

# ODEs 5-5

Goal: - Understand the Existence and Uniqueness theorem (for 1<sup>st</sup> order ODEs)

An ODE  $y' = f(y, x)$  can have many solutions, usually parametrized by a single constant: e.g.

$\frac{dy}{dt} = ky$  has a family of solutions  $y(t) = Ae^{kt}$  where  $A$  is arbitrary. i.e. we can solve the

IVP  $y' = ky \quad y(0) = y_0 \quad \rightsquigarrow y(t) = y_0 e^{kt}$   
 $y_0 = y(0) = Ae^{k0} = A$

Ideal hope: (it doesn't work out this way)

$N$ th order ODE

$$F\left(\frac{d^N y}{dt^N}, \dots\right) = \frac{d^N y}{dt^N} + \dots + g \frac{dy}{dt} + \dots = 0$$

If we specify  $y(0), y'(0), \dots, y^{(n-1)}(0)$ , we would like to have a unique to the IVP  $F\left(\frac{d^N y}{dt^N}, \dots\right) = 0, y(0) = c_0, \dots, y^{(n-1)}(0) = c_{n-1}$

In the first order case, this is correct with some caveats

Theorem (Existence and Uniqueness of 1<sup>st</sup> order ODEs)

Let  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$  be an ODE (most general 1<sup>st</sup> order ODE)

- iff
- $f(x, y)$  to be continuous  $x \in [x_0, x_1], y \in [y_0, y_1]$
  - $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  to be continuous  $x \in [x_0, x_1], y \in [y_0, y_1]$
  - $y(x_i) = c_i$  where  $x_i \in [x_0, x_1], c_i \in [y_0, y_1]$

Then There is a unique solution  $y(x)$  to the ODE

w/ IVP  $y(x_i) = c_i$  ONLY for  $x \in (x_i - \epsilon, x_i + \epsilon)$

for some  $\epsilon > 0$



Why are the caveats necessary?

Some of them are related to the non-linearity of a general ODE

For linear ODEs we have a better theorem

Our most general 1<sup>st</sup> order linear ODE

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + p(t)y = q(t)$$

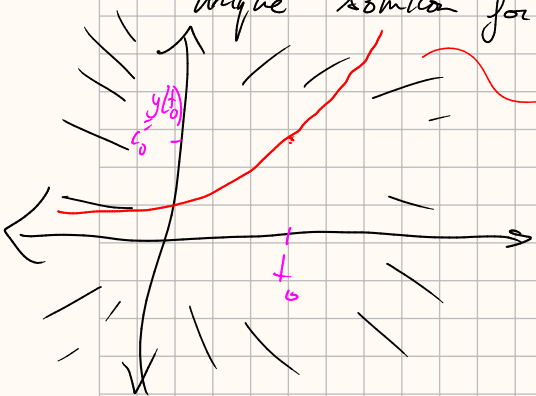
$$(i.e. \frac{d}{dx} (xy) = q(t) - p(t)y)$$

Theorem (Linear 1<sup>st</sup> order E/U)

- $p(t)$  and  $q(t)$  are continuous on  $t \in [a, b]$
- $t_0 \in [a, b]$   $c_0 = \text{anything}$

Then the IVP  $y' + p(t)y = q(t)$ ,  $y(t_0) = c_0$  has a

unique solution for  $t \in [a, b]$



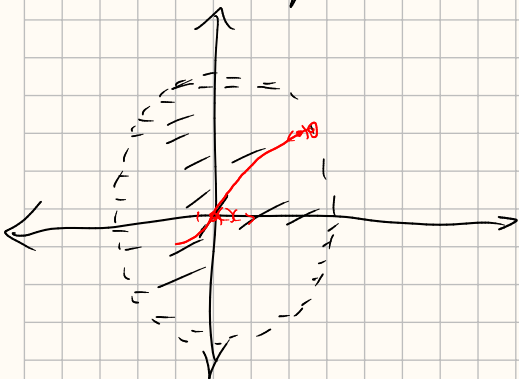
Uniqueness also implies that  $y(t)$  is a function (i.e. single valued)

Eg: (Why we don't get solutions for all times in the non-linear case)

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \sqrt{1-t^2-y^2}$$

this is non-linear

We don't get solutions for all  $t$



Eg: HW#1 P.6 Conditions not satisfied  $\Rightarrow$  conclusion not necessarily true.

Eg: (Non-linearities mean that our solution isn't single valued for all time)

separable

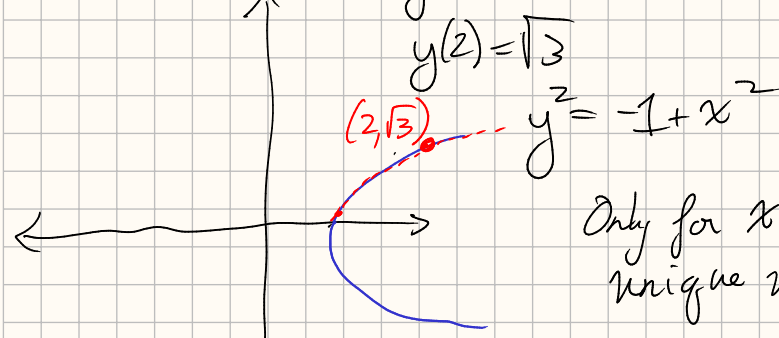
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x}{y}$$

General solution

$$y^2 = C + x^2$$

$$y(2) = \sqrt{3}$$

- if  $y \neq 0$   $f(x,y) = \frac{-x}{y}$  has  
 $f(x,y)$  continuous  
 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  continuous



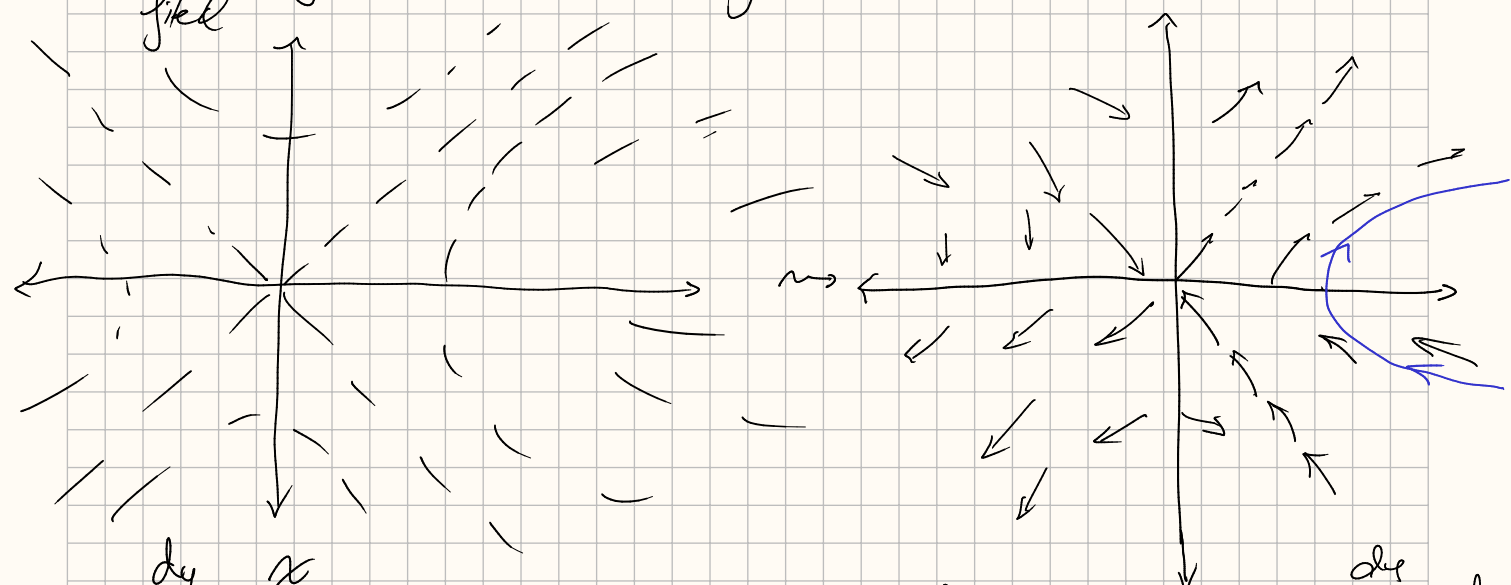
Only for  $x \geq 1$  does there exist a unique value for  $y(x)$

From the theorem  $\epsilon$  could be  $1 \times 10^{-100}$ , but since we know the solution,  $\epsilon$  as large as 1  
 $x \in (2-1, 2+1)$

There are other ways to handle situations where our solution is only an implicit equation

A 1<sup>st</sup> order ODE - can be turned into a system of 1<sup>st</sup> order autonomous ODEs

Graphically corresponds to replacing a slope field by a vector field



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

one example

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dy}{dt} = x \\ \frac{dx}{dt} = y \end{cases}$$

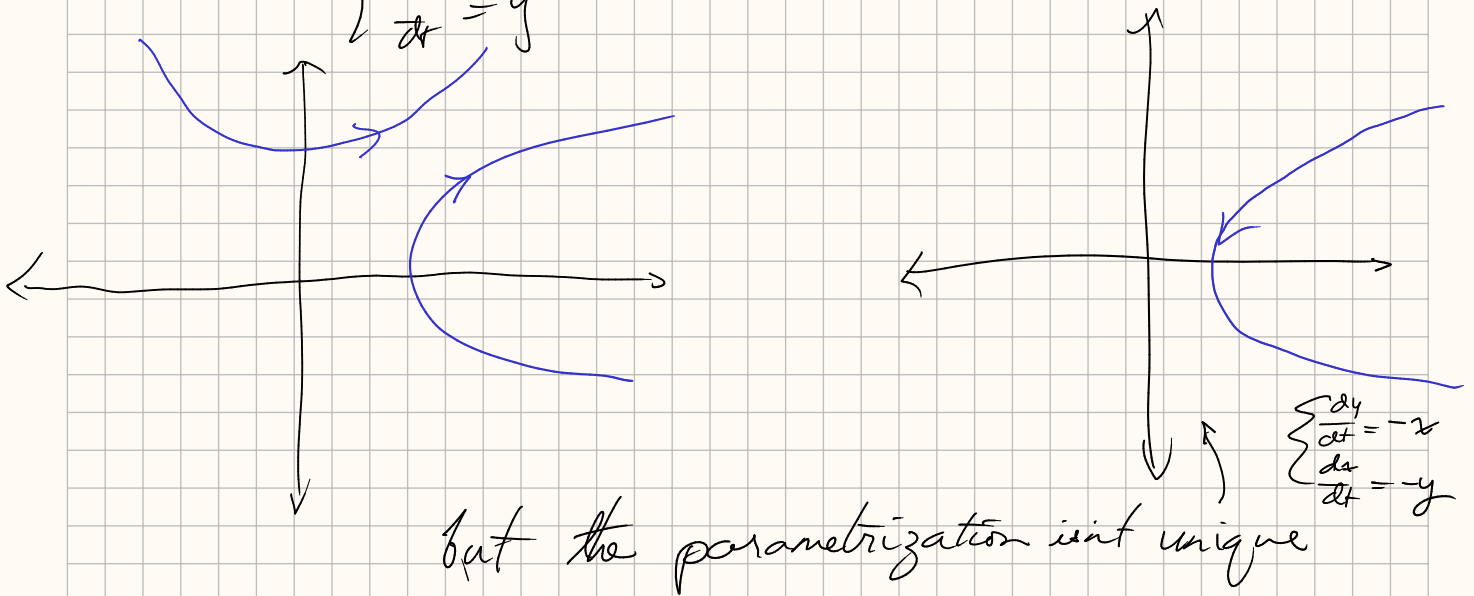
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy/dt}{dx/dt} = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

there are many more examples

E.g.: 'flip the arrows'  $\frac{dy}{dt} \mapsto -\frac{dy}{dt}$   
 $\frac{dx}{dt} \mapsto -\frac{dx}{dt}$   
 is another v. field w/ the same slope field

Even though the ODE  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x}{y}$  only has solutions as functions  $y(x)$  for some values of  $x$  for any initial condition  $(x_0, y_0)$  the solution to the autonomous system of ODEs

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dy}{dt} = x \\ \frac{dx}{dt} = y \end{cases} \text{ exist for all time}$$

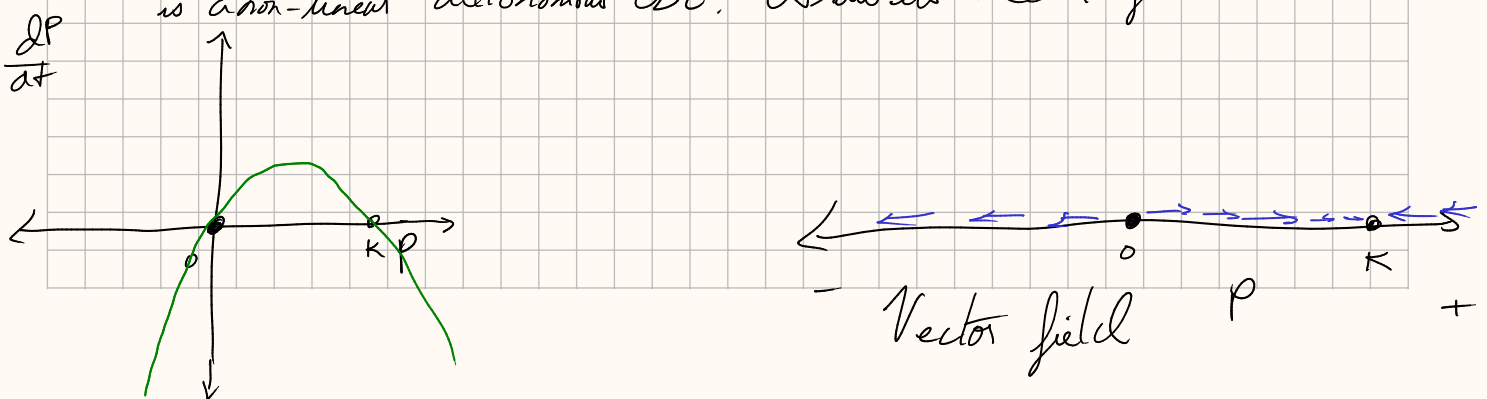


## Vector field analysis of autonomous equations

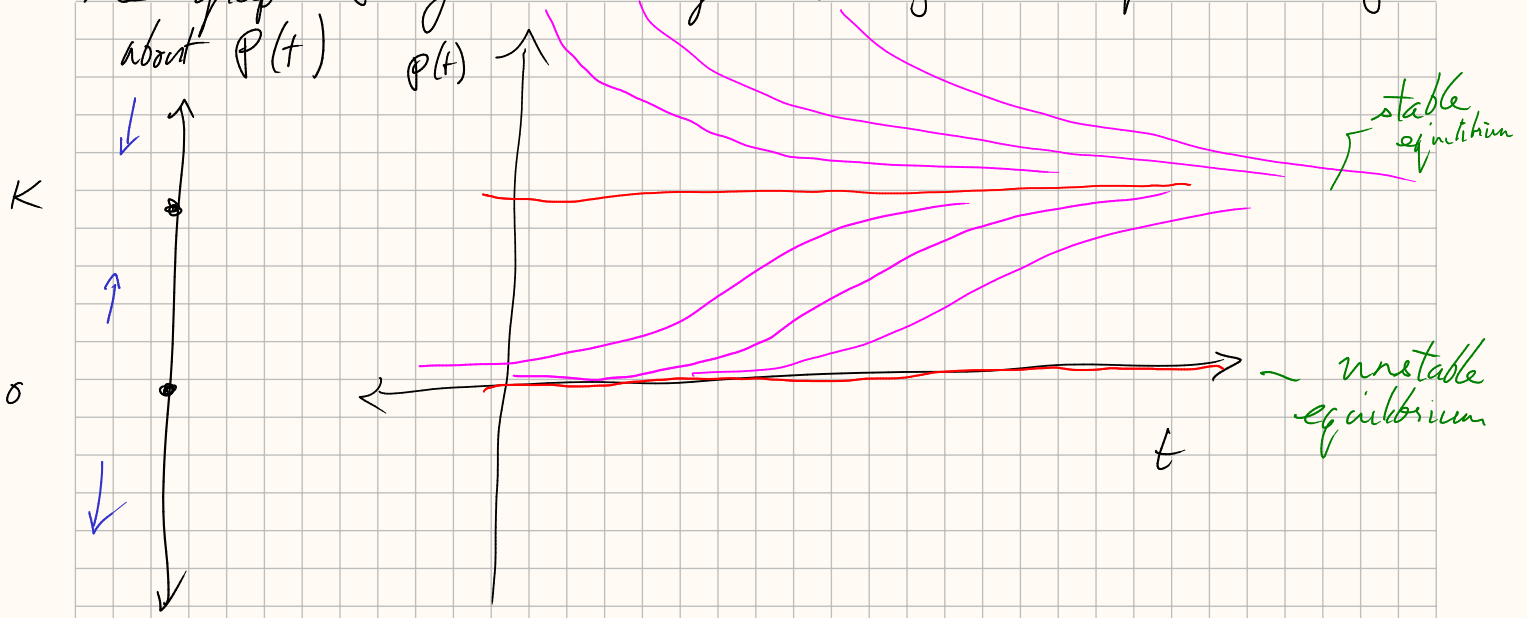
Goal: - Understand qualitative behavior of autonomous ODEs based on the direction of the corresponding vector field  
 This is particularly nice for 1D autonomous ODE

E.g.:  $\frac{dP}{dt} = k P \left(1 - \frac{P}{K}\right)$  the logistic model of population dynamics

is a non-linear autonomous ODE. Draw its vector field



The graphical map about the  $v$  field is enough to answer qualitative questions



Def A solution to an autonomous system is an equilibrium solution if it is constant for all  $t$  (= independent variable)

it is stable if nearby integral curves asymptotically approach the solution

unstable ————— are repelled —

semistable otherwise (i.e. some attracted, some repelled).