

Differential Equations II for Engineering Students

Work sheet 2

Exercise 1:

Determine the entropy solution to Burgers' equation $u_t + uu_x = 0$ with the initial data

$$\text{a) } u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 1 & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 2 & 1 < x \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{b) } u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 2 & x < 0 \\ 1 & 0 \leq x \leq 2 \\ 0 & 2 < x \end{cases}$$

Exercise 2)

Given a conservation equation $u_t + \left(\frac{u^4}{16}\right)_x = 0$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $t \in \mathbb{R}^+$.

- Are the characteristics $(x(t), t)$ straight lines? Explain your answer.
- Given the initial data $u(x, 0) = 2 + \arctan(x)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}$. Determine the characteristic through the point $(0, 0)$.
- Check which of the functions u^* , \tilde{u} , \hat{u} given below is the (weak) entropy solution for the initial values

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } x \leq 0, \\ 1 & \text{for } x > 0 \end{cases}$$

$$u^*(x, t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } x \leq \frac{3}{2}t, \\ 1 & \text{for } x > \frac{3}{2}t. \end{cases} \quad \tilde{u}(x, t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } x \leq \frac{15}{16}t, \\ 1 & \text{for } x > \frac{15}{16}t. \end{cases}$$

$$\hat{u}(x, t) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } x \leq 0, \\ 2 - \frac{x}{t} & \text{for } 0 < x \leq t, \\ 1 & \text{for } x > t. \end{cases}$$

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