

Modeling with Differential Equations: Introduction to the Issues

10/26/2011

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Given an equation relating a variable (e.g. x), a function (e.g. y), and its derivatives (y', y'', \dots), **what is y ?**
i.e. How do I solve for y ?

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Why?

Many physical and biological systems can be modeled with differential equations. Also, it can be a lot harder to model a function long term than it is to measure how something changes as the system goes from one state to another.

Some examples

Obvervation: The rate of increase of a bacterial culture is proportional to the number of bacteria present at that time.

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$$m * \frac{d^2}{dt^2} D = -kD$$

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Solution: $P = Ae^{kt}$, where A is a constant.

(We did this in lecture 12)

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Equation: $m * \frac{d^2}{dt^2}D = -kD$

Solution: $D = A \cos(t * \sqrt{k/m}) + B \sin(t * \sqrt{k/m})$,

where A and B are constants.

(We did this in lecture 14, where $k/m = 1$)

Slope Fields

If you can write your differential equation like

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = F(x, y)$$

then you really have a way of saying

“If I’m standing at the point (a, b) ,
then I should move from here with slope $F(a, b)$.”

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Some non-examples:

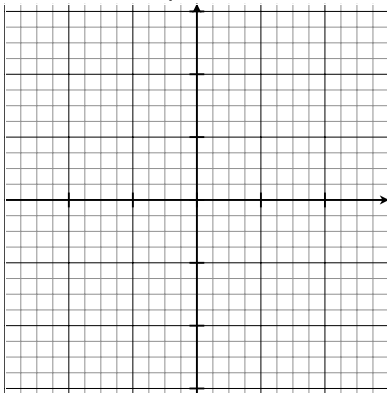
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y} + \frac{d^2y}{dx^2}$$

$$\frac{dP}{dt} * \frac{d^2P}{dt^2} = kP$$

$$m * \frac{d^2D}{dt^2} = -kD$$

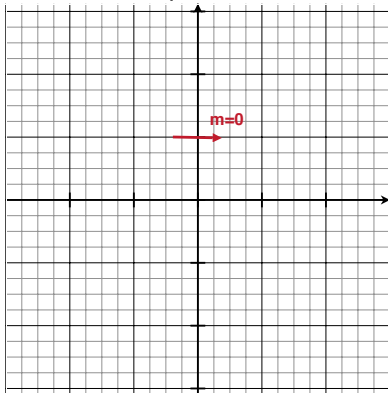
x	y	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -x/y$
0	1	
0	-1	
1	1	
1	-1	
-1	1	
-1	-1	
2	1	
1	2	
-2	0	

Slope field:



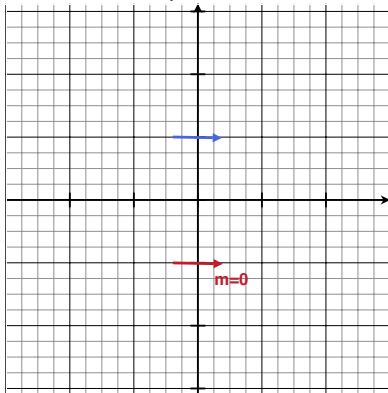
x	y	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -x/y$
0	1	0
0	-1	
1	1	
1	-1	
-1	1	
-1	-1	
2	1	
1	2	
-2	0	

Slope field:



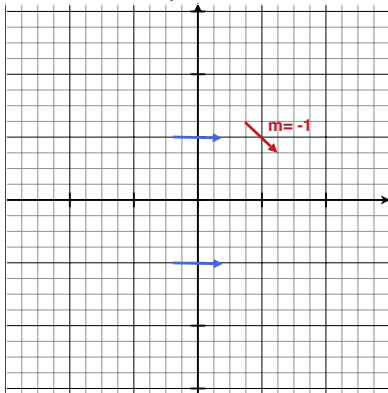
x	y	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -x/y$
0	1	0
0	-1	0
1	1	
1	-1	
-1	1	
-1	-1	
2	1	
1	2	
-2	0	

Slope field:



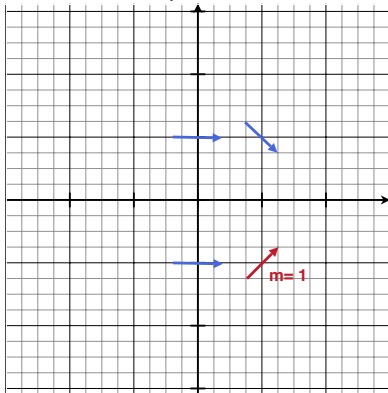
x	y	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -x/y$
0	1	0
0	-1	0
1	1	-1
1	-1	
-1	1	
-1	-1	
2	1	
1	2	
-2	0	

Slope field:



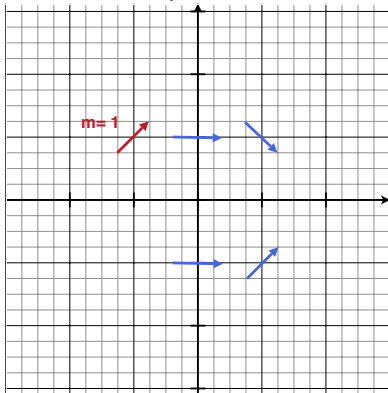
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0	1	0
0	-1	0
1	1	-1
1	-1	1
-1	1	
-1	-1	
2	1	
1	2	
-2	0	

Slope field:



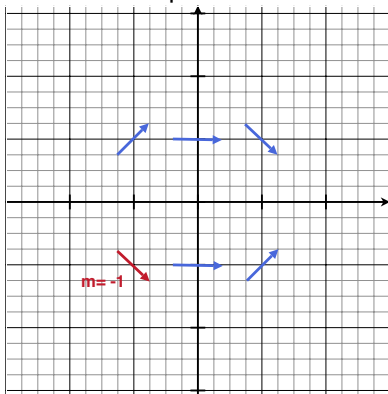
x	y	$\frac{dy}{dx} = -x/y$
0	1	0
0	-1	0
1	1	-1
1	-1	1
-1	1	1
-1	-1	-1
2	1	-0.5
1	2	-0.5
-2	0	undefined

Slope field:



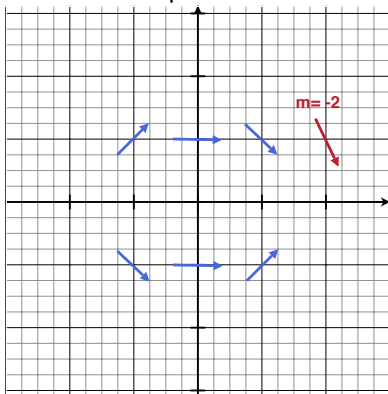
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0	1	0
0	-1	0
1	1	-1
1	-1	1
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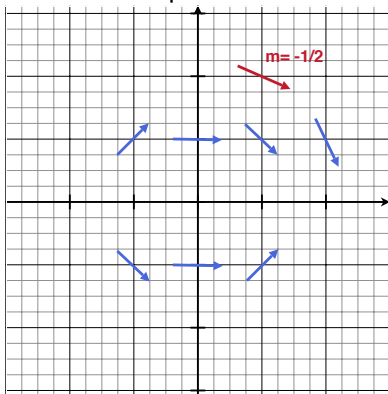
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1	1	-1
1	-1	1
-1	1	1
-1	-1	-1
2	1	-2
1	2	
-2	0	

Slope field:



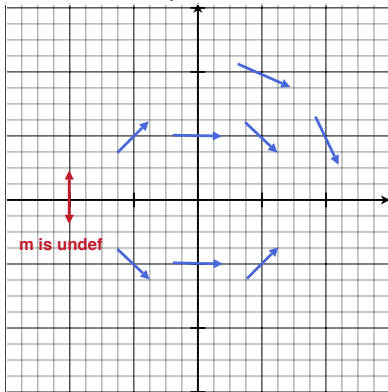
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0	1	0
0	-1	0
1	1	-1
1	-1	1
-1	1	1
-1	-1	-1
2	1	-2
1	2	$-1/2$
-2	0	

Slope field:

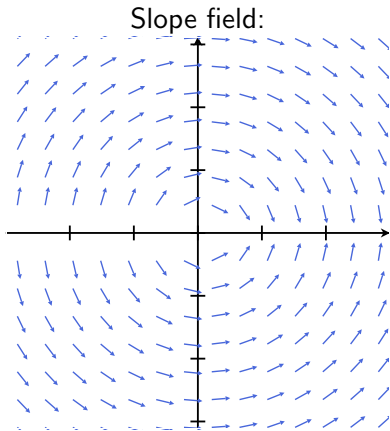


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1	2	-1/2
-2	0	undef

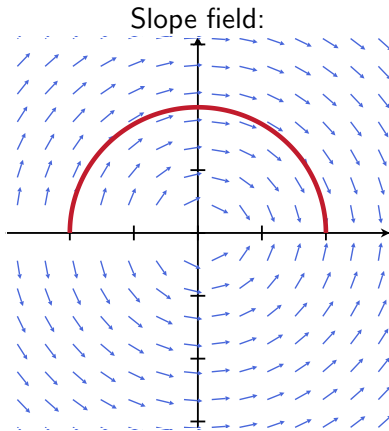
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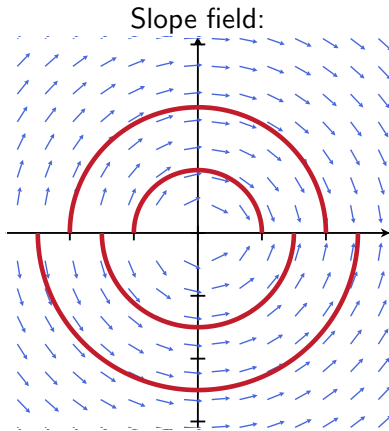
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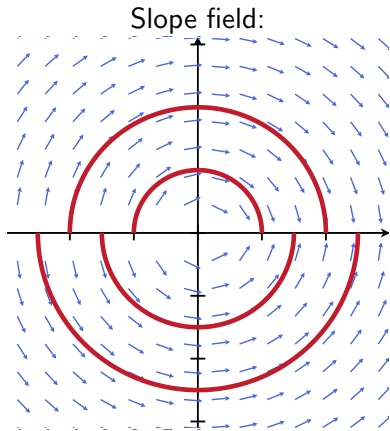
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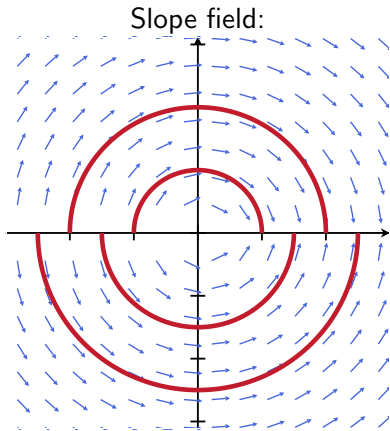


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Arrows point in the direction of semicircles! $y = \pm\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$?

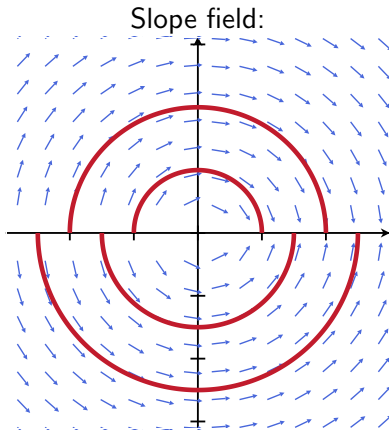
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Check:
$$\frac{d}{dx} \pm \sqrt{r^2 - x^2} = \frac{-2x}{\pm 2\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}}$$

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0	1	0
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Check: $\frac{d}{dx} \pm \sqrt{r^2 - x^2} = \frac{-2x}{\pm 2\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}} = -\frac{x}{y} \quad \text{☺}$

Solving explicitly (get a formula!)

We've done...

1. Get lucky

“what's a function you know whose derivative blah blah ...”

2. Differential equations of the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)$$

Find the antiderivative!

Today, we'll add

3. Differential equations of the form

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x) * g(y)$$

Use **“Separation of Variables”**

Separable Equations

A **separable differential equation** is one of the form

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$$\frac{dx}{dt} = t^2 \sec(x)$$

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Some non-examples:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x + y$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{t + x}{xt^2}$$

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A separable equation is one in which we can put all of the y 's and dy 's (as products) on one side of the equation and all of the x 's and dx 's (as products) on the other...

Examples

(1) If $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y}$, then $y \, dy = -x \, dx$.

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To solve (1), integrate both sides:

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To solve (1), integrate both sides:

$$y^2/2 + c_2 = \int y \, dy = \int -x \, dx = -x^2/2 + c_1$$

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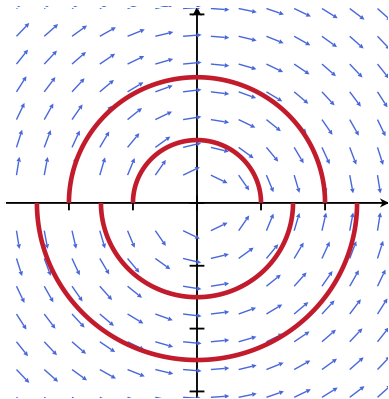
So

$$y = \pm \sqrt{2(-x^2/2 + c_1 - c_2)} = \pm \sqrt{a - x^2}$$

where $a = 2(c_1 - c_2)$.

Examples

Slope field for $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y}$:



Suggested and checked $y = \pm\sqrt{r^2 - x^2}$

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Find an implicit formula for (2) (with no derivatives left in it)

How many solutions are there?

Existence?

How do I know I even get a solution?

An important result in the theory of differential equations is

Peano's Existence Theorem, which states. . .

If $\frac{dy}{dx} = F(x, y)$ and $y(a) = b$,
where $F(x, y)$ is continuous in a domain D ,
then there is always **at least one solution** in the
domain, and any such solution is differentiable.

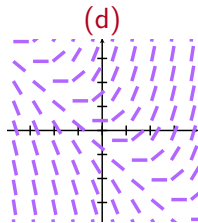
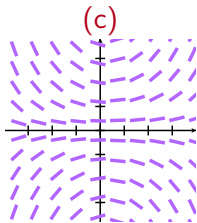
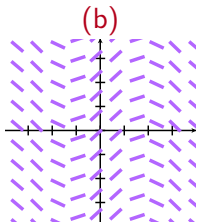
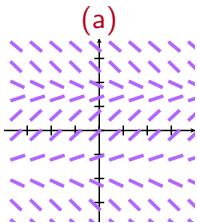
Uniqueness?

How do we know that there is not another solution?

If, additionally, $F(x, y) = f(x)g(y)$, and if g'
and f' are continuous, then solution is unique.

(1) Match the differential equations to the slope fields:

(A) $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{5}xy$ (B) $\frac{dy}{dx} = x+y$ (C) $\frac{dy}{dx} = \cos(x)$ (D) $\frac{dy}{dx} = \cos(y)$



(2) Solve the initial value problems

(a) $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{5}xy, \quad y(0) = 2;$

(b) $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sin(x)/y^2, \quad y(0) = 3.$

(1)

A: (c) B: (d) C: (b) D: (a)

(2)

$$(a) \frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{5} \times y \rightarrow \frac{1}{y} dy = \frac{1}{5} \times dx$$

so

$$\int \frac{1}{y} dy = \int \frac{1}{5} \times dx$$

thus

$$\ln(y) = \frac{1}{10} x^2 + c$$

$$\Rightarrow y = e^{\frac{1}{10} x^2 + c} \\ = e^{\frac{1}{10} x^2} \times e^c$$

general

if $y(0) = 2$, then

$$2 = e^{\frac{1}{10} \cdot 0} \times e^c = e^c$$

so

$$y = e^{\frac{1}{10} x^2} \times 2$$

specific

(2) b

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \sin(x) y^2 \Rightarrow y^2 dy = \sin(x) dx$$

so

$$\int y^2 dy = \int \sin(x) dx$$

so

$$\frac{1}{3} y^3 = -\cos(x) + c$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \sqrt[3]{3(-\cos(x) + c)}$$

so since $y(0) = 3$, general

$$3 = \sqrt[3]{3(-1 + c)}$$

$$9 = \frac{3^3}{3} = -1 + c$$

so $c = 10$

$$y = \sqrt[3]{3(-\cos(x) + 10)}$$

specific