

Differential Equations II for Engineering Students

Homework sheet 1

Exercise 1: (Repetition Analysis II)

For the derivation of parameter-dependent integrals for sufficiently smooth f holds the **Leibniz-Rule** :

$$\frac{d}{dx} \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} f(x, t) dt = \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \frac{d}{dx} f(x, t) dt + b'(x) f(x, b(x)) - a'(x) f(x, a(x))$$

Find the derivative of the function $F(x)$ defined as

$$F(x) := \int_{-x}^{x^2} e^{xt} dt$$

and compute $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} F'(x)$.

Solution to Exercise 1:

$$F(x) = \int_{-x}^{x^2} e^{xt} dt, \quad b(x) := x^2, \quad a(x) := -x, \quad f(t, x) := e^{xt}$$

$$\begin{aligned} b'(x) &= 2x & a'(x) &= -1 \\ f(b(x), x) &= e^{x^3} & f(a(x), x) &= e^{-x^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
F'(x) &= \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(t, x) dt + b'(x)f(b(x), x) - a'(x)f(a(x), x) \\
&= \int_{-x}^{x^2} t e^{xt} dt + 2x e^{x^3} + e^{-x^2} \\
&= \left[\frac{t}{x} e^{tx} \right]_{-x}^{x^2} - \int_{-x}^{x^2} \frac{1}{x} e^{xt} dt + 2x e^{x^3} + e^{-x^2} \\
&= 3x e^{x^3} + 2e^{-x^2} - \frac{1}{x^2} [e^{tx}]_{-x}^{x^2} = 3x e^{x^3} + 2e^{-x^2} - \frac{1}{x^2} (e^{x^3} - e^{-x^2})
\end{aligned}$$

Substitution/ L'Hospital gives:

$$F'(0) = 0 + 2 - \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{x^2} (e^{x^3} - e^{-x^2}) = 2 - \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{3x^2 e^{x^3} + 2x e^{-x^2}}{2x} = 2 - 1 = 1.$$

Exercise 2:

A simple traffic flow model:

We consider a one-dimensional flow of vehicles along an infinitely long, single-lane road. In a so-called macroscopic model, one does not consider individual vehicles, but the total flow of vehicles. For this purpose, we introduce the following quantities:

$u(x, t)$ = (length-)density of the vehicles at the point x at the time t
 = vehicles/unit length at point x at the time t

$v(x, t)$ = speed at the point x at the time t ,

$q(x, t) = u(x, t) \cdot v(x, t)$ = flow
 = amount of vehicles passing the point x at the time t per unit time

- a) Assume that there are no entrances or exits, no vehicles are disappearing, and no new vehicles are appearing. Let $N(t, a, \Delta a) :=$ number of vehicles on a space interval $[a, a + \Delta a]$ at the time t .

Then on the one hand it holds that

$$N(t, a, \Delta a) = \int_a^{a+\Delta a} u(x, t) dx$$

and on the other hand it also holds

$$N(t, a, \Delta a) - N(t_0, a, \Delta a) = \int_{t_0}^t q(a, \tau) - q(a + \Delta a, \tau) d\tau.$$

Derive from this the so-called conservation equation for the mass (number of vehicles)

$$u_t + q_x = 0.$$

Hints on how to proceed:

- Derive both formulas for N with respect to t . Please note that for the derivation of parameter-dependent integrals with sufficiently smooth f holds the **Leibniz rule**:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} f(x, t) dt = \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \frac{d}{dx} f(x, t) dt + b'(x) f(x, b(x)) - a'(x) f(x, a(x))$$

- Divide by Δa .
- Consider the limit $\Delta a \rightarrow 0$.

- b) Additionally assume that the velocity depends only on the density:
 $v = v(u)$. Show that in this case the equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{dq}{du} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

describes the conservation of mass.

- c) We now assume in a first simple model that the speed increases in inverse proportion to the density and that the density is positive.

$$v(x, t) = c + \frac{k}{u(x, t)}$$

What is the continuity equation (=conservation equation for the mass)?

- d) Solve the continuity equation derived in part c) for $c = 3$ and the initial condition $u(x, 0) = e^{-x^2}$.

Show that every sufficiently smooth function $u(x, t) = f(x - ct)$ solves the differential equation. Define f such that the initial condition is satisfied.

Solution:

- a) On the one hand, it holds
$$N(t) = \int_a^{a+\Delta a} u(x, t) dx$$

and on the other hand
$$N(t) - N(t_0) = \int_{t_0}^t q(a, \tau) - q(a + \Delta a, \tau) d\tau.$$

Differentiating with respect to t gives

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} N(t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_a^{a+\Delta a} u(x, t) dx = q(a, t) - q(a + \Delta a, t)$$

Letting Δa to zero, and with sufficient smoothness of the functions, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\Delta a \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\Delta a} \int_a^{a+\Delta a} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(x, t) dx &= \lim_{\Delta a \rightarrow 0} -\frac{q(a + \Delta a, t) - q(a, t)}{\Delta a} \\ \implies \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(a, t) &= -\frac{\partial}{\partial a} q(a, t). \end{aligned}$$

Since these considerations hold at every point, we have the continuity equation

$$u_t + q_x = 0.$$

- b) Actually is straightforward, since in this case we have $q(x, t) = u(x, t) \cdot v(u(x, t))$. The flow q is therefore a function of $u(x, t)$. The assertion then follows from the chain rule.

In more details:

With $q(x, t) = u(x, t) \cdot v(u(x, t))$ we have

$$\frac{dq}{du} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{d}{du} (u \cdot v(u)) \cdot u_x = (v(u) + u \cdot v_u) \cdot u_x$$

and on the other hand it holds

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} q(x, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (u(x, t) \cdot v(u(x, t))) = u_x \cdot v(u) + u \cdot v_u \cdot u_x.$$

c)

$$v(x, t) = c + \frac{k}{u(x, t)} \quad q(x, t) = c \cdot u(x, t) + k$$

From the continuity equation from part b) we have

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{dq}{du} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

The linear transport equation is thus obtained.

d) We have to solve the equation from part c)

$$u_t + 3u_x = 0.$$

With the ansatz $u(x, t) = f(x - 3t)$ it holds

$$u_t(x, t) = f'(x - 3t) \cdot (-3), \quad u_x(x, t) = f'(x - 3t)$$

and hence $u_t + 3u_x = 0$.

The initial condition requires:

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \stackrel{!}{=} e^{-x^2} \implies u(x, t) = f(x - 3t) = e^{-(x-3t)^2}.$$

Note : This is a very simple, linearized model. For example, it allows for any density and any speed. A somewhat more realistic problem would already produce shock and rarefaction waves (see later exercises).

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