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18.306 Advanced Partial Differential Equations with Applications
Fall 2009

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TOPICS: First order 1-D systems of equations. Classification.
Hyperbolic systems and characteristics. Domains
of dependence and influence. Examples.

First order systems of equations $u_t + A u_x = F(x, t, u)$.
where $A = A(u, x, t)$.

Characteristics as singularity lines.

Characteristic form of the equations.

Example: linear, constant coefficients, no sources, case.

Hyperbolic if A is real diagonalizable.

Example: general solution for a hyperbolic system where A is constant
and $F = 0$.

In general, characteristics couple.

Domains of dependence and influence.

Examples:

Linear Gas Dynamics (acoustics). Sound waves, general solution.

Wave equation. Reduce to form above.

Klein Gordon equation. Characteristic form. Domains of dependence
and influence.