

5.1.1. Some basic math models. Direction field.

• Equation containing derivatives of an unknown function is called a differential equation.

Examples. 1) $y'' + y^2 y' + \sin x = 0$ x is the independent variable
 $y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$ $y = y(x)$ y is the dependent variable

2) $t^2 y'' + ty = 0$ t is the independent variable
 $y' = \frac{dy}{dt}$ $y = y(t)$ y is the dependent variable.

• a differential equation that describes some physical process is often called a mathematical model of the process.

Examples. 1) A Falling object.

1a) neglect the air resistance.



h is the height of the object at time t .

$$\vec{F} = m\vec{g}$$

2nd Newton's law $\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$

$$m\vec{g} = m\vec{a}$$

$$\vec{a} = \vec{g}$$

a is the acceleration of the object at time t .

$$a = a(t)$$

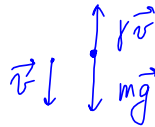
$$a = \frac{d^2h}{dt^2}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{d^2h}{dt^2} = g = 9.81}$$

1B) air resistance is proportional to the velocity of the object.

γ is the drag coefficient ($\gamma < 0$)

$$\vec{F} = \gamma \vec{v} + m\vec{g}$$



v is the velocity of the object at time t .

$$m\vec{a} = \gamma \vec{v} + m\vec{g}$$

$$ma = mg - \gamma v$$

$$a = \frac{dv}{dt}$$

$$m \frac{dv}{dt} = mg - \gamma v$$

(m, g, γ are constants).

2) Field mice and Owls.

Consider a population of field mice who inhabit a certain rural area. In the absence of predators the rate of change of the mouse population is proportional to the current population

$p(t)$ is the population of mice at time t

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = rp, \text{ where } r \text{ is the growth rate.}$$

If we assume that predator rate is a constant k ($k > 0$), then

$$\frac{dp}{dt} = rp - k$$

Constructing math models:

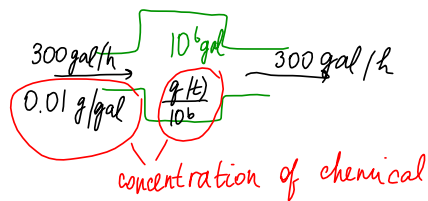
- 1) Identify the independent and dependent variables and assign letters to represent them.
- 2) Choose the units of measurements for each variable.
- 3) Articulate the basic principle that underlines or governs the problem you are investigating.
- 4) Express the principle or law from step 3 in terms of the variables from step 1.
- 5) Make sure that each term in the equation has the same physical units.
- 6) The result of step 4 is a single differential equation which constitutes the math. model.

Example. A pond initially contains 10^6 gal of water and an unknown amount of an undesirable chemical.

Water containing 0.01 g of this chemical per gallon flows into the pond at a rate of 300 gal/h.

The mixture flows out at the same rate.

Assume that the chemical is uniformly distributed throughout the pond. Write a differential equation for the amount of chemical in the pond at any time $f(t)$ is the amount of chemical in the pond at any time.



$$\boxed{\text{rate of change of the amount of chemical in the pond}} = \boxed{\text{input rate}} - \boxed{\text{output rate}}$$

$$\text{rate of change} = \frac{df}{dt}$$

$$\text{input rate} = (0.01)(300) = 3 \text{ (g/h)}$$

$$\text{output rate} = \frac{f}{10^6} (300) = 3f \times 10^{-4} \text{ (g/h)}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{df}{dt} = 3 - 3f \times 10^{-4}}$$

Section 1.2. Solutions of some differential equations.

- An order of a differential equation is the order of the highest derivative present in the equation.

Examples. 1) $y y''' - 10y = \sin t$ of order 3

2) $m \frac{dx}{dt} = mg - f^x$ of order 1

a general form of a differential equation of order n is

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

sometimes we can solve this equation for $y^{(n)}$

$$y^{(n)} = f(t, y, y', \dots, y^{(n-1)})$$

Definition. a function $g(t)$ is called a solution to a diff. eq. of order n if it satisfies the equation for all t in the interval I .

Each differential equation has infinitely many solutions.

The graph of $g(t)$ (for some c) is called the integral curve.

Example. Determine whether a function is a solution to the given differential equation:

1) $g(t) = 5t^2$
 $tg' = 2g$

$$g'(t) = 10t$$

Plug g and g' into the equation:

$$t \underbrace{(10t)}_{g'} \stackrel{?}{=} 2 \underbrace{(5t^2)}_g$$

YES, for all $-\infty < t < \infty$

$$10t^2 = 10t^2 \quad \text{for all } t \text{ from } -\infty \text{ to } +\infty$$

2) $y(t) = \sqrt{2t - t^2} = (2t - t^2)^{1/2}$
 $y^2 y'' + 1 = 0$

$$y'(t) = \frac{1}{2} (2t - t^2)^{-1/2} (2 - 2t)$$
$$= (1-t)(2t - t^2)^{-1/2}$$

$$y''(t) = -(2t - t^2)^{-3/2} + (1-t)(-\frac{1}{2})(2t - t^2)^{-3/2} (2 - 2t)$$

$$= -(2t - t^2)^{-3/2} - (1-t)^2 (2t - t^2)^{-3/2}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2t - t^2}} - \frac{(1-t)^2}{(2t - t^2)\sqrt{2t - t^2}}$$

$$= -\frac{2t - t^2 + (1-t)^2}{(2t - t^2)\sqrt{2t - t^2}}$$

$$= -\frac{2t - t^2 + 1 - 2t + t^2}{(2t - t^2)\sqrt{2t - t^2}}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{(2t - t^2)^{3/2}}$$

$$y^2 y'' + 1 = 0$$

$$(2t - t^2) \left(-\frac{1}{(2t - t^2)\sqrt{2t - t^2}} \right) + 1 \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

$$1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2t - t^2}} \stackrel{?}{=} 0$$

"0 only if $t=1$.

YES, @ $t=1$ only

Section 1.3. Classification of differential equations.

$$y^{(n)} = f(t, y, y', \dots, y^{(n-1)})$$

has infinitely many solutions.

sometimes we need to find the solution of the equation that satisfies the conditions

$$y(t_0) = y_0, y'(t_0) = y_1, \dots$$

(or find the integral curve that passes through (t_0, y_0))

Solve the initial value problem (IVP)

$$y^{(n)} = f(t, y, y', \dots, y^{(n-1)})$$

$$y(t_0) = y_0$$

$$y'(t_0) = y_1$$

For the first order differential equation the IVP is formulated in the following way:

Find the solution of the equation

$$y' = f(x, y)$$

that satisfies the condition $y(t_0) = y_0$.

. The differential equation of the form

$$a_n(t) y^{(n)}(t) + a_{n-1}(t) y^{(n-1)}(t) + \dots + a_1(t) y'(t) + a_0(t) y(t) = 0$$

is called the linear differential equation

If the equation is not linear, then it is
nonlinear.