

Math 3280, Differential Equations with Linear Algebra

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Brief Course Summary

Differential Equations:

1. Analytic Solutions

Order	Dim	Type	Solution Technique
1	1	Simplest nontrivial: $y' = ay$ Separable (nonlinear) $y' = f(x)g(y)$ linear: $y' + p(x)y = q(x)$ Nonlinear, not sep.: $y' = f(x, y)$	Every technique in the course!! Separation of Variables integrating factor No general technique; maybe substitutions
2	1	Linear, const coeff, homogeneous $y'' + ay' + cy = 0$ or $L[y] = 0$ Linear, const coeff, nonhomogeneous: $y'' + ay' + by = g$, that is, $L[y] = g$	Try e^{rx} ; 3 cases for 2nd order Laplace transforms Convert to 1st order system $y = c_1y_1 + c_2y_2 + y_p$ y_p : -Lucky guess/undet. coeffs/Annihilators -Variation of parameters: $y_p = v_1y_1 + v_2y_2$ Laplace transforms - esp. for g discts.
k	1	Linear, const coeff, homog Linear, const coeff, nonhomog	Extend techniques for $k = 2$ Extend techniques for $k = 2$
1	n	Linear const coeff homog systems $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$	Eigenvalues/eigenvectors: use $e^{\lambda t}\vec{v}$; 2 cases for 2D (dbl roots not covered)
2	1	Linear nonconst coeff: $y'' + a(x)y' + b(x)y = 0$	No general technique (but $y_1 \rightarrow y_2 = vy_1$) and y_p from var of pars
k	1	Nonlinear: $y^{(k)} = f(y^{(k-1)}, \dots, y', y, x)$	No general technique
1	n	Nonlinear systems: $\vec{x}' = \vec{f}(\vec{x}, t)$	No general technique
k	n		Convert to first order system

2. Qualitative Solutions

- (a) 1D Autonomous only ($y' = f(y)$): Equilibria, phase line, vector field; sketch solutions consistent with phase line
- (b) 1D ANY ($y' = f(y, x)$): Slope field
- (c) 2D Autonomous only ($\vec{x}' = \vec{f}(\vec{x})$): equilibria, phase plane, vector field; sketch $x_1(t)$ and/or $x_2(t)$ from curve in phase plane

3. Numerical Solutions

- (a) ANY!!!!: Euler's method (not covered: Runge-Kutta, ...)
- (b) ANY!! In Mathematica: NDSolve, Streamplot

4. Models/applications - construct given verbal information (for example, "X is proportional to Y")

- (a) Exponential growth (population), decay (radioactive decay)
- (b) Heating/Cooling
- (c) Falling object: $mv' = F_{gravity} + F_{friction}$
- (d) Mixing x' =rate in - rate out.
- (e) Logistic population growth: $y' = ay - ay^2$
- (f) Spring/mass system - horizontal or vertical: comes from $F = ma = my''$.
- (g) Population models (predator-prey systems)

(other side for Linear Algebra)

Linear Algebra

1. Solve $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ (Row reduction, echelon forms, $(0, 1, \infty$: free params.))
2. For $n \times n$: $\text{Det}(A)$, A^{-1} (if $\text{Det}(A) \neq 0$), eigenvalues, eigenvectors ($A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$)
3. Vector Space/subspace, basis, linearly independent, span, dimension
4. Linear transformation - “kernel” or “null space”
Examples: D , integration, L (for lhs of linear differential equation), Laplace transform, multiply by matrix A , Annihilators
5. Theorems:
 - (a) The following are vector subspaces:
 - i. Solutions to $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ (Dimension is number of free variables after row reduction.)
 - ii. Solutions to $L[y] = 0$ (dimension depends on order of L .)
 - iii. The set of eigenvectors for a specific eigenvalue of a matrix A (dimension is often one, never bigger than the eigenvalue multiplicity, never zero)
 - (b) Differences of solutions to $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ are solutions to $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$.
 - (c) Differences of solutions to $L[y] = g$ are solutions to $L[y] = 0$.