

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: Verify that $y = 2Ce^{-2t} + e^t$ is a solution to $y' + 2y = 3e^t$ & solve the IVP

$$\boxed{y' + 2y = 3e^t, \quad y(0) = 3}$$

We first verify: $y' = -4Ce^{-2t} + e^t$

$$\text{LHS} = (-4Ce^{-2t} + e^t) + 2(2Ce^{-2t} + e^t)$$

$$= 3e^t = \text{RHS} \quad \checkmark$$

Slope fields & Euler's method

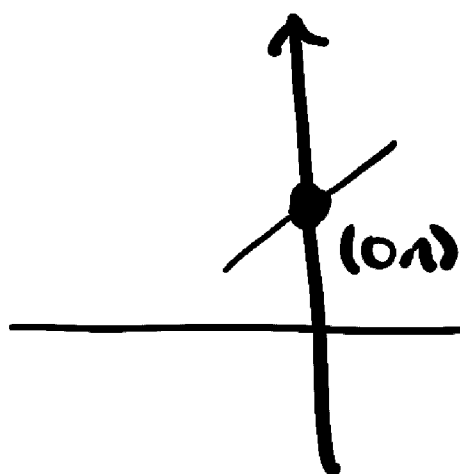
(§7.2 Stewart)

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 $(0,1)$ ($y(0)=1$).



The ODE then gives

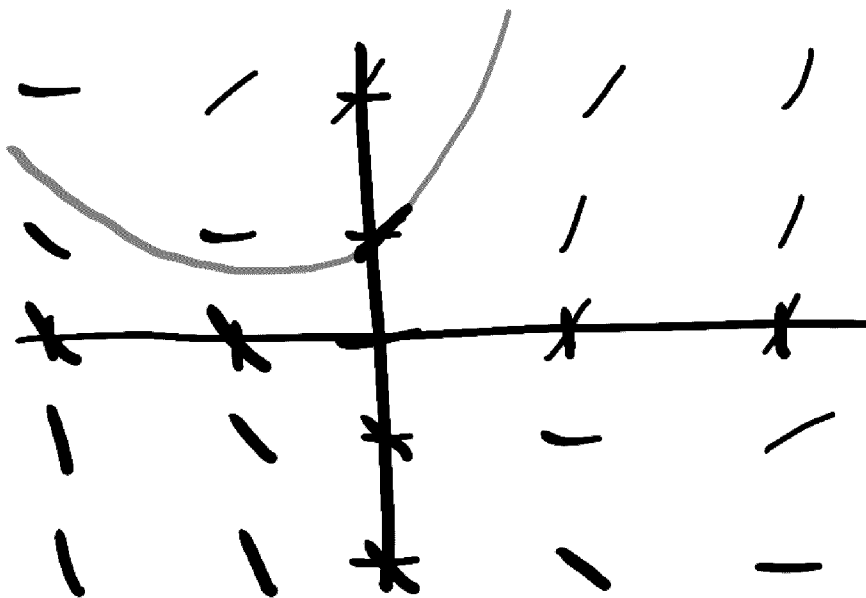
$$y' = x + y = 0 + 1 = 1$$

at this pt.

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

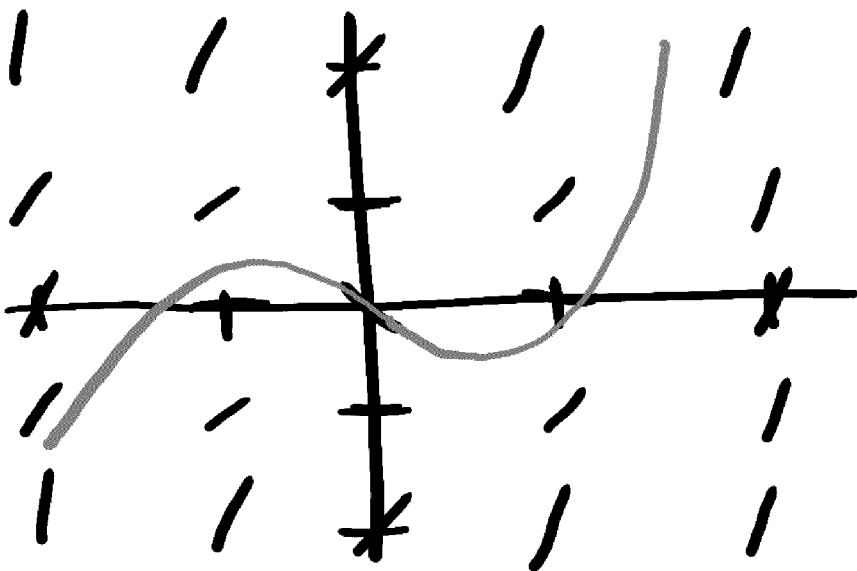
Sketch of more slopes:

$y \backslash x$	-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 $y(0) = 0$

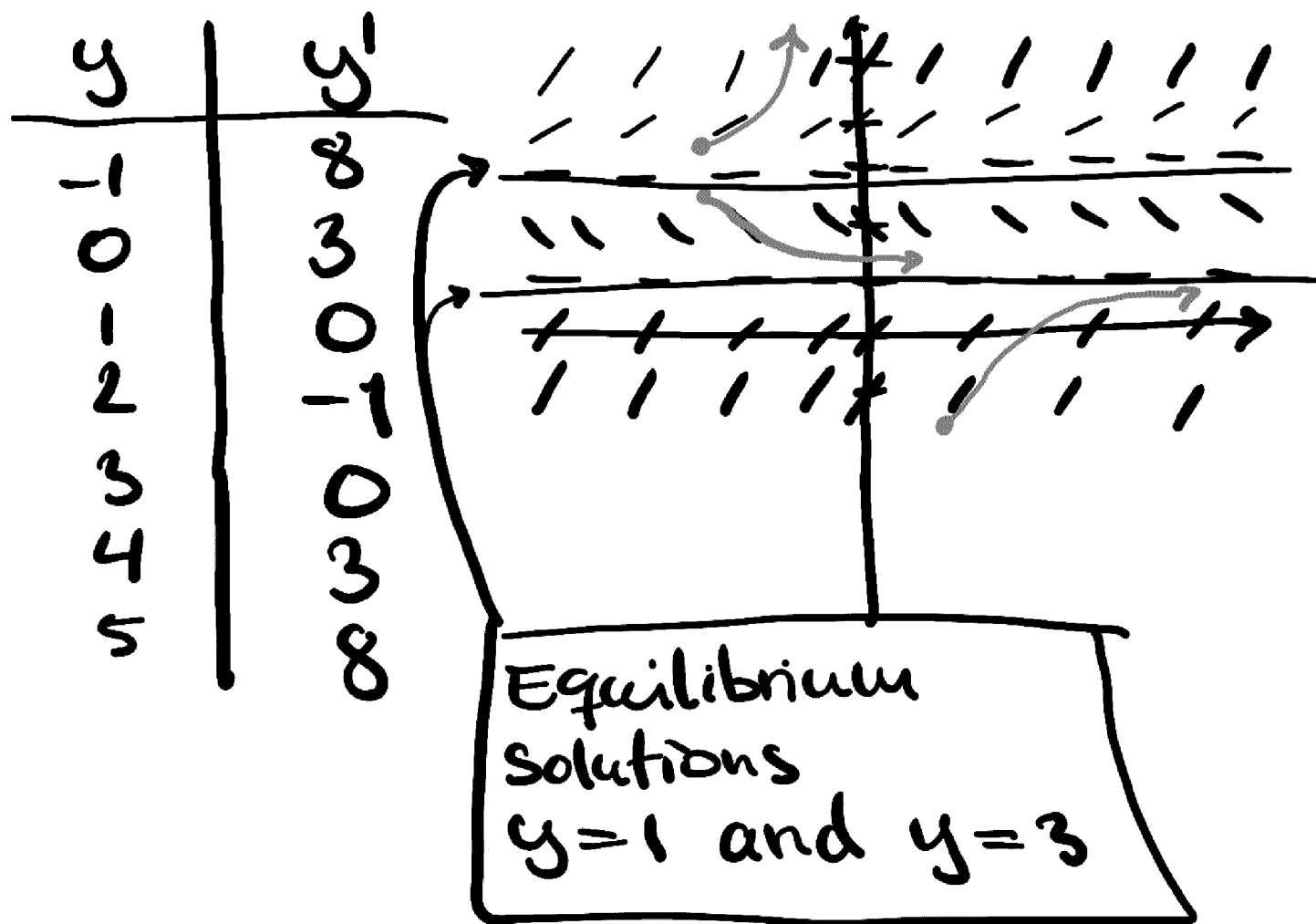
$y \backslash x$	-2	-1	0	1	2
-2	7	4	3	4	7
-1	4	1	0	1	4
0	3	0	-1	0	3
1	4	1	0	1	4
2	7	4	3	4	7



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 .



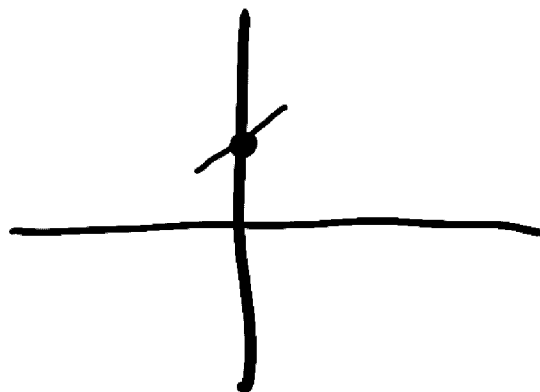
Euler's method

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

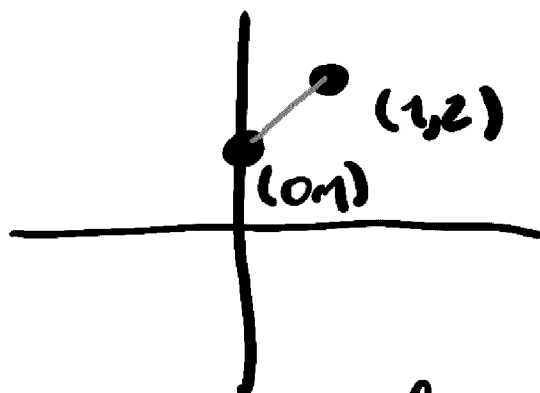
We already know that

$$y'(0) = 1 \text{ by plugging in } (x, y) = (0, 1)$$

into the ODE.



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

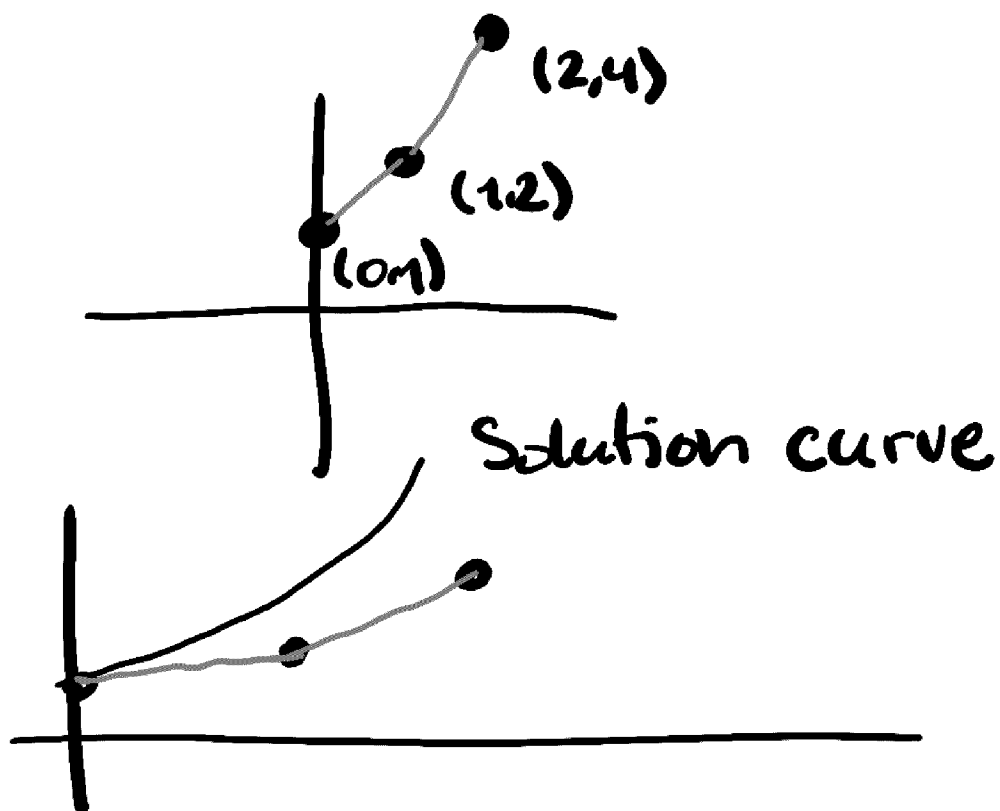


Took a step of size 1 (from $x=0$ to $x=1$)

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

