

# 5.7 Slope Fields with Euler's Method

---

Standards:

---

MCA3

---

MCA3a

---

MC11

---

MC11a

---



## Old Related Rates

A spherical snowball melts in such a way that the instant at which its radius is 20 cm, its radius is decreasing at 3 cm/min. At what rate is the volume of the ball changing at that instant?

$$\text{given: } r = 20 \text{ cm, } \frac{dr}{dt} = -\frac{3 \text{ cm}}{\text{min}}, \frac{dV}{dt}$$



$$\text{Eqn: } V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{4}{3}\pi \cdot 3r^2 \cdot \frac{dr}{dt}$$

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = 4\pi r^2 \frac{dr}{dt}$$
$$= 4\pi (20 \text{ cm})^2 \cdot \left(-\frac{3 \text{ cm}}{\text{min}}\right)$$

$$= -4800\pi \frac{\text{cm}^3}{\text{min}}$$

## New Slope Fields

Let's consider the following situation:

Suppose we are interested in how fast an employee learns at a given task.

rate a person learns = percentage of task not yet learned.

Let  $y$  = the percentage learned by time ( $t$  weeks).

$$\text{Equation: } \frac{dy}{dt} = 100 - y \implies \text{an example of differential equation.}$$

Differential Equation - is such an equation that gives information about the rate of change of an unknown function.

Let's say that work is a 5 day work week and let's assume 100% of the learning rate holds for the first day. How much does the person need to learn in 1 day?

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 100 - y$$

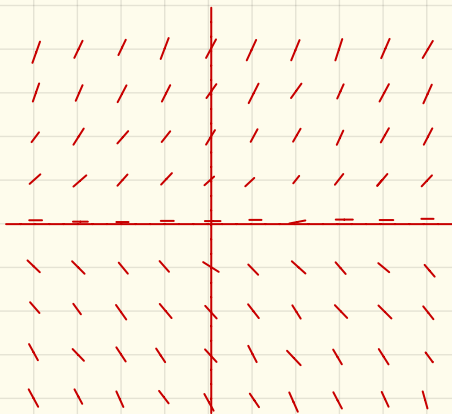
(1 day =  $\frac{1}{5}$  of wk)

$$= 100 - (20\%) = 80\% \text{ per day}$$

We can also visualize differential equation using SLOPE FIELDS!

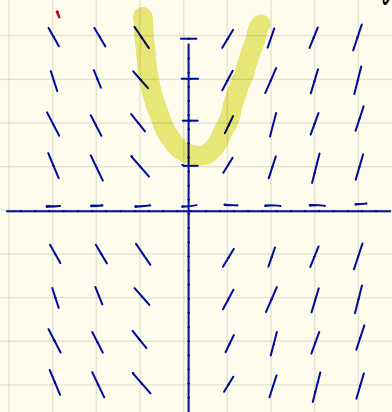
Let's consider the differential equation:

$\frac{dy}{dx} = y$   $\rightsquigarrow$  Any solution to the differential eqn. has the property that the slope of any point is equal to the y-coordinate.



| x | y  | $\frac{dy}{dx} = y$ $\rightsquigarrow$ slopes |
|---|----|---|
| 0 | 0  | 0   |
| 1 | 1  | 1   |
| 1 | 3  | 3   |
| 2 | -3 | -3  |
| 0 | 1  | 1   |
| 0 | -1 | -1  |

Let's consider the differential equation:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$ . Sketch the slope field.



| x  | y  | $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$ |
|----|----|----------------------|
| 0  | 0  | 0                    |
| 1  | 1  | 2                    |
| 2  | 4  | 4                    |
| -2 | 4  | -4                   |
| -1 | -1 | -2                   |

Let's find the particular solution to the equation  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$  whose graph passes through  $(1, 2)$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dy}{dx} &= 2x \\ dy &= 2x dx \\ \int dy &= \int 2x dx \\ y &= x^2 + C \quad \leftarrow \text{antiderivative}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{When } x=1, y=2 \\ y &= x^2 + C \\ 2 &= (1)^2 + C \\ 2 &= 1 + C \\ 1 &= C\end{aligned}$$

$$y = x^2 + 1$$