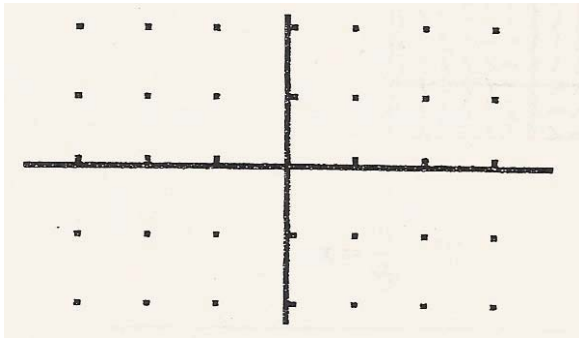


## Slope Fields

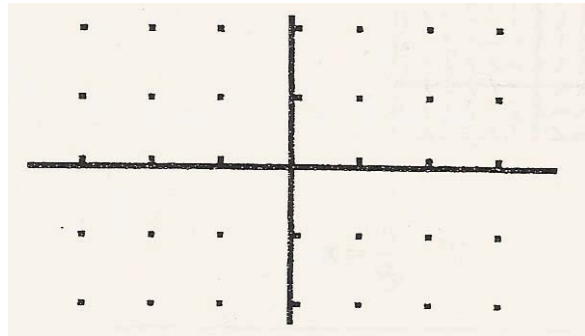
Nancy Stephenson  
Clements High School  
Sugar Land, Texas

Draw a slope field for each of the following differential equations. Each tick mark is one unit.

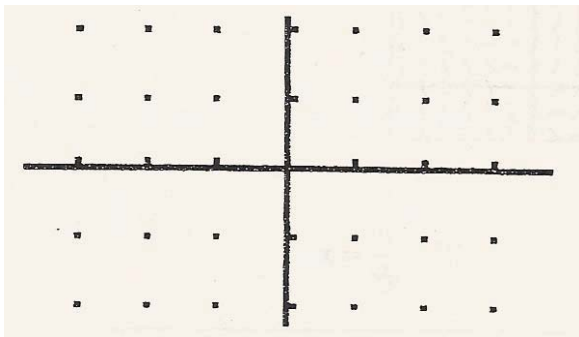
1.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x + 1$



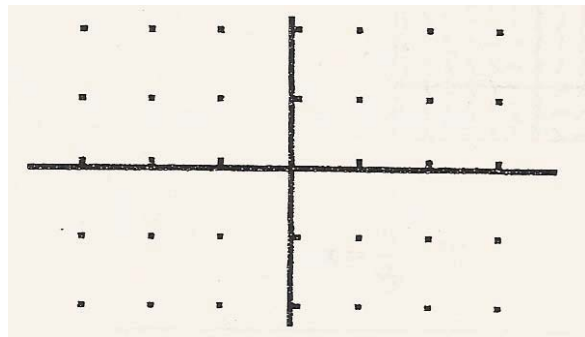
2.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2y$



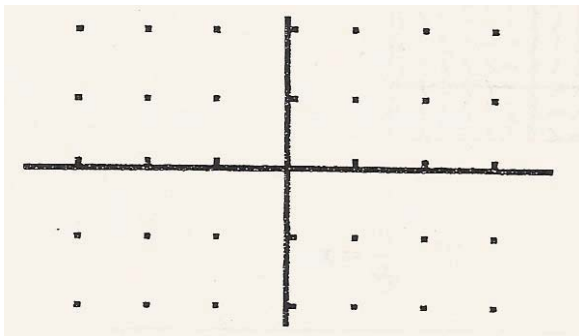
3.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x + y$



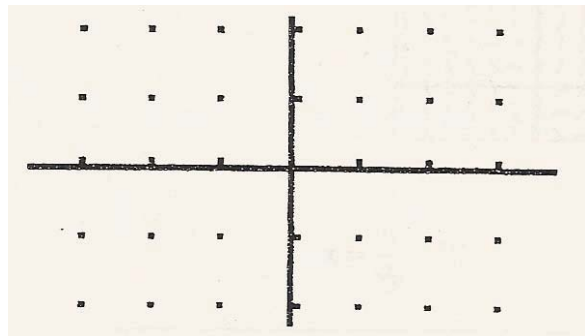
4.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$



5.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = y - 1$

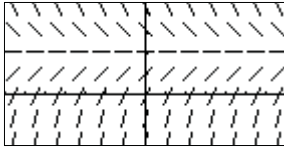


6.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{y}{x}$

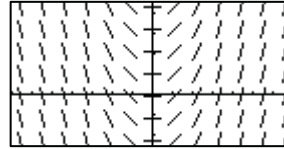


Match the slope fields with their differential equations.

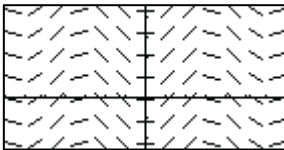
(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



7.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sin x$

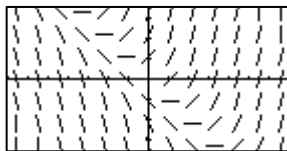
8.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x - y$

9.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2 - y$

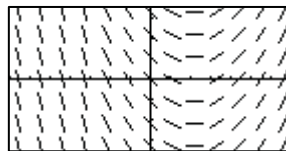
10.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x$

Match the slope fields with their differential equations.

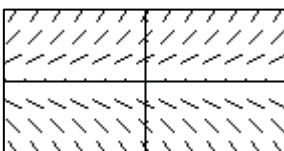
(A)



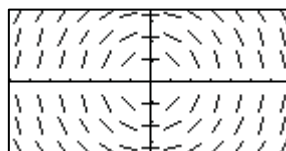
(B)



(C)



(D)



11.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0.5x - 1$

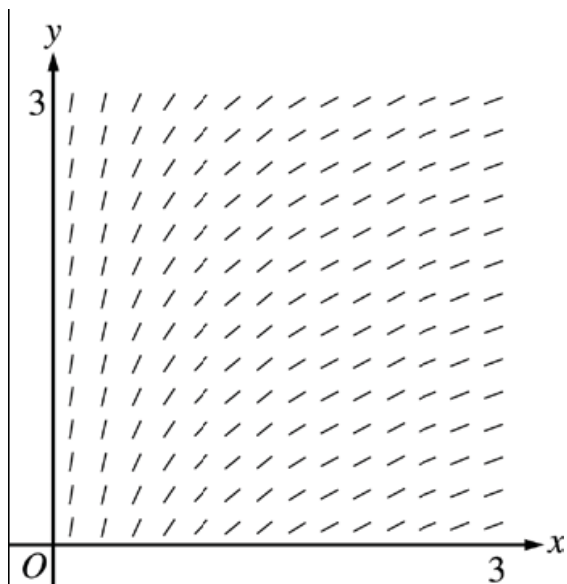
12.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 0.5y$

13.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y}$

14.  $\frac{dy}{dx} = x + y$

From the May 2008 *AP Calculus Course Description*:

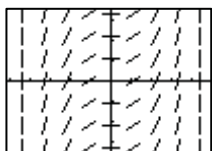
15.



The slope field from a certain differential equation is shown above. Which of the following could be a specific solution to that differential equation?

- (A)  $y = x^2$       (B)  $y = e^x$       (C)  $y = e^{-x}$       (D)  $y = \cos x$       (E)  $y = \ln x$

16.

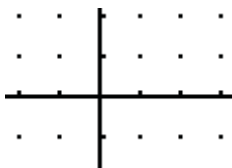


The slope field for a certain differential equation is shown above. Which of the following could be a specific solution to that differential equation?

- (A)  $y = \sin x$       (B)  $y = \cos x$       (C)  $y = x^2$       (D)  $y = \frac{1}{6}x^3$       (E)  $y = \ln x$
-

17. Consider the differential equation given by  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{xy}{2}$ .

(A) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation.



(B) Let  $f$  be the function that satisfies the given differential equation. Write an equation for the tangent line to the curve  $y = f(x)$  through the point  $(1, 1)$ . Then use your tangent line equation to estimate the value of  $f(1.2)$ .

(C) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(1) = 1$ . Use your solution to find  $f(1.2)$ .

(D) Compare your estimate of  $f(1.2)$  found in part (b) to the actual value of  $f(1.2)$  found in part

(E) Was your estimate from part (b) an underestimate or an overestimate? Use your slope field to explain why.

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18. Consider the differential equation given by  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x}{y}$ .

(A) On the axes provided, sketch a slope field for the given differential equation.



(B) Sketch a solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, 1)$  on your slope field.

(C) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = 1$ .

(D) Sketch a solution curve that passes through the point  $(0, -1)$  on your slope field.

(E) Find the particular solution  $y = f(x)$  to the differential equation with the initial condition  $f(0) = -1$ .

## Slope Fields Worksheet Solutions

7. C

8. D

9. A

10. B

11. B

12. C

13. D

14. A

15. E

16. D

17. (B) Tangent line:  $y - 1 = \frac{1}{2}(x - 1)$

$$f(1.2) \approx 1.1$$

$$(C) y = e^{\frac{x^2-1}{4}}$$

$$f(1.2) = 1.116$$

(D) The estimate from part (b) was an underestimate. Since the graph of  $y = e^{\frac{x^2-1}{4}}$  is concave up, the tangent line found in part (b) lies below the curve.

$$18. (C) y = \sqrt{x^2 + 1}$$

$$(E) y = -\sqrt{x^2 + 1}$$