

Local Conservation Laws for Nonlinear Models: Theory, Systematic Construction, and Computation Examples

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- 2 Direct CL Construction; Symbolic Computation in Maple
- 3 Variational Systems of Differential Equations
- 4 Local Symmetries and the Noether's Theorem
- 5 Discussion
- 6 Appendix: A CL Classification Problem

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Variables:

- Independent: $\mathbf{x} = (x^1, x^2, \dots, x^n)$ or (t, x^1, x^2, \dots) or (t, x, y, \dots) .
- Dependent: $\mathbf{u} = (u^1(\mathbf{x}), u^2(\mathbf{x}), \dots, u^m(\mathbf{x}))$ or $(u(\mathbf{x}), v(\mathbf{x}), \dots)$.

Partial derivatives:

- Notation:

$$\frac{\partial u^k}{\partial x^m} = u_{x^m}^k = \partial_{x^m} u^k.$$

- E.g.,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(x, y, t) = u_t = \partial_t u.$$

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All first-order partial derivatives of \mathbf{u} : $\partial \mathbf{u}$.

- E.g.,

$$\mathbf{u} = (u^1(x, t), u^2(x, t)), \quad \partial \mathbf{u} = \{u_x^1, u_t^1, u_x^2, u_t^2\}.$$

Higher-order partial derivatives

- Notation: for example,

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(x, y, z) = u_{xx} = \partial_x^2 u.$$

- All p^{th} -order partial derivatives: $\partial^p \mathbf{u}$.

Differential functions:

- A **differential function** is an expression that may involve independent and dependent variables, and derivatives of dependent variables to some order.

$$F[\mathbf{u}] = F(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \partial\mathbf{u}, \dots, \partial^p\mathbf{u}).$$

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Differential equations:

- A **differential equation** of order k :

$$R[\mathbf{u}] = R(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \partial\mathbf{u}, \dots, \partial^k \mathbf{u}) = 0.$$

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Example:

- The 1D **diffusion equation** for $u(x, t)$ can be written as

$$0 = u_t - u_{xx} = H(u, u_t, u_{xx}) = H[u].$$

The **total derivative** of a differential function:

- A basic chain rule.
- E.g., let $u = u(x, y)$, $g[u] = g(x, y, u, u_x, u_y)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} D_x g[u] &\equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial x} g(x, y, u, u_x, u_y) \Big|_{u=u(x,y)} \\ &= \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial u} u_x + \frac{\partial g}{\partial u_x} u_{xx} + \frac{\partial g}{\partial u_y} u_{xy}. \end{aligned}$$

Multi-indices:

$$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n), \quad \alpha_i \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}, \quad |\alpha| := \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_n.$$

$$u_\alpha^\sigma \equiv \frac{\partial^{|\alpha|} u^\sigma}{\partial (x^1)^{\alpha_1} \dots \partial (x^n)^{\alpha_n}}.$$

$$\delta_i \equiv (0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0)$$

$$r\delta_i \equiv (0, \dots, 0, \underset{(i)}{r}, 0, \dots, 0), \quad r \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$D_i \equiv D_{x^i} = \partial_{x^i} + u_{\alpha+\delta_i}^p \partial_{u_\alpha^p}$$

$$D^\alpha \equiv D_1^{\alpha_1} \dots D_n^{\alpha_n}$$

Conservation laws

- A local conservation law: a divergence expression equal to zero,

$$D_i \Psi^i[\mathbf{u}] \equiv \operatorname{div} \Psi^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0.$$

- For models involving time:

$$D_t \Theta[\mathbf{u}] + \operatorname{div}_x \Psi[\mathbf{u}] = 0.$$

- $\Theta[\mathbf{u}]$: conserved density.
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Example (PDE 1):

$$\mathbf{u}(x, y, z) = (u^1, u^2, u^3),$$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{u} = D_x u^1 + D_y u^2 + D_z u^3 = u_x^1 + u_y^2 + u_z^3 = 0.$$

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Example (PDE 2):

$$u = u(x, t),$$

$$D_t(u) - D_x(u_x) = u_t - u_{xx} = 0.$$

Conservation laws

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- A local conservation law \Leftrightarrow a global conservation principle.

- Given: a local CL for a time-dependent system,

$$D_t \Theta[\mathbf{u}] + \operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \Psi[\mathbf{u}] = 0.$$

- Integrate in the spatial domain:

$$\int_V D_t \Theta dV + \int_V (\operatorname{div}_{\mathbf{x}} \Psi) dV = \int_V D_t \Theta dV + \oint_{\partial V} \Psi \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0.$$

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- When the total flux vanishes,

$$\oint_{\partial V} \Psi[\mathbf{u}] \cdot d\mathbf{S} = 0,$$

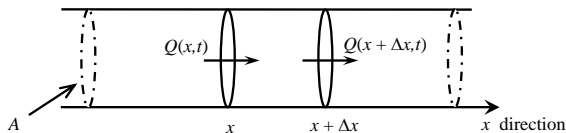
one has

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_V \Theta[\mathbf{u}] dV = 0,$$

i.e., a global conserved quantity (an **integral of motion**):

$$Q = \int_V \Theta dV = \text{const.}$$

- 1D advection equation:

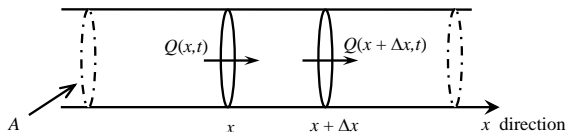


$$\Delta M(t) = \int_x^{x+\Delta x} \rho(s, t) A ds \quad [\text{kg}], \quad Q(x, t) = A\rho(x, t)v(x, t) \quad [\text{kg/s}].$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \Delta M(t) = Q(x, t) - Q(x + \Delta x, t) \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\rho(x, t)v(x, t)) = 0.}$$

Local CL = Local Form of a Conservation Principle

- 1D advection equation:



$$\Delta M(t) = \int_x^{x+\Delta x} \rho(s, t) A ds \quad [\text{kg}], \quad Q(x, t) = A\rho(x, t)v(x, t) \quad [\text{kg/s}].$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \Delta M(t) = Q(x, t) - Q(x + \Delta x, t) \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\rho(x, t)v(x, t)) = 0.}$$

- Similarly, other conservation principles for local continuum models with conservative/zero forcing yield local conservation laws.

An ODE:

Dependent variable: $u = u(t)$;

A conservation law

$$D_t F(t, u, u', \dots) = \frac{d}{dt} F(t, u, u', \dots) = 0$$

yields a conserved quantity (a constant of motion):

$$F(t, u, u', \dots) = C = \text{const.}$$

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yields a **conserved quantity** (a constant of motion):

$$F(t, u, u', \dots) = C = \text{const.}$$

Example: Harmonic oscillator, spring-mass system

Independent variable: t , dependent: $x(t)$.

ODE: $\ddot{x}(t) + \omega^2 x(t) = 0$; $\omega^2 = k/m = \text{const.}$

Conservation law: $\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{m\dot{x}^2(t)}{2} + \frac{kx^2(t)}{2} \right) = 0$.

Conserved quantity: energy.

Example: ODE integration

An ODE:

$$K'''(x) = \frac{-2(K''(x))^2 K(x) - (K'(x))^2 K''(x)}{K(x)K'(x)}.$$

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Three independent conserved quantities:

$$\frac{KK''}{(K')^2} = C_1, \quad \frac{KK'' \ln K}{(K')^2} - \ln K' = C_2, \quad \frac{xKK'' + KK'}{(K')^2} - x = C_3$$

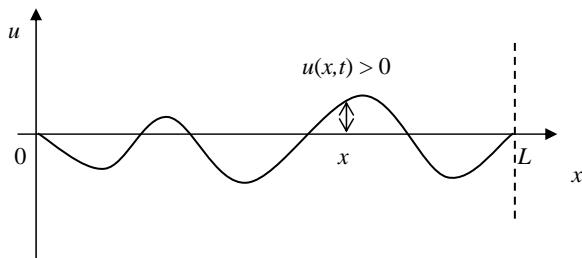
yield complete ODE integration.

Example:

- Small oscillations of a string (transverse) or a rod (longitudinal) \Leftrightarrow 1D wave equation:

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}.$$

- Independent variables: x, t ; dependent: $u(x, t)$.



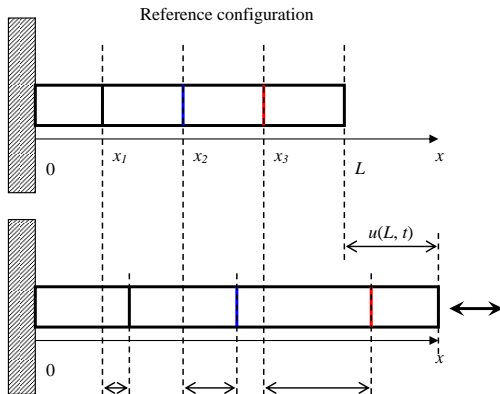
- $c^2 = T/\rho$; $T, \rho = \text{const}$ (for a string).

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Conservation of momentum:

- **Local conservation law:** $D_t(\rho u_t) - D_x(Tu_x) = 0$;
- **Global conserved quantity:** total momentum

$$M = \int_a^b \rho u_t dx = \text{const},$$

for Neumann homogeneous problems with $u_x(a, t) = u_x(b, t) = 0$.

Example:

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$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}.$$

- Independent variables: x, t ; dependent: $u(x, t)$.

Conservation of energy:

- Local conservation law:

$$D_t \left(\frac{\rho u_t^2}{2} + \frac{T u_x^2}{2} \right) - D_x (T u_t u_x) = 0;$$

- Global conserved quantity: total energy

$$E = \int_a^b \left(\frac{\rho u_t^2}{2} + \frac{T u_x^2}{2} \right) dx = \text{const},$$

for both Neumann and Dirichlet homogeneous problems.

Example 2: Adiabatic motion of an ideal gas in 3D

Independent variables: t ; $x = (x^1, x^2, x^3) \in \mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$.

Dependent: $\rho(x, t)$, $v^1(x, t)$, $v^2(x, t)$, $v^3(x, t)$, $p(x, t)$.

Equations:

$$D_t \rho + D_j(\rho v^j) = 0,$$

$$\rho(D_t + v^j D_j)v^i + D_i p = 0, \quad i = 1, 2, 3,$$

$$\rho(D_t + v^j D_j)p + \gamma \rho p D_j v^j = 0.$$

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Conservation laws:

- Mass: $D_t \rho + D_j(\rho v^j) = 0$,
- Momentum: $D_t(\rho v^i) + D_j(\rho v^i v^j + p \delta^{ij}) = 0$, $i = 1, 2, 3$,
- Energy: $D_t(E) + D_j(v^j(E + p)) = 0$, $E = \frac{1}{2}\rho|\mathbf{v}|^2 + \frac{p}{\gamma - 1}$.
- Angular momentum + more.

Applications to ODEs

- Constants of motion.
- Reduction of order; integration.

Applications to PDEs

- Rates of change of physical variables; constants of motion.
- Differential constraints (divergence-free or irrotational fields, etc.).
- Analysis: existence, uniqueness, stability.
- An infinite number of conservation laws may indicate integrability / linearization.
- Finite element/finite volume numerical methods may require conserved forms.
- Weak form of DEs for finite element numerical methods.
- Special numerical methods, conservation law-preserving methods (symplectic integrators, etc.).
- Numerical method testing.

Applications to PDEs

- Potentials, stream functions, etc.
- Magnetic vector potential:

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{B} = \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A}.$$

- Irrotational fluid flow, velocity potential:

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{v} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{v} = \operatorname{grad} \Psi.$$

- Fluid flow, stream function in 2D:

$$\mathbf{v} = (u, v), \quad \operatorname{div} \mathbf{V} = u_x + v_y = 0, \quad \begin{cases} u = \Phi_y, \\ v = -\Phi_x. \end{cases}$$

Definition

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A trivial CL, Type 1:

- Density and all fluxes **vanish on all solutions** of the given PDE system.
- Example: consider a wave equation on $u(x, t)$: $u_{tt} = u_{xx}$. The conservation law

$$D_t(u(u_{tt} - u_{xx})) + D_x(2x(u_{xtt} - u_{xxx})) = 0$$

is a trivial conservation law of the first type.

Definition

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A trivial CL, Type 2:

- The conservation law vanishes as a differential identity.
- Example: for the wave equation on $u(x, t)$: $u_{tt} = u_{xx}$,

$$D_t(u_{xx}) - D_x(u_{xt}) \equiv 0$$

is a trivial conservation law of the second type.

Definition

A *trivial local conservation law*: a zero divergence expression that “does not carry a physical meaning”.

A trivial CL, Type 2:

- The conservation law vanishes as a differential identity.
- Another example:

$$\operatorname{div}(\operatorname{curl} \Phi[\mathbf{u}]) \equiv 0.$$

Definition

Two conservation laws $D_i \Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ and $D_i \Psi^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ are *equivalent* if $D_i(\Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] - \Psi^i[\mathbf{u}]) = 0$ is a trivial conservation law. An *equivalence class* of conservation laws consists of all conservation laws equivalent to some given nontrivial conservation law.

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Definition

A set of ℓ conservation laws $\{D_i\Phi_{(j)}^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0\}_{j=1}^{\ell}$ is *linearly dependent* if there exists a set of constants $\{a^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^{\ell}$, not all zero, such that the linear combination

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- In practice, one is interested in finding *linearly independent sets of (nontrivial) conservation laws* of a given PDE system.

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Given:

- A *totally nondegenerate* PDE system $R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] = 0$, $\sigma = 1, \dots, N$ [cf. *Olver (1993)*].
- A nontrivial local CL: $D_i\Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0$.
- Denote $G[\mathbf{U}] = D_i\Phi^i[\mathbf{U}]$.

Hadamard lemma for differential functions:

A differential function $G[\mathbf{U}]$ vanishes on solutions of a PDE system $\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ if and only if it has the form

$$G[\mathbf{U}] = P_\sigma^\alpha[\mathbf{U}] D_\alpha R^\sigma[\mathbf{U}].$$

Characteristic form of a CL:

Using the product rule, one has

$$G[\mathbf{U}] = D_i \Phi^i[\mathbf{U}] = \Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{U}] R^\sigma[\mathbf{U}] + \operatorname{div} \mathbf{H}[\mathbf{U}],$$

where $\mathbf{H}[\mathbf{U}]$ is linear in R^σ ; $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{H}[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ is a trivial CL.

Hence every CL $D_i \Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ has an equivalent **characteristic form**

$$D_i \tilde{\Phi}^i[\mathbf{u}] = \Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{u}] R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] = 0, \quad \tilde{\Phi}^i = \Phi^i - H^i.$$

- **CL multipliers** (characteristics): $\{\Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{u}]\}_{\sigma=1}^N$.

Result:

For most physical DE models, every local CL has an equivalent **characteristic form**

$$D_i \Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] = \Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{u}] R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] = 0,$$

for some set of multipliers $\{\Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{u}]\}$.

Definition

The *Euler operator* with respect to U^j :

$$E_{U^j} = (-D)^\beta \frac{\partial}{\partial U_\beta^j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial U^j} - D_i \frac{\partial}{\partial U_i^j} + \cdots + (-1)^s D_{i_1} \cdots D_{i_s} \frac{\partial}{\partial U_{i_1 \dots i_s}^j} + \cdots ,$$
$$j = 1, \dots, m.$$

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$$j = 1, \dots, m.$$

Theorem

Let $\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x}) = (U^1, \dots, U^m)$. The equations

$$E_{U^j} F[\mathbf{U}] \equiv 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, m,$$

hold for arbitrary $\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x})$ if and only if

$$F[\mathbf{U}] \equiv D_i \Psi^i[\mathbf{U}]$$

for some functions $\{\Psi^i[\mathbf{U}]\}$.

Idea:

- Seek conservation laws in the **characteristic form** $D_i \Phi^i = \Lambda_\sigma R^\sigma = 0$.
- **Multiplier determining equations:**

$$E_{U^j}(\Lambda_\sigma R^\sigma) \equiv 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, m.$$

Consider a general system $\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ of N PDEs.

Direct Construction Method

- Specify dependence of multipliers: $\Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{U}] = \Lambda_\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{U}, \dots)$, $\sigma = 1, \dots, N$.

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Direct Construction Method

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- Solve the set of determining equations

$$E_{U_j}(\Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{U}] R^\sigma[\mathbf{U}]) \equiv 0, \quad j = 1, \dots, m,$$

for arbitrary $\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x})$ (off of the solution set!) to find all such sets of multipliers.

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- Find the corresponding fluxes $\Phi^i[\mathbf{U}]$ satisfying the identity

$$\Lambda_\sigma R^\sigma \equiv D_i \Phi^i.$$

- Each set of fluxes, multipliers yields a **local conservation law**

$$D_i \Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0,$$

holding on solutions $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x})$ of the given PDE system.

Example

The Korteweg-de Vries (KdV) equation

$$R[u] = u_t + uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0.$$

0th-order multipliers

- Determining equations:

$$E_U (\Lambda(x, t, U)(U_t + UU_x + U_{xxx})) \equiv 0.$$

- Solution:

$$\Lambda_1 = 1, \quad \Lambda_2 = U, \quad \Lambda_3 = tU - x.$$

- Conservation laws:

$$D_t(u) + D_x\left(\frac{1}{2}u^2 + u_{xx}\right) = 0,$$

$$D_t\left(\frac{1}{2}u^2\right) + D_x\left(\frac{1}{3}u^3 + uu_{xx} - \frac{1}{2}u_x^2\right) = 0,$$

$$D_t\left(\frac{1}{6}u^3 - \frac{1}{2}u_x^2\right) + D_x\left(\frac{1}{8}u^4 - uu_x^2 + \frac{1}{2}(u^2u_{xx} + u_{xx}^2) - u_xu_{xxx}\right) = 0.$$

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The Korteweg-de Vries (KdV) equation

$$R[u] = u_t + uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0.$$

1st-order multipliers in x

- Form: $\Lambda = \Lambda(x, t, U, U_x)$
- Solution: no extra conservation laws.

Example

The Korteweg-de Vries (KdV) equation

$$R[u] = u_t + uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0.$$

2nd-order multipliers in x

- Form: $\Lambda = \Lambda(x, t, U, U_x, U_{xx})$
- Solution: one extra conservation law with

$$\Lambda_4 = U_{xx} + \frac{1}{2}U^2.$$

Example

The Korteweg-de Vries (KdV) equation

$$R[u] = u_t + uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0.$$

2nd-order multipliers in x

- Form: $\Lambda = \Lambda(x, t, U, U_x, U_{xx})$
- Solution: one extra conservation law with

$$\Lambda_4 = U_{xx} + \frac{1}{2}U^2.$$

- For PDE with additional structure, infinite sets of CLs may exist, including CLs of arbitrary order.
- E.g., integrable systems, recursion operators, ...

Flux Computation Problem

Suppose for a given PDE system, a set of CL multipliers has been found, and one has

$$\Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{u}]R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] \equiv D_i\Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0.$$

- How does one compute $\{\Phi^i[\mathbf{u}]\}$?

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Some methods [cf. *Wolf (2002)*, *Cheviakov (2010)*]:

- Direct
- Homotopy 1 [*Bluman & Anco (2002)*]
- Homotopy 2 [*Hereman et al (2005)*]
- Scaling (when a specific scaling symmetry is present) [*Anco (2003)*]

Table: Comparison of Four Methods of Flux Computation

Method	Applicability	Computational complexity
Direct	Simpler multipliers/PDE systems, which may involve arbitrary functions.	Solution of an overdetermined linear PDE system for fluxes.
Homotopy 1	Complicated multipliers/PDEs, not involving arbitrary functions.	One-dimensional integration.
Homotopy 2	Complicated multipliers/PDEs, not involving arbitrary functions. The divergence expression must vanish for $U = 0$. For some conservation laws, this method can yield divergent integrals.	One-dimensional integration.
Scaling symmetry	Complicated multipliers/PDEs, may involve arbitrary functions. Scaling-homogeneous PDEs and multipliers. Noncritical conservation laws.	Repeated differentiation.

Some refs:

- **Review:** Hereman, *Symbolic computation of conservation laws of nonlinear partial differential equations in multi-dimensions*, Preprint, 2006.
- **Mathematica:** Temuerchaolu, *An algorithmic theory of reduction of differential polynomial systems*. Adv. Math. 32, 208–220 (in Chinese), 2003.
- **Maple/RIF:** Reid, Wittkopf, Boulton, *Reduction of systems of nonlinear partial differential equations to simplified involutive forms*, Eur. J. Appl. Math. 7, 604–635, 1996.
- **REDUCE:** T. Wolf, *Crack, LiePDE, ApplySym and ConLaw*, 2002.
- **Maple:** A.C., symmetry/conservation law analysis module (**GeM**), 2004–now.

Example of use of the GeM package for Maple for the KdV.

- Use the module: `read("d:/gem32_12.mpl"):`
- Declare variables: `gem_decl_vars(indeps=[x,t], deps=[U(x,t)]);`
- Declare the equation:

```
gem_decl_eqs([diff(U(x,t),t)=U(x,t)*diff(U(x,t),x)
             +diff(U(x,t),x,x,x)],
             solve_for=[diff(U(x,t),t)]);
```

- Generate determining equations:

```
det_eqs:=gem_conslaw_det_eqs([x,t, U(x,t),
                             diff(U(x,t),x), diff(U(x,t),x,x)]):
```

- Reduce the overdetermined system:

```
CL_multipliers:=gem_conslaw_multipliers();
simplified_eqs:=DEtools[rifsimp](det_eqs, CL_multipliers, mindim=1);
```

Example of use of the **GeM** package for **Maple** for the KdV.

- Solve determining equations:

```
multipliers_sol:=pdsolve(simplified_eqs[Solved]);
```

- Obtain corresponding conservation law fluxes/densities:

```
gem_get_CL_fluxes(multipliers_sol, method=*****);
```

Another Detailed Example

Consider a nonlinear telegraph system for $u^1 = u(x, t)$, $u^2 = v(x, t)$:

$$R^1[u, v] = v_t - (u^2 + 1)u_x - u = 0,$$

$$R^2[u, v] = u_t - v_x = 0.$$

Multiplier ansatz: $\Lambda_1 = \xi(x, t, U, V)$, $\Lambda_2 = \phi(x, t, U, V)$.

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Determining equations:

$$E_U [\xi(x, t, U, V)(V_t - (U^2 + 1)U_x - U) + \phi(x, t, U, V)(U_t - V_x)] \equiv 0,$$

$$E_V [\xi(x, t, U, V)(V_t - (U^2 + 1)U_x - U) + \phi(x, t, U, V)(U_t - V_x)] \equiv 0.$$

Euler operators:

$$E_U = \frac{\partial}{\partial U} - D_x \frac{\partial}{\partial U_x} - D_t \frac{\partial}{\partial U_t},$$

$$E_V = \frac{\partial}{\partial V} - D_x \frac{\partial}{\partial V_x} - D_t \frac{\partial}{\partial V_t}.$$

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Split determining equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_V - \xi_U &= 0, & \phi_U - (U^2 + 1)\xi_V &= 0, \\ \phi_x - \xi_t - U\xi_V &= 0, & (U^2 + 1)\xi_x - \phi_t - U\xi_U - \xi &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

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Multiplier ansatz: $\Lambda_1 = \xi(x, t, U, V)$, $\Lambda_2 = \phi(x, t, U, V)$.

Solution: five sets of multipliers $(\xi, \phi) =$

$$\begin{array}{ll}0 & 1 \\t & x - \frac{1}{2}t^2 \\1 & -t \\e^{x+\frac{1}{2}U^2+V} & Ue^{x+\frac{1}{2}U^2+V} \\e^{x+\frac{1}{2}U^2-V} & -Ue^{x+\frac{1}{2}U^2-V}\end{array}$$

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Multiplier ansatz: $\Lambda_1 = \xi(x, t, U, V)$, $\Lambda_2 = \phi(x, t, U, V)$.

Resulting five conservation laws:

$$D_t u - D_x v = 0,$$

$$D_t[(x - \frac{1}{2}t^2)u + tv] + D_x[(\frac{1}{2}t^2 - x)v - t(\frac{1}{3}u^3 + u)] = 0,$$

$$D_t[v - tu] + D_x[tv - (\frac{1}{3}u^3 + u)] = 0,$$

$$D_t[e^{x+\frac{1}{2}u^2+v}] + D_x[-ue^{x+\frac{1}{2}u^2+v}] = 0,$$

$$D_t[e^{x+\frac{1}{2}u^2-v}] + D_x[ue^{x+\frac{1}{2}u^2-v}] = 0.$$

- To obtain **further conservation laws**, extend the multiplier ansatz...

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- Maple example:

Definition

A CL multiplier $\Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{U}]$ is *singular* if it is a singular function when evaluated on solutions of the given PDE system.

- In practice, one is only interested in non-singular sets of multipliers.
- Singular multipliers lead to arbitrary divergence expressions that are not conservation laws of the given system.

- For example, for the KdV, $R[u] = u_t + uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0$, a multiplier

$$\Lambda_\sigma[U] = \frac{D_i \Phi^i[U]}{U_t + UU_x + U_{xxx}}$$

is a singular multiplier... yielding a “false” divergence expression

$$\frac{D_i \Phi^i[U]}{U_t + UU_x + U_{xxx}} (U_t + UU_x + U_{xxx}) = D_i \Phi^i[U]$$

for arbitrary functions $\Phi^1[U], \dots, \Phi^n[U]$.

- To **avoid getting an infinite set of singular multipliers**: need to exclude some **leading derivative** (e.g., U_t) and its **differential consequences**.

Extended Kovalevskaya form

A PDE system $\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ is in *extended Kovalevskaya form* with respect to an independent variable x^j , if the system is solved for the highest derivative of each dependent variable with respect to x^j , i.e.,

$$\frac{\partial^{s_\sigma}}{\partial (x^j)^{s_\sigma}} u^\sigma = Q^\sigma(x, u, \partial u, \dots, \partial^k u), \quad 1 \leq s_\sigma \leq k, \quad \sigma = 1, \dots, m,$$

where all derivatives with respect to x^j appearing in the right-hand side of each PDE above are of lower order than those appearing on the left-hand side.

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Theorem [M. Alonso (1979)]

Let $\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ be a PDE system in the extended Kovalevskaya form. Then **every its local conservation law** has an equivalent conservation law in the characteristic form,

$$\Lambda_\sigma R^\sigma \equiv D_i \Phi^i = 0,$$

such that $\{\Lambda_\sigma\}$ do not involve the leading derivatives or their differential consequences.

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Example

The KdV equation

$$R[u] = u_t + uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0$$

has the extended Kovalevskaya form with respect to t ($u_t = \dots$) or x ($u_{xxx} = \dots$).

- For systems in the extended Kovalevskaya form, DCM for non-singular multipliers is **complete**.

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- In practice, even if the extended Kovalevskaya form exists for a given system, it may be too complex to work with.

- For systems in the extended Kovalevskaya form, DCM for non-singular multipliers is **complete**.
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- In practice, even if the extended Kovalevskaya form exists for a given system, it may be too complex to work with.
- One may use the Direct method on non-Kovalevskaya systems to get **partial CL classifications**.

Consider a PDE system

$$R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] = 0, \quad \sigma = 1, \dots, N,$$

with n independent variables $\mathbf{x} = (x^1, \dots, x^n)$ and m dependent variables $\mathbf{u} = (u^1, \dots, u^m)$.

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with n independent variables $\mathbf{x} = (x^1, \dots, x^n)$ and m dependent variables $\mathbf{u} = (u^1, \dots, u^m)$.

Consider an **invertible point transformation**

$$\begin{aligned} x^i &= x^i(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}), & i &= 1, \dots, n, \\ u^\mu &= u^\mu(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}), & \mu &= 1, \dots, m, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{z} = (z^1, \dots, z^m)$, $\mathbf{w}(\mathbf{z}) = (w^1, \dots, w^m)$.

Obtain an equivalent PDE system

$$S^\sigma[\mathbf{w}] = 0, \quad \sigma = 1, \dots, N,$$

Theorem

To any local CL (equivalence class)

$$D_{x^i} \Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0$$

of a PDE system $\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ there corresponds a CL (equivalence class)

$$\tilde{D}_{z^j} \Psi^j[\mathbf{w}] = 0$$

holding for the PDE system $\mathbf{S}[\mathbf{w}] = 0$.

In particular,

$$J[\mathbf{w}] D_i \Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] = \tilde{D}_{z^j} \Psi^j[\mathbf{w}], \quad J[\mathbf{w}] = \frac{D(x^1, \dots, x^n)}{D(z^1, \dots, z^n)}.$$

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- Local conservation laws are **coordinate-independent**.

- 1 Conservation Laws
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- **Local symmetries** and **local conservation laws** of DE systems are closely related.
- A specific well-known relationship: **Noether's theorem for variational DE systems**.

Action integral

$$J[\mathbf{U}] = \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{U}, \partial\mathbf{U}, \dots, \partial^k\mathbf{U}) dx.$$

Principle of extremal action

Variation of \mathbf{U} : $\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow \mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x}) + \delta\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x}); \quad \delta\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x}) = \varepsilon\mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}); \quad \delta\mathbf{U}(\mathbf{x})|_{\partial\Omega} = 0.$

Variation of action: $\delta J \equiv J[\mathbf{U} + \varepsilon\mathbf{v}] - J[\mathbf{U}] = \int_{\Omega} (\delta\mathcal{L}) dx = o(\varepsilon).$

Variation of the Lagrangian

$$\begin{aligned}\delta\mathcal{L} &= \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{U} + \varepsilon\mathbf{v}, \partial\mathbf{U} + \varepsilon\partial\mathbf{v}, \dots, \partial^k\mathbf{U} + \varepsilon\partial^k\mathbf{v}) - \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{U}, \partial\mathbf{U}, \dots, \partial^k\mathbf{U}) \\ &= \varepsilon \left(\frac{\partial\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{U}]}{\partial U^\sigma} v^\sigma + \frac{\partial\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{U}]}{\partial U_j^\sigma} v_j^\sigma + \dots + \frac{\partial\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{U}]}{\partial U_{j_1 \dots j_k}^\sigma} v_{j_1 \dots j_k}^\sigma \right) + O(\varepsilon^2) \\ &\stackrel{\text{by parts}}{=} \varepsilon (v^\sigma E_{U^\sigma}(\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{U}])) + \text{div}(\dots) + O(\varepsilon^2)\end{aligned}$$

Euler-Lagrange equations, Euler operators:

$$\begin{aligned}E_{U^\sigma}(\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{U}]) &= \frac{\partial\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{U}]}{\partial U^\sigma} + \dots + (-1)^k D_{j_1} \dots D_{j_k} \frac{\partial\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{U}]}{\partial U_{j_1 \dots j_k}^\sigma} = 0, \\ \sigma &= 1, \dots, m.\end{aligned}$$

Definition

A DE system $\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ is **variational** if its equations are Euler-Lagrange equations for some variational principle:

$$R^\sigma[\mathbf{U}] = E_{U^\sigma}(\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{U}]), \quad \sigma = 1, \dots, m.$$

- **Example 1:** Harmonic oscillator, $U = x = x(t)$

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$$\mathcal{L} = K - P = \frac{1}{2}m\dot{x}^2 - \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

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$$E_x \mathcal{L} = -m(\ddot{x} + \omega^2 x) = 0, \quad \omega^2 = k/m$$

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$$E_u \mathcal{L} = -\rho(u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx}) = 0, \quad c^2 = T/\rho$$

① A DE system $\mathbf{R}^\sigma[\mathbf{U}]$ is **variational** if and only if **its linearization is self-adjoint**.

- Linearization:

$$L^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}) = \left. \frac{d}{d\epsilon} \right|_{\epsilon=0} R^\sigma[\mathbf{u} + \epsilon \mathbf{v}] = \frac{\partial R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}]}{\partial u_\alpha^p} D^\alpha v^p = 0;$$

- Adjoint linearization:

$$L_\mu^*[\mathbf{u}] \mathbf{w}(\mathbf{x}) = (-D)^\alpha \left(\frac{\partial R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}]}{\partial u_\alpha^\mu} w_\sigma \right) = 0$$

- Relationship:

$$\mathbf{W} \cdot (\mathbf{L}[\mathbf{U}] \mathbf{V}) - (\mathbf{L}^*[\mathbf{U}] \mathbf{W}) \cdot \mathbf{v} \stackrel{\text{by parts}}{\equiv} \text{div } P;$$

in components,

$$W_\sigma L^\sigma[\mathbf{U}] \mathbf{V} - V^\mu L_\mu^*[\mathbf{U}] \mathbf{W} \equiv D_i P^i.$$

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② Homotopy Formula for a Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \int_0^1 \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{R}[\lambda \mathbf{u}] d\lambda.$$

Example: Wave equation for $u(x, t)$

$$R[u] = u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx} = 0;$$

Linearization (already linear!)

$$L[u] v(x, t) = v_{tt} - c^2 v_{xx} = 0;$$

Adjoint linearization operator:

$$w(x, t) L[u] v(x, t) = w(v_{tt} - c^2 v_{xx}) = (w_{tt} - c^2 w_{xx})v(x, t) + (v_t w - v w_t)_t - c^2 (v_x w - v w_x)_x;$$

Result:

$$L^*[u] v(x, t) = L[u] v(x, t),$$

so $R[u]$ is **self-adjoint**.

Lagrangian:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{1}{2} c^2 u_x^2.$$

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- Self-adjointness is **coordinate-dependent**; also **depends on the writing** of the system.
- It remains an **open problem** how to determine whether a given system has a variational formulation.
- **Pseudo-Lagrangians** can be constructed by appending adjoint equations to given ones.

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Symmetries of Differential Equations

Consider a general DE system

$$R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] = \mathbf{R}^\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \partial\mathbf{u}, \dots, \partial^k\mathbf{u}) = 0, \quad \sigma = 1, \dots, N$$

with variables $\mathbf{x} = (x^1, \dots, x^n)$, $\mathbf{u} = (u^1, \dots, u^m)$.

Definition

A one-parameter **Lie group of point transformations**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{x}^* &= f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}; a) = \mathbf{x} + a\xi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) + O(a^2), \\ \mathbf{u}^* &= g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}; a) = \mathbf{u} + a\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) + O(a^2)\end{aligned}$$

(with the parameter a) is a **point symmetry** of $R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}]$ if it transforms **solutions to solutions**: $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow \mathbf{u}^*(\mathbf{x}^*)$.

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Example 1: translations

A translation

$$x^* = x + C, \quad t^* = t, \quad u^* = u \quad (C \in \mathbb{R})$$

leaves the KdV equation invariant:

$$u_t + uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0 = u_{t^*}^* + u^* u_{x^*}^* + u_{x^* x^* x^*}^*.$$

Consider a general DE system

$$R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] = \mathbf{R}^\sigma(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \partial\mathbf{u}, \dots, \partial^k\mathbf{u}) = 0, \quad \sigma = 1, \dots, N$$

with variables $\mathbf{x} = (x^1, \dots, x^n)$, $\mathbf{u} = (u^1, \dots, u^m)$.

Definition

A one-parameter **Lie group of point transformations**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}^* &= f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}; a) = \mathbf{x} + a\xi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) + O(a^2), \\ \mathbf{u}^* &= g(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}; a) = \mathbf{u} + a\eta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}) + O(a^2) \end{aligned}$$

(with the parameter a) is a **point symmetry** of $R^\sigma[\mathbf{u}]$ if it transforms **solutions to solutions**: $\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow \mathbf{u}^*(\mathbf{x}^*)$.

Example 2: scalings

A scaling

$$x^* = \alpha x, \quad t^* = \alpha^3 t, \quad u^* = \alpha u \quad (\alpha \in \mathbb{R})$$

also leaves the KdV equation invariant:

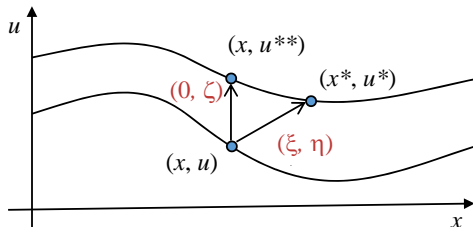
$$u_t + uu_x + u_{xxx} = 0 = u_{t^*}^* + u^* u_{x^*}^* + u_{x^* x^* x^*}^*.$$

Evolutionary Form of a Local Symmetry

A symmetry (in 1D case)

$$\begin{aligned}x^* &= f(x, u; a) = x + a\xi(x, u) + O(a^2), \\u^* &= g(x, u; a) = u + a\eta(x, u) + O(a^2).\end{aligned}$$

maps a solution $u(x)$ into $u^*(x^*)$, changing both x and u .



In the evolutionary form, the same curve mapping **does not change x** :

$$x^{**} = x, \quad u^{**} = u + a\zeta[u] + O(a^2),$$

$$\zeta[u] = \eta(x, u) - \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \xi(x, u).$$

Evolutionary Form of a Local Symmetry: Example

- Consider an ODE

$$y' = -\frac{x}{y} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad y^2 + x^2 = C = \text{const.}$$

- A scaling symmetry: $x^* = e^a x$, $y^* = e^a y$.
- Local form:

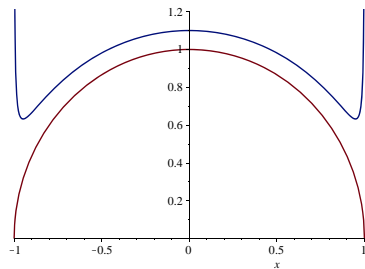
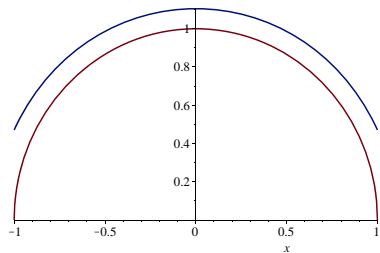
$$x^* = x + a\xi(x, y) + O(a^2), \quad y^* = y + a\eta(x, y) + O(a^2), \quad \xi = x, \quad \eta = y.$$

- Evolutionary form: $\zeta[y] = \eta - y'(x)\xi = y + x^2/y$.
- Local transformation for the evolutionary form:

$$x^{**} = x, \\ u^{**} = u + a \left(y + \frac{x^2}{y} \right) + O(a^2).$$

Evolutionary Form of a Local Symmetry: Example

- $a = 0.1$:



Consider a general DE system $\mathbf{R}^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ that follows from a variational principle with

$$J[\mathbf{u}] = \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{L}[\mathbf{u}] dx$$

Definition

A local evolutionary symmetry of $\mathbf{R}^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ is a **variational symmetry** if it preserves the action integral, or in other words, preserves $\mathcal{L}[\mathbf{u}]$ up to a divergence. [cf. *Olver (1993)*]

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Example 1: translations for the wave equation

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}, \quad \mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{c^2}{2} u_x^2.$$

The translation $x^* = x + C$, $t^* = t$, $u^* = u$ is a variational symmetry.

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Example 2: scaling for the wave equation

$$u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}, \quad \mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} u_t^2 - \frac{c^2}{2} u_x^2.$$

Can show: the scaling $x^* = x$, $t^* = t$, $u^* = u/\alpha$ is **not** a variational symmetry.

Theorem

Given:

- ① a PDE system $\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}] = 0$, following from a variational principle;
- ② a local variational symmetry in an evolutionary form:

$$(x^i)^* = x^i, \quad (u^\sigma)^* = u^\sigma + a \zeta^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] + O(a^2).$$

Then the given DE system has a **local conservation law** $D_i \Phi^i[\mathbf{u}] = 0$.
In particular,

$$D_i \Phi^i[\mathbf{U}] = \Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{U}] R^\sigma[\mathbf{U}],$$

where the multipliers are given by the evolutionary forms of symmetry components:

$$\Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{U}] \equiv \zeta^\sigma[\mathbf{U}].$$

Example 1: time translation symmetry, harmonic oscillator

- **Equation:** $\ddot{x}(t) + \omega^2 x(t) = 0$.

- **Symmetry:**

$$\begin{aligned}t^* &= t + a, & \xi &= 1; \\x^* &= x, & \eta &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

- **Multiplier** (integrating factor): $\Lambda = \eta - \dot{x}(t)\xi = -\dot{x}$;

- **Conservation law:**

$$\Lambda R = -\dot{x}(\ddot{x}(t) + \omega^2 x(t)) = -\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{\dot{x}^2(t)}{2} + \frac{\omega^2 x^2(t)}{2} \right) = 0.$$

Example 2

- **Equation:** Wave equation $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$, $u = u(x, t)$.
- **Space translation symmetry:**

$$\begin{aligned} t^* &= t, & \xi^t &= 0; \\ x^* &= x, & \xi^x &= 0, \\ u^* &= u + a, & \eta &= 1, \end{aligned}$$

- **Multiplier:** $\Lambda = \zeta = \eta - 0 \cdot u_x - 0 \cdot u_t = 1$;
- **Conservation law (Momentum):**

$$\Lambda R = 1(u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx}) = D_t(u_t) - D_x(c^2 u_x) = 0.$$

Example 2

- **Equation:** Wave equation $u_{tt} = c^2 u_{xx}$, $u = u(x, t)$.
- **Time translation symmetry:**

$$\begin{aligned} t^* &= t + a, & \xi^t &= 1; \\ x^* &= x, & \xi^x &= 0, \\ u^* &= u, & \eta &= 0, \end{aligned}$$

- **Multiplier:** $\Lambda = \zeta = \eta - 0 \cdot u_x - 1 \cdot u_t = -u_t$;
- **Conservation law (Energy):**

$$\Lambda R = -u_t(u_{tt} - c^2 u_{xx}) = - \left[D_t \left(\frac{u_t^2}{2} + c^2 \frac{u_x^2}{2} \right) - D_x \left(c^2 u_t u_x \right) \right] = 0.$$

General Relationship Between Symmetries and Conservation Laws

For a non-variational DE system $\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}] = 0$ of N PDEs:

- Local evolutionary symmetry components $\{\zeta^\sigma[\mathbf{u}]\}$ are solutions of the linearized system

$$L^\sigma[\mathbf{u}] \zeta[\mathbf{u}] \Big|_{\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}]=0} = 0, \quad \sigma = 1, \dots, m.$$

- Conservation law multipliers $\{\Lambda_\sigma[\mathbf{u}]\}$ are a subset of solutions of the adjoint linearized system:

$$L_\mu^*[\mathbf{u}] \Lambda[\mathbf{u}] \Big|_{\mathbf{R}[\mathbf{u}]=0} = 0, \quad \mu = 1, \dots, N.$$

- Classification examples show differences in symmetry and CL structure. [See, e.g., *Bluman and Temuerchaolu (2005)*.]
- Symmetries can be used to map local conservation laws into local conservation laws (new or known). [E.g., *Bluman, C., Anco (2010)* and refs therein.]
- In symmetric settings (planar, axial,...), physical systems often have extra conservation laws.

- 1 Conservation Laws
- 2 Direct CL Construction; Symbolic Computation in Maple
- 3 Variational Systems of Differential Equations
- 4 Local Symmetries and the Noether's Theorem
- 5 Discussion**
- 6 Appendix: A CL Classification Problem

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 - Noether's theorem for variational systems;
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- Noether's theorem is not a preferred way to derive unknown CLs.

Some related topics not addressed in this talk:








- Trivial and equivalent CL multipliers [cf. *Olver (1993)*].
- Material CLs.
- Nonlocal CLs.
- Abnormal PDE systems; Noether's 2nd theorem.
- Upper bounds of CL order.
- Recursion operators.

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Next talk:

- Conservation law computations for fluid dynamics models.

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Cases arising in CL classification:

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- **Maple example:**