

Re: form equation takes at large value of time

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math/2005-05/msg05531.html>

- *From:* dwarfpe2004@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (Ulysse Keller)
 - *Date:* Mon, 30 May 2005 15:43:21 GMT
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On 30 May 2005 05:12:00 -0700, "paul" <pjoseph@xxxxxxxx> wrote:

>Hi,

>

>I have a question re. whether anything can be said about this
>equation's behaviour at large values of time, purely by inspection.

>The differential equation is this:

> $y'' + Cy' + A \exp(-Bt)y = 0$

>where A, B, C are constants, y is say displacement and t is time.

>

>My question is this:

>

>At time $t = \text{infinity}$, is it correct to say that the system represented
>by this equation can be described by:

> $y'' + Cy' = 0$

>Based on the physical fact that it means that the "spring" has one to
>zero, I suspect the answer is yes, but would like to confirm.

>

You probably want to say "near $t = \text{infinity}$ ", because to consider
a diff. equation at just one value of the indep. var. makes no sense,
even more if this value is infinity ...

I don't quite understand your phys. arg. (what do you mean by
"has one to zero" ?) – may-be my English isn't good enough.

But I suggest to be careful with such arguments, one reason being
the "phenomena" of instability in certain diff. equations. May-be
you are right for your special equation (I did not analyze it) – in
some sense that should be made more precise, in any case
it cannot be *exact* that $y'' + Cy' = 0$ for "large" t's, because if
A is not zero, this will be compatible with the original diff. eq.
only if $y=0$ for these t's, which of course is a solution of both
homogeneous linear equ., but surely you are not speaking of
this trivial solution ... – but it is probably not difficult to find
similar equ. where such "reasoning" is misleading.

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