

# TMA683 Tillämpad matematik HT21

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# Chapter 1: Introduction and Motivation

**MOTIVATION**



# Ordinary differential equations

Ordinary Differential Equations (ODE) often appear in the dynamical description of deterministic systems in physics, chemistry, biology, etc.

Ordinary Differential Equation = An equation that contains some derivatives of an unknown function (here,  $f$  and  $y_0$  are given,  $y$  is unknown):

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y} = \frac{d}{dt}y(t) = f(y(t)) \\ y(0) = y_0. \end{cases}$$

# Example of ODE: SIR model in epidemiology

Various models of epidemiology are described by ODE.

One popular example is the SIR model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \beta_S(S + I + R) - \mu_S S - \gamma_S SI$$

$$\frac{dI}{dt} = \gamma_S SI - \mu_I I - \beta_R I$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \beta_R I - \mu_R R.$$

For fans of The Walking Dead, the above can also be used to model a zombie outbreak.

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*B. Calderhead, M. Girolami, D.J. Higham. Is It Safe To Go Out Yet? Statistical Inference in a Zombie Outbreak Model.*

# Partial differential equations

Partial Differential Equations (PDE) are more elaborate mathematical models used everywhere in science and engineering.

Partial Differential Equation = An equation that contains some partial derivatives of an unknown multivariable function.

Used in many areas of industrial applications (aeronotics (Gripen), cars (Volvo), etc. ).

# Example of a PDE: Fitzhugh–Nagumo system

A PDE model used to describe the propagation of nerve impulses read

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u(t, x) - \Delta u(t, x) = u(t, x) ((1 - u(t, x))(u(t, x) - \alpha) - v(t, x)) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial t} v(t, x) = v_{\infty}(u(t, x)) - v(t, x), \end{cases}$$

here  $u$  is called the membrane potential and  $v$  the recovery variable.

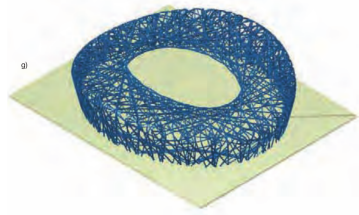
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*Spike=short, nonlinear elevation of membrane voltage  $u$ , diminished over time by a slower, linear recovery variable  $v$  in a neuron after stimulation by an external input current.*

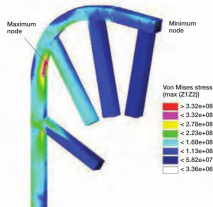
# Content of the course TMA683

- Describe mathematical tools and spaces to study ODEs and PDEs.
- Present and analyse various computational techniques to approximate solutions to ODEs and PDEs.
- Provide theoretical tools to find exact solutions to particular ODEs and PDEs.

# Applications: Structural analysis of a stadium



9. Finite element analysis at the elbow truss at the eave.



**3D** structural analysis of a stadium.

Pictures taken from The Beijing National Stadium Special Issue  
**1/2009**, The Arup Journal.



# Applications: Simulation of the crash of a train

[click Crash of a train](#)