

Differential Equations: A Speedy Study Guide for Beginners



Differential Equations (Speedy Study Guides)

by Lesley Danielle Docherty

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 3820 KB

Screen Reader : Supported

Print length : 6 pages



Differential equations are mathematical equations that describe the rate of change of a quantity with respect to one or more independent variables. They are used to model a wide variety of natural and man-made phenomena, such as the motion of planets, the flow of fluids, and the growth of populations.

This study guide provides a concise overview of the most important concepts and techniques in differential equations. It is designed to help students quickly and easily master the subject.

Ordinary Differential Equations

Ordinary differential equations (ODEs) are equations that involve only one independent variable. The most common type of ODE is the first-order ODE, which is an equation of the form:

$$y' = f(x, y)$$

where y' is the derivative of y with respect to x , and $f(x, y)$ is a function of x and y .

First-order ODEs can be solved using a variety of methods, including the method of separation of variables, the method of integrating factors, and the method of substitution.

Second-order ODEs are equations that involve the second derivative of y with respect to x . They are more difficult to solve than first-order ODEs, but they can be solved using a variety of techniques, including the method of undetermined coefficients and the method of variation of parameters.

Partial Differential Equations

Partial differential equations (PDEs) are equations that involve more than one independent variable. The most common type of PDE is the first-order PDE, which is an equation of the form:

$$u_x + u_y = f(x, y)$$

where u is the dependent variable, and u_x and u_y are the partial derivatives of u with respect to x and y , respectively.

First-order PDEs can be solved using a variety of methods, including the method of characteristics and the method of separation of variables.

Second-order PDEs are equations that involve the second partial derivatives of u with respect to x and y . They are more difficult to solve than first-order PDEs, but they can be solved using a variety of techniques, including the method of separation of variables and the method of Green's functions.

Applications of Differential Equations

Differential equations have a wide variety of applications in science and engineering. They are used to model a wide range of phenomena, such as the motion of planets, the flow of fluids, the growth of populations, and the behavior of electrical circuits.

Differential equations are also used in finance to model the prices of stocks and bonds, and in medicine to model the spread of diseases.

Differential equations are a powerful tool for modeling a wide variety of natural and man-made phenomena. This study guide provides a concise overview of the most important concepts and techniques in differential equations. It is designed to help students quickly and easily master the subject.

Additional Resources

* [Differential Equations for Beginners]

(<https://www.khanacademy.org/math/differential-equations>) * [Differential Equations Tutorial](<https://www.mathsisfun.com/calculus/differential-equations.html>)

* [Partial Differential Equations for Beginners]

(<https://www.coursera.org/lecture/differential-equations/partial-differential-equations-for-beginners-4-f3Y>)



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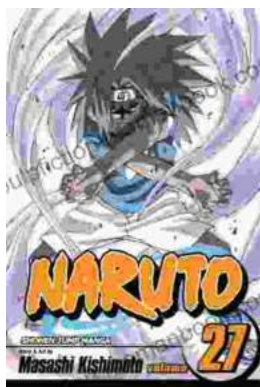
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