

## 9.1/ 9.2 Differential equations

*(First order - containing first derivative in equation)*

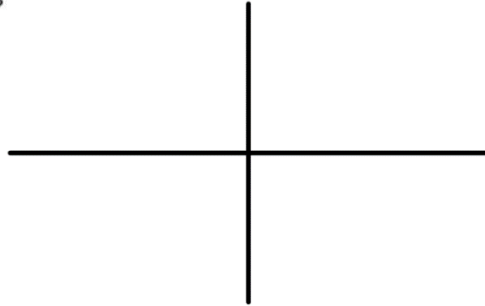
### What is a differential equation?

Many of the general laws of nature find their most useful form in equations that involve rates of change. These equations are called **differential equations** because they contain functions and their differential quotients. Some examples of differential equations are:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x \quad \textcircled{1}$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = -9.8 \quad \textcircled{2}$$

$$P' = 3P \quad \textcircled{3}$$



General antiderivatives (indefinite integrals) have +C because the constant is unknown without some initial conditions that are known. Particular antiderivatives can be known with initial conditions present

\*We can solve a differential equation (means to find  $f(x)$  given  $f'(x)$ ) when given a set of initial conditions). This will give us the 'particular solution' not just a general one. General = +C, particular gives the actual value for C

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## 9.2 DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS WITH INITIAL CONDITIONS

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$$\frac{ds}{dt} = f'(t) = s'$$

In the applications of differential equations in this chapter, we often deal with time-dependent processes where information is available at specific instants, usually the initial instant,  $t = 0$ .

**Example 1** Solve  $\frac{ds}{dt} = 2t$ , with the initial condition:  $s = 3$  when  $t = 0$ .

"Solve" means  
to find  $f(x)$   
given  $f'(x)$  in an  
equation.

Steps:

1. Integrate both sides
2. Insert initial conditions.
3. Solve for C
4. Rewrite complete particular antiderivative function

Eg 2:

Eg 3:

Stewart Text Asn't: \_\_\_\_\_

Finney Text Asn't: \_\_\_\_\_