Equations that depend only on the second power of time (or even powers of fine) are symmetrif with respect to time reversal. Whereas equations which depend on odd powers of time are antisymmetic. The symmetic equations don't distinguish the Hime arrow direction. There is no reason for time to flow forward. Usually there are 2 solutions to such equations. First order equations on the other hand yield only one solution that we can assign certain

time direction.