



**Foundation Module Course**

# **Introduction to Partial Differential Equations**

**EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in  
Partial Differential Equations  
Michaelmas Term  
4-8 October 2018 (8 hours)**

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# Overview

- **Introductory course on PDE** that is central to the other CDT courses.
- **Rigorous treatment and analysis of PDEs** through examples, representation formulas, and properties that can be understood by using relatively elementary mathematical tools and techniques.
- **Transport equation, Heat equation, Wave equation, Laplace's equation**
- **Nonlinear first order PDEs, Conservation laws, Hamilton-Jacobi equations**

# Prerequisites

- Recommended prerequisites include undergraduate-level **Advanced Calculus, Linear Algebra, ODE Theory** and some exposure to **Complex Analysis**.
- W. Strauss, **Partial Differential Equations: An Introduction**, John Wiley and Sons, 1992
- H. Weinberger, **A First Course in Partial Differential Equations**, with Complex Variables and Transform Methods, Dover, 1965

# Core Reading

- **L.-C. Evans: Partial Differential Equations**, American Mathematical Society, 2nd edition, 2010.
- **G. Folland: Introduction to Partial Differential Equations**, 2nd ed., Princeton University Press, 1995.
- **M. Renardy and R. Rogers: An Introduction to PDEs**, 2nd ed., Springer-Verlag, 2004.
- **F. John: Partial Differential Equations**, 4th edition, Springer-Verlag 1982.
- **J. Kevorkian: PDEs: Analytical Solution Techniques**, 2nd ed., Springer-Verlag, 1999.
- **Q. Han, A Basic Course in PDEs**, AMS, 2011.
- **P. Garabedian, Partial Differential Equations**, 2nd revised edition, AMS Chelsea Publishing, 1998.
- **R. McOwen, Partial Differential Equations: Methods and Applications**, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Prentice Hall, 2003

# Further Reading

- **R. Courant and D. Hilbert:**  
**Methods of Mathematical Physics I-II,**  
John Wiley & Sons, 1953, 1989.
- **R. Hormander: Lectures on Nonlinear  
Hyperbolic Differential Equations,**  
Springer-Verlag: Berlin, 1997.
- **M. Taylor: Partial Differential Equations,**  
Vols. 1-3, Springer-Verlag: New York, 1996.
- **J. Jost: Partial Differential Equations,**  
Springer-Verlag: New York, 2002.
- **R. Guenther and J. Lee: PDEs of Mathematical  
Physics and Integral Equations,** Dover, 1996.

# Brief History

- Analysis of **Differential Equations** can date back as early as the period when **Calculus** was invented.
- **1671: Newton** called **Fluxional Equations**
- **1676: Leibniz** introduced the term **Differential Equations**  
(**Aequatio Differentialis**, in Latin)
- It is fair to say that **every subject that uses Calculus involves differential equations.**
- Many subjects revolve entirely around their underlying PDEs: **Euler equations, Navier-Stokes equations, Maxwell's equations, Boltzmann equation, Schrödinger equation, Einstein equation,...**