

§ 1.1 Dynamical Systems: Modeling

Differential Equations, the major interface of Mathematics with the real world

continuous-time \rightarrow differential equation
discrete-time (sampled-data) \rightarrow iterative equation

Dynamical systems: systems that change over time

Def: A differential equation (DE) is a relation between a function and its derivatives, and independent variables

- An ordinary differential equation (ODE) contains only ordinary derivatives
- A partial differential equation (PDE) contains partial derivatives

The ORDER of a DE refers to the highest-order derivative that appears in the equation

Ex: ① $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)$

② $x(t): \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + b \frac{dx}{dt} + kx = f(t)$ (forced damped spring)

③ $y(t): y' = y(1 - y^2)$ nonlinear spring

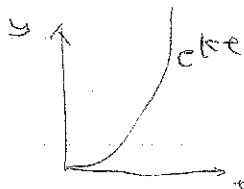
④ temperature of a metallic rod $u(x, t)$

Fourier's law: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = k \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ = partial derivative w.r.t. x

⑤ Malthus Model for Population Growth

$y(t)$: population $\frac{dy}{dt} = ky$ $y = e^{kt}$



where k is called the growth or rate constant, $k > 0$

⑥ Hooke's Law: F_{res} : restoring force

$$F_{res} = -kx, \quad k > 0 \text{ elastic constant}$$

x deformation of the spring

Neglecting friction, Newton's law of motion gives us

$$F_{res} = m \frac{dv}{dt} = m \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -kx$$

Hooke's law as a System

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = v \\ \frac{dv}{dt} = -\frac{k}{m}x \end{cases} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ v \end{pmatrix}$$

In general, the ODE we will study is

$$y' = f(t, y)$$