

lecture 1: The Differential Equations

Solve, ~~find~~ the following quadratic equations

$$\bullet x - 1 = 0$$

This has
no soln

$$\bullet x^2 - 3x + 2 \neq 0$$

$$(x-1)(x-2)$$

$$x^2 - 3x + 2$$

$x=1$ and $x=2$
are solutions

$$\bullet x^2 - 2x + 2 = (x-1)^2 + 1$$

$$\bullet x^2 + 1 = 0$$

all x are solns
has no soln.

Lesson 3A: The Differential Equations

let $f(x) = \log x = y(x)$ and

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{x} = y' = \frac{dy}{dx} = D_x f(x)$$

$$f''(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2}, \quad f'''(x) = \frac{2}{x^3} \quad \text{etc.}$$

$$y' = \frac{1}{x}, \quad y'' = -\frac{1}{x^2}$$

$$(y') = \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^2$$

therefore

$$y'' = -(y')^2$$

this is a differential
equation
is also
differential
eqn (1)

later in the semester as functions will have two or more variables $f(x, y) = \cos(x^2 + y^2)$.

then we will talk about partial differential equations:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = f_x = -2x \sin(x^2 + y^2)$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = f_y = -2y \sin(x^2 + y^2).$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y} = -2x \cdot 2y \cos(x^2 + y^2).$$

etc.

Defn 1: Let $f = f(x)$ be defined on an interval $I = a < x < b$. By an ordinary differential equation we mean an equation involving x , the function $f(x)$ and its derivatives.

Examples:

1. $y' + p(x)y = q(x)$

where p, q are cont. functions.

2. $xy' - 4y + 2x^2 + 4 = 0$

3. $y'' \cdot y' + y^2 + 2x = 0$

4. $(y^{(4)})^{10} + y = 0$

The order of the DE is the highest order of the derivative involved in the equation.

- 1 \rightarrow First order DE
- 2 \rightarrow First order DE
- 3 \rightarrow Second order DE
- 4 \rightarrow Fourth order DE.

Solution of ~~the~~ DEs.

Remember that when we have an algebraic equations $x^2 - 2x + 1 = 0$, we can show that $x=1$ is a solution, that means when you substitute $x=3$ into this equation, then $3^2 - 2 \cdot 3 + 1 = 0$: the equality holds.

In a similar fashion we will say that $f(x)$ is a solution of a differential equation, it should satisfy it.

Example: $f(x) = x^2$ is a solution to the DE $x^2 y'' - 2xy' + 2y = 0$

Since $f'(x) = 2x$ $f''(x) = 2$
 Use these to substitute into the differential eqn
 ~~$x^2 \cdot 2 - 2x \cdot 2x + 2 \cdot x^2 = 2x^2 - 4x^2 + 2x^2 = 0.$~~

Hence $f(x) = x^2$ is a solution to
 the above DE.

Defn: "solve a DE" or "find a solution" to
 a DE means find a function $f(x)$ or
 $y(x)$ which solves the DE.

Example: Verify that the function defined by
 $y = x^2$ $-\infty < x < \infty$ is

is a solution to

(*) $(y'')^3 + (y')^2 - y - 3x^2 - 8 = 0$

Sol: since $y = x^2$ hence $y' = 2x$ $y'' = 2$

Now substitute this into above DE;

$$(2)^3 + (2x)^2 - x^2 - 3x^2 - 8 = 8 + 4x^2 - x^2 - 3x^2 - 8 = 0.$$

Hence $y = x^2$ is a solution to

Now since the function $y = x^2$ and (*) is
 well-defined for $x \in (-\infty, \infty)$ $y = x^2$ is solution
 for $-\infty < x < \infty$

Example: Show that

Defn: Let $f(x)$ be defined on $a < x < b$. We say that $f(x)$ is an explicit solution or simply a solution of DE

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

if $F(x, f(x), f'(x), \dots, f^{(n)}(x)) = 0$, for any $x \in I$.

Example: Show that

$$y = \frac{1}{x^2 - x - 6} \quad \text{is an explicit soln}$$

to $y' = (1 - 2x)y^2$. Find the largest interval that the solution is defined containing 0.

Soln: Since $y = \frac{1}{x^2 - x - 6}$ is a

$$F(x, y, y') = y' - (1 - 2x)y^2 = 0$$

$$\text{and } y' = -\frac{1}{x^2 - x - 6} \cdot 2x - 1 = (1 - 2x)y^2$$

Equivalently $y' - y(1 - 2x) = 0$

Hence $F(x, y, y') = 0$. Where y is solution of DE.