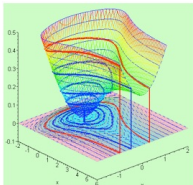


MATH 226: Differential Equations



Class 2
February 12, 2025

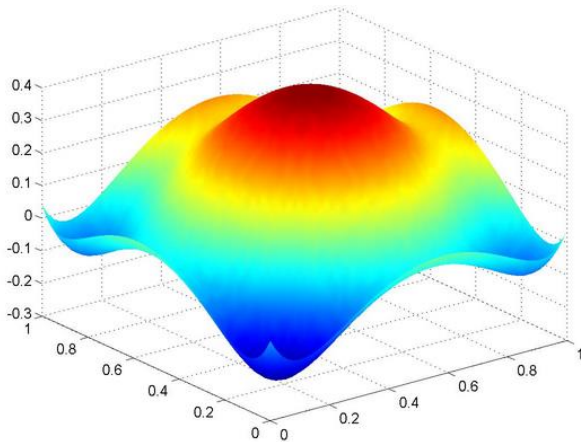
Handouts

Assignment 1

MATLAB Workshops

Tomorrow from 7:30 to 9:30 PM in Warner 100

Friday from 2:30 to 4:30 PM also in Warner 100



It is a curious historical fact that modern quantum mechanics began with two quite different mathematical formulations: the **differential equations** of Schroedinger and the **matrix algebra** of Heisenberg. The two apparently dissimilar approaches were proved to be mathematically equivalent. *Richard Feynman*

What Are Differential Equations?

A **differential equation** is an equation relating some unknown function and one or more of its derivatives.

- ▶ **Ordinary** differential equation (ODE): unknown function has *only* one independent variable.

$$y = y(t), \frac{dy}{dt} = ky$$

- ▶ **Partial** differential equation (PDE): unknown function has more than one independent variable.

$$u = u(x, y), u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0 \text{ (or } \Delta u = 0 \text{)}$$

What Are Differential Equations?

The **order** of a differential equation is the order of the highest derivative appearing in the equation.

All differential equations can be written in the form

$$F(\text{independent variable, dependent variable, variable and derivatives}) = 0$$

where all derivatives up to the highest power in the equation are variables in F .

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ky, \frac{dy}{dt} - ky = 0, F(t, y, \frac{dy}{dt}) = \frac{dy}{dt} - ky$$
$$u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0, F(x, y, u_x, u_y, u_{xx}, u_{yy}) = u_{xx} + u_{yy}$$

What is a Solution To a Differential Equation?

Give the ODE

$$F(t, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0$$

a **solution** is a function $y = \phi(t)$ satisfying the equation for all t in some open interval I :

1. ϕ is n times differentiable in I .
2. ϕ satisfies the equation for all t in I .

We say that $y = \phi(t)$ is **a solution to the differential equation** on I .

A Differential Equation and Solution

$$\text{Equation : } \frac{dy}{dt} = 12y$$

$$\text{Solution : } \phi(t) = 9e^{12t}$$

$$\text{Check : } \phi'(t) = 9(12e^{12t}) = 12(9e^{12t}) = 12\phi(t)$$

Why Do We Care About Differential Equations?

Among all of the mathematical disciplines the theory of differential equations is the most important... It furnishes the explanation of all those elementary manifestations of nature which involve time.

Sophus Lie

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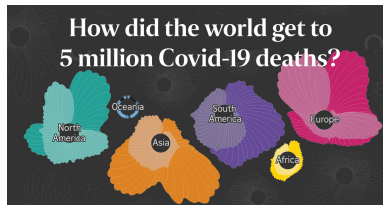
Sophus Lie

Born: December 17, 1842, Nordfjordeid, Norway

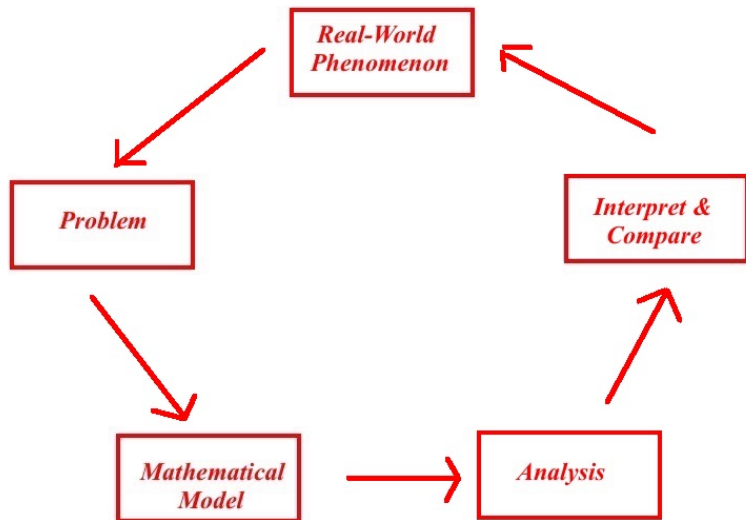
Died: February 18, 1899, Oslo, Norway

[MacTutor Biography](#)

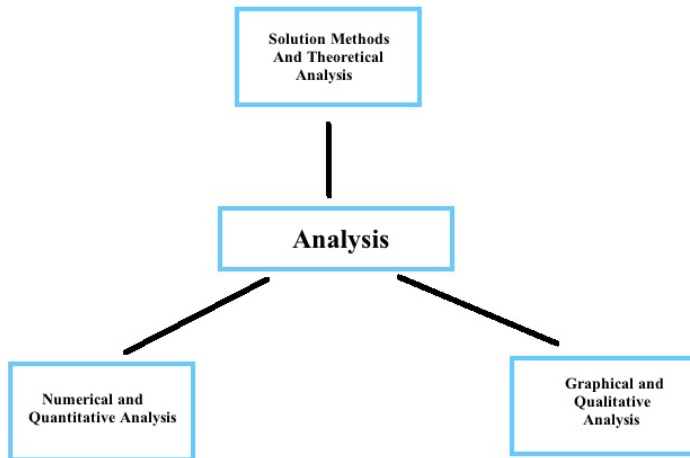
Why Do We Care About Differential Equations?



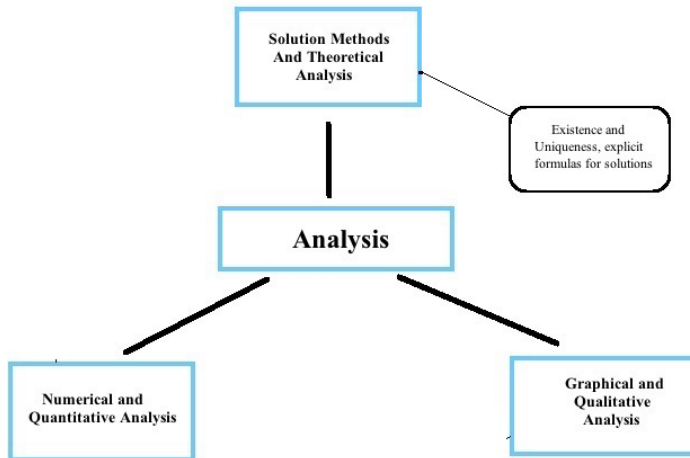
Mathematical Modeling



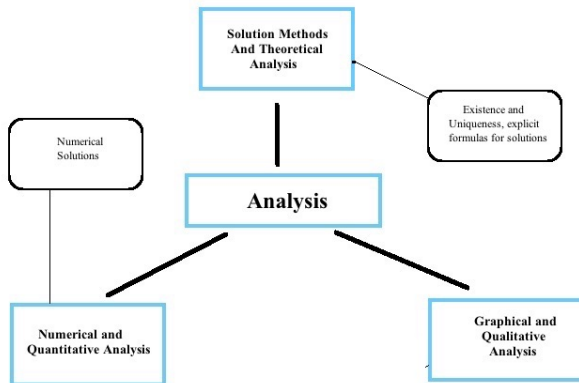
Analyzing Differential Equations



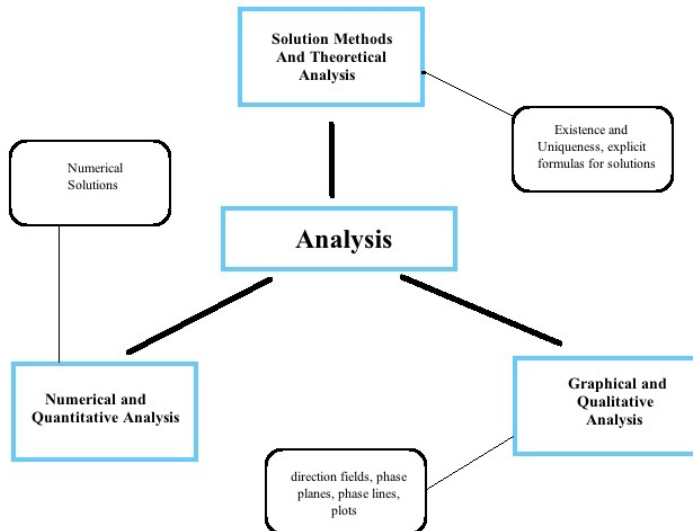
Analyzing Differential Equations



Analyzing Differential Equations



Analyzing Differential Equations



What is a Differential Equation(Informally)?

An equation that gives some explicit information about the **derivative** of a function. but not about the function itself.

Goal: Solve the equation to find the underlying function.

Example 1

$$y' = 2x, \frac{dy}{dx} = 2x, f'(x) = 2x$$

What are the possibilities for f ?

$$f(x) = x^2 + C \text{ where } C \text{ is any constant}$$

Note: We can always check our proposed answer.
Can there be any other solution?

Example 2: Generalize Example 1

$$y' = g(x), \frac{dy}{dx} = g(x), f'(x) = g(x)$$

Solution:

$$y = f(x) = \int g(x) dx$$

The Integration (or Antiderivative) Problem

Techniques:

Substitution = Change of Variable

Integration By Parts

Partial Fraction Decomposition

Where Do Differential Equations Arise?

Derivative is Measure of Rate of Change

Physical laws may give us information on how things evolve over time.

Derivatives will be with respect to time.

Notation:

Independent Variable: t, x

Dependent Variable: y, P, u

Example 3

$$P'(t) = 3P(t) \text{ with } P(0) = 100$$

Initial Value Problem

Applications:

Colony of Bacteria

Money Compounded Continuously

Human Population with Constant Per Capita Growth Rate

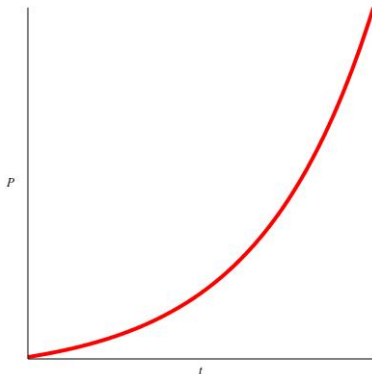
$$P'(t) = 3P(t) \text{ with } P(0) = 100$$

Qualitative Analysis

P' is positive so P is increasing.

$$P'' = (P')' = (3P)' = 3P' = 3 \times 3P = 9P$$

So $P'' > 0$ and hence graph of P is increasing and concave up.



$$P'(t) = 3P(t) \text{ with } P(0) = 100$$

Analytic Solution

$$\frac{1}{P(t)} P'(t) = 3$$

Integrate each side with respect to t

$$\ln|P(t)| = 3t + C$$

But $P(t) > 0$ so

$$\ln P(t) = 3t + C$$

Apply exponential function to each side:

$$e^{\ln P(t)} = e^{3t+C} = e^{3t} e^C = Ce^{3t}$$

$$\text{Hence } P(t) = Ce^{3t}$$

Evaluate at 0:

$$100 = P(0) = Ce^{3 \times 0} = Ce^0 = C$$

$$\text{so } P(t) = 100e^{3t}$$

P is unbounded

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t) = +\infty$$

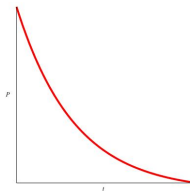
How about $P' = -3P, P(0) = 100$?

Application: Radioactive Decay

P' is initially negative, so P is decreasing

$$P'' = (P')' = (-3P)' = -3P' = -3(-3)P = 9P > 0$$

Hence P is decreasing and graph is concave up



Analytic Solution (Go Through Similar Steps)

$$P(t) = 100e^{-3t}$$

Observe: $P(t) > 0$ for all t

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(t) = 0$$

MORE GENERALLY:

$$P'(t) = kP(t) \text{ with } P(0) = P_0$$

Analytic Solution

$$\frac{1}{P(t)} P'(t) = k$$

Integrate each side with respect to t

$$\ln|P(t)| = kt + C$$

But $P(t) > 0$ so

$$\ln P(t) = kt + C$$

Apply exponential function to each side:

$$e^{\ln P(t)} = e^{kt+C} = e^{kt} e^C = Ce^{kt}$$

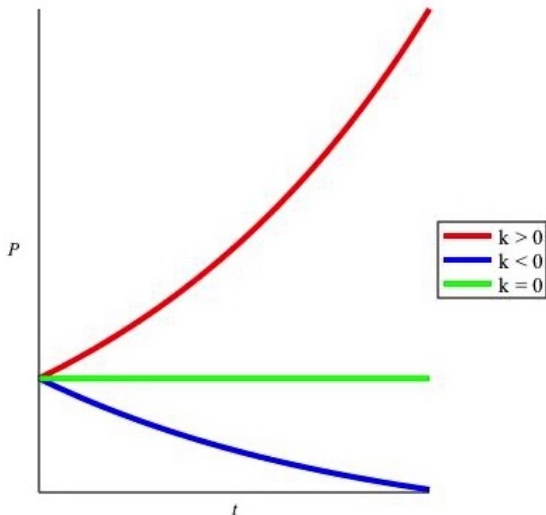
$$\text{Hence } P(t) = Ce^{kt}$$

Evaluate at 0:

$$100 = P(0) = Ce^{k \times 0} = Ce^0 = C$$

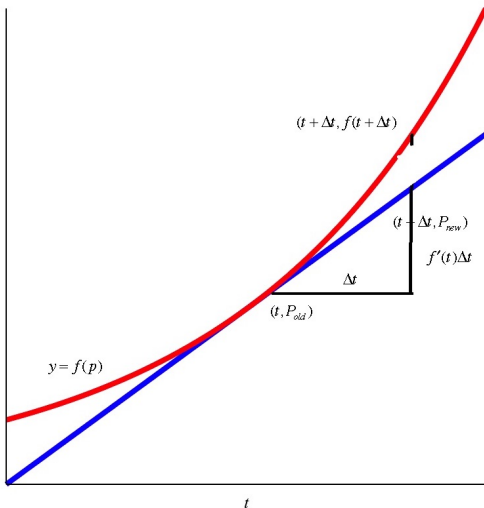
$$\text{so } P(t) = 100e^{kt}$$

Plot of $|P_0 e^{kt}$



Euler's Method For "Solving" Numerically $P'(t) = kP(t)$

$$P_{new} = P_{old} + k * P_{old} * \Delta t$$



Euler's Method For "Solving" Numerically $P'(t) = kP(t)$

$$P_{new} = P_{old} + k * P_{old} * \Delta t$$

Example: $k = .04, P(0) = 1000$

Time	Approximate	Exact
0.	1000.00	1000.00
0.1000000000	1004.00000	1004.008011
0.2000000000	1008.016000	1008.032086
0.3000000000	1012.048064	1012.072289
0.4000000000	1016.096256	1016.128685
0.5000000000	1020.160641	1020.201340
0.6000000000	1024.241284	1024.290318
0.7000000000	1028.338249	1028.395684
0.8000000000	1032.451602	1032.517505
0.9000000000	1036.581408	1036.655846
1.0000000000	1040.727734	1040.810774

Generalizations

1. Population with immigration and/or emigration
2. Forest Management
3. Fishery Management
4. Lake Champlain Pollution
5. Anesthetic
6. Alcohol/Drug

$$P' = aP + b$$

Key Terms From Chapter 1

Independent Variable

Dependent Variable

Parameter

Solution

Equilibrium Solution

Integral Curves

Autonomous Differential Equation

Critical Point = Fixed Point = Stationary Point

Phase Line

One - Dimensional Phase Portrait

Asymptotically Stable

Unstable

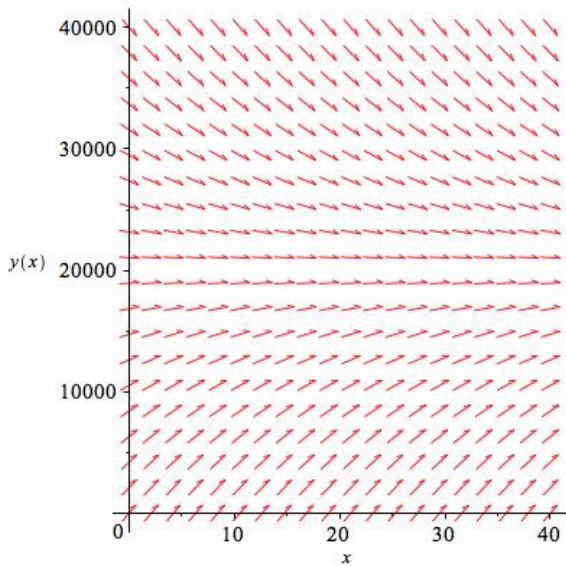
Semistable Attractor = Sink

Repeller = Source

Linearization About An Equilibrium

Direction Field

Direction Field for $P' = -.05P + 1000$



Some Integral Curves For $P' = -.05P + 1000$

