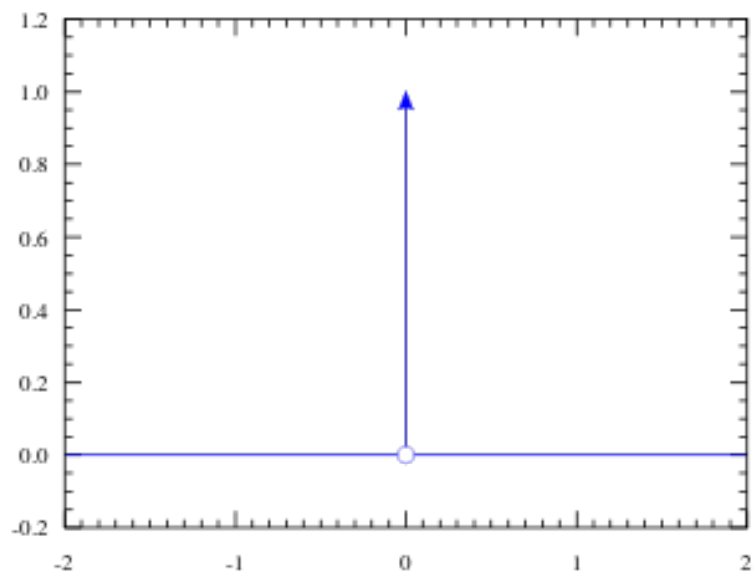
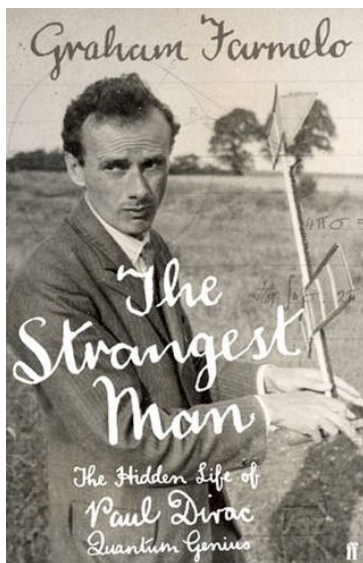


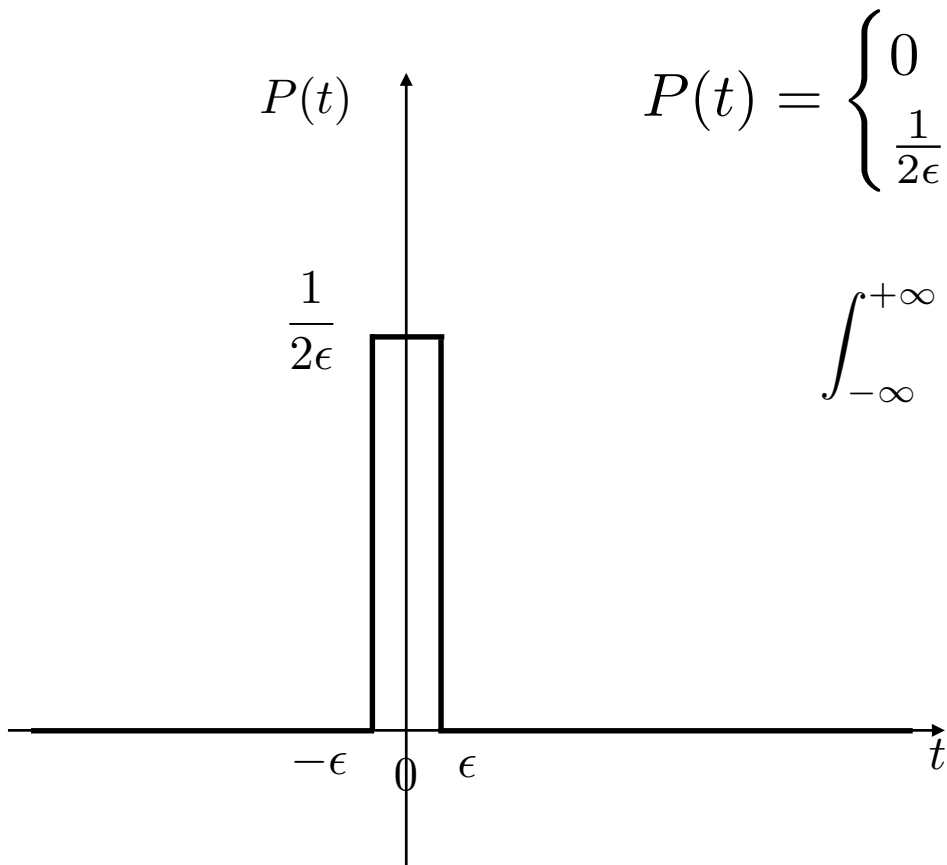
# Mathematical preliminaries

- The Dirac's Delta-function
- The Convolution Integral
- Sampling of a function
- Linear, first-order, differential equations
- Numerical solutions

## Dirac's Delta Function

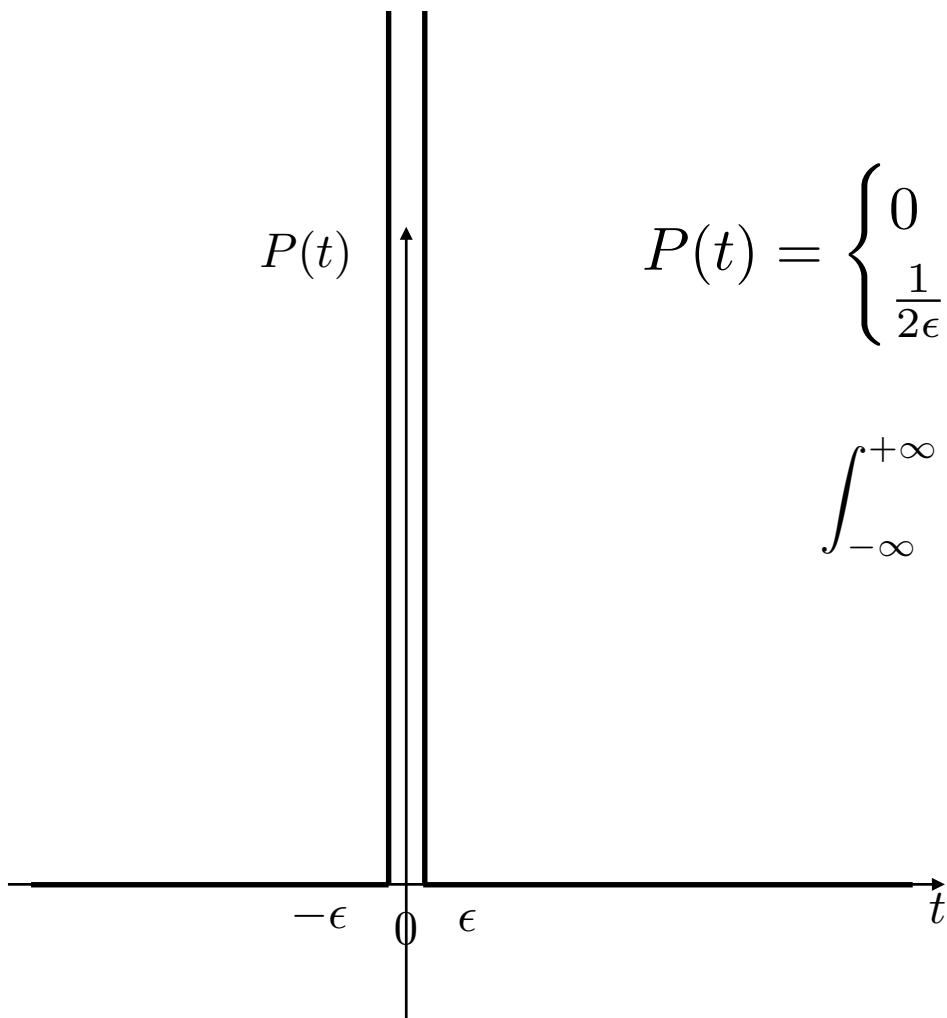
$$\delta(x)$$





$$P(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |t| > \epsilon \\ \frac{1}{2\epsilon} & \text{if } |t| < \epsilon \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(t) dt = 1$$



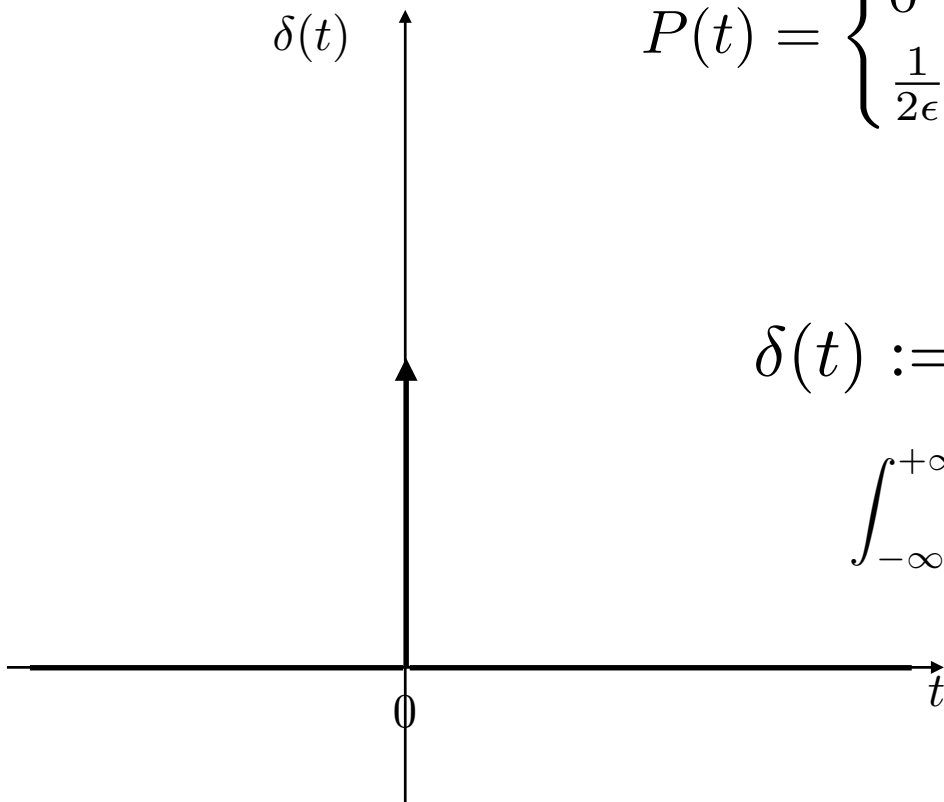
$$P(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |t| > \epsilon \\ \frac{1}{2\epsilon} & \text{if } |t| < \epsilon \end{cases}$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(t) dt = 1$$

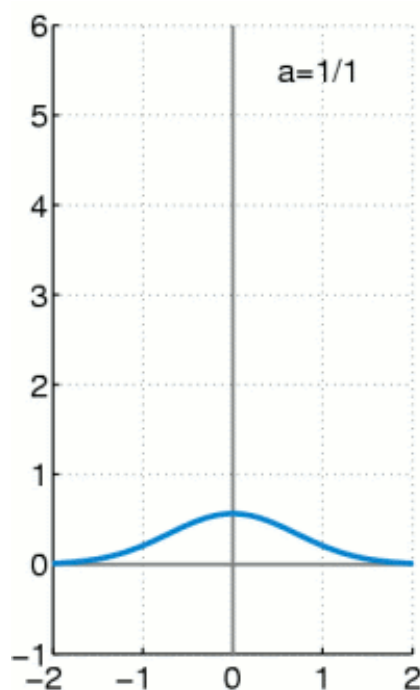
$$P(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |t| > \epsilon \\ \frac{1}{2\epsilon} & \text{if } |t| < \epsilon \end{cases}$$

$$\delta(t) := \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} P(t)$$

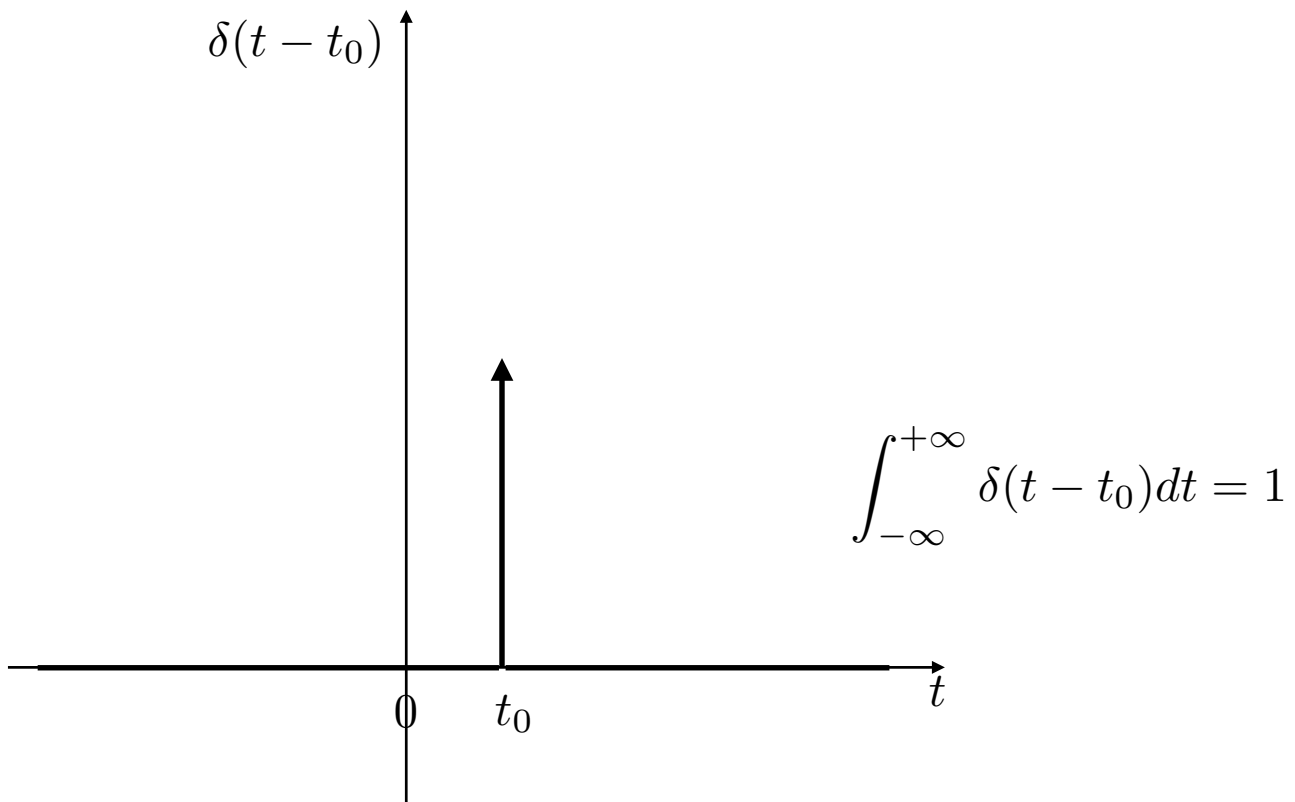
$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t) dt = 1$$



$$\delta(x) := \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\epsilon^2}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\epsilon^2}}$$



$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t) dt = 1$$



# Dirac's Delta Function

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(x) dx = 1$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t) dt = 1$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t \pm t_0) dt = 1$$

$$\delta(-x) = \delta(x)$$

$$\delta(t - t_0) = \delta(t_0 - t)$$

$$\int_0^{100} \delta(t + 32) dt =$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x) \delta(x) dx = g(0)$$

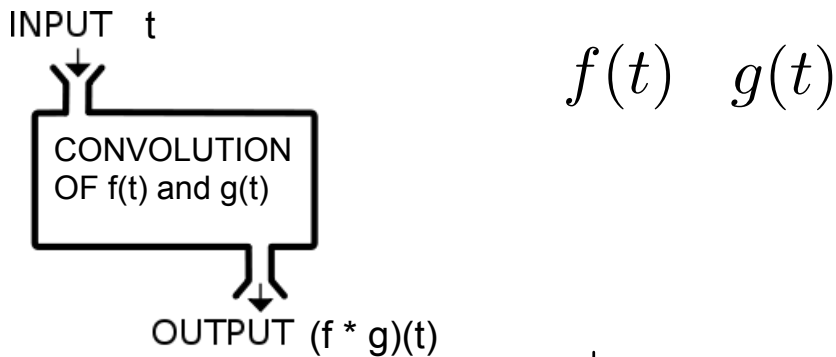
$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(x) \delta(x - x_0) dx = g(x_0)$$



# Mathematical preliminaries

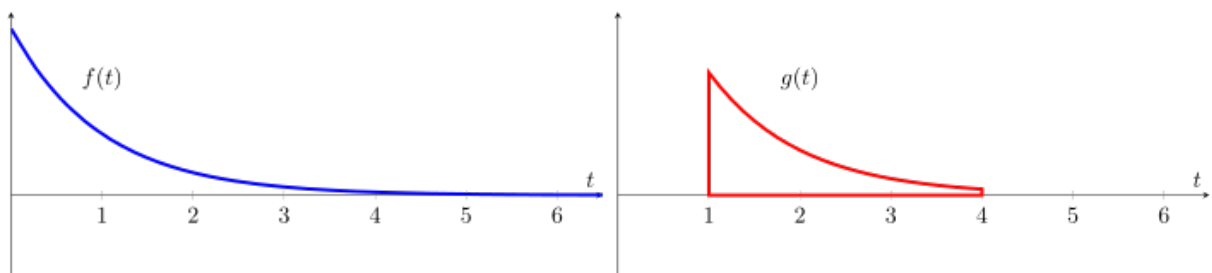
- The Dirac's Delta-function
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# The “*convolution* (integral)” of two functions is... a function

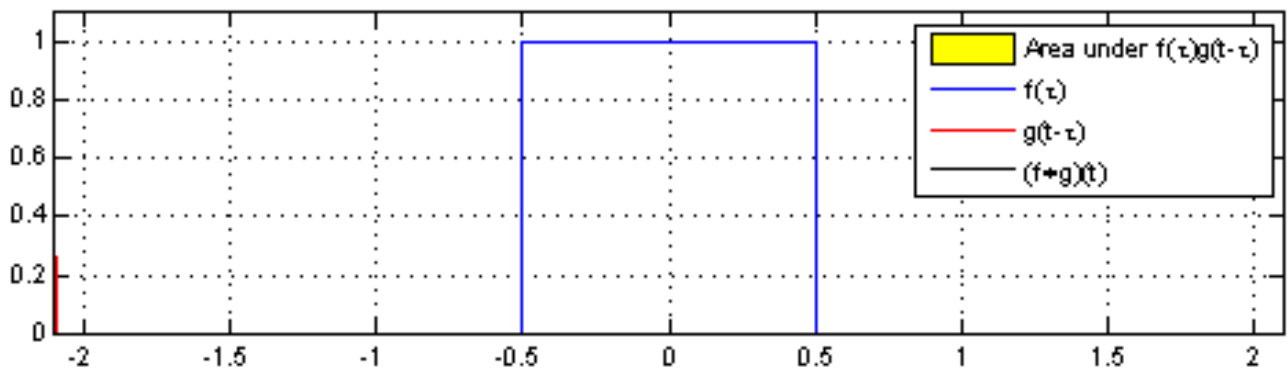
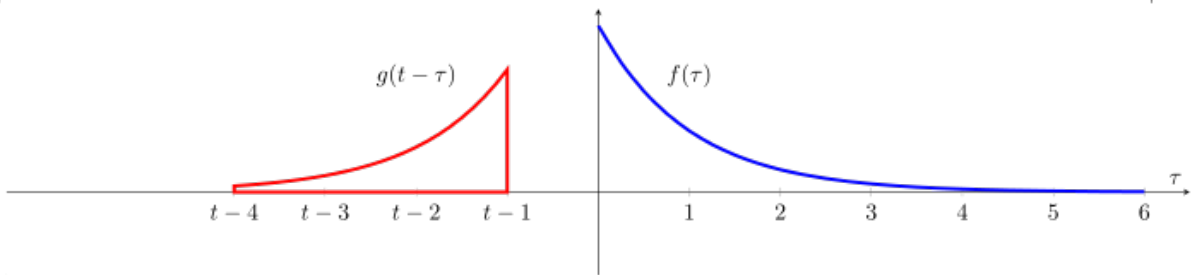


$$(f * g)(t) := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\tau)g(t - \tau) d\tau$$
$$f * g = g * f$$

$$(f * g)(t) := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\tau)g(t - \tau) d\tau$$

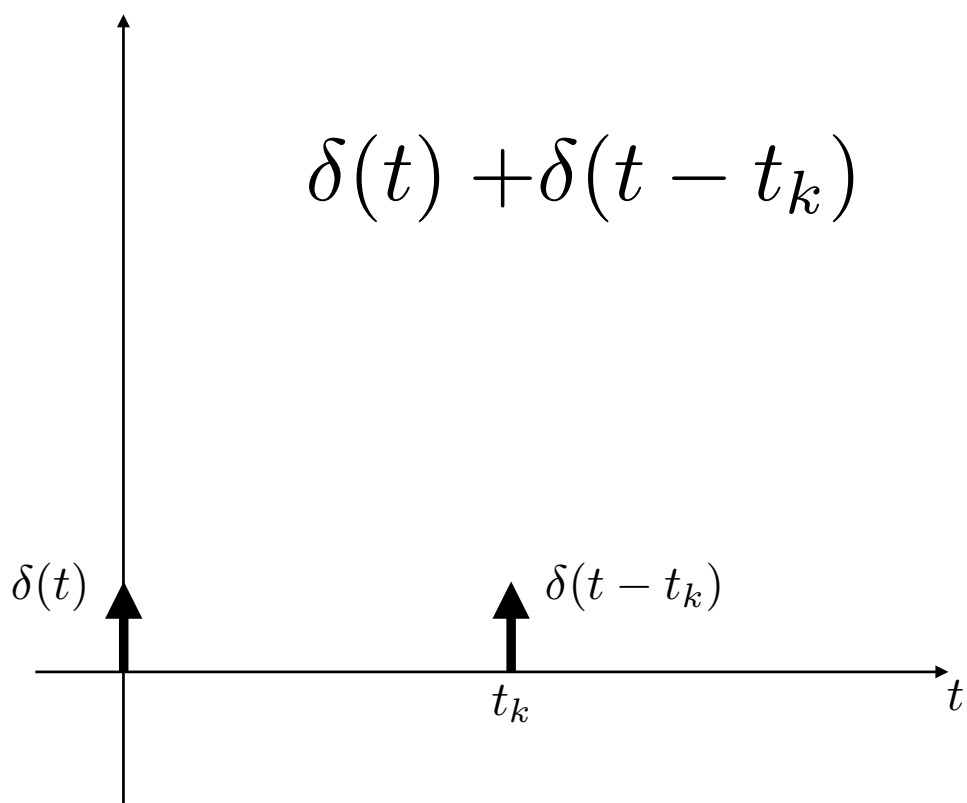


$$(f * g)(t) := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\tau)g(t - \tau) d\tau$$



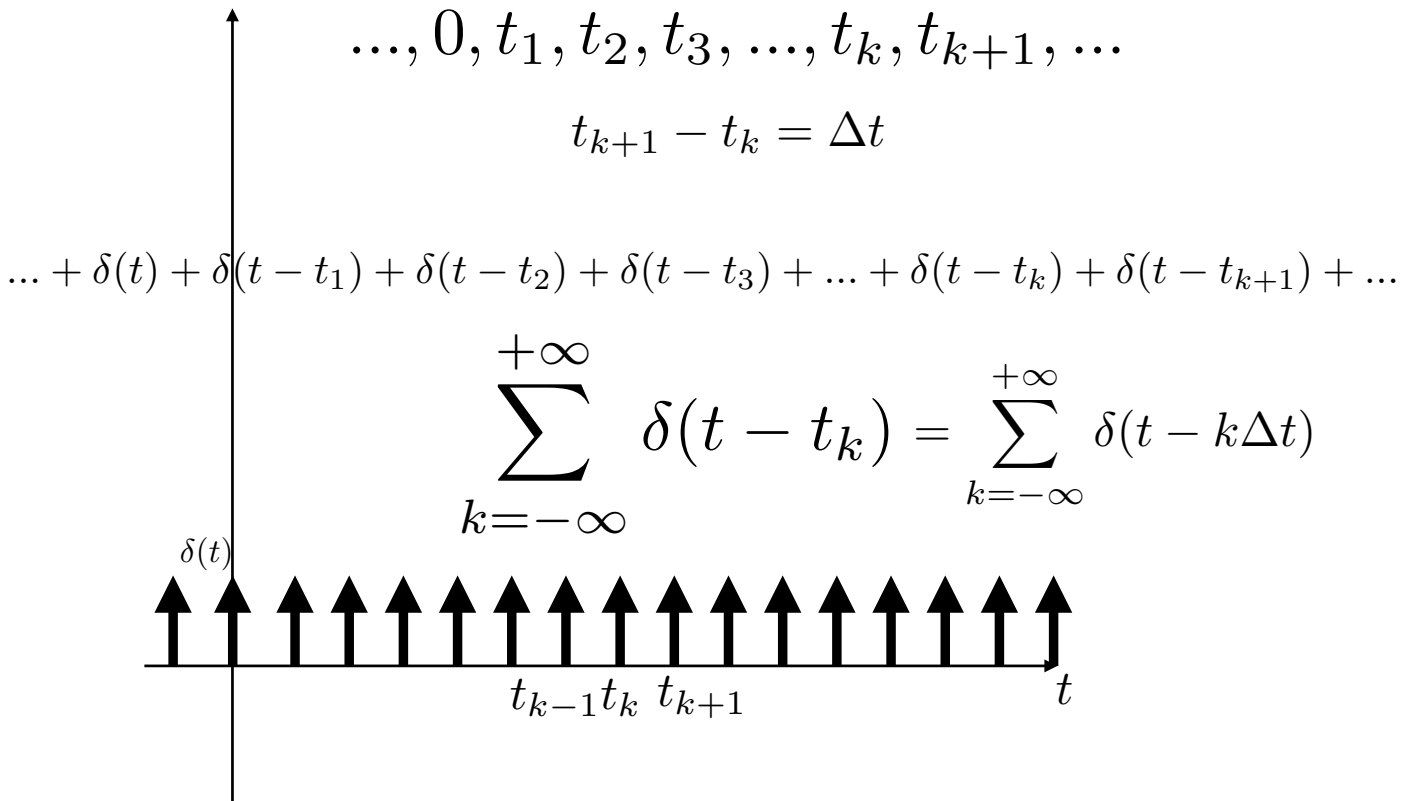
$$(f * g)(t) := \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\tau)g(t - \tau) d\tau$$

## Sum of two Dirac's Delta Functions

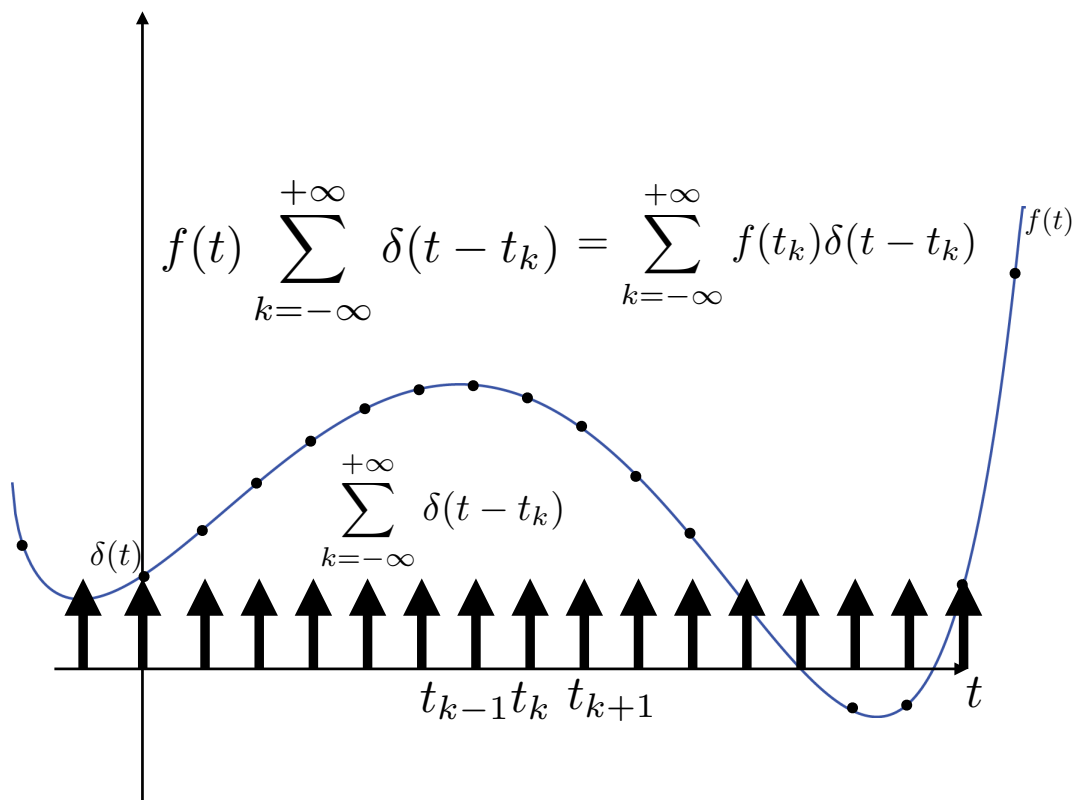




# A train of Dirac's Delta Functions



## Sampling of a Function: discrete case



# Sampling of a Function: continuous case

$$f(t) \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} \delta(t - t_k) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t_k) \delta(t - t_k)$$

$$f(t) * \delta(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(\tau) \delta(t - \tau) d\tau = f(t)$$

## Mathematical preliminaries

- The Dirac's Delta-function
- The Convolution Integral
- Sampling of a function
- **Linear, first-order, differential** equations
- Numerical solutions

# (Algebraic) equations



Robert Recorde  
(1551-1558)

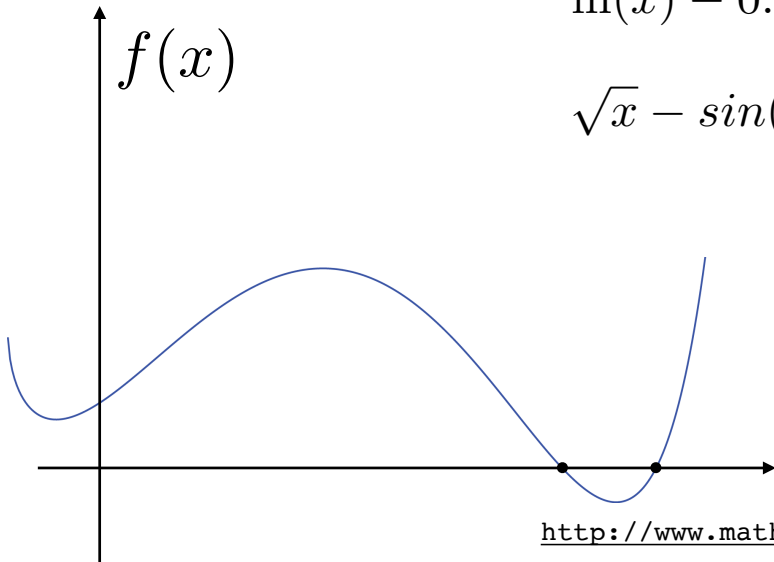
?  $x : f(x) = 0$

$$x + 5 = 0$$

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

$$\ln(x) - 0.5x = -0.5$$

$$\sqrt{x} - \sin\left(\frac{1}{x}\right) = 0$$



$$x_{1,2} = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/data/function-grapher.php>

# Ordinary *differential* equations (o.d.e)

?  $f(x) :$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = -f(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = 2f(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = -0.1f(x) + \sin(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = -0.1f(x) + 42$$

$$f(x) = -41??$$

$$f(x) = \sin(x)??$$

$$f(x) = \ln(x)??$$

$$f(x) = \sin^2(x)??$$

$$f(x) = e^{-x}??$$

$$f(x) = e^{2x}??$$

$$f(x) = e^{-x} + 42 ??$$

# Ordinary *differential* equations (o.d.e)

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = f(x)^2 + \frac{\sqrt{\sin(f(x))}}{x} - 2x^8$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = G(f(x))$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = G(f(x), x)$$

The only o.d.e. you must study

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = a f(x) \quad \text{with } a \text{ constant}$$

homogeneous, first order, with constant coefficient(s)

$$f(x) = K e^{ax} \quad \frac{d}{dx} (K e^{ax}) = K a e^{ax}$$

# The only o.d.e. you must study

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = a f(x) \quad \text{with } a \text{ constant}$$

$$f(x_0) = f_0 \quad \text{with an } \textit{initial} \text{ condition}$$

homogeneous, first order, with constant coefficient(s)

$$f(x) = f_0 e^{-ax_0} e^{ax} \quad f(x) = f_0 e^{a(x-x_0)}$$

# The only o.d.e. you must study

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(x) = a f(x)$$

$$f(x_0) = f_0$$

So.. what is the solution? Does the solution exist? Is it single?

This is known as *Cauchy's problem* and a math theorem insures that

the solution exists and it is unique

# Why bothering with o.d.e

In (bio)physics, that o.d.e. explain or approximate many phenomena, generally occurring (spontaneously) as a function of time, without any external driving influence..

If you solve that o.d.e., you can make “predictions” on the future (i.e. evaluate  $f(t)$  for any  $t$ , also for  $t = \dots$ 1st Jan 2239 )

*the voltage across a capacitor during spontaneous discharging;*

*the temperature of an object, exchanging heat by thermal conduction;*

*the level of water in a leaky pool (e.g. with a hole on its bottom);*

*the concentration of a substance in a given point (e.g. ink in water);*

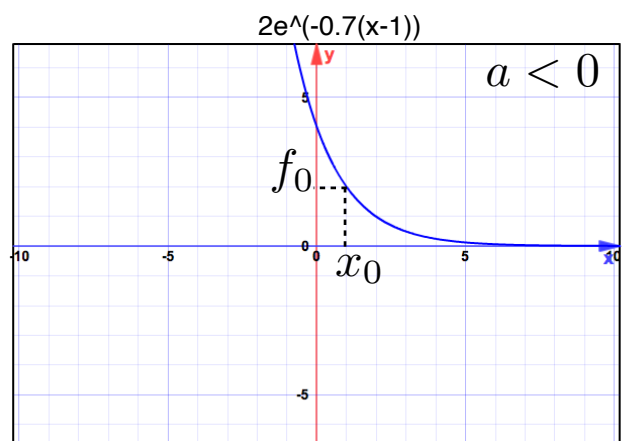
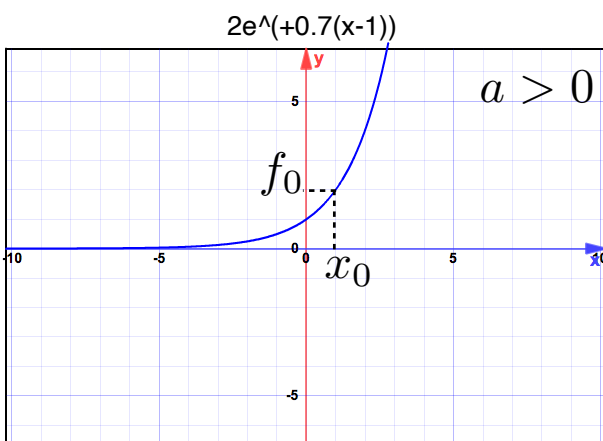
*the sodium ions, exchanged across the membrane of a neuron;*

*the electrical potential across cell membranes;*

## The only o.d.e. you must study

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = af(x) \quad f(x_0) = f_0$$

$$f(x) = f_0 e^{a(x-x_0)}$$



# Separation of variables

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = af(x) \quad f(x_0) = f_0$$

$$f(x) = f_0 e^{a(x-x_0)}$$

$$\frac{df(x)}{f(x)} = a dx \quad \int \frac{df(x)}{f(x)} = \int a dx \quad \int \frac{df}{f} = \int a dx$$

$$\ln(f) + \text{constant} = ax + \text{constant}$$

$$\ln(f) = ax + H$$

$$e^{\ln(f)} = e^{ax+H}$$

$$f(x) = e^{ax} e^H$$

$$f(x) = K e^{ax}$$

# Separation of variables

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = af(x) \quad f(x_0) = f_0$$

$$f(x) = f_0 e^{a(x-x_0)}$$

$$\frac{df(x)}{f(x)} = a dx \quad \int \frac{df(x)}{f(x)} = \int a dx \quad \int_{f_0}^f \frac{df}{f} = \int_{x_0}^x a dx$$

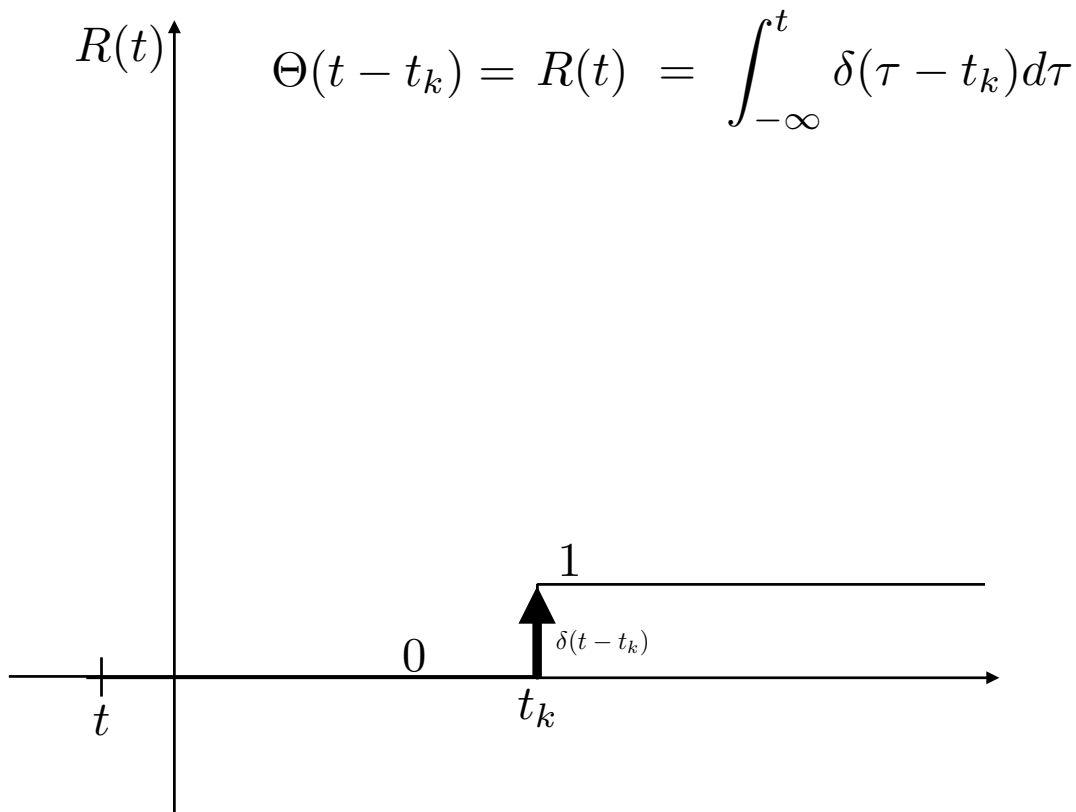
$$\ln(f) - \ln(f_0) = a(x - x_0)$$

$$\ln(f/f_0) = a(x - x_0)$$

$$e^{\ln(f/f_0)} = e^{a(x-x_0)}$$

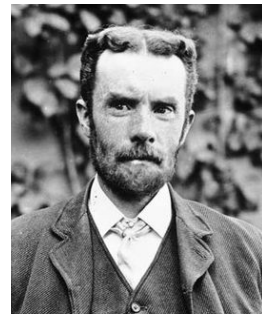
$$f(x)/f_0 = e^{a(x-x_0)}$$

# Integrating a Dirac's Delta



## Heaviside's "step" function

$$\Theta(x) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ 1 & \text{for } x > 0 \end{cases}$$

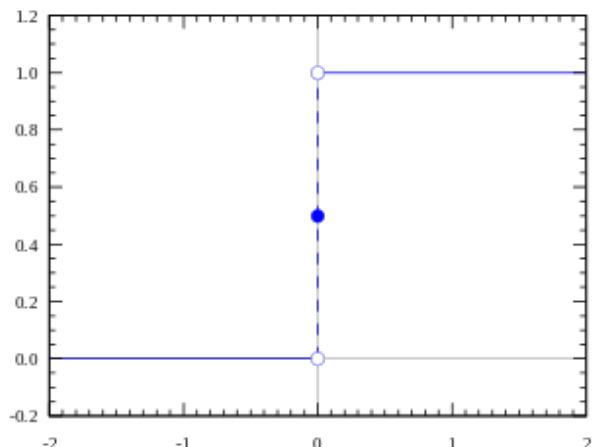


Oliver Heaviside  
(1850 - 1925)

$$\Theta(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x \delta(\tau) d\tau$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} \Theta(x) = \delta(x)$$

$$\Theta(x - x_0) := \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < x_0 \\ 1 & \text{for } x > x_0 \end{cases}$$





# The inhomogeneous case:

the principle of *superposition of effects*

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t) + g_1(t)$$

$$f_1(t)$$

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t) + g_2(t)$$

$$f_2(t)$$

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t) + (\alpha g_1(t) + \beta g_2(t))$$

$$\alpha f_1(t) + \beta f_2(t)$$

# The inhomogeneous case:

solution of the homogenous o.d.e.  
+ "particular" solution

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t)$$

$$f(t) = Ke^{at}$$

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t) + u$$

$$f_p(t)$$

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t) + (0 + u)$$

$$f(t_0) = f_0$$

$$f(t) = Ke^{at} + f_p(t)$$

# The inhomogeneous case:

constant "external" input  $u$

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t) + u$$

$$f(t_0) = f_0$$

$$f_p(t)$$

Heuristics: since 'u' is constant, maybe...  $f_p(t)$  is also constant.

$$f_p(t) = c \quad \frac{df_p(t)}{dt} = 0 = ac + u \quad c = -\frac{u}{a}$$

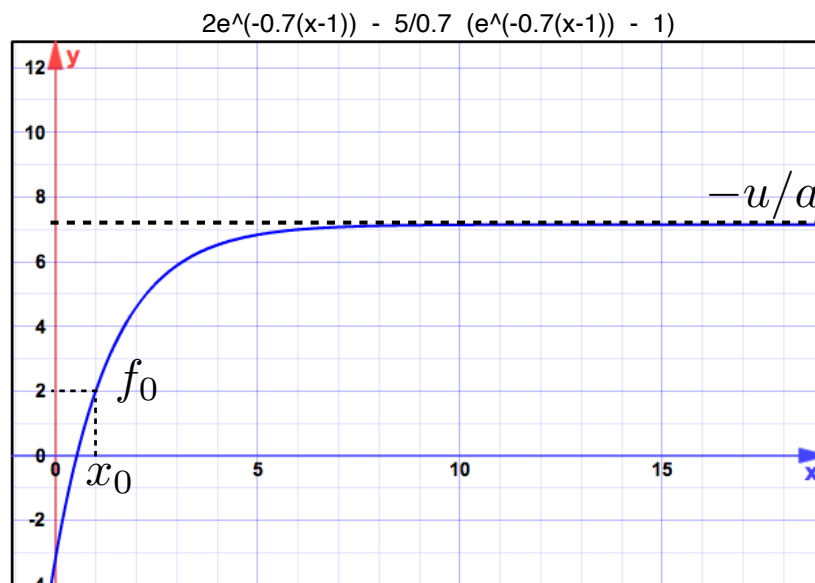
$$f(t) = Ke^{at} - \frac{u}{a} \quad f_0 = Ke^{at_0} - \frac{u}{a} \quad K = f_0e^{-at_0} + \frac{u}{a}e^{-at_0}$$

$$f(t) = f_0e^{a(t-t_0)} + \frac{u}{a} \left( e^{a(t-t_0)} - 1 \right)$$

# The inhomogeneous case:

constant "external" input  $u$

$$f(t) = f_0e^{a(t-t_0)} + \frac{u}{a} \left( e^{a(t-t_0)} - 1 \right)$$



# Digression

steady-state (equilibrium) of the solution

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t) + u$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} f(t) = f_{\infty}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} f_{\infty} = 0$$

$$0 = af_{\infty} + u$$

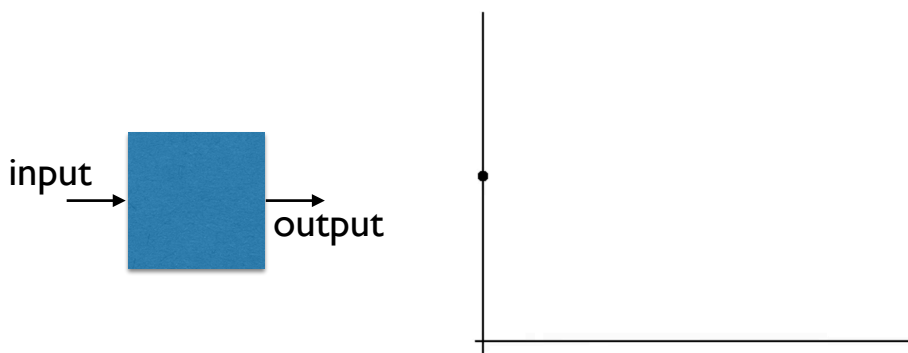
$$f_{\infty} = -u/a$$

## The inhomogeneous case:

no "external" input  $u$

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = -f(t)$$

$$f(0) = 1$$



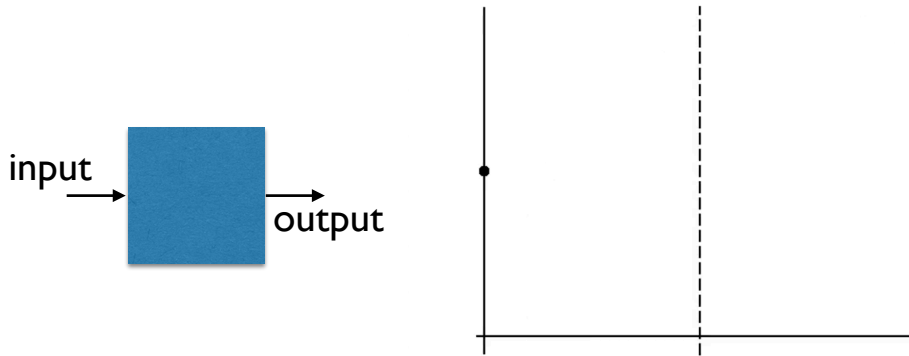
$$f(t) = e^{-t}$$

# The inhomogeneous case:

no “external” input until a certain time

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = -f(t)$$

$$f(0) = 1$$

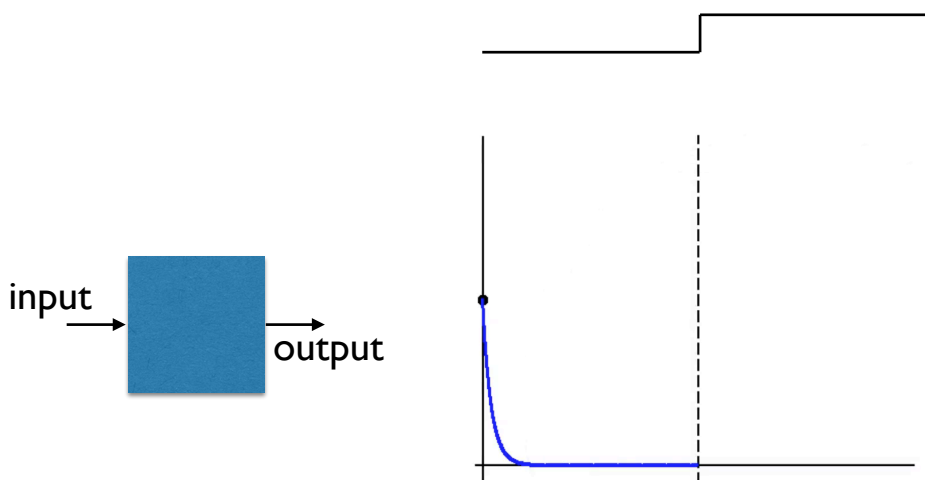


$$f(t) = e^{-t}$$

# The inhomogeneous case:

(piece-wise) constant “external” input

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = -f(t) + 1.5\Theta(t - t_{on}) \quad f(0) = 1$$

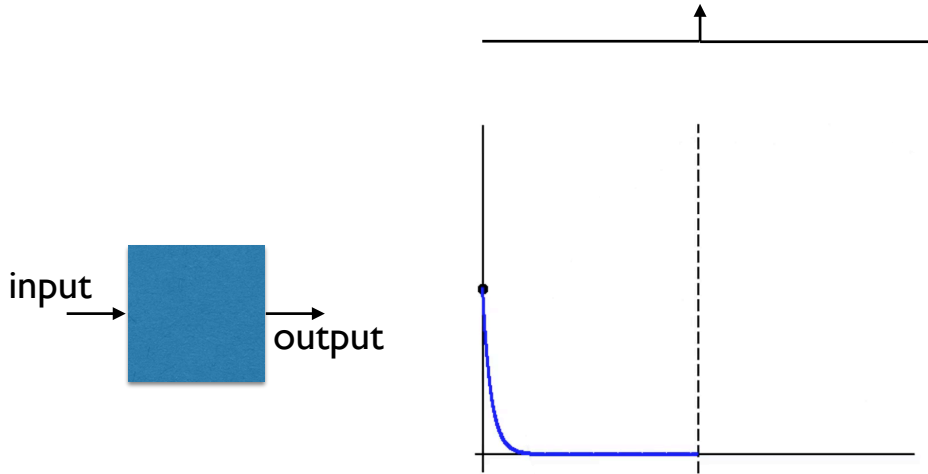


$$f(t) = e^{-t} - 1.5 \left( e^{-(t-t_{on})} - 1 \right) \Theta(t - t_{on})$$

# The inhomogeneous case:

impulse as “external” input

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = -f(t) + 1.5\delta(t - t_{on}) \quad f(0) = 1$$



$$f(t) = e^{-t} + 1.5e^{-(t-t_{on})}\Theta(t - t_{on})$$

# The inhomogeneous case:

solution of the homogenous o.d.e.  
+ “particular” solution in the zero-state

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = af(x) + \delta(x - x_{on}) \quad f(x_0) = 0$$

$$f_p(x) = h(x)$$

$$h(x) = e^{a(x-x_{on})}\Theta(x - x_{on})$$

Response to the impulse

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dh(x)}{dx} &= ae^{a(x-x_{on})}\Theta(x - x_{on}) + e^{a(x-x_{on})}\delta(x - x_{on}) \\ &= ae^{a(x-x_{on})}\Theta(x - x_{on}) + \delta(x - x_{on}) \end{aligned}$$

# The inhomogeneous case:

the “particular” solution, in the most general case

$$\frac{df(t)}{dx} = af(t) + u(t)\Theta(t - t_{on}) \quad f(t_0) = f_0$$

$$f(t) = f_0 e^{a(t-t_0)} + f_p(t)$$

$$u(t)\Theta(t - t_{on}) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} u(\tau)\Theta(\tau - t_{on})\delta(t - \tau)d\tau$$

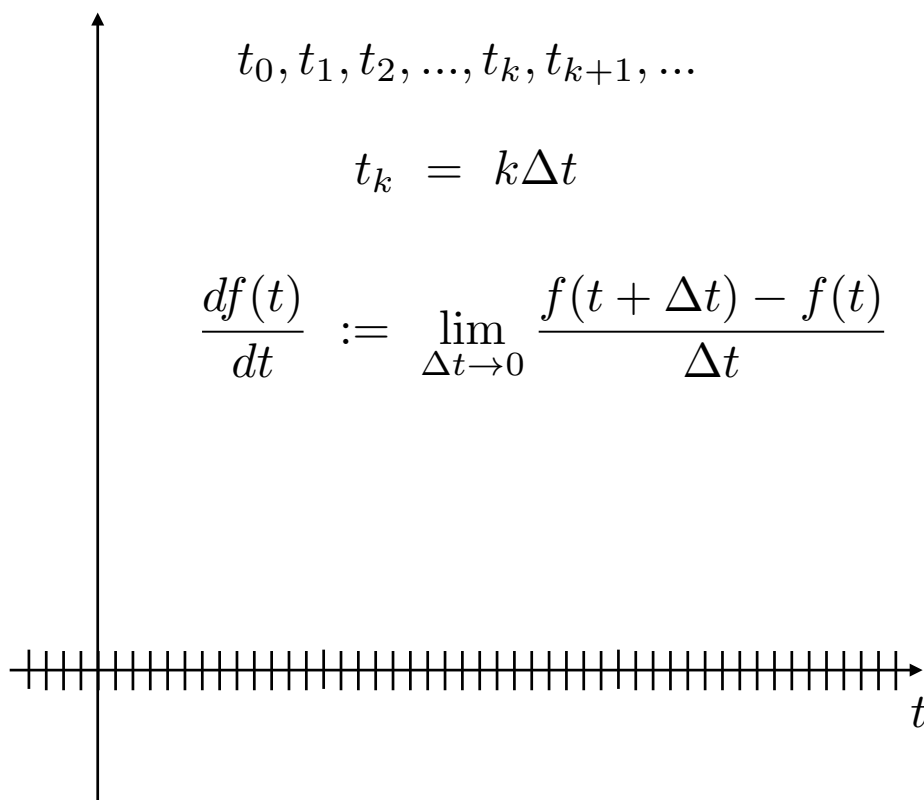
$$f_p(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} u(\tau)\Theta(\tau - t_{on})h(t - \tau)d\tau$$

$$f_p(t) = h(t) * u(t)\Theta(t - t_{on})$$

## First-order, linear, o.d.e. with initial condition

- The homogeneous case
  - The separation of variables method of solution
- The inhomogeneous case
  - The principle of superposition of effects (linearity)
  - Heaviside's *step* function
  - solution for constant inhomogeneous terms (external inputs)
  - equilibrium (or steady-state) and convergence to it
  - o.d.e. as input-output, filters: step and impulse responses
  - solution for arbitrary inhomogeneous terms (external inputs)

# Numerical solutions of an o.d.e.



# Numerical solutions of an o.d.e.

explicit Euler's method

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t) + g_1(t) \quad \frac{df(t)}{dt} \approx \frac{f(t + \Delta t) - f(t)}{\Delta t}$$

$$\frac{f(t + \Delta t) - f(t)}{\Delta t} \approx af(t) + g_1(t) \quad f(0) = f_0$$

$$f(t + \Delta t) \approx (1 + a\Delta t) f(t) + \Delta t g_1(t)$$

$$\tilde{f}_{k+1} = \tilde{a} f_k + \tilde{g}_k$$

$$\tilde{f}_k \approx f(k\Delta t)$$

$$\tilde{f}_0 = f_0$$

$$\tilde{a} = (1 + a\Delta t)$$

$$\tilde{g}_k = \Delta t g_1(k\Delta t)$$

# Numerical solutions of an o.d.e.

explicit Euler's method

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = f(t)^2 + \ln f(t) \quad \frac{df(t)}{dt} \approx \frac{f(t + \Delta t) - f(t)}{\Delta t}$$

$$f(0) = f_0$$

$$\tilde{f}_{k+1} = \tilde{f}_k + \Delta t \left( \tilde{f}_k^2 + \ln \tilde{f}_k \right)$$

$$\tilde{f}_k \approx f(k\Delta t)$$

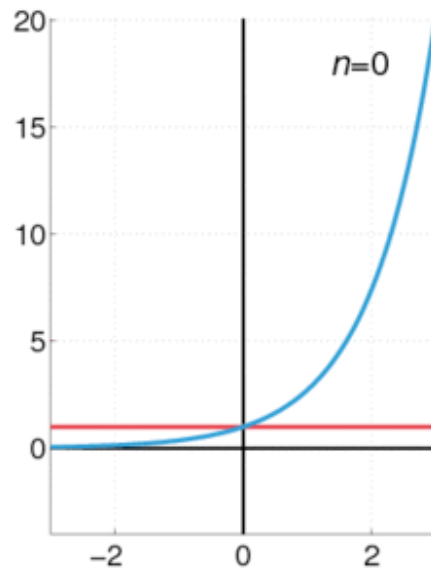
$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = f(t)^2 + \ln f(t) + \frac{a}{t} - f(t)^t$$

$$\tilde{f}_{k+1} = \tilde{f}_k + \Delta t \left( \tilde{f}_k^2 + \ln \tilde{f}_k + \frac{a}{k\Delta t} - \tilde{f}_k^{k\Delta t} \right)$$

$$\tilde{f}_0 = f_0$$



# Taylor's polynomial-series expansion



$$f(x) = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!}(x-a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!}(x-a)^2 + \frac{f^{(3)}(a)}{3!}(x-a)^3 + \dots$$

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{f^{(n)}(a)}{n!} (x-a)^n$$



## Analytical solution: iterative expressions

$$\frac{df(t)}{dt} = af(t) + u$$

$$f(t) = f_0 e^{a(t-t_0)} + \frac{u}{a} (e^{a(t-t_0)} - 1)$$

$$f(t + \Delta t) = f_0 e^{a\Delta t} e^{a(t-t_0)} + \frac{u}{a} (e^{a\Delta t} e^{a(t-t_0)} - 1)$$

$$f(t + \Delta t) = e^{a\Delta t} f(t) - \frac{u}{a} (1 - e^{a\Delta t})$$

$$f_{k+1} = e^{a\Delta t} f_k - \frac{u}{a} (1 - e^{a\Delta t})$$

$$e^{a\Delta t} \approx 1 + a\Delta t$$

$$\frac{u}{a} (1 - e^{a\Delta t}) \approx -u\Delta t$$

$$\tilde{f}_{k+1} = \tilde{a} f_k + u\Delta t$$

$$\tilde{a} = (1 + a\Delta t)$$