$$mr'' = \frac{-GMm}{r^2}$$

Let v = r', then v' = r''

Thus we obtain system of non-linear equations:

$$r' = v$$
$$v' = \frac{-GM}{r^2}$$

Note  $v'=\frac{-GM}{r^2}$  involves 3 variables: v,t,r

Eliminate t:  $v' = \frac{dv}{dt} = \frac{dv}{dr}\frac{dr}{dt} = \frac{dv}{dr}v$ 

Thus 
$$mv' = \frac{-GMm}{r^2}$$
 becomes  $m\frac{dv}{dr}v = \frac{-GMm}{r^2}$ 

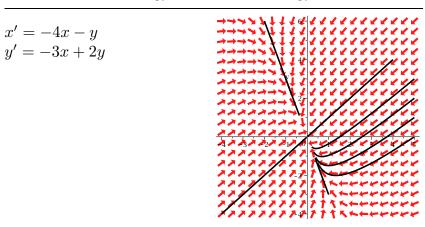
Separate variables:  $\int m dv v = \int \frac{-GMm}{r^2} dr$ 

$$\frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{GMm}{r} + E$$
 where E is a constant.

Thus we have derived the physics formula, conservation of energy:

$$\frac{1}{2}mv^2 + \frac{-GMm}{r} = E$$

I.e., Kinetic Energy + Potential Energy = constant



Suppose the following represent direction fields of linear systems of 1rst order differential equations in the phase plane. What can you say about solutions to these systems of equations.