

Introduction to Ordinary Differential Equations

Lecture 7a – 2021-06-30

MAT A35 – Summer 2021 – UTSC

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What is a differential equation?

- An equation relates variables (e.g. x, y, z), and a solution is a set of values that makes the equation true.

$$x^2 + 2y + xz = 0$$

Sol: $x=1, y=-1, z=1$

Sol: $x=0, y=0, z=0$

- A differential equation relates variables and their derivatives, and a solution is a function that makes the equation true.

$$5 = \frac{dy}{dx} = y'$$

Sol: $y=5x$

Sol: $y=5x+1$

$$y = \frac{dy}{dx} = y'$$

$$y = y'$$

Sol: $y = e^x$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = e^x$$

Sol: $y = 100e^x$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 100e^x$$

Notational reminder

- The most unambiguous way to write derivatives is to write both variables:

- $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is the derivative of y by the x variable.
- $\frac{dx}{dt}$ is the derivative of x by the t variable.

- Primes/apostrophes denote the derivative by x

- $y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$
- $f'' = \frac{d^2 f}{dx^2}$
- $y^{(n)} = \frac{d^n y}{dx^n}$

- Dots above a variable denote a time-derivative by t

- $\dot{x} = \frac{dx}{dt}$
- $\ddot{y} = \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2}$

ODEs vs PDEs

$$y = f(x)$$

$$y' = \frac{dy}{dx} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{dependent var.} \\ \text{independent var.} \end{array}$$

- Ordinary differential equations (ODEs) contain only one independent variable, so we have regular derivatives.

$$F(x, y, y', y'', y''', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0 \quad \text{where } y = f(x)$$

Ex. $x - y' = 0$, $x^2 y'' + xy' + xy^2 - 1 = 0$

- Partial differential equations (PDEs) contain multiple independent variables, so we have partial derivatives.

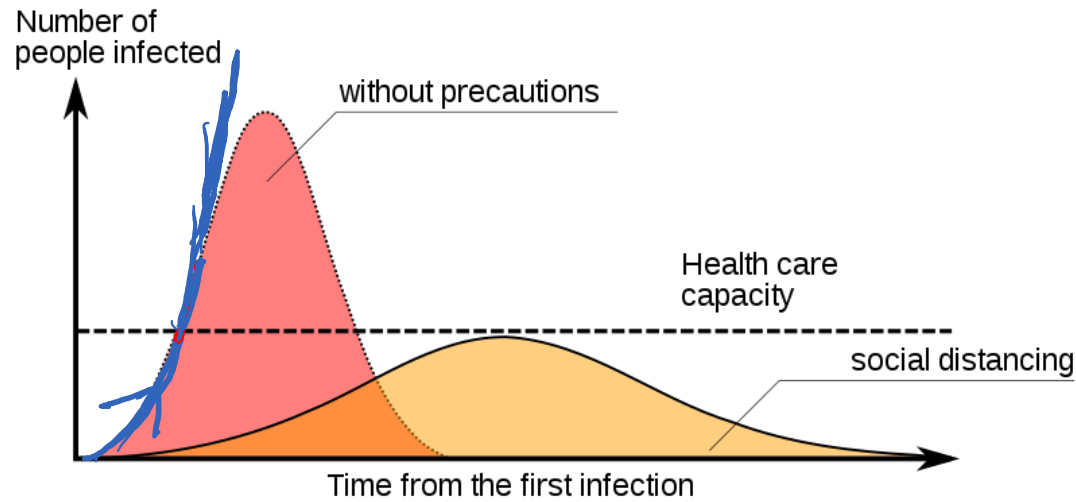
$$\text{dep.} \rightarrow z = f(x, y) \quad \text{ind. var.}$$

Ex. $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} - z^2 y = 0$

We will not be covering PDEs in MATA35 other than to recognize them.

Example of ODE

- Early on in an epidemic, the infection rate is proportional to the number of infected individuals.
- Let $I(t)$ be the number of infected individuals at time t



$$\dot{I}(t) = kI(t)$$

Sol: $I(t) = C e^{kt}$, where C is a constant

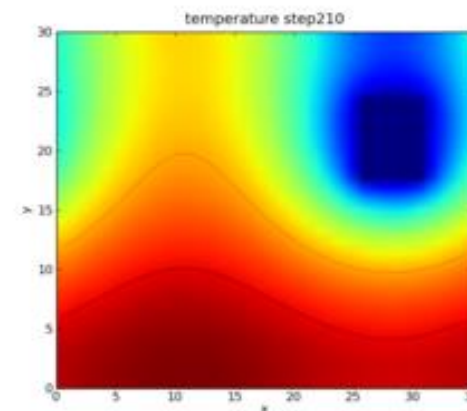
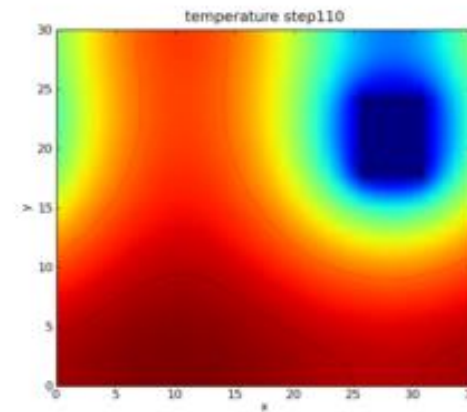
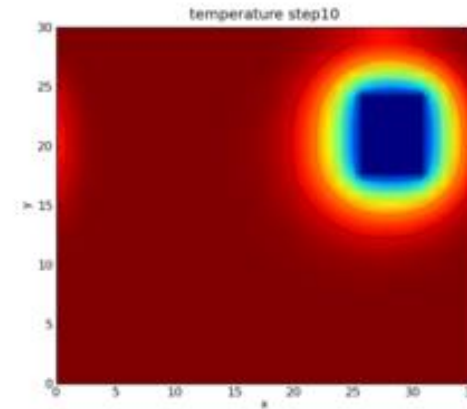
↑ ↑ exponential growth
initial infected number

Example of PDE

- Heat diffusion has multiple spatial independent variables, and is normally modelled by a PDE.

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial z^2}$$

$u(t, x, y, z)$ is a function of 4 ind. variables.



Classify the following

- $x^2 + 5x + y^2 = 5xy$

- $x^2 + 5y' + y^2 = 4xy'$

- $t^2 \dot{x} + 5t = x$ $\frac{dx}{dt}$ ← ODE

- $\left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\right)^2 + y^2 \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} - 5x$

- $\left(\frac{\partial z}{\partial x}\right)^3 + \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} + z^2 = 2$

- A: Typical equation
- B: ODE
- C: PDE
- D: ???
- E: None of the above

Time vs. space

- Often, in practice, ODEs describe how a system changes with time as the only independent variable (whether we call the independent variable “ x ” or “ t ”)
- Often, PDEs include how a system changes with space, and sometimes also with time, giving multiple independent variables.

Specific types of ODEs

n^{th} order ODE

- General form of ODEs: $F(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0$
- First-order ODE: ~~$F(x, y, y') = 0$~~ $F(x, y, y') = 0$
- Pure-time ODE: $y' = f(x)$ \leftarrow only depends on x
- Autonomous ODE: $F(y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0$ \leftarrow no explicit x -dep.
Ex. $y' = y$
- Autonomous 1st-order: $y' = f(y)$
- Linear ODEs: $a_n(x)y^{(n)} + \dots + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = q(x)$,
where $a_i(x)$ and $q(x)$ are all functions of x .
Ex. $5y' + xy = x$
- Linear 1st-order: $y' + p(x)y = q(x)$

If \nearrow

$$a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y = q_0(x)$$

$$y' + \frac{a_0(x)}{a_1(x)}y = \frac{q_0(x)}{a_1(x)}$$

$$p(x) = \frac{a_0(x)}{a_1(x)}$$

$$q(x) = \frac{q_0(x)}{a_1(x)}$$

Try it out: classify order of ODE

• $y'' + y' + y^2 = 5$ 2nd order

$\frac{dy}{dx}$ ← dep. var.
 $\frac{dx}{dy}$ ← ind. var.

• $y' - 1 = x^2$ 1st order

$\frac{dx}{dy}$ ← dep. var.
 $\frac{dy}{dx}$ ← ind. var.

• $\frac{dx}{dy} \left(\frac{d^2x}{dy^2} + 1 \right) = y$ 2nd order
 $x''(x'+1) = t$ $\left[\frac{d}{dx} \right] \left[\frac{d}{dx} \right] f$

$x'' \neq x'''$

• $y'''' + 4y'' + 4y = x^2$ 4th order $\left[\frac{d^2}{dx^2} \right] f$

• $\dot{x} = t^2 + 1$ 1st order $\frac{dx}{dt}$ ← dep. var.
 $\frac{dt}{dx}$ ← ind. var.

- A: 1st order
- B: 2nd order
- C: 3rd order
- D: 4th order
- E: None of the above

Try it out: pure time/autonomous/neither

• $y'' + y' + y^2 = 5$ $y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$ Autonomous, no direct x -dependence

• $y' - 1 = x^2$ $y' = x^2 + 1$ Pure-time, y' depends only on x

• $\frac{dx}{dy} \left(\frac{d^2x}{dy^2} + 1 \right) = y$ ind. var. \downarrow
None of the above, because it depends on y and has two different derivatives,

\uparrow two diff. derivatives, so not pure-time.

• $y'''' + 4y''' + 4y'' = x^2$ $y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$ dep. var. \leftarrow
 $dx \leftarrow$ ind. var. \leftarrow

• $\dot{x} = t^2 + 1$ $\dot{x} = \frac{dx}{dt}$ Pure-time.
 \dot{x} depends only on t .

None, because depends on y'' , y''' , y , x

Ex. $y' = 0$
 $\hat{=}$ both

- A: Autonomous
- B: Pure-time
- C: Both of the above
- D: ???
- E: None of the above

Try it out: linear vs nonlinear

- $y'' + y' + y^2 = 5$ nonlinear
↳ square of y $y^2 = y \cdot y$
- $y' - 1 = x^2$ linear, because ind var x doesn't count

- $\frac{dx}{dy} \left(\frac{d^2x}{dy^2} + 1 \right) = y$ nonlinear, multiplying together two derivatives

- $\underline{y''''} + 4\underline{y''} + 4\underline{y} = x^2$ linear, x^2 doesn't matter

- $\dot{x} = t^2 + 1$ linear, t is indep var.
 t^2 doesn't matter

- A: Linear
- B: Nonlinear
- ~~C: Both of the above~~
- D: ???
- E: None of the above

$$\sin y' + y = 0$$

↳ nonlinear