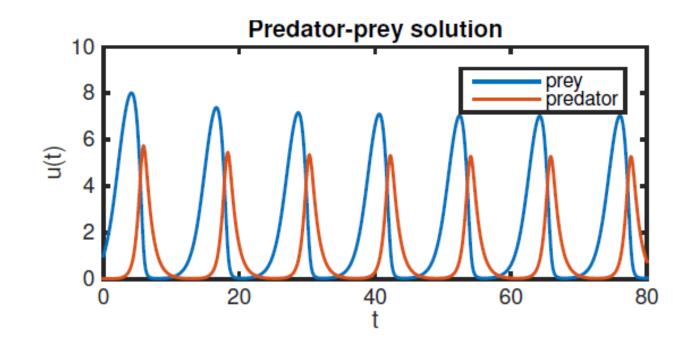
# Chapter 6 Initial value problem (IVPs)



# Initial value prolbems, or IVPs

- We want to solve differential equations now
- The fundamental problem to solve is for u(t), which must satisfy  $u'(t) = f(t, u(t)), \quad a < t \le b, \quad u(a) = u_0$
- Here the rhs function *f* is given.
- The constants  $a, b, u_0$  are also given.
- *t* is the independent variable.
- u(t) is the dependent variable.
- A solution of the problem makes the ODE and the IC identities.

- It is possible that u and f could be vector functions, which would make our problem a system of ODEs that usually must be solved simultaneously
- Solving the system (or any ODE) is an integration process, and we need the extra data besides the ODE to find those constants
- What makes the problem an IVP is that all of the data for determining those constants is at  $t=\alpha$
- Given that data, we can think of solving the problem as marching across the interval of interest

## Initial value prolbems, or IVPs

The fundamental form

$$u'(t) = f(t, u(t)), \qquad a < t \le b, \qquad u(a) = u_0$$

will allow us to solve a wide variety of problems.

- There is much very good software written for this problem
- We will still learn some methods in detail to:
  - 1. Understand how IVP methods work
  - 2. Be informed and competent users of software
  - 3. Maybe even develop your own methods someday

## Example IVPs

- We want to solve some problems to see what can happen, then generalize
- Prob 1: solve is for u(t) with
- u'(t) ku = 0, t > 0,  $u(0) = u_0$
- In standard form, we have

$$f(t,u(t)) = ku, \qquad a = 0, \qquad b \to \infty$$

- This problem is trivial; can be solved by separation of variables to get  $u(t) = u_0 e^{kt}$
- If k > 0 and  $u_0 > 0$ , this could apply to the early stages of population growth (e.g., cells in a petri dish)

# Example IVPs

• Prob 2: solve is for u(t) with

$$u'(t) - ku + ru^2 = 0, t > 0, u(0) = u_0$$

In standard form, we have

$$f(t,u(t)) = ku - ru^2$$
,  $a = 0$ ,  $b \to \infty$ 

Can again be solved by separation of variables (not as easy!)

$$u(t) = \frac{k/r}{1 + \left(\frac{k}{ru_0} - 1\right)e^{-kt}}$$

- For k > 0 and  $u_0 > 0$ , this function tends to k/r as  $t \to \infty$ .
- This is a more realistic population model.

# Some IVP theory

- We will still need to classify ODEs and use some theory
- The general linear first order ODE is

$$u'(t) = g(t) + h(t)u(t), t > a, u(a) = u_0$$

We can use the integrating factor approach to get the solution

$$\rho(t)u(t) = u_0 + \int_a^t \rho(s)g(s) ds,$$

with the integrating factor given by

$$\rho(t) = \exp\left[\int h(t)dt\right]$$

• Thus for smooth enough g and h, we get a solution

- Nonlinear problems can be trickier
- Let's solve the logistic model numerically

$$u'(t) = ku - ru^2$$
,  $t > 0$ ,  $u(0) = u_0$ 

• In standard form, we have

$$f(t,u(t)) = ku - ru^2$$
,  $a = 0$ ,  $b \to \infty$ 

- We can use Matlab's builtin solver ode 45.m to solve it.
- For k = 2, r = 2 and  $u_0 = 0.1$ .
- The solution should tend to  $\frac{k}{r} = 4$  as  $t \to \infty$ .

 Define the functions and constants

 Call the solver and plot; 45 time levels were computed

```
f = Q(t,u) 2*u - 0.5*u.^2;
a = 0; b = 6;
u0 = 0.1;
[t,u] = ode45(f,[a,b],u0);
length(t)
ans =
    45
plot(t,u)
xlabel('t'), ylabel('u(t)'),
```

 Define the functions and constants

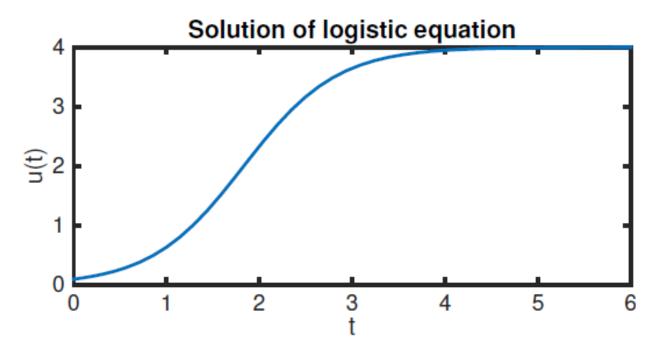
 Call the solver and plot; 45 time levels were computed

- Plot the solution
- Solution  $u \to 4$  as expected

```
f = @(t,u) 2*u - 0.5*u.^2;
a = 0; b = 6;
u0 = 0.1;
[t,u] = ode45(f,[a,b],u0);
length(t)
```

```
ans =
45
```

```
plot(t,u)
xlabel('t'), ylabel('u(t)'),
```



Now solve the nonlinear problem

$$u'(t) = \sin[(u+t)^2], \quad t > 0, \quad u(0) = u_0$$

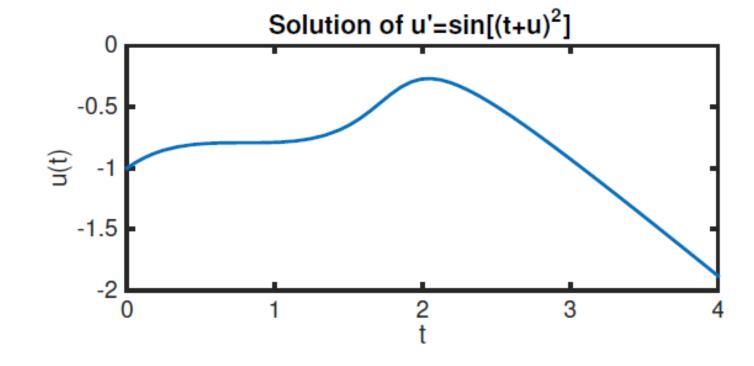
- One could reason that the sin function never lets u' become large
- We have

$$f(t,u(t)) = \sin[(u+t)^2], \qquad a = 0, \qquad b \to \infty$$

• Use ode45.m again

- Define the functions and constants, call the solver, plot the solution
- No worries here

```
f = @(t,u) sin( (t+u).^2 );
[t,u] = ode45(f,[0,4],-1);
plot(t,u)
xlabel('t'), ylabel('u(t)'), ti
```



Now solve the nonlinear problem

$$u'(t) = (u+t)^2$$
,  $t > 0$ ,  $u(0) = u_0$ 

- No sin function now to keep u' small
- Will there be trouble?
- We have

$$f(t,u(t)) = (u+t)^2$$
,  $a = 0$ ,  $b \to \infty$ 

• Use ode45.m again

- Define the functions and constants, call the solver, plot the solution...
- No, wait... oops.
   The solver failed...

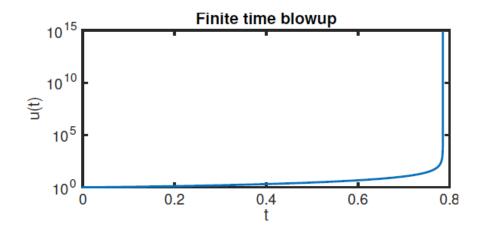
```
f = @(t,u) (t+u).^2;
[t,u] = ode45(f,[0,1],1);
semilogy(t,u)
xlabel('t'), ylabel('u(t)'), ti
```

Warning: Failure at t=7.853789e-01. Unable to meet integration tolerances without reducing the step size below the smallest value allowed (1.776357e-15) at time t.

- Suppose we wanted to look at some values of the solution near blowup
- Here's one way
- We try evaluating the stored structure at certain requested points

```
sol = ode45(f,[0,1],1);
deval(sol,[0.78 0.785 0.7853])
```

```
Warning: Failure at
t=7.853789e-01. Unable to
meet integration tolerances
without reducing the step
size below the smallest value
allowed (1.776357e-15) at
time t.
ans =
1.0e+04 *
0.0185 0.2638 1.2667
```



#### IVPs: some "theoretical" concerns

Consider the nonlinear problem

$$u'(t) = 2\sqrt{u(t)}$$

- There are two solutions: u=0 and  $u=t^2$ . This can be a problem sometimes
- Going back to our fundamental problem

$$u'(t) = f(t, u(t)), \qquad a < t \le b, \qquad u(a) = u_0$$

It can be proven that if  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}$  exists and if  $\left|\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}\right| < L$ , both for all  $a \le t \le b$ , then there is a unique solution to the IVP for  $t \in [a,b]$ .

 We will be interested in problems where there may be multiple solutions, but this can cause problems (more later)

#### Euler's method for IVPs

Our first numerical method our fundamental problem

$$u'(t) = f(t, u(t)), \qquad a < t \le b, \qquad u(a) = u_0$$

 We first convert the interval of interest into a set of evenly-spaced grid points

$$a = t_0, b = t_n, h = \frac{b-a}{n}, \qquad t_i = a + ih, \qquad i = 0,1,...,n$$

- *h* is the step size or grid step
- Approximate the equation at grid point  $t_i$  with a forward difference for the derivative and evaluate f there as well

#### Euler's method for IVPs

• One gets:

$$u'(t) \approx \frac{u(t_{i+1}) - u(t_i)}{t_{i+1} - t_i} \approx f(t_i, u(t_i))$$

- But  $t_{i+1}-t_i=h$ , and let  $u(t_i)=u_i$  so that  $\frac{u_{i+1}-u_i}{h}\approx f(t_i,u_i), \qquad i=0,1,\dots,n$
- Now  $u_i$  is the exact solution at a grid point; let  $w_i$  satisfy the discrete problem:

$$\frac{w_{i+1} - w_i}{h} = f(t_i, w_i), \qquad i = 0, 1, ..., n$$

• What we really want is  $w_{i+1}$  ...

#### Euler's method for IVPs

• One gets:

$$w_{i+1} = w_i + hf(t_i, w_i), \qquad i = 0, 1, ..., n$$

- The initial value at  $t_0$  is given,  $w_0 = u_0$
- With that, we can compute  $w_1$ , then with that  $w_2$ , and so on
- "Time march" across the domain to get the solution at the grid points
- IVPs have this directionality
- Euler's method has exceptionally easy algebra to do this, it is explicit

#### Euler solver function

```
function [t,w] = eulerivp(dydt,tspan,y0,n)
% EULERIVP Euler's method for a scalar initial-value problem.
% Input:
% dydt Defines f in y'(t)=f(t,y). (callable function)
% tspan endpoints of time interval (2-vector)
% y0 initial value
% n number of time steps (integer)
% Output:
% t selected mesh points (vector, length N+1)
           solution values (vector, length N+1)
a = tspan(1); b = tspan(2);
h = (b-a)/n;
t = a + (0:n)'*h;
w = zeros(n+1,1);
w(1) = y0:
for i = 1:n
 w(i+1) = w(i) + h*dydt(t(i), w(i));
end
```

# Euler's method: example

Reconsider the nonlinear problem

$$u'(t) = \sin[(u+t)^2], \quad 0 \le t \le 4, \quad u(0) = u_0 = -1$$

Then

$$f(t,u(t)) = \sin[(u+t)^2], \quad a = 0, \quad b = 4$$

• This time, Euler's method uses

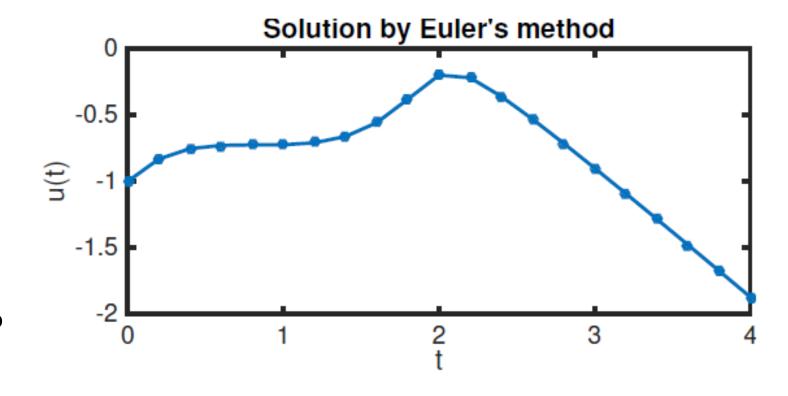
$$w_{i+1} = w_i + h \sin[(w_i + t_i)^2], \qquad i = 0,1,\dots,n-1, \qquad w_0 = -1$$
 with

$$h = \frac{4-0}{n}$$
,  $t_i = 0 + ih$ ,  $i = 0,1,...,n$ 

Now for Matlab...

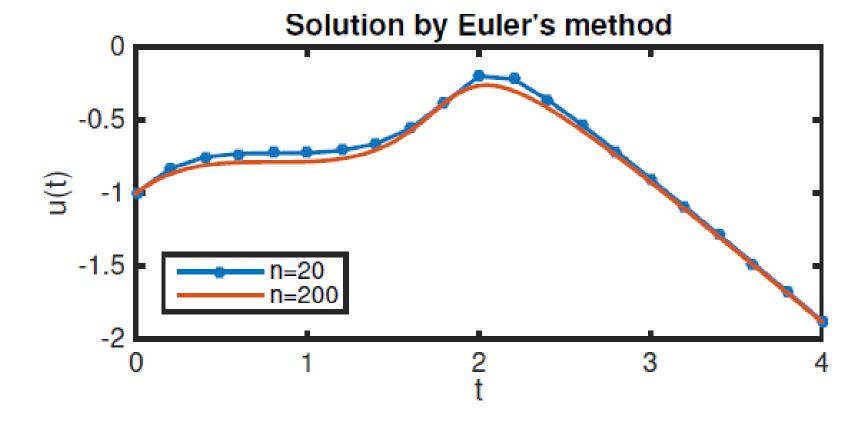
- Define the functions and constants, including n=20 here, which makes h=0.2
- Call the solver, plot the solution
- The curve is interpolated between the calculated points
- What's in the solver?

```
f = @(t,u) sin( (t+u).^2 );
a = 0; b = 4;
u0 = -1;
[t,u] = eulerivp(f,[a,b],u0,20);
plot(t,u,'.-')
xlabel('t'), ylabel('u(t)'), title('Solution of the state of the state
```



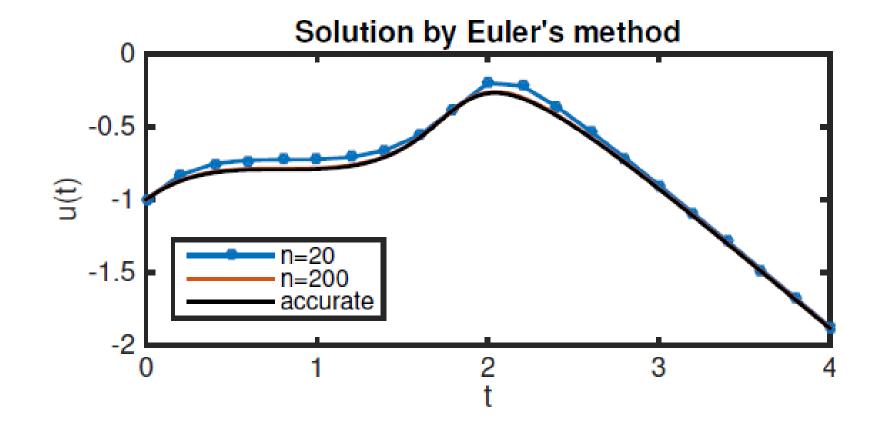
• Using n = 200, which makes h = 0.2 and improves the error

```
[t,u] = eulerivp(f,[a,b],u0,200);
hold on, plot(t,u,'-')
legend('n=20','n=200','location','southwest')
```



- Now use a builtin solver ode113 to get a really accuate answer
- Compare both Euler results
- The n=200
   case compares
   well visually

```
u_exact = @(t) deval(uhat,t)';
fplot(u_exact,[a,b],'k-')
legend('n=20','n=200','accurate','location','southwest'
```



- Since the results appear to be the same, we need a convergence analysis to see what's going on
- Cut the error by a factor of two, and the (∞-norm) error roughly halves:
   O(h) error

```
n_ = 50*2.^(0:5)';
err_ = [];
for n = n_'
        [t,u] = eulerivp(f,[a,b],u0,n);
        err_ = [ err_; max(abs(u_exact(t)-u)) ];
end
err_
```

- To analyze the method, we substitute the exact solution into the numerical method
- Then Taylor expand:

$$\hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \left[u_i + hf(t_i, u_i)\right] = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \left[\hat{u}(t_i) + hf(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i))\right] 
= \left[\hat{u}(t_i) + h\hat{u}'(t_i) + \frac{1}{2}h^2\hat{u}''(t_i) + \cdots\right] - \left[\hat{u}(t_i) + hf(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i))\right] 
= \frac{1}{2}h^2\hat{u}''(t_i) + O(h^3),$$

- We get second order error when we do this!
- This works for only a single step
- But we always do more than one...

- To analyze the method, we substitute the exact solution into the numerical method
- Then Taylor expand (hatted  $u_i$  is exact solution):

$$\hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \left[u_i + hf(t_i, u_i)\right] = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \left[\hat{u}(t_i) + hf(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i))\right] 
= \left[\hat{u}(t_i) + h\hat{u}'(t_i) + \frac{1}{2}h^2\hat{u}''(t_i) + \cdots\right] - \left[\hat{u}(t_i) + hf(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i))\right] 
= \frac{1}{2}h^2\hat{u}''(t_i) + O(h^3),$$

- We get second order error when we do this!
- This works for only a single step
- But we always do more than one step...

• It is useful to define a general form for single step methods ( $w_i$  here):

$$u_{i+1} = u_i + h\phi(t_i, u_i, h), \qquad i = 0, \dots, n-1$$

• Consider the local truncation error (LTE) for  $t_{i+1}$ 

$$\tau_{i+1}(h) := \frac{\hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i)}{h} - \phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h).$$

- The LTE is a better indicator for our computed error
- Note that in the limit  $h \to 0$ , we recover the ode: left hand term becomes derivative, which equals f
- Taylor expanding in the LTE will yield O(h) error, which is what we saw from numerical experiment

- What is most desirable is the global error, which is the difference between what we compute and the exact solution at any time
- We can prove the following:
- Theorem: Suppose  $|\tau_{i+1}(h)|=Ch^p$  ,  $\left|\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial u}\right|< L\ \forall\ t\in[a,b]$  and h>0, then

$$|\hat{u}(t_i) - u_i| \leq \frac{Ch^p}{L} \left[ e^{L(t_i - a)} - 1 \right] = O(h^p),$$

as  $h \to 0$ 

Proof follows...

- Let the global error at  $t_i$  be  $E_i = u(t_i) w_i \rightarrow \hat{u}(t_i) u_i$
- Then

$$E_{i+1} - E_i = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - (u_{i+1} - u_i) = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - h\phi(t_i, u_i, h),$$

$$E_{i+1} = E_i + \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - h\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) + h[\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) - \phi(t_i, u_i, h)].$$

- Let the global error at  $t_i$  be  $E_i = u(t_i) w_i \rightarrow \hat{u}(t_i) u_i$
- Then

$$E_{i+1} - E_i = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - (u_{i+1} - u_i) = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - h\phi(t_i, u_i, h),$$

$$E_{i+1} = E_i + \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - h\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) + h[\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) - \phi(t_i, u_i, h)].$$

Take absolute, value, use triangle inequality, ...

$$|E_{i+1}| \le |E_i| + Ch^{p+1} + h|\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) - \phi(t_i, u_i, h)|,$$

- Let the global error at  $t_i$  be  $E_i = u(t_i) w_i \rightarrow \hat{u}(t_i) u_i$
- Then

$$E_{i+1} - E_i = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - (u_{i+1} - u_i) = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - h\phi(t_i, u_i, h),$$

$$E_{i+1} = E_i + \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - h\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) + h[\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) - \phi(t_i, u_i, h)].$$
• Take absolute, value, use triangle inequality, ...

$$|E_{i+1}| \leq |E_i| + Ch^{p+1} + h|\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) - \phi(t_i, u_i, h)|,$$

- Let the global error at  $t_i$  be  $E_i = u(t_i) w_i \rightarrow \hat{u}(t_i) u_i$
- Then

$$E_{i+1} - E_i = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - (u_{i+1} - u_i) = \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - h\phi(t_i, u_i, h),$$

$$E_{i+1} = E_i + \hat{u}(t_{i+1}) - \hat{u}(t_i) - h\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) + h[\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) - \phi(t_i, u_i, h)].$$

Take absolute, value, use triangle inequality, ...

$$|E_{i+1}| \le |E_i| + Ch^{p+1} + h|\phi(t_i, \hat{u}(t_i), h) - \phi(t_i, u_i, h)|,$$

ullet Now use Lipschitz constant L to get rid of  $\phi$ 

$$|E_{i+1}| \le Ch^{p+1} + (1+hL)|E_i|$$

• Then  $|E_{i+1}| \le Ch^{p+1} + (1+hL)|E_i|$   $\le Ch^{p+1} + (1+hL)[Ch^{p+1} + (1+hL)|E_{i-1}|]$   $\vdots$  $\le Ch^{p+1} \left[1 + (1+hL) + (1+hL)^2 + \dots + (1+hL)^i\right]$ 

• Then replace sum:

$$|E_i| \le Ch^{p+1} \frac{(1+hL)^i - 1}{(1+hL) - 1} = \frac{Ch^p}{L} \left[ (1+hL)^i - 1 \right]$$

Now bound with exponential...

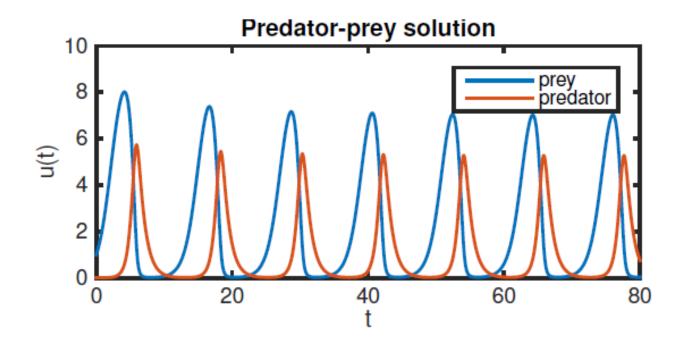
Simplifying the sum gave

$$|E_i| \le Ch^{p+1} \frac{(1+hL)^i - 1}{(1+hL) - 1} = \frac{Ch^p}{L} \left[ (1+hL)^i - 1 \right]$$

Bounding with an exponential gives

$$|\hat{u}(t_i) - u_i| \leq \frac{Ch^p}{L} \left[ e^{L(t_i - a)} - 1 \right] = O(h^p),$$

# Systems of IVPs



#### IVP systems

- Much of the times, we don't have just a single ODE
- We need to generalize to systems
- Consider this example system:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = y(1 - \alpha y) - \frac{yz}{1 + \beta y}$$
$$\frac{dz}{dt} = -z + \frac{yz}{1 + \beta y},$$

- ullet There are two constants lpha and eta
- This is the predator-prey model
- *y* is the prey, *z* is the predator
- Ex: rabbits and foxes...

#### IVP systems: predator-prey model

- Our previous approach of writing u'=f(t,u) can be generalized by using vectors for  ${\pmb u}$  and  ${\pmb f}$
- ullet Convert the system to indexed variables  $u_1=y$  and  $u_2=z$

$$u_1'(t) = f_1(t, \mathbf{u}) = u_1(1 - au_1) - \frac{u_1u_2}{1 + bu_1}$$
  
 $u_2'(t) = f_2(t, \mathbf{u}) = -u_2 + \frac{u_1u_2}{1 + bu_1}$ 

- We'll need ICs  $u_1(0)$  and  $u_2(0)$  (assuming start at t=0)
- Let's write a matlab function to solve the problem using built-in functions first

```
Pred-prey ex
```

Define the constants

 Define the rhs function

• Call the solver

- Plot the output: one row for each time level
- Note the large number of steps

```
function predator
```

alpha = 0.1;

```
beta = 0.25;
   function dudt = f(t,u)
        y = u(1);        z = u(2);
        s = (y*z) / (1+beta*y);
        dudt = [ y*(1-alpha*y) - s;
        -z + s ];
end
```

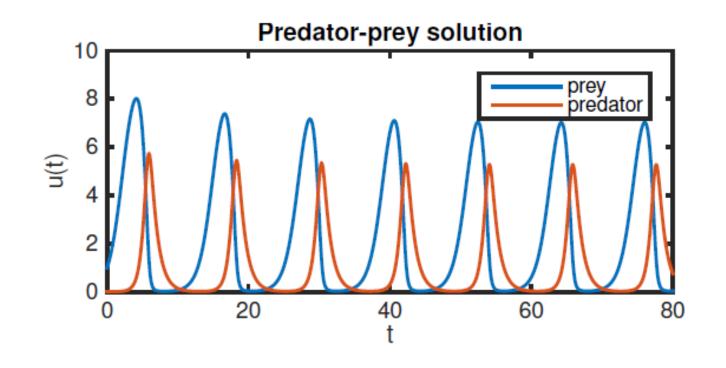
u0 = [1;0.01]; t = linspace(0,80,2001)'; [t,u] = ode45(@f,t,u0);

```
size_u = size(u)
y = u(:,1); z = u(:,2);
plot(t,y,t,z)
xlabel('t'), ylabel('u(t)'), title('Predator-prey solution')
legend('prey','predator')
```

```
size_u =
2001
```

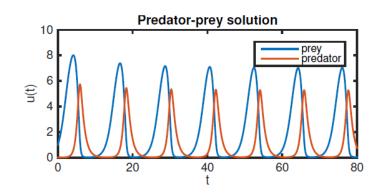
# Pred-prey ex

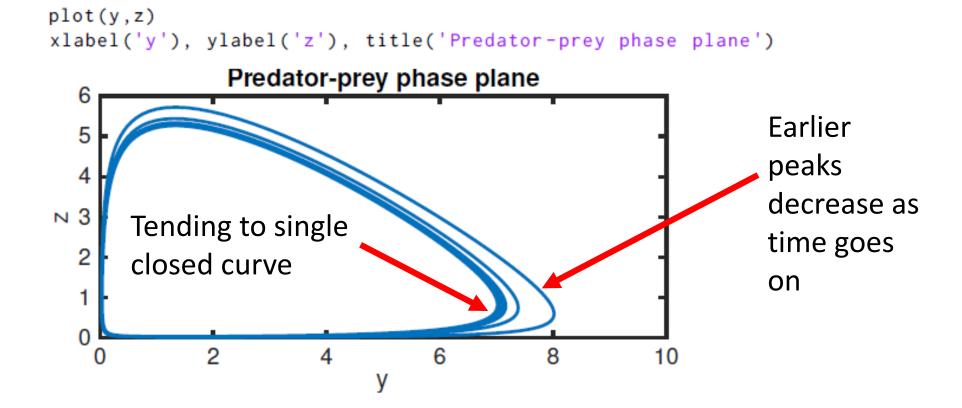
- The solutions:
- At these parameters, the solutions oscillate
- Prey leads the predator
- Peaks decline a bit before possibly being periodic
- Rabbits in my neighborhood before the foxes; we don't see too many rabbits any more



## Pred-prey ex

- The qualitative nature of the solutions is often revealed by plotting the components against each other: the phase plane
- (Most useful for autonomous systems with two or three dependent variables)





## IVP systems: higher order problems

- Not all problems come as one or more first order ODEs
- We can use changes of variable to reduce higher order problems to systems of first order ODEs.
- That will allow us to use a our fundamental form to solve even more kinds of problems
- Example:  $y'' + (1+y')^3y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = y_0$ , y'(0) = 0.
- Use the change of variables:  $u_1 = y$  and  $u_2 = y'$ .
- This gives the system:

$$u'_1 = u_2$$
  $u_1(0) = y_0, u_2(0) = 0.$   $u'_2 = -(1 + u_2)^3 u_1,$ 

# IVP systems: higher order problems

Consider this example of a system of two 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODEs

$$\theta_1''(t) - \gamma \theta_1' + \frac{g}{L} \sin \theta_1 + k(\theta_1 - \theta_2) = 0$$
  
 $\theta_2''(t) - \gamma \theta_2' + \frac{g}{L} \sin \theta_2 + k(\theta_2 - \theta_1) = 0$ ,

- These represent two pendula suspended from the same support.
- The total order is 4 because there are two second derivatives
- Use the change of variables:  $u_1 = \theta_1$ ,  $u_2 = \theta_1'$ ,  $u_3 = \theta_2$ ,  $u_4 = \theta_2'$ .
- This gives the system:  $u'_1 = u_3$
- (would need ICs too)  $u_2' = u_4$
- The rhs forms the vector **f**  $u_3' = \gamma u_3 \frac{g}{L} \sin u_1 + k(u_2 u_1) \\ u_4' = \gamma u_4 \frac{g}{L} \sin u_2 + k(u_1 u_2),$

#### IVP systems: predator-prey model

- So we are working with  $\mathbf{u}' = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{u}), a \le t \le b, \mathbf{u}(a) = \alpha$  now
- Consider approximating u' as before, with

$$\mathbf{u'}_i \approx \frac{\mathbf{u}_{i+1} - \mathbf{u}_i}{h}$$

• Replacing the derivative and evaluate  ${\bf f}$  as  ${\bf f}(t_i,{\bf u}_i)$  results in Euler's method for a system

$$\mathbf{w}_{i+1} = \mathbf{w}_i + h\mathbf{f}(t_i, \mathbf{w}_i), \qquad i = 0, 1, ..., n-1$$

- This is really just a vectorized version of the Euler method for one equation
- Let's look at function...
- Output will have one row of dependent variables per time step, like Matlab's solvers: if n time steps and m unknowns, output is  $n+1\times m$

# Euler function for systems

 We calculate a new column of dependent variables for each time, and transpose at the end to stick with Matlab's conventions

```
function [t,u] = eulersys(dydt,tspan,u0,n)
% EULERSYS
             Euler's method for a system initial-value problem.
% Input:
    dydt
            Defines f in y'(t)=f(t,y). (callable function)
            endpoints of time interval (2-vector)
  tspan
  u0
           initial value (vector, length m)
            number of time steps (integer)
% Output:
% t
            selected mesh points (vector, length n+1)
            solution values (array, (n+1)-by-m)
% Time discretization.
a = tspan(1); b = tspan(2);
h = (b-a)/n;
t = a + (0:n)'*h;
% Initial condition and output setup.
m = length(u0);
u = zeros(m, n+1);
u(:,1) = u0(:);
% The time stepping iteration.
for i = 1:n
    u(:,i+1) = u(:,i) + h*dydt(t(i),u(:,i));
end
% This makes the output conform to MATLAB conventions.
u = u.':
```

# Euler method for systems

- Example:  $y'' + (1+y')^3y = 0$ ,  $y(0) = y_0$ , y'(0) = 0.
- Converted to system:

$$u'_1 = u_2$$
  
 $u'_2 = -(1 + u_2)^3 u_1$ ,  $u_1(0) = y_0$ ,  $u_2(0) = 0$ .

- Let  $y_0 = 0.5$ , n = 1000 time steps, a = 0,  $b = 2\pi$
- Try it with  $y_0 = 0.1, 0.75, 0.9$  too
- You will have to change n
- How to explain smaller  $y_0$  vs larger ones
- Can't get periodic solutions at 1 or larger

# Runge-Kutta methods

