

9.2 Direction Fields

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- we've seen: how to solve diff'eq's
of form $y' = f(x)g(y)$

- "separable eq's"

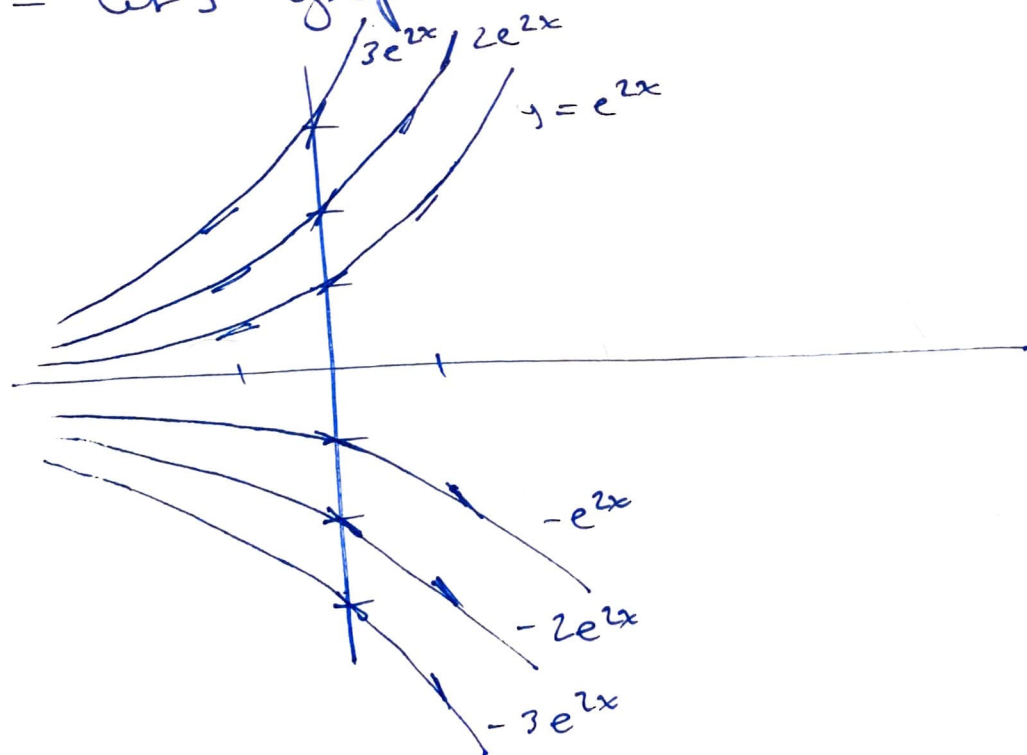
- e.g. we showed that:

$$y' = 2y$$

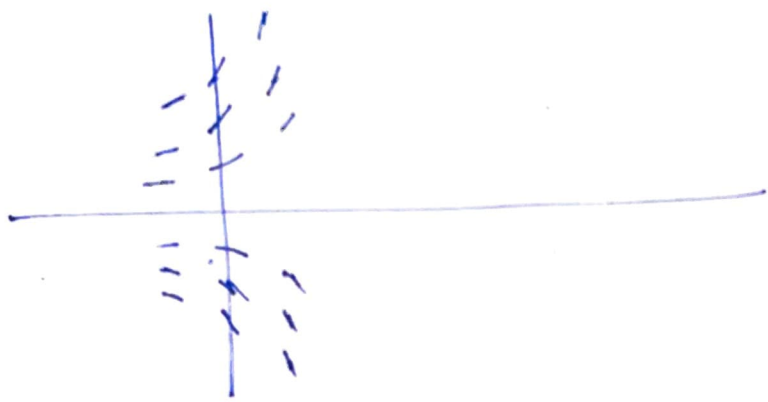
has family of sol's:

$$y = Ae^{2x}$$

- let's graph sol's for $A = -3, -2, -1, 1, 2, 3$



If we draw some mini tan lines at various points along curves and then erase curves, retain a "slope field" for our Family:



↳ observe: can determine slopes of these tan lines from original eq'n

↳ can use this idea to sketch solns to diff' eq'ns we can't solve explicitly

Ex: consider eq'n
 $y' = x + y$

- not a separable eq'n: instead of solving for the family of sol'n we sketch their graphs using a slope field.
- the point: if $y = f(x)$ is sol'n passing thru (x_0, y_0) , eq'n tells us tan line to f there has slope $x_0 + y_0$.
- so, e.g. sol'n through $(0,1)$ has slope $0+1=1$
" " $(0,2)$ " " $0+2=2$
" " $(1,1)$ " " $1+1=2$

Table of slopes:

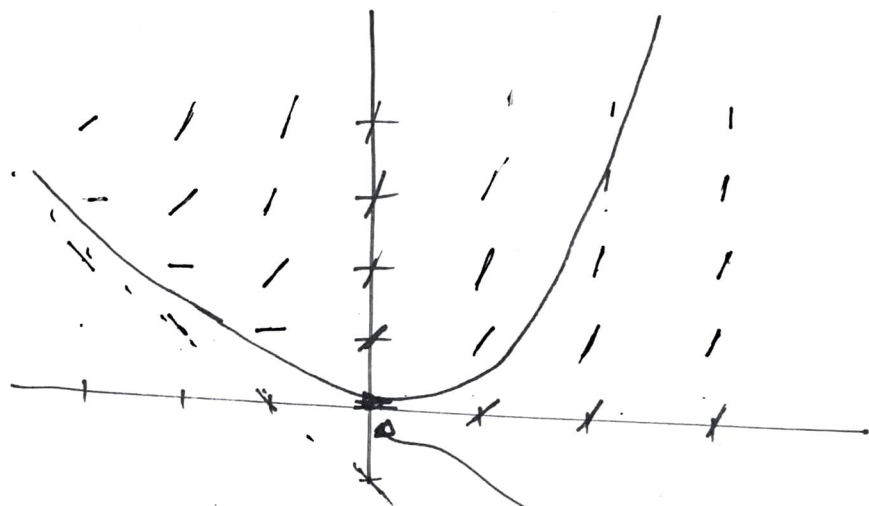
	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2
1	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
2	-1	0	1	2	3	4
3	0	1	2	3	4	5
4	1	2	3	4	5	6

[4]

← y

Slope field:

(82)



graph of
 $y = f(x)$ thru
 $(0,0)$ satisfying
 $y' = x + y$ has
slope $0 + 0 = 0$
there

- Can get rough sketch for a particular sol'n $y = f(x)$ going thru (e.g.) $(0,0)$ by "following field lines"

Note: actually, family of solns given

by: $y = ce^x - x - 1$

ex: a) sketch slope field for eq'n

$$y' = \cos^2(y) \text{ for } -\pi/2 \leq y \leq \pi/2$$

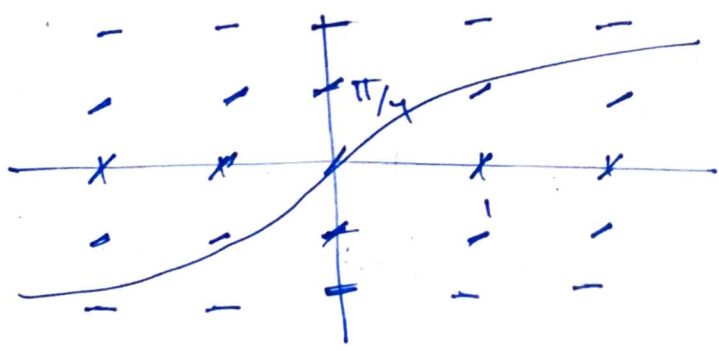
$$-2 \leq x \leq 2$$

b) solve eq'n explicitly for sol'n thru $(0,0)$.

Sol'n: a)

	x				
	-2	-1	0	1	2
y $-\pi/2$	0	0	0	0	0
$-\pi/4$	$1/2$	$1/2$	$1/2$	$1/2$	$1/2$
0	1	1	1	1	1
$\pi/4$	$1/2$	$1/2$	$1/2$	$1/2$	$1/2$
$\pi/2$	0	0	0	0	0

Notice: y' depends only on y



b) eq'n is separable:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \cos^2 y$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\cos^2 y} dy = dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \sec^2 y dy = dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int \sec^2 y dy = \int dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan(y) = x + C$$

$$\text{If } x = y = 0 \text{ then } \tan(0) = 0 + C$$

$$\Rightarrow C = 0$$

So sol'n thru $(0,0)$ is given

$$\text{by } \tan(y) = x$$

$$\Rightarrow y = \tan^{-1}(x) \checkmark$$