

Extra for the first lecture

E.1.1

The "extras" will not contain more material but they are meant to be an additional aid to the comprehension of the material and are mostly based on your questions and feedbacks.

Linear, quasilinear, nonlinear? Let's learn how to recognize these classes of equations:

1. General form of a LINEAR PDE for an unknown function in two independent variables $u(x,y)$:

$$\underline{a(x,y)}u_x + \underline{b(x,y)}u_y + \underline{c(x,y)}u(x,y) = \underline{d(x,y)}$$

(1st order) a, b, c, d are not dependent on u

2. General form of a second order LINEAR PDE for $u = u(x,y)$

$$a(x,y)u_{xx} + b(x,y)u_{yy} + 2c(x,y)u_{xy} + d(x,y)u_x + e(x,y)u_y + f(x,y)u = g(x,y)$$

3. General form of a QUASILINEAR PDE for $u(x,y)$
(First order)

$$\underline{a(x,y,u)}u_x + \underline{b(x,y,u)}u_y + c(x,y,u) = 0$$

a and b depend on u but not on u_x and/or u_y .
 c does not depend on u_x and/or u_y .

4. General form of a second order quasi-linear PDE (it is linear in the highest order derivatives, (in this case second order))

$$\underline{a(x, y, u, u_x, u_y)u_{xx}} + \underline{b(x, y, u, u_x, u_y)u_{yy}} + \underline{+2c(x, y, u, u_x, u_y)u_{xy}} = \underline{d(x, y, u, u_x, u_y)}$$

A non linear equation can be quasilinear if it is linear in the highest order terms.

A quasilinear equation is a non linear equation but with a good property of being linear w.r.t. the highest terms, that can be thought as "dominant".

Examples :

• $u_x + u_{tt} + 3u = e^x$ non homogeneous, 2nd order linear

• $u_x + u_{tt} + 3uu_x = e^x$ 2nd order, nonlinear but quasilinear
(u_{tt} appears linearly)

• $u_{xx} + (u_t)^2 + e^u = 0$ 2nd order, non linear but quasilinear
because u_{xx} appears linearly

• $(u_{xx})^2 + u_t + e^u = 0$ 2nd order, nonlinear
because u_{xx} appears non-linearly

appears linearly

• $\sin(u) + u_x + u_{yy} = 0$

second order,
quasilinear

• $u + u_x + \sin(u_{yy}) = 0$
nonlinear term

second order,
non linear

• $u \sin(u_x) + u_{yy} = 0$
linear term

second order, non linear
but quasilinear

• $(u_x)^2 + (u_y)^2 + u_{xy} = 0$
nonlinear terms BUT first order
linear second order

second order,
quasilinear.

• $\det(D^2 u) = f$

second order,
non linear

Monge-Ampère eq.

↓
the determinant is MULTILINEAR and linear only for matrices of size 1.

• $|\nabla u| = f$
"
 $\sqrt{(u_x)^2 + (u_y)^2}$

1st order,
non linear

→ v vector (v_1, \dots, v_n)

• $u_t + \text{div}(\underline{v} u) = \Delta u + f$

second order, non
hom, linear

divergence, daplacion and gradient are linear operators!

$\sum_i v_i u_{x_i}$

