

Meeting: 1003, Atlanta, Georgia, MAA CP X1, MAA General Contributed Paper Session, I

1003-X1-1116 **Phil Gustafson*** (pgustafs@mesastate.edu), Mathematics Department, Mesa State College,
1100 North Ave, Grand Junction, CO 81501. *PowerPoint as a Presentation Tool in an
Introductory Differential Equations Course*. Preliminary report.

An introductory differential equations course presents a great opportunity for students to solidify their understanding of calculus while learning new ways of solving applied problems. However, an instructor may feel that there is not enough time to adequately treat the material in one semester. The ability of PowerPoint to quickly and simultaneously display equations, derivations, solution graphs and direction fields enable students to better understand the methods and meaning of the material. In this talk the speaker will reflect on his experiences in creating and using PowerPoint with embedded Maple illustrations to provide a more meaningful differential equations course. Sample lesson slides and a discussion of the pros and cons of this presentation format will be given, along with a summary of student response. (Received October 04, 2004)