

MA3J4-15 Mathematical Modelling with PDE

26/27

Department

Warwick Mathematics Institute

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Nikos Kallinikos

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

Multiple

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

The students will be given a general overview on the derivation and use of partial differential equations modelling real world applications. By the end of the course they should have acquired knowledge about the physical interpretation of PDE models and how the learned techniques can be applied to similar problems.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The module focuses on mathematical modelling with the help of PDEs and the general concepts and techniques behind it. It gives an introduction to PDE modelling in general and provides the necessary basics.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

1. Mathematical modelling

Math. modelling in physics, chemistry, biology, medicine, economy, finance, art, transport, architecture, sports

Qualitative/quantitative models, discrete/continuum models

Scaling, dimensionless variables, sensitivity analysis

Examples: projectile motion, chemical reactions

2. Diffusion and drift

Microscopic derivation

Continuity equation and Fick's law

Heat equation: scaling, properties of solutions

Reaction diffusion systems: Turing instabilities

Fokker-Planck equation

3. Transport and flows

Conservation of mass, momentum and energy

Euler and Navier-Stokes equations

4. From Newton to Boltzmann

Newton's laws of motion

Vlasov and Boltzmann equation

Traffic flow models

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Understand the nature of micro- and macroscopic models.
- Formulate models in dimensionless quantities
- Have an overview of well known PDE models in physics and continuum mechanics
- Calculate solutions for simple PDE models
- Use and adapt Matlab programs provided during the module

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Subject specific skills

- Mathematical modelling in the life and social sciences: the module introduces different modelling concepts and discusses the relation of these models across different scales.
- Understand and apply fundamental physical concepts, such as conservation of mass, ... to develop mathematical models.
- PDE specific techniques: the students will acquire different analytic techniques, such as characteristic calculus, entropy and energy methods, linear stability analysis, scaling

techniques, ... These methods allow them to analyse the behaviour of solutions to the discussed PDE models in different situations (long time behaviour, scaling limits,)

- Construct solutions using the method of characteristics, fundamental solutions, separation of variables or scaling invariances.
- Analyse the behaviour of solutions in the presence of boundary conditions and obtain a better understanding of the qualitative behaviour of solutions.
- Familiarize themselves with Python and Matlab programs

Transferable skills

- Model development: the module will introduce the students to the underlying concepts of PDE modelling. These techniques can be used and further developed in a more general context.
 - PDE techniques: apply and develop well-known concepts in PDE analysis to study the solutions of more general PDEs.
 - The Python and Matlab scripts provided give students the opportunity to improve the programming skills.
 - The scripts can be improved and generalised for more complex or different PDE models
 - Analytical thinking and problem solving: The course trains students to identify the main driving forces in applications and develop suitable mathematical models. Mathematical models play an important role in engineering, economics and finance. Being able to develop models and analyse them using analytical and computational techniques increases student possibilities on the job market. Mathematical modelling always comes with a certain degree of freedom - the course provides the students with the necessary tools to explore these freedom and gives them the freedom to develop them further.
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Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	30 sessions of 1 hour (20%)
Tutorials	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Private study	111 hours (74%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Review lectured material and work on set exercises.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group B

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
Centrally-timetabled examination (On-campus)	100%		No

- Answerbook Gold (24 page)

Assessment group R

	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
In-person Examination - Resit	100%		No

- Answerbook Gold (24 page)

Feedback on assessment

Marked coursework and exam feedback.

[Past exam papers for MA3J4](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of TMAA-G1PD Postgraduate Taught Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- Year 1 of TMAA-G1P0 Postgraduate Taught Mathematics
- TMAA-G1PC Postgraduate Taught Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)

- Year 1 of G1PC Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- Year 2 of G1PC Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- Year 3 of UCSA-G4G1 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics
- UCSA-G4G3 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G4G1 Discrete Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G4G3 Discrete Mathematics
- Year 4 of UCSA-G4G4 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics (with Intercolated Year)
- Year 4 of UCSA-G4G2 Undergraduate Discrete Mathematics with Intercolated Year
- USTA-G300 Undergraduate Master of Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics and Economics
 - Year 3 of G300 Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics and Economics
 - Year 4 of G300 Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics and Economics

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV18 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Intercolated Year

This module is Core option list B for:

- Year 3 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy
- Year 3 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list C for:

- Year 3 of UMAA-GV17 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy
- Year 3 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list D for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV18 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Intercolated Year
- Year 4 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Core option list F for:

- Year 4 of UMAA-GV19 Undergraduate Mathematics and Philosophy with Specialism in Logic and Foundations

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 2 of TMAA-G1PD Postgraduate Taught Interdisciplinary Mathematics (Diploma plus MSc)
- UMAA-G105 Undergraduate Master of Mathematics (with Intercolated Year)
 - Year 3 of G105 Mathematics (MMath) with Intercolated Year
 - Year 4 of G105 Mathematics (MMath) with Intercolated Year
 - Year 5 of G105 Mathematics (MMath) with Intercolated Year
- Year 3 of UMAA-G100 Undergraduate Mathematics (BSc)

- UMAA-G103 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath)
 - Year 3 of G100 Mathematics
 - Year 3 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
 - Year 4 of G103 Mathematics (MMath)
- Year 4 of UMAA-G107 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath) with Study Abroad
- UMAA-G106 Undergraduate Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
 - Year 3 of G106 Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
 - Year 4 of G106 Mathematics (MMath) with Study in Europe
- Year 4 of USTA-G1G3 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat)
- Year 5 of USTA-G1G4 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat) (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 4 of UMAA-G101 Undergraduate Mathematics with Intercalated Year
- Year 3 of USTA-Y602 Undergraduate Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics and Economics
- Year 4 of USTA-Y603 Undergraduate Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics, Economics (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Option list B for:

- Year 3 of USTA-GG14 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc)

This module is Option list C for:

- Year 3 of USTA-G300 Undergraduate Master of Mathematics, Operational Research, Statistics and Economics
- Year 3 of USTA-G1G3 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat)
- Year 4 of USTA-G1G4 Undergraduate Mathematics and Statistics (BSc MMathStat) (with Intercalated Year)