

Partial Differential Equations (First Order)

1. Formation of Partial Differential Equation

A partial differential equation (PDE) is an equation involving partial derivatives of a function of two or more independent variables. The formation of a PDE is done by eliminating arbitrary constants or arbitrary functions from a given relation.

Example: Form the PDE from $z = ax + by$, where a and b are constants.

Differentiate partially with respect to x : $\partial z / \partial x = a$

Differentiate partially with respect to y : $\partial z / \partial y = b$

Eliminating a and b , we get the PDE: $z = x(\partial z / \partial x) + y(\partial z / \partial y)$.

2. Classification of First Order Partial Differential Equations

A general first order PDE can be written as $F(x, y, z, p, q) = 0$, where $p = \partial z / \partial x$ and $q = \partial z / \partial y$.

Types:

1. Linear PDE: $ap + bq = c$, where a, b, c are functions of x and y .
2. Non-linear PDE: p and q appear non-linearly, e.g., $p^2 + q^2 = 1$.
3. Lagrange's Type: $Pp + Qq = R$.
4. Charpit's Type: $F(x, y, z, p, q) = 0$ (general non-linear form).

3. Lagrange's Method

Lagrange's method is used to solve first order linear PDEs of the form:

$$Pp + Qq = R.$$

The auxiliary equations are:

$$dx/P = dy/Q = dz/R.$$

Example: Solve $p + q = z$.

Here, $P = 1, Q = 1, R = z$.

Auxiliary equations: $dx/1 = dy/1 = dz/z$.

From $dx = dy \Rightarrow x - y = C_1$.

From $dx = dz/z \Rightarrow \ln z - x = C_2$.

Hence, the complete solution is $F(x - y, \ln z - x) = 0$.

4. Charpit's Method

Charpit's method is used to solve non-linear first order PDEs of the form:

$$F(x, y, z, p, q) = 0.$$

Charpit's auxiliary equations are:

$$dx / F_p = dy / F_q = dz / (pF_p + qF_q) = dp / (-F_x - pF_z) = dq / (-F_y - qF_z).$$

Example: Solve $p^2 + q^2 = 1$.

Here, $F = p^2 + q^2 - 1$.

$F_p = 2p, F_q = 2q, F_x = F_y = F_z = 0$.

Thus, $dp = 0$ and $dq = 0 \Rightarrow p = a, q = b$ (constants).

Given $a^2 + b^2 = 1$.

Integrating: $dz = a dx + b dy$.

Hence, $z = ax + by + c$, where $a^2 + b^2 = 1$.