

Monday  
Sept 10

# § 2.5 Autonomous equations. Population dynamics.

**Definition:** a 1<sup>st</sup> order ODE of the form

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

is **AUTONOMOUS.**

→ The independent variable does not appear explicitly.

A good example is population dynamics } medicine  
ecology  
economics

In general, solution by separation of variables:

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

It is not the subject here (simple integration pb).

Idea: Use geometric intuition to find quickly properties of solutions qualitatively.

↳ Typically, stability, basins of attraction for equilibria.

Example 1: Malthus model, 1798 (economist)

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ry \quad (\text{proportional to population})$$

→  $y(t) = y_0 e^{rt}$  where  $y(0) = y_0$ . (2)

If  $r > 0$ , this model predicts exponential growth.

In practice, limits (lack of resources/space) ultimately reduce the growth rate - think petri dish.

Then exponential growth ends.

## Example 2 - logistic growth

Idea: growth rate actually depends on population

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

where  $h(y) \approx r$  for small  $y$ ,  
decreasing with  $y$ ,  
ultimately  $h < 0$  for  $y$  large.

Simplest replacement: affine function,

$$h(y) = r \left( 1 - y/k \right)$$

Then  $\frac{dy}{dt} = r \left( 1 - y/k \right) y$   
logistic equation

\*  $r$ : intrinsic growth rate,

\*  $k$ : equilibrium population (see later).

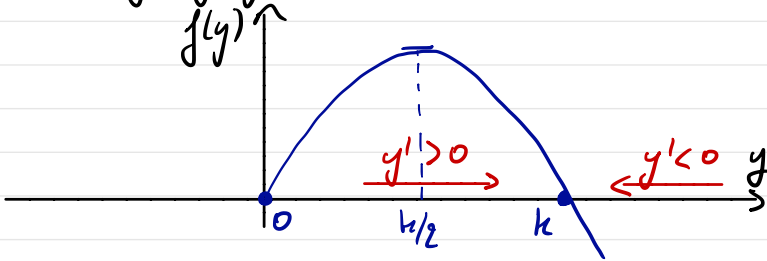
Analysis: Equilibrium solutions,  $f(y) = 0$

$$r \left( 1 - \frac{y}{k} \right) y = 0$$

\*  $y(t) \equiv 0$

\*  $y(t) = k$

Zeros of  $f(y)$  are also called critical points.

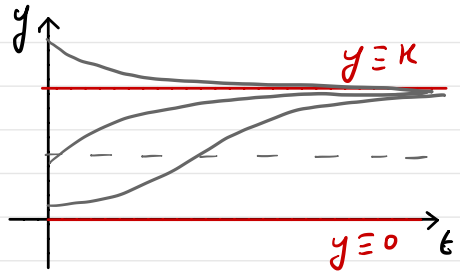


Behavior of  $y(t)$  (increasing/decreasing) depends on the sign of  $f(y)$ .

→ The phase line:



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↪  $y \equiv k$ : stable equilibrium

↪  $y \equiv 0$ : unstable equilibrium

Note: \* solutions do not intersect

- If a solution starts  $0 < y < K$ , it stays in that interval (and  $y \rightarrow K$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .)
- If  $y > K$  at any time, it also stays in that interval and  $y \rightarrow K$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .

\*  $K$  is called the saturation level or environmental carrying capacity.

\* Concavity: (curves up / down)

This depends on  $\frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = \frac{d}{dt} f(y) = y' f'(y) = f(y) f'(y)$

Remember: concave up  $\cup$   $y'' > 0$   
concave down  $\cap$   $y'' < 0$

Inflection points when  $y''$  changes sign:  $f'(y) = 0$ .

Here (graph of  $f$ ):

$$\begin{cases} y'' > 0 & \text{for } 0 < y < K/2 \\ y'' < 0 & \text{for } K/2 < y < K \\ y'' > 0 & \text{for } y > K \end{cases}$$

Note the inflection point at  $y = K/2$ .

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Finally, solution! Separation of variables

$$\int \frac{dy}{y(1-y/k)} = \int r dt$$

↓ partial fraction expansion

$$\frac{1}{y(1-y/k)} = \frac{1-y/k + y/k}{y(1-y/k)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{y} + \frac{1}{k-y}$$

Suppose  $0 < y < k$  then

$$\ln(y) - \ln(k-y) = rt + C$$

$$\frac{y}{k-y} = e^C e^{rt}$$

Implicit solution

Initial condition:  $e^C = \frac{y_0}{k-y_0}$

Solving for  $y(t)$ :

$$y = \frac{y_0}{k-y_0} e^{rt} (k-y)$$

$$\left(1 + \frac{y_0}{k-y_0} e^{rt}\right) y(t) = \frac{ky_0}{k-y_0} e^{rt}$$

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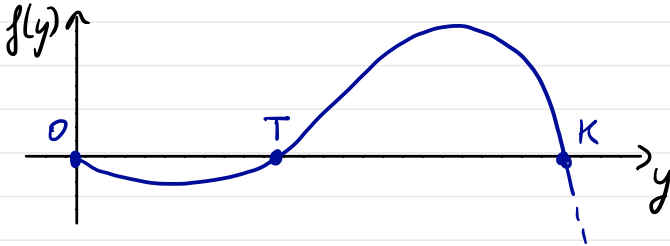
Thus:

$$y(t) = \frac{y_0 k}{y_0 + (k - y_0) e^{-rt}}$$

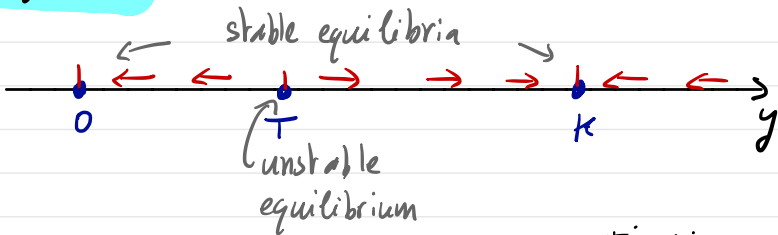
Example 3: Logistic growth with a threshold

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -r \left(1 - \frac{y}{T}\right) \left(1 - \frac{y}{k}\right) y$$

where  $r > 0$  and  $0 < T < k$



Phase line:

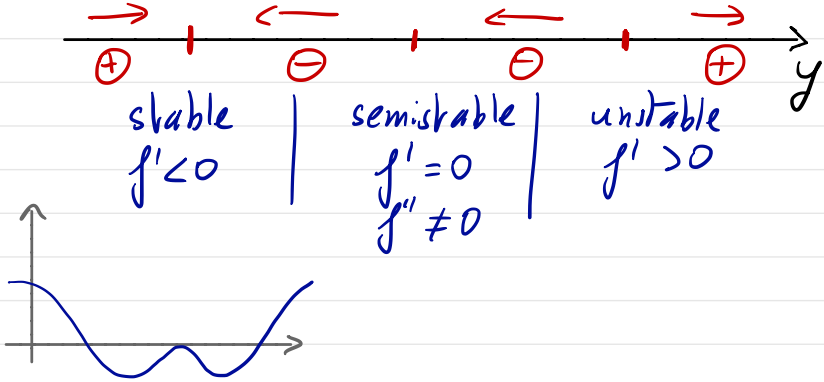


Example: hunted species  $\begin{cases} \rightarrow \text{extinction} \\ \rightarrow \text{threshold for conservation} \\ \rightarrow \text{healthy population} \end{cases}$

(6)

# Summary

Phase line: graphical representation helpful to determine equilibria and stability



## § 2.4 Differences between linear and non-linear diff. eq. (1<sup>st</sup> order)

linear	Non-linear
$y' + p(t)y = g(t)$	$y' = f(t, y)$
(Specific form)	(Everything else)
Ex: $y' + \sin(t)y = \cos(t)$	Ex: $y' = t^2 + y^2$

TL:DR linear usually much easier.  
More results and methods.

Linear case: General solution formula

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} y(t) = \frac{1}{m(t)} \left( \int m(t)g(t)dt + C \right) \\ \text{where } m(t) = \exp\left(\int p(t)\right) \\ \text{[integrating factors!]} \end{array} \right.$$

↳ All possible solutions are explicit as long as  $p(t)$  and  $g(t)$  is continuous in some interval.

Non linear case: At best, implicit solution  
of the form  $F(t, y) = C$

"First integral" of the differential equation.

(Separable equations; Exact equations)

But, no general method, no explicit solution.

Only reassurance:

Picard-Lindelöf existence and uniqueness theorem.

↳ "there exists a solution". (Friday)

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Main difficulty: Interval of definition

\* Linear eq: OR, as long as  $p(t)$  and  $q(t)$  are continuous.

\* Nonlinear case: only guaranteed "some" interval.

Example:

$$y' = y^2; \quad y(0) = y_0$$

$$\text{Solution: } \frac{y'}{y^2} = 1 \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{-1}{y} - t \right) = 0$$

$$\text{so } \frac{-1}{y(t)} = t + C \quad \text{and} \quad y(t) = \frac{-1}{t+C}$$

$$\text{Then } C = -\frac{1}{y_0} \quad \text{and} \quad y(t) = \frac{y_0}{1 - y_0 t}$$

The solution blows up at  $t = 1/y_0$

↳ Interval of existence:

$$\text{If } y_0 > 0: \quad -\infty < t < 1/y_0$$

$$\text{If } y_0 < 0: \quad 1/y_0 < t < +\infty$$

Note: If  $y_0 = 0$ : then  $-\infty < t < \infty$   
 $y(t) = 0!$

Example 2:

$$y' = \sqrt{y}$$

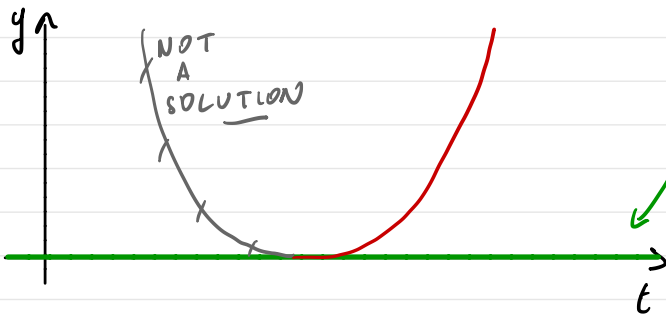
Solution: separation of variables.

$$\int \frac{dy}{\sqrt{y}} = \int dt \quad \text{OR} \quad y = 0$$

$$2\sqrt{y} = t + C \quad \text{OR} \quad y = 0$$

for  $t + C \geq 0$

$y(t) = \left(\frac{t+C}{2}\right)^2$	OR	$y(t) = 0$
for $t \geq -C$		for all $t$



In fact, we can build new solutions by pasting two pieces together:

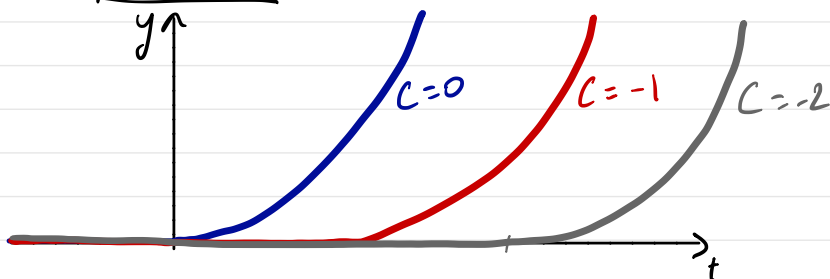
$$y(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } t \leq -C \\ \left(\frac{t+C}{2}\right)^2 & \text{for } t > -C \end{cases}$$

Indeed,  $y'$  is continuous:  $y'(-c) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{(left)} \\ 0 & \text{(right)} \end{cases}$  <sup>(10)</sup>  
so such  $y(t)$  satisfies the definition of a solution.

In particular, this means that the IVP

$$\begin{cases} y' = \sqrt{y} \\ y(0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

has many solutions:



Non-linear IVPs do not necessarily have unique solutions.

↳ This is annoying. Can we identify cases where it does not happen?

What is special about 0 here? Note

$f(t, y) = \sqrt{y}$  continuous for  $y \geq 0$

but  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  is not continuous for  $y = 0$ .

## §2.8 Existence and Uniqueness Theorem

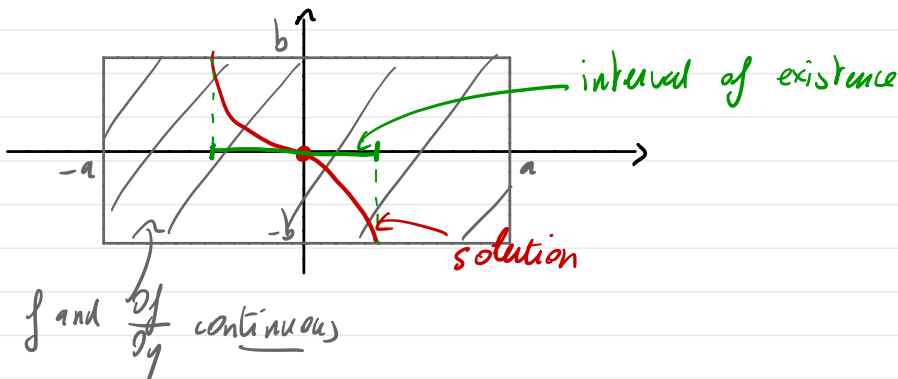
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This is a fundamental result for 1<sup>st</sup> order IVPs.

### Picard-Lindelöf Theorem (or Cauchy-Lipschitz)

Consider a function  $f(t, y)$  such that  $f$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  are both continuous in a rectangle:  
 $|t| < \bar{a}$ ,  $|y| < b$ ,

then there exists a time interval  $|t| \leq h \leq \bar{a}$   
in which there exists a unique solution to the IVP  
 $y' = f(t, y)$  and  $y(0) = 0$ .



An idea about the proof.

Or, How do we show that a solution exists without knowing anything about it?

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Main idea: look at the eq in a  $\neq$  way:

$$\begin{cases} y' = f(t, y) \\ y(0) = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow y(t) = \int_0^t f(t, y(t)) dt$$

↑ unknown!

Instead of a D.E we have now an integral eq!

The function  $y(t)$  is then identified as a fixed point of the integral operation.

## Picard Iteration Method

Start from  $\varphi_0(t) = 0$

Then  $\varphi_1(t) = \int_0^t f(s, \varphi_0(s)) ds$

Then  $\varphi_2(t) = \int_0^t f(s, \varphi_1(s)) ds$

$\vdots$   
 $\varphi_{n+1}(t) = \int_0^t f(s, \varphi_n(s)) ds$

This generates a sequence of function. Taking the limit we hope to write

$$\varphi_\infty(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \varphi_n(t) \rightarrow \varphi_\infty(t) = \int_0^t f(s, \varphi(s)) ds$$

For this to work, we need to make sure that things do not break down along the way:

- \* Do the values of  $\varphi_n$  get out of the rectangle at some point?
- \* Convergence? Properties of the limit
  - ↳ continuity, derivatives...
- \* Uniqueness?

Example in action:

$$y' = y + 1$$

$$\hookrightarrow y(t) = \int_0^t y(s) ds + t$$

Picard iteration:

$$\varphi_0(t) = 0$$

$$\varphi_1(t) = \int_0^t 0 ds + t = t$$

$$\varphi_2(t) = \int_0^t s ds + t = t + \frac{t^2}{2}$$

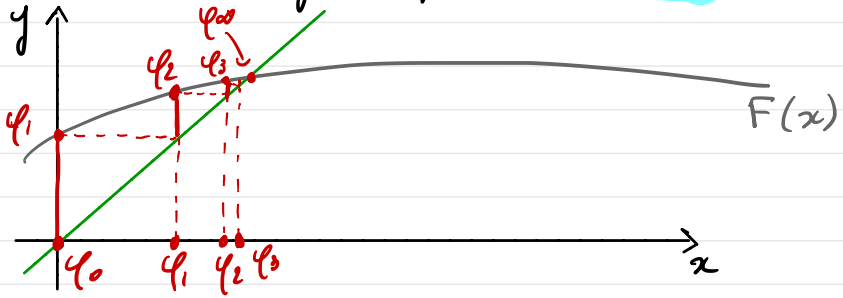
$$\varphi_3(t) = \int_0^t s + \frac{s^2}{2} ds + t = t + \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^3}{6}$$

Extrapolating, we recognize the Taylor expansion of

$$\varphi_\infty(t) = e^t - 1 = t + \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^3}{6} + \frac{t^4}{24} + \dots$$

↳ at each step, add very small correction.

main idea: fixed point iterations



Idea: if  $F$  is a contraction:

$$\text{dist}(F(x), F(y)) \leq k \text{dist}(x, y)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } \text{dist}(\varphi_{n+2}, \varphi_{n+1}) &\leq k \text{dist}(\varphi_{n+1}, \varphi_n) \\ &\leq k^2 \text{dist}(\varphi_n, \varphi_{n-1}) \\ &\leq k^{n+1} \text{dist}(\varphi_1, \varphi_0) \end{aligned}$$

If  $k < 1 \rightarrow$  convergence!