

Homework Assignment 3

Math 776
Due Friday October 25

These are the problem numbers for the 2nd edition of Evan's book!

From the textbook please solve problems 19 and 20 on page 165, and problems 4 and 5 on page 306.

5. The equation

$$u_t + uu_x = \nu u_{xx} .$$

is called Burger's equation with viscosity. It is sometimes considered a one-dimensional model for the turbulent motion of fluids. Show that if one makes the change of variables

$$U(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^x u(z, t) dz$$

that U satisfies the equation

$$U_t + \frac{1}{2}(U_x)^2 = \nu U_{xx} .$$

Now show that if one makes the further change of variables

$$w(x, t) = e^{-U(x,t)/(2\nu)}$$

w satisfies the heat equation! This change of variables is known as the Cole-Hopf transformation. Use the Cole-Hopf transformation to solve Burger's equation with viscosity with the initial condition $u(x, 0) = e^{-x^2}$. (You may need to evaluate certain integrals numerically or with the aid of Maple or Mathematica.) Graph the solution for several different values of ν to see how shocks develop as $\nu \rightarrow 0$. (For more information about the Cole-Hopf transformation see section 4.5 of the text.)

