

Lecture 24 (Nov. 01, 2013)

Learning Goals: Application of DE $\frac{dy}{dx} = ay + b$

• Why DE?

Our goal is to use a function to describe two things and to analyze the behaviour of function
eg. optimization problem, related rates problem.

find $y = f(x)$ then find $f(a)$, $f'(x)$, ...

But sometimes we can only build up a relationship between the rate of change and function itself.

eg. DE $\frac{dy}{dt} = f(y)$

then the question becomes, can we find the solution $y(t)$ and analyze it.

• DE $\frac{dy}{dx} = ay + b$, a, b - nonzero constants, $y(x=0) = y_0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dz}{dx} = az \text{ with } z = y + \frac{b}{a}$$

$$\Rightarrow z = z_0 e^{ax} \text{ with } z_0 = y_0 + \frac{b}{a} \Rightarrow y = -\frac{b}{a} + (y_0 + \frac{b}{a}) e^{ax}$$

* be able to use this method to solve the DE for any given a, b .

• Application I: Newton's Cooling Law

Change of the temperature of an object is proportional to the difference between the temperature of the environment and the temperature of the object.

Assume $T(t)$ - temperature of the object at any time

E - temperature of the environment, constant

k - constant of proportionality

Change of temperature over time = $\frac{dT}{dt}$

order matters



Difference between the temperature of the environment and the temperature of the object: $E - T$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dT}{dt} = k(E - T) \quad \text{assume } y = T - E \Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dt} = -ky \Rightarrow y = y_0 e^{-kt}$$

$$\Rightarrow T(t) = E + (T_0 - E) e^{-kt}, \quad T_0 = T(t=0)$$

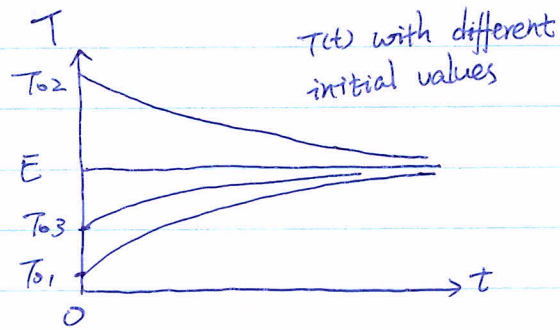
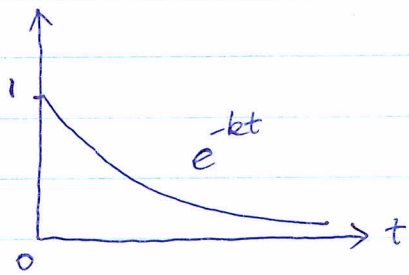
* You can get the same $T(t)$ by substituting $a = -k$, $b = kE$ in the solution of $\frac{dy}{dx} = ay + b$

Long-term behavior of $T(t)$: ($k > 0$)

(1) if $T_0 = E$, then $T(t) = E$

(2) if $T_0 > E$, then $T_0 - E > 0$ and e^{-kt} decreases $\Rightarrow T(t)$ approaches to E for $t \rightarrow +\infty$

(3) if $T_0 < E$, then $T_0 - E < 0$ and e^{-kt} decreases $\Rightarrow T(t)$ approaches to E for $t \rightarrow +\infty$



• Application 2: Free falling object. with friction

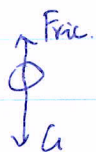
Recall that a free falling object without considering the friction has

position function $y(t) = \frac{1}{2}gt^2$ with $y(0) = 0, v(0) = 0$

velocity function $v(t) = \frac{dy}{dt} = g \cdot t, v(0) = 0$

acceleration function $a(t) = \frac{dv}{dt} = g, g$ - gravity constant

Given that the friction is proportional to the velocity of the object, what is $v(t)$?



$$m \cdot a(t) = m \cdot g - k \cdot v(t), \quad k - \text{proportional constant.}$$

$$\Rightarrow m \cdot \frac{dv}{dt} = m \cdot g - k \cdot v \quad \Rightarrow \frac{dv}{dt} = -\frac{k}{m}v + g$$

To solve the DE, assume $u = v - \frac{mg}{k}$ then $\frac{du}{dt} = -\frac{k}{m}u$

$$\Rightarrow u(t) = u_0 e^{-\frac{k}{m}t} \quad \text{with } u_0 = u(t=0) = v(t=0) - \frac{mg}{k} = -\frac{mg}{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow v(t) = \frac{mg}{k} - \frac{mg}{k} e^{-\frac{k}{m}t} = \frac{mg}{k} (1 - e^{-\frac{k}{m}t})$$