

Some applications:

Newton's Law of Cooling / Heating

Principle:

The rate of change of the temperature of a body is proportional to the difference between its Temp. and the temp. of the surrounding medium

That is, if

$T(t)$:= Temp. of the body at time t ;

T_m := Temp. of the surrounding medium

Then

$$\frac{dT}{dt} \propto T - T_m$$

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = K(T - T_m), \quad K \text{ constant}$$

From which we obtain,

$$T(t) = T_m + Ce^{kt}$$

Consider the following example:

Example

A small metal bar, whose initial temperature was 20°C , is dropped into a large container of boiling water. How long will it take the bar to reach 90°C if it is known that its temperature increases 2° in one second?