

# Outline

1. Differential equation.
2. L'Hôpital's rule.
3. Manipulating limits for L'Hôpital's rule.

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Test #2: Friday.

# 1. Differential Equations.

Differential Equation :  $\frac{dy}{dt} = k \cdot y(t)$

function we want. ↓  
↑  
constant

Solution :  $y(t) = A \cdot e^{kt}$

↑  
constant

Differential Equation :  $\frac{dy}{dt} = k \cdot [y(t) - B]$

function ↓  
↑  
constant      another constant.

Solution :  $y(t) = A \cdot e^{kt} + B$

Why does this work?

Start out with:

$$y(t) = A \cdot e^{kt} + B.$$

On one hand:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dt} &= A \cdot e^{kt} \cdot k + 0 \\ &= k \cdot A \cdot e^{kt} \dots (*) \end{aligned}$$

On the other hand:

$$\begin{aligned} k \cdot [y(t) - B] &= k \cdot [Ae^{kt} + B - B] \\ &= k \cdot A \cdot e^{kt} \dots (**) \end{aligned}$$

Get:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = k \cdot [y(t) - B]$$

whenever  $y(t) = A \cdot e^{kt} + B.$

## Example

A dead body is discovered at 8 am and its temperature is  $72^{\circ}\text{F}$ . One hour later the temperature is  $68^{\circ}\text{F}$ . The body was found in a refrigerator that maintained a steady temperature of  $30^{\circ}\text{F}$ . When did the person die?

## Solution

$H(t)$  = temperature of body  $t$

hours after death.

after 8 am in the morning.

Newton's Law of Cooling:  $\frac{dH}{dt} = k \cdot [H(t) - 30]$

We want: Value of  $t$  for which

$$H(t) = 98.6.$$

- Plan:
- ① Find a formula for  $H(t)$ .
  - ② Set  $H(t) = 98.6$
  - ③ Solve for  $t$ .

Step ①:  $H(t) = A \cdot e^{kt} + 30$

Have:  $H(1) = 68$      $H(0) = 72$ .

Use these to figure out  $A$  &  $k$ .

$H(0) = 72$        $72 = A \cdot e^{k(0)} + 30$

$42 = A$

$H(1) = 68$        $68 = 42 \cdot e^{k(1)} + 30$

$38 = 42 e^k$

$\frac{38}{42} = e^k$

$k = \ln\left(\frac{38}{42}\right) \approx -0.1008$

Formula for  $H(t)$ :

$$H(t) = 42 e^{-0.1008t} + 30$$

Step ②:  $98.6 = 42 e^{-0.1008t} + 30$

Step ③:  $68.6 = 42 e^{-0.1008t}$

$$\frac{68.6}{42} = e^{-0.1008t}$$

$$-0.1008t = \ln\left(\frac{68.6}{42}\right)$$

$$t = \frac{1}{-0.1008} \ln\left(\frac{68.6}{42}\right)$$

$$\approx -4.86$$

This would be about 3:10 am.

## 2. L'Hôpital's Rule

- Simplify limits using derivatives.

Theorem (v.1): If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} f(x) = 0$

and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a} g(x) = 0$

then:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)}$$

often much easier to calculate than original limit.

### Example

Calculate:  $\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\theta + \tan(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)}$ .

## Solution

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \theta + \tan(\theta) = 0$$

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \sin(\theta) = 0$$

} So  
L'Hôpital's  
rule  
applies.

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\theta + \tan(\theta)}{\sin(\theta)} &= \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 + \sec^2(\theta)}{\cos(\theta)} \\ &= \frac{1+1}{1} = 2 \end{aligned}$$

## Example

Let  $n, m$  be positive constants.

Calculate:  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(mt) - \cos(nt)}{t^2}$ .

## Solution

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \cos(mt) - \cos(nt) = 0$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} t^2 = 0$$

} So  
L'Hôpital's  
rule applies.



$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos(mt) - \cos(nt)}{t^2}$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\sin(mt) \cdot m + \sin(nt) \cdot n}{2t}$$

$$= \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{-\cos(mt) \cdot m^2 + n^2 \cdot \cos(nt)}{2}$$

$$= \frac{-m^2 + n^2}{2}$$