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MATH 3

MA9803 | B.Sc. ENGINEERING SCIENCE AND B.Sc.  
AEROSPACE

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# Modeling and Simulation with Ordinary Differential Equations

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## Abstract

Some people think that stiff challenges are the best device to induce learning, but I am not one of them. The natural way to learn something is by spending vast amounts of easy, enjoyable time at it. This goes whether you want to speak German, sight-read at the piano, type, or do mathematics. Give me the German storybook for fifth graders that I feel like reading in bed, not Goethe and a dictionary. The latter will bring rapid progress at first, then exhaustion and failure to resolve.

*L. N. Trefethen. Trefethen's index cards - Forty years of notes about People, Words and Mathematics. World Scientific, 2011, S. 86*

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# 1 Introduction

**Previously:** We had equations like  $y^2 + 4y + 1 = 0$ , where the solution is a number.

$$\int_a^b f(x)dt = \text{number} = F(b) - F(a)$$

**New:**  $f'(x)$  is given, determine  $f(x)$ . The solution is a function.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Velocity}(t) = \text{Position}'(t) & \text{given} \\ = \text{Position}(t) & \text{wanted} \end{array}$$

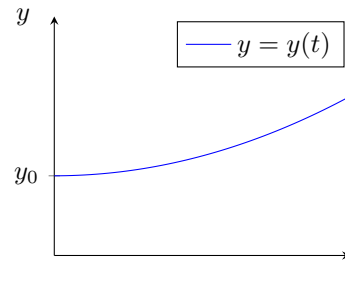
## 1.1 Differential equations

**Example: Interest rate**

$y(t)$  : assets at time  $t$ .

$\lambda < 0$  : constant interest rate.

$$\text{IVP} \begin{cases} y'(t) &= \lambda \cdot y(t), \\ y(0) &= y_0. \end{cases}$$



**Example: Radioactive Decay**

$y(t)$  : mass of a substance at time  $t$ .

$\lambda < 0$  : decay rate.

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

## 1.2 Problem Solving Steps in Science & technology

"Reality"  $\longrightarrow$  Model = "Mathematisation"

- Laws of nature (Physics, Chemistry).
- Assumptions, hypotheses  $\rightarrow$  differential equations.
- Analytical or symbolic solution (exact solution). **not practical**
- Numerical solution. **in practise**

**Change of state = Function (State).**

**Ordinary Diff. Eqn. (ODE:** one scalar variable (e.g. time) **this semester**

$$y'(t) = \lambda y(t).$$

**Partial Diff. Eqn. (PDE):** multiple variables (e.g. time and space) [next semester \(MA9804\)](#)

$$u = u(t, x) \quad x = (x_1, x_2, x_3).$$

$$\frac{\delta u}{\delta t} = k \cdot \left( \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x_1^2} \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x_2^2} \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x_3^2} \right).$$

Heat equation.  $u$ : temperature

**Oftentimes:** Solution depends on (design) parameters.  $y = y(t; \rho)$ ,  $u = u(t, x, \rho)$

- Parameter identification [Inverse Problem](#)
- Design optimisation
- Random / Stochastic parameters [Uncertainty quantification](#)

### 1.3 Application: Solid Mechanics

**Newton's Laws of motion:**  $\frac{dp}{dt} = F$

Change of momentum = force action.

- Calculate orbits of satellites; today: GPS
- Vibrations in automobiles; reliability of structures. (earthquakes; spring-mass-system)

### 1.4 Application: Electric circuits

**Ohm's Law:**  $U = R \cdot I$  (voltage = resistance \* current)

**Kirchhoff's Circuit Laws:**  $\rightarrow$  System of ODEs

**Law of Induction:**  $U = n \cdot I'$  (Coil);  $I = C \cdot U'$  (Capacitor). Here the  $'$  is the time derivative.

### 1.5 Application: Chemical relations

**Chemical reaction:**  $A + B \xrightarrow{k} C$ .

Here  $c_A(t), c_B(t), c_C(t)$  are the Concentrations of the substance  $A, B, C$  in  $\frac{\text{Mol}}{\text{l}}$ .

**Law of mass action:** Change of concentration is proportional to the concentration of the resulting substances:

$$c'_C = k \cdot c_A \cdot c_B$$

$$c'_A = -k \cdot c_A \cdot c_B$$

$$c'_B = -k \cdot c_A \cdot c_B$$

## 1.6 Classification of ODEs

$$y(x).$$

$x$ : independent variable **scalar**       $y$ : dependent variable

**Ordinary DE:**

- System of ODEs:  $y(x) \in \mathbb{R}^n, n > 1$ .
- Single ODE:  $y(x) \in \mathbb{R}, n = 1$ .

**Implicit DE of order  $m$ :**

$$F(x, y(x), y'(x), \dots, y^{(m)}(x)) = 0.$$

**Explicit DE of order  $m$ :**

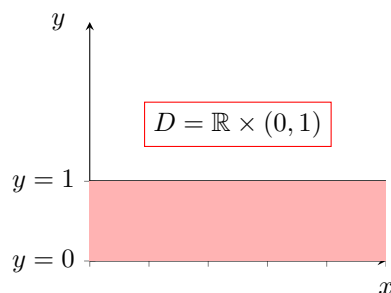
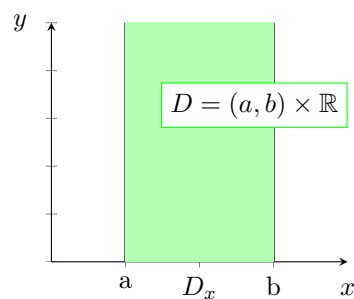
$$y^{(m)}(x) = f(x, y(x), y'(x), \dots, y^{(m-1)}(x)).$$

## 2 First-order ODEs

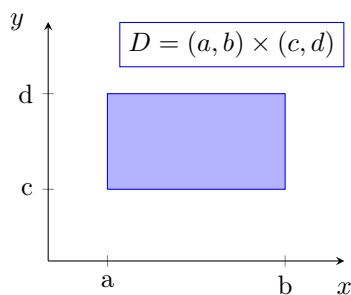
For now we have  $m = 1, n = 1$ . Consider  $y'(x) = f(x, y(x))$ . The **explicit form** of the ODE is noted like  $y' = f(x, y)$  explicit form of ODE. The function  $f$  is defined on  $D = D_x \times D_y \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .

### 2.1 Examples

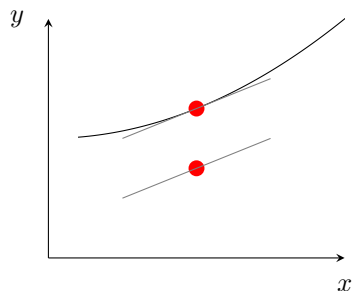
**"Strip":**



**"Rectangle":**



## 2.2 Geometric interpretation: Direction field

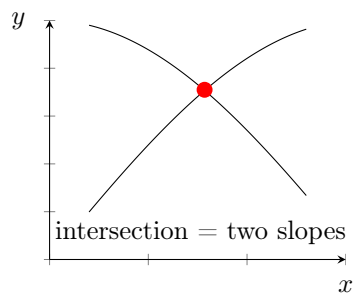
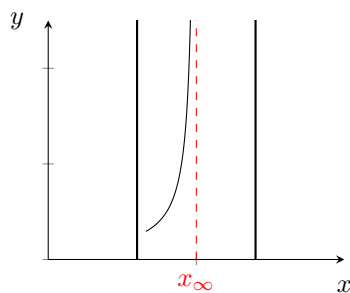


$$y' = f(x, y).$$

$f(x, y)$ : Slope of tangent line of  $y(x)$  in point  $(x, y)$ . Using software like *dfield* we can visualize  $f(x, y)$  as an vector field.

## 2.3 Observations

1. Through each point  $(x_0, y_0) \in D$  there passes **exactly one** solution curve.
2. Each solution curve is **maximal**, meaning that the curve continues until the boundary of  $D$  (this includes a blow up to  $+\infty$ ).
3. Solution curves **don't intersect**!



## 2.4 Existence and Uniqueness of a Solution

IVP (initial value problem):  $y' = f(x, y)$ ,  $y(x_0) = y_0$ , domain  $D$

### 2.4.1 Theorem: Peano

Assume that  $f$  is continuous on  $D$  and  $(x_0, y_0) \in D$ . Then the IVP has at least one solution. This solution is minimal, meaning that we can continue the solution for  $x < x_0$  and  $x > x_0$  until the boundary of  $D$ .

### 2.4.2 Theorem: Picard-Lindelöf

Let  $f$  be continuous on  $D$  and let  $f$  be continuously differentiable with respect to  $y$ , that is,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  is continuous. Let  $(x_0, y_0) \in D$ . Then the IVP has a unique solution.

**Example:**

implicit form of ODE

explicit form

$$(x^2 - x)y' = (2x - 1)y, \quad y(x_0) = y_0. \quad y' = \frac{2x - 1}{x^2 - x}y \quad f(x, y) = \frac{2x - 1}{x^2 - x}y.$$

**Three cases:**

1.  $x_0 \notin \{0; 1\}$ : Unique solution (due to Picard-Lindelöf Thm.).
2.  $x_0 \in \{0; 1\}$  and  $y_0 = 0$ : Infinitely many solution  
 $y(x) = cx(x - 1)$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  [Check it!](#)
3.  $x_0 \in \{0; 1\}$  and  $y_0 \neq 0$ : No solution.

## 2.5 Examples and Recap

$$IVP \begin{cases} y' &= \lambda y, \\ y(x_0) &= y_0. \end{cases}$$

$\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  is a constant.

**a) Domain of Definition  $D$**  Here:  $f(x, y) = \lambda y$  with  $x$  being the independent and  $y$  the dependent variable.

$$D = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}.$$

Meaning:  $f$  is well defined for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and for all  $y \in \mathbb{R}$

- b)** Direction field, software dfield, geometric interpretation.
- c)** Existence and uniqueness of the solution of the DE (differential equation).

d)  $y(x) = c \cdot e^{\lambda x}$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  is the general solution of the DE. Check:

$$y' = c \cdot \lambda \cdot e^{\lambda x} = \lambda c e^{\lambda x} = \lambda y(x).$$

Parameter  $c$  is determined by the initial condition

$$y(x_0) = c e^{\lambda x_0} \stackrel{!}{=} y_0 \rightarrow c = y_0 e^{-\lambda x_0}.$$

**Remark on "general solution":** What does it mean? Suppose the DE  $y' = \lambda y$  has another solution  $\tilde{y}$ . Then it holds:

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{\tilde{y}}{e^{\lambda x}} \right)' &= \frac{\tilde{y}' e^{\lambda x} - \tilde{y} \lambda e^{\lambda x}}{(e^{\lambda x})^2} \\ &= \frac{e^{\lambda x} (\tilde{y}' - \lambda \tilde{y})}{e^{2\lambda x}} \\ &= e^{-\lambda x} (\tilde{y}' - \lambda \tilde{y}) = e^{-\lambda x} \cdot 0 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\tilde{y}' - \lambda \tilde{y} = 0$  since  $\tilde{y}$  solves DE  $\tilde{y}' = \lambda \tilde{y}$  by assumption.

Hence  $\frac{\tilde{y}}{e^{\lambda x}} = \text{constant}$  and  $\tilde{y} = \text{constant} \cdot e^{\lambda x}$ .

Hence all solutions of  $y' = \lambda y$  have the form  $y = c e^{\lambda x}$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}$ .

**Today's topic:** Analytical techniques for the solution of first-order differential equations. **Be careful:** Techniques do not work for all DEs; require assumptions!

## 2.6 Separation of Variables

$$y'(x) = f(x) \cdot g(y).$$

1. Particular solution: The zeros of  $g$  are stationary (constant) solutions.

**Example:**  $g(y^* = 0) \rightarrow \tilde{y} \equiv y^*$  solves the DE.

**Check:**  $0 = (y^*)' = \tilde{y}' = f(x) \cdot g(y^*) \quad g(y^*) = 0$

2. If  $f$  is continuous and  $g, g'$  are continuous, we conclude with (2.4) that the DE has a unique solution (Picard-Lindelöf Theorem).
3. Assume  $g(y) \neq 0$ :

- (a)  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)g(y)$
- (b)  $\frac{dy}{g(y)} = f(x)dx$  Separation of variables
- (c)  $\int \frac{dy}{g(y)} = \int f(x)dx + c$  **Parameter**
- (d) Calculate the antiderivatives.
- (e) If possible, rearrange (d). and isolate  $y$ .



## 2.7 Example, Separation of Variables

$$y' = -x^2 y \quad (\text{see previous lecture}).$$

- $f(x) = -x^2$
- $g(y) = y$

1. Stationary solution:  $y \equiv 0$

2.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= -x^2 y \\ \frac{dy}{y} &= -x^2 dx \\ \int \frac{dy}{y} &= - \int x^2 dx + c, \quad c \in \mathbb{R} \\ \ln |y| &= -\frac{1}{3}x^3 + c \\ |y| &= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{3}x^3 + c\right) = e^c \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3} \quad e^c > 0 \\ y &= \pm e^c \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3} \quad \text{plus} \quad y \equiv 0 \end{aligned}$$

**Summary:**  $y(x) = \tilde{c} \cdot e^{-\frac{1}{3}x^3}, \quad \tilde{c} \in \mathbb{R}$

general solution of DE

From now on "antilogarithm":

$$\begin{aligned} \ln |y| &= (\dots) + c, \quad c \in \mathbb{R} \\ y &= \tilde{c} \cdot e^{(\dots)}, \quad \tilde{c} \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

## 2.8 Application: Water container

**Given::** Cross-section area of cylindrical container  $A$  and cross-section area of (circular) outlet  $B$ .

**Toricelli's Law:**

$$v_{out} = \sqrt{2gh}.$$

**Wanted:**  $h = h(t)$  water level in container.

**Question:** At which time is the container empty? For which  $t^*$  does it hold  $h(t^*) = 0$ ?

consider the change of volume  $\Delta V$  of water in container.

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta V_{cont} &= A \cdot \Delta h \\ \Delta V_{out} &= \gamma \cdot B \cdot v_{out} \cdot \Delta t \end{aligned}$$

$\gamma$ : Borda factor  $\gamma = 0.62$  for circular outlet.

### Conservation of Mass:

$$\Delta V_{cont} + \Delta V_{out} = 0 \quad \Delta V_{cont} = -\Delta V_{out}$$

$$A \cdot \Delta h = -\gamma \cdot B \cdot \sqrt{2gh} \Delta t$$

$$A \cdot \frac{\Delta h}{\Delta t} = -\gamma B \sqrt{2gh}$$

$$\Delta t \rightarrow 0$$

$$A \cdot h' = -\gamma B \sqrt{2gh}$$

$$\text{IVP for } h(t) \begin{cases} h'(t) = -\gamma B \sqrt{2gh(t)} \\ h(0) = h_0. \end{cases}$$

Solve my separation of variables!

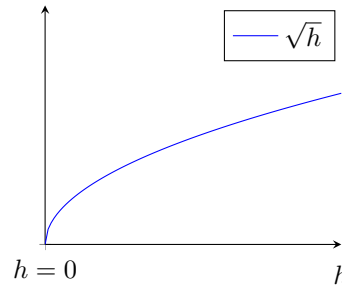
$$1. \quad \tilde{g}(h) = \sqrt{h}$$

$$\tilde{f}(t) = -\gamma \frac{B}{A} \sqrt{2g}$$

$$h'(t) = \tilde{f}(t) \cdot \tilde{g}(h)$$

Stationary solution:  $h \equiv 0$  is zero of  $\tilde{g}(h) = \sqrt{h}$ .

2. Domain of definition:  $D = \mathbb{R} \times [0, \infty)$  (time  $t \times$  water level  $h$ )



$h \geq 0$  existence (Peano)  
 $h > 0$  existence and uniqueness.  
(Picard-Lindelöf)

3. Separation of variables.

$$\text{let } \mu := \gamma \frac{B}{A} \sqrt{2g}, \quad h > 0$$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = -\mu \sqrt{h}$$

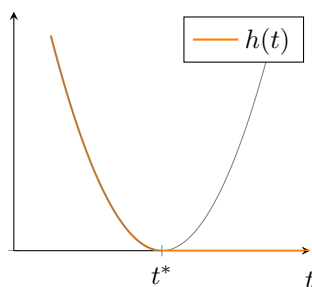
$$\int \frac{dh}{\sqrt{h}} = -\mu \cdot \int 1 \cdot dt + c$$

$$2\sqrt{h} = -\mu \cdot t + c$$

**Initial condition:**  $h(0) = h_0 > 0 \rightarrow c = \sqrt{h_0} = -\mu \cdot 0 + c$

$2\sqrt{h} = -\mu \cdot t + 2\sqrt{h_0}$  Rearrange, isolate  $h$

$h(t) = \frac{1}{4}(2\sqrt{h_0} - \mu t)^2$  as long as  $h > 0$ !



**Complete solution:**

$$h(t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4}(2\sqrt{h_0} - \mu t)^2 & t \leq t^*, \\ 0 & t > t^*. \end{cases}$$

When is  $h(t^*) = 0$

$$2\sqrt{h_0} = \mu t^*$$

$$t^* = \frac{2\sqrt{h_0}}{\mu}.$$

## 2.9 Linear DE of first order

**Standard form:**  $y'(x) = +p(x)y(x) = r(x)$   $p, r$  can be nonlinear functions in  $x$

DE is linear in  $y, y'$ , not allowed are terms like  $(y')^2, \sin(y), y \cdot y'$  etc.

$p = p(x), r = r(x)$  continuous  $\rightarrow$  existence and uniqueness solution

**Recall:**  $y' = f(x, y)$

**Here:**

$$y' = r(x) - p(x) \cdot y(x) =: f(x, y)$$

$$\frac{\delta f}{\delta y} = -p(x)$$

**Concepts:**

$$y'(x) + p(x)y(x) = 0 \quad \text{homogeneous linear DE}$$

$$y'(x) + p(x)y(x) = r(x) \quad \text{inhomogeneous linear DE } r(x) \neq 0$$

**Remarks:**

$$Ax = b \quad \text{linear system of equations}$$

$$Ax = 0 \quad \text{homogeneous linear system of equations}$$

$$b \neq 0 \quad \text{inhomogeneous linear system of equations.}$$

## 2.10 General solution of the homogeneous DE

$$y'(x) + p(x)y(x) = 0 \quad y' = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -p(x)y(x)$$

Variables of  $p(x)$  and  $y(x)$  are separate.

1. Stationary solution:  $y \equiv 0$
2.  $y \neq 0$ , separation of variables.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= -p(x)y(x) \\ \int \frac{dy}{y} &= - \int_{x_0}^x p(z)dz + c \\ \ln|y| &= - \int_{x_0}^x p(z)dz + c = P(x) - P(x_0) + c \\ &= -P(x) + \tilde{c}\end{aligned}$$

Let  $P(\cdot)$  denote the antiderivative of  $p(\cdot)$ , that is,  $P'(z) = p(z)$ .

"antilogarithm":

$$y(x) = \hat{c} \cdot e^{-P(x)}, \quad \hat{c} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

**Reminder:**  $\int_{x_0}^x p(z)dz =: F(x)$

$$\frac{dF}{dx} = p(x) \cdot \frac{dx}{dx} - p(x) \frac{dx_0}{dx} + 0 = p(x).$$

by the Leibniz rule for parametric integrals.

## 2.11 General solution for inhomogeneous DE

Let  $y_1, y_2$  denote solutions of the inhomogeneous DE:

$$\begin{aligned}y_1'(x) + p(x)y_1(x) &= r(x) \\ y_2'(x) + p(x)y_2(x) &= r(x)\end{aligned}$$

subtract:

$$(y_1 - y_2)' + p(x)(y_1 - y_2) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned}y_D &:= y_1 - y_2 \rightarrow y_1 = y_2 + y_D \\ y_D'(x) + p(x)y_D(x) &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Using (2.10):

$$\begin{aligned}y_D(x) &= c * e^{-P(x)}, \quad c \in \mathbb{R} \\ y_1(x) &= y_2(x) + ce^{-P(x)}, \quad c \in \mathbb{R}\end{aligned}$$

general solution of in-homogeneous DE = particular solution of inhomogeneous DE + **general solution** of homogeneous DE.

## 2.12 Variation of Constants

Ansatz to obtain a particular solution of the inhomogeneous DE

$$y_{\text{P}} = c(x)e^{-P(x)} \quad c = c(x).$$

Insert ansatz in the inhomogeneous DE (product rule!)

$$\begin{aligned} y_P'(x) + p(x)y_P(x) &= r(x) \\ c'(x)e^{-P(x)} - p(x)e^{-P(x)}c(x) + p(x)c(x)e^{-P(x)} &= r(x) \\ c'(x)e^{-P(x)} &= r(x) \\ c'(x) &= e^{P(x)}r(x) \end{aligned}.$$

$$c(x) = \int_{x_0}^x e^{P(z)}r(z)dz + \tilde{c}.$$

**Summary:**  $y_{\text{P}}(x) = c(x)e^{-P(x)}$

## 2.13 Electrical circuit

$$L \cdot I'(t) + R \cdot I(t) = U \in (\omega t) \quad (1)$$

Current  $I = I(t)$ , dependent on variable.

$\omega, L, R, U$ : Constants, independent of  $t$   
 $t$ : independent variable

**Check linearity of (1):**

a) General solution of homogeneous equation:

$$L \cdot I'(t) + R(I) = 0.$$

Sep. of var.:  $I(t) = \tilde{c}e^{-R \cdot \frac{t}{L}}, \quad \tilde{c} \in \mathbb{R}$

b) Particular solution if inhomogeneous equation (1).

**Ansatz (variation of constants):**

$y_p(t) = c(t)e^{-R \cdot \frac{t}{L}}$  Insert in inhomogeneous equation

$$Ly_p'(t) + Ry_p(t) = U \sin(\omega t)$$

$$Lc'(t)e^{-R \cdot \frac{t}{L}} + Lc(t)\left(-\frac{R}{L}\right)e^{-R \cdot \frac{t}{L}} + Rc(t)e^{-R \cdot \frac{t}{L}} = U \sin(\omega t)$$

$$c'(t) = \underbrace{\frac{U}{L} \sin(\omega t e^{R \cdot \frac{t}{L}})}_{\text{Integrate with respect to } t}.$$

Integrate with respect to  $t$ .

Integration by parts 2x

$$c(t) = Ue^{R \cdot \frac{t}{L}} \cdot \frac{R \sin(\omega t - \omega \cos(\omega t))}{R^2 + \omega^2 L^2}.$$

## 2.14 Bernoulli DE (nonlinear DE)

$$y' + p(x)y = r(x)y^\alpha, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{R} \quad (2)$$

$\alpha \in \{0; 1\}$     1st order linear DE  
 $\alpha \notin \{0; 1\}$     Ansatz:  $u(x) = y(x)^{1-\alpha}$   
 $r(x) \neq 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 u'(x) &= (1-\alpha)y(x)^{-\alpha} \cdot y'(x) \\
 &= (1-\alpha)y(x)^{-\alpha} \cdot \underbrace{(-p(x)y(x) + r(x)y^\alpha)}_{y' \text{ according to DE (2)}} \\
 &= (1-\alpha)(-p(x)u(x) + r(x)) \\
 &\Rightarrow u'(x) + (1-\alpha)p(x)u(x) = (1-\alpha)r(x)
 \end{aligned}$$

## 2.15 Application: Population Dynamics

$y(t)$ : population density,  $y \geq 0$

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 \text{logistic DE} & \begin{cases} y' &= ay(1 - \frac{y}{y_\infty}), \\ y(0) &= y. \end{cases} \\
 \text{Verhust, 1838} &
 \end{array}$$

$a, y_\infty$     :    model parameters; constant in time  
 $a > 0$     :    population growth rate     $y > y_\infty \Rightarrow y' < 0$   
 $y_\infty > 0$     :    carrying capacity, limit population

**Observation:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 y' &= ay - \frac{a}{y_\infty} \cdot y^2 \\
 y' + p(x)y &= r(x)y^\alpha
 \end{aligned}$$

nonlinear DE  $\rightarrow$  Bernoulli DE,  $\alpha = 2$

$$p(x) = -a, \quad r(x) = -\frac{a}{y_\infty}$$