

# Math 100, Lecture 15, 5/3/2024

Last time: Ordinary Differential Equations

DE: (1) equation; (2) unknown function; (3) involves derivatives of the unknown.

Solution: function that satisfies the equation

family of solutions: solution that depends on a parameter

particular solution: one member of family.

- can find a particular solution satisfying a condition

( find  $y(t) = A + 3 \cdot t^2$  s.t.  $y(3) = 5$  )

- Ansatz: (family) of guesses for solutions

Today: qualitative questions.

concentrate on autonomous equation: no explicit dependence on independent variable.

Math 100:V02 – WORKSHEET 13  
QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

1. FIXED POINTS

(1) (Review)

(a) For which value of  $\omega$  is  $y = A \sin(\omega t) + B \cos(\omega t)$   
a solution of  $\ddot{y} = -9y$ ?

If  $y = A \sin(\omega t) + B \cos(\omega t)$

then  $\dot{y} = A \cos(\omega t) \cdot \omega - B \sin(\omega t) \cdot \omega$

and  $\ddot{y} = -A \sin(\omega t) \cdot \omega^2 - B \cos(\omega t) \omega^2 = -\omega^2 (A \sin(\omega t) + B \cos(\omega t))$   
 $= -\omega^2 y$

so  $y$  is a solution if  $\omega^2 = 9$  so  $\omega = 3$ ,  $y = A \sin(3t) + B \cos(3t)$

(what about  $\omega = -3$ ?  $A \sin(-3t) + B \cos(-3t) = (-A) \sin(3t) + B \cos(3t)$ )

(b) Can you find the general solution of  $\ddot{y} = 9y$ ?

(2) (Steady states = fixed points = equilibria)

(a) Consider the Malthusian growth equation  $\dot{y} = ry$ ,  $r > 0$ . Can you find a value  $a$  so that  $y(t) \equiv a$  is a solution?

Need  $0 = ra$  ( $\frac{d(a)}{dt} = 0$ ) so  $a = 0$

[Aside: we know general solution  $Ce^{rt}$   
steady state has  $C = 0$ ]

(b) What about the logistic growth model  $\dot{y} = ry(1 - y)$  with  $r > 0$ ?

need  $0 = r \cdot a(1-a)$  so either  $a=1$  or  $a=0$

$$y^3 - 5y^2 + 6y$$

(c) What about  $\dot{y} = y^3 - 5y^2 + 6y$ ?

$y = a$  is a fixed point if  $a^3 - 5a^2 + 6a = 0$

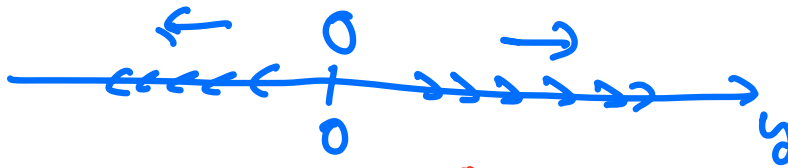
$$a(a^2 - 5a + 6) = a(a-2)(a-3)$$

so fixed points at  $0, 2, 3$

(3) (Phase line)

(a) In the model  $\dot{y} = ry$  with  $r > 0$ , what is the sign of  $\dot{y}$  when  $y < 0$ ? when  $y > 0$ ? What would the solution look like if we started with  $y_0$  in each range? Draw the phase line.

if  $y < 0$ ,  $ry < 0$  so  $\dot{y} < 0$ , if  $y > 0$ ,  $ry > 0$ ,  $\dot{y} > 0$



note: here steady  
state is unstable

phase line.  
Has (1) fixed pts  
(2) behaviour between them

(b) What about the *logistic growth* model  $\dot{y} = ry(1 - y)$ ?

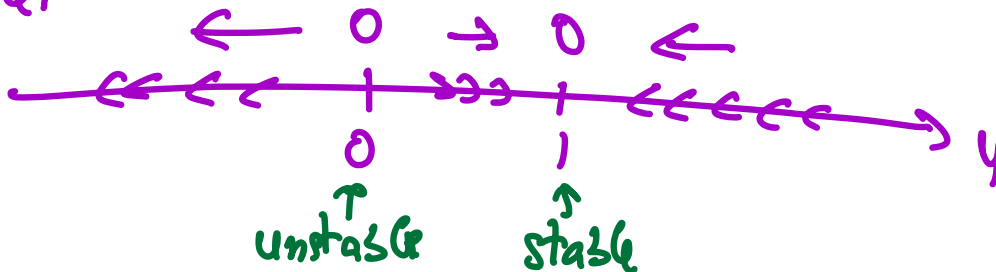
Fixed points at 0, 1.

if  $y < 0$ ,  $1 - y > 1 > 0$ , so  $\dot{y} = ry(1 - y) < 0$

if  $0 < y < 1$ ,  $1 - y > 0$ , so  $\dot{y} = ry(1 - y) > 0$

if  $y > 1 > 0$ ,  $1 - y < 0$ , so  $\dot{y} = ry(1 - y) < 0$

phase line:



(c) What about  $\dot{y} = y^3 - 5y^2 + 6y$

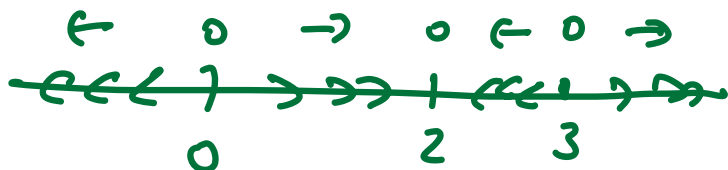
Have  $\dot{y} = y(y - 2)(y - 3)$  fixed pts  $y = 0, 2, 3$

if  $y < 0$   $\dot{y} = (-)(-)(-) < 0$

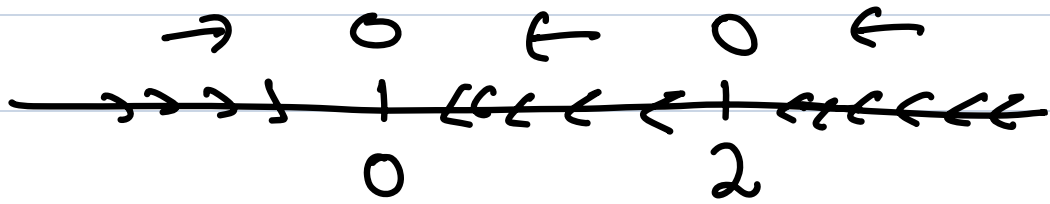
if  $0 < y < 2$   $\dot{y} = (+)(-)(-) > 0$

if  $2 < y < 3$   $\dot{y} = (+)(+)(-) < 0$

if  $3 < y$   $\dot{y} = (+)(+)(+) > 0$



Compare with  $\dot{y} = -y(y-2)^2$



Plot  $y(t)$

