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1-9-02

# Math 119A Winter '02 - Introduction

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Class: Math 119A "Intro to ODE"

Prof: Blake Temple (GR & shock-wave theory)

off: 3148 MSB Off hrs: MWF 2-3 & by appt.

Text: Strogatz - Nonlinear Dynamics & Chaos  
Ch 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8

TA: Edward Tavernetti, Mathematics

Course Webpage - (Info/Homework/Solutions)

<http://www.math.ucdavis.edu/~temple/MAT119A/>

Supplemental TA: David Melgin

Q: why is Calculus so important? Laws of

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Ans: The Laws of Science (physics, biology, chemistry, geology, engineering) usually come to us stated in terms of rates of change

Derivative:  $f'(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t+\Delta t) - f(t)}{\Delta t}$

= "rate of change of f wrt t"

- To make a prediction —
- Start with Law
- Express it in an equation involving derivatives
- Integrate or solve the equation to get soln, make a graph/prediction

Ex ① Law: A population  $x(t)$  grows at a rate proportional to  $t$

$$\text{Equation: } \frac{dx}{dt} = ct$$

$$\text{Solution: } x(t) - x(t_0) = \int_0^t ct \, dt = \frac{c}{2} t^2$$

Ex ② Law: A population  $x(t)$  grows at a rate proportional to its size

$$\text{Equation: } \boxed{\frac{dx}{dt} = cx}$$

$$\text{Solution: } \frac{dx}{x} = ct \quad \int_{x_0}^x \frac{dx}{x} = ct$$

$$\ln \frac{|x|}{|x_0|} = ct \quad x(t) = x_0 e^{ct}$$

Ex 3 Law: A population grows at a rate proportional to its size squared

Equation:  $\frac{dx}{dt} = c x^2$

Solution:  $\frac{dx}{x^2} = c dt$

$$\int_{x_0}^x \frac{dx}{x^2} = c(t - t_0)$$

$$-x^{-1} \Big|_{x_0}^x = c(t - t_0)$$

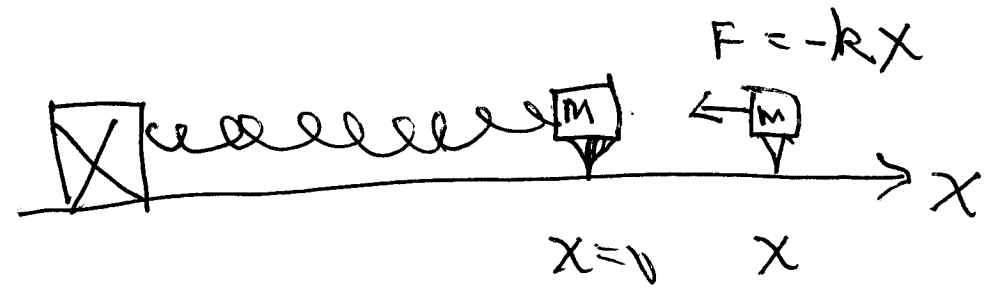
$$-\frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{x_0} = c(t - t_0)$$

$$\frac{1}{x} = \frac{1}{x_0} - c(t - t_0)$$

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x_0} - c(t - t_0)}$$

Ex ④: Newtons Law:  $\vec{F} = m \vec{a}$

Position of mass  $m$  is  $x(t)$



$a = \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \frac{dv}{dt}$  "Newton's Law comes to us stated in terms of a rate of change"

Law: (Spring) "The force is proportional to minus the displacement"

Equation:  $m \ddot{x} = -kx$

$$\ddot{x} + \frac{k}{m} x = 0$$

Solution:

$$x_1(t) = A \cos \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} t$$

$$x_2(t) = B \sin \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} t$$

Q The "most important" ODE'S —

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(1)  $\dot{x} = kx$  (exponential growth)

(2)  $\dot{x} = kx^2$  (Riccati)

(3)  $\ddot{x} + kx = 0$  (Harmonic Oscillator)

Defn: An ODE is an equation that involves an unknown function  $x(t)$  of one independent variable  $t$  and its derivatives  $\dot{x}(t), \ddot{x}(t), \overset{\circ\circ}{x}(t), \dots, x^{(n)}(t)$

- highest order derivative appearing is the order

- main point: no "partial derivatives"

Subject of 119A : Theory of ODE's (6)

Comments —

① Complicated ODE's cannot be solved in closed form  $\Rightarrow$

\* Theory about qualitative behavior

\* Simple examples like (1) - (3) are fundamental

② Linear vs Nonlinear

Homogeneous vs Non-Homogeneous

"Linear Homogeneous" superposition holds