

## § 2.8 - The Existence & Uniqueness Theorem

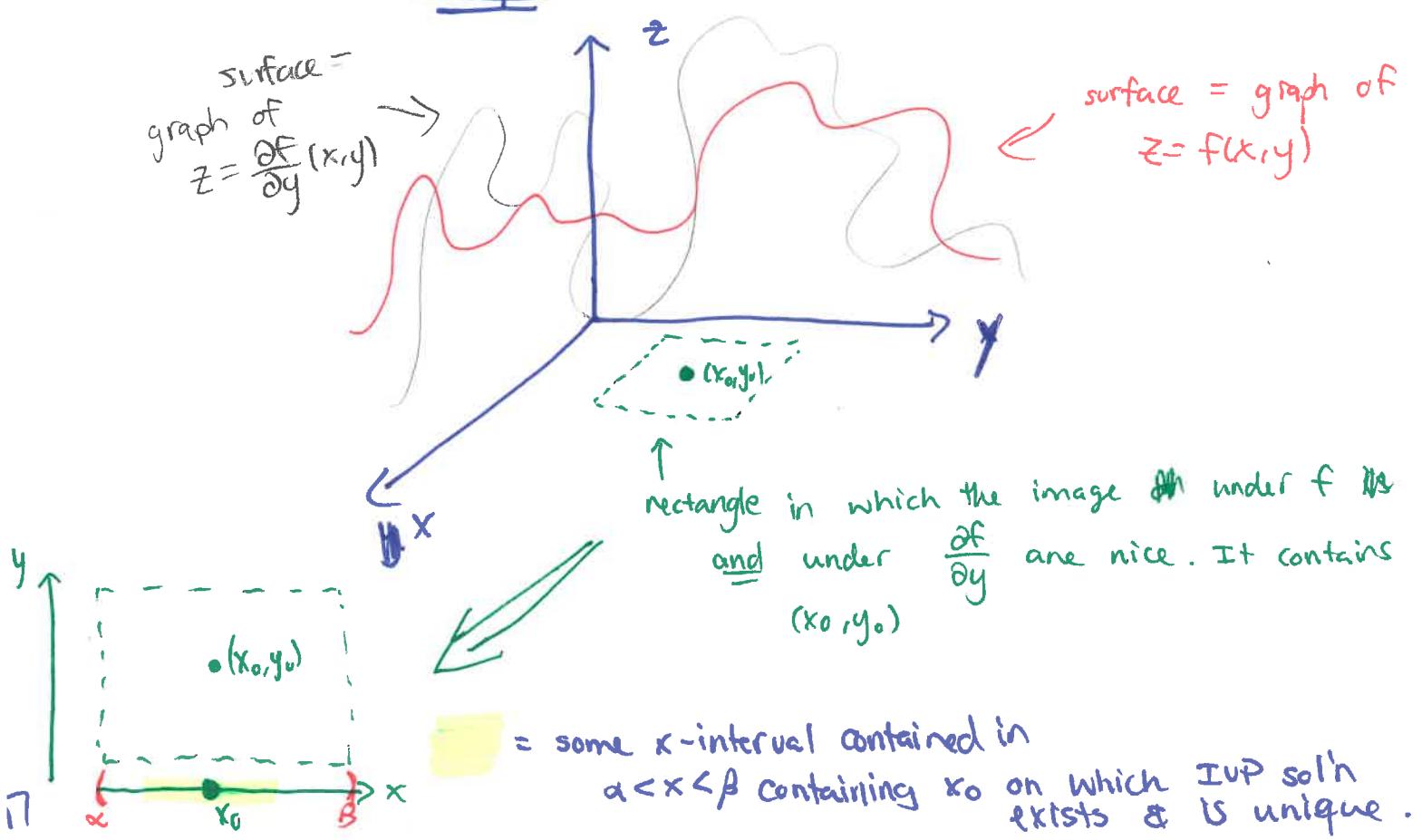
Recall: There's a theorem about the existence / uniqueness of solutions for linear first-order ODEs. We want something more general.

Theorem 2.4.2 (aka 2.8.1)  $\rightarrow$  "The Existence & Uniqueness Theorem"

Let  $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$  be a first-order ODE. & consider the IVP

$$\cdot \frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y), \quad y(x_0) = y_0. \quad \alpha < x < \beta, \quad r < y < s$$

If  $f$  &  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  are continuous in some rectangle containing the point  $(x_0, y_0)$ , then in some ~~rectangle~~  $x$ -interval containing  $x_0$ , there is a unique solution to the ODE.

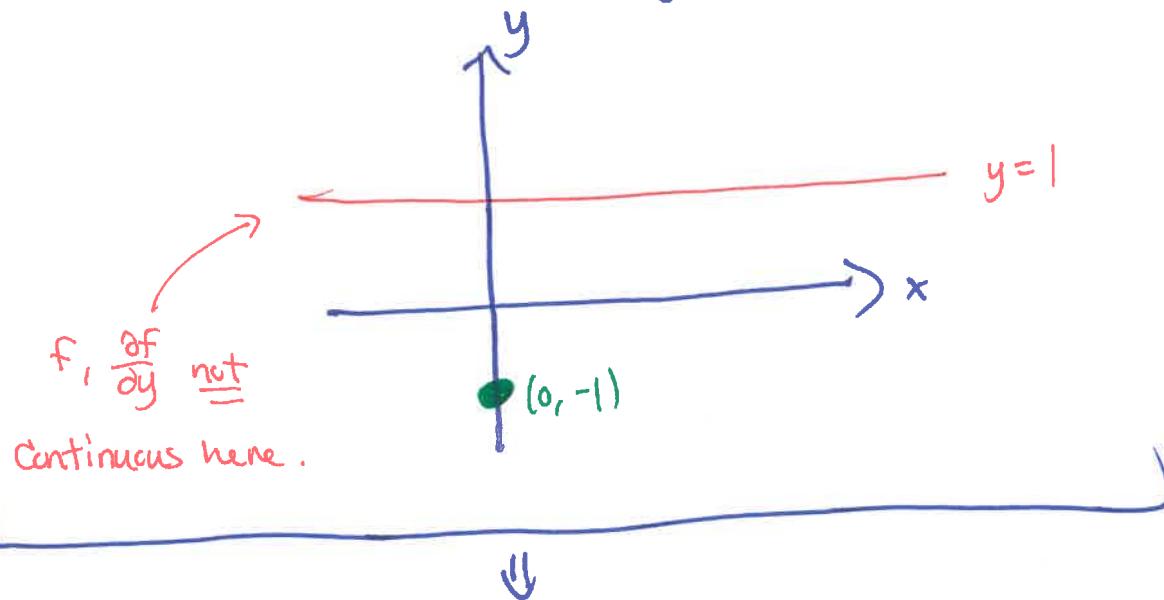


Ex:  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{3x^2+4x+2}{2(y-1)}$  .  $y(0) = -1$ .

$$\Rightarrow f(x,y) = \frac{3x^2+4x+2}{2(y-1)} \quad \& \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = -\frac{3x^2+4x+2}{2(y-1)^2}$$

(use quotient rule)

→ Both are continuous everywhere except when  $y=1$ !



There exists some rectangle (lots of them, actually) around  $(0, -1)$  s.t.  $f, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  continuous in that rectangle.

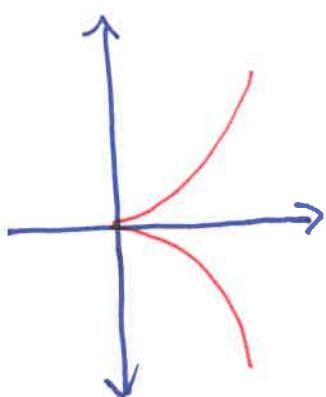
↳ By existence & uniqueness theorem, this IVP has a unique solution in some interval about  $x=0$ .

(Don't know which interval, though.  
By other methods, can show  $x > -2$ ).

- Note:
- If  $f$  continuous but  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  isn't, then a solution exists but may not be unique.

$$\hookrightarrow \text{Ex: } \frac{dy}{dx} = y^{1/3}, \quad y(0) = 0.$$

Here,  $f(x,y) = y^{1/3}$  is continuous everywhere, but  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  does not exist at  $x=0$ .



There is a solution but it's not unique!

$$\hookrightarrow y_1 = \left(\frac{2}{3}x\right)^{3/2}$$

$$y_2 = -\left(\frac{2}{3}x\right)^{3/2}$$

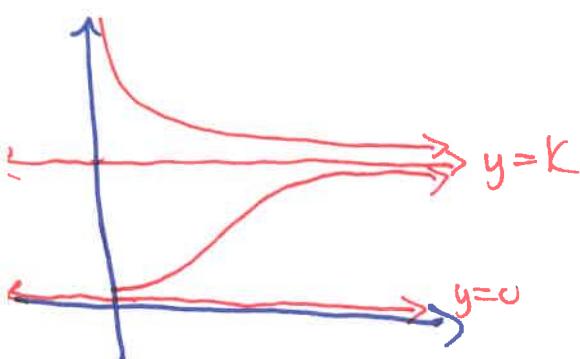
$$y_3 = 0$$

Check that these are all solutions!

the graphs of

- By Existence & uniqueness theorem, two solutions cannot intersect when  $f, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  both continuous.

$$\hookrightarrow \text{Ex: In } \S 2.5, \text{ we studied } \frac{dy}{dx} = r\left(1 - \frac{y}{K}\right)y.$$



Even though the solutions in the  $y$ -interval  $(0, K)$  (for example) limit towards  $y = K$ , they never intersect it!

Ex. State where in the  $xy$ -plane the hypotheses of Thm 2.4.2 are satisfied:

(S 2.4 # 11)

$$f(x,y) = \frac{1+x^2}{3y-y^2}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1+x^2}{3y-y^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x,y) \stackrel{\substack{\text{quotient} \\ \text{rule}}}{=} \frac{0 - (1+x^2)(3-2y)}{(3y-y^2)^2}$$

$$= - \frac{(1+x^2)(3-2y)}{(3y-y^2)^2}$$

continuous when  
 $3y-y^2 \neq 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow y(3-y) \neq 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow y \neq 0 \text{ and } y \neq 3.$$

continuous when  
 $3y-y^2 \neq 0 \dots$

So: Hypotheses of thm valid when  
 $y \neq 0 \text{ and } y \neq 3!$

~~Continuous and differentiable  $\Rightarrow$  both continuous~~

Note: This theorem is a generalization of the analogous thm for linear ODEs: If  $y' + p(x)y = q(x)$  is ODE, then

$$y' = \underbrace{q(x) - p(x)y}_{f(x,y)} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial F}{\partial y} = -p(x).$$

So,  $f$  &  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}$  both continuous IFF  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  both continuous!

$$\underline{\text{Ex:}} \quad \underline{\text{§2.4 #9}} \quad y^i = \frac{\ln |xy|}{1-x^2+y^2}$$

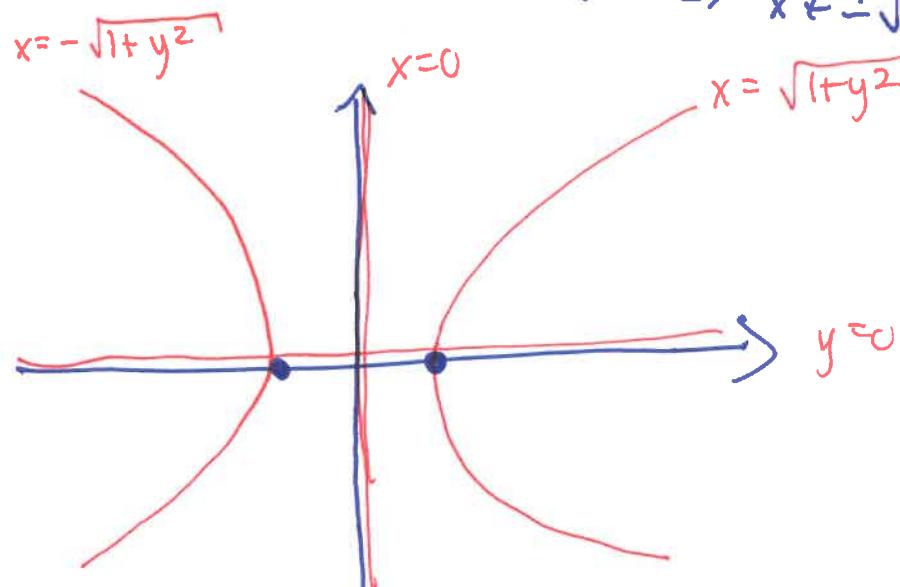
$$\ln |xy| = \ln (\pm xy) \xrightarrow{\frac{\partial}{\partial y}} \frac{1}{\pm xy} \cdot \pm x = \frac{\pm x}{\pm xy} = \frac{1}{y}$$

$$f(x, y) = \frac{\ln |xy|}{1-x^2+y^2}$$

continuous when:

- $|xy| > 0$
- $1-x^2+y^2 \neq 0$
- $\Rightarrow |xy| \neq 0$
- $\Rightarrow |x||y| \neq 0$
- $\Rightarrow x \neq 0 \text{ and } y \neq 0$
- $\Rightarrow x^2 \neq 1+y^2$
- $\Rightarrow x \neq \pm \sqrt{1+y^2}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{(1-x^2+y^2) \cdot \frac{1}{y} - \ln |xy| / (2y)}{(1-x^2+y^2)^2} \\ \text{continuous when:} \\ \circ \boxed{y \neq 0} \\ \circ \boxed{|xy| > 0} \\ \Rightarrow x \neq 0 \text{ and } y \neq 0 \\ \circ \boxed{1-x^2+y^2 \neq 0} \\ \Rightarrow x \neq \pm \sqrt{1+y^2} \end{array} \right.$$



hypotheses of  
thm valid  
everywhere  
else.

✓ = bad parts (<sup>thm hypotheses</sup> (not satisfied))