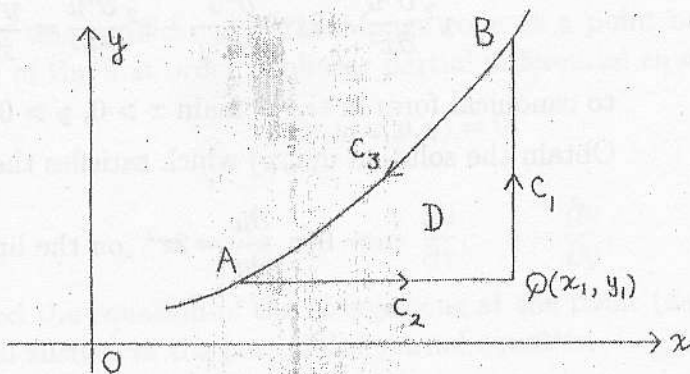
in the domain  $x > 0$  and  $y > 0$ , subject to the initial conditions

$$u = x \sin x, \quad u_y = \sin x,$$

on the straight line  $y = x$ .

[40 Marks]

Useful formulae:



$$u_{xy} + a(x, y)u_x + b(x, y)u_y + c(x, y)u = f(x, y).$$

$$R(x_1, y_1; x_1, y_1) = 1,$$

$$R(x_1, y; x_1, y_1) = \exp\left(\int_{y_1}^y a(x_1, \sigma) d\sigma\right),$$

$$R(x, y_1; x_1, y_1) = \exp\left(\int_{x_1}^x b(\sigma, y_1) d\sigma\right).$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(x_1, y_1) = & \frac{1}{2} [R(A; x_1, y_1) u(A) + R(B; x_1, y_1) u(B)] \\
 & - \int \int_D R(x, y; x_1, y_1) f(x, y) dx dy \\
 & + \int_{c_3} \left( auR + \frac{1}{2} Ru_y - \frac{1}{2} uR_y \right) dy - \left( buR + \frac{1}{2} Ru_x - \frac{1}{2} uR_x \right) dx.
 \end{aligned}$$

Q5. Show, by using an appropriate Riemann function, that the solution of the Cauchy problem for the telegraph equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_{xx} - \frac{1}{c^2} u_{tt} - \frac{(\alpha + \beta)}{c^2} u_t - \frac{\alpha\beta u}{c^2} &= 0, \\
 u(x, 0) = 0, \quad u_t(x, 0) &= g(x),
 \end{aligned}$$

is

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2c} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2}(\alpha + \beta)t \right] \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} I_0 \left[ \frac{1}{2c} \{(\alpha - \beta)^2(c^2t^2 - (s-x)^2)\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right] g(s) ds$$

where  $I_0(y)$  is the modified Bessel function of the first kind of order zero, defined by

$$I_0(y) = J_0(iy) = \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{(r!)^2} \left(\frac{y}{2}\right)^{2r},$$

and  $J_0$  is the ordinary Bessel function of the first kind of order zero.

[100 Marks]

Useful formulae:

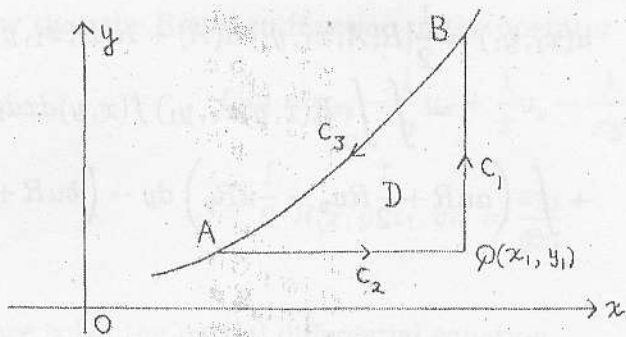
The Riemann function for the operator

$$L[u] = u_{xy} + cu, \quad c = \text{constant},$$

is

$$R(x, y; x_1, y_1) = J_0[2\{c(x - x_1)(y - y_1)\}^{\frac{1}{2}}]$$

where  $J_0$  is the ordinary Bessel function of the first kind of order zero.



$$u_{xy} + a(x, y)u_x + b(x, y)u_y + c(x, y)u = f(x, y).$$

$$R(x_1, y_1; x_1, y_1) = 1,$$

$$R(x_1, y; x_1, y_1) = \exp\left(\int_{y_1}^y a(x_1, \sigma) d\sigma\right),$$

$$R(x, y_1; x_1, y_1) = \exp\left(\int_{x_1}^x b(\sigma, y_1) d\sigma\right).$$

$$u(x_1, y_1) = \frac{1}{2}[R(A; x_1, y_1)u(A) + R(B; x_1, y_1)u(B)]$$

$$- \int \int_D R(x, y; x_1, y_1) f(x, y) dx dy$$

$$+ \int_{c_3} \left( auR + \frac{1}{2}Ru_y - \frac{1}{2}uR_y \right) dy - \left( buR + \frac{1}{2}Ru_x - \frac{1}{2}uR_x \right) dx.$$

Q6. Define the following terms:

- Dirac delta function,
- Heaviside step function.

[10 Marks]

By investigating under what scalings the problem

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_t - u_{xx} &= \delta(x) \delta(t), & -\infty < x < \infty, & t \geq 0, \\
 u(x, 0^-) &= 0, & -\infty < x < \infty, &
 \end{aligned}$$

is invariant, show that its solution is of the form

$$u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} f\left(\frac{x^2}{t}\right).$$

[40 Marks]

You may use without proof any result for the Dirac delta function. Denote the solution of the problem

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_t - u_{xx} &= \delta(x - \xi) \delta(t - \tau), & -\infty < x < \infty, & t \geq \tau, \\
 u(x, \tau^-) &= 0, & -\infty < x < \infty, &
 \end{aligned}$$

by

$$u = F(x - \xi, t - \tau).$$

Show that the solution of the problem

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_t - u_{xx} &= p(x, t), & -\infty < x < \infty, & t \geq 0, \\
 u(x, 0^-) &= 0, & -\infty < x < \infty, &
 \end{aligned}$$

is

$$u(x, t) = \int_{\xi=-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{\tau=0^-}^t p(\xi, \tau) F(x - \xi, t - \tau) d\tau d\xi.$$

[50 Marks]