

Goals

- differential equations & their solutions
- separable differentiable equations

Let y be a function of t . An equation in t and the derivatives of y is called a differential equation.

E.g. $y'' - y = 0$ (or, equivalently, $y''(t) - y(t) = 0$)
 $\Leftrightarrow y'' = y$.

What functions satisfy this? They are solutions to the differential equation.

For $y'' = y$, it turns out that all solutions are of the form

$$y = ae^t + be^{-t}$$

for some a, b constants.

Check that these work:

$$\begin{aligned}(ae^t + be^{-t})'' &= (ae^t - be^{-t})' \\&= ae^t - (-be^{-t}) \\&= ae^t + be^{-t} \quad \checkmark\end{aligned}$$

This is a "two-parameter family of solutions."

To specify a particular sol'n, we need two initial conditions.

For instance, $y(0) = 0$, $\underbrace{y'(0)}_{\text{initial position}} = 1$.

$\underbrace{\text{initial position}}$ $\underbrace{\text{initial velocity}}$

$$0 = y(0) = ae^0 + be^{-0} = a + b$$

$$y'(t) = ae^t - be^{-t}$$

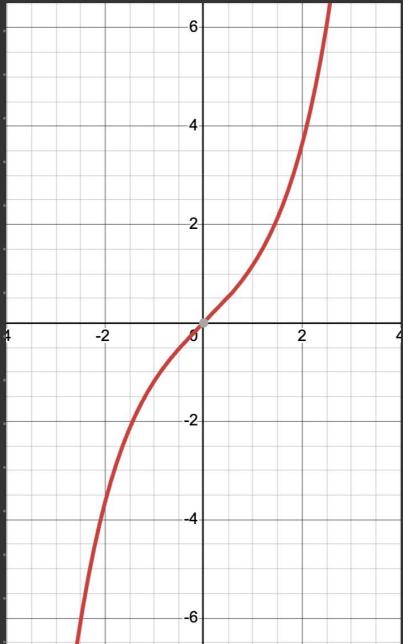
$$1 = y'(0) = a - b$$

$$2a = 1 \Rightarrow a = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow b = -\frac{1}{2}$$

so for the given initial position and velocity, the unique sol'n is

$$y = \frac{1}{2}(e^t - e^{-t})$$



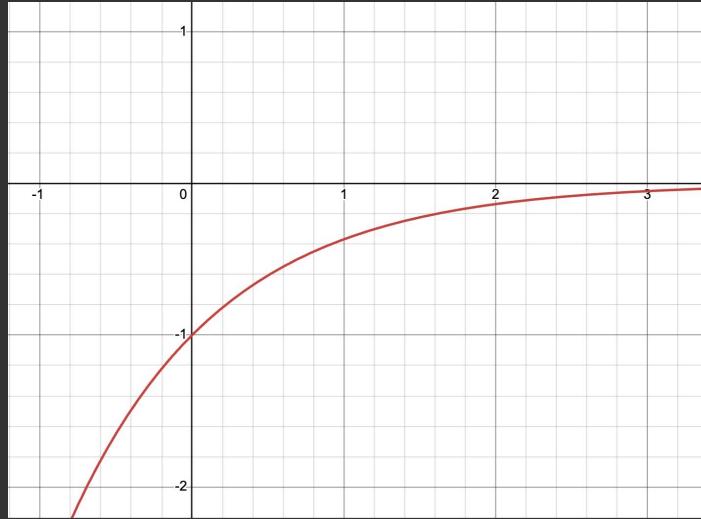
Q What if $y(0) = -1$, $y'(0) = 1$?

$$-1 = y(0) = a + b$$

$$+ \quad 1 = y'(0) = a - b$$

$$0 = 2a \Rightarrow a = 0 \Rightarrow b = -1.$$

A $y = -e^{-t}$



Q What if $y(0) = y'(0) = 0$?

A $a+b = y(0) = 0 \Rightarrow a+b=0$
 $a-b = y'(0) = 0 \Rightarrow a=b=0 \Rightarrow y=0$.

E.g. First order equation $ty'(t) = 3y(t)$.

Then $\frac{y'}{y} = \frac{3}{t}$ — the equation is separable:
we can get y 's on one side
of the eqn, t 's on the other.

Integrate: $\int \frac{y'}{y} dt = \int \frac{3}{t} dt$

$$\text{RHS} = 3 \log|t| + C$$

$$\text{LHS} = \int \frac{1}{u} du = \log(u) + \tilde{C} = \log(y) + \tilde{C}$$

$$u=y, du=y'dt$$

$$\text{Thus } \log(y) = 3\log(t) + k = \log(t^3) + k$$

for some constant k .

Exponentiating,

$$e^{\log(y)} = e^{\log(t^3) + k}$$

$$\Rightarrow y = e^{\log(t^3)} e^k$$

$$\Rightarrow y = Kt^3. \text{ for } K \text{ some positive constant}$$

$$\text{If } y(1) = 1 \text{ then } K=1 \text{ and } y = t^3$$

Problem Solve $y' = \frac{3t}{y}$

(a) in general, and
 (b) subject to initial condition
 $y(0) = 5.$

$$yy' = 3t$$

$$\int yy' dt = \int 3t dt$$

$$\begin{aligned} u &= y \\ du &= y' dt \end{aligned}$$

$$\int u du = 3 \frac{t^2}{2} + C$$

$$\frac{u^2}{2} + \tilde{C} = 3 \frac{t^2}{2} + C$$

$$\frac{y^2}{2} + \tilde{C} = \frac{3}{2} t^2 + C$$

$$y^2 = 3t^2 + k$$

$$y = \pm \sqrt{3t^2 + k}$$