

**158. On the Existence of Discontinuous Solutions
of the Cauchy Problem for Quasi-Linear
First-Order Equations**

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1. **Introduction.** In recent years, interest in discontinuous solutions of the Cauchy problem for nonlinear partial differential equations has considerably increased and much progress has been made for quasi-linear first-order equations of conservation type in a single space variable (see Oleinik [3] for a survey of literatures).

In the case of several space variables, using a finite difference scheme, Conway and Smoller [1] has proved the existence of weak solutions of the Cauchy problem

$$(1.1) \quad u_t + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f^i(u)}{\partial x_i} = 0$$

with a bounded measurable initial function having locally bounded variation in the sense of Tonelli-Cesari. A function f is said to have locally bounded variation in the sense of Tonelli-Cesari over R^n if for any compact set K in R^n there exists a set N of measure zero such that

$V^i(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) = \text{Var}_{K-N} f(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, \cdot, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n)$, $i=1, \dots, n$ is measurable and summable, and we denote by F the class of these functions.

The purpose of this paper is to prove the existence of weak solutions of the Cauchy problem of the type:

$$(1.2) \quad u_t + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} f^i(t, x, u) + g(t, x, u) = 0,$$

$$(1.3) \quad u(0, x) = u_0(x) \in F.$$

For simplicity, we restrict ourselves to the case $n=2$. But it will be easily seen that one can extend at once everything which we do in this case to the case $n \geq 3$. Thus we shall consider the Cauchy problem

$$(1.4) \quad u_t = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(t, x, y, u) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} g(t, x, y, u) + h(t, x, y, u) = 0,$$

$$(1.5) \quad u(0, x, y) = u_0(x, y) \in F,$$

in the region

$$G = \{(t, x, y); 0 \leq t \leq T < \infty, -\infty < x, y < \infty\}.$$

We call a function $u(t, x, y)$ a weak solution of (1.4), (1.5) if it

satisfy the relation

$$(1.6) \quad \iiint_G [u\varphi_t + f\varphi_x + g\varphi_y - h\varphi] dx dy dt + \int_{t=0}^T u_0(x, y)\varphi(0, x, y) dx dy = 0$$

for any C^1 function $\varphi = \varphi(t, x, y)$, equal to zero outside a finite region, also for $t = T$.

The assumptions concerning the f, g , and h are followings:

i) the f, g , and h , and also the partial derivatives $f_x, f_y, f_u, f_{xx}, f_{xy}, f_{yy}, f_{xu}, f_{yu}, g_x, g_y, g_u, g_{xx}, g_{xy}, g_{yy}, g_{xu}, g_{yu}, h_x, h_y$, and h_u are continuous for all u and (t, x, y) in G , and bounded for bounded u and (t, x, y) in G ;

ii) there exist continuously differentiable functions $V^1(v)$ and $V^2(v)$, defined for $v \geq 0$, such that

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{\substack{(t,x,y) \in G \\ |u| \leq v}} \left| f_x + \frac{1}{2}h \right| &\leq V^1(v), & \frac{dV^1(v)}{dv} &\geq 0, \\ \max_{\substack{(t,x,y) \in G \\ |u| \leq v}} \left| g_y + \frac{1}{2}h \right| &\leq V^2(v), & \frac{dV^2(v)}{dv} &\geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

and such that for any $v_0 \geq 0$

$$(1.7) \quad \int_{v_0}^{\infty} \frac{dv}{V^1(v) + V^2(v)} = \infty.$$

In other words, the results obtained here is

Theorem. *Let the f, g , and h satisfy the conditions i) and ii). If $u_0 \in F$, then there exists a weak solution $u(t, x, y)$ of (1.4), (1.5) in G such that $u(t, x, y)$ is of locally bounded variation in the sense of Tonelli-Cesari in G , and $u(t, x, y) \in F$ for each fixed $t, 0 \leq t \leq T$.*

This theorem will be proved by means of finite difference scheme. The finite difference scheme used here is a slight modification of that of Conway and Smoller [1] and more closely related to that of Oleinik [3].

In section 2, we introduce the finite difference scheme and obtain estimates for the solution of these equations, corresponding to Lemmas 1, 2, 4 in Conway and Smoller [1]. Therefore, we can prove the theorem in the same way as in section 3 of [1]. In section 3, we shall prove the theorem. Section 4 consists of some remarks. Detailed proof will be published elsewhere.

2. Estimates for the difference equations. Let the domain G be covered by a grid defined by the planes

$$t = kr, \quad x = mp, \quad y = nq,$$

where r, p , and q are fixed positive numbers, k are integers such that $0 \leq k \leq [T/r]$, and m and n assume all integers.

1) In the case $n = m$, this condition becomes $\max |f_{x_i}^i + \frac{1}{m}g| \leq V^i(v), \frac{dV^i(v)}{dv} \geq 0, i = 1, \dots, m.$

In G , we consider the finite difference scheme defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
 (2.1) \quad & \frac{1}{r} \left[u_{m,n}^{k+1} - \frac{1}{4} (u_{m-1,n-1}^k + u_{m-1,n+1}^k + u_{m+1,n-1}^k + u_{m+1,n+1}^k) \right] \\
 & + \frac{1}{4p} [f_{m+1,n+1}^k + f_{m+1,n-1}^k - f_{m-1,n+1}^k - f_{m-1,n-1}^k] \\
 & + \frac{1}{4q} [g_{m+1,n+1}^k + g_{m-1,n+1}^k - g_{m+1,n-1}^k - g_{m-1,n-1}^k] \\
 & + \frac{1}{4} [2h_{m+1,n+1}^k + h_{m+1,n-1}^k + h_{m-1,n+1}^k] = 0,
 \end{aligned}$$

where we are using notations

$t^k = kr, x_m = mp, y_n = nq, u_{m,n}^k = u(t^k, x_m, y_n), f_{m,n}^k = f(t^k, x_m, y_n, u_{m,n}^k)$
 etc.

Let us divide the grid points into four classes as follows:

- $S_1 = \{(t^k, x_m, y_n); \text{ both } k-m \text{ and } k-n \text{ are even}\},$
- $S_2 = \{(t^k, x_m, y_n); k-m \text{ is even and } k-n \text{ is odd}\},$
- $S_3 = \{(t^k, x_m, y_n); k-m \text{ is odd and } k-n \text{ is even}\},$
- $S_4 = \{(t^k, x_m, y_n); \text{ both } k-m \text{ and } k-n \text{ are odd}\}.$

Then, by virtue of the obvious property of the finite difference scheme (2.1), it is easy to see that the values $u_{m,n}^k$ at the points of S_i and S_j for $i \neq j$ are computed independently. Hence, it is sufficient to consider $u_{m,n}^k$ only at the points of S_1 .

It follows from (1.7) that for any $M^0, \alpha > 0$ there exists a constant $M > 0$ such that

$$(2.2) \quad \int_{M^0}^M \frac{dv}{V^1(v) + V^2(v) + \alpha} \geq T.^2)$$

Lemma 1. *Let $|u_{m,n}^0| \leq M^0$ for all m and n , and A and B be defined by*

$$A = \max_{\Omega} |f_u|, \quad B = \max_{\Omega} |g_u|,$$

where $\Omega = \{(t, x, y, u); (t, x, y) \in G, |u| \leq M\}$.

Then, if the stability requirements $Ar/p + Br/q < 1$ are fulfilled for sufficiently small p and q , we have $|u_{m,n}^k| \leq M$ for all values of k, m , and n .

If we let p and q so small that $p \cdot \max_{\Omega} |f_{xx}| + q \cdot \max_{\Omega} |g_{yy}| < \alpha$, then we obtain this lemma in an analogous way to Theorem 5.1 of Douglis [2].

In what follows we shall assume the stability condition $Ar/p + Br/q < 1$, and let $u_{m,n}^k$ be solutions of the finite difference equation (2.1) with $|u_{m,n}^0| \leq M^0$.

Put

$$(2.3) \quad w_{m,n}^k = \frac{u_{m,n}^k - u_{m-2,n}^k}{2p}, \quad z_{m,n}^k = \frac{u_{m,n}^k - u_{m,n-2}^k}{2q},$$

2) See section 3 of Douglis [2].

Then, we get

Lemma 2. *If $p < \delta r, q < \delta' r$, then*

$$(2.4) \quad \sum_{\substack{|m|p \leq X \\ |n|q \leq Y}} [|w_{m,n}^k| + |z_{m,n}^k|] 4pq \\ \leq \left[\sum_{\substack{|m|p \leq X + \delta kr \\ |n|q \leq Y + \delta' kr}} (|w_{m,n}^0| + |z_{m,n}^0|) 4pq + \frac{D}{C} \right] e^{Ckr} - \frac{D}{C},$$

where $D = 4(X + \delta kr)(Y + \delta' kr)(D' + D'')$,

$$D' = \frac{p}{q} \cdot \max_{\rho} |g_{xx}| + \max_{\rho} |g_{xy}| + \max_{\rho} |h_x| + 2 \cdot \max_{\rho} |f_{xx}|,$$

$$D'' = \frac{p}{p} \cdot \max_{\rho} |f_{yy}| + \max_{\rho} |f_{xy}| + \max_{\rho} |h_y| + 2 \cdot \max_{\rho} |g_{yy}|,$$

and $C = \max(\max_{\rho} |f_{xu}| + \max_{\rho} |f_{yu}| + \max_{\rho} |h_u|,$
 $\max_{\rho} |g_{xu}| + \max_{\rho} |g_{yu}| + \max_{\rho} |h_u|).$

This lemma asserts that if an initial grid function $u_{m,n}^0$ has locally bounded variation the solution $u_{m,n}^k$ of (2.1) with initial data $u_{m,n}^0$ also has locally bounded variation for each fixed time level.

From Lemma 2 it follows

Lemma 3. *If $p < \delta r, q < \delta' r$, then, for an even $k-j$*

$$(2.5) \quad \sum_{\substack{|m|p \leq X \\ |n|q \leq Y}} |u_{m,n}^k - u_{m,n}^j| 4pq \leq (k-j)rL,$$

and, for an odd $k-j$,

$$(2.6) \quad \sum_{\substack{|m|p \leq X \\ |n|q \leq Y}} |u_{m,n}^k - u_{m-1,n-1}^j| 4pq \leq (k-j)rL, \quad j=0, 1, \dots, k-1,$$

where $L = 2 \cdot \max(\delta, \delta')K + 4(X + \delta r)(Y + \delta' r)[V^1(M) + V^2(M) + \alpha]$, and K is the right hand side of (2.4).

This lemma can be proved in a similar way to Lemma 4 of Conway and Smoller [1].

See also Oleinik [3; Lemma 4].

3. Proofs of the theorem. On the basis of three lemmas obtained in the last section, one can prove the theorem in the same way as in the section 3 of Conway and Smoller [1], except for Lemma 7 there.

Consider a solution $u_{m,n}^k$ of (2.1) over S_1 as a step function defined by

$$(3.1) \quad U(t, x, y) = u_{m,n}^k \\ \text{for } t^k \leq t < t^{k+1}, x_m \leq x < x_{m+2}, y_n \leq y < y_{n+2}, (t^k, x_m, y_n) \in S_1.$$

Then, we have consequently that, if $u_0 \in F$, then there exists a sequence $\{U^i(t, x, y)\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ of solutions of (2.1) such that for each fixed $t, 0 \leq t \leq T, U^i(t, x, y)$ converges to some $u(t, x, y) \in F$ in the sense of L_1 over any compact set in R^2 uniformly with respect to t , where $u(t, x, y)$ have locally bounded variation in the sense of Tonelli-Cesari in G , and such that $U^i(0, x, y)$ converges to $u_0(x, y)$ in the topology

of L_1 on compacta in R^2 .

Therefore, in order to prove the theorem, it remains only to show that $u(t, x, y)$ thus obtained is a weak solution of (1.4), (1.5). This is an immediate consequence of the following lemma.

Lemma 4. *The function $u(t, x, y)$ satisfy the relation*

$$(1.6) \quad \iiint_G [u\varphi_t + f\varphi_x + g\varphi_y - h\varphi] dx dy dt + \iint_{t=0} u_0(x, y)\varphi(0, x, y) dx dy = 0,$$

for any C^3 function $\varphi = \varphi(t, x, y)$, equal to zero outside a finite region, also for $t = T$.

We can prove this lemma by means of a device used by Oleinik in Lemma 7 of [3].

4. Concluding remarks. 1. As in Douglis [2], without loss of generality, we can make f_u^i , $i=1, \dots, n$, nonnegative for $|u| \leq M$ and for (t, x) in G under a suitable change of independent variables. In such a case, instead of (2.1), we may use the following difference scheme

$$(2.1)' \quad \frac{1}{r}(u_{m,n}^{k+1} - u_{m,n}^k) + \frac{1}{p}(f_{m,n}^k - f_{m-1,n}^k) + \frac{1}{q}(g_{m,n}^k - g_{m,n-1}^k) + h_{m,n}^k = 0.$$

2. In the case $n=2$, if $f^1 = f^2$ and $f_{uu}^1 \geq 0$, and $f_{uu}^1 > \mu > 0$ for bounded u and for $\tau \geq t \geq 0$, where μ and τ are certain positive numbers, then one can establish that the weak solution obtained here satisfies the relation

$$\frac{u(t, x+d, y+d) - u(t, x, y)}{d} \leq \frac{E}{t},$$

for some constant $E > 0$, and for any d .

This inequality is obtained in a similar way to the proof of lemma 2 in Oleinik [3] by setting $p=q$ in (2.1).

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