

MATH TOOLS - DIFF EQ 1

①

① Examples of things that use differential equations - WHY ARE WE LEARNING THIS??? \Rightarrow BECAUSE EVERYTHING IN BIO IS A DYNAMICAL SYSTEM! THEY EVOLVE OVER TIME!

- \rightarrow Many examples in neuroscience:
- ① action potentials are modeled w/ diff eqs (HH model is a particularly famous example)
 - ② oscillatory activity is modeled w/ diff. eq.
 - ③ RC-circuit model is a diff. model
 - ④ neural networks can be thought of as multi-dimensional DE systems

- \rightarrow Examples outside of neuroscience:
- ① predator-prey models / models of spreading infection - simplest models are ODEs.
 - ② (Firefly) synchrony \rightarrow understood w/ ODEs
 - ③ Models of growth/decay (half-life, doubling time) related to eigenvalues!
 - ④ cell cycle models - mitosis
 - ⑤ hysteresis - actually relates to ODEs.
 - ⑥ chemical rxns

Common eqs:

HH eqs, Schrodinger eq, Maxwell eqs.

TODAY - we will cover a few of those models: ① exponential growth/decay, ② RC-circuit, ③ population model, ④ chemical reactions, ⑤ lasers, ⑥ hysteresis examples.
Goal - develop some tools & familiarity w/ hopefully relevant examples

② What exactly is a differential equation?

\Rightarrow An equation that relates some function with its derivative(s).

Simplest example: $\frac{d}{dt}[f(t)] = m \Rightarrow$ ALSO WRITTEN: $\frac{df}{dt} = m$, $\dot{f} = m$

That one is easy to interpret \rightarrow derivative of f is a constant, $f(t) = mt + c$
 $f(t)$ is a line! \Rightarrow need to know more about "initial conditions" to know what c is

\Rightarrow Diff eqs come in many flavors:

- ① Linear
- ② Ordinary
- ③ Continuous

($\dot{P} = \alpha P$) ^{growth} vs.

($\dot{P} = \sin(P)$)

($\dot{P} = \alpha P$)

nonlinear (~~heat eq~~) ^{heat eq}

vs. Partial ($\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$)

"Discrete (iterative maps)"

$x_{n+1} = rx_n(1-x_n)$

\leftarrow logistic eq. exhibits chaos!

FOCUS ON THESE \rightarrow

③ ~~How~~ How do you solve these things?

→ we will cover 3 main approaches:

① analytical - good to know (good for solid kind of thing), but rarely used in practice (minus separation of variables, sometimes)

② qualitative - important for developing intuition of a system.

③ numerical - most often used in practice.

⇒ the approach you choose can depend on many things, like
• what you care about (exact solutions? long term behavior/fixed points?)

We will go over examples of all of these methods →
① Analytic
② Analytic
③ Qualitative

TODAY - Chalk-talk, lots of examples, more "applied math" & less "data analysis"

EXAMPLE 1 - exponential growth model. this may be a warm-up for some people. practice analytical solution-finding.

ODE: $\frac{dP}{dt} = \alpha P$

P - dependent var. (Population = # of animals)

t - independent var. (time)

α - scalar value; parameter controlling rate of change

SAY THIS FIRST ↓

WORD MODEL: "rate of growth of population is proportional to the size of the population" (ignoring space/nutrient constraints)

→ use this example as a start to understanding the analytical tool I will go over (separation of variables), since we already know what the solutions look like:



⑥ Easily identify the trivial solution: $\boxed{P=0}$

CHECK: $\frac{dP}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}[0] = 0$
 $\alpha[0] = 0$ ↗ same ✓

⑦ To find nontrivial solution - two options: ① solve, ② guess

Guess - function whose derivative is the same, multiplied by a constant

⇒ $P(t) = e^{\alpha t}$ Chain rule! (review?)

CHECK: $\frac{d}{dt}[e^{\alpha t}] = \alpha e^{\alpha t}$
 $\alpha P = \alpha e^{\alpha t}$ ↗ same!

⇒ NOTE: could have also been $P(t) = [\text{any constant}] e^{\alpha t}$

Thus, the most general solution is:

$$P(t) = Ae^{\alpha t} \quad [\text{general solution}]$$

↑
any scalar

Generally, $A = P_0$, because $P(0) = Ae^{\alpha(0)} = A$.

If we know the value of P_0 , then $P(t) = P_0 e^{\alpha t}$ is called a particular solution.

© What if we don't want to guess?

Tool ONE: Separation of variables. Sometimes you actually use this!

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \alpha P$$

$$\int \frac{dP}{P} = \int \alpha dt$$

$$\int \frac{1}{x} = \ln(x)$$

$$\ln(P) + C = \alpha t + C'$$

$$e^{\ln(P)} = e^{\alpha t + C}$$

$$e^{\ln(x)} = x$$

$$P(t) = e^{\alpha t + C} = e^{\alpha t} e^C = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ P_0}}{A} e^{\alpha t}$$

$$P(t) = P_0 e^{\alpha t}$$

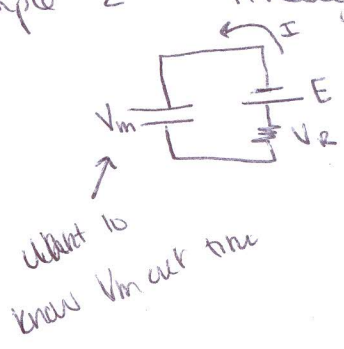
NOTE \Rightarrow equations must be separable!

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = g(y) h(t)$$

$$y = y_t \quad \checkmark$$

$$y = y + t \quad \times$$

Example 2 - Analytical solution to RC-circuit



$$E = V_m + V_R$$

$$Q = CV_m$$

$$V_R = IR$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}[Q = CV_m] \Rightarrow I = C \frac{dV_m}{dt}$$

$$E = V_m + V_R$$

$$E = V_m + IR$$

$$\frac{E - V_m}{R} = \frac{dV_m}{dt}$$

$$\frac{E - V_m}{R} = I$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dV_m}{dt} = \frac{E - V_m}{RC}$$

$$(\dot{P} = \alpha P)$$

~~diff~~

$$\int \frac{dV_m}{E - V_m} = \int \frac{dt}{RC}$$

$$-\ln(E - V_m) = \frac{t}{RC} + V_0$$

$$E - V_m = V_0 e^{-t/RC} \Rightarrow V_m(t) = E - V_0 e^{-t/RC}$$

$$\Rightarrow V_m(t) = E - V_0 e^{-t/RC}$$

$$= E - V_0 e^{-t/\tau}$$

$$V_m(0) = E - V_0 e^{-0/\tau} = E - V_0 = 0 \Rightarrow E = V_0$$

$$\tau = RC$$

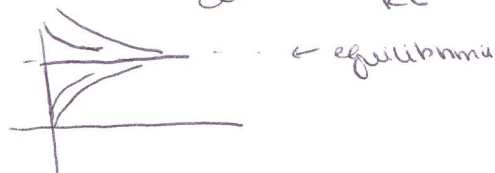
~~not needed~~

$$V_m(t) = E - E e^{-t/\tau} \Rightarrow E(1 - e^{-t/\tau})$$



\$\Rightarrow\$ can get intuition for this based on differential. \$\rightarrow\$ SLOPE FIELDS

$$\frac{dV_m}{dt} = \frac{E - V_m}{RC}$$



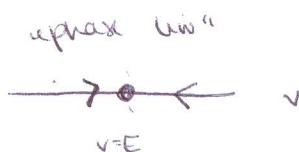
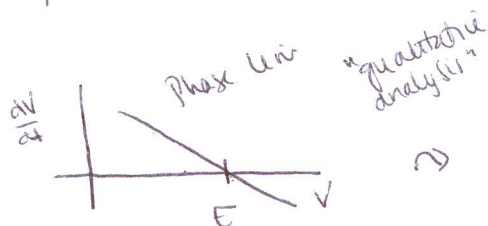
$$V_m = 0 \rightarrow \frac{dV_m}{dt} = \frac{E}{RC} > 0, \text{ so } V_m \uparrow$$

$$V_m = E \rightarrow \frac{dV_m}{dt} = 0, \text{ so } V_m \leftrightarrow$$

$$V_m > E \rightarrow \frac{dV_m}{dt} < 0, \text{ so } V_m \downarrow$$

~~not needed~~

$$\ln \frac{E - V_m}{RC} \rightarrow \text{no } t$$



Big Slope fields



quiver

$$\frac{dV}{dt}(V,t) = \frac{E - V_m}{RC}$$

LOGISTIC MODEL

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP(1 - \frac{P}{N})$$

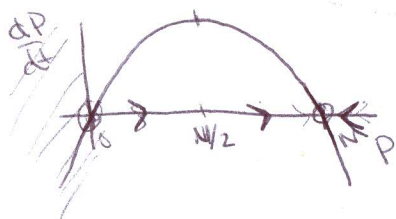
carrying capacity

$$\frac{dP}{dt} \approx kP \text{ when } P \text{ is small}$$

$$P < N, \frac{dP}{dt} > 0$$

$$P > N, \frac{dP}{dt} < 0$$

$$P = N, \frac{dP}{dt} = 0$$



$$kP - \frac{kP^2}{N}$$

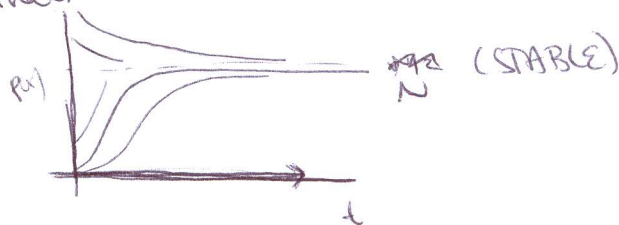
$$f(P) = kP - \frac{kP^2}{N}$$

$$f'(P) = k - \frac{2kP}{N} = 0$$

$$\frac{2kP}{N} = k$$

$$\frac{2P}{N} = 1$$

$$P = \frac{N}{2}$$



\$\rightarrow\$ ① compute f.p.

$$[P \text{ st. } \frac{dP}{dt} = 0] \quad P^*$$

\$\rightarrow\$ ② investigate phase portrait \$\frac{dP}{dt} = f(P)\$

~~not needed~~ \$f'(P^*)\$

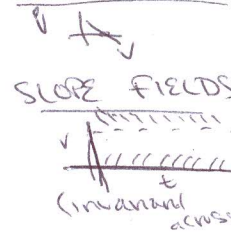
\$f'(P^*) < 0 \rightarrow P^*\$ is stable
\$f'(P^*) > 0 \rightarrow P^*\$ is unstable

One way to make this easy.



⇐ one stable solution
"QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS"

PHASE LINE



for various $v \neq v_m$
what is $\frac{dV}{dt}$?

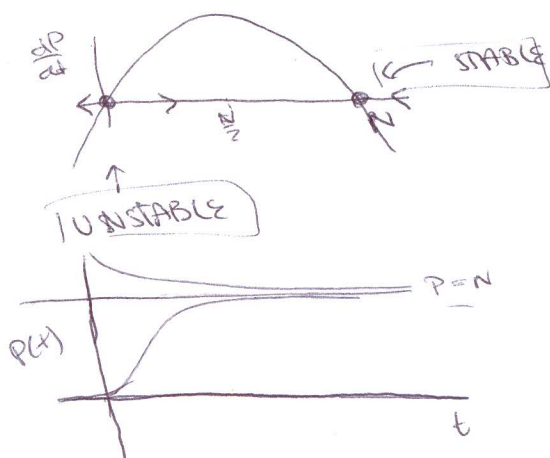
③ ~~logistic~~ logistic model as an example of qualitative analysis
 $x = \sin(x)$ ← many times it is a real pain to analytically solve something.

biological model example:

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = k(1 - \frac{P}{N})P = kP \left[1 - \frac{P}{N} \right]$$

assumptions: $\frac{dP}{dt} \approx kP$ if P is small
if $P > N$, $\frac{dP}{dt} < 0$

when does $\frac{dP}{dt} = 0$? → $P=0$ & $P=N$



$$f(P) = kP - \frac{kP^2}{N}$$

$$f'(P) = k - \frac{2k}{N}P = k(1 - \frac{2P}{N}) = 0$$

$$\frac{2P}{N} = 1$$

$$P = \frac{N}{2}$$

~~logistic~~

To be more rigorous/quantitative about stability: [CLASSIFICATION of EQUILIBRIA]

- stable/sink: if a sol'n starts near it, it will go towards it
- unstable/source: if sol'ns that start near y_0 go towards y_0 as $t \rightarrow \infty$

⇒ determine equilibria from $f(y) \Rightarrow$ LINEARIZATION THEOREM

- ① if $f'(y_0) < 0$, y_0 is a sink
- ② if $f'(y_0) > 0$, y_0 is a source
- ③ if $f'(y_0) = 0$, need more info (partially stable?)

$f(y) \Rightarrow$ tell us behavior of 1st linear approximation to f near y_0

~~logistic~~ example of qualitative analysis (biology)

linear stability analysis →

L.S.A.

Let x^* be a fixed point, $\eta(t) = x(t) - x^*$ be a small perturbation

↳ does this grow or decay?

⇒ write ODE for $\eta(t) \rightarrow \dot{\eta} = \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(x(t) - x^*) = \dot{x}$

⇒ $\dot{\eta} = \dot{x} = f(x) = f(x^* + \eta) = f(x^*) + \eta f'(x^*) + O(\eta^2)$

$\dot{\eta} \approx \eta f'(x^*)$

Linear equation in η linearization about x^*

⇒ η grows exponentially if $f'(x^*) > 0$
shrinks exponentially if $f'(x^*) < 0$

if $f(x^*) = 0 \rightarrow$ need to find out more

$\dot{x} = -x^3$
(stable)

⇒ $|f'(x^*)| \rightarrow$ characteristic time scale

④ Relating this idea to "energy wells" → related to potential energy

$f(x) = -\frac{dV}{dx} = \frac{dx}{dt}$

$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{dV}{dx} \frac{dx}{dt}$ (chain rule)

$V \rightarrow$ potential, defined by

$f(x) = -\frac{dV}{dx}$

$f(x) = -c$

$\frac{dV}{dt} = \left(\frac{dV}{dx}\right) \left(\frac{dx}{dt}\right) = \left(\frac{dV}{dx}\right)^2 \leq 0 \rightarrow$ decrease along trajectories.

⇒ minima correspond to stable fp.

maxima correspond to unstable fp.

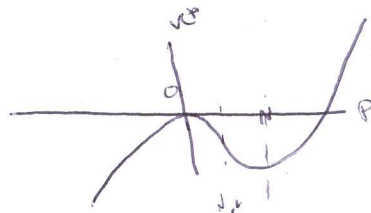
Back to old model:

$\frac{dP}{dt} = k(1 - \frac{P}{N})P = kP - \frac{kP^2}{N} = -\frac{dV}{dP}$

⇒ $\frac{dV}{dP} = -kP + \frac{kP^2}{N}$

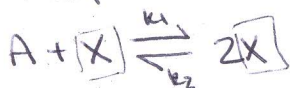
$\int dV = \int (-kP + \frac{kP^2}{N})$

$V = -\frac{kP^2}{2} + \frac{kP^3}{3N}$



④ Another example: Chemical Rxn (autocatalysis)

Model this system:



- law of mass action: rate of rxn is proportional to concentration
- A is in surplus

Assum

⇒ $\frac{d[X]}{dt} = +k_1[A][X] - k_2[X]^2$

⇒ $\frac{dx}{dt} = k_1ax - k_2x^2$

① Find f.p.
 $0 = k_1ax - k_2x^2$
 $k_1ax = k_2x^2$
 $k_1a = k_2x$

$x^* = 0$ (stable)
 $x^* = \frac{k_1a}{k_2}$ (unstable)

$f(x) = k_1ax - k_2x^2$

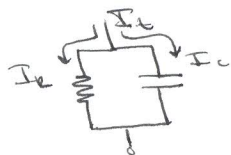
$f'(x) = k_1a - 2k_2x$

$f'(0) = k_1a > 0$

$f'(\frac{k_1a}{k_2}) = k_1a - 2k_2(\frac{k_1a}{k_2}) = k_1a - 2k_1a = -k_1a < 0$



EXAMPLE PROBLEM - LEAKY INTEGRATE & FIRE MODEL



$$I_{in} = I_{leak} + I_C$$

$$I_{in} = \frac{V}{R} + C \frac{dV}{dt}$$

$$C \frac{dV}{dt} = I_{app} - \frac{V}{R}$$

$$\tau \frac{dV}{dt} = I_{app} R - V$$

$$\tau \frac{dV}{dt} = I_{app} R - V$$

$$I_{leak} = \frac{V}{R}$$

$$I_C \Rightarrow Q = CV$$

$$I = C \frac{dV}{dt}$$

TO SOLVE:

$$\int \frac{dV}{IR - V} = \int \frac{dt}{\tau}$$

$$-\ln(IR - V) = \frac{t}{\tau} + C$$

$$IR - V = Ae^{-t/\tau}$$

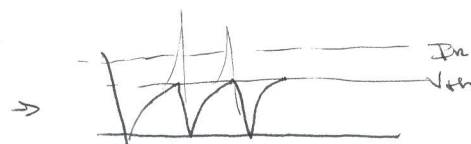
$$V(t) = IR - Ae^{-t/\tau}$$

$$= IR(1 - e^{-t/\tau})$$



$$\rightarrow V(0) = IR - A = 0$$

$$A = IR$$



$$V_{th} < IR$$

IF $V_{th} \geq IR$, then $V \rightarrow 0$.

What is the firing rate of this model neuron?
(How does this vary as a function of I & V_{th} ?)

AND $ISI \rightarrow FR = \frac{1}{ISI}$

$$\Rightarrow V(t) = IR(1 - e^{-t/\tau})$$



$$V(t^*) = [IR(1 - e^{-t^*/\tau}) = V_{th}] \text{ SOLVE.}$$

$$1 - e^{-t^*/\tau} = \frac{V_{th}}{IR}$$

$$1 - \frac{V_{th}}{IR} = e^{-t^*/\tau}$$

$$\ln(1 - \frac{V_{th}}{IR}) = -\frac{t^*}{\tau}$$

$$-\tau \ln(1 - \frac{V_{th}}{IR}) = t^*$$

$$FR = \frac{1}{t^*}$$



① as $V_{th} \rightarrow IR$, $[1 - \frac{V_{th}}{IR}] \rightarrow 0$, so $ISI \uparrow$ (FR \downarrow)

② as $I \uparrow$, then $\frac{V_{th}}{IR} \downarrow$, $1 - \frac{V_{th}}{IR} \uparrow$, so $ISI \downarrow$ (FR \uparrow)

2-dimensional systems (linear)

These are systems of the form:

$$\dot{x} = ax + by$$

$$\dot{y} = cx + dy$$

NOTE: THESE ARE LINEAR!

How do we solve these systems? (Numerical integration usually)

But we can get a handle on these systems analytically too!

⇒ Search for ~~linear~~ solutions of this form: $\vec{x}(t) = e^{\lambda t} \vec{v}$

$$x(t) = e^{\lambda t} x_1$$

$$y(t) = e^{\lambda t} y_1$$

Re-write in matrix form:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x} \\ \dot{y} \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{\dot{x}}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{x}}$$

CHECK:

$$\dot{x} = ax + by$$

$$\dot{y} = cx + dy$$

If $x(t) = e^{\lambda t} x_1$, then

$$\dot{x} = \lambda e^{\lambda t} x_1$$

$$\dot{y} = \lambda e^{\lambda t} y_1$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \lambda e^{\lambda t} x_1 \\ \lambda e^{\lambda t} y_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{\lambda t} x_1 \\ e^{\lambda t} y_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

~~linear~~

$$\lambda e^{\lambda t} \vec{v} = A \vec{v} e^{\lambda t}$$

$$\boxed{\lambda \vec{v} = A \vec{v}}$$

⇒ eigenvector - eigenvalue equation of A, which will determine the stability! (instability)!

$$A \vec{v} - \lambda \vec{v} = 0$$

$$(A - \lambda I) \vec{v} = 0 \Rightarrow A - \lambda I \text{ is not invertible}$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$

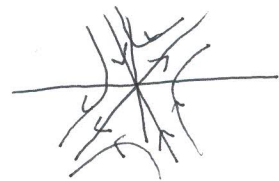
⇒ eigenvectors determine the direction of straight line solutions!

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a-\lambda & b \\ c & d-\lambda \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$(a-\lambda)(d-\lambda) - bc = 0$$

$$ad - a\lambda - d\lambda + \lambda^2 - bc = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - (a+d)\lambda + ad - bc = 0$$



NUMERICAL METHODS

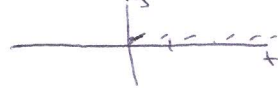
→ real-life, use ode-solvers built in (Numpy better) → DON'T use Euler in practice

① Euler's method:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y)$$

⇒ related to slope fields (find solution by following slope field)

$$y(t_0) = y_0$$



to make jump just need to know derivative!

① issues of stability & uniqueness

if initial point

$$y(t_0) = y_0 \text{ find } y_1$$

$$y_1 = y(t_1) = y(t_0 + \Delta t)$$

$$= y(t_0) + y'(t_0) \Delta t$$

$$= y(t_0) + f(t_0, y_0) \Delta t$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} \Big|_{t=t_0} \Rightarrow f(t_0, y_0)$$

⇒ general: $y_{n+1} = y_n + f(t_n, y_n) \Delta t$ → (First-order accurate)

⇒ Δt must be small. but too small and round off errors will accumulate!
 $\approx 10^{-16}$ for double precision → Problem w/ original → only estimates derivative at each step

2nd order method:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + \frac{1}{2} [f(x_n) + f(\tilde{x}_{n+1})] \Delta t$$

$$\tilde{x}_{n+1} = x_n + f(x_n) \Delta t$$

Best way if you want to implement by hand → Runge-Kutta (4th order accurate)

⇒ DO AN EXAMPLE IN CLASS

In numerical methods, problem is to solve $y' = f(y, t)$ given that $y(t_0) = y_0$

⇒ $y(t_0) = y_0$ ← what is y_0 ?

take step size Δt



$$y_1 = y(t_1) = y(t_0 + \Delta t)$$

$$y(t_1) = y(t_0) + y'(t_0) \Delta t$$

$$y'(t_0) = f(t_0, y_0)$$

$$y(t_0 + \Delta t) = y(t_0) + y'(t_0) \Delta t$$

$$y_1 = y(t_1)$$

$$t_1 = t_0 + \Delta t$$

$$y(t_1) = y(t_0) + f(t_0, y_0) \Delta t$$

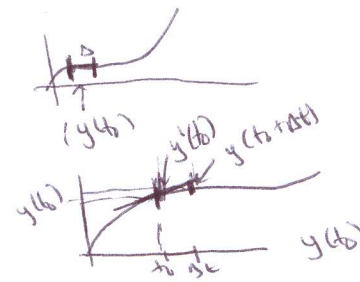
$$y'(t_0) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{y(t_0 + \Delta t) - y(t_0)}{\Delta t} \quad \text{eq. for deriv.}$$

$$y(t_2) = y(t_1) + y$$

$$y(t_2) = y(t_1 + \Delta t) = y(t_1) + y'(t_1) \Delta t$$

$$y_2 = y_1 + f(t_1, y_1) \Delta t$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + f(t_n, y_n) \Delta t$$



$$y(t_1 + \Delta t) = y(t_1) + y'(t_1) \Delta t$$