What is Euler's Method?

Quick Check - Match the slope field with the differential equation.





Slope Field

Direction field for
$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{x}{y}$$

Let's look at the general solution algebraically!

Euler's Method

Euler's Method is a numerical approach to approximating the particular solution of the differential equation y' = F(x, y)that passes through the point (x_0, y_0) .



Approximating a solution using the Euler's Method

Use Euler's Method to approximate the particular solution of the differential equation y' = x - y passing through the point (0, 1). Use a step of h = 0.1.



2009 Free Response (AP)

Consider the differential equation $\frac{d}{dx} = 6x^2 - x^2y$. Let y = f(x) be a particular solution to this differential equation with the initial condition f(-1) = 2.

a. Use Euler's Method with two steps of equal size, starting at x = -1, to approximate f(0). Show the work that leads to your answer.

2005 Free Response (AP)

Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x - y$.

1. Sketch a slope field for the given differential equation at the twelve points indicated and sketch the solution curve that passes through the point (0, 1).



2. The solution curve that passes throught the point (0,1) has a local minimum $x=\lnrac{3}{2}$

. What is the y- coordinate of this local minimum?

2005 Free Response (AP) - Continued

Consider the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x - y$.

3. Let y = f(x) be the particular solution to the given differential equation with the initial condition f(0) = 1. Use Euler's Method, starting at x = 0 with two steps of equal size, to approximate f(-0.4). Show the work that leads to your answer.
4. Find d²y/dx² in terms of x and y. Determine whether the approximation found in part (3) is less than or greater than f(-0.4). Explain your reasoning.