Brilliant: Differential Equations II

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Note: Latex reference: http://tug.ctan.org/info/undergradmath/undergradmath.pdf

1 Chapter 1: Basics

1.1 Chapter 1: Nonlinear Equations

The two types of problems in this course are:

- Nonlinear equations (several equations on one independent variable)
- Partial differential equations (single equation with several independent variables)

Linear equations have solutions like y_1, y_2 that can be combined using any $c \in \mathbb{R}$ like $y_1 + cy_2$.

Example: Bacteria in a dish with a lot of food, no deaths

- $b'(t) = r_b b(t), r_b > 0. r_b$ would be the rate of growth.
- This is linear. Reason 1: $\frac{d}{dt}(y_1 + cy_2) = y_1' + cy_2' = r_b(y_1 + c_y 2)$ since $y' = r_b y(t)$, and same for y2.
- Also, this works because the solution is $b(t) = b(0)e^{r_b t}$, so $b_1(t) + cb_2(t) = b_1(0)e^{r_b t} + cb_2(0)e^{r_b t} = (b_1(0) + cb_2(0))e^{r_b t}$

Example: **Logistic** equation: Bacteria in a dish with a lot of food, limited by carrying capacity M.

- $b'(t) = r_b b(t)[M - b(t)]$.
- This is nonlinear. Reason: $\frac{d}{dt}(y_1' + cy_2') = y_1' + cy_2' = r_b[y_1 + cy_2][M - y_1 - cy_2] = My_1 + Mcy_2 - y_1^2 - 2cy_1y_2 - cy_1^2y_2^2$
- $\neq My_1 - y_1^2 + Mcy_2 - c^2y_2^2$ because of the extra $-2cy_1y_2$ term.

Sidebar: Note that this equation $b' = r_b b[M - b]$ is *separable*, so it can be solved.

- $\frac{db}{dt} = rb[M - b]$
- $\frac{db}{b(M-b)} = rdt$
- $\frac{1}{M}(\frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{M-b})db = rdt$ after partial fractions work
- $(\ln(b) - \ln(M - b)) = Mrt + C \Rightarrow \ln(\frac{b}{M-b}) = Mrt + C$
- $\frac{b}{M-b} = e^{Mrt}e^{C}$
- Initial conditions $b = b(0), t = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{b}{M-b} = \frac{b(0)}{M-b(0)}e^{Mrt}$
- $b(1 + \frac{b(0)}{M-b(0)}e^{Mrt}) = M\frac{b(0)}{M-b(0)}e^{Mrt}$
- $b(M - b(0) + b(0)e^{Mrt}) = Mb(0)e^{Mrt}$
- $b = \frac{Mb(0)e^{Mrt}}{M+b(0)[e^{Mrt}-1]}$

This logistic solution will taper off to M at some point. Note that $\lim_{t\to\infty} b(t) = M$ since the non-exponential terms stop mattering. Also $b(t) = M$ sticks as a constant solution or **equilibrium** immediately. *These equilibria tell us what matters - the long-term behavior of solutions!*

Another **Example**: Lotka-Volterra equation pairs: Bacteria (b) and bacteria-killing phages (p), with kill rate k.

- The "product" $kb(t)p(t)$ measures the interactions and kills resulting from this.
- $b'(t) = r_b b(t) - kp(t)b(t)$, or the normal growht rate minus kill rate
- $p'(t) = kp(t)b(t)$ since its population grows as it kills bacteria.
- Equilibria include $b = 0, p = 0$ and $b = 0, p > 0$, since these are *constant* solutions, or places where $b'(t) = 0, p'(t) = 0$.

Direction fields, with vector pointing towards $\langle b'(t), p'(t)\rangle$ (TODO - I think) let us follow the arrows to determine the curve over time. In this case, the bacteria will always go extinct.

However, if we add a new death rate term $-d_p p(t)$ so $p'(t) = -d_p p(t) + kp(t)b(t)$:

- We get an equilibrium at $b = \frac{d_p}{k}, p = \frac{r_b}{k}$. (Since $0 = b'(t) = rb - kpb, (\Rightarrow pk = r), 0 = p'(t) - dp + kpb, (\Rightarrow bk = d)$)
- But otherwise the solutions swirl around this point. This is called a **cycle**. TODO What is a **limit cycle**?

Note that there are systems where the "solution particle" neither reaches an equilibrium or cycles around one point. The **Lorenz system** famously has this owl-eye shaped double attractor (an example of **strange sets**) where initially close particles diverge unpredictably if the constants ρ, σ, b are chosen right:

- $x'(t) = \sigma(y - x)$
- $y'(t) = x(\rho - z) - y$
- $z'(t) = xy - bz$
- TODO

1.2 Chapter 1.2: PDEs

Many methods of attack for PDEs

- Separation of variables
- Power series (Note: did we actually touch on this?)
- Fourier Transform

Example: Standing wave, where one end of a rope is fixed.

- Vertical displacement from a line of rope: $u(x, t)$ depends on where (x) and when (tt).
- Rope's **wave equation** is $u_{tt} = v^2 u_{xx}$, where v is the "constant wave speed", and the others are the space, time partials.
- Note that $u = \cos(vt)\sin(x)$ and $u = \sin(vt)cos(x)$ both work.
- If you guess the solution has split variables like $u = X(x)Y(y)T(t)$, then, upon substitution and division by $X(x)Y(y)T(t)$, $\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta t^2} = v^2[\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2} + \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta y^2}]$ yields $\frac{T''(t)}{T(t)} = v^2[\frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} + \frac{Y''(y)}{Y(y)}]$
- This method may or may not work. But if it does, it means that since x, y, and t are independent variables, each individual piece must be constant.
- So, for example, if we know $\frac{X''(x)}{X(x)} = -4\pi^2$, we can get to $X(x) = \sin(2\pi x)$
- The wave equation is similar in 3D: $u_{tt} = v^2[u_{xx} + u_{yy} + u_{zz}]$, or using the Laplacian, $u_{tt} = v^2\nabla^2 u$. Here, u measures not displacement but expansion/compression of air at (x, y, z), time t.

Using Fourier transforms helps turn difficult PDEs into an easier problem like an ODE. *Fourier transforms work best* when

- The domain is all of $\mathbb{R}^n$
- The function u vanishes at infinity.

The Fourier transform changes the domain of x to that of ω. It comes with the (highly simplified) rule (see Vector Calculus course): $F[\frac{\delta f}{\delta x}] = i\omega F[f]$. **Example**: Drunkard's walk.

- One dimensional: moves left or right in a random way. Starts at $x = 0, t = 0$.
- $u(x,t)$ is probability of being at point x at time t. Naturally, $\int_{x=-\infty}^{x=\infty} u(x,t)dx = 1$.
- Also, it obeys the 1-dD diffusion equation $\frac{\delta u}{\delta t} = \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2}$
- The Fourier transform doesn't affect t at all.
- So by taking Fourier transform of both sides of diffusion equation we get
  - $F(u_t) = \frac{\delta}{\delta t}F(u)$ since F doesn't care about t.
  - $\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2} = i\omega F(\frac{\delta u}{\delta x}) = -\omega^2 F(u)$
  - So $\frac{\delta}{\delta t}F(u) = -\omega^2 F(u)$
  - This is solvable as $F(u) = ce^{-\omega^2 t}$. Take it on faith that $c = \frac{1}{2\pi}$ for now. TODO
  - Known fact: $F[Ae^{-\frac{ax^2}{2}}] = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi a}}Ae^{\frac{-\omega^2}{2a}}$
  - This means $t = \frac{1}{2a}$ and $a = \frac{1}{2t}$
  - $F(u) = \frac{1}{2\pi}e^{-\omega^2 t}, F[Ae^{-\frac{ax^2}{2}}] = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi a}}Ae^{\frac{-\omega^2}{2a}}$ so $u = Ae^{\frac{-ax^2}{2}}$
  - Solving, you get $A = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\pi t}}, a = \frac{1}{2t}$, so $u(x,t) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4\pi t}}e^{-\frac{x^2}{4t}}$

2 Chapter 2: Nonlinear Equations

Major ideas:

- **phase plane**: TODO
- **nullcline**: TODO
- **direction field**: TODO
- **equilibria**: TODO

Example: Bacteria vs. phages (again)

- Bacteria unrestrained grow in proportion to their population, so $\frac{db}{dt} = r_b b(t)$ (solved: $b(t) = b(0)e^{r_b t}$)
- Phages unfed decrease in proportion to current size, so $\frac{dp}{dt} = -d_p p(t)$ (solved: $p(t) = p(0)e^{-d_p t}$)
- Bacteria die with likelihood of meeting a phage, and phages increase with likelihood of meeting a bacterium. So the set of equations, for constant k, becomes:
  - $b'(t) = r_b b(t) - kb(t)p(t)$
  - $p'(t) = -d_p p(t) + kb(t)p(t)$
  - *The product of p and b makes our equations nonlinear* (WHY?)
  - I guess, very generally, $b_1 p_1 = k, b_2 p_2 = k$, but $(b_1 + b_2)(p_1 + p_2) = b_1 p_1 + b_2 p_2 + b_1 p_2 + b_2 p_1 = 2k + b_1 p_2 + b_2 p_1 \neq 2k$, so the last two "mixed" terms mean you can't just add solutions (b_1, p_1) and (b_2, p_2).

General thoughts on this solution:

- So a solution $(b(t), p(t))$, traces out a curve on the bp-phase plane (b is x-axis, p is y-axis) as time (unrepresented in the plane) continues.
- If we add a unit tangent vector at every point (B, P) aligned with $(b'(t), p'(t)) = (r_b B - kBP, -d_p P + kBP)$, we can follow the arrows to see the solution over time.
- The above is called a **direction field**
- This is sometimes hard to sketch analytically, so we can look to the **nullclines**: places where one of the components of the direction field is zero.
- In this case, $r_b B - kBP = (r_b - kP)B = 0$ when $P = 0$ or $P = \frac{r_b}{k}$, and $-d_p P + kBP = (kB - d_p)P = 0$ when $P = 0$ or $B = \frac{d_p}{k}$.
- The **upshot of nullclines** (since we don't care about $P, B \leq 0$): The lines $B = \frac{d_p}{k}, P = \frac{r_b}{k}$ *divide the plane into pieces where the components of this (continuous) function pair can't change sign.*
- For instance, $B > \frac{d_p}{k}, P < \frac{r_b}{k}$ means $r_b b - kbp > 0, -d_p p + kdp > 0$, so both populations are growing here. This helps to sketch the curve.
- The curve looks like a counterclockwise whirlpool around the $(B, P) = (\frac{d_p}{k}, \frac{r_b}{k})$. (bacteria grow with low but growing phages; bacteria decrease as phages overwhelm; both decrease as phages starve; bacteria start coming back)
- The center point is a (constant **equilibrium**) solution, and other solutions swirl around it but don't get attracted or repelled.

There are a few types of equilibria:

- This one is a **center** around which solutions circle.
- A **stable equilibrum** would see small upsets come back to an unchanging state.
- An **unstable equilibrum** would see small upsets create wildly divergent paths.
- TODO