

HELLO!

## DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

LAST TIME :

WE LOOKED AT SOME EASY  
EXAMPLES OF DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS,  
STATED SOME SOLUTIONS, AND  
SHOWED THAT THEY WERE SOLUTIONS.

NOW IT IS TIME TO GET  
SERIOUS,  $\Rightarrow$  HOW DO WE SOLVE  
DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS?

① LEARN TO SOLVE **SEPARABLE  
DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS**

DEFINITION (FIRST ORDER)  
AN FIRST ORDER DIFFERENTIAL  
EQUATION IS AN EQUATION OF  
THE FORM

$$\dot{x} = F(t, x)$$

(REMEMBER :  $x = x(t)$   $x$  IS A  
FUNCTION OF  $t$ )

DEFINITION

## SEPARABLE

## DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION

A FIRST ORDER EQUATION IS SAID TO BE SEPARABLE IF WE CAN WRITE THE EQUATION

$$\dot{x} = \underline{f(t)} g(x)$$

(THAT IS SEPARATE THE  $t$ 'S AND THE  $x$ 'S)

EXAMPLE

WHICH OF THESE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS ARE SEPARABLE:

1.  $\dot{x} = xt$

SEPARABLE  $f(t) = t$ ,  $g(x) = x$

2.  $\dot{x} = x + t$

NOT SEP.

3.  $\dot{x} = xt + t^2$

NOT SEP.

4.  $\dot{x} = xt^2 + x^2t^2 = t^2(x + x^2)$  SEP.  $f(t) = t^2$   
 $g(x) = x + x^2$

# HOW DO WE SOLVE A SEPARABLE DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION?

ANSWER:  $\int$  LEIBNITZ - NOTATION VERY HANDY... SO USE THIS.

$$dt. \quad \left| \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = f(t) \cdot g(x) \right.$$

$$dx = f(t) g(x) dt$$

$$\int \frac{1}{g(x)} dx = \int f(t) dt$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} \frac{dx}{dt} = \dot{x} \\ = x'(t) \end{array} \right]$$

AND THIS GIVES US THE SOLUTION.

LET US SEE HOW THIS WORKS OUT IN AN EXAMPLE:

OBSERVATION: THIS SOLUTION STRATEGY BRINGS DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS OVER TO THE BALL PARK OF **INTEGRATION!**

WE NEED TO REFRESH OUR MEMORY ON INTEGRATION TECHNIQUES.

## INTEGRATION TOOL BOX

1.  $\int x^n dx = \frac{1}{n+1} x^{n+1} + C \quad n \neq -1$

(RECALL:  $\int x^{\frac{1}{2}} dx = \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{2}} x^{\frac{1}{2}+1} + C$   
 $= \frac{2}{3} x^{\frac{3}{2}} + C$ )

2.  $\int \frac{1}{x} dx = \ln|x| + C$

↓ ABSOLUTE VALUE IMPORTANT

3.  $\int e^{ax} dx = \frac{1}{a} e^{ax} + C$

4. INTEGRATION BY PARTS:

$$\int \underbrace{u}_{\text{INTEGRATE}} \cdot \underbrace{v'}_{\text{DIFFERENTIATE}} dx = \underbrace{u \cdot v}_{\text{INTEGRATE}} - \int \underbrace{u'}_{\text{DIFFERENTIATE}} \cdot \underbrace{v}_{\text{INTEGRATE}} dx$$

$$\int \underbrace{x}_{\text{INTEGRATE}} \cdot \underbrace{e^x}_{\text{DIFFERENTIATE}} dx = \underbrace{x \cdot e^x}_{\text{INTEGRATE}} - \int \underbrace{1}_{\text{DIFFERENTIATE}} \cdot \underbrace{e^x}_{\text{INTEGRATE}} dx$$
$$= x \cdot e^x - e^x + C$$

## 5. PARTIAL FRACTION EXPANSION

$$\int \frac{1}{x^2+5x+6} dx = \int \frac{1}{x+2} - \frac{1}{x+3} dx$$
$$= \ln|x+2| - \ln|x+3| + C$$

SET  $\frac{1}{x^2+5x+6} = \frac{A}{x+2} + \frac{B}{x+3}$   
AND SOLVE FOR A AND B.

## 6. AN INTEGRAL LIKE

$$\int \frac{x^3+2x+5}{x^2+5x+6} dx \text{ IS SOLVED}$$

BY POLYNOMIAL DIVISION

SO IT BECOMES:

$$\int \left( \text{POLYNOMIAL} + \frac{ax+b}{x^2+5x+6} \right) dx$$

THIS IS SOLVED  
BY USING 5.

## EXAMPLE

$$\dot{x} = \frac{2t}{3x^2}$$

SEPARABLE? YES!  $2t \cdot \frac{1}{3x^2}$   
" " "  
L  $f(t)$   $g(x)$

SOLUTION:

$$3x^2 dt \cdot \left| \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{2t}{3x^2} \right.$$

$$\int 3x^2 dx = \int 2t dt$$

$$x^3 = t^2 + C$$

$$\underline{x(t) = \sqrt[3]{t^2 + C}}$$

RECALL  
 $(x^3)'_x = 3x^2$   
 $(t^2)'_t = 2t$

(IF WE DO NOT BELIEVE IN THE SOLUTION STRAIGHTAWAY; WE COULD TEST THE SOLUTION)

EXAMPLE (A LITTLE MORE CHALLENGING)

SOLVE  $\frac{dx}{dt} = x(1-x)$

SEPARABLE!

$$\int \frac{1}{x(1-x)} dx = \int 1 \cdot dt$$

$$\int \left( \frac{1}{x} + \frac{1}{1-x} \right) dx = t + C$$

$$\ln|x| - \ln|1-x| = t + C$$

$$e^{\ln \left| \frac{x}{1-x} \right|} = e^{t+C}$$

$$\left| \frac{x}{1-x} \right| = e^{t+C}$$

$$\frac{x}{1-x} = \pm e^C \cdot e^t$$

~~$\frac{x}{1-x}$~~

$$\frac{x}{1-x} = K \cdot e^t$$

$$\frac{1}{x(1-x)} = \frac{A}{x} + \frac{B}{1-x}$$
$$= \frac{A(1-x) + Bx}{x(1-x)}$$

SO:  
 ~~$1 = A(1-x) + Bx$~~   
RECALL = FOR ALL X!

X=0 GIVES A=1

X=1 GIVES B=1

WE CAN DEFINE A NEW CONSTANT K

(THIS K NOW BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE)

## EXAMPLE CONTINUED

$$\frac{x}{1-x} = ke^t$$

(WE WANT TO FIND  $x$ !)

$$x = ke^t(1-x)$$

$$x = ke^t - ke^t x$$

$$x + ke^t x = ke^t$$

$$(1 + ke^t)x = ke^t$$

$$x = \frac{ke^t}{1 + ke^t}$$

DIVIDE  
BY  $ke^t$

~~$$x = \frac{ke^t}{1 + ke^t}$$~~

$$x = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{ke^t} + 1}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{k} \cdot e^{-t} + 1}$$

SMART  
COSMETICS

$$x = \frac{1}{ke^{-t} + 1}$$

$$R = \frac{1}{k}$$



THAT EXAMPLE HAD SOME  
TECHNICAL DETAIL, LET US  
DO AN EASY ONE THAT  
FACILITATE SOME DEEPER  
INSIGHTS:

EXAMPLE

$$\dot{x} = 2t$$

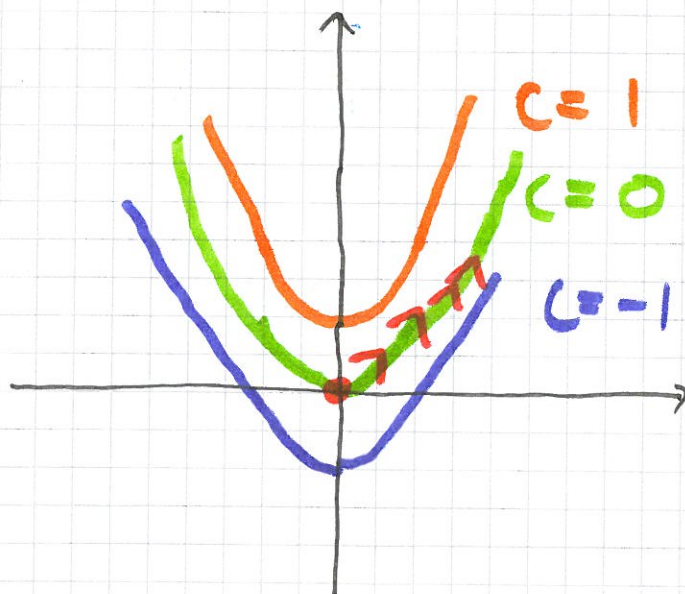
(SEPARABLE)

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 2t$$

$$\int dx = \int 2t dt$$

$$x = t^2 + C$$

THIS IS THE **GENERAL** SOLUTION  
OF  $\dot{x} = 2t$ .



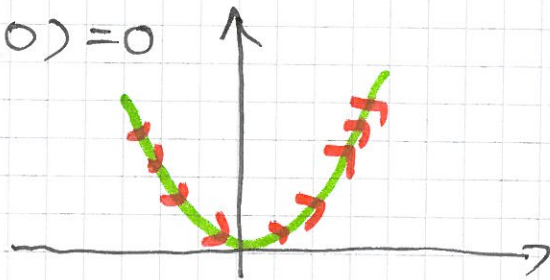
ASSUME THAT  
 $\dot{x} = 2t$  IS  
THE EQUATION  
OF A BUMBLE  
BEE'S IS THE  
FLIGHT OF  
A BUMBLE BEE



1. EVERY  $C$  GIVES A UNIQUE CURVE.

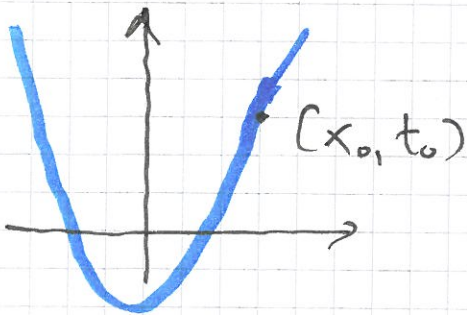
2. IF WE KNOW THAT THE BUMBLE BEE WAS AT  $x(0)$ , THAT IS AT  $x(0)$  AT  $t=0$ , WE KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THE BUMBLE BEE.

(ASSUME  $x(0)=0$ )



THIS IS THE FLIGHT OF THE BUMBLE BEE.

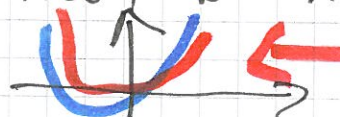
3. ~~EVERY~~ GIVEN A POINT  $(x_0, t_0)$ ,



THERE EXISTS JUST ONE

$C$  SUCH THAT  $(x_0, t_0)$  LIES ON  $x(t) = t^2 + C$ .

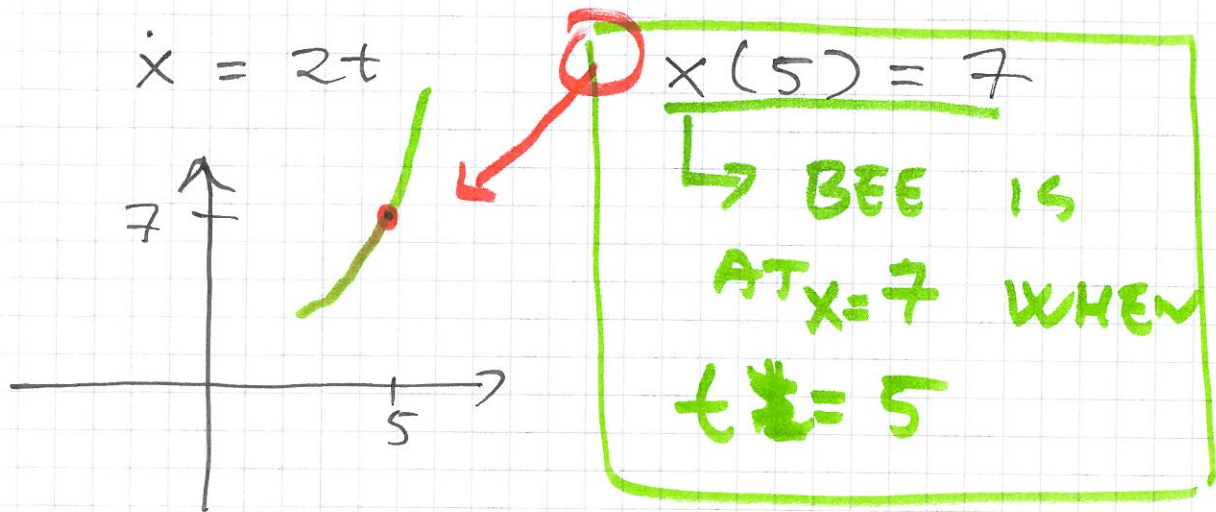
(REMARK: THE CURVES, THE SOLUTION CURVES, FILL THE ENTIRE  $(x, t)$ -SPACE AND THEY DO NOT INTERSECT.



← JUSTIN B IS WRONG

OK!

THESE INSIGHTS ALLOW US TO SOLVE PROBLEMS LIKE THIS:



JUST ONE CURVE, AND WE FIND IT THE FOLLOWING WAY:

①

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 2t$$

$$\int dx = \int 2t dt$$

$$x = t^2 + C$$

[GENERAL SOLUTION]

②

DETERMINE  $C$ : USING  $x(5) = 7$

$$x(5) = 5^2 + C = 7$$

THIS IS THE EQUATION WE NEED TO SOLVE!

$$25 + C = 7$$

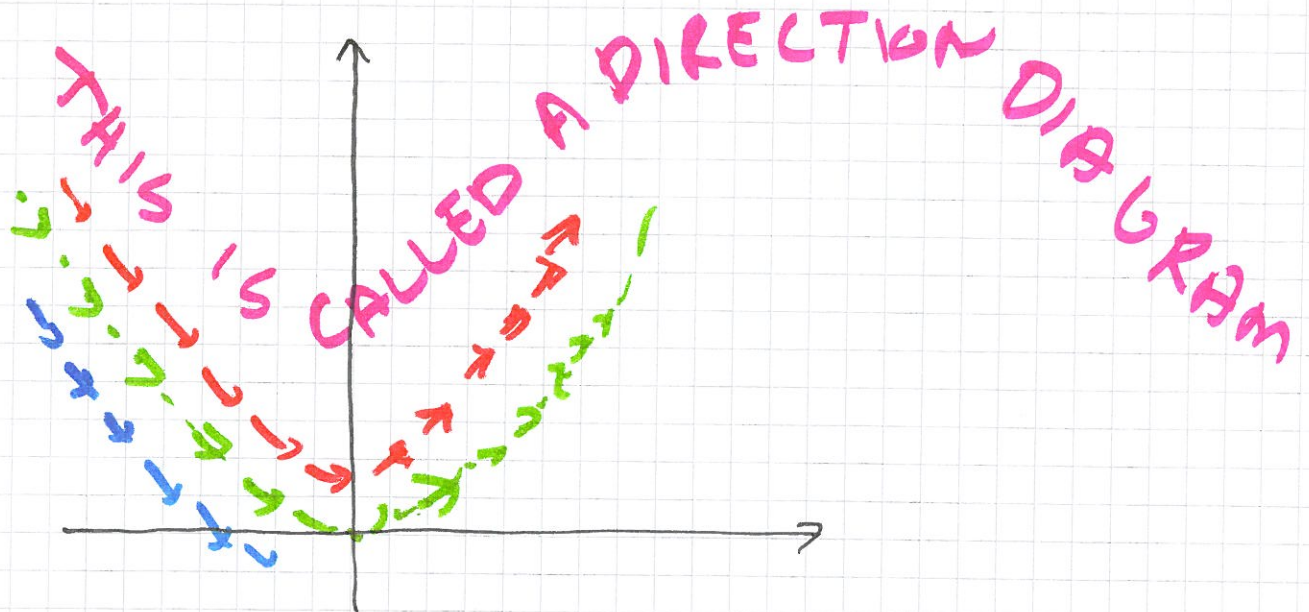
$$C = 7 - 25 = -18$$

$$x(t) = t^2 - 18$$

[SPECIAL SOLUTION!] WITH  $x(5) = 7$

JUST ONE MORE THING:

WE CAN THINK ABOUT THESE SOLUTIONS AS CURRENTS...



THIS REMINDS US OF OCEAN  
CURRENTS... LIKE WATER  
FLOWING,

THE POINT IS:

A DIRECTION DIAGRAM TELLS US WHERE  
"THE SYSTEM, THE SOLUTIONS" ARE FLOWING,  
AND AT TIMES WE CAN CONSTRUCT THIS  
DIAGRAM WITHOUT SOLVING THE DIFFERENTIAL  
EQUATION.

WHY ARE WE INTERESTED IN  
DIFF. EQUATIONS IN ECONOMICS?

ANSWER:

ECONOMICS IS OBSESSED WITH  
THE NOTION OF EQUILIBRIUM/  
~~STAD~~ STEADY STATE, SO  
WHAT WE ARE USUALLY INTERESTED  
IN IS (NOT THE SOLUTION)

BUT

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t)$$

THAT IS THE ASYMPTOTIC  
BEHAVIOR OF THE SOLUTION.

(BACK TO THIS IN A DIFFY...)

# LINEAR FIRST ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

## DEFINITION

A **LINEAR FIRST ORDER DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION** IS

AN DIFFERENTIAL EQUATION THAT CAN BE WRITTEN IN THE FOLLOWING WAY:

$$\dot{x} + a(t)x = b(t)$$

## DEFINITION EXPLORATION:

- |                                       |             |  |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|--|
| 1. $\dot{x} + 2tx = 4t$               | <b>YES</b>  | $a(t) = 2t, b(t) = 4t$                                   |
| 2. $\dot{x} - x = e^{2t}$             | <b>YES</b>  | $a(t) = -1, b(t) = e^{2t}$                               |
| 3. $(t^2+1)\dot{x} + e^t x = t \ln t$ | <b>YES*</b> | $a(t) = \frac{e^t}{t^2+1}, b(t) = \frac{t \ln t}{t^2+1}$ |
| 4. $\dot{x} - x^2 = 0$                | <b>NO</b>   | <b>(NOT LINEAR IN X)</b>                                 |
| 5. $x - e^x = 2t$                     | <b>NO</b>   | <b>(NOT LINEAR IN X)</b>                                 |

**WANT TO GET RID OF THIS TERM...**

**\* OBSERVATION:**  $(t^2+1)\dot{x} + e^t x = t \ln t$

GIVES

$$\dot{x} + \frac{e^t}{t^2+1} x = \frac{t \ln t}{t^2+1}$$

HOW DO WE SOLVE THESE  
DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS?

SOLUTION IDEA ....

LET US LOOK AT AN EASY  
EQUATION OF THIS TYPE:

$$\dot{X} + 2X = 3$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} a(t) = 2 \\ b(t) = 3 \end{array} \right]$$

IN THE  
DEFINITION

WINNIE THEPOOH:

THIS REMINDS ME  
OF SOMETHING...

LOOK AT:  $X e^{2t}$

WHAT IF

WE DIFFERENTIATE  
THIS?

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ X e^{2t} \right]'_t &= \dot{X} e^{2t} + X \cdot 2e^{2t} \\ &= (\dot{X} + 2X) e^{2t} \end{aligned}$$

WOW! THE LEFT  
HAND SIDE RESEMBLES THE  
DERIVATIVE OF A PRODUCT!

WE CAN USE THIS  
TO SOLVE THE DIFF. EQUATION

# REALLY?

YES, WE DO IT THIS WAY

$$e^{2t} \cdot | \quad \dot{x} + 2x = 3$$

$$\dot{x} e^{2t} + x 2e^{2t} = 3e^{2t}$$

$$\int \frac{d}{dt} (x \cdot e^{2t}) dt = \int 3e^{2t} dt$$

$$x \cdot e^{2t} = 3 \cdot \frac{1}{2} e^{2t} + C$$

**VOILA!**

X IS FREED!

$$x = \frac{3}{2} + C e^{-2t}$$

CHECK:

$$\begin{aligned} & (x \cdot e^{2t})' \\ &= \dot{x} \cdot e^{2t} \\ &+ x \cdot 2e^{2t} \\ & \text{YES!} \end{aligned}$$

(TO CONTINUED IN THE NEXT EPISODE!)