

# my Partial differential equations cheat sheet

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July 7, 2016      compiled on — Thursday July 07, 2016 at 12:19 AM

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## 1 introduction

These are part of my study notes on PDE's.

Trying to classify PDE's, here is current diagram. It is very large, but it is meant to include a summary of many methods in one place. Easier to view in a browser than in the pdf.

Some diagrams I made

1-D PDE

$$u_t = a u_x$$

$a$  wave speed

IC:  $u(x, 0) = u_0(x)$

BC: *periodic*

analytical solution  $u(x, t) = u_0(x - at)$

Forward time, centered  
space (FTCS)

Lax-Friedrich

Lax-Wendroff

Crank-Nicolson

Leapfrog

Beam-Warming

Upwind

**1-D PDE**

1-D Parabolic (heat equation or diffusion)  
Stiff, Implicit, small time step

$$u_t = Du_{xx}$$

$D$  diffusion constant  $> 0$

IC:  $u(x, 0) = u_0(x)$

BC:  $u(0, t) = g(t), u(1, t) = f(t)$

**FTCS (Forward-time, centered space)**  
(second order in space, first order in time)

**Crank Nicholson**  
(second order in space, second order in time)

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{k} = D \frac{(u_{i-1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i+1}^n)}{h^2}$$

$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n + \frac{Dk}{h^2} (u_{i-1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i+1}^n)$$

$$u_i^{n+1} = \frac{Dk}{h^2} u_{i-1}^n + \left(1 - 2\frac{Dk}{h^2}\right) u_i^n + \frac{Dk}{h^2} u_{i+1}^n$$

Let  $r = \frac{Dk}{h^2}$

$$u_i^{n+1} = ru_{i-1}^n + (1 - 2r)u_i^n + ru_{i+1}^n$$

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{k} = \frac{D}{2} \left( \frac{(u_{i-1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i+1}^n)}{h^2} + \frac{(u_{i-1}^{n+1} - 2u_i^{n+1} + u_{i+1}^{n+1})}{h^2} \right)$$

$$u_i^{n+1} - \frac{Dk}{2h^2} (u_{i-1}^{n+1} - 2u_i^{n+1} + u_{i+1}^{n+1}) = u_i^n + \frac{Dk}{2h^2} (u_{i-1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i+1}^n)$$

$$-\frac{Dk}{2h^2} u_{i-1}^{n+1} + \left(1 - \frac{Dk}{h^2}\right) u_i^{n+1} - \frac{Dk}{2h^2} u_{i+1}^{n+1} = \frac{Dk}{2h^2} u_{i-1}^n + \left(1 - \frac{Dk}{h^2}\right) u_i^n + \frac{Dk}{2h^2} u_{i+1}^n$$

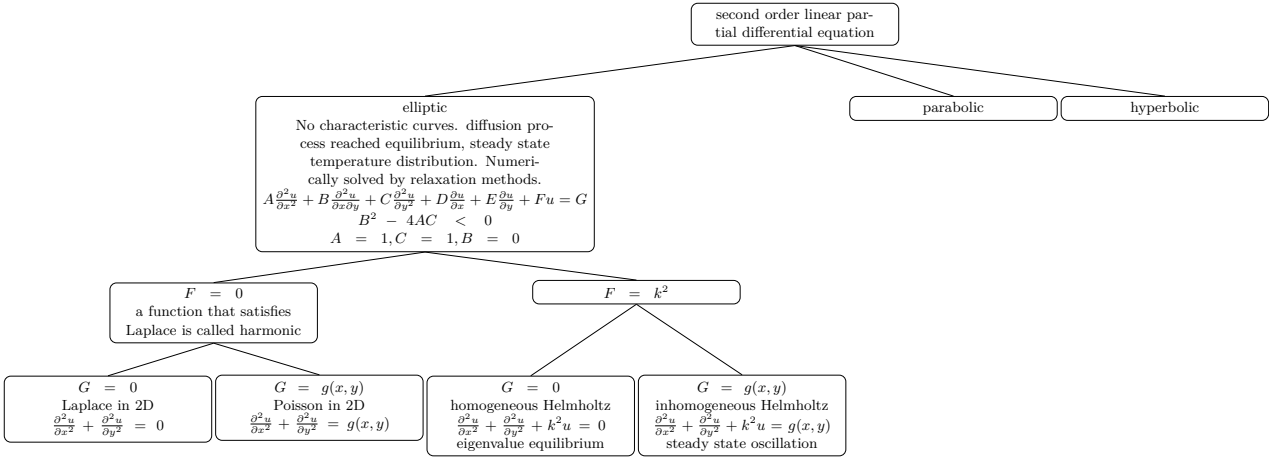
Let  $r = \frac{Dk}{2h^2}$

$$-ru_{i-1}^{n+1} + (1 - 2r)u_i^{n+1} - ru_{i+1}^{n+1} = ru_{i-1}^n + (1 - 2r)u_i^n + ru_{i+1}^n$$

**$Au^{n+1} = Bu^n$**

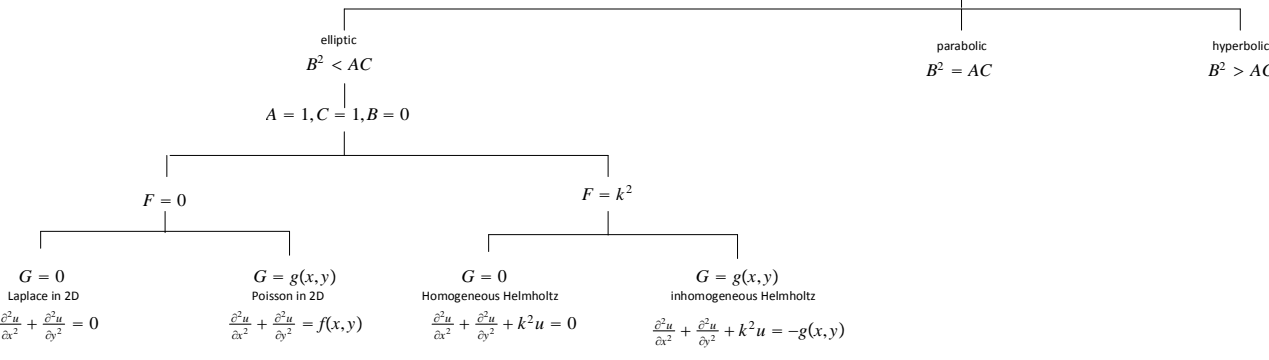
1D PDE, parabolic, heat/  
diffusion, C-N

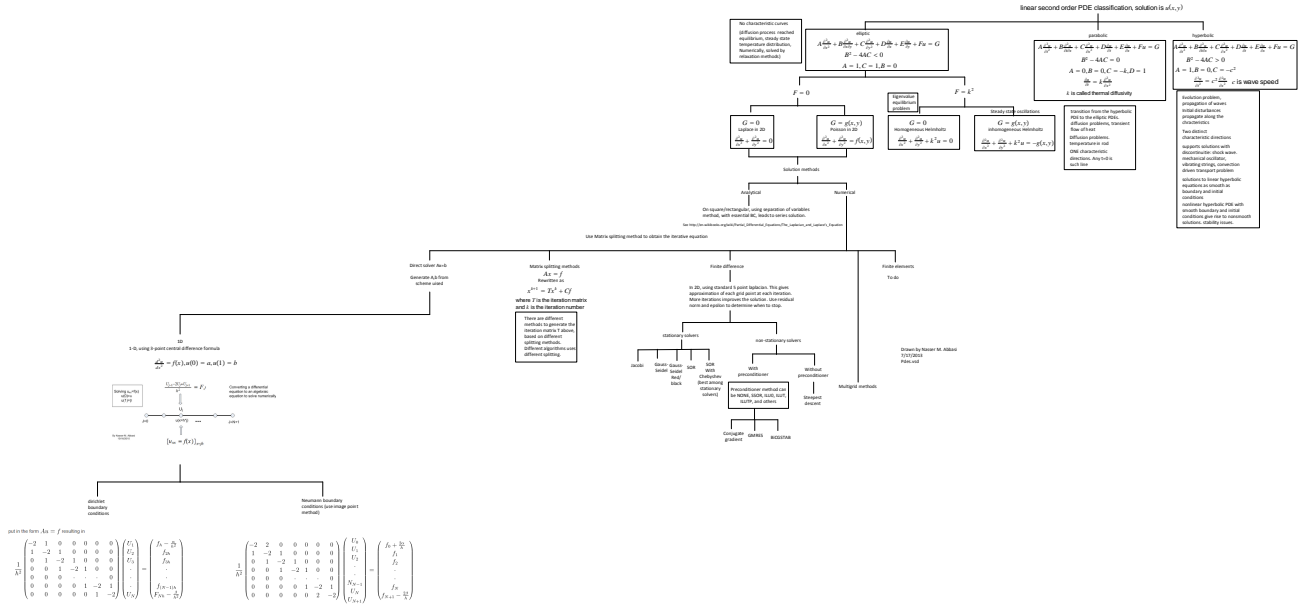
$$\begin{bmatrix} (1-2r) & -r & & & \\ -r & (1-2r) & -r & & \\ & -r & \ddots & -r & \\ & & & -r & (1-2r) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_2^{n+1} \\ u_3^{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1}^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (1-2r) & r & & & \\ r & (1-2r) & r & & \\ & r & \ddots & r & \\ & & & r & (1-2r) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_2^n \\ u_3^n \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1}^n \end{bmatrix}$$



linear second order PDE classification, solution is  $u(x,y)$

$$A \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 2B \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + C \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + D \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + E \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + Fu = G$$





To derive the PDE, we start by setting up the state quantities and the flow quantities, and relate these to each others by the use of the constitutive law. Then substituting this into the local conservation law, lead to the PDE.

state quantity	constitutive law	flow quantity
density temperature pressure specific internal energy entropy	$\iff$	tension velocity momentum heat flux

## 2 linear PDE's

### 2.1 Elliptic

Some properties

1. Solution to the PDE represents steady state of  $u$ .
2. Only boundary conditions are used to solve. No initial conditions.
3. Relation to complex analytic functions: If  $f(z) = \phi(x,y) + i\psi(x,y)$  is analytic, then  $\phi(x,y)$  and  $\psi(x,y)$  are solutions to Laplace pde's
4. Solutions to Laplace PDE are called harmonic functions.
5. constitutive law: Either consider them as stationary process, or take the time dependent pde, and set those terms in that which depend on time to zero.

Examples of elliptic PDE's

1. Laplace  $u_{xx} = 0$  or in general  $\nabla^2 u = 0$
2. Poisson  $u_{xx} = -f(x)$
3. Helmholtz in 1D  $u_{xx} + \lambda u(x) = -f(x)$
4. Helmholtz in 2D  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} + \lambda u(x,y) = -f(x,y)$

### 2.2 Parabolic

Some properties

1. Diffusion. Material spread is one specific example of diffusion. Here the state variable is the concentration of the diffusing material. The flow quantity is its flux. The constitutive law is Fick's law.
2. Heat spread. Here the state variable is the temperature, and the flow quantity is the heat flux. The constitutive law is Fourier's law.
3. Stiff PDE, hence requires small time step, solved using implicit methods, not explicit for stability.
4. Numerically, use Crank-Nicolson, in 2D, can use ADI.
5. Requires initial and boundary conditions to solve.

Examples of parabolic PDE's

1. Diffusion.  $u_t - Du_{xx} = 0$  where  $D$  is the diffusion constant, must be positive quantity. For heat PDE,  $D$  is the thermal diffusivity  $D = \kappa / c_p \rho$  where  $\kappa$  is thermal conductivity,  $c_p$  is specific heat capacity,  $\rho$  is density of medium.
2. In higher spatial dimension  $u_t - D\nabla^2 u = 0$
3. Foller-Plank, Black-Sholes PDEs
4. Diffusion-Reaction  $u_t - Du_{xx} = F(u(x,t))$  where  $F(u(x,t))$  is the reaction term, which can be stiff or not. Examples
  - a) Fischer equation, nonlinear PDE for modeling population growth.  $u_t - Du_{xx} = ru(x,t)(1 - \frac{u(x,t)}{K})$  where  $K$  is carrying capacity, and  $r$  is growth rate.

## 2.3 Hyperbolic

Some properties

1. Advection PDE (or Transport or convection?).  $u_t + au_x = 0$ , Transport or drift of conserved substance (pollutant) in Fluid or Gas where  $a$  is speed of fluid. Analytic solution is  $u(x,t) = f(x - at)$  where  $f(x) = u(x,0)$  is the initial conditions.
2. The state variable is the concentration  $u$  of the contaminant, and the flow quantity is its flux  $\phi$ . The constitutive law is  $\phi = cu$ .
3. Wave equation  $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$ . Analytic solution is  $u(x,t) = \frac{1}{2}[f(x-ct) + f(x+ct)] + \frac{1}{2c} \int_{x-ct}^{x+ct} g(y) dy$  where  $f(x) = u(x,0)$  and  $g(x) = u_t(x,0)$ .

Examples

1. Advection, Wave (See above)
2. non-homogeneous advection and wave:  $u_t + au_x = f(x,t)$  and  $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} + f(x,t)$ .
3. Klein-Gordon  $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx} - bu$
4. Telegraphy  $u_{tt} + ku_t = c^2 u_{xx} + bu$

## 3 hints

reference

Characteristics are curves in the space of the independent variables along which the governing PDE has only total differentials

## 4 references

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2. Applied partial differential equations. 4th edition, Richard Haberman
3. <http://www.phy.ornl.gov/csep/pde/node3.html>
4. [http://www.me.metu.edu.tr/courses/me582/files/PDE\\_Introduction\\_by\\_Hoffman.pdf](http://www.me.metu.edu.tr/courses/me582/files/PDE_Introduction_by_Hoffman.pdf)
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6. [http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/Partial\\_differential\\_equation](http://www.scholarpedia.org/article/Partial_differential_equation)
7. <http://how.gi.alaska.edu/ao/sim/chapters/chap3.pdf> good discussion on classification via Characteristics lines

8. <http://gwu.geverstine.com/pde.pdf> table on classification, diagram for discriminant sign