A universal differential equation

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Digital vs analog computers



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Computability



Church Thesis

All reasonable models of computation are equivalent.

Complexity



Effective Church Thesis

All reasonable models of computation are equivalent for complexity.

Polynomial Differential Equations



No closed-form solution

Example of dynamical system





$$\ddot{\theta} + rac{g}{\ell}\sin(\theta) = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} y_1' = y_2 \\ y_2' = -\frac{g}{7}y_3 \\ y_3' = y_2y_4 \\ y_4' = -y_2y_3 \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} y_1 = \theta \\ y_2 = \dot{\theta} \\ y_3 = \sin(\theta) \\ y_4 = \cos(\theta) \end{cases}$$

Generable functions

$$egin{cases} y(0)=y_0\ y'(x)=
ho(y(x)) \ & x\in\mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$

$$f(x)=y_1(x)$$



Shannon's notion

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$$\begin{cases} y(0) = y_0 \\ y'(x) = p(y(x)) \end{cases} \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \\ f(x) = y_1(x) \\ \hline y_1(x) \\ \hline y_1(x) \\ \hline x \end{cases}$$

Shannon's notion

 $\mathsf{sin}, \mathsf{cos}, \mathsf{exp}, \mathsf{log}, \dots$

Strictly weaker than Turing machines [Shannon, 1941]

Computing with the GPAC

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$$egin{cases} y(0) = q(x) & x \in \mathbb{R} \ y'(t) = p(y(t)) & t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \end{cases}$$

$$f(x) = \lim_{t\to\infty} y_1(t)$$



Modern notion

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Modern notion

 $\sin, \cos, \exp, \log, \Gamma, \zeta, \dots$

Turing powerful [Bournez et al., 2007]

Universal differential equations

Generable functions

Computable functions

(t)



subclass of analytic functions

any computable function

f(x)

Universal differential equations

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Universal differential equation (Rubel)



Theorem (Rubel)

There exists a **fixed** polynomial *p* and $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for any continuous functions *f* and ε , there exists a solution *y* to

$$p(y, y', \ldots, y^{(k)}) = 0$$

such that

$$|\mathbf{y}(t)-f(t)|\leqslant \varepsilon(t).$$

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$$3{y'}^4 {y''} {y''''}^2 -4{y'}^4 {y'''}^2 {y''''} + 6{y'}^3 {y''}^2 {y'''} {y''''} + 24{y'}^2 {y''}^4 {y''''} \\ -12{y'}^3 {y''} {y''''}^3 - 29{y'}^2 {y''}^3 {y'''}^2 + 12{y''}^7 = 0$$

such that

$$|\mathbf{y}(t)-f(t)|\leqslant \varepsilon(t).$$

Problem : Rubel is «cheating».

• Take
$$f(t) = e^{\frac{-1}{1-t^2}}$$
 for $-1 < t < 1$ and $f(t) = 0$ otherwise
 $(1 - t^2)^2 f''(t) + 2tf'(t) = 0.$



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Conclusion : Rubel's equation allows any piecewise pseudo-linear functions, and those are **dense in** C^0

Why I don't like Rubel's result

• the solution y is not unique, even with added initial conditions :

$$p(y, y', \dots, y^{(k)}) = 0, \quad y(0) = \alpha_0, y'(0) = \alpha_1, \dots, y^{(k)}(0) = \alpha_k$$

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- Rubel's interpretation : this equation is universal
- My interpretation : this equation allows almost anything

Universal differential equation (PIVP)



Theorem

There exists a **fixed** polynomial p and $d \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for any continuous functions f and ε , there exists $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^d$ such that

$$\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{0}) = \alpha, \qquad \mathbf{y}'(t) = \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{y}(t))$$

has a unique solution and this solution satisfies such that

 $|\mathbf{y}(t)-f(t)|\leqslant \varepsilon(t).$

Universal differential equation (DAE)



Theorem

There exists a **fixed** polynomial *p* and $k \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for any continuous functions *f* and ε , there exists $\alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_k \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$p(y, y', \dots, y^{(k)}) = 0, \quad y(0) = \alpha_0, y'(0) = \alpha_1, \dots, y^{(k)}(0) = \alpha_k$$

has a unique analytic solution and this solution satisfies such that

 $|\mathbf{y}(t)-f(t)|\leqslant \varepsilon(t).$

Key ingredients :

- fast-growing function
- (analog) bit generator
- \rightarrow On the white board.

Almost-Theorem

 $f : [0, 1] \to \mathbb{R}$ is **computable** if and only if there exists $\tau > 1$, $y_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and p polynomial such that

$$y'(0) = y_0, \qquad y'(t) = p(y(t))$$

satisfies

$$|f(x) - y(x + n\tau)| \leq 2^{-n}, \quad \forall x \in [0, 1], \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$



- Rubel's universal differential is very weak
- We provide a stronger result
- Another notion of analog computability