


Separable equations

- First order ODEs of the form: $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)h(y)$ 
- Rename $h(y) = 1/g(y)$: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{f(x)}{g(y)}$
- Rewrite as $g(y)\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x)$.
- Rewrite g and f as derivatives of other functions: $G'(y)\frac{dy}{dx} = F'(x)$.
- Recognize a chain rule: $\frac{d}{dx}(G(y)) = G'(y)\frac{dy}{dx}$.
- Take antiderivatives to get $G(y) = F(x) + C$.
- Finally, solve for y if possible: $y(x) = G^{-1}(F(x) + C)$.

Separable equations

• Solve: $\frac{dy}{dx} = -\frac{x}{y}$

(A) $y(x) = x$

(B) $y(x) = \sqrt{C - x^2}$

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

(D) $y(x) = C - x^2$

(E) None of these (or don't know)

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

$$\frac{1}{2}y^2 = -\frac{1}{2}x^2 + D$$

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

Does (B) cover all possible initial conditions?

Separable equations

$$y(x) = \sqrt{C - x^2}$$

- $y(0)=2$ ----> $C=4$
- $y(1)=1$ ----> $C=2$
- $y(1)=-2$ ----> $C=?$
- General solution: $y = \pm \sqrt{C - x^2}$
- Or express implicitly: $y^2 = -x^2 + C$
- To satisfy an IC, must choose a value for C *and* choose + or - .

Separable equations

• Solve: $\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{1}{\cos(y)}$

(A) $y(t) = \sin(t)$

(B) $y(t) = \arcsin(t + C)$

(C) $\sin(y) = t + C$

(D) $y(t) = \arcsin(t) + C$

(E) $y(t) = \arccos(t + C)$

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Separable equations

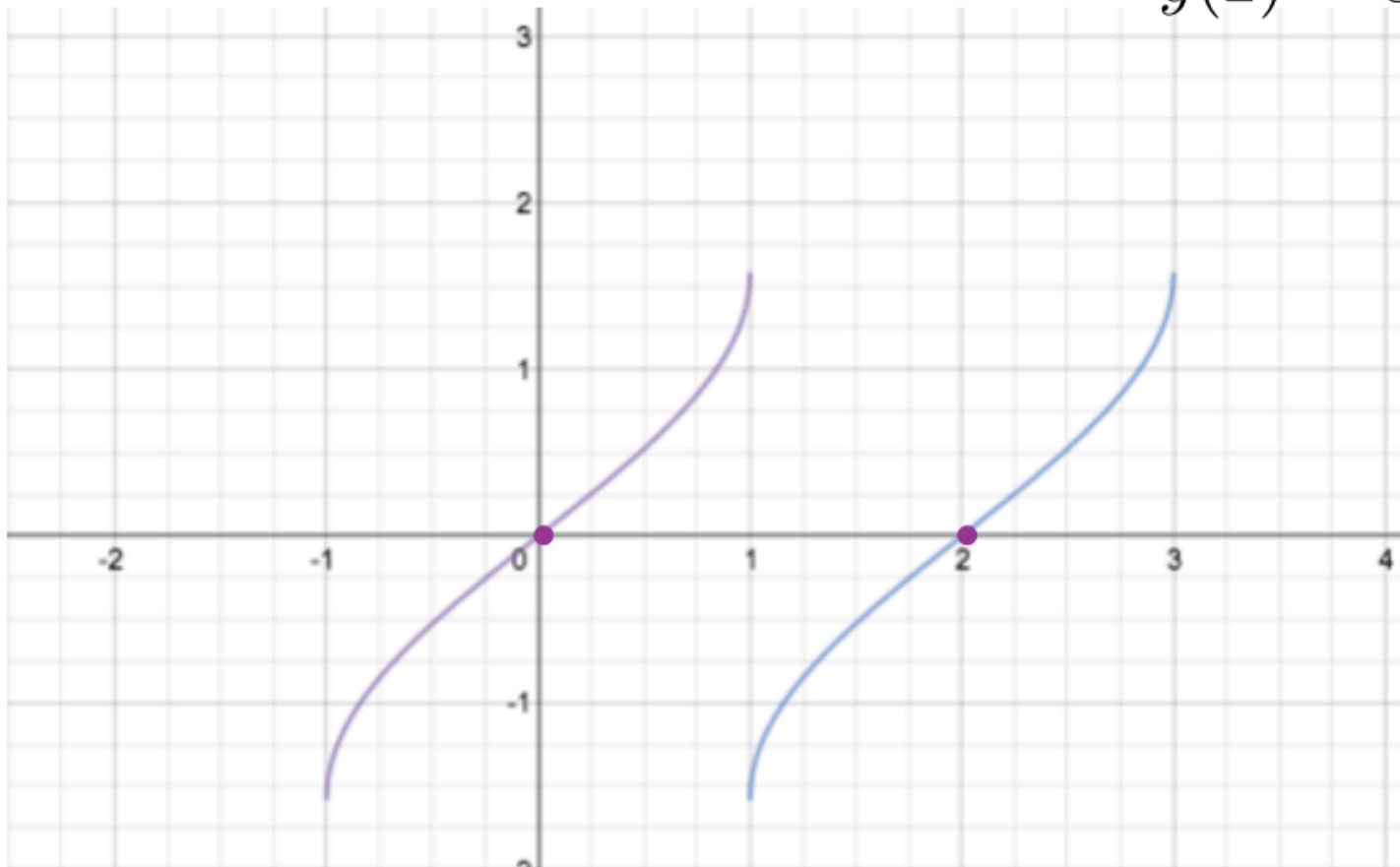
$$y(t) = \arcsin(t + C)$$

with IC $y(0) = 0$

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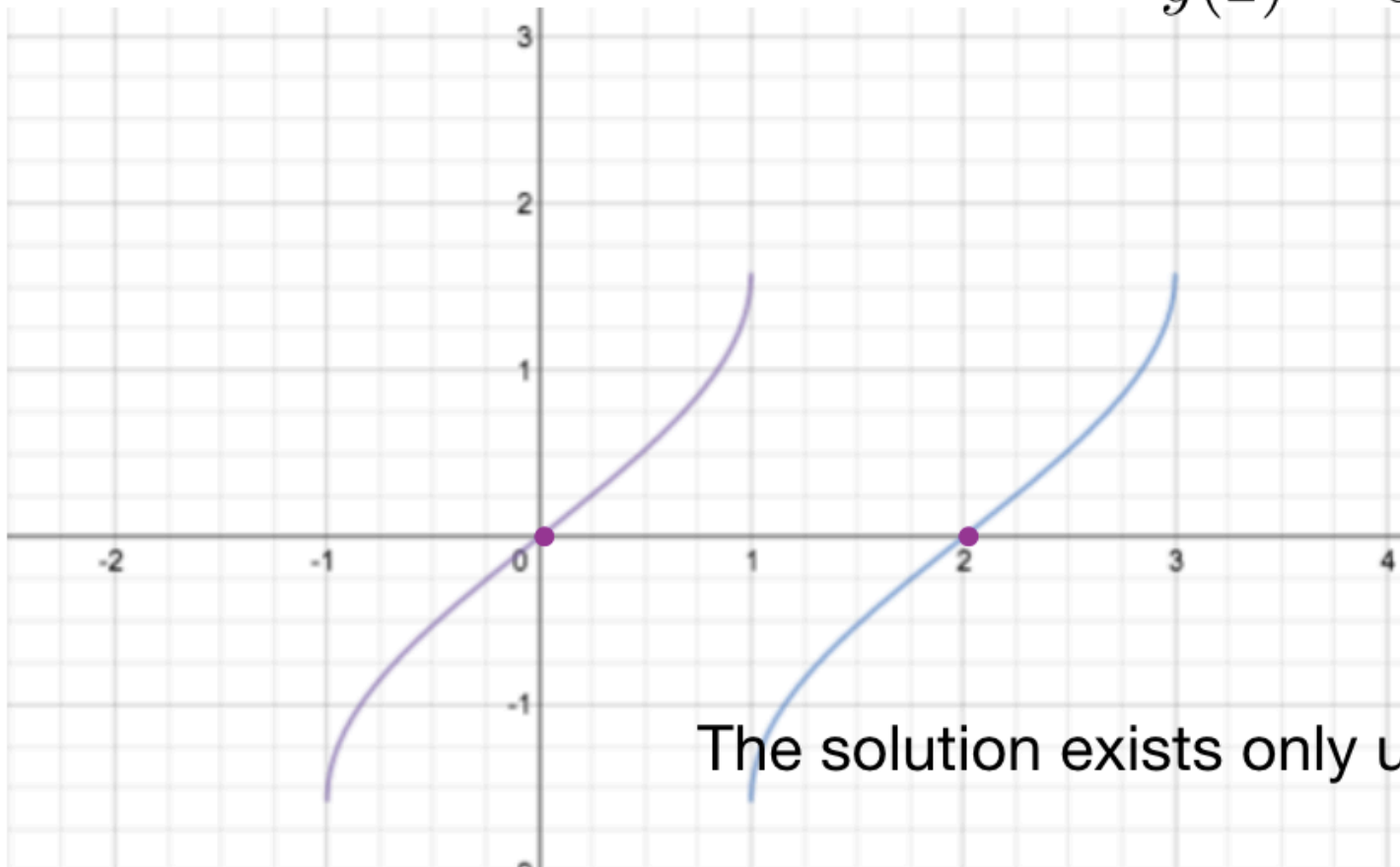
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The solution exists only up until $t=3$.

Separable equations

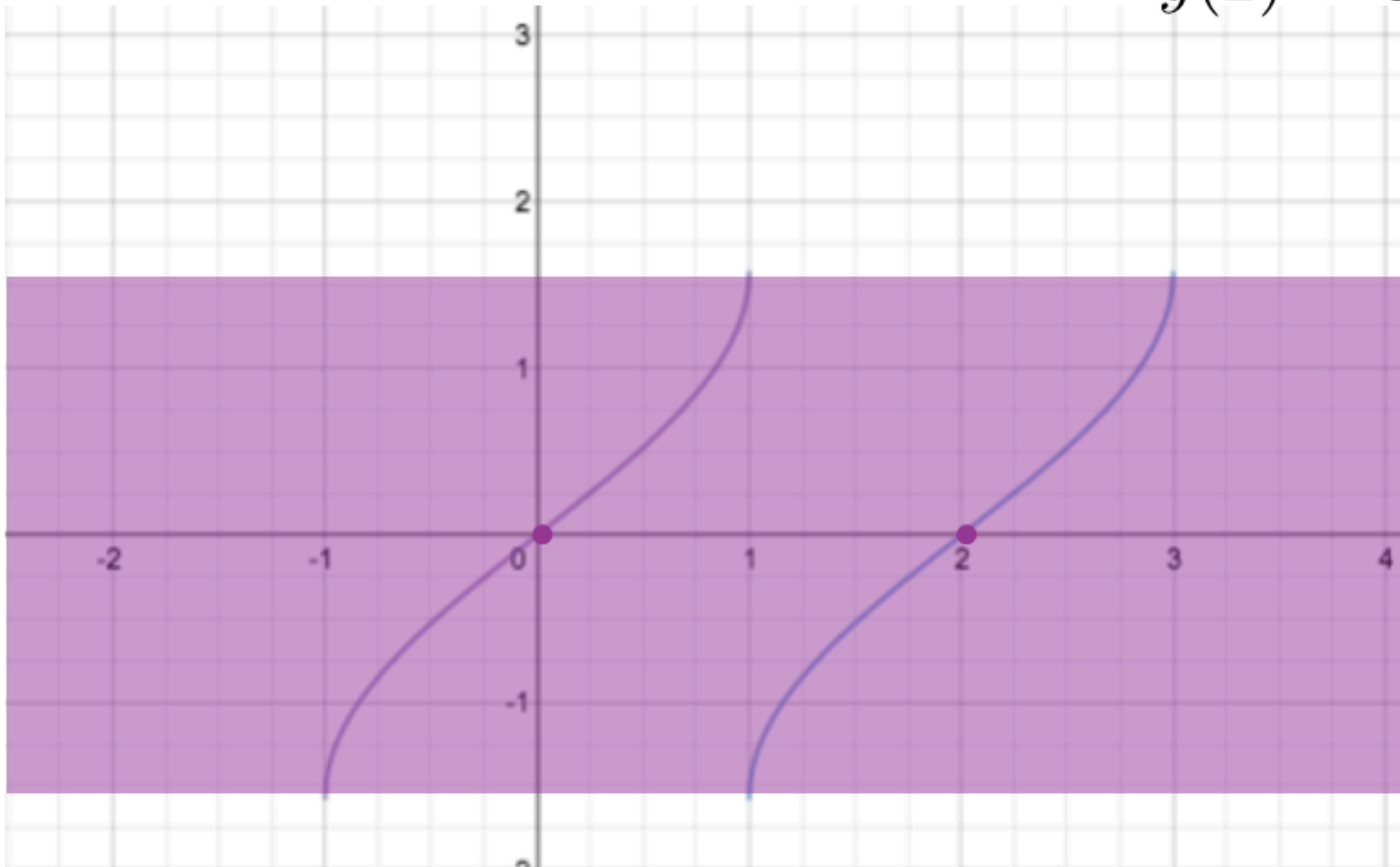
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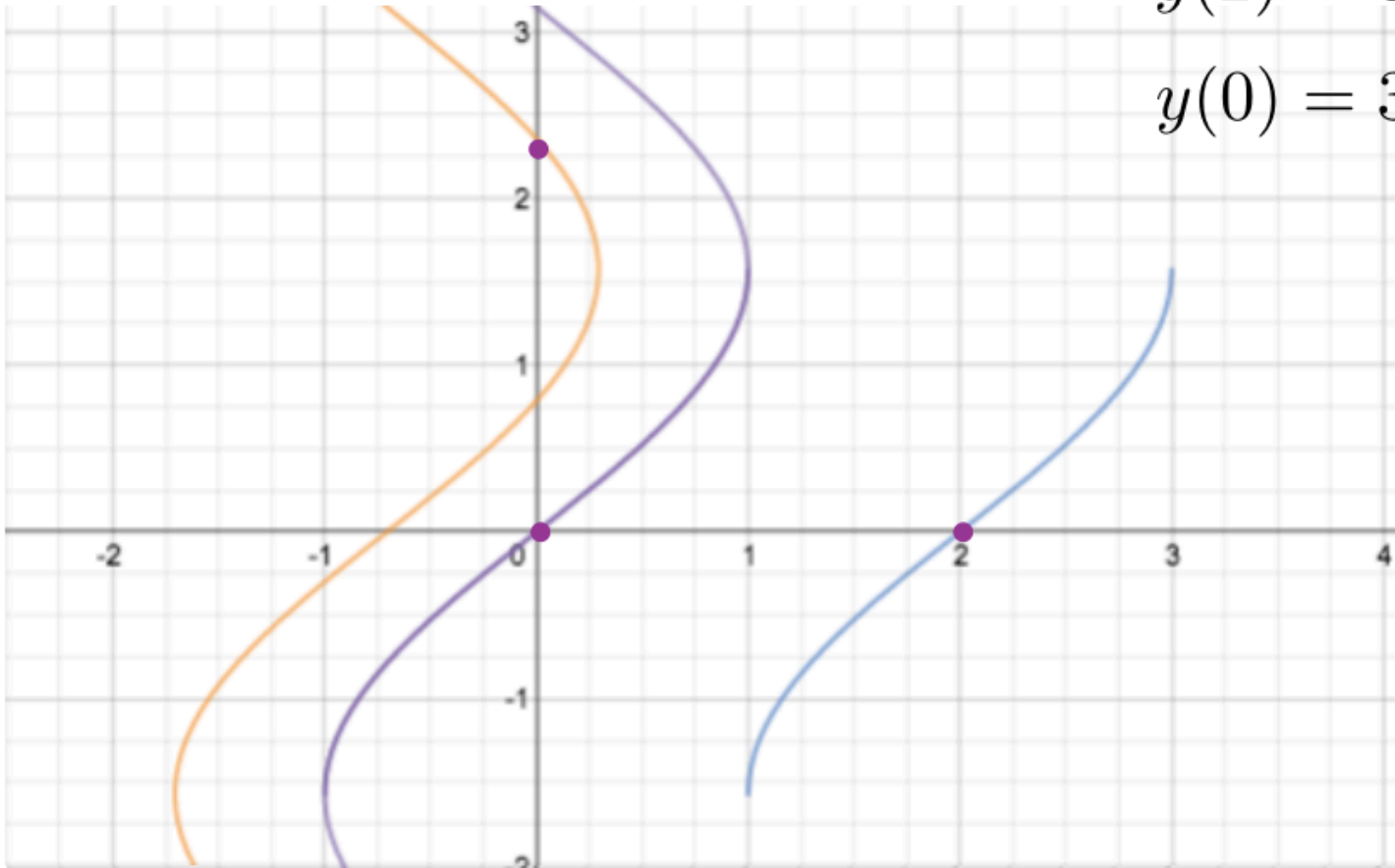
Separable equations

$$\sin(y) = t + C$$

with IC $y(0) = 0$ $C = 0$

$y(2) = 0$ $C = -2$

$y(0) = 3\pi/4$ $C = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$



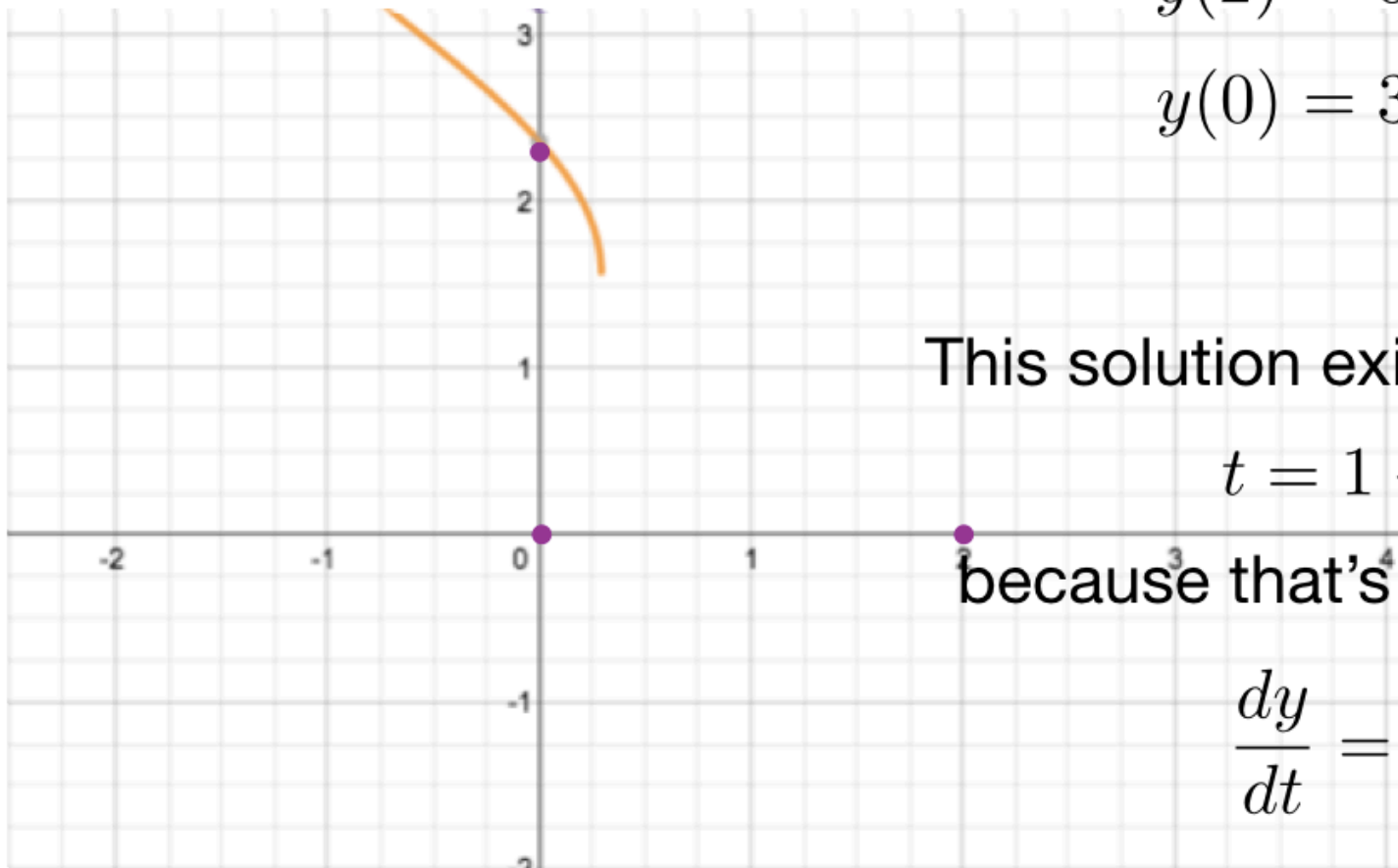
Separable equations

$$\sin(y) = t + C$$

with IC $y(0) = 0$ $C = 0$

$$y(2) = 0 \quad C = -2$$

$$y(0) = 3\pi/4 \quad C = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$



This solution exists only up until

$$t = 1 - 1/\sqrt{2}$$

because that's when $y = \pi/2$.

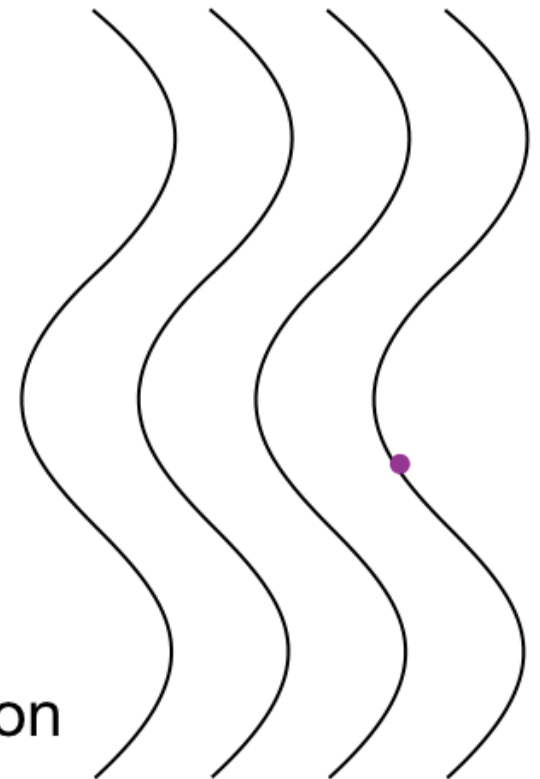
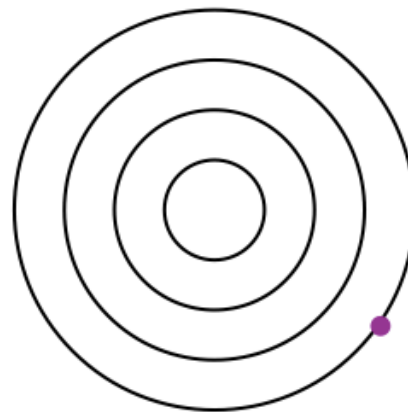
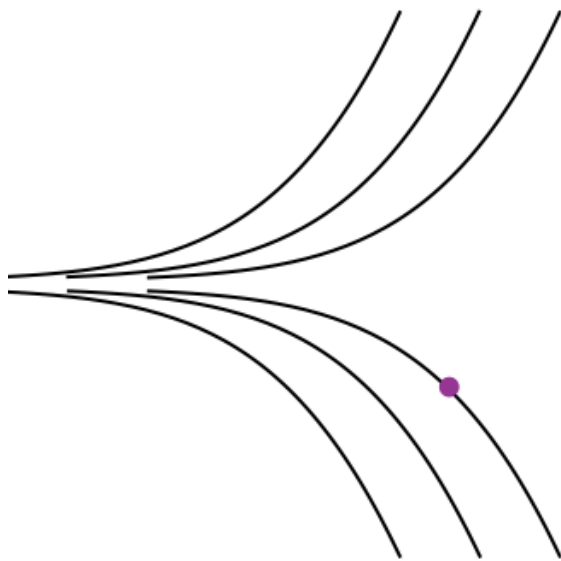
$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{1}{\cos(y)}$$

When do we get this kind of problem with ICs?

$$y = Ce^{3t}$$

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

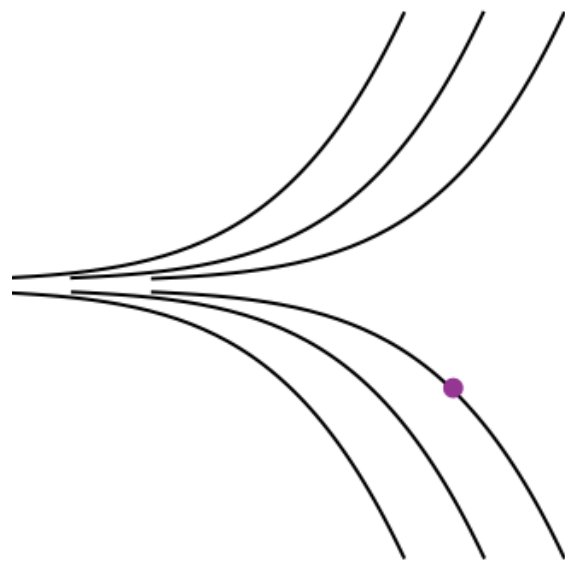
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Choose C so that the function goes through the IC.

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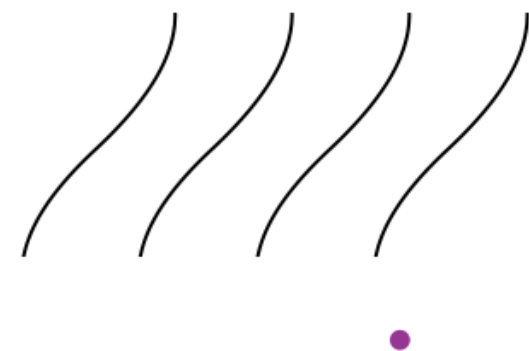
$$y^2 = -x^2 + C$$

$$y(x) = \sqrt{C - x^2}$$



$$\sin(y) = t + C$$

$$y(t) = \arcsin(t + C)$$



Choose C so that the function goes through the IC.