

Consortium for Ordinary Differential Equations Experiments

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The goal of the ODE Consortium, which is composed of faculty associated with each of the seven sponsoring institutions, is to distribute information on the design and use of interactive computer experiments in courses involving ODEs. The Consortium is funded by the NSF through the Division of Undergraduate Education and sponsors summer faculty workshops towards this goal. Many of the items in C•ODE•E are based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Grant No. DUE-9154300. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

C•ODE•E

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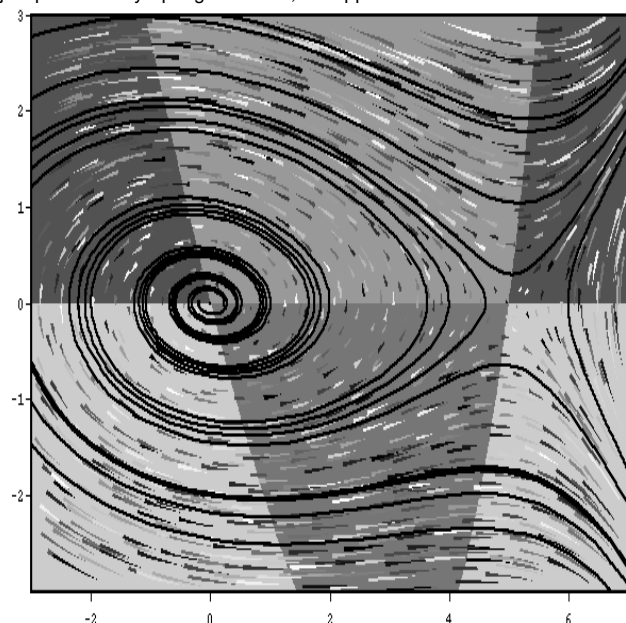
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<http://www.math.hmc.edu/codee/>

The cover picture is due to Dan Schwalbe and Stan Wagon. It shows a new, creative method for depicting the phase plane. The plane shown is for a magnet attached to a spring suspended above an iron plate. The position of the magnet is shown horizontally and velocity is shown vertically.

The vector field is represented as randomly placed fish-like objects. The different gray patches in the background correspond to regions where the fish are swimming NorthEast, SouthEast, SouthWest, or NorthWest. Thus the intersection of the gray regions corresponds to the nullcline curves.

The software used is VisualDSolve. More details on VisualDSolve, just published by Springer/TELOS, will appear in a later issue.



on the cover