

Recall:

General ODE:

Equation involving a function $y = y(x)$, one or more of its derivatives, and x .

The order of an ODE is the highest order of a derivative that occurs.

Ex: $y' = 2xy$ 1st order ODE.

Let's verify that $y = Ce^{x^2}$ is a solution for any $C > 0$.

$$y' = Ce^{x^2} \cdot 2x = 2x \underbrace{(Ce^{x^2})}_{=y} = 2xy \checkmark$$

When solving ODE's we are

Usually interested in finding a specific solution, satisfying some extra requirement. In many physical problems we need to find the specific solution satisfying a condition at the form

$$y(t_0) = y_0. \text{ "initial condition"}$$

Initial-value problem (IVP)
= the problem of finding a sol of an ODE satisfying an initial condition.

Ex: Solve the IVP

$$y' = 2xy, \quad y(0) = 3.$$

We already know that $y = Ce^{x^2}$ is a general sol of this ODE.
The initial condition $y(0) = 3$

determines the constant:

$y(0) = Ce^{0^2} = \boxed{C=3}$ & so
the specific solution to the IVP
is $\boxed{y = 3e^{x^2}}$.

Slope fields & Euler's method

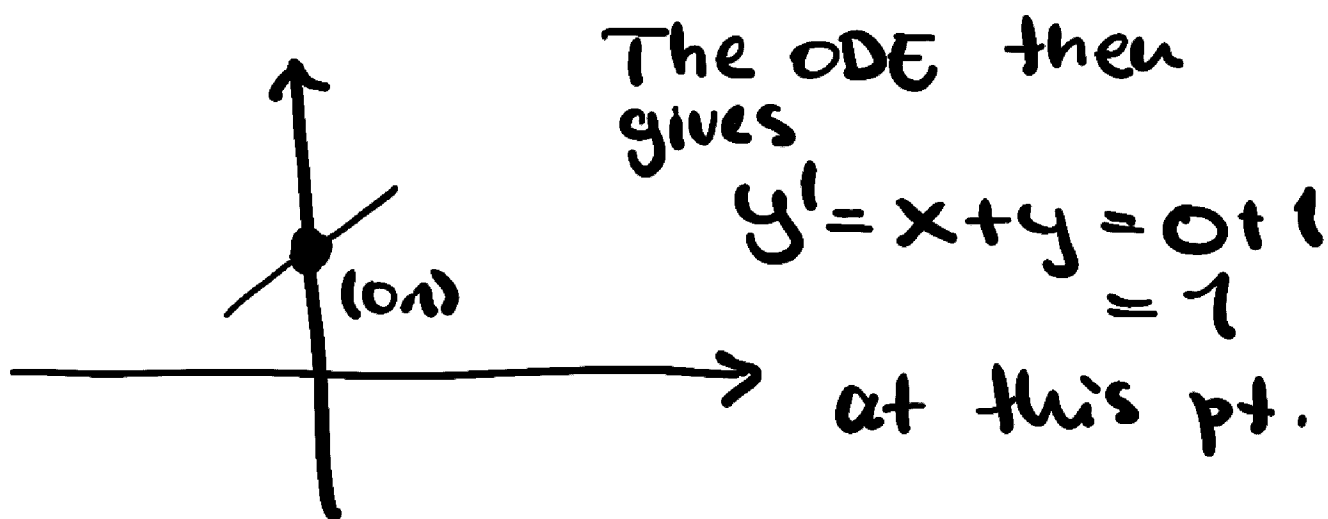
(§7.2 Stewart)

In general, can't solve ODE's
unless they are of specific forms.
Can still learn a lot about them
using a graphical approach
(slope field) or numerical approach
(Euler's method).

Ex: Suppose we need to sketch
the graph of the solution to
the IVP $y' = x + y$, $y(0) = 1$.

The equation tells us what the slope is of y at the point $(x, y(x))$.

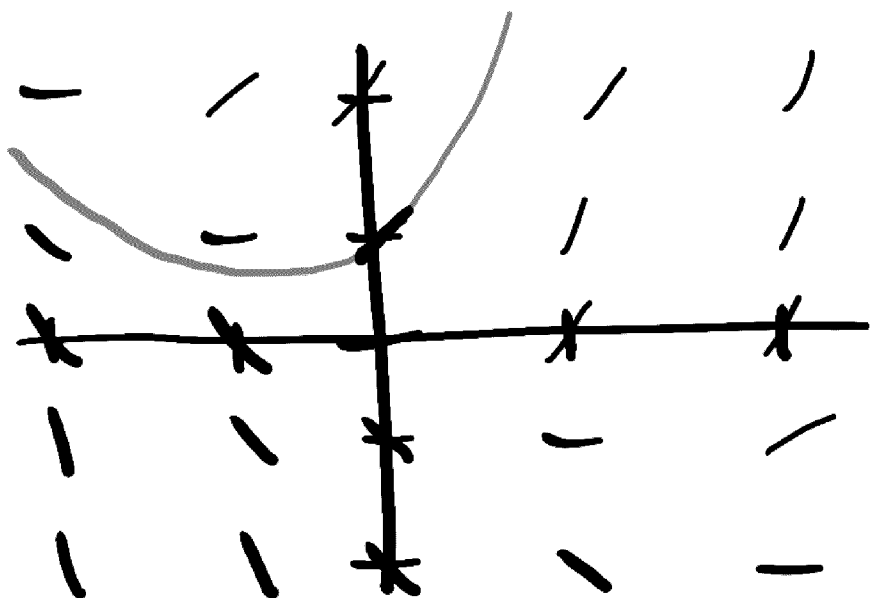
The initial cond. tells us that the solution passes through $(0,1)$ ($y(0)=1$).



So the solution, whatever it is, will have slope 1 at $(0,1)$.

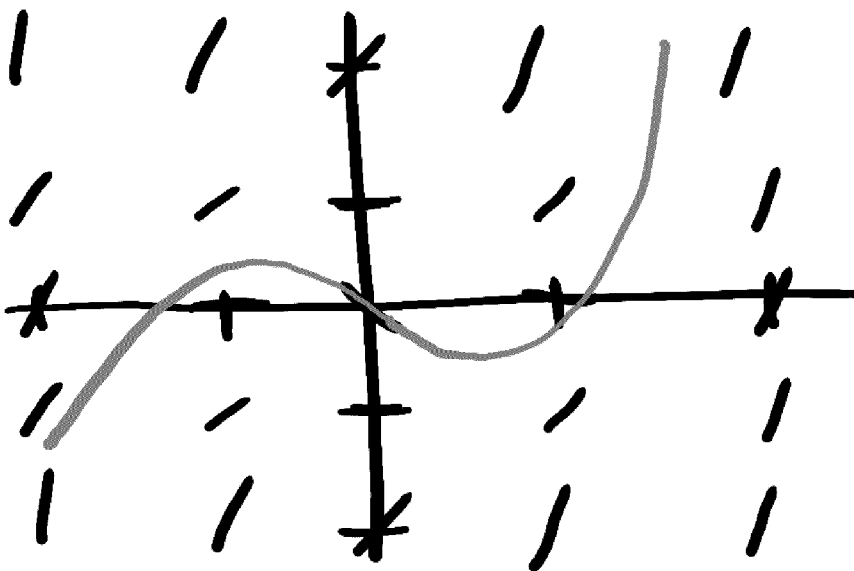
Sketch of more slopes:

$y \backslash x$	-2	-1	0	1	2
-2	-4	-3	-2	-1	0
-1	-3	-2	-1	0	1
0	-2	-1	0	1	2
1	-1	0	1	2	3
2	0	1	2	3	4



Ex: Sketch slope field of $y' = x^2 + y^2 - 1$ & sketch the graph of the solution with $y(0) = 0$

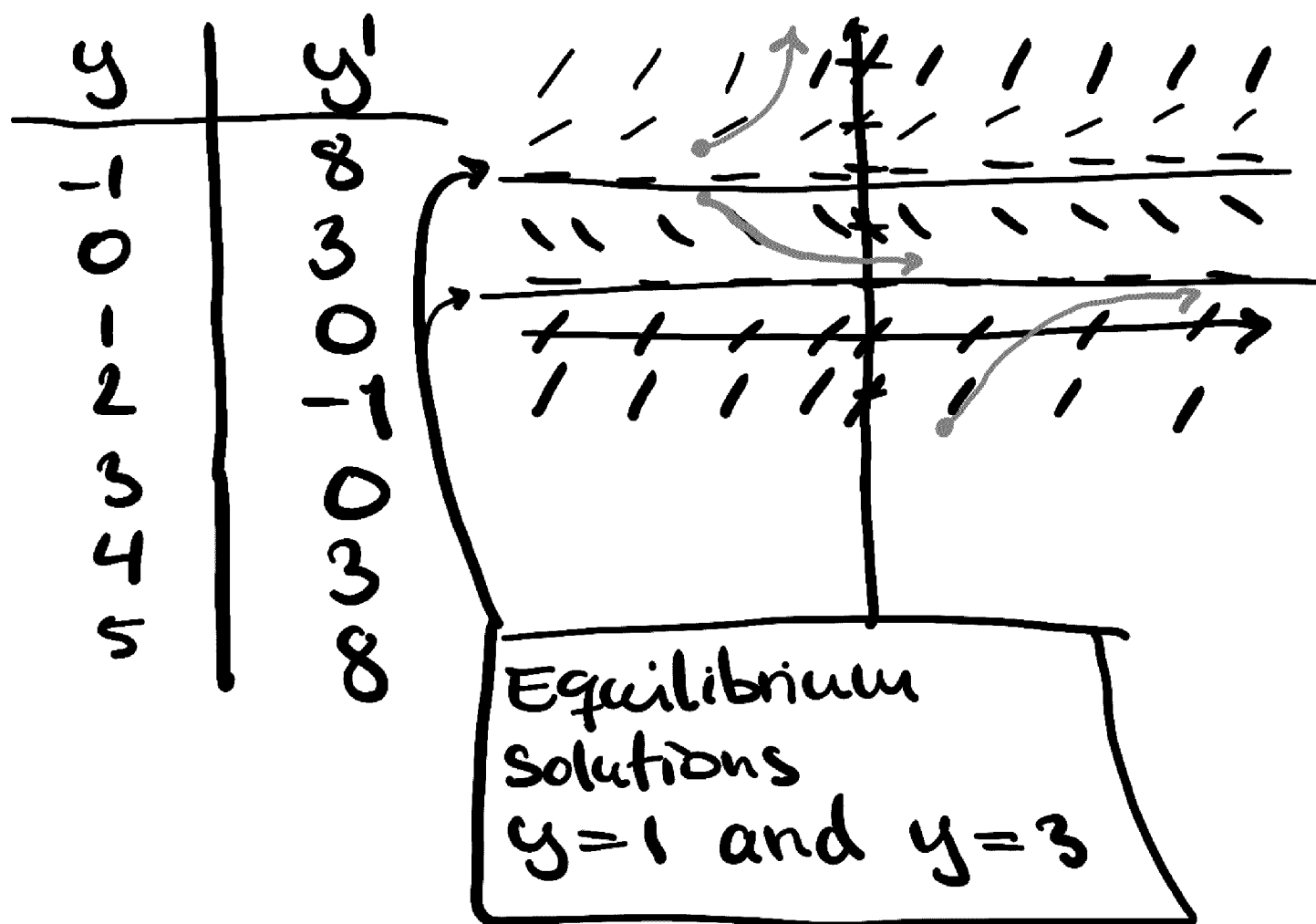
$y \backslash x$	-2	-1	0	1	2
-2	7	4	3	4	7
-1	4	1	0	1	4
0	3	0	-1	0	3
1	4	1	0	1	4
2	7	4	3	4	7



Ex: $y' = (y-1)(y-3)$.

Let's sketch slope field.

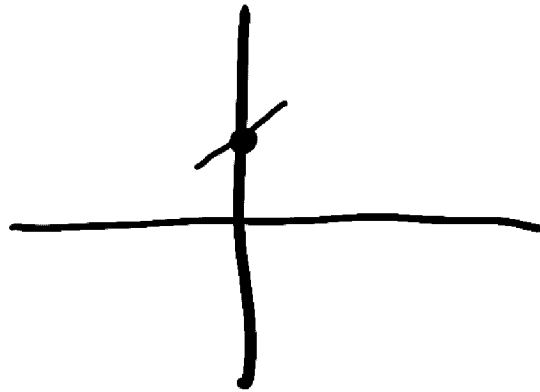
Note that the RHS does not depend on x , so slope only depend on y .



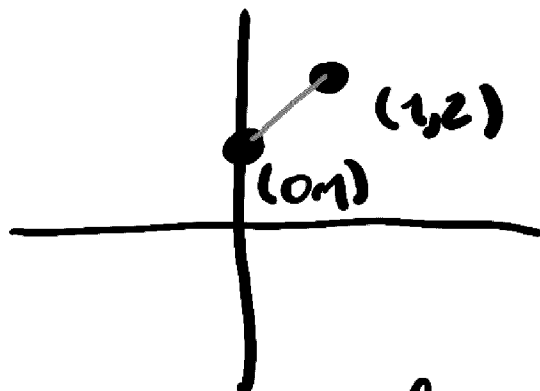
Euler's method

Consider $y' = x + y$, $y(0) = 1$ again.

We already know that $y'(0)=1$ by plugging in $(x,y) = (0,1)$ into the ODE.



Now let's approximate the solution by taking a small step in the direction of this slope.

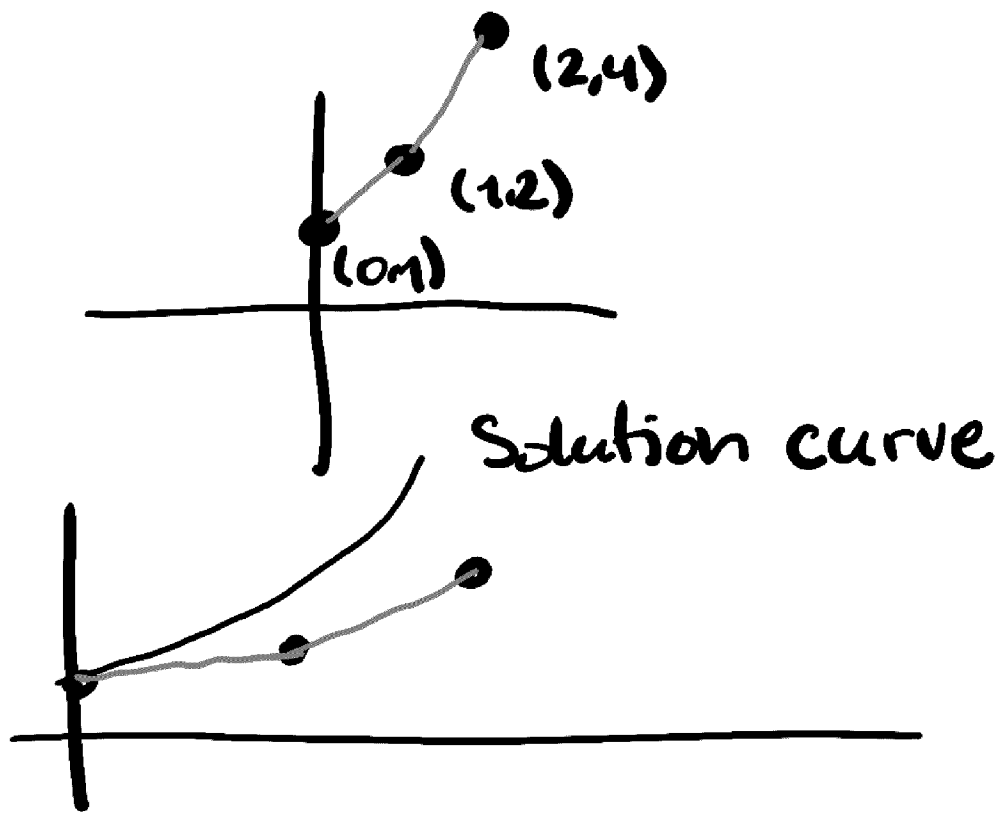


Took a step of size 1 (from $x=0$ to $x=1$)

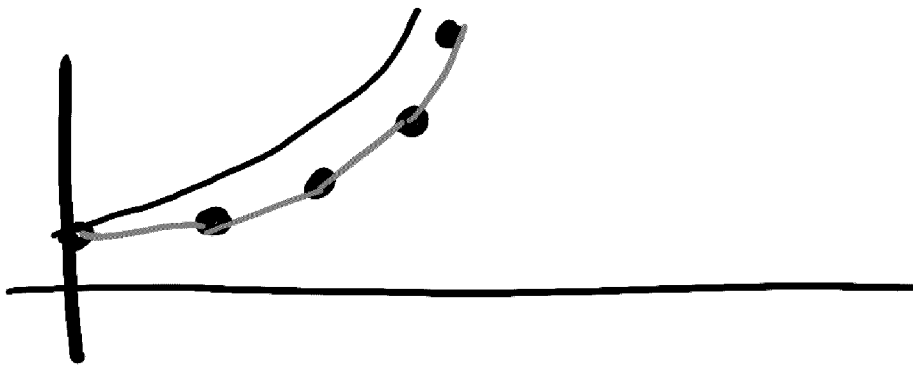
Now adjust slope according to

the ODE $y' = x + y$.

$$\text{New slope} = y'(1) = 1 + 2 = 3$$



Can use smaller step sizes
to get better approximation



Suppose we have a general
ODE now:

$$\boxed{y' = F(x, y)}$$

Let (x_0, y_0) be our start point.
Let h be our step size.

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = x_0 + h, \text{ then} \\ y_1 = y_0 + h \cdot F(x_0, y_0) \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_2 = x_1 + h \\ y_2 = y_1 + h \cdot F(x_1, y_1) \end{cases}$$

$\vdots$ Euler's method

$$x_n = x_{n-1} + h$$

$$y_n = y_{n-1} + h \cdot F(x_{n-1}, y_{n-1})$$

$$n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Ex: Consider $y' = x^2 + y^2 - 1$, $y(0) = 0$

Let's create a table of numerical

approximations at the end from
 $x=0$ to $x=2$ w/ step size

$$h = 0.5$$

$$(x_0, y_0) = (0, 0)$$

x	y
$x_0 = 0$	0
$x_1 = 0.5$	$y_1 = y_0 + h \cdot F(x_0, y_0)$ $= 0 + 0.5 \cdot (0^2 + 0^2 - 1)$ $= -0.5$
$x_2 = 1$	$y_2 = y_1 + h \cdot F(x_1, y_1)$ $= -0.5 + 0.5(0.5^2 + (-0.5)^2 - 1)$ $= -0.75$
$x_3 = 1.5$	$y_3 = y_2 + h \cdot F(x_2, y_2)$ $= -0.75 + 0.5(1^2 + (-0.75)^2 - 1)$ $= -0.46875$
$x_4 = 2$	$y_4 = y_3 + h \cdot F(x_3, y_3)$ $= -0.46875$ $+ 0.5(1.5^2 + (-0.46875)^2 - 1)$ ≈ 0.266

