

2.2 Separable Diff. Eqs.

let's revisit $\frac{dy}{dx} = xy$

we solved by using calculus

$$\frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} = x$$

let $u = y$ then $du = \frac{dy}{dx} dx$

integrate both sides

$$\int \frac{1}{y} \frac{dy}{dx} dx = \int x dx$$

$$\int \frac{1}{u} du = \int x dx$$

$$\ln |u| = \frac{1}{2} x^2 + C \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \ln |y| = \frac{1}{2} x^2 + C$$

$$|u| = e^C e^{\frac{1}{2} x^2}$$

$$u = \pm e^C e^{\frac{1}{2} x^2}$$

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

notice it almost looked like we did this:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = xy$$

"multiply by dx " and "divide by y "

$$\frac{1}{y} dy = x dx$$

integrate

$$\int \frac{1}{y} dy = \int x dx$$

$$\ln |y| = \frac{1}{2} x^2 + C$$

actually NOT mathematically "legal"

$\frac{dy}{dx}$ is a notation for y'

it is NOT a quotient

BUT, we get the right result,
so for the purpose of solving
diff. eqs. we will pretend it's "legal"

$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x,y)$ is separable if we can separate $f(x,y)$

into a product or quotient of a function of x and
a function of y

all separable diff. eqs. can be solved the same way as the
previous example

examples of separable: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\sin(x)}{y} = \frac{g(x)}{h(y)}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = e^y \ln|x| = g(y) h(x)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y = y \cdot 1 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{separable} \\ \text{also linear} \end{array}$$

let's solve $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{\sin(x)}{y}$

separate x and y

$$y \, dy = \sin(x) \, dx$$

integrate

$$\int y \, dy = \int \sin(x) \, dx$$

$$\boxed{\frac{1}{2} y^2 = -\cos(x) + C}$$

implicit form of solution

$$\cos(x) + \frac{1}{2} y^2 = C$$

$$\text{or } \boxed{2 \cos(x) + y^2 = C}$$

explicit form

$$y^2 = -2 \cos(x) + C$$

$$\boxed{y = \pm \sqrt{C - 2 \cos(x)}}$$

resolved by initial condition $y(x_0) = y_0$

for example, let's say $y(0) = 3$

$$y = \pm \sqrt{C - 2\cos(x)}$$

$$3 = \pm \sqrt{C - 2\cos(0)}$$

$$3 = \oplus \sqrt{C - 2} \quad C = 11 \text{ and we must choose } \oplus +$$

particular solution : $y = \sqrt{11 - 2\cos(x)}$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3x^2 - e^x}{2y - 5}$$

$$y(0) = 1$$

ALWAYS separate by multiplication
or division. NEVER by
addition/subtraction

$$(2y - 5) dy = (3x^2 - e^x) dx$$

$$\int (2y - 5) dy = \int (3x^2 - e^x) dx$$

$$y^2 - 5y = x^3 - e^x + C$$

$$y(0) = 1$$

can find C using initial condition
any time AFTER integration

$$1 - 5 = 0 - 1 + C \quad C = -3$$

$$y^2 - 5y = x^3 - e^x - 3$$

implicit form

NOT all diff. eqs.
have solutions in
explicit form.

here, we can complete the square on the left

$$y^2 - 5y + \left(\frac{-5}{2}\right)^2 = x^3 - e^x - 3 + \left(\frac{-5}{2}\right)^2$$

$$y^2 - 5y + \frac{25}{4} = x^3 - e^x + \frac{13}{4}$$

$$\left(y - \frac{5}{2}\right)^2 = x^3 - e^x + \frac{13}{4}$$

$$y - \frac{5}{2} = \pm \sqrt{x^3 - e^x + \frac{13}{4}}$$

$$y = \frac{5}{2} \pm \sqrt{x^3 - e^x + \frac{13}{4}}$$

resolve this

$$y(0) = 1$$

$$1 = \frac{5}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{9}{4}} = \frac{5}{2} \pm \frac{3}{2}$$

$$y = \frac{5}{2} - \sqrt{x^3 - e^x + \frac{13}{4}}$$

on what interval of x is the solution valid?

one way: find domain of y

$$\text{here, } x^3 - e^x + \frac{13}{4} \geq 0 \quad x = ?$$

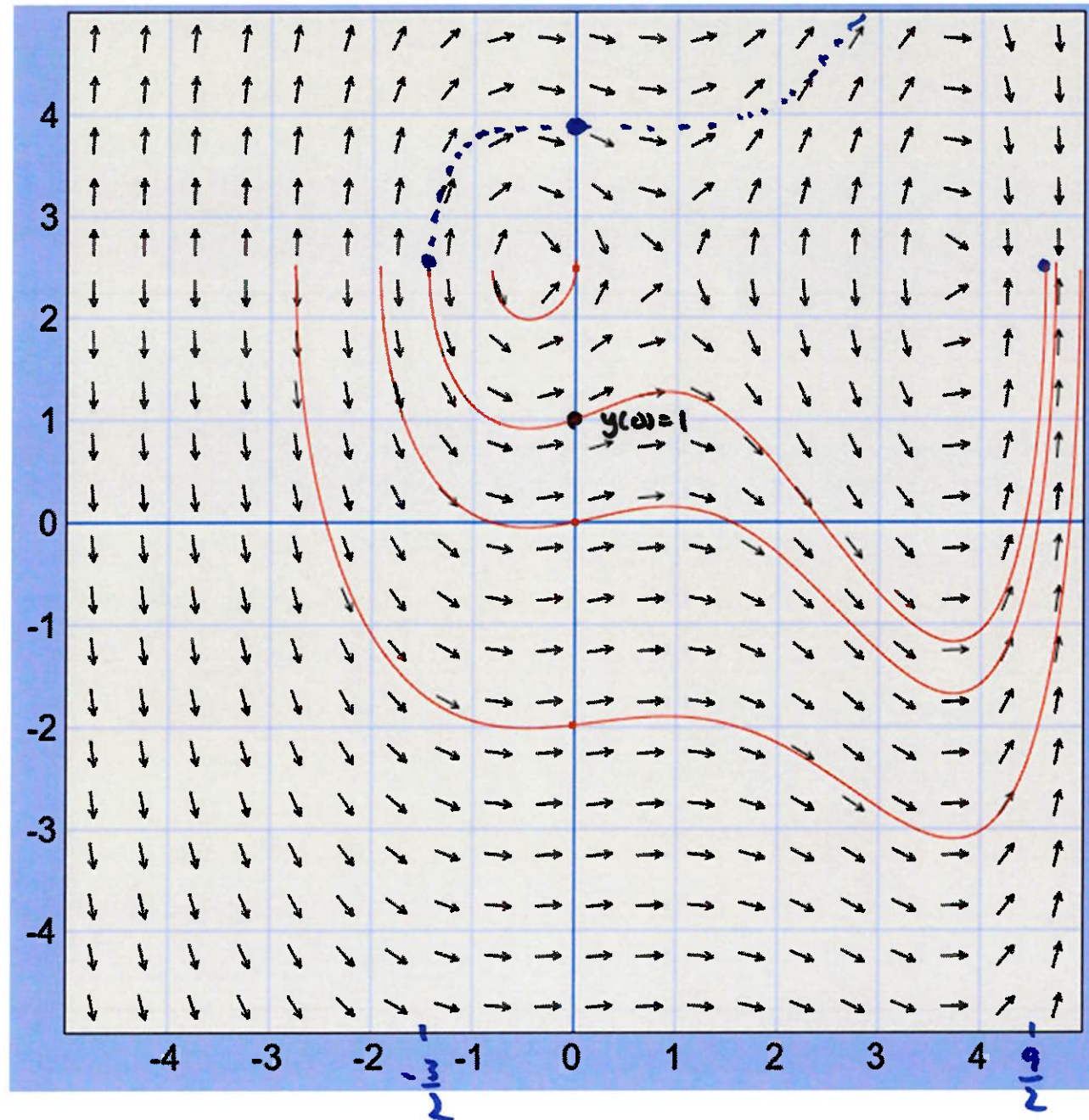
not easy equation to solve

alternative: look at where the slope of y is vertical
these bound intervals on which y is valid

DON'T differentiate y !

use the diff. eq. $\frac{dy}{dx}$ to construct a slope field

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



red curves
are solutions
they end
when y'
is undefined
for the
curve w/
 $y(0)=1$
 $-\frac{\pi}{2} < x < \frac{\pi}{2}$