

Ordinary Differential Equations
Prof. Raju K George
Department of Mathematics
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

Module - 4
Lecture - 15
Well-posedness and Examples of IVP

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Existence and Uniqueness of Solution of IVP

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dx} &= f(x, y) & \text{--- (1)} \\ y(x_0) &= y_0 & \text{--- (2)} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ (IVP)}$$

Where $f: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is function not necessarily linear.
 Eqn ① + ② form an Initial Value Problem (IVP).

Solution of (IVP): The solution of (IVP) is function $y(x)$ which is differentiable and satisfies (1) and (2).

We look for a function $y(x)$ which is differentiable and starts from the initial point (x_0, y_0) and whose slope

Welcome back to the series of lectures on ODE and its applications. Today, we will discuss about the existence and uniqueness of solution of initial value problems. You have already seen that in the theory of first order and second order differential equations, the need of existence and uniqueness of solution. In this session, we deal with an initial value problem that is a differential equation of the form, $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$. So, call this as a given differential equation where, f is a function, is defined on $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ to \mathbb{R} , is a function, not necessarily linear.

So, this model can handle both linear and non-linear differential equations. Along with differential equation, we also give an additional initial condition; y at x_0 is equal to y_0 . So, call this as equation number 2. This equation 1, along with a initial condition 2, is known as a initial value problem, and equation 1 plus 2; this forms an initial value problem, and commonly, written as IVP; initial value problem. Now, this model, this first order differential equation could be a model, derived from a physical system, and a

very important question; once a model of this form is framed, does there exist a solution to this equation? If the solution exists, will that solution be unique and also, will the solution vary continuously, with respect to the initial condition y_0 ? So, these are the major three problems, which we will discuss in details in this session. Say, first let us see what do you mean by a solution of this differential equation?

So, solution of IVP, say equation 1 and 2, of this formal IVP; the solution of IVP is a function, say $y(x)$, which is differentiable and satisfies; it satisfies the equation 1 and the initial condition 2. So, a solution; since, the equation is $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$, we recover that the solution y , has to be a differentiable function. It has to satisfy the differential equation. Therefore, it is a differentiable function and also, satisfies a given initial condition; $y(x_0)$ is equal to y_0 . In other words, we are looking for a function. So, we look for a function $y(x)$, which is differentiable, and starts from the initial point x_0, y_0 ; that is, if this point is x_0 and this point is y_0 , say this point (x_0, y_0) ; we are looking for a function; we start from (x_0, y_0) and whose slope of $y(x)$ at any point (x, y) in the $x-y$ plane, is $\frac{dy}{dx}$ at (x, y) , which is given by the differential equation $f(x, y)$.

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$\text{slope } y(x) \text{ at any point } (x, y) = \frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$

Well-posedness of a Mathematical Model

Mathematical Model : $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ (IVP)
 $y(x_0) = y_0$

(Hadamard)
 is well-posed if the following 3 properties are satisfied:

- (i) there exists a solution to (IVP) (Existence Problem)
- (ii) the solution is unique (Uniqueness Problem)
- (iii) the solution's behaviour changes continuously with respect to the initial condition (Stability Problem)

Therefore, the solution of a differential equation 1 with the initial condition 2, is a function that starts from the initial point x_0, y_0 . Of course, that is differentiable, and the slope at any point is given by $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is equal to $f(x, y)$, which is coming from the differential equation; $f(x, y)$ is given to us. So, slope at any point (x, y) is known to us, and

the initial point is known to us. We are looking for a function, which starts from x_0, y_0 , and whose slope is at any point is $f(x, y)$. Now, we deal with a well-posedness of this problem; well-posedness of a mathematical model. The mathematical model is given by the initial value problem. So, let the mathematical model is given by the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$, with initial condition y at x_0 is y_0 .

So, this model is well posed, if the following 3 properties are satisfied. So, this well-posedness was raised by the famous French mathematician J Hadamard. So, the well-posedness problem was introduced by Hadamard, and Hadamard raised the issue of well-posedness, which says that given a mathematical model, if the model satisfies the following 3 properties, then the model is well posed. The first property is there exists a solution to the initial value problem. There exists a solution, so that is an existence problem, which is known as an existence problem. So, given a mathematical model, the first question is to decide whether, there exists a solution or not; that is the existence problem. Second problem is a solution unique; the solution is unique. So, that is uniqueness problem. If the solution exists, will there be more than 1 solution or the solution is unique? The third problem or third property of a well posed problem is the solution; it is a behavior.

Solutions behavior changes continuously, with respect to the initial condition. So, these 3 problems; the first one is there exists a solution to the mathematical model; the second problem is whether, the solution is unique; and third problem is whether, the solution changes continuously, with respect to the initial condition. Initial condition here, it is y_0 . So, the third problem is known as the stability problem; stability. So, the existence problem first; then, the uniqueness problem, and the third one is the stability problem.

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ill-posed problem; A problem does not satisfy the Hadamard's well-posedness conditions.

Example 1: Consider the first order homogeneous linear differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2y$, $y(0) = 3$.

Separating out the variables and integrating we obtain

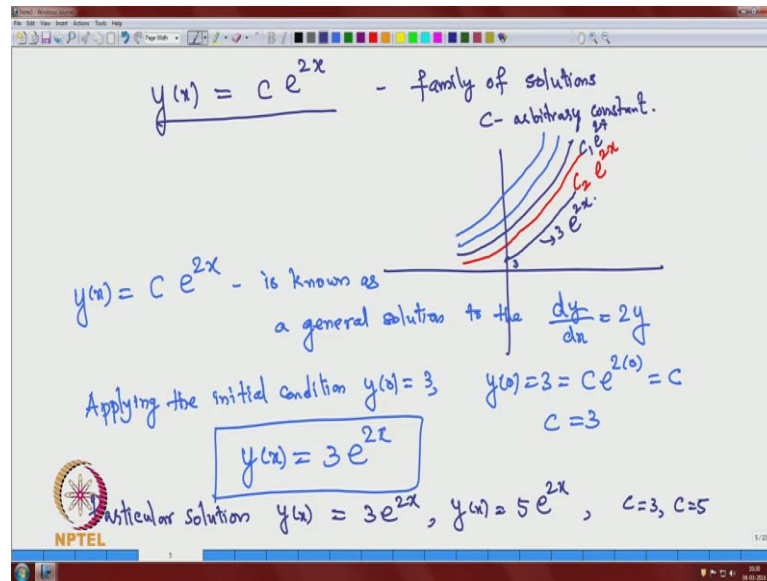
$$\int \frac{dy}{y} = \int 2 dx + c_0$$
$$\ln|y| = 2x + c_0$$
$$y = e^{2x+c_0} = e^{2x} e^{c_0}, \quad c = e^{c_0}$$

The whiteboard also features an NPTEL logo in the bottom left corner and a standard software toolbar at the top.

So, if a model is more satisfying these 3 properties; any model, which is not satisfying these 3 properties, is known as an ill-posed problem; a problem does not satisfy the Hadamard's well-posedness conditions. Now, we will discuss the problem of existence, uniqueness and stability of some simple differential equation, simple initial value problems. So, let us take an example. Example 1; consider the first order homogeneous linear differential equation given by $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is equal to $2y$, along with an initial condition, say y at 0 is 3 . You have already seen that how to solve this linear differential equation in the previous lectures.

If you separate out the variables and integrating, we obtain $\frac{dy}{y}$ is equal to $2 dx$, if we separate out the variables. If we integrate adding a constant c , we get \ln of y is equal to $2x$ plus c , and taking exponential on both sides. You get y of x is equal to e to the power $2x$ plus c , which is equal to say, the first constant is c_0 . I get c into e to the power $2x$ where, c is equal to e to the power c_0 . Therefore, the solution of this differential equation; I have not applied the initial condition; the solution of this differential equation can be obtained easily, by separating out the variables, or by the method of separation of variables.

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So, $y(x)$ is equal to $C e^{2x}$, which is a family of solutions of curves. So, one parameter C is seen, this is a solution for every value of C . So, C is an arbitrary constant. So, the given linear differential equation has infinitely many solutions and for every C , the given expression $y(x) = C e^{2x}$ is a solution. So, if you plot the solution, this is one solution or one value of C . So, this is $C = 1 e^{2x}$ and this could be another solution for $C = 2 e^{2x}$, and you have a family of one parameter family of solutions. So, these are all solutions, a family of solutions to the given linear differential equation, and this solution is known as a general solution. So, $y(x) = C e^{2x}$ is known as a general solution to the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2y$. So, I have not applied the given initial condition.

Once I give an initial condition, applying the initial condition $y(0) = 3$, then this becomes $y(0) = 3$, which is equal to; we can plug in the value to $x = 0$. So, C into $e^{2 \cdot 0}$, which is C , or in other words, C is equal to 3. Therefore, we get the solution $y(x) = 3 e^{2x}$. So, this is a solution of the given differential equation, satisfying the given initial condition; say, if this point is 3, say, then $3 e^{2x}$. So, this is a solution if this point is 3. For a particular value of C , the general solution, becomes a particular solution, and give a specific value to arbitrary constant C , then the solution we obtain is whereas, a particular solution. A particular solution, $y(x) = 3 e^{2x}$ is a particular solution and similarly, $y(x) = 5 e^{2x}$; they are all particular solutions by putting various

values. So, initially, it is c is equal to 3, and second case, c is equal to 5. So, a particular solution is obtained by giving a particular value to the general solution. Now, for a given differential equation, there can be another type of solution, which is known as a singular solution.

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✓ General solution - parameter family of solutions $y = c e^{2x}$
 ✓ Particular solution - $c = 10$, $y = 10 e^{2x}$
 Singular solution - is a solution which can not be obtained from the general solution.

Example 2: Consider the nonlinear differential equation
 $\frac{dy}{dx} = (y-3)^2$

By the method of separation variable
 $\int \frac{1}{(y-3)^2} dy = \int dx + c$
 $-\frac{1}{y-3} = x + c \Rightarrow y = 3 - \frac{1}{x+c}$

$c=0$
 $y = 3 - \frac{1}{x}$ particular soln
 $y = 3$ is also solution
 is a singular soln General soln

So, three types of solutions, we have discussed; one is a general solution, and a particular solution, and a third type of solution is singular solution. So, general solution; we obtained and in the general solution, there is a parameter. There is a parameter family of solution. In our case, it was y is equal to c , e to the power $2x$, and particular solution; say, c is equal to you particularize the value of say, c is equal to 10. Then, y is equal to 10, e to the power $2x$ is a particular solution, and a singular solution is a solution, which cannot be obtained from the general solution, but in our previous examples, we have only these two types of solutions; general solution and particular solution, and singular solution does not exist for the previous example. Now, we consider an example; example say, we call it 2. So, consider the non-linear differential equation, say $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is equal to y minus 3 the whole square.

So, we have seen that this equation is obviously, a non-linear differential equation. So, how to solve it? By the method of separation of variables, separating of the variables and integrating, you get this is $\frac{dy}{y-3} = dx$ and integrating, plus adding a constant c . So, integral of $\frac{1}{y-3}$ is $\ln|y-3| = x + c$.

minus 3, which is equal to x plus c . So, this simplifying, we get y is equal to; you take y minus 3 over there, and minus 1 by x plus 3 there. So, y is equal to 3 minus 1 by x plus 3. So, this is a general solution. For every value of c , this is a solution. Therefore, this is a general solution. So, this is a general solution and if you give particular values to c ; say for example, y is equal to 3 minus 1 by x , is a particular solution where, c is equal to 0. When c is equal to 0, you get a particular solution. So, this is a particular solution. Now, you can verify easily, that y is equal to 3. Once you substitute y is equal to 3, it is a constant function, into this equation, and this equation satisfied, is also a solution, but that is not obtained from the general solution. Therefore, this is a singular solution. So, y is equal to 3, is a singular solution. So, this example, we see three types of solutions; general solution, and the particular solution, and also, a singular solution, and we can see further examples.

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Example 3: $\frac{dy}{dx} = y^2 - 4$

$y(x) = \frac{2 + 2ce^{4x}}{1 - ce^{4x}}$ is a general solution. (Exercise)

Let $c=0$: $y(x) = 2$ is a particular solution.

$y(x) = -2$ also satisfies the given diff equation.

$y(x) = -2$ can not be obtained from the general solution.

$y(x) = -2$ is a singular solution.

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Another example say, example call it 3. So, consider a differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is equal to y square minus 4. Again, by the method of separation of variables, and you can integrate and you can easily, see that y is equal to 2 plus 2, some constant c times e to the power 4 x , divided by 1 minus c , e to the power 4 x , is a general solution. I leave this as an exercise to show that y is a general solution. Once you specialize c , when c is equal to 0, then we obtain y is equal to 2, is a particular solution. Now, this can also be shown that observe that y is equal to minus 2. If you look at the function, constant function, y is equal to minus 2, also satisfies a given differential equation. So, y is equal to minus 2

is also a solution, which cannot be obtained from the general solution. Therefore, this y is equal to minus 2; this solution, that cannot be obtained from the general solution. Hence, therefore, this is a singular solution. Now, we look into initial value problem where, an initial value problem need not have a solution or another initial value problem have more than one solution or an initial value problem has a unique solution; these three situations.

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So, initial value problem cases; no solution; infinitely, many solutions and unique solution. These three situations; we will look into some examples of initial value problems that has unique solution, and infinitely, many solution and no solution; all these situations, we will see. Let us first consider a linear case. Later on, we will give sufficient condition to ensure under what condition, an initial value problem has a unique solution and under what condition, a solution has a solution and solution is unique, and all such things; we will deal with later. So, example 4, just to get a field of existence and nonexistence of solutions, we take a few more examples. So, consider the initial value problem, say $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is equal to say, $\frac{2}{x}y$, with an initial condition, y at 0 is 0. Obviously, this is a linear equation; linear differential equation, and it is a homogeneous; linear homogeneous, and variable coefficient. So, this coefficient is variable; $\frac{2}{x}$. So, is there, and there is no terms, which does not depend upon y . Therefore, it is a homogeneous and obviously, it is linear with respect to the unknown function y . Therefore, it is a linear differential equation. Now, let us look into the solution. Again,

by the method of separation of variables, we have $\frac{dy}{y}$ is equal to $\frac{2}{x}$ into dx , separating of the variables and integrating and adding a constant, call it C_0 . So, you can write this is \ln of y ; this is $2 \ln$ of x , plus a constant C_0 , which is \ln of y , which is \ln of x square; $2 \ln$ of x is \ln of x square plus C_0 , and bring this term over here; \ln of y minus \ln of x square is equal to C_0 .

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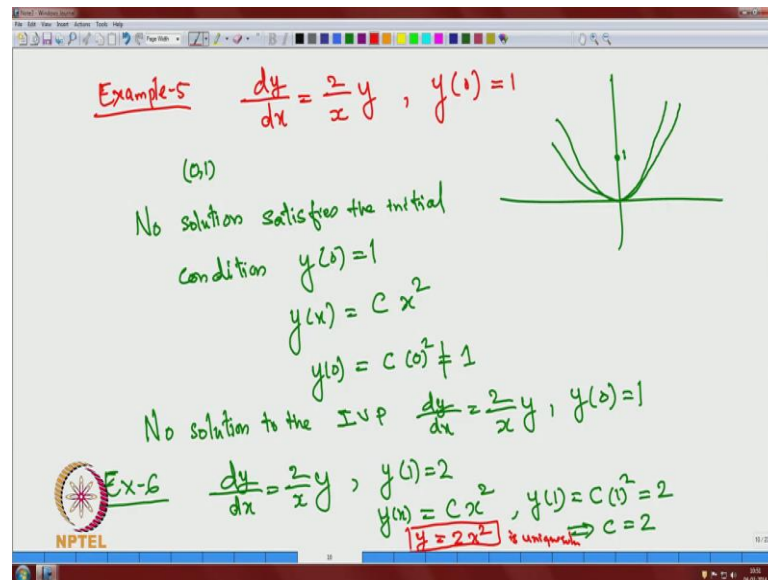
$\ln\left(\frac{y}{x^2}\right) = C_0$
 $\Rightarrow \frac{y}{x^2} = e^{C_0} = C$
 $y = Cx^2$ C is arbitrary constant.
 $y(0) = 0 \Rightarrow y(0) = C \cdot 0^2 = 0$
 $\Rightarrow y = Cx^2$ is a solution to the IVP for every value of C .
 IVP has infinitely many solutions.

There is \ln of y by x square is equal to C_0 , or taking exponential on both sides, get y by x square is equal e to the power C_0 . So, call this as C . Therefore, y is equal to C into x square is the solution. It is a general solution where C is an arbitrary parameter. For every value of C , y is equal to Cx square is a solution, and in order to satisfy the initial condition, y at 0 is equal to 0 , is obviously, satisfied; $y \times 0$ is C into 0 square, which is 0 , is obviously, satisfied for all values of C . Therefore, y is equal to Cx square is a solution to the initial value problem. It is satisfying the differential equation. At the same time, it is also satisfying the initial condition for all values of C . So, y is equal to Cx square is a solution to the initial value problem for every value of C .

What does it say? It says that the initial value problem has infinitely, many solutions. So, if you look at the solution, this is a parabola, y is equal to Cx square for 1 value of C , and for another value of C , this another parabola, y is equal to $C1x$ square, y is equal to $C2x$ square, and for any value of C . So, this is also another solution. This is a family of parabolas. We get infinitely, many parabolas, happens to be solutions of the initial value

problem. Therefore, for an initial value problem, there is a possibility that the solution is not unique; it may have infinitely many solutions. Now, if you look at the same problem, the same equation with a different initial condition; look at the same problem.

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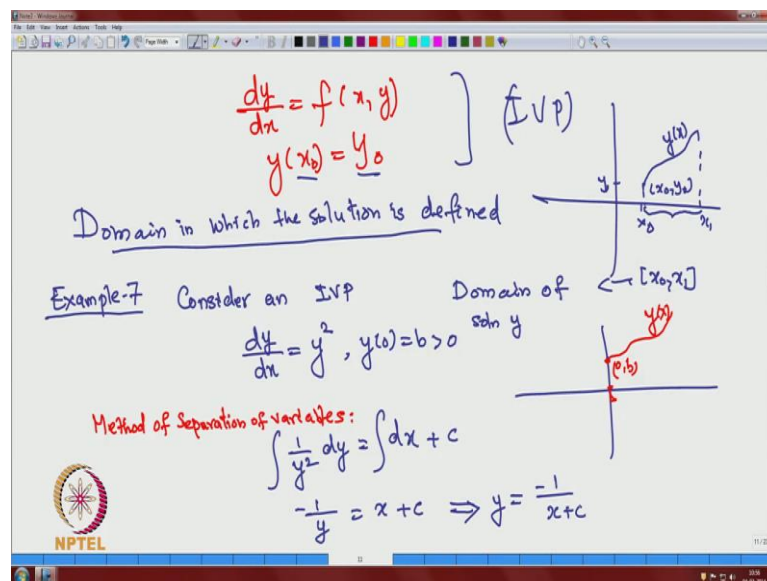


So, if the example is 5, then $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is equal to $\frac{2}{x}y$. Now, the initial condition is changed; y at 0 is 1. As we have already noticed that all solutions of this initial value problem, this differential equation, should pass through the origin. So, it cannot pass through the point $(0, 1)$. So, $(0, 1)$ is a point you are looking for. You want the solution to pass through the point $(0, 1)$, when x is equal to 0, and this is not possible. So, there is no solution; this is one, which is passing through the point $(0, 1)$, and is also, a solution to this differential equation. So, no solution satisfies the initial condition, y at 0 is equal to 1. Why, because y of x is Cx^2 , and you want y at 0 is equal to $C(0)^2$, and you want this to be 1, which is not possible.

Therefore, the moral of the story is no solution to the initial value problem, $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2}{x}y$, the initial condition y at 0 is equal to 1. Then, one more thing we observe that if we change the initial condition for the same problem, say it is an example 6; the same differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{2}{x}y$ and y at 1 is 2, say for example. I am giving a condition at 1, which is a nonzero condition; the value is nonzero. So, it can be shown easily, that y of x , we have already seen the solution is of the form Cx^2 , and you are looking for y at 1 is equal to $C(1)^2$, which you want this to

be 2. So, this implies that c is equal to 2. Therefore, y is equal to $2x^2$ is a unique solution. So, this example, the same problem with a different initial condition, $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is equal to $2xy$, with a different initial condition y at 1 is equal to 2, has a unique solution. So, same differential equation, which is giving rise to 3 different situations where, no solution and where, there is unique solution and also, there is infinitely, many solutions.

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Now we look into the solution of a differential equation where, it is defined. So, our equation is $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is equal to f of x, y ; initial conditions y at x_0 is y_0 ; the domain of in which the solution is defined. So, for an initial value problem of this form, there may be a solution starting from the point x_0, y_0 and that solution may exist only, for some interval on the x axis. So, this is x_0 , and this is y_0 , and this is a point from where, we start; x_0, y_0 ; looking for a solution and the solution is y, x , and you can in some many of the initial value problem, this interval, we call it x_1 . The solution exists in a small interval x_0, x_1 . This is called the domain of solution y . and it can happen that the solution is defined on the entire x axis and some problems; it is defined only on some small interval or only on some particular bounded set in the x axis. For that also, we look into some examples. So, example 7; consider an initial value problem.

Consider an initial value problem given by $\frac{dy}{dx}$ is equal to y^2 , and initial condition is y at 0, is equal to be a positive number. This is a non-linear differential

equation. The initial condition is y at 0 is some number b , starting at this point $0, b$. I am looking for a solution y , from the point x is equal to 0 . Let us look at the solution again, by method of separation of variables. So, by the method of separation of variables, we get separating of the variables; this is 1 by y square, dy is equal to dx , and integrating, adding a constant c , and the integral of 1 by y square is $-\frac{1}{y}$, is equal to x plus c . So, this just by simplifying, you get y is equal to $-\frac{1}{x+c}$.

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The image shows a digital whiteboard with handwritten mathematical work. At the top, the general solution is given as $y = \frac{-1}{x+c}$. Below this, the initial condition $y(0)=b$ is used to find c : $y(0)=b \Rightarrow y(0)=b = \frac{-1}{c} \Rightarrow c = \frac{-1}{b}$. The specific solution is then derived as $y(x) = \frac{-1}{x - \frac{1}{b}} = \frac{b}{1-bx}$. This is boxed, and a note states it "exists for $x < \frac{1}{b}$ ". To the right, a graph shows a vertical asymptote at $x = \frac{1}{b}$ on the x-axis, with the initial point $(0, b)$ marked. Below the graph, a note says "Domain $[0, \frac{1}{b})$ ". At the bottom, a red circle with a star contains the text: "if b is large $\frac{1}{b}$ is small, hence the domain of existence from 0 is very small interval." The NPTEL logo is visible in the bottom left corner.

So, the solution is y is equal to $-\frac{1}{x+c}$. Now, the initial condition y at 0 is b . So, this implies that y at 0 is equal to b , which is equal to $-\frac{1}{c}$. This implies that c is equal to $-\frac{1}{b}$. So, plugging this value to the solution, y of x is equal to $-\frac{1}{x - \frac{1}{b}}$, which is equal to $\frac{b}{1-bx}$. So, this is the solution to the initial value problem. So, the solution is y of x is equal to $\frac{b}{1-bx}$. Look at the solution, starting from $0, b$. As you increase x , if x is less than $\frac{1}{b}$, see if x is equal to $\frac{1}{b}$, then the solution blows up. Therefore, solution exists. So, this exists for x strictly, less than $\frac{1}{b}$. Therefore, the solution exists; 1 by b . If b is 1 , then $\frac{1}{b}$ is 1 . So, this is 0 to 1 . For example, b is equal to 1 , then solution exists; the domain of solution is 0 to 1 , but if b is a very large number, if b is large, $\frac{1}{b}$ is small, and hence, the domain of existence is from 0 , is very small interval. Note that although, the equation looks to be a very nice equation, the initial value problem looks nice on the entire real line, starting from $0, b$, the solution y of x exists in a small interval 0 to $\frac{1}{b}$. So, 0 to $\frac{1}{b}$, if

b is large, is a small interval. So, solution exists, if b is large, then the solution exists on a small domain to the right of x is equal to 0.

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Example 8: (Non-Uniqueness of Nonlinear IVP)
 Consider the IVP $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3y^{2/3}$, $y(0) = 0$.

Separation of Variables:

$$\int \frac{1}{3y^{2/3}} dy = \int dx + c$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \int y^{-2/3} dy = x + c$$

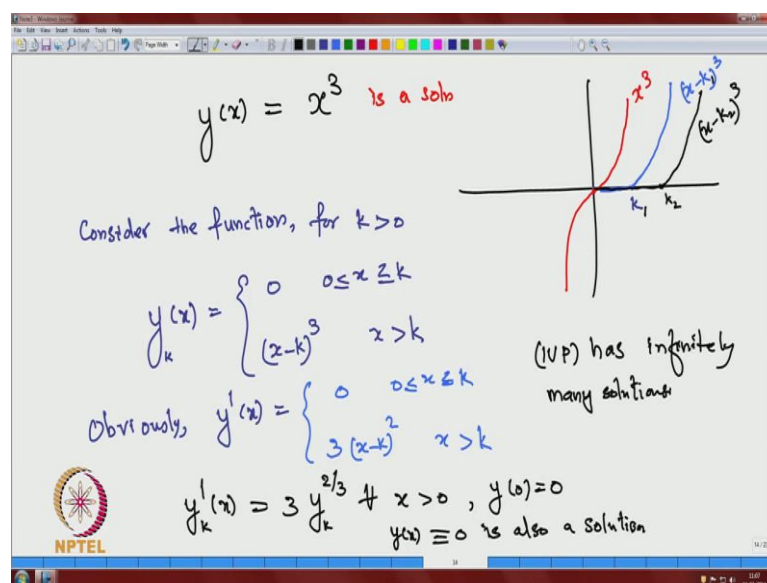
$$\Rightarrow y^{1/3} = x + c \Rightarrow y(x) = (x+c)^3$$

Applying the initial condition $y(0) = 0 = (0+c)^3 \Rightarrow c = 0$

The diagram shows a coordinate system with a red curve $y = x^3$ passing through the origin $(0,0)$.

Now, looking at another problem, example; I call it example 8 here, non-uniqueness; non-uniqueness of non-linear initial value problem. Consider the initial value problem, given by $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3y^{2/3}$ and the initial condition is $y(0) = 0$. So, this is also a non-linear differential equation with a given initial point $(0,0)$; initial condition is $(0,0)$. So, you are looking for a solution that starts from $(0,0)$, and again, by the method of separation of variables, this is a $\frac{dy}{dx} = 3y^{2/3}$. So, $3y^{2/3}$ is equal to $\frac{dy}{dx}$ and integrating, and adding a constant c , which is $\int \frac{1}{3y^{2/3}} dy = \int dx + c$. So, $\int \frac{1}{3y^{2/3}} dy$, which is equal to $\int dx + c$. So, integral of this one, y to the power minus $\frac{2}{3}$ plus 1 or divided by minus $\frac{2}{3}$ plus 1, which is y to the power $\frac{1}{3}$, is equal to $x + c$. So, this implies that the solution y satisfies, solution is given by y of x is equal to $x + c$ the whole cube. Now, applying the initial condition, $y(0) = 0$, which implies that $0 + 3$ whole cube. So, implying that c itself is 0.

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That means, we get a solution, $y(x)$ is equal to x^3 for the initial value problem. So, the solution looks like function y is equal to x^3 . So, this is a solution and we can also see that. Consider some other functions. Consider the function for k is a positive constant $y(x)$ defined by $y(x)$ is equal to 0; for x is less than equal to k and greater than equal to 0, and x minus k the whole cube for x strictly, greater than k . So, if you consider these functions, for every value of k positive, this gives a family of functions y_k . So, for every k , you have this function, and we can show that or you call it y_k , and obviously, the derivative, if you differentiate it, the derivative of this one; this looks like up to k ; say, this is k ; up to k , the value of the function is 0; from k , the function is a smooth. So, x minus k cube and it is a smooth function. If you differentiate it, $y'(x)$ is 0 for x between 0 and k , and its value is 3 times x minus k square for x greater than k . For a different k ; this is another k ; let us call it k_1 ; and another k . So, the value of the function up to k_2 is 0. Then, this x minus k_2 cube, and we can see that the derivative $y'(x)$ satisfies, because of this form.

This satisfies a given differential equation; this is 3 times y to the power 2 by 3 for all x greater than 0, and it satisfies y at 0 is 0. So, you can say this is, you can show that this is a family of curves. Therefore, and also, we can see that $y(x)$ is equal to 0, is also a solution. So, $y(x)$ is equal to 0; zero function is also a solution, which is a singular solution; otherwise, you get a family of solution. The conclusion is the given initial value problem has infinitely, many solutions. In this lecture, what we have discussed is we

have taken a few initial value problems, and we posed the well-posedness of Hadamard and have seen that there are problems, which the initial value problems has no solution, and there are problems in which the initial value problem has unique solution, and there are initial value problems having unique solution. Now, how to characterize these solutions, these properties? That we will see in the next lecture.

Bye.