

## 1.2 Integrals as general and particular solutions

Consider the differential equations of the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x) \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{slope depends} \\ \text{only on } x \end{array} \right)$$

From Calculus, the general solution is the indefinite integral

$$y = \int f(x) dx$$

Ex For the problem

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 1 - x \quad *$$

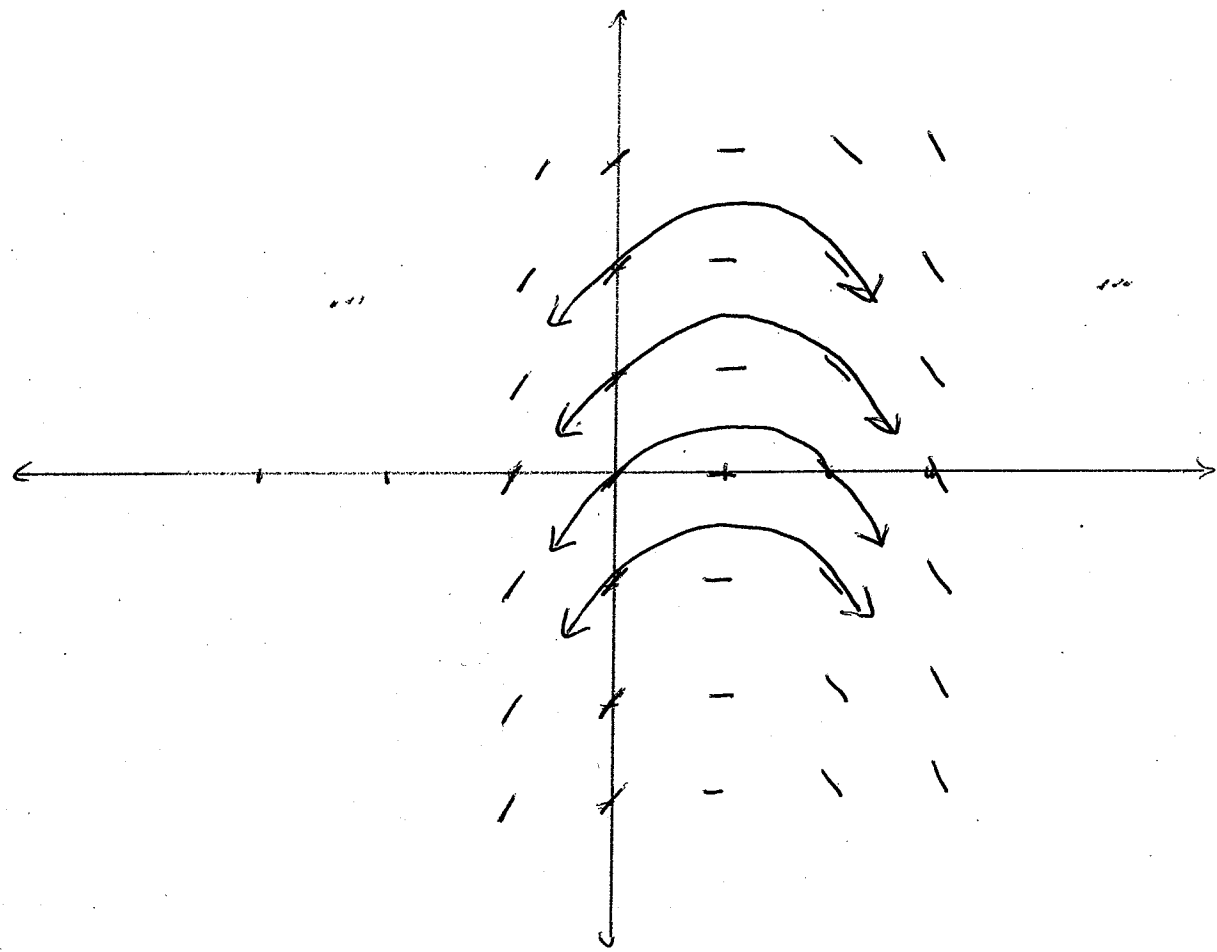
the general is

$$y = \int (1-x) dx = x - \frac{x^2}{2} + C \quad C \in \mathbb{R}$$

Each value of  $C$  gives particular sol,

Geometric view

For the equation (\*) the slope field is



Each curve is a particular sol

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Consider a 2nd order diff equation

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = g(x)$$

\*\*

To get the general solution, integrate  $g(x)$  twice

detail: define a function  $z = z(x)$  by

$$z = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

Now

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} = g(x)$$

So

$$z = \int g(x) dx \quad (\text{1st integral})$$

But

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = z$$

So

$$y = \int z(x) dx \quad (\text{2nd integral})$$

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Prob

Find the general solution to

$$y'' = \sin x + 1$$

Sol

Recall from calc:

$$\frac{d}{dx} \sin x = \cos x$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \cos x = -\sin x$$

Obs

$$\int (\sin x + 1) dx = -\cos x + x + C \quad C = \text{const}$$

$$\int (-\cos x + x + C) dx = -\sin x + \frac{x^2}{2} + Cx + k \quad k = \text{const}$$

Gen sol is

$$y = -\sin x + \frac{x^2}{2} + Cx + k \quad C, k \in \mathbb{R}$$

" 2-parameter "  
family

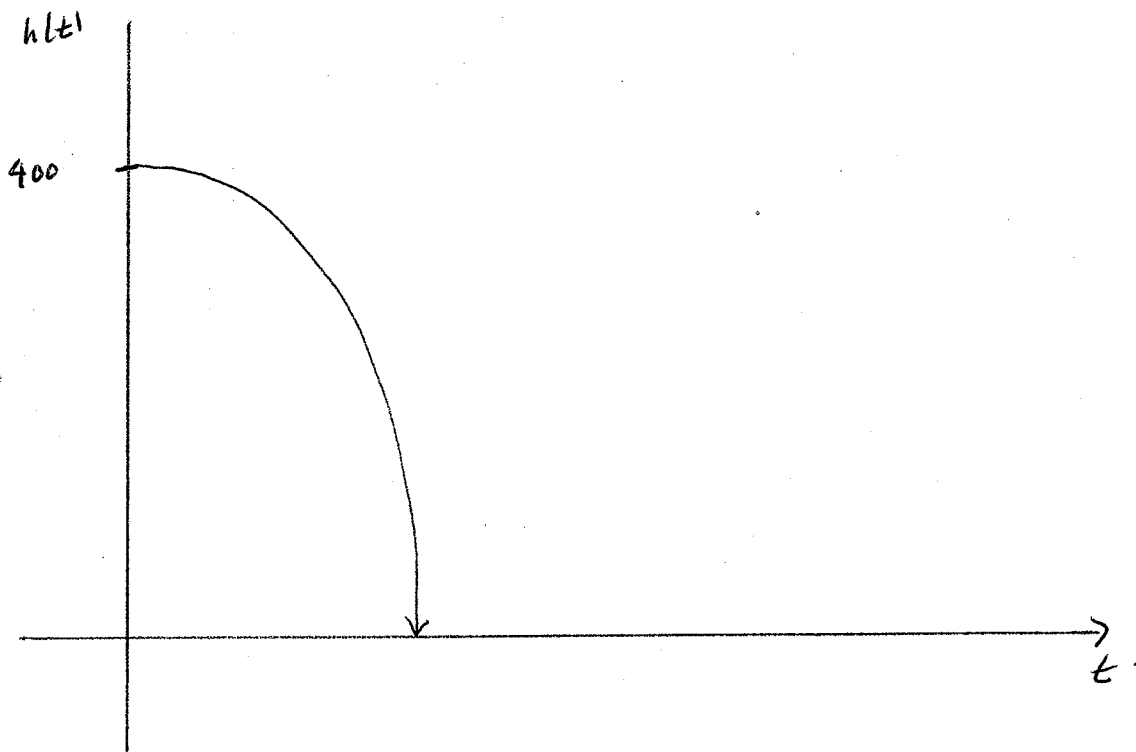
Each value of  $C$  and  $k$   
gives a particular sol

Prob A ball is dropped from  
the top of a building 400 ft high.

- (i) How long does it take to reach the ground?  
(ii) With what speed does the ball strike the ground?

Sol Define a function

$h(t)$  = height (in ft) of ball at time  $t$   
(seconds) after drop



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Obs.

• At each time  $t$

$h'(t)$  = velocity of ball (in ft/sec)  
(call it  $v(t)$ )

speed of ball =  $|v(t)|$  (absolute value)

• Ball speeds up over time due to force of gravity

• At time  $t$

rate of change of  $v(t)$  =  $v'(t)$  = acceleration  
(call it  $a(t)$ ) (in ft/sec<sup>2</sup>)

• From physics, near the surface of the earth

acceleration due to gravity is a constant

$32 \text{ ft/sec}^2$

[or  $9.8 \text{ meters/sec}^2$ ]

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So

$$a(t) = -32$$

since force of gravity is against  $h(t)$ 

Our problem becomes

$$h'' = -32,$$

$$h(0) = 400;$$

$$h'(0) = 0$$

We get

$$\begin{aligned} v(t) &= \int -32 \, dt \\ &= -32t + C \end{aligned}$$

Find  $C$ :

$$0 = h'(0) = v(0) = C$$

$$v(t) = -32t$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} h(t) &= \int -32t \, dt \\ &= -16t^2 + k \end{aligned}$$

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Find  $k$

At  $t=0$ ,

$$400 = h(0) = k$$

$$h(t) = 400 - 16t^2$$

We seek time  $t$  s.t.  $h(t) = 0$ :

$$0 = 400 - 16t^2$$

$$t^2 = \frac{400}{16} = 25$$

$t \geq 0$

so

$$t = 5$$

• takes 5 seconds for the ball to reach the ground.

At  $t = 5$

$$\begin{aligned} v(5) &= -32 \times 5 \\ &= -160 \end{aligned}$$

• Ball strikes ground at 160 ft/sec

□



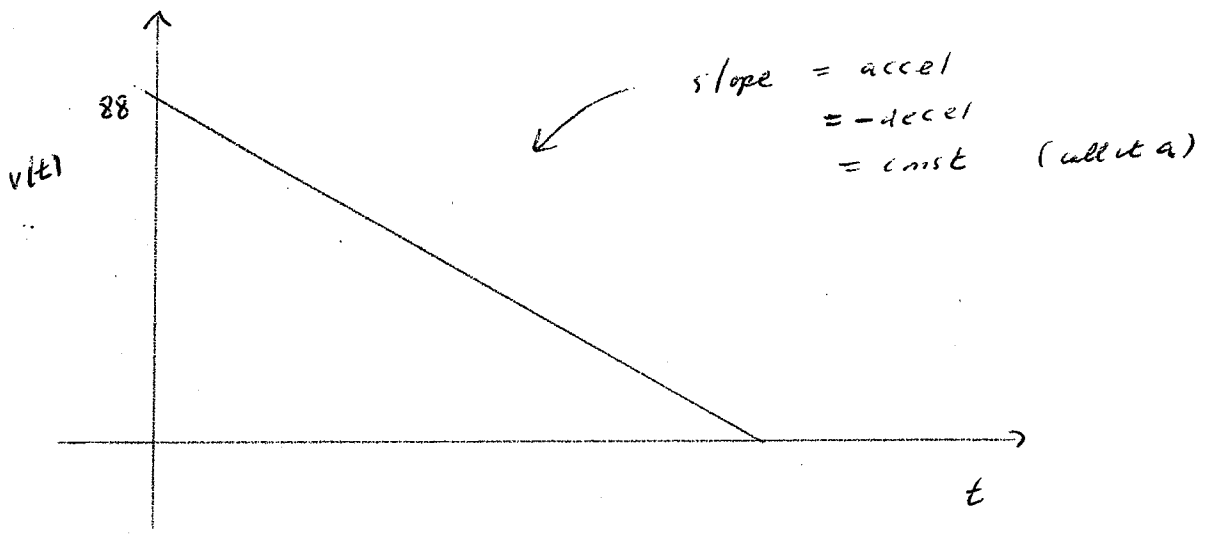
Prob A car traveling at 60 mi/hr (88 ft/sec) skids 176 ft after its brakes are suddenly applied

Assume that the braking system provides constant deceleration

- (i) What is the deceleration?
- (ii) For how long did the skid continue?

Sol. Define

$v(t)$  = velocity of car  $t$  seconds after brakes are applied (in ft/sec)



$$v(t) = 88 + at$$

when car comes to rest at time  $T$ ,

$$0 = v(T) = 88 + aT$$

so

$$T = -\frac{88}{a}$$

Find  $a$ :

Define  $x(t)$  = position of car at time  $t$

$$\left[ \text{wlog } x(0) = 0 \right]$$

obs

$$x'(t) = v(t)$$

so

$$x(t) = \int v(t) dt$$

$$= \int (88 + at) dt$$

$$= 88t + a\frac{t^2}{2} + C$$

Set  $t=0$  to find  $C=0$

$$x(t) = 88t + \frac{at^2}{2}$$

$$= t\left(88 + \frac{at}{2}\right)$$

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Car skids 176 ft so

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$$176 = x(T)$$

"  
88x2

$$T = \frac{-88}{a}$$

$$= T \left( 88 + \frac{aT}{2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{-88}{a} \left( 88 - \frac{a}{2} \frac{88}{a} \right)$$

$$= \frac{-88}{a} 44$$

$$2 = \frac{-44}{a}$$

$$a = \frac{-44}{2}$$

$$= -22$$

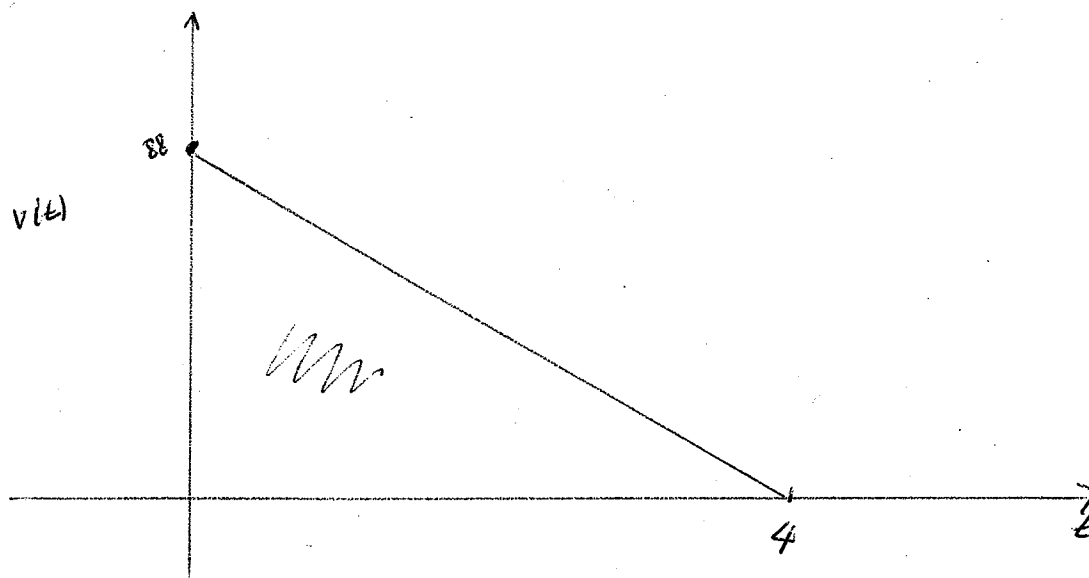
accel is  $-22 \text{ ft/sec}^2$

decel is  $22 \text{ ft/sec}^2$

$$T = \frac{-88}{a} = \frac{-88}{-22} = 4$$

skid continues for 4 seconds

Geometric interp



$$176 = \text{Length of skid}$$

= distance the car travels from  $t=0$  to  $t=4$

$$= \int_0^4 v(t) dt$$

= area under curve (shaded)

$$= \frac{1}{2} \times 4 \times 88$$

$$= 2 \times 88 \quad \checkmark$$

□

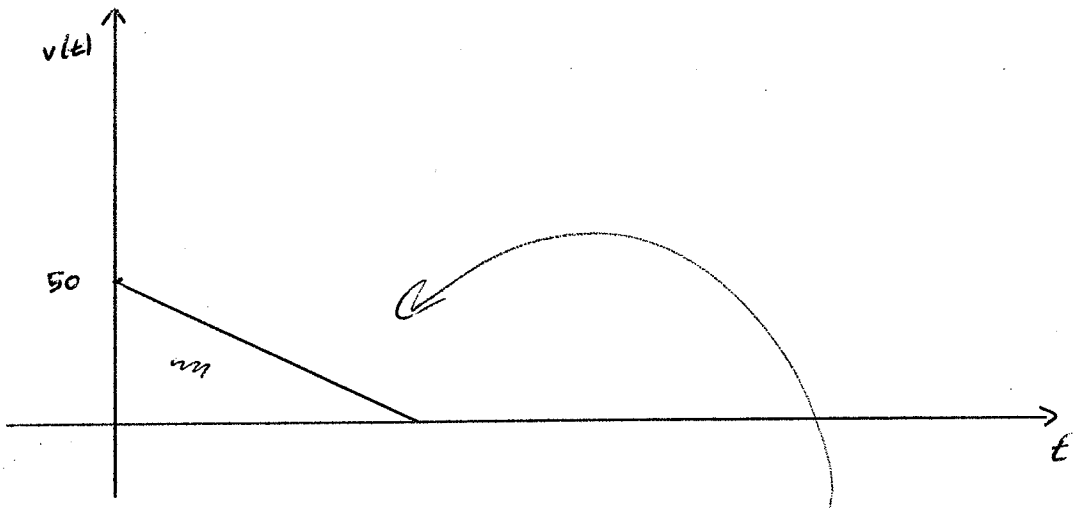
Prob Suppose that a car skids 15 meters (m) if it is moving at 50 km/h when brakes are applied.

Assuming that the car has the same constant decel, how far will it skid if it is moving at 100 km/h when the brakes are applied?

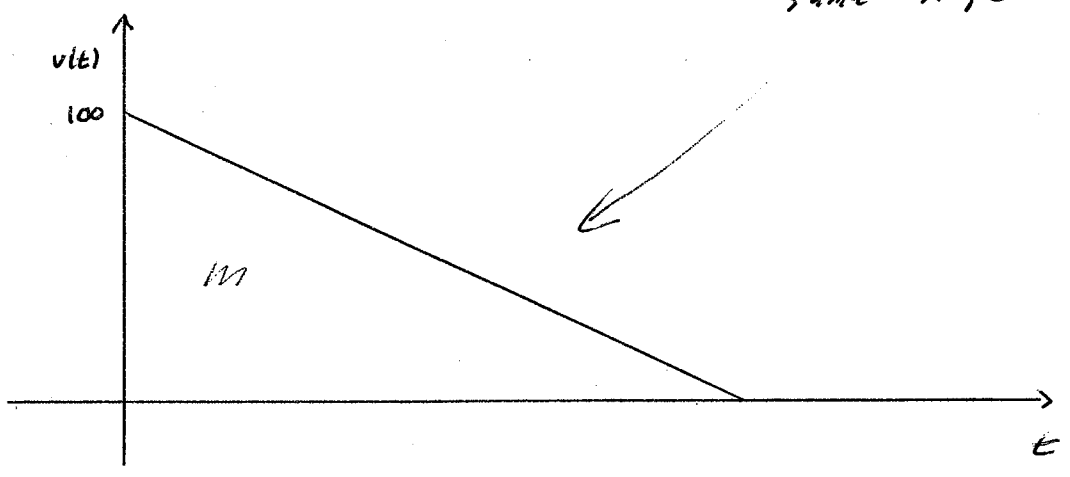
Sol

Define  $v(t)$  = velocity at time  $t$  after brakes applied (in km/h)

I



II



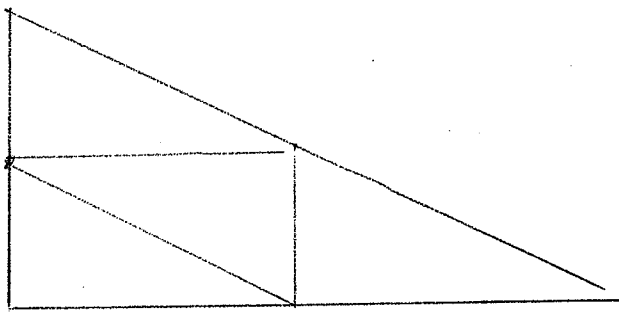
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For both Cases I, II

Length of skid = distance car travels from time  $t=0$   
until it stops

= area under curve (shaded)



In case I, area = 15 meters

In case II, area is  $15 \times 4 = 60$  meters

Note

In general, if we increase the speed by a factor of  $k$   
then the skid length increases by a factor of  $k^2$ .