Differential Equations

MAT244 Slides

Jason Siefken Bernardo Galvão-Sousa

You are observing starfish that made their way to a previously uninhabited tide-pool. You'd like to predict the year-on-year population of these starfish.

You start with a simple assumption

#new children per year \sim size of current population

- 1.1 Come up with a mathematical model for the number of star fish in a given year. Your model should
 - Define any notation (variables and parameters) you use
 - Include at least one formula/equation
 - Explain how your formula/equation relates to the starting assumption

Let

(Birth Rate) K = 1.1 children per starfish per year (Initial Pop.) $P_0 = 10$ star fish

and define the model \mathbf{M}_1 to be the model for starfish population with these parameters.

2.1 Simulate the total number of starfish per year using Excel.

Recall the model M_1 (from the previous question).

Define the model \mathbf{M}_{1}^{*} to be

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{0.742t}$$

- 3.1 Are \mathbf{M}_1 and \mathbf{M}_1^* different models or the same?
- 3.2 Which of \mathbf{M}_1 or \mathbf{M}_1^* is better?
- 3.3 List an advantage and a disadvantage for each of M_1 and M_1^* .

In the model M_1 , we assumed the starfish had K children at one point during the year.

- 4.1 Create a model \mathbf{M}_n where the starfish are assumed to have K/n children n times per year (at regular intervals).
- 4.2 Simulate the models \mathbf{M}_1 , \mathbf{M}_2 , \mathbf{M}_3 in Excel. Which grows fastest?
- 4.3 What happens to \mathbf{M}_n as $n \to \infty$?



Exploring \mathbf{M}_n

We can rewrite the assumptions of \mathbf{M}_n as follows:

- At time t there are $P_n(t)$ starfish.
- $P_n(0) = 10$
- During the time interval (t, t + 1/n) there will be (on average) K/n new children per starfish.
- 5.1 Write an expression for $P_n(t+1/n)$ in terms of $P_n(t)$.
- 5.2 Write an expression for ΔP_n , the change in population from time t to $t + \Delta t$.
- 5.3 Write an expression for $\frac{\Delta P_n}{\Delta t}$.
- 5.4 Write down a differential equation relating P'(t) to P(t) where $P(t) = \lim_{n \to \infty} P_n(t)$.

Recall the model M_1 defined by

- $P_1(0) = 10$
- $P_1(t+1) = KP(t)$ for $t \ge 0$ years and K = 1.1.

Define the model \mathbf{M}_{∞} by

- P(0) = 10
 - P'(t) = kP(t).

6.1 If k = K = 1.1, does the model \mathbf{M}_{∞} produce the same

population estimates as M_1 ?

Suppose that the estimates produced by M_1 agree with the actual (measured) population of starfish.

Fill out the table indicating which models have which properties.

Model	Accuracy	Explanatory	(your favourite property)
\mathbf{M}_1			
\mathbf{M}_1^*			
$ m M_{\infty}$			

Recall the model M_1 defined by

- $P_1(0) = 10$
- $P_1(t+1) = KP(t)$ for $t \ge 0$ years and K = 1.1.

Define the model \mathbf{M}_{∞} by

- P(0) = 10
 - P'(t) = kP(t).

8.1 Suppose that M_1 accurately predicts the population. Can you find a value of k so that \mathbf{M}_{∞} accurately pre-

dicts the population?

After more observations, scientists notice a seasonal effect on starfish. They propose a new model called **S**:

- P(0) = 10
- $P'(t) = k \cdot P(t) \cdot |\sin(2\pi t)|$
- 9.1 What can you tell about the population (without trying to compute it)?
- 9.2 Assuming k = 1.1, estimate the population after 10 years.
- 9.3 Assuming k = 1.1, estimate the population after 10.3 years.

And so on.

Consider the following argument for the population model 10.1 Do you believe this argument? Can it be improved? **S** where $P'(t) = P(t) \cdot |\sin(2\pi t)|$ with P(0) = 10:

10.2 Simulate an improved version using a spreadsheet.

At t = 0, the change in population $\approx P'(0) = 0$, SO $P(1) \approx P(0) + P'(0) \cdot 1 = P(0) = 10.$ At t = 1, the change in population $\approx P'(1) = 0$, SO $P(2) \approx P(1) + P'(1) \cdot 1 = P(0) = 10.$

So, the population of starfish remains constant.



Time

0.0

(Simulating \mathbf{M}_{∞} with different Δs)

10

Pop. $(\Delta = 0.1)$

0.0	10	0.0	10
0.1	11.1	0.2	12.2
0.2	12.321	0.4	14.884
0.3	13.67631	0.6	18.15848
0.4	15.1807041	0.8	22.1533456
•	•		

Time

0.0

Pop. ($\Delta = 0.2$)

11.3 What Δ s give the largest estimate for the population

11.1 Compare $\Delta = 0.1$ and $\Delta = 0.2$. Which approximation

11.2 Graph the population estimates for $\Delta = 0.1$ and

 $\Delta = 0.2$ on the same plot. What does the graph show?

11.4 Is there a limit as $\Delta \rightarrow 0$?

grows faster?

at time *t*?

(Simulating \mathbf{M}_{∞} with different Δs)



- 11.1 Compare $\Delta=0.1$ and $\Delta=0.2$. Which approximation grows faster?
- 11.2 Graph the population estimates for $\Delta=0.1$ and $\Delta=0.2$ on the same plot. What does the graph show?

- 11.3 What Δs give the largest estimate for the population at time t?
- 11.4 Is there a limit as $\Delta \rightarrow 0$?

Consider the following models for starfish growth

- **M** # new children per year ∼ current population
- N # new children per year \sim current population times resources available per individual
- **O** # new children per year ~ current population times the fraction of total resources remaining
- 12.1 Guess what the population vs. time curves look like for each model.
- 12.2 Create a differential equation for each model.
- 12.3 Simulate population vs. time curves for each model (but pick a common initial population).

Recall the models

- **M** # new children per year ∼ current population
- N # new children per year \sim current population times resources available per individual
- **O** # new children per year ~ current population times the fraction of total resources remaining
- 13.1 Determine which population grows fastest in the short term and which grows fastest in the long term.
- 13.2 Are some models more sensitive to your choice of Δ when simulating?
- 13.3 Are your simulations for each model consistently underestimates? Overestimates?
- 13.4 Compare your simulated results with your guesses from question 12.1. What did you guess correctly? Where were you off the mark?

A simple model for population growth has the form

$$P'(t) = bP(t)$$

where *b* is the *birth rate*.

14.1 Create a better model for population that includes both births and deaths.

Lotka-Volterra Predator-Prey models predict two popula- 15.1 tions, F (foxes) and R (rabbits), simultaneously. They take the form

$$F'(t) = (B_F - D_F) \cdot F(t)$$

$$R'(t) = (B_R - D_R) \cdot R(t)$$

where B_2 stands for births and D_2 stands for deaths.

We will assume:

- Foxes die at a constant rate.
- Foxes mate when food is plentiful.
- Rabbits mate at a constant rate.
- Foxes eat rabbits.

- Speculate on when B_F , D_F , B_R , and D_R would be at their maximum(s)/minimum(s), given our assumptions.
- 15.2 Come up with appropriate formulas for B_F , B_R , D_F , and D_R .

Suppose the population of *F* (foxes) and *R* (rabbits) evolves over time following the rule

$$F'(t) = (0.01 \cdot R(t) - 1.1) \cdot F(t)$$

$$R'(t) = (1.1 - 0.1 \cdot F(t)) \cdot R(t)$$

- 16.1 Simulate the population of foxes and rabbits with a spreadsheet.
- 16.2 Do the populations continue to grow/shrink forever? Are they cyclic?
- 16.3 Should the humps/valleys in the rabbit and fox populations be in phase? Out of phase?

Open the spreadsheet

https://uoft.me/foxes-and-rabbits

which contains an Euler approximation for the Foxes and Rabbits population.

$$F'(t) = (0.01 \cdot R(t) - 1.1) \cdot F(t)$$

$$R'(t) = (1.1 - 0.1 \cdot F(t)) \cdot R(t)$$

- 17.1 Is the max population of the rabbits over/under estimated? Sometimes over, sometimes under?
- 17.2 What about the foxes?
- 17.3 What about the min populations?

Open the spreadsheet

https://uoft.me/foxes-and-rabbits

which contains an Euler approximation for the Foxes and Rabbits population.

$$F'(t) = (0.01 \cdot R(t) - 1.1) \cdot F(t)$$

$$R'(t) = (1.1 - 0.1 \cdot F(t)) \cdot R(t)$$

Component Graph & Phase Plane. For a differential equation involving the functions $F_1, F_2, ..., F_n$, and the variable t, the *component graphs* are the n graphs of $(t, F_1(t)), (t, F_2(t)),$

The *phase plane* or *phase space* associated with the differential equation is the n-dimensional space with axes corresponding to the values of F_1, F_2, \ldots, F_n .

- 18.1 Plot the Fox vs. Rabbit population in the *phase plane*.
- 18.2 Should your plot show a closed curve or a spiral?
- 18.3 What "direction" do points move along the curve as time increases? Justify by referring to the model.
- 18.4 What is easier to see from plots in the phase plane than from component graphs (the graphs of fox and rabbit population vs. time)?

able(s).

Open the spreadsheet

https://uoft.me/foxes-and-rabbits

which contains an Euler approximation for the Foxes and Rabbits population.

$$F'(t) = (0.01 \cdot R(t) - 1.1) \cdot F(t)$$

$$R'(t) = (1.1 - 0.1 \cdot F(t)) \cdot R(t)$$

Equilibrium Solution. An *equilibrium solution* to a differential equation or system of differential equations is a solution that is constant in the independent vari-

- 19.1 By changing initial conditions, what is the "smallest" curve you can get in the phase plane? What happens at those initial conditions?
- 19.2 What should F' and R' be if F and R are equilibrium solutions?19.3 How many equilibrium solutions are there for the fox-
- and-rabbit system? Justify your answer.

 19.4 What do the equilibrium solutions look like in the

phase plane? What about their component graphs?

Recall the logistic model for starfish growth:

O # new children per year ∼ current population times the fraction of total resources remaining

which can be modeled with the equation

$$P'(t) = k \cdot P(t) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{R_i}{R} \cdot P(t)\right)$$

where

- P(t) is the population at time t
- r (t) is the population at time

• k is a constant of proportionality

• *R* is the total number of resources

• R_i is the resources that one starfish wants to consume

Use k = 1.1, R = 1, and $R_i = 0.1$ unless instructed otherwise.

- 20.1 What are the equilibrium solutions for model **O**?
- 20.2 What does a "phase plane" for model **O** look like?
- 20.3 Classify the behaviour of solutions that lie *between* the equilibrium solutions. E.g., are they increasing, decreasing, oscillating?

What do graphs of equilibrium solutions look like?

Classification of Equilibria. An equilibrium solution f is called

- **attracting** if locally solutions converge to *f*
- **repelling** if there is a fixed distance so that locally, solutions tend away from f by that fixed distance
- **stable** if there is a fixed distance so that locally, solutions stay within that fixed distance of f
- \blacksquare *unstable* if f is not stable

Classification of Equilibria (Formal). An equilibrium solution f is called

- **attracting at time** t_0 if there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ such that for all solutions g satisfying $|g(t_0) - f(t_0)| < \varepsilon$, we have $\lim_{t\to\infty} f(t) = \lim_{t\to\infty} g(t)$.
- **repelling at time** t_0 if there exists $\varepsilon > 0$ and $\delta > 0$ such that for all solutions g that satisfy $0 < |g(t_0) - f(t_0)| <$ ε there exists $T \in \mathbb{R}$ so that for all t > T we have $|g(t)-f(t)|>\delta$
- **stable at time** t_0 if for all $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that for all g satisfying $|g(t_0) - f(t_0)| < \delta$ we have $|g(t) - f(t)| < \varepsilon$ for all $t > t_0$.
- **unstable at time** t_0 if f is not stable at time t_0 f is called attracting/repelling/stable/unstable if it has the corresponding property for all t.

f is called

Let

F'(t) = ?

attracting if locally solutions converge to *f* **repelling** if there is a fixed distance so that locally,

Classification of Equilibria. An equilibrium solution

solutions tend away from *f* by that fixed distance **stable** if there is a fixed distance so that locally,

solutions stay within that fixed distance of f

 \blacksquare *unstable* if f is not stable

f is stable.

lution f(t) = 1.

f is attracting.

f is repelling.

21.4 Could f be stable but *not* attracting?

be an unknown differential equation with equilibrium so-

21.2 Draw an example of what solutions might look like if

21.3 Draw an example of what solutions might look like if

Draw an example of what solutions might look like if



Classification of Equilibria. An equilibrium solution *f* is called

- **attracting** if locally solutions converge to *f*
- *repelling* if there is a fixed distance so that locally, solutions tend away from *f* by that fixed distance
- *stable* if there is a fixed distance so that locally, solutions stay within that fixed distance of *f*
- \blacksquare *unstable* if f is not stable

Recall the starfish population model **O** given by

$$P'(t) = k \cdot P(t) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{R_i}{R} \cdot P(t)\right)$$

Use k = 1.1, R = 1, and $R_i = 0.1$ unless instructed otherwise.

- 22.1 Classify the equilibrium solutions for model **O** as attracting/repelling/stable/unstable/semi-stable.
- 22.2 Does changing k change the nature of the equilibrium solutions? How can you tell?



A *slope field* is a plot of small segments of tangent lines to solutions of a differential equation at different initial conditions.

On the left is a slope field for model **O**, available at https://www.desmos.com/calculator/ghavqzqqjn

- 23.1 If you were sketching the slope field for model **O** by hand, what line would you sketch (a segment of) at (5,3)? Write an equation for that line.
- 23.2 How can you recognize equilibrium solutions in a slope field?
- 23.3 Give qualitative descriptions of different solutions to the *differential equation* used in model **O** (i.e., use words to describe them). Do all of those solutions make sense in terms of *model* **O**?



3d slope fields are possible, but hard to interpret.

On the left is a slope field for the Foxes–Rabbits model.

https://www.desmos.com/3d/kvyztvmp0g

- 24.1 What are the three dimensions in the plot?
- 24.2 What should the graph of an equilibrium solution look like?
- 24.3 What should the graph of a typical solution look like?
- 24.4 What are ways to simplify the picture so we can more easily analyze solutions?



Phase Portrait. A phase portrait or phase diagram is the plot of a vector field in phase space where each vector rooted at (x, y) is tangent to a solution curve passing through (x, y) and its length is given by the speed of a solution passing through (x, y).

On the left is a phase portrait for the Foxes–Rabbits model.

 $\verb|https://www.desmos.com/calculator/vrk0q4espx|$

- 25.1 What do the x and y axes correspond to?
- 25.2 Identify the equilibria in the phase portrait. What are the lengths of the vectors at those points?
- 25.3 Classify each equilibrium as stable/unstable.
- 25.4 Copy and paste data from your simulation spreadsheet into the Desmos plot. Does the resulting curve fit with the picture?

Sketch your own vector field where the corresponding system of differential equations:

- 26.1 Has an attracting equilibrium solution.
- 26.2 Has a repelling equilibrium solution.
- 26.3 Has no equilibrium solutions.



Recall the slope field for model **O**.

- 27.1 What would a phase portrait for model **O** look like? Draw it.
- 27.2 Where are the arrows the longest? Shortest?
- 27.3 How could you tell from a 1d phase portrait whether an equilibrium solution is attracting/repelling/etc.?

The following differential equation models the life cycle of a tree. In the model

- H(t) = height (in meters) of tree trunk at time t
- A(t) = surface area (in square meters) of all leaves at time t

$$H'(t) = 0.3 \cdot A(t) - b \cdot H(t)$$

 $A'(t) = -0.3 \cdot (H(t))^2 + A(t)$

and 0 < b < 2

to make a phase portrait for the tree model.

https://www.desmos.com/calculator/vrk0q4espx

- 28.2 What do equilibrium solutions mean in terms of tree growth?
- 28.3 For b = 1 what are the equilibrium solution(s)?

The following differential equation models the life cycle of a tree. In the model

- H(t) = height (in meters) of tree trunk at time t
- A(t) = surface area (in square meters) of all leaves at time t

$$H'(t) = 0.3 \cdot A(t) - b \cdot H(t)$$

 $A'(t) = -0.3 \cdot (H(t))^2 + A(t)$

and 0 < b < 2

- 29.1 Fix a value of b and use a spreadsheet to simulate some solutions with different initial conditions. Plot the results on your phase portrait from 28.1.
- 29.2 What will happen to a tree with (H(0),A(0)) = (20,10)? Does this depend on b?
- 29.3 What will happen to a tree with (H(0),A(0)) = (10,10)? Does this depend on b?

The tree model

into trunk height.

The tree is in a swamp and constantly sinks at a 30.3 Applying Euler's method to this system shows solutions

speed proportional to its height.

 $P_{\text{leaves 1}}$ Leaves grow proportionality to the energy available.

CO₂ is absorbed by the leaves and turned directly

a tree?

that pass from the 1st to 4th quadrants of the phase plane. Is this realistic? Describe the life cycle of such

world)?

to the leaf area.

of its height.





The tree gains energy from the sun proportionally

The tree loses energy proportionally to the square

© Bernardo Galvão-Sousa & Jason Siefken, 2024











Recall the tree model

$$H'(t) = 0.3 \cdot A(t) - b \cdot H(t)$$

 $A'(t) = -0.3 \cdot (H(t))^2 + A(t)$

- 31.1 Find all equilibrium solutions for $0 \le b \le 2$.
- 31.2 For which *b* does a tree have the possibility of living forever? If the wind occasionally blew off a few random leaves, would that change your answer?
- 31.3 Find a value b_5 of b so that there is an equilibrium with H = 5.
- Find a value b_{12} of b so that there is an equilibrium with H = 12.
- 31.4 Predict what happens to a tree near equilibrium in condition b_5 and a tree near equilibrium in condition b_{12} .

Consider the system of differential equations x'(t) = x(t)

$$y'(t) = 2y(t)$$

32.1 Make a phase portrait for the system.

came up with).

32.3 Find a formula for x(t) and y(t) that satisfy the initial

32.4 Let $\vec{r}(t) = (x(t), y(t))$. Find a matrix A so that the

32.5 Write a solution to $\vec{r}' = A\vec{r}$ (where A is the matrix you

differential equation can be equivalently expressed as

 $\vec{r}'(t) = A\vec{r}(t)$.

conditions $(x(0), y(0)) = (x_0, y_0)$.

Let A be an unknown matrix and suppose \vec{p} and \vec{q} are solutions to $\vec{r}' = A\vec{r}$.

- 33.1 Is $\vec{s}(t) = \vec{p}(t) + \vec{q}(t)$ a solution to $\vec{r}' = A\vec{r}$? Justify your answer.
- 33.2 Can you construct other solutions from \vec{p} and \vec{q} ? If yes, how so?

Recall from MAT223:

Linearly Dependent & Independent (Algebraic).

The vectors $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ are *linearly dependent* if there is a non-trivial linear combination of $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n$ that equals the zero vector. Otherwise they are linearly independent.

Define

$$\vec{p}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{q}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 4e^t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{h}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ e^{2t} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{z}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ e^{3t} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- 34.1 Are \vec{p} and \vec{q} linearly independent or linearly dependent? Justify with the definition.
- 34.2 Are \vec{p} and \vec{h} linearly independent or linearly dependent? Justify with the definition.
- 34.3 Are \vec{h} and \vec{z} linearly independent or linearly dependent? Justify with the definition.
- 34.4 Is the set of three functions $\{\vec{p}, \vec{h}, \vec{z}\}$ linearly independent or linearly dependent? Justify with the definition.

Recall

$$\vec{p}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{q}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 4e^t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{h}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ e^{2t} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{z}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ e^{3t} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- 35.1 Describe span $\{\vec{p},\vec{h}\}$. What is its dimension? What is a basis for it?
- 35.2 Let *S* be the set of all solutions to $\vec{r}'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{r}(t)$. (You've seen this equation before.) Is *S* a subspace? If so, what is its dimension?
- 35.3 Provided *S* is a subspace, give a basis for *S*.

Consider the differential equation

$$y'(t) = 2 \cdot y(t).$$

- 36.1 Write a solution whose graph passes through the point (t, y) = (0, 3).
- 36.2 Write a solution whose graph passes through the point $(t, y) = (0, y_0)$.
- 36.3 Write a solution whose graph passes through the point $(t, y) = (t_0, y_0)$.
- 36.4 Consider the following argument:

For every point (t_0, y_0) , there is a corresponding solution to $y'(t) = 2 \cdot y(t)$.

Since $\{(t_0, y_0) : t_0, y_0 \in \mathbb{R}\}$ is two dimensional, this means the set of solutions to $y'(t) = 2 \cdot y(t)$ is two dimensional.

Do you agree? Explain.

Theorem (Existence & Uniqueness 1). The system of differential equations represented by $\vec{r}'(t) = M\vec{r}(t) +$ \vec{p} (or the single differential equation y' = ay + b) has a unique solution passing through every initial condition. Further, the domain of every solution is \mathbb{R} .

Let *S* be the set of all solutions to $\vec{r}'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{r}(t)$.

- 37.1 Show that $\dim(S) \ge 2$ by finding at least two linearly independent solutions.

37.2 Let I be the set of all initial conditions. What is I?

- 37.3 Show that $\dim(S) \leq 3$ by applying the theorem to the set of initial conditions. 37.4 Can two points in *I* correspond to the same solution?
- Explain?
- 37.5 Find a subset $U \subseteq I$ so that every solution corresponds to a unique point in U.
- 37.6 Show that $dim(S) \le 2$.
- Suppose M is an $n \times n$ matrix. Consider the differential equation $\vec{r}'(t) = M\vec{r}(t)$. If you have found n

dimension of the set of all solutions? Explain.

linearly independent solutions, can you determine the

Consider the system

the system.

$$x'(t) = 2x(t)$$
$$y'(t) = 3y(t)$$

- 38.1 Rewrite the system in matrix form.
- 38.2 Classify the following as solutions or non-solutions to

$$\vec{r}_1(t) = e^{2t} \qquad \qquad \vec{r}_2(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{r}_3(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} \\ 4e^{3t} \end{bmatrix} \qquad \qquad \vec{r}_4(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 4e^{3t} \\ e^{2t} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{r}_5(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 38.3 State the definition of an eigenvector for the matrix M.
- 38.4 What should the definition of an *eigen solution* be for this system?
- 38.5 Which functions from 38.2 are eigen solutions?
- 38.6 Find an eigen solution \vec{r}_6 that is linearly independent from \vec{r}_2 .
- 38.7 Let $S = \text{span}\{\vec{r}_2, \vec{r}_6\}$. Does S contain all solutions to the system? Justify your answer.

Recall the system

$$x'(t) = 2x(t)$$
$$y'(t) = 3y(t)$$

has eigen solutions
$$\vec{r}_2(t) = \begin{bmatrix} e^{2t} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and $\vec{r}_6(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ e^{3t} \end{bmatrix}$.

- 39.1 Sketch \vec{r}_2 and \vec{r}_6 in the phase plane.
- 39.2 Use

https://www.desmos.com/calculator/h3wtwjghv0
to make a phase portrait for the system.



In which phase plane above is the dashed (green) curve the graph of a solution to the system? Explain.

39.3

Suppose *A* is a 2 × 2 matrix and \vec{s}_1 and \vec{s}_2 are eigen solutions to $\vec{r}' = A\vec{r}$ with eigenvalues 1 and -1, respectively.

- 40.1 Write possible formulas for $\vec{s}_1(t)$ and $\vec{s}_2(t)$.
- 40.2 Sketch a phase plane with graphs of \vec{s}_1 and \vec{s}_2 on it.

40.3 Add a non-eigen solution to your sketch.

40.4 Sketch a possible phase portrait for $\vec{r}' = A\vec{r}$. Can you extend your phase portrait to all quadrants?

Consider the following phase portrait for a system of the 41.1 Can you identify any eigen solutions? form $\vec{r}' = A\vec{r}$ for an unknown matrix A.



- 41.2 What are the eigenvalues of *A*? What are their sign(s)?

Consider the differential equation
$$\vec{r}'(t) = M \vec{r}(t)$$
 where $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

42.1 Verify that
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ are eigenvectors for M . What are the corresponding eigenvalues?

42.2 (a) Is
$$\vec{r}_1(t) = e^t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 a solution to the differential equation? An eigen solution?

(b) Is
$$\vec{r}_2(t) = e^t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 a solution to the differential equation? An eigen solution?

(c) Is
$$\vec{r}_3(t) = e^{2t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 a solution to the differential equation? An eigen solution?

42.3 Find an eigen solution for the system corresponding to the eigenvalue -1. Write your answer in vector form. 42.4 Let \vec{v} is an eigenvector for M with eigenvalue λ . Ex-

plain.

Recall the differential equation
$$\vec{r}'(t) = M \vec{r}(t)$$
 where $M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

- 43.1 Write down a general solution to the differential equation.
- 43.2 Write down a solution to the initial value problem $\vec{r}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}$.
- 43.3 Are your answers to the first two parts the same? Do they contain the same information?

The phase portrait for a differential equation arising from the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ (left) and $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ (right) are shown.



Both have eigenvalues ± 1 , but they have different eigenvectors.

- 44.1 How are the phase portraits related to each other?
- Suppose P is a 2×2 matrix with eigenvalues ± 1 . In what ways could the phase portrait for $\vec{r}'(t) = P \vec{r}(t)$ look *different* from the above portraits? In what way(s) must it look the same?

Consider the following phase plane with lines in the direction of \vec{a} (dashed green) and \vec{b} (red).



45.1 Sketch a phase portrait where the directions \vec{a} and \vec{b}

correspond to eigen solutions with eigenvalues that are

	sign for \vec{a}	sign for \vec{b}
(1)	pos	pos
(2)	neg	neg
(3)	neg	pos
(4)	pos	neg
(5)	pos	zero

as stable or unstable. 45.3 Would any of your classifications in 45.2 change if the

45.2 Classify the solution at the origin for situations (1)–(5)

directions of \vec{a} and \vec{b} changed?

You are examining a differential equation $\vec{r}'(t) = M \vec{r}(t)$ for an unknown 2×2 matrix M.

You would like to determine whether $\vec{r}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is stable/unstable/attracting/repelling.

- 46.1 Come up with a rule to determine the nature of the equilibrium solution $\vec{r}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ based on the eigenvalues of M (provided there exists two linearly independent eigen solutions).
- 46.2 Consider the system of differential equations

$$x'(t) = x(t) + 2y(t)$$

 $y'(t) = 3x(t) - 4y(t)$

- (a) Classify the stability of the equilibrium solution (x(t), y(t)) = (0, 0) using any method you want.
- (b) Justify your answer analytically using eigenvalues.

Consider the following model of Social Media Usage where (P3_{II}) Ignoring all else, 1 million people stop using the

P(t) = millions of social media posts at year tU(t) = millions of social media users at year t

- $(P1_p)$ Ignoring all else, each year posts decay proportionally to the current number of posts with proportionality constant 1.
- $(P2_p)$ Ignoring all else (independent of decay), posts grow by a constant amount of 2 million posts every year.
- (P1₁₁) Ignoring all else, social media users increase/decrease in proportion to the number of posts.
- (P2_{II}) Ignoring all else, social media users increase/decrease in proportion to the number of users.

platform every year.

A school intervention is described by the parameter $a \in$ [-1/2, 1]:

- After the intervention, the proportionality constant for $(P1_{II})$ is 1-a.
- After the intervention, the proportionality constant for $(P2_{II})$ is a.
- Model this situation using a system of differential equations. Explain which parts of your model correspond to which premise(s).

The **SM** model of Social Media Usage is P' = -P + 2

$$U' = (1-a)P + aU - 1$$

where

$$P(t)$$
 = millions of social media posts at year t
 $U(t)$ = millions of social media users at year t
 $a \in [-1/2, 1]$

48.2 Make a phase portrait for the system.

48.1 What are the equilibrium solution(s)?

https://www.desmos.com/calculator/h3wtwjghv0

48.3 Use phase portraits to conjecture: what do you think happens to the equilibrium solution(s) as a transitions from negative to positive? Justify with a computation. The **SM** model of Social Media Usage is

$$P' = -P + 2$$

 $U' = (1 - a)P + aU - 1$

where

$$P(t)$$
 = millions of social media posts at year t
 $U(t)$ = millions of social media users at year t
 $a \in [-1/2, 1]$

49.1 Can you rewrite the system in matrix form? I.e., in the form $\vec{r}'(t) = M \vec{r}(t)$ for some matrix M where $\vec{r}(t) = (P(t), U(t))$.

- 49.2 Define $\vec{s}(t) = (S_P(t), S_U(t))$ to be the displacement from equilibrium in the **SM** model at time t (provided an equilibrium exists).
 - (a) Write \vec{s} in terms of P and U.
 - (b) Find \vec{s}' in terms of P and U.
 - (c) Find \vec{s}' in terms of S_P and S_U .
 - (d) Can one of your differential equation for \vec{s} be written in matrix form? Which one?
 - (e) Analytically classify the equilibrium solution for your differential equation for \vec{s} when a=-1/2, 1/2, and 1. (You may use a calculator for computing eigenvectors/values.)

The SM model of Social Media Usage is

$$P' = -P + 2$$

$$U' = (1 - a)P + aU - 1$$

where

$$P(t)$$
 = millions of social media posts at year t
 $U(t)$ = millions of social media users at year t
 $a \in [-1/2, 1]$

Some politicians have been looking at the model. They made the following posts on social media:

1. The model shows the number of posts will always be increasing. SAD!

- 2. I see the number of social media users always increases. That's not what we want!
- 3. It looks like social media is just a fad. Although users initially increase, they eventually settle down.
- 4. I have a dream! That one day there will be social media posts, but eventually there will be no social media users!
- 50.1 For each social media post, make an educated guess about what initial conditions and what value(s) of a the politician was considering.
- 50.2 The school board wants to limit the number of social media users to fewer than 10 million. Make a recommendation about what value of *a* they should target.

Consider the following **FD** model of Fleas and Dogs where (P1_c) Anti-flea collars remove 2 million fleas per year. F(t) = number of parasites (fleas) at year t (in millions)

- D(t) = number of hosts (dogs) at year t (in thousands)
- $(P1_E)$ Ignoring all else, the number of parasites decays in proportion to its population (with constant 1).
- $(P2_E)$ Ignoring all else, parasite numbers grow in proportion to the number of hosts (with constant 1).
- (P1_D) Ignoring all else, hosts numbers grow in proportion to their current number (with constant 1).
- (P2_D) Ignoring all else, host numbers decrease in propor- 51.4 What should solutions to the system look like in the tion to the number of parasites (with constant 2).

(P2_c) Constant dog breeding adds 1 thousand dogs per vear.

51.1 Write a system of differential equations for the FD

- 51.2 Can you rewrite the system in matrix form $\vec{r}' = M \vec{r}$? What about in affine form $\vec{r}' = M \vec{r} + \vec{b}$?
- 51.3 Make a phase portrait for your model.

 - phase plane? What are the equilibrium solution(s)? © Bernardo Galvão-Sousa & Jason Siefken, 2024

model.

F(t) = number of parasites (fleas) at year t (in millions)

$$D(t)$$
 = number of hosts (dogs) at year t (in thousands)
$$\vec{r}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} F(t) \\ D(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\vec{r}'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{r}(t) + \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

52.5 What are the eigen solutions for $\vec{s}' = M \vec{s}$?

at time t.

Define $\vec{s}(t)$ to be the displacement of $\vec{r}(t)$ from equilibrium

52.2 Can you find a matrix M so that $\vec{s}'(t) = M \vec{s}(t)$?

52.1 Find a formula for \vec{s} in terms of \vec{r} .

52.3 What are the eigenvalues of *M*?

© Bernardo Galvão-Sousa & Jason Siefken, 2024

Recall the **FD** model of Fleas and Dogs where

$$F(t)$$
 = number of parasites (fleas) at year t (in millions) $D(t)$ = number of hosts (dogs) at year t (in thousands)

$$\vec{r}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} F(t) \\ D(t) \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{s}(t) = \vec{r}(t) - \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$=\vec{r}(t)-\begin{bmatrix}3\\5\end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\vec{s}'(t) = M \vec{s}(t)$$
 where $M = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

This equation has eigen solutions

$$\vec{s}_1(t) = e^{it} \begin{bmatrix} 1 - i \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\vec{s}_2(t) = e^{-it} \begin{bmatrix} 1 + i \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 53.1 Recall Euler's formula $e^{it} = \cos(t) + i\sin(t)$.
 - (a) Use Euler's formula to expand $\vec{s}_1 + \vec{s}_2$. Are there any imaginary numbers remaining?
 - (b) Use Euler's formula to expand $i(\vec{s}_1 \vec{s}_2)$. Are there any imaginary numbers remaining?
- 53.2 Verify that your formulas for $\vec{s}_1 + \vec{s}_2$ and $i(\vec{s}_1 \vec{s}_2)$ are solutions to $\vec{s}'(t) = M \vec{s}(t)$.
- 53.3 Can you give a third real solution to $\vec{s}'(t) = M \vec{s}(t)$?

Recall the **FD** model of Fleas and Dogs where
$$F(t) = \text{number of paragites (fleas) at year } t$$

$$F(t)$$
 = number of parasites (fleas) at year t (in millions) $D(t)$ = number of hosts (dogs) at year t (in thousands)

$$\vec{r}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} F(t) \\ D(t) \end{bmatrix}$$
 $\vec{s}(t) = \vec{r}(t) - \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\vec{s}'(t) = M \vec{s}(t)$$
 where $M = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

54.4 Using what you know, find a general formula for $\vec{r}(t)$. 54.5 Find a formula for $\vec{r}(t)$ satisfying $\vec{r}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}$.

54.2 Give a basis for all solutions to $\vec{s}'(t) = M \vec{s}(t)$.

54.3 Find a solution satisfying $\vec{s}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$.

54.1 What is the dimension of the space of solutions to

 $\vec{s}'(t) = M \vec{s}(t)$?

Recall the **FD** model of Fleas and Dogs where

$$F(t) = \text{number of parasites (fleas) at year } t \text{ (in millions)}$$

$$D(t) = \text{number of hosts (dogs) at year } t \text{ (in thousands)}$$

$$\vec{r}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} F(t) \\ D(t) \end{bmatrix} \qquad \vec{s}(t) = \vec{r}(t) - \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\vec{s}'(t) = M \vec{s}(t)$$
 where $M = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

It affects flea and dog reproduction:

(PS_F) Ignoring all else, the number of parasites decays in 55.5 Analytically justify your conclusions about stability/inproportion to its population with constant 1 + a.

(PS_D) Ignoring all else, hosts numbers grow in proportion to their current number with constant 1-a. where $-1 \le a \le 1$. These premises replace $(P1_F)$ and $(P1_D)$.

55.1 Modify the previous **FD** model to incorporate the effects of the shampoo.

55.2 Make a phase portrait for the **FD Shampoo** model.

model. Some research is being done on a shampoo for the dogs. 55.4 For each equilibrium solution determine its stability/instability/etc..

55.3 Find the equilibrium solutions for the **FD Shampoo**

stability/etc.. © Bernardo Galvão-Sousa & Jason Siefken, 2024

Consider the differential equation

$$\vec{s}'(t) = M\vec{s}(t)$$
 where $M = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

- 56.1 Make a phase portrait. Based on your phase portrait, classify the equilibrium solution. https://www.desmos.com/calculator/h3wtwjghv0
- 56.2 Find eigen solutions for this differential equation (you may use a calculator/computer to assist).
- 56.3 Find a general real solution.
- 56.4 Analytically classify the equilibrium solution.

Recall the tree model from Question 28:

- H(t) = height (in meters) of tree trunk at time t
- A(t) = surface area (in square meters) of all leaves at time t

$$H'(t) = 0.3 \cdot A(t) - b \cdot H(t)$$

 $A'(t) = -0.3 \cdot (H(t))^2 + A(t)$

and $0 \le b \le 2$

A phase portrait for this model is available at

https://www.desmos.com/calculator/tvjag852ja

- 57.1 Visually classify the nature of each equilibrium solution as attracting/repelling/etc.. Does the nature depend on *b*? Are you confident in your visual assessment?
- 57.2 Can you rewrite the system in matrix/affine form? Why or why not?

A simple logistic model for a population is

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}P}{\mathrm{d}t} = P(t) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{P(t)}{2}\right)$$

where P(t) represents the population at time t.

We'd like to approximate dP/dt when $P \approx 1/2$.

58.1 What is the value of dP/dt when P = 1/2?

58.2 Define $f(P) = P(t) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{P(t)}{2}\right)$ and notice dP/dt = f(P).

Approximate dP/dt (i.e., approximate f) when

 $P = 1/2 + \Delta$ and Δ is small.

58.4 Let $A_{1/2}(P)$ be an affine approximation to dP/dt that is

58.3 Write down an approximation $S(\Delta)$ that approximates

dP/dt when P is Δ away from 1/2.

for $A_{1/2}(P)$.

a good approximation when $P \approx 1/2$. Find a formula

Find additional affine approximations to dP/dt cen-

© Bernardo Galvão-Sousa & Jason Siefken, 2024

tered at each equilibrium solution.

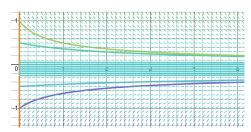
Based on our calculations from Exercise 58, we have several different affine approximations.

- 59.1 What are the similarities/differences in the Desmos plots of solutions to the original equation vs. the other equations?
- 59.2 Does the nature of the equilibrium solutions change when using an affine approximation?
- 59.3 Classify each equilibrium solution of the original equation by using affine approximations.

Consider the differential equation whose slope field is 60.1 Find all equilibrium solutions. sketched below.

$$P'(t) = -P(t) \cdot (0.1 + P(t)) \cdot (0.2 + P(t))$$
$$= -(P(t))^3 - 0.3 \cdot (P(t))^2 - 0.02 \cdot P(t)$$

https://www.desmos.com/calculator/ikp9rgo0kv



- 60.2 Use affine approximations to classify the equilibrium solutions as stable/unstable/etc..

To make a 1d affine approximation of a function f at the point E we have the formula

$$f(x) \approx f(E) + f'(E)(x - E).$$

To make a 2d approximation of a function $\vec{F}(x,y) = (F_1(x,y), F_2(x,y))$ at the point \vec{E} , we have a similar formula

$$\vec{F}(x,y) \approx \vec{F}(\vec{E}) + D_{\vec{F}}(\vec{E}) \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} - \vec{E} \right)$$

where $D_{\vec{F}}(\vec{E})$ is the *total derivative* of \vec{F} at \vec{E} , which can be expressed as the matrix

$$D_{\vec{F}}(\vec{E}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

evaluated at \vec{E} .

Recall our model from Exercise 28 for the life cycle of a tree where H(t) was height, A(t) was the leaves' surface area, and twas time:

$$H'(t) = 0.3 \cdot A(t) - b \cdot H(t)$$

 $A'(t) = -0.3 \cdot (H(t))^2 + A(t)$

with $0 \le b \le 2$

We know the following:

- The equations cannot be written in matrix form.
- The equilibrium points are (0,0) and $\left(\frac{100}{9}b,\frac{1000}{27}b^2\right)$.

We want to find an affine approximation to the system.

- Define $\vec{F}(H,A) = (H',A')$
- 61.1 Find the matrix for $D_{\vec{k}}$, the total derivative of \vec{F} .
- 61.2 Create an affine approximation to \vec{F} around $\vec{e} = (0,0)$ and use this to write an approximation to the original system.
- 61.3 In the original system, the equilibrium (0,0) is unstable and not repelling. Justify this using your affine approximation.
- 61.4 Create an affine approximation to \vec{F} around \vec{e} = $(\frac{100}{9}b, \frac{1000}{27}b^2)$ and use this to write an approximation to the original system.
- 61.5 Make a phase portrait for the original system and your approximation from part 4. How do they compare?
 - 61.6 Analyze the nature of the equilibrium solution in part 4 using eigen techniques. Relate your analysis to the original system.

Define
$$\vec{F}(x,y) = \begin{bmatrix} y \\ -xy + x^2 - x - y \end{bmatrix}$$
 and consider the differential equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \vec{F}(x, y).$$

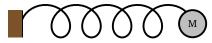
- Make a phase portrait for this differential equation.

 Based on your phase portrait, can you determine the
- nature of the equilibrium at (0,0)?

 https://www.desmos.com/calculator/peby3xd7jj

- 62.2 Find an affine approximation to \vec{F} centered at (0,0).
- 62.3 Write down a differential equation that approximates the original equation near (0,0).
- 62.4 Analyze the nature of the equilibrium solution $\vec{r}(t) = (0,0)$ using eigen techniques. (You may use a computer to assist in eigen computations.) Relate your analysis to the original system.

Consider a spring with a mass attached to the end.



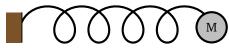
Let x(t) = displacement to the right of the spring from equilibrium at time t

Recall from Physics the following laws:

- (HL) Hooke's Law: For an elastic spring, force is proportional to negative the displacement from equilibrium.
- (NL) Newton's Second Law: Force is proportional to acceleration (the proportionality constant is called *mass*).
- ment and acceleration is the time derivative of velocity.

- 63.1 Model x(t) with a differential equation.
 - For the remaining parts, assume the elasticity of the spring is k = 1 and the mass is 1.
- 63.2 Suppose the spring is stretched 0.5m from equilibrium and then let go (at time t = 0).
 - (a) At t = 0, what are x, x', and x''?
 - (b) Modify Euler's method to approximate a solution to the initial value problem.
- 63.3 Introduce the auxiliary equation y = x'. Can the secondorder spring equation be rewritten as a first-order system involving x' and y'? If so, do it.
- (ML) Laws of Motion: Velocity is the time derivative of displace- 63.4 Simulate the system you found in the previous part using Euler's method.

Recall the a spring with a mass attached to the end.



x(t) = displacement to the right of the spring from equilibrium at time t

We have two competing models

$$x'' = -kx$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -k & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$
 (B)

where y = x'.

- 4.1 Make a phase portrait for system (B). What are the axes on the phase portrait? What do you expect general solutions to look like?
- 64.2 Use eigenvalues/eigenvectors to find a general solution to (B). (You may use a computer to compute eigenvalues/vectors.)
- 64.3 Use your solution to (B) to find a general solution to (A).

Consider the second-order differential equation

$$x'' = -(1+x) \cdot x' + x^2 - x$$

65.1 Rewrite the second-order differential equation as a system of first-order differential equations. (Hint: you may need to introduce an auxiliary equation.)

https://www.desmos.com/calculator/fvqxqp6eds Use the link to make a phase portrait for your system and answer the following questions:

65.2 The following Desmos link plots a phase portrait and

draws an Euler approximation on the phase portrait:

(a) Are there initial conditions with x(0) < 0 so that a solution x(t) is always increasing?

- (b) Are there initial conditions with x(0) < 0 so that a solution x(t) first decreases and then increases?
- 65.3 Show that x(t) = 0 is an equilibrium solution for this equation. 65.4 Use linearization and eigenvalues to classify the equi-

librium (x, x') = (0, 0) in phase space.

- 65.5 Let x(t) be a solution to the original equation and suppose $x(0) = \delta_1 \approx 0$.
 - (a) If $x'(0) = \delta_2 \approx 0$, speculate on the long term behaviour of x(t).
 - (b) If we put no conditions on x'(0) will your answer be the same? Explain.

Boundary Value Problems

Recall the spring-mass system modeled by

$$x'' = -x$$

We would like to use the spring-mass system to ring a bell at regular intervals, so we put a hammer at the end of the spring. Whenever the displacement is maximal, the

- hammer strikes a bell producing a ring.

 66.1 Convert the spring-mass system into a system of differential equations. Make a phase portrait for the system
 - using the following Desmos link:

https://www.desmos.com/calculator/fvqxqp6eds

66.2 In the *Options Euler* on Desmos, adjust Δ and the number of steps so that simulated solutions are only shown for t ∈ [0, 1].Use simulations to answer the remaining questions.

You start by displacing the hammer by 1m and letting

- 66.3 You start by displacing the hammer by 1*m* and letting go. Is it possible that the bell rings every 1 second?66.4 You start by displacing the hammer by 1*m* and giving
- every 1 second?

 66.5 What is the smallest amount of time between consecutive rings (given a positive displacement)?

the hammer a push. Is it possible that the bell rings

Boundary Value Problems

Recall the spring-mass system modeled by

hammer strikes a bell producing a ring.

$$x'' = -x$$

We would like to use the spring-mass system to ring a bell at regular intervals, so we put a hammer at the end of the spring. Whenever the displacement is maximal, the

Consider the subspaces

$$S_1 = \text{span}\{\sin(t), \cos(t)\}$$
 $S_2 = \{A\cos(t+d) : A, d \in \mathbb{R}\}$

67.1 What dimension is each subspace?

67.2 Which subspaces are sets of solutions to the springmass system? 67.3 Use what you know about complete solutions and lin-

ear algebra to prove $S_1 = S_2$. Use your knowledge about S_1 and S_2 to analytically

answer the remaining questions.

You start by displacing the hammer by 1m and letting go. Is it possible that the bell rings every 1 second? 67.5 You start by displacing the hammer by 1m and giving the hammer a push. Is it possible that the bell rings

every 1 second? 67.6 What is the smallest amount of time between consecu-

tive rings (given a positive displacement)? © Bernardo Galvão-Sousa & Jason Siefken, 2024

Boundary Value Problems

A boundary value problem is a differential equation paired with two conditions at different values of t.

Consider the following boundary value problems:

(i) (ii) (iii) (iii)
$$x'' = -x$$
 $x'' = -x$ $x(0) = 1$ $x(0) = 1$

- 68.1 Using phase portraits and simulations, determine how many solutions each boundary value problem has.
- 68.2 Can you find analytic arguments to justify your conclusions?

Existence and Uniqueness

Whether a solution to a differential equations exists or is unique is a *hard* question with many partial answers.

Theorem Existence and Uniqueness II. Let F(t, x, x') = 0 with $x(t_0) = x_0$ describe an initial value problem.

IF F(t,x,x') = x'(t) + p(t)x(t) + g(t) for some functions p and g

AND p and g are continuous on an open interval I containing t_0

THEN the initial value problem has a unique solution on ${\cal I}.$

69.1 The theorem expresses differential equations in the

form F(t, x, x', x'', ...) = 0 (i.e. as a level set of some function F).

Rewrite the following differential equations in the form F(t, x, x', x'', ...) = 0:

(i)
$$x'' = -kx$$
 (ii) $x'' = -x \cdot x' + x^2$
(iii) $x''' = (x')^2 - \cos x$

69.2 Which of the following does the theorem say *must* have a unique solution on an interval containing 0?

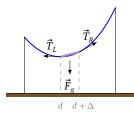
(a)
$$y' = \frac{3}{2}y^{1/3}$$
 with $y(0) = 0$

(b)
$$x'(t) = \lfloor t \rfloor x(t)$$
 with $x(0) = 0$

(c)
$$x'(t) = \lfloor t - \frac{1}{2} \rfloor x(t) + t^2$$
 with $x(0) = 0$

Note: $\lfloor x \rfloor$ is the *floor* of x, i.e., the largest integer less than or equal to x.

Consider a rope hanging from two poles.



H(d) = height of the rope above ground at position d. We will consider the following premises and physics laws:

 (P_D) The linear density of the rope is constant: ρ kg/m

 (P_G) Gravity pulls downwards in proportion to mass (the 70.3 Find a vector \vec{V}_I in the direction of \vec{T}_I (the magnitude proportionality constant is called g)

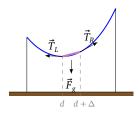
- (P_T) Tension pulls tangentially to the rope
- (P_{NL}) Newton's First Law: a body at rest will remain at rest unless it is acted upon by a force

To model the rope, imagine it is made of **small rigid rods**. We will focus on one such rod, S, (drawn in the figure) from d to $d + \Delta$.

- 70.1 Given (P_{NL}) , find a relation between the force vectors $\vec{T}_L, \vec{T}_R, \vec{F}_{\sigma}$.
- 70.2 Approximate the length of the segment *S* and its mass. Approximate the vector \vec{F}_{σ} .
- doesn't matter at this point).

Consider a rope hanging from two poles.

The only forces acting on the rope are gravity and tension.



Similarly to the previous exercise, we can find a vector

$$\vec{V}_R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ H'(d+\Delta) \end{bmatrix}$$
 in the direction of \vec{T}_R , but with possibly different magnitude.

So far we have:

- $\vec{T}_I = \alpha \vec{V}_I$ for some $\alpha > 0$, and
- $\vec{T}_R = \beta \vec{V}_R$ for some $\beta > 0$.
- 71.1 Can you find approximations of the vectors \vec{F}_g , \vec{T}_L , \vec{T}_R that only use H(d), H'(d), and H''(d)?

Hint:

- $H(d + \Delta) \approx H(d) + \Delta \cdot H'(d)$,
- $H'(d + \Delta) \approx H'(d) + \Delta \cdot H''(d)$.
- 71.2 Put everything together to find a (second order) differential equation for *H*.
- 71.3 Do α or β depend on d? Explain.

Recall a rope hanging from two poles.



H(d) = the height of the rope at position d.

We have the following model for it:

$$H''(d) = k\sqrt{1 + (H'(d))^2}$$

Toronto Hydro is stringing some wire. The posts are 20m apart and at a height of 10m. At the lowest point, the wire is 5m above the ground.

- 72.1 Set up a boundary value problem that can be used to find the total length of the wire.
- 72.2 Using the following Desmos link, can you find a solution to the boundary value problem?

 ${\tt https://www.desmos.com/calculator/14fair6454}$

72.3 It happens that $k = \frac{\rho g}{T}$ where T is the minimum tension in the rope.

Suppose Toronto Hydro hung the wires so that they were at minimum 9m above the ground. Would the tension be higher or lower? By how much?

72.4 Should the difference between maximum and minimum tension be higher or lower for low-hanging wires? What does your intuition say? What does the phase portrait say?