

HOMEWORK 1

MATH 3120

Unless stated otherwise, the notation and terminology below is the same used in class.

Problem 1. Review multivariable calculus, especially the chain rule in several variables and vector identities/operators.

Problem 2. Verify whether the given function is a solution of the given PDE:

(a) $u(x, y) = y \cos x + \sin y \sin x$, $u_{xx} + u = 0$.

(b) $u(x, y) = \cos x \sin y$, $(u_{xx})^2 + (u_{yy})^2 = 0$.

Problem 3. Determine whether the PDEs below are linear or nonlinear:

(a) $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + e^t \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + u = 0$.

(b) $\partial_x u \partial_y u = 1$.

(c) $\frac{\partial^2 z}{\partial t^2} + e^t \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + \cos z = 0$.

(d) $(u_{xx})^2 + (u_{yy})^2 = 1$.

Problem 4. Consider Maxwell's equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\operatorname{div} E &= \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0}, \\ \operatorname{div} B &= 0, \\ \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} + \operatorname{curl} E &= 0, \\ \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} - \frac{1}{\mu_0 \varepsilon_0} \operatorname{curl} B &= -\frac{1}{\varepsilon_0} J.\end{aligned}$$

Assume that ρ and J vanish. Show that Maxwell's equations then imply that E and B satisfy the wave equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0} \Delta E = 0,$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^2 B}{\partial t^2} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0} \Delta B = 0.$$

Interpret your result. Can you guess what the constant $\frac{1}{\varepsilon_0 \mu_0}$ must equal to?