

# LECTURE 4

## NONLINEAR TRANSPORT + SHOCKS

①

INVISCID BURGER'S EQUATION for  $u = u(t, x)$  is

$$u_t + u u_x = 0$$

①

### NOTES

① Eqn ① is a NONLINEAR transport eqn for which

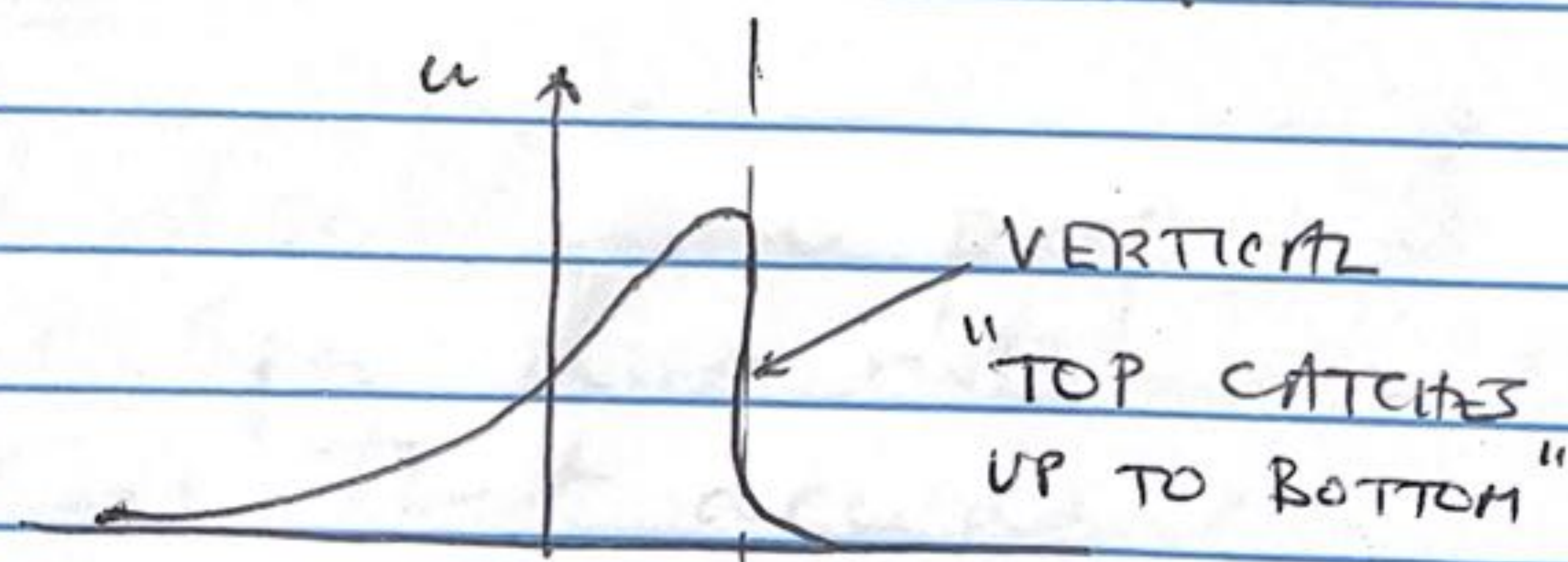
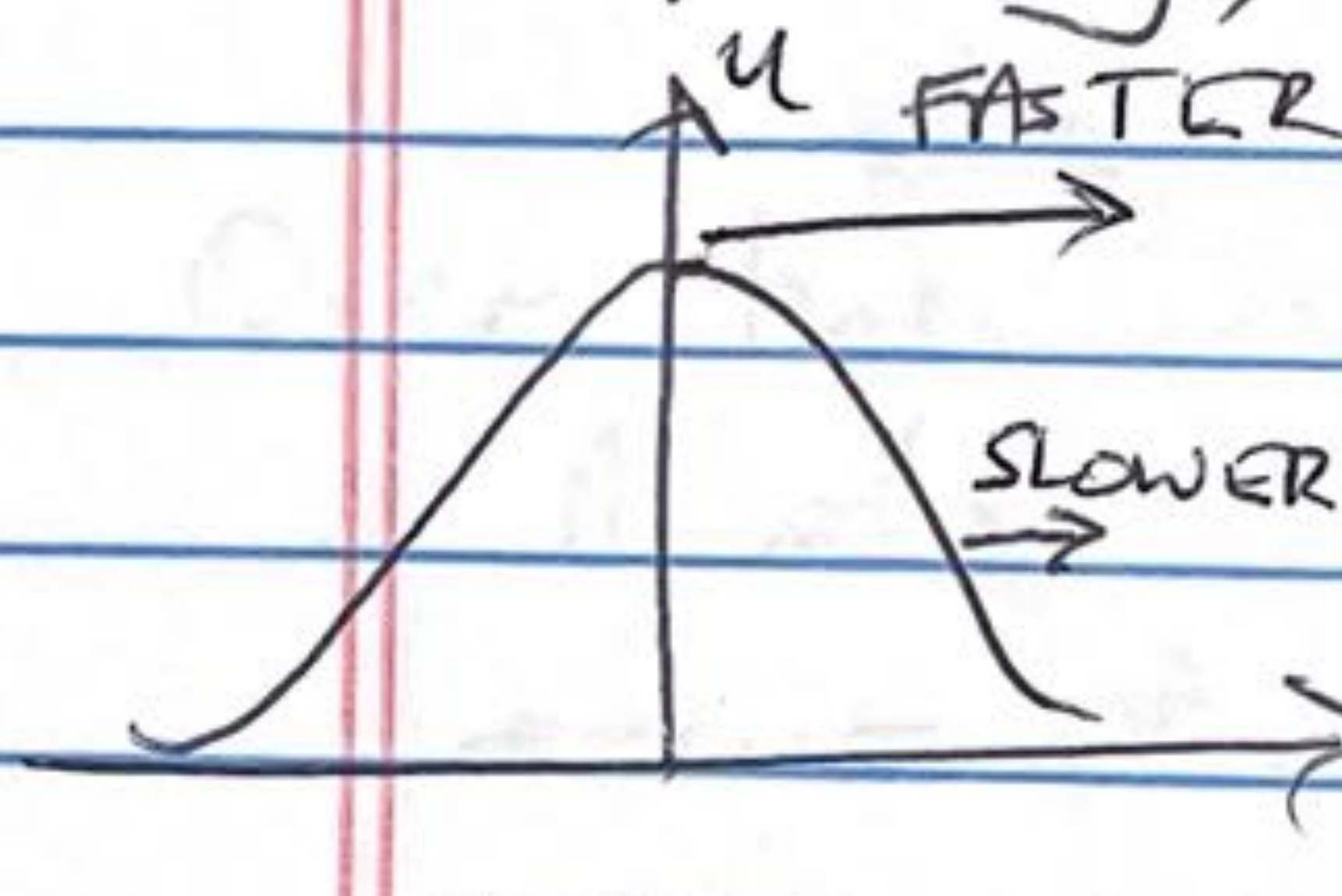
$$c = u$$

VELOCITY = AMPLITUDE

② So, if  $u > 0$  Then wave moves to right  
 $u < 0$  left

③ Also, larger amplitude portions of the wave move faster.

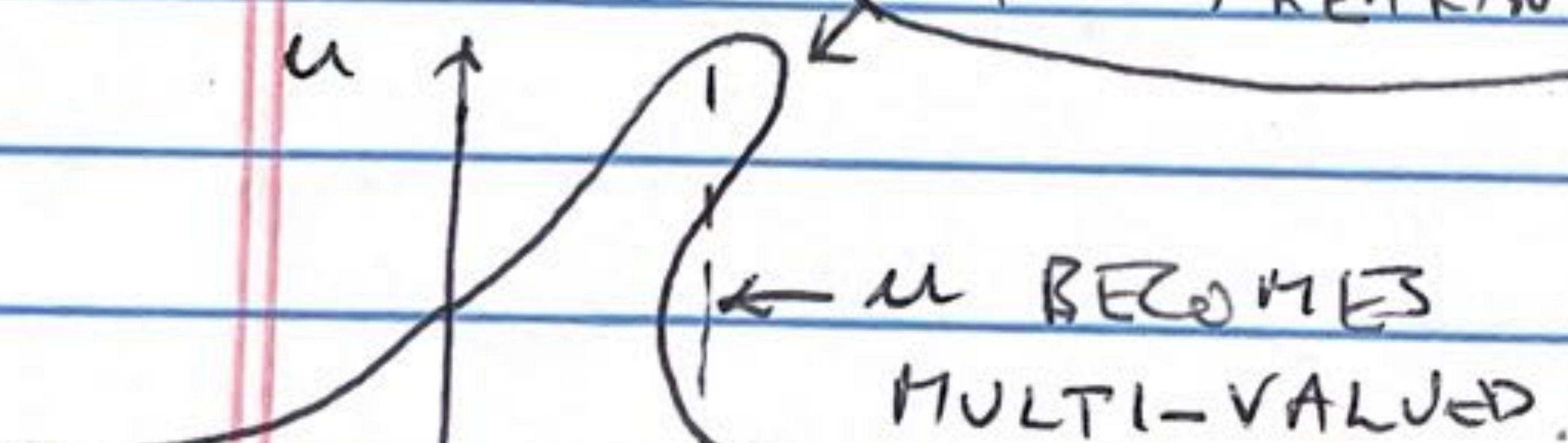
④ Consequently, the wave can break:



$t=0$

WAVE BREAKING

$t=1$



$u$  BECOMES MULTI-VALUED.

it is now longer a classical solution.

$t=2$

"TOP OVERTAKES BOTTOM"



## ② Generalization of the PDE model

- Gas dynamics
- Traffic flow
- Flood waves in rivers

⊕ In applications such as traffic flow rather than becoming multi-valued, the solution can develop jump discontinuities called SHOCKS.

EG Before you hit a traffic jam, all cars have velocity  $u = 40 \text{ mph}$

When hit jam, all of a sudden all cars stop.

So we get a shock.

Over time the shock itself can propagate

- A slow down at 6pm does not necessarily occur at some place that accident occurred at 5:45pm



③

## SOLUTION VIA METHOD OF CHARACTERISTICS.

Characteristic Curves  $x = x(t)$  satisfy ODE

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = u(t, x(t)). \quad (2)$$

Just as for linear transport we have

CLAIM

If  $u = u(t, x)$  solves (1)  
Then  $h(t) = u(t, x(t))$  is constant  
where  $x = x(t)$  solves (2)

ie

THE SOLUTION IS CONSTANT ON CHARACTERISTICS

CONUNDRUM

To find  $u$ , we need the CCs  $x = x(t)$

But to find the CCs we need  $u$ !

The way out is given by

KEY IDEA ON CC  $x = x(t)$ ,  $u$  is constant

so

Since  $\frac{dx}{dt} = u$  ON CC,  $\frac{dx}{dt} = \text{const}$  on CC



(4)

So slope of CC is const

i.e. CCs are all STRAIGHT LINES !!

$$\boxed{x(t) = tu + k} \quad (3) \quad \text{for const } k$$

↑  
CONST

SLOPE =  $\frac{dx}{dt} = u$  FOR BURGER

The slope of a char line is the value of the sol<sup>n</sup>  $u$  on that line.

So as for linear transport

CHAR VARIABLE is  $\xi = x - tu$

and sol<sup>n</sup> is of form

$$u = f(\xi) \quad \text{for some } f^n f$$

SLOPE = VALUE

i.e.

$$\boxed{u = f(x - tu)} \quad (4)$$

given

NOTES @  $f$  is ~~determined~~ by IC

$$u(0, x) = f(x)$$



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④ is an Algebraic Eqn for  $u = u(t, x)$ .

Probably can't explicitly solve for  $u$ .

Even Worse: No guarantee  $\exists! u$  for each  $(t, x)$ .

ie No guarantee can get a single-valued function  $u$  that solves PDE.

**SIMPLE EX**  $f(y) = \alpha y$

$$u = f(x - tu) = \alpha(x - tu) = \alpha x - t\alpha u$$

IN THIS CASE SOLVE:

So  $u = u(t, x) = \frac{\alpha x}{1 + \alpha t}$

For each fixed  $t$ ,  $u$  is linear function of  $x$  with slope

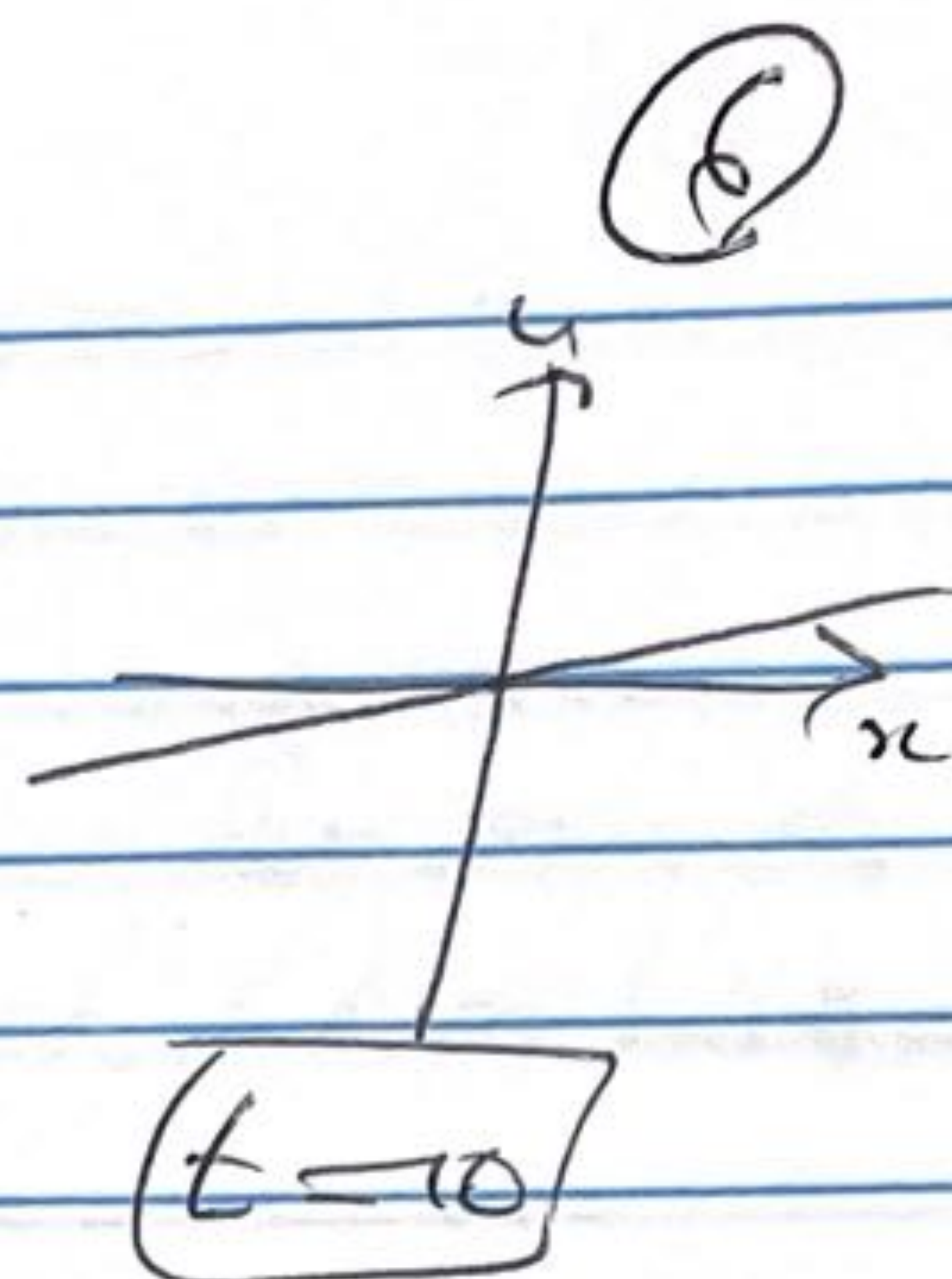
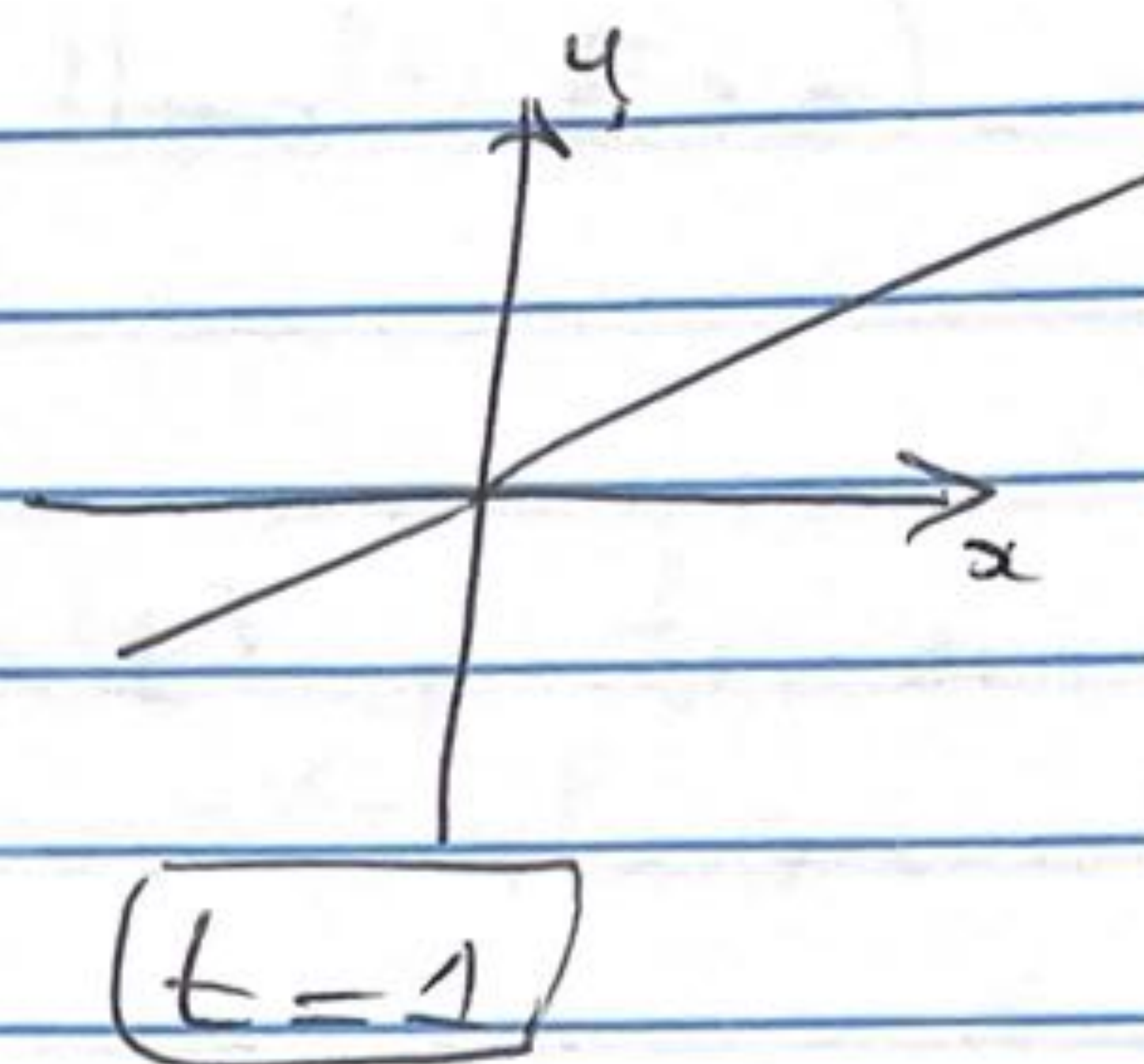
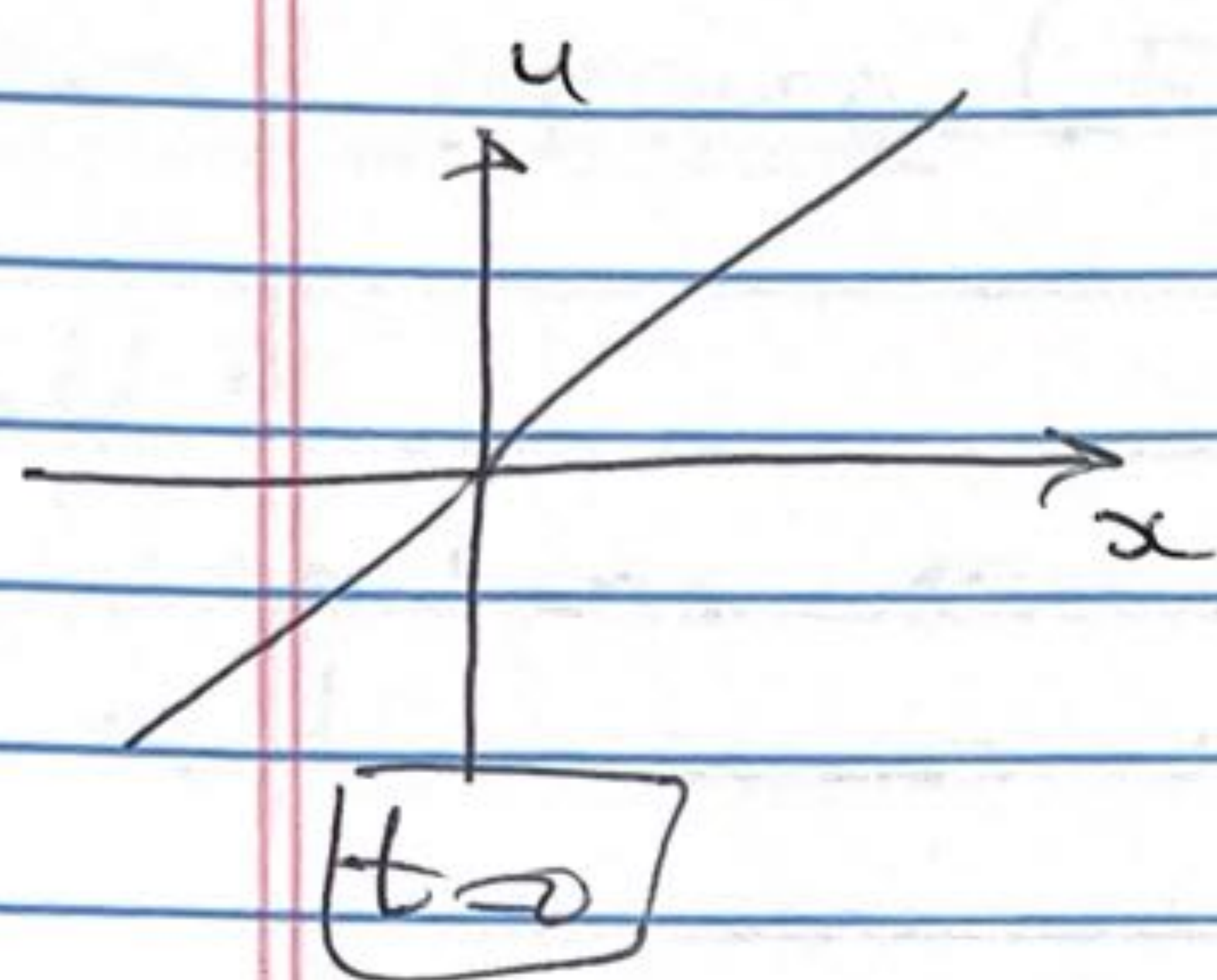
$$m = \frac{\alpha}{1 + \alpha t}$$

**CASE  $\alpha > 0$**  ( $f \uparrow$ )

$\forall t > 0$ ,  $1 + \alpha t \neq 0$ , so sol<sup>n</sup>  $\exists \forall t > 0$

Also  $m > 0$  and  $m \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .





CASE  $\alpha < 0$  ( $f \downarrow$ )

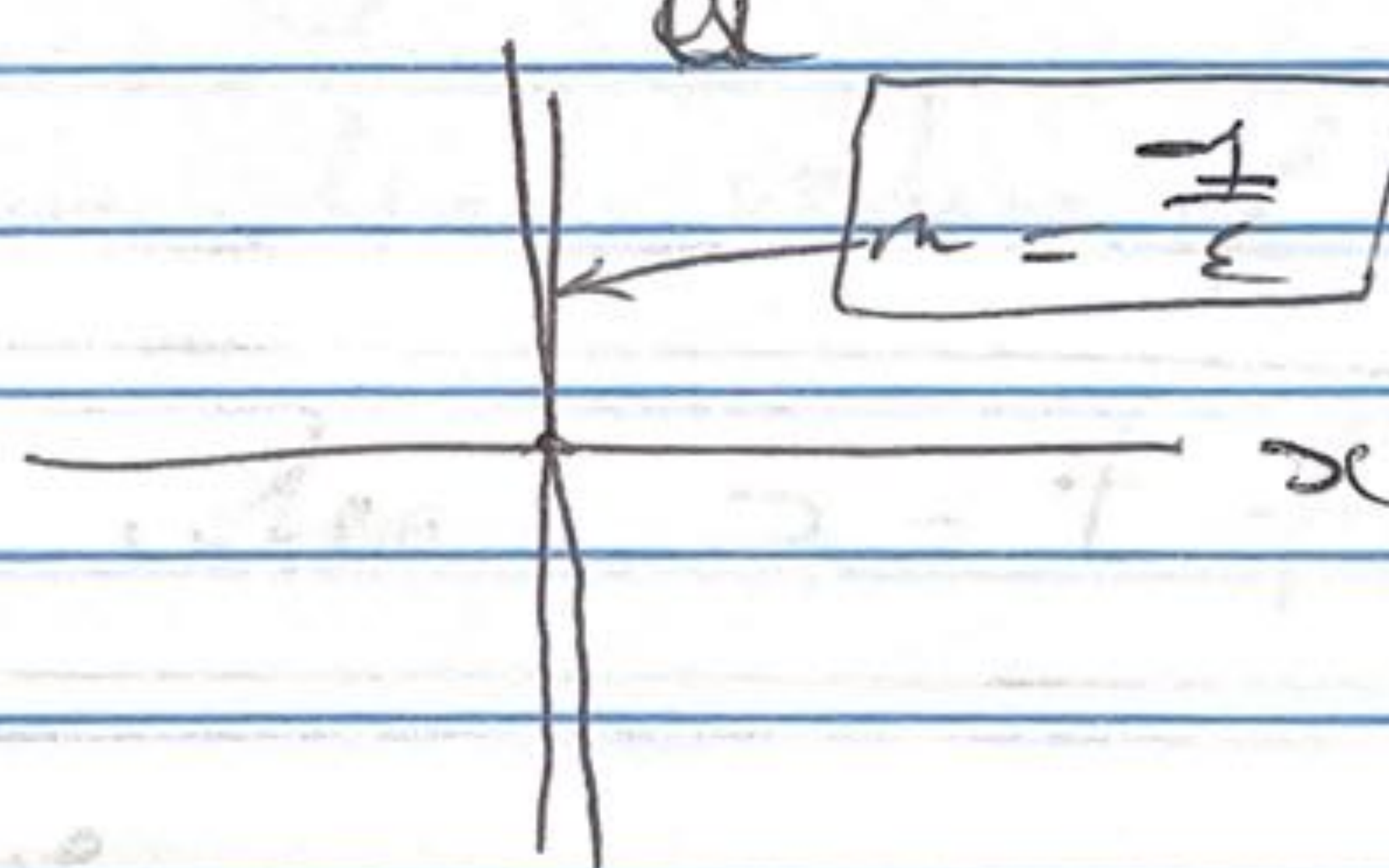
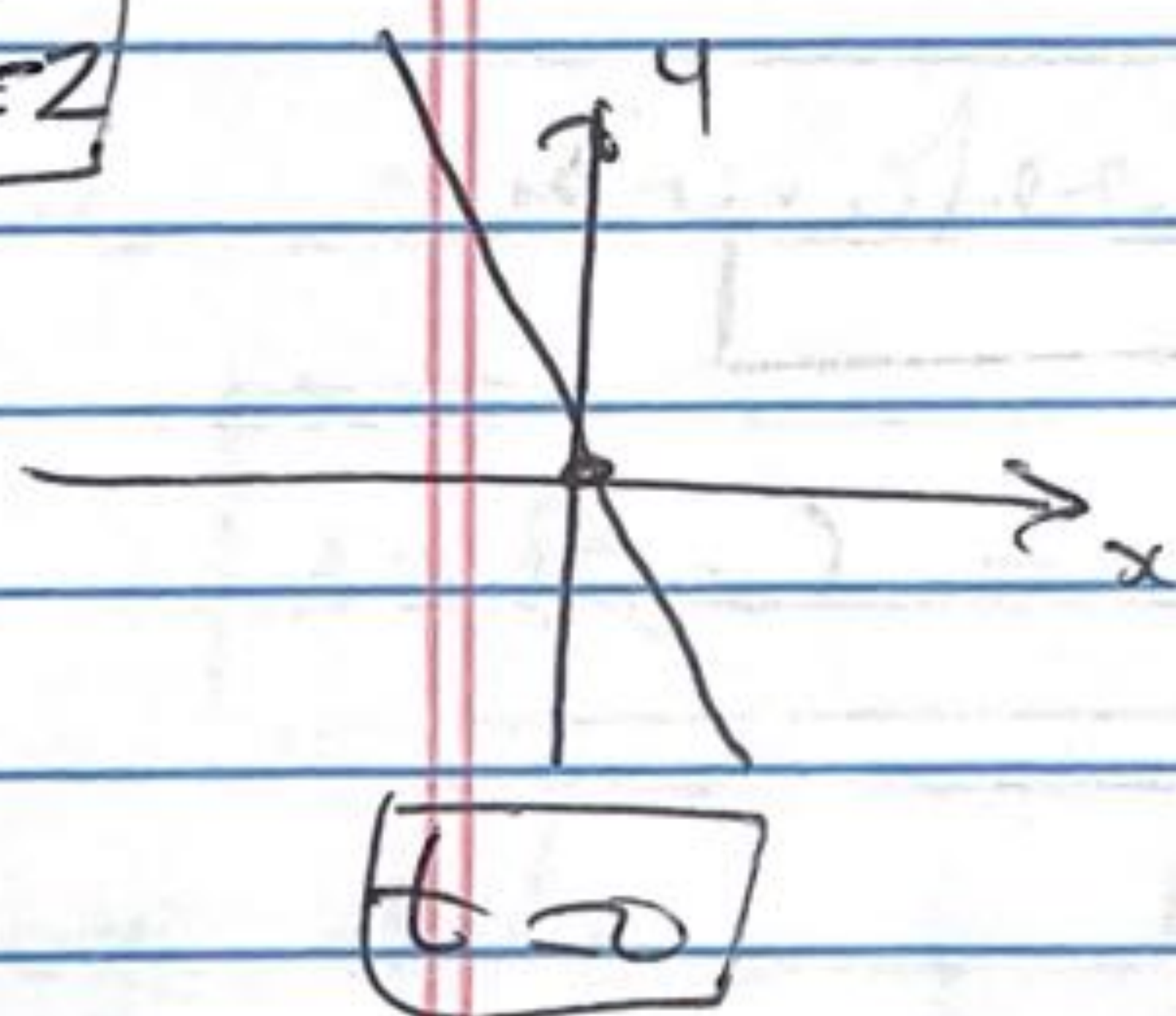
Sol<sup>n</sup> only  $\exists$  for  $1 + \alpha t > 0$ , i.e. for

$$0 < t < t_* := -\frac{1}{\alpha}.$$

Also  $m < 0$  &

And as  $t \rightarrow t_*$ ,  $m \rightarrow -\infty$ .

$\alpha = -2$



$$t = \frac{1}{2} - \epsilon$$



(7)

GEOMETRIC METHOD (For Harder Exs)

Recall:

Char line is  $x(t) = tu + k$  for some  $k$   
and  $u$  is constant on each Char line.

So to solve

$$\begin{cases} u_t + uu_x = 0 & t \geq 0 \\ u(0, x) = f(x) \end{cases}$$

Use fact

Char line thru  $(0, y)$  has slope  $u(0, y) = f(y)$

So eqn is

$$x = t f(y) + y$$

And everywhere on this line value of  $u$  is  $f(y)$

$$\underline{u} \quad \boxed{u(t, x) = f(y) \quad \text{where} \quad x = t f(y) + y}$$

Just like in EX above,

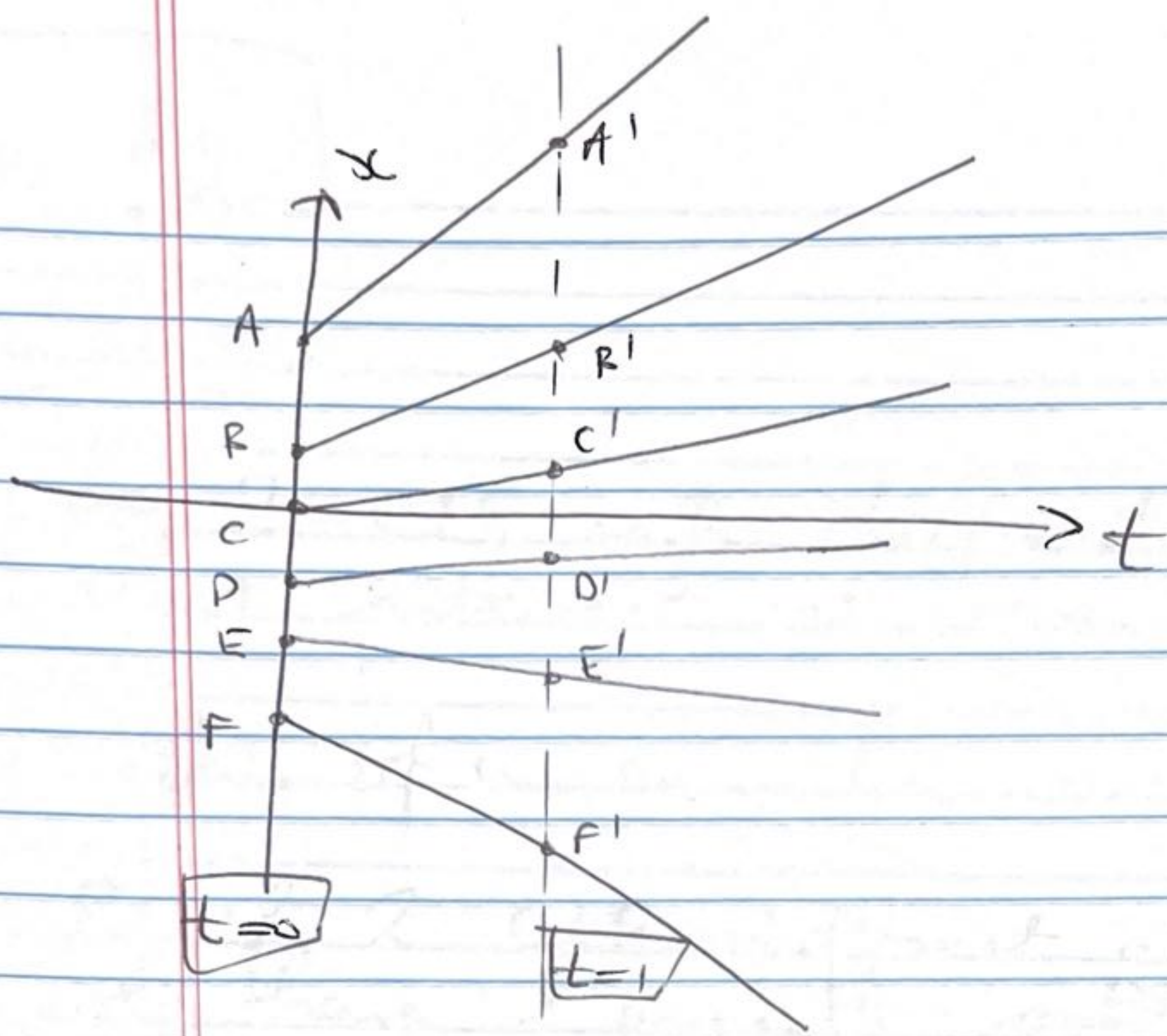
Behaviour of Solution depends on whether  
 $f$  is  $\uparrow$  or  $\downarrow$ . If  $f$  both  $\uparrow$  and  $\downarrow$ , ~~split problem~~  
use similar ideas

CASE  $f \uparrow$

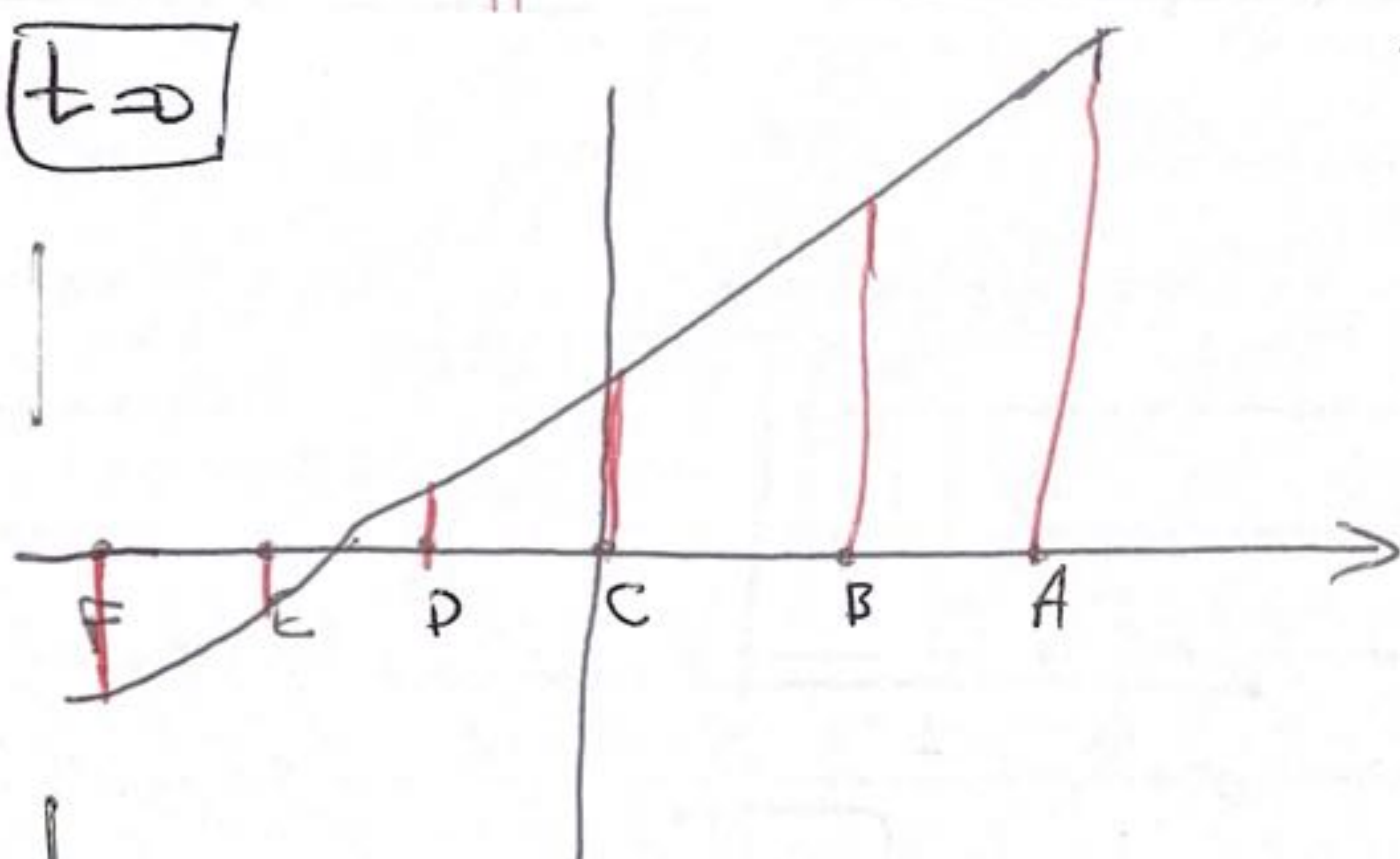
At  $(0, y)$  on  $x$ -axis,  $m = f(y)$   
So as  $y \uparrow$ , Slope of CL  $\uparrow$ .



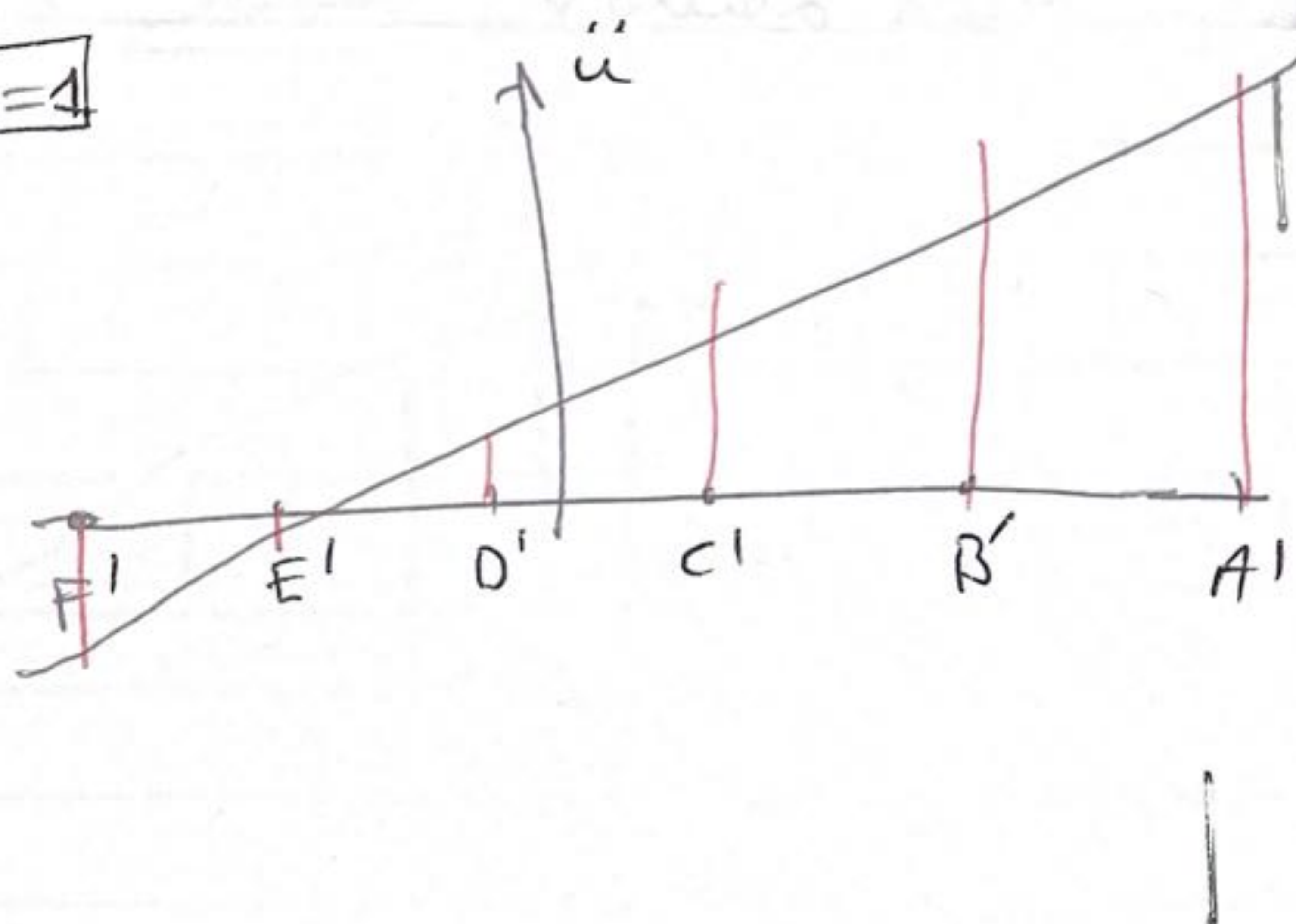
②



$t=0$



$t=1$



As  $t \uparrow$ , wave spreads out.

Say have a RAREFACTION WAVE

Reason

Rarefaction =  $\downarrow$  in Density.  
The vertical sticks get more spread out,  
less dense, as  $t \uparrow$ .  
cf Compression =  $\uparrow$  in Density



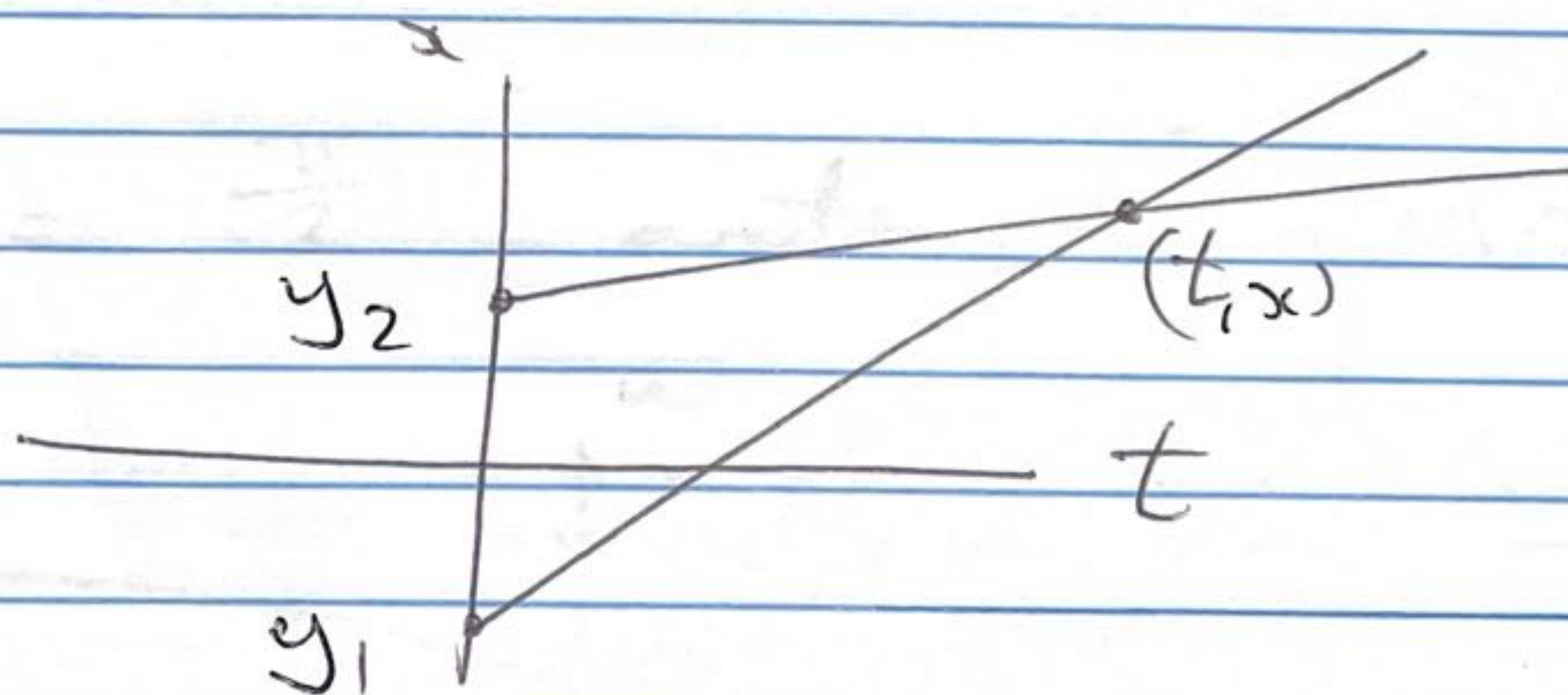
CASE  $f \downarrow$

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### CONCLUSION

- ① Any 2 CL's with different slopes must intersect at some point  $(t, x)$
- ② Value of  $u$  on a CL = Slope of CL
- ③ So if 2 CL's intersect at  $(t, x)$  we have 2 possible ~~sets~~ values for  $u(t, x)$ .
- ④ If  $f \downarrow$ , Then any 2 CL's intersect at a pt  $(t, x)$  where  $t > 0$ .

$$y_1 < y_2 \Rightarrow \text{SLOPE}_1 = f(y_1) > f(y_2) = \text{SLOPE}_2$$



GOOD NEWS: If  $f'$  does not get too large + negative  
Then  $\exists$  CRITICAL TIME  $t_* > 0$  so that  
the intersect<sup>n</sup> of any 2 CL's occurs at  $(t, x)$   
with  $t \geq t_*$  ~~so that~~



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So we have a single-valued sol<sup>n</sup>  $u = u(t, x)$

$\forall (t, x)$  with

$$0 \leq t < t_*$$

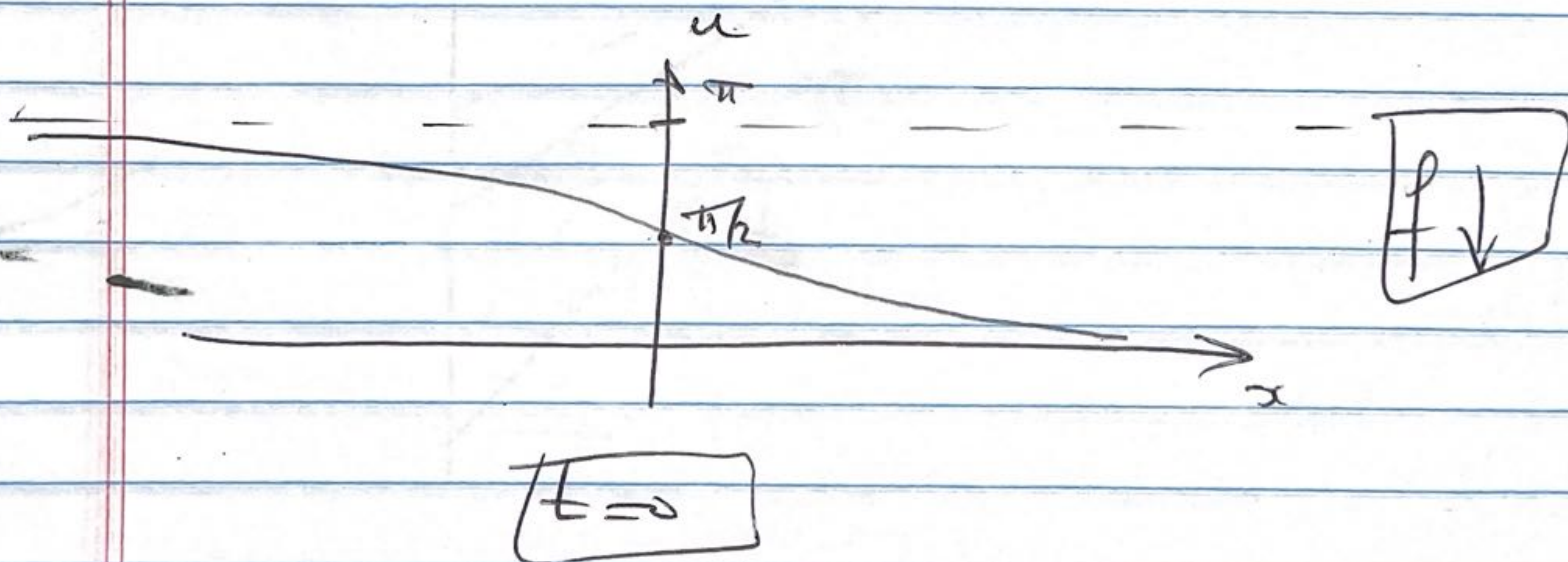
3 OPTIONS FOR  $t \geq t_*$

① SOLN DNE

② SOLN IS MULTIVALUED FUNCTION  
- Like Breaking Wave

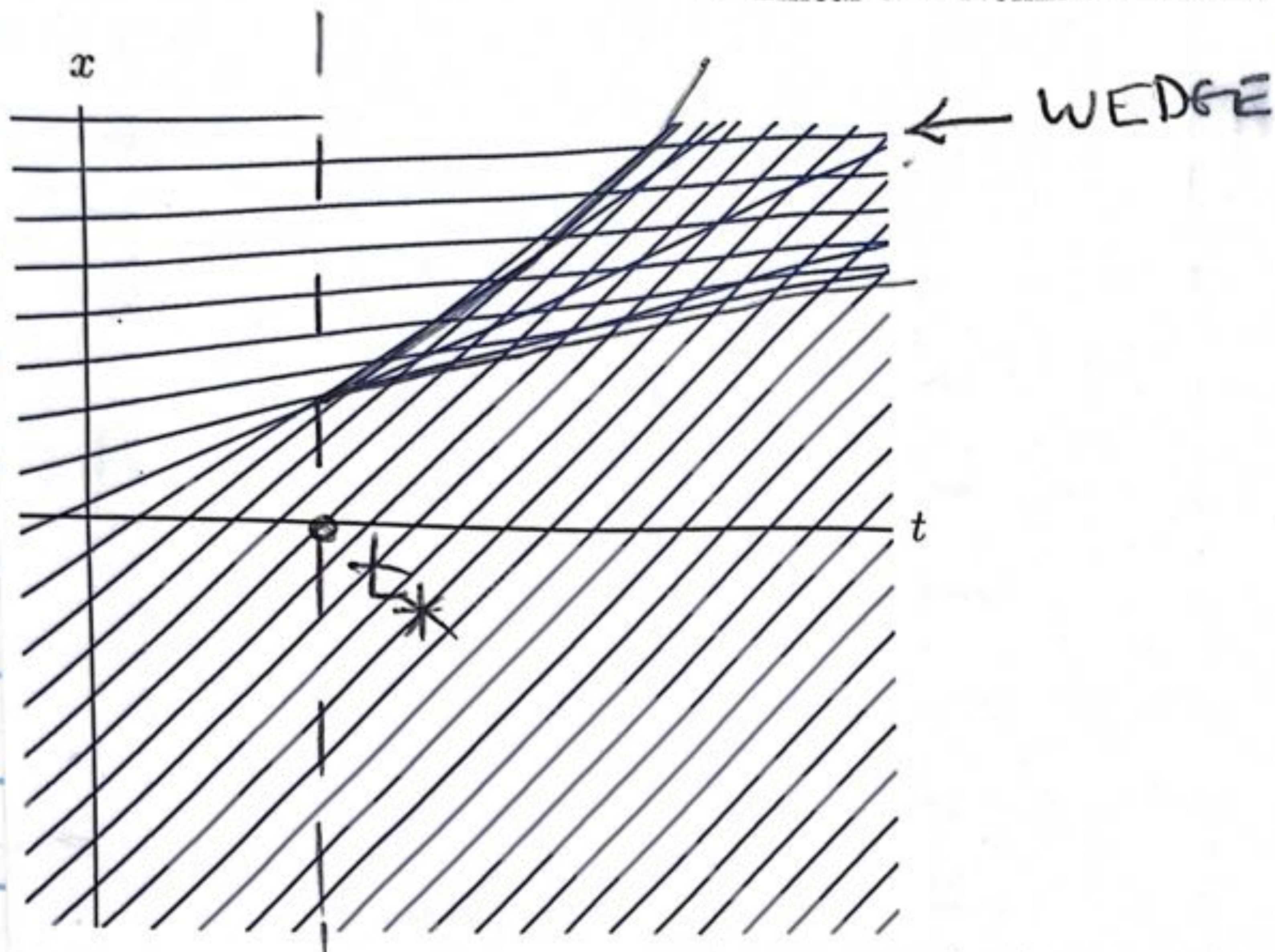
③ We use some other physical criterion to pick one of the solutions.  
- Approach when modeling gas dynamics, traffic flow, etc.  
- Beyond scope of our course.

EX  $f(x) = \frac{\pi}{2} - \arctan x = u(0, x)$

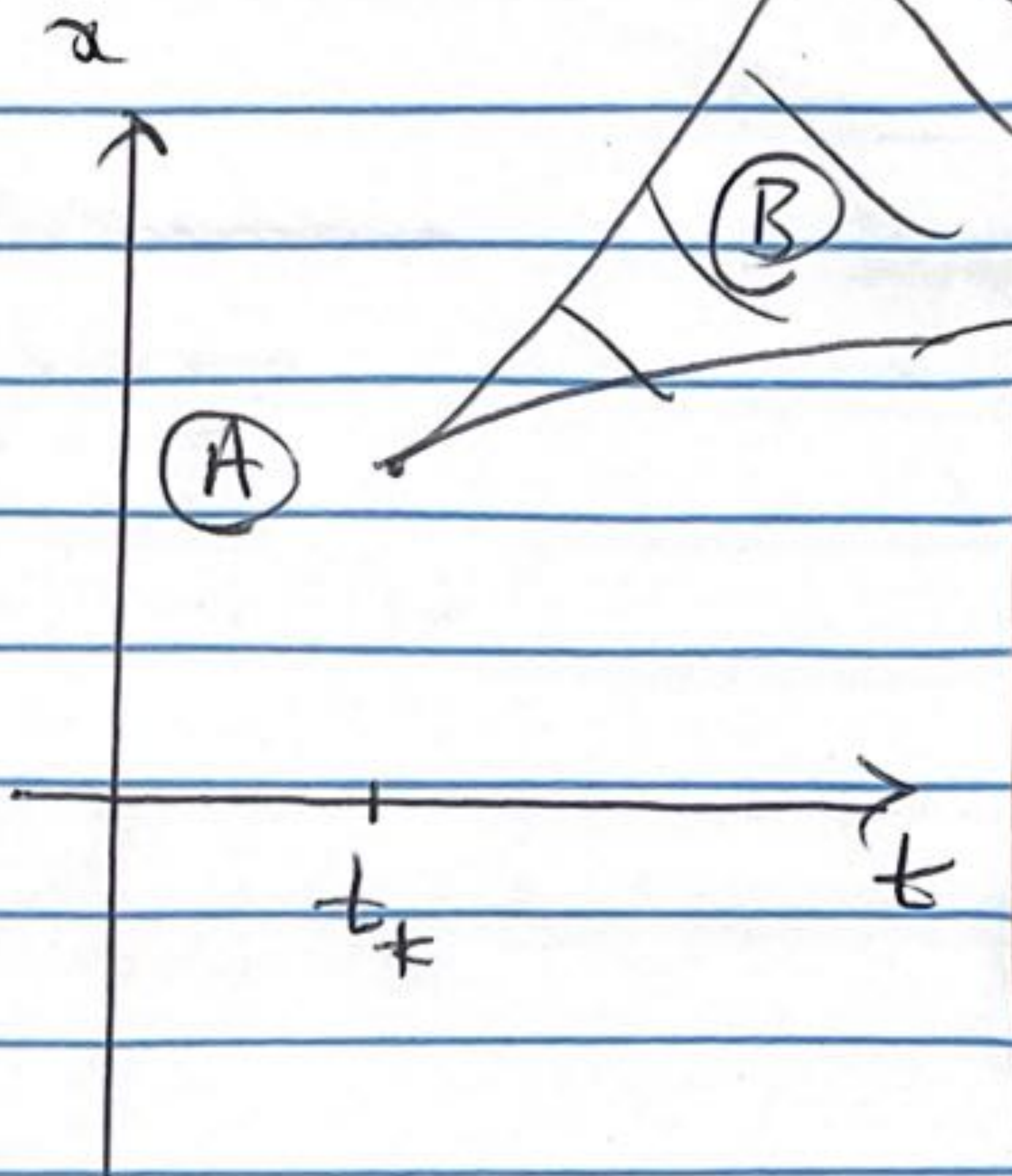




## 2 Linear and Nonlinear Waves



Characteristics lines for  $u(0, x) = \frac{1}{2}\pi - \tan^{-1} x$ .



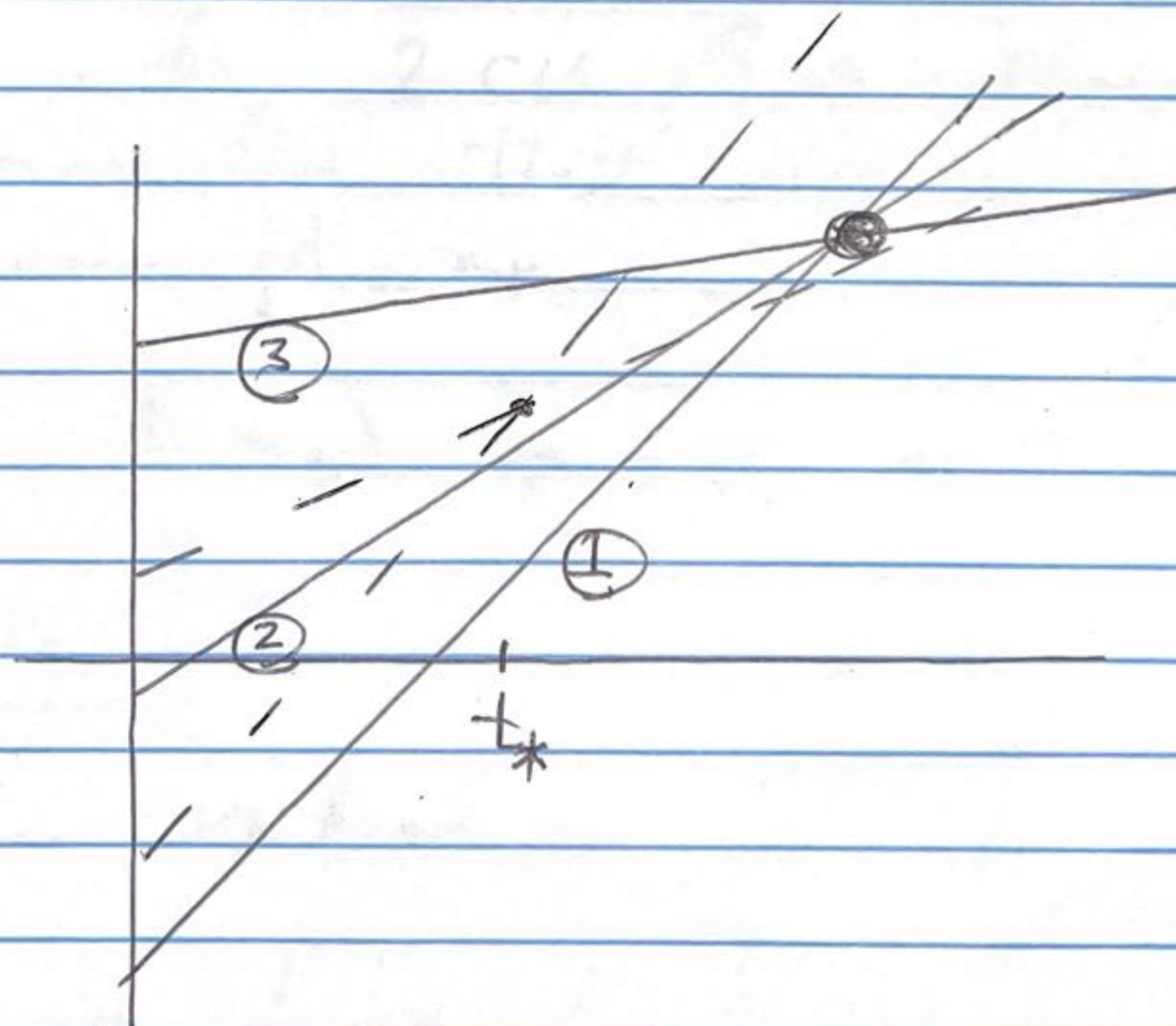
(A): 1 CL THRU EACH PT

(B): 3 CL'S THRU EACH PT

As  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ , SLOPE  $\rightarrow \pi$

As  $x \rightarrow 0$ , SLOPE  $\rightarrow 0$

ON BORDER: 2 CL'S THRU EACH PT.





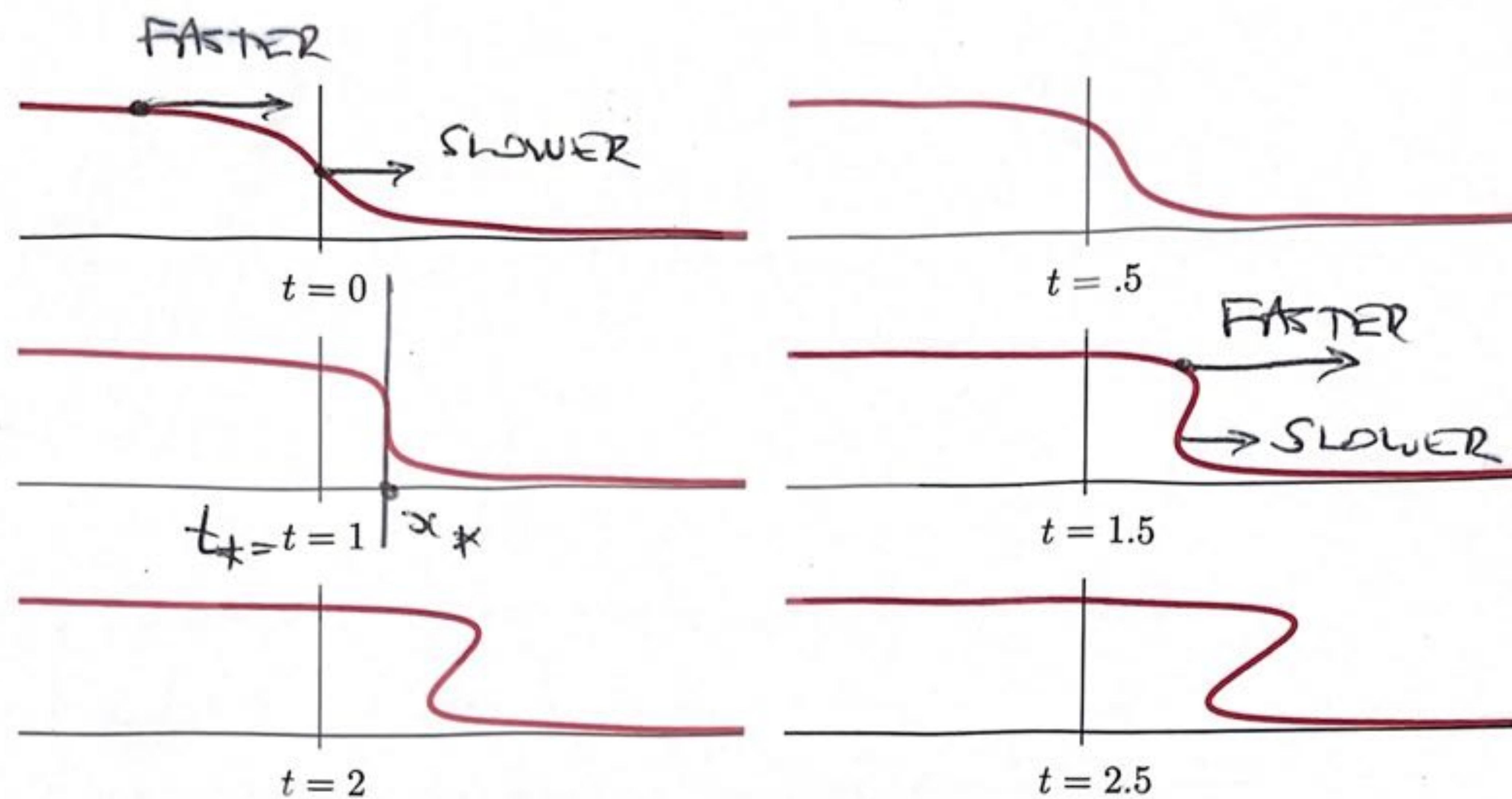


Figure 2.15. Multiply valued compression wave. (+)

SINCE SPEED = HEIGHT, AND  $f \downarrow$  PTS further to left move faster than those to right and wave breaks.

The time  $t_*$  when 2 cl's first intersect occurs at some time that slope of sol<sup>n</sup> is vertical at some pt  $x_*$

ie  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}(t, x_*) \rightarrow -\infty$  as  $t \rightarrow t_*$ .

FORMULA FOR  $t_*$

We know  $u$  satisfies

$$u = f(x - tu)$$



$$\text{So } u_x = f'(x - tu) (1 - t u_x)$$

Solving for  $u_x$ :

$$u_x = \frac{f'(\xi)}{1 + t f'(\xi)} \quad \xi = x - tu$$

$$\text{So } u_x \rightarrow -\infty \text{ as } t \rightarrow \frac{-1}{f'(\xi)}$$

The CRITICAL TIME  $t_*$  is therefore earliest such time,

$$t_* = \min \left\{ \frac{-1}{f'(x)} \mid f'(x) < 0 \right\}$$

EX

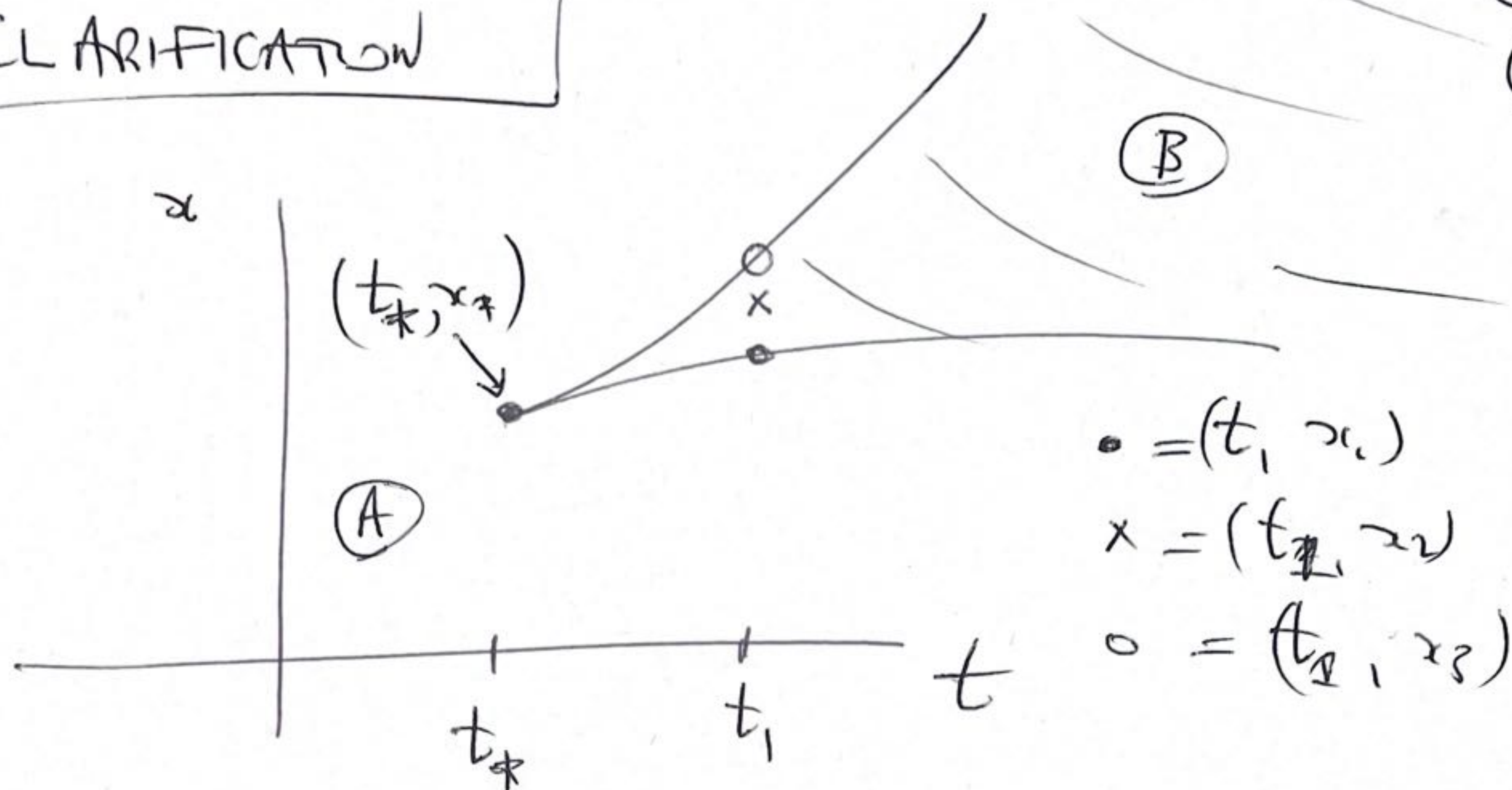
$$f(x) = \pi/2 - \arctan x$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{-1}{1+x^2}$$

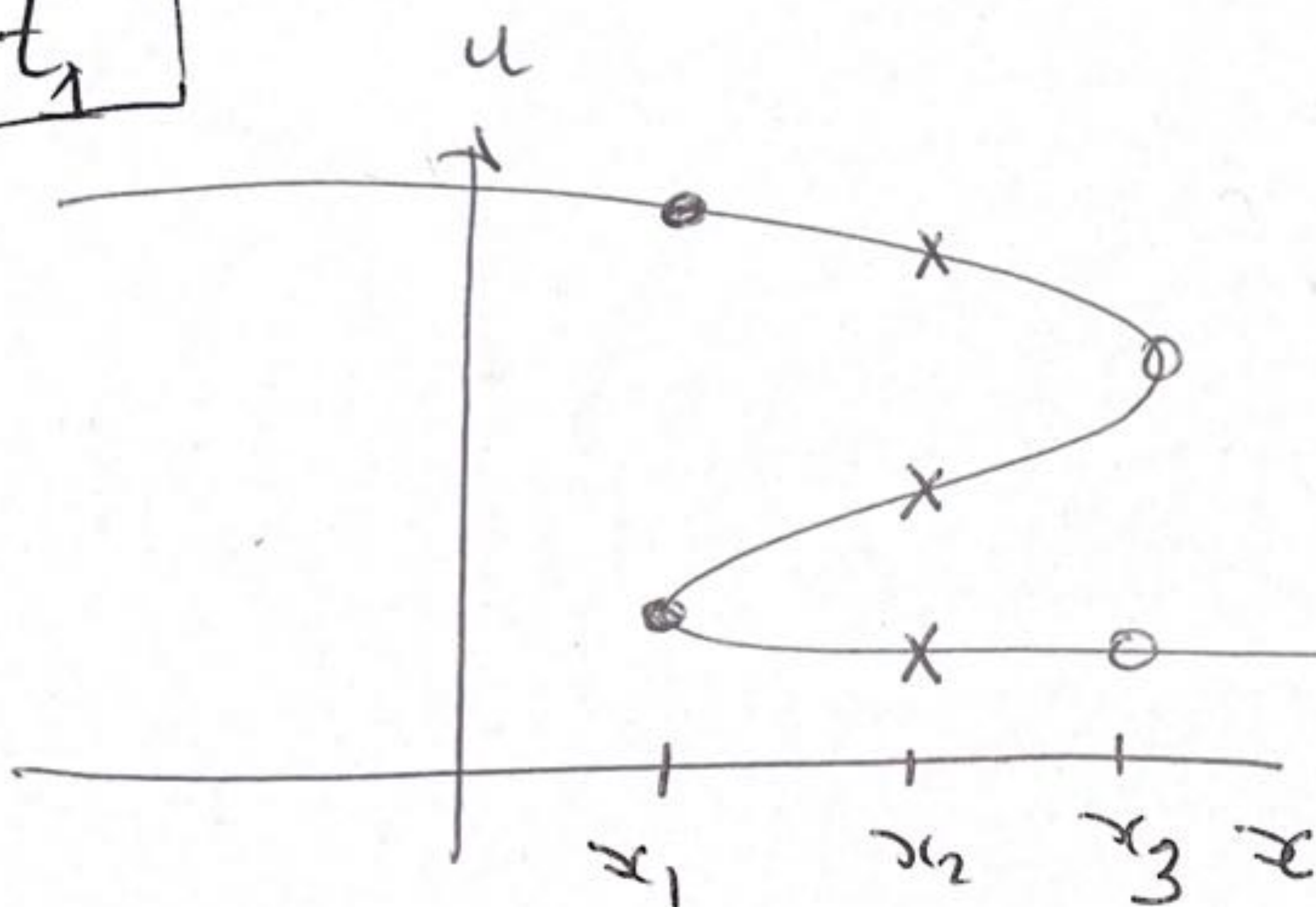
$$t_* = \min \left( \frac{\frac{-1}{1+x^2}}{\frac{-1}{1+x^2}} \right) = \min (1+x^2) = 1$$



# CLARIFICATION



$t = t_1$



AT  $(0,0)$  2 CLs CROSS  
 $u$  HAS 2 VALUES

AT  $x$  3 CLs CROSS  
 $u$  HAS 3 VALUES

$t = t_*$

AT  $(t_*, x_*)$  HAVE INSTANTANEOUS VERTICAL SLOPE ON GRAPH OF  $u$ . BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN  $\infty$  # CLs THRU  $(t_*, x_*)$ . AND IT DOES NOT MEAN  $u$  TAKE AN  $\infty$  # VALUES (VERTICAL GRAPH) AT  $(t_*, x_*)$ . JUST LIKE  $g(x) = -x^{1/3}$  HAS  $g'(x) \rightarrow -\infty$  AS  $x \rightarrow 0$  BUT  $g$  IS ALWAYS SINGLE VALUED FUNCTION, SO WE CAN HAVE  $v(x) = u(t_*, x)$  WITH  $v'(x) \rightarrow -\infty$  AS  $x \rightarrow x_*$  BUT  $v$  SINGLE VALUED