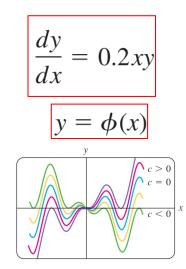




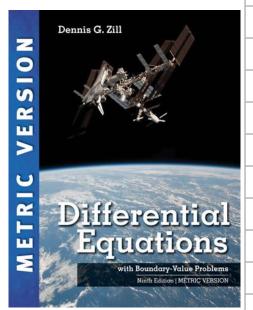
## Unit 01.1 Definitions and Terminology



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Figures and images used in these lecture notes are adopted from **Differential Equations with Boundary-Value Problems**, 9th Ed., D.G. Zill, 2018 (Metric Version)

The derivative dy/dx of a function  $y = \phi(x)$ is itself another function  $\phi'(x)$ found by an appropriate rule. The exponential function  $y = e^{0.1x^2}$ is differentiable on the interval  $(-\infty, \infty)$ and by the Chain Rule its first derivative is  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0.2xe^{0.1x^2}$ or  $\frac{dy}{dx} = (0.2 x) y \quad ---- \quad (1)$ 

- An equation containing the derivatives
  - of one or more unknown functions
  - (or dependent variables),
  - with respect to one or more independent variables, is said to be a differential equation (DE).

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = (0.2 x) y$$

We shall classify differential equations according to type, order, and linearity.

If a differential equation contains

1 . .

only ordinary derivatives of one or more unknown functions with respect to a single independent variable, it is said to be an ordinary differential equation (ODE).

$$\frac{dy}{dx} + 5y = e^x$$

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - \frac{dy}{dx} + 6y = 0 \text{ and}$$

An ODE can contain more than one unknown function.

An equation involving partial derivatives of one or more unknown functions of two or more independent variables is called a partial differential equation (PDE).

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0,$$
  
$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - 2\frac{\partial u}{\partial t},$$
  
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \qquad ---- \quad (3)$$

u and v must be functions

of two or more independent variables.

# Ordinary derivatives will be written by using either the Leibniz notation dy/dx, $d^2y/dx^2$ , $d^3y/dx^3$ , ... the prime notation $y', y'', y''', \dots$ or • The fourth derivative is written $y^{(4)}$ instead of y''''. In general, the *n*th derivative of y is written $\frac{d^n y}{dx^n}$ or $\frac{y^{(n)}}{dx^n}$ . The Leibniz notation has an advantage over the prime notation in that it clearly displays both the dependent and independent variables. For example, $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} + 16x = 0$

x now represents a dependent variable, whereas the independent variable is t.

# Newton's <u>dot notation</u> is sometimes used to denote derivatives with respect to time t. Differential equation $d^2s/dt^2 = -32$ becomes $\ddot{s} = -32$ .

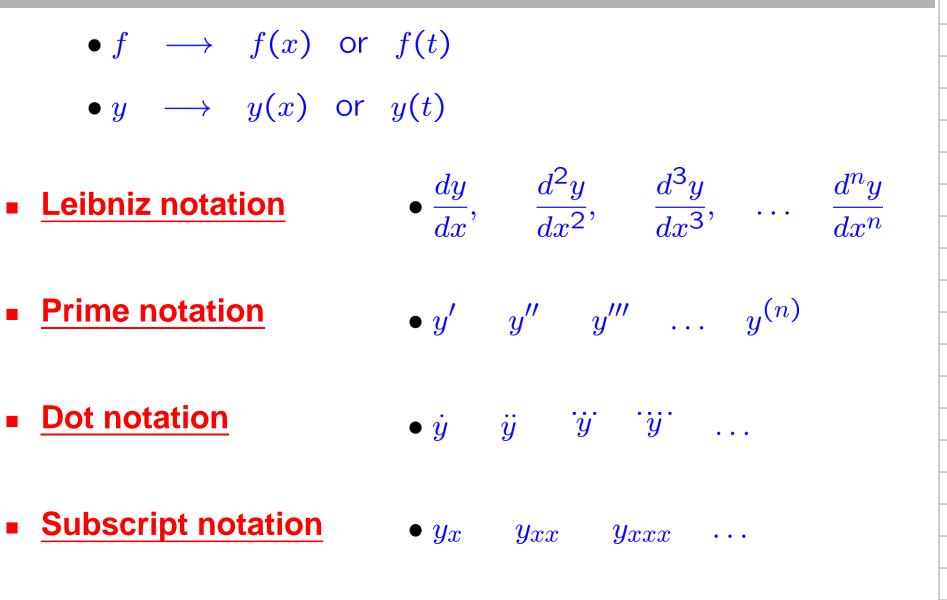
Partial derivatives are often denoted by a subscript notation, indicating the independent variables.

For example, with the subscript notation, the second equation in (3) becomes  $u_{xx} = u_{tt} - 2u_t$ 

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - 2\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - --- (3-2)$$

#### Notation

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# The order of a differential equation (either ODE or PDE) is

the order of the highest derivative in the equation.

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + 5\left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^3 - 4y = e^x$$

The equation is a second-order ordinary differential equation.

A first-order ordinary differential equation is sometimes written in the differential form

M(x, y)dx + N(x, y)dy = 0.

We can express an *n*th-order ordinary differential equation in one dependent variable by the general form

 $F(x, y, y', ..., y^{(n)}) = 0, \qquad --- (4)$ 

where **F** is a real-valued function

of n + 2 variables:  $x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}$ .

The differential equation

$$\frac{d^{n}y}{dx^{n}} = f(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n-1)}) \quad ---(5)$$

where *f* is a real-valued continuous function, is referred to as the **normal form** of (4).

Thus when it suits our purposes,

we shall use the normal forms

to represent general first-order and second-order ODEs.

 $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ and

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = f(x, y, y')$$

An nth-order ordinary differential equation (4) is said to be **linear** if F is linear in  $y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}$ . This means that an nth-order ODE is linear when (4) is  $a_{n(x)}y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(x)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y - g(x) = 0$ or  $a_{n}(x)\frac{d^{n}y}{dx^{n}} + a_{n-1}(x)\frac{d^{n-1}y}{dx^{n-1}} + \dots + a_{1}(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_{0}(x)y = g(x)$ --(6)Two important special cases of (6) are linear first-order (n = 1) and linear second order (n = 2) DEs:  $a_{1}(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_{0}(x)y = g(x)$  $a_{2}(x)\frac{d^{2}y}{dx^{2}} + a_{1}(x)\frac{dy}{dx} + a_{0}(x)y = g(x) - --(7)$ 

**Classification by Linearity** 

 $a_{n(x)}y^{(n)} + a_{n-1}(x)y^{(n-1)} + \dots + a_1(x)y' + a_0(x)y - g(x) = 0$ For the additive combination on the left-hand side, two characteristic properties of a linear ODE are as follows: The dependent variable y and all its derivatives  $\mathbf{y}', \mathbf{y}'', \dots, \mathbf{y}^{(n)}$  are of the first degree, that is, the power of each term involving y is 1. > The coefficients  $a_0, a_1, \ldots, a_n$  of  $y, y', \ldots, y^{(n)}$ depend at most on the independent variable x. A nonlinear ODE is simply one that is not linear. Nonlinear functions of the dependent variable/its derivatives, such as sin(y) or  $e^{y'}$ , cannot appear in a linear equation.

Any function φ, defined on an interval I and
possessing at least n derivatives that are continuous on I,
substituted into an nth-order ODE
the equation is redced into an identity,
the function is said to be a solution of the eqn on the interval.

A solution of an *n*th-order ODE (4) is a function *f* that possesses at least *n* derivatives and for which

 $F\left(x,\phi(x),\phi'(x),\ldots,\phi^{(n)}(x)\right) = 0 \quad \text{for all } x \text{ in } I.$ 

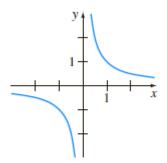
The interval I in Definition 1.1.2 is variously called the interval of definition, the interval of existence, the **interval of validity**, or the domain of the solution and can be an open interval (*a*, *b*), a closed interval [a, b], an infinite interval  $(a,\infty),$ and so on.

A solution of a DE that is identically zero on an interval *I*, is said to be a **trivial solution**.

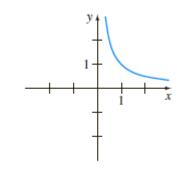
#### Solution Curve

The graph of a solution  $\phi$  of an ODE is called a **solution curve**. Since  $\phi$  is a differentiable function, it is continuous on its interval / of definition. Thus there may be a difference between the graph of the *function*  $\phi$ and the graph of the solution  $\phi$ . The figures illustrate the difference.

y = 1/x



(a) function  $y = 1/x, x \neq 0$ 



(b) solution y = 1/x,  $(0, \infty)$ 

**Figure 1.1.1**: The function y = 1/x is not the same as the solution y = 1/x

### A solution

in which the dependent variable is expressed solely in terms of the independent variable and constants is said to be an **explicit solution**.

Methods of solution do not always

lead directly to an explicit solution  $y = \phi(x)$ .

This is particularly true

when we attempt to solve nonlinear first-order DEs.

Often we have to be content with

a relation or expression G(x, y) = 0

that defines a solution  $\phi$  implicitly.

A relation G(x, y) = 0 is said to be an implicit solution of an ODE (4) on an interval *I*, provided that

there exists at least one function  $\phi$ 

that satisfies the relation as well as the DE on *I*.

The relation  $x^2 + y^2 = 25$  is an implicit solution of the DE

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y} \quad ---(8)$$

on the open interval (-5, 5).

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By implicit differentiation we obtain

$$\frac{d}{dx}x^{2} + \frac{d}{dx}y^{2} = \frac{d}{dx}25 \quad \text{or} \quad 2x + 2y\frac{dy}{dx} = 0 \quad ---(9)$$

$$(a) \text{ implicit solution} \qquad (b) \text{ explicit solution} \qquad (c) \text{ explicit solution} \qquad$$

Figure 1.1.2: An implicit solution and two explicit solutions of (8)

• A solution of F(x, y, y') = 0 containing a constant c is a set of solutions G(x, y, c) = 0called a one-parameter family of solutions. When solving an *n*th-order DE  $F(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(n)}) = 0$ we seek an *n*-parameter family of solutions  $G(x, y, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = 0.$ A single DE can possess an infinite number of solutions corresponding to an unlimited number of choices for the parameter(s).

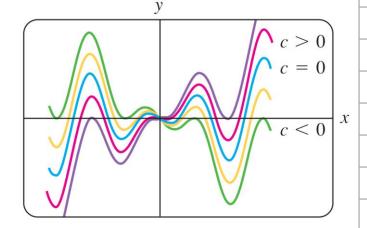
A solution of a DE that is free of parameters is called a particular solution.

The parameters in a family of solutions

such as  $G(x, y, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n) = 0$  are *arbitrary* up to a point.

 $xy' - y = x^2 \sin x$  on the interval  $(-\infty, \infty)$ 

 $y = cx - x \cos x$ 



Sometimes a DE possesses a solution that is not a member of a family of solutions of the equation, that is, a solution that cannot be obtained by specializing *any* of the parameters in the family of solutions. Such an extra solution is called a **singular solution**.

-(10)

A system of ordinary differential equations is two or more equations involving the derivatives of two or more unknown functions of a single independent variable. For example, if x and y denote dependent variables and t denotes the independent variable, then a system of two first-order DEs is given by

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(t, x, y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = g(t, x, y)$$

### A solution of a system such as (10)

is a pair of differentiable functions

 $x = \phi_1(t),$  $y = \phi_2(t),$ 

defined on a common interval *I*,

that satisfy each equation of the system on this interval.