

Math 2250-1  
( & 2250-6 )

Monday August 22

- Course information on syllabus & homepage

Homework due 8/25 (Thursday)

1.1 5, 6, 8, 9, 15, 16, 19, 29, 32-36, 45, 46  
1.2 6, 7, 10, 18, 20, 25, 33, 34, 40

Circled problems are to be handed in.

- what is a differential equation?

-  $n^{\text{th}}$  order DE:  $F(x, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0$

i.e. an equation involving a variable "x" and an (unknown) function  $y(x)$  & its first  $n$  derivatives

- where do differential eqns come from?

- mathematical models, often of continuous dynamical systems in which the variable "x" is actually time "t".

- goal:

- understand the "solution function(s)"  $y(x)$ , i.e. the functions for which the differential equation is true.

(If you are able to find all the solutions this is called solving the D.E.)

Examples you've probably seen in Calculus and physics:

1<sup>st</sup> order differential equations: rate of change of a function depends in some way on the function value, the variable value, and nothing else.

e.g. population growth models

2<sup>nd</sup> order differential equations: Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> law often leads to such DE's.  
mass · acceleration equals net forces

Let's recall some of these, and how we solve them.

① Population growth or decay model.  
applications?

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = kP$$

"x" = t (time)

"y(x)" = P(t) (population or amount)

②

model:  
rate of change of  
population is  
proportional to  
the population

Solve this DE!

Chain rule backwards

{ same as using differentials (for separable DE's)

## ② Newton's Law of Cooling



$A =$  ambient temperature  
solid object with temp.  $T(t)$

model: rate of change of temperature is proportional to difference between temperature and ambient temperature

yields DE:

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = -k(T-A)$$

↑  
why did I write  $-k$ ?

would DE be correct if I just wrote  $k$ ?

Use this model to solve a murder mystery:

At 3:00 a.m. a human body is discovered, with body temp. =  $85^\circ$   
by 4:00 a.m. body temp =  $80^\circ$ . Ambient temperature remains constant  $65^\circ$

About when did murder occur?

③ motion with prescribed acceleration via Newton's 2<sup>nd</sup> law.

e.g.



$$m y''(t) = -mg$$

$y(t)$  = height at time  $t$   
 $g$  = acceleration of gravity

$m$   
9.8 m/s<sup>2</sup>

$$y'' = -g \quad \text{solve it!}$$
$$y' =$$

④ conceptual example

a) Show  $y(x) := \frac{1}{C-x}$  solves  $\frac{dy}{dx} = y^2$ , where  $C$  is any constant.

b) solve the initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dy}{dx} = y^2 \\ y(1) = 2 \end{cases}$$