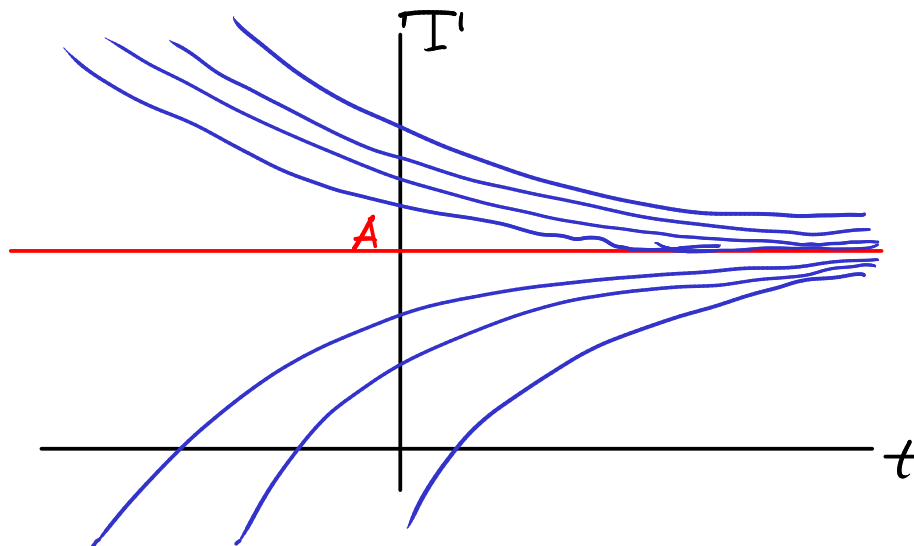


Observe: the DE has infinitely many solutions, because there are infinitely many possibilities for the constant C . This is a typical characteristic.

Plots of possible solutions



Makes sense that $T(t)$ is not unique, because we never decided whether the object starts out above or below the Ambient temp. A .

In other words, we need to specify the initial temperature $T_0 = T(0)$.

T_0 is related to C :

$$T_0 = T(0) = C e^{-k \cdot 0} + A = C + A$$

$$\text{So } C = T_0 - A.$$

$$\text{So } T(t) = (T_0 - A) e^{-kt} + A$$

We solved the initial value problem $\frac{dT}{dt} = -k(T-A)$, $T(0) = T_0$.