




WELL-POSEDNESS








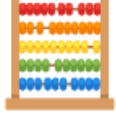








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CONTROL ENGINEERING WITH PYTHON

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SYMBOLS

	Code		Worked Example
	Graph		Exercise
	Definition		Numerical Method
	Theorem		Analytical Method
	Remark		Theory
	Information		Hint
	Warning		Solution



IMPORTS

```
from numpy import *  
from numpy.linalg import *  
from scipy.integrate import solve_ivp  
from matplotlib.pyplot import *
```




STREAM PLOT HELPER

```
def Q(f, xs, ys):  
    X, Y = meshgrid(xs, ys)  
    fx = vectorize(lambda x, y: f([x, y])[0])  
    fy = vectorize(lambda x, y: f([x, y])[1])  
    return X, Y, fx(X, Y), fy(X, Y)
```




WELL-POSEDNESS

Make sure that a system is “sane” (not “pathological”):

Well-Posedness:

- **Existence +**
- **Uniqueness +**
- **Continuity.**

We will define and study each one in the sequel.

LOCAL VS GLOBAL

So far, we have mostly dealt with **global** solutions $x(t)$ of IVPs, defined for any $t \geq t_0$.

This concept is sometimes too stringent.



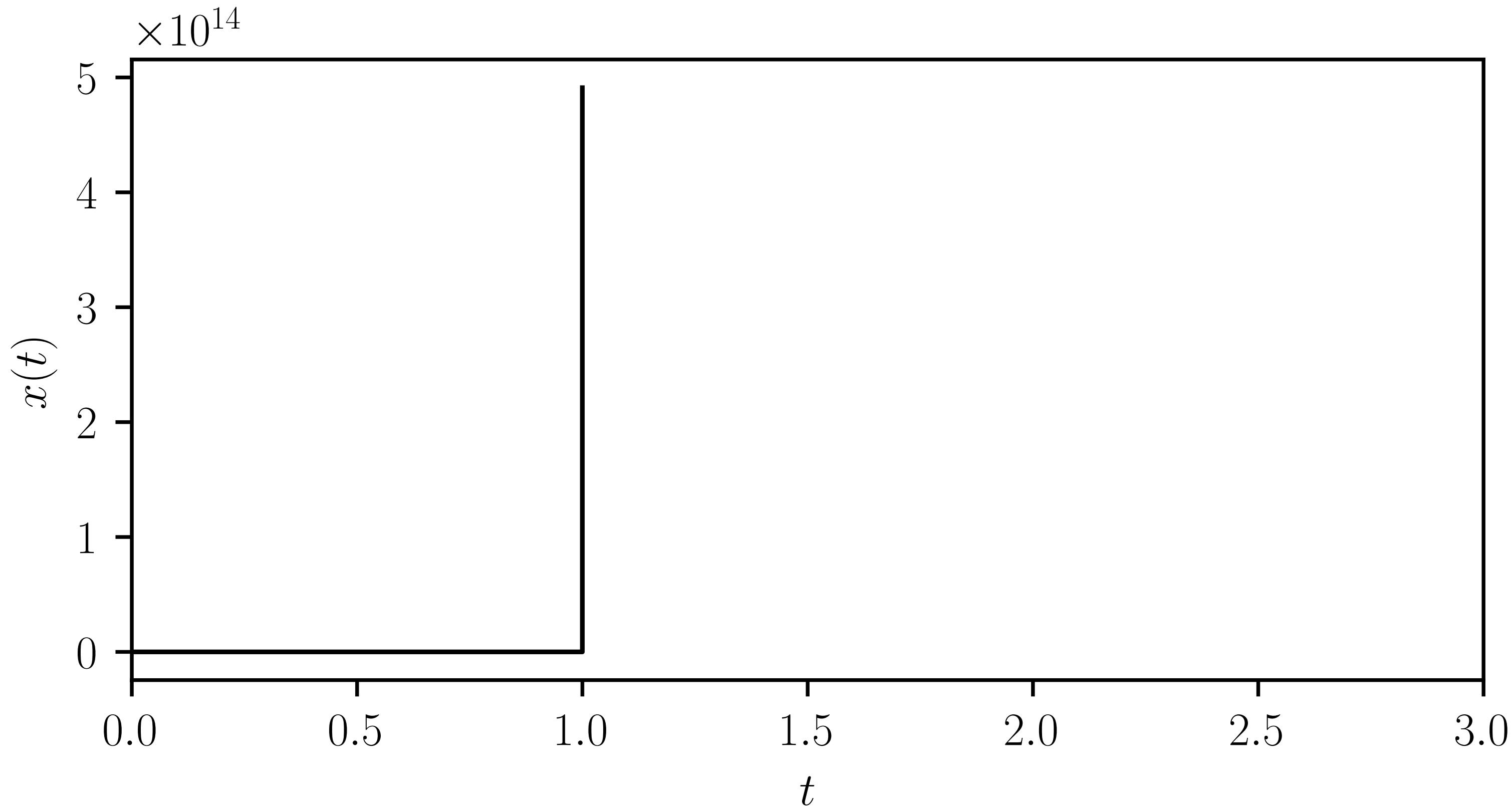
FINITE-TIME BLOW-UP

Consider the IVP

$$\dot{x} = x^2, \quad x(0) = 1.$$



```
def fun(t, y):  
    return y * y  
t0, tf, y0 = 0.0, 3.0, array([1.0])  
result = solve_ivp(fun, t_span=[t0, tf], y0=y0)  
figure()  
plot(result["t"], result["y"][0], "k")  
xlim(t0, tf); xlabel("$t$"); ylabel("$x(t)$")
```

LOCAL VS GLOBAL

 Ouch.

There is actually no **global** solution.

However there is a **local** solution $x(t)$,

- defined for $t \in [t_0, \tau[$
- for some $\tau > t_0$.

Indeed, the function $x(t) := \frac{1}{1-t}$ satisfies

$$\dot{x}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}x(t) = -\frac{1}{(1-t)^2} = (x(t))^2$$

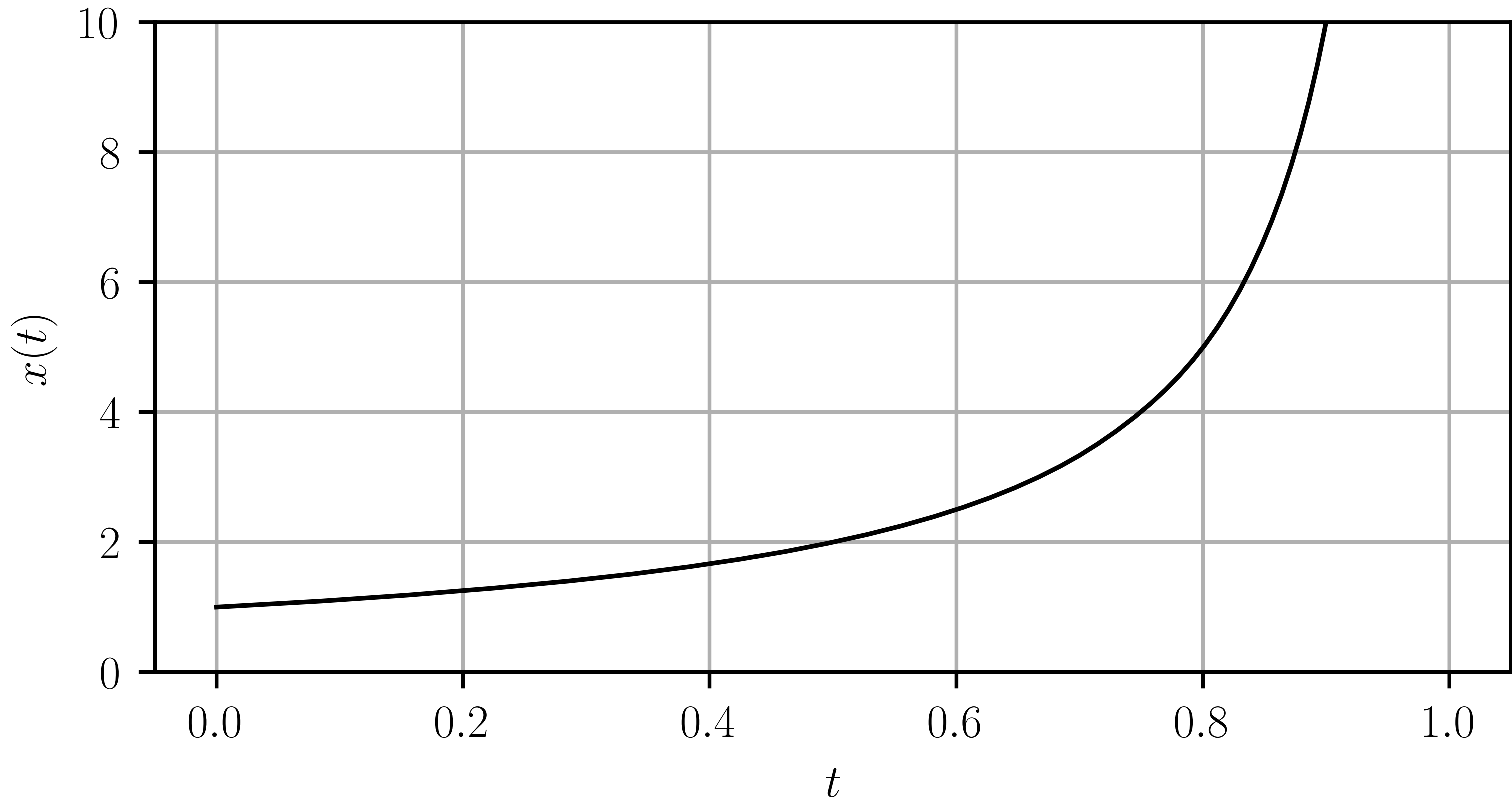
and $x(0) = 1$.

⚠ But it's defined (continuously) only for $t < 1$.



```
tf = 1.0
r = solve_ivp(fun, [t0, tf], y0,
              dense_output=True)

figure()
t = linspace(t0, tf, 1000)
plot(t, r["sol"](t)[0], "k")
ylim(0.0, 10.0); grid();
xlabel("$t$"); ylabel("$x(t)$")
```

This local solution is also **maximal**:

You cannot extend this solution beyond $\tau = 1.0$.



LOCAL SOLUTION

A solution $x : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ of the IVP

$$\dot{x} = f(x), \quad x(t_0) = x_0$$

is (forward and) **local** if $I = [t_0, \tau[$ for some τ such that $t_0 < \tau \leq +\infty$.



GLOBAL SOLUTION

A solution $x : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ of the IVP

$$\dot{x} = f(x), \quad x(t_0) = x_0$$

is (forward and) **global** if $I = [t_0, +\infty[$.



MAXIMAL SOLUTION

A (local) solution $x : [0, \tau[$ to an IVP is **maximal** if there is no other solution

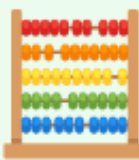
- defined on $[0, \tau'[$ with $\tau' > \tau$,
- whose restriction to $[0, \tau[$ is x .




MAXIMAL SOLUTIONS

Consider the IVP

$$\dot{x} = x^2, \quad x(0) = x_0 \neq 0.$$

1. 

Find a closed-formed local solution $x(t)$ of the IVP.

 **Hint:** assume that $x(t) \neq 0$ then compute

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{x(t)}.$$

2. 🧠

Make sure that your solutions are maximal.



MAXIMAL SOLUTIONS

1. 

As long as $x(t) \neq 0$,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{1}{x(t)} = - \frac{\dot{x}(t)}{x(t)^2} = 1.$$

By integration, this leads to

$$\frac{1}{x(t)} - \frac{1}{x_0} = -t$$

and thus provides

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{x_0} - t} = \frac{x_0}{1 - x_0 t}.$$

which is indeed a solution as long as the denominator is not zero.

2.

- If $x_0 < 0$, this solution is valid for all $t \geq 0$ and thus maximal.
- If $x_0 > 0$, the solution is defined until $t = 1/x(0)$ where it blows up. Thus, this solution is also maximal.

BAD NEWS (1/3)

Sometimes things get worse than simply having no global solution.



NO LOCAL SOLUTION

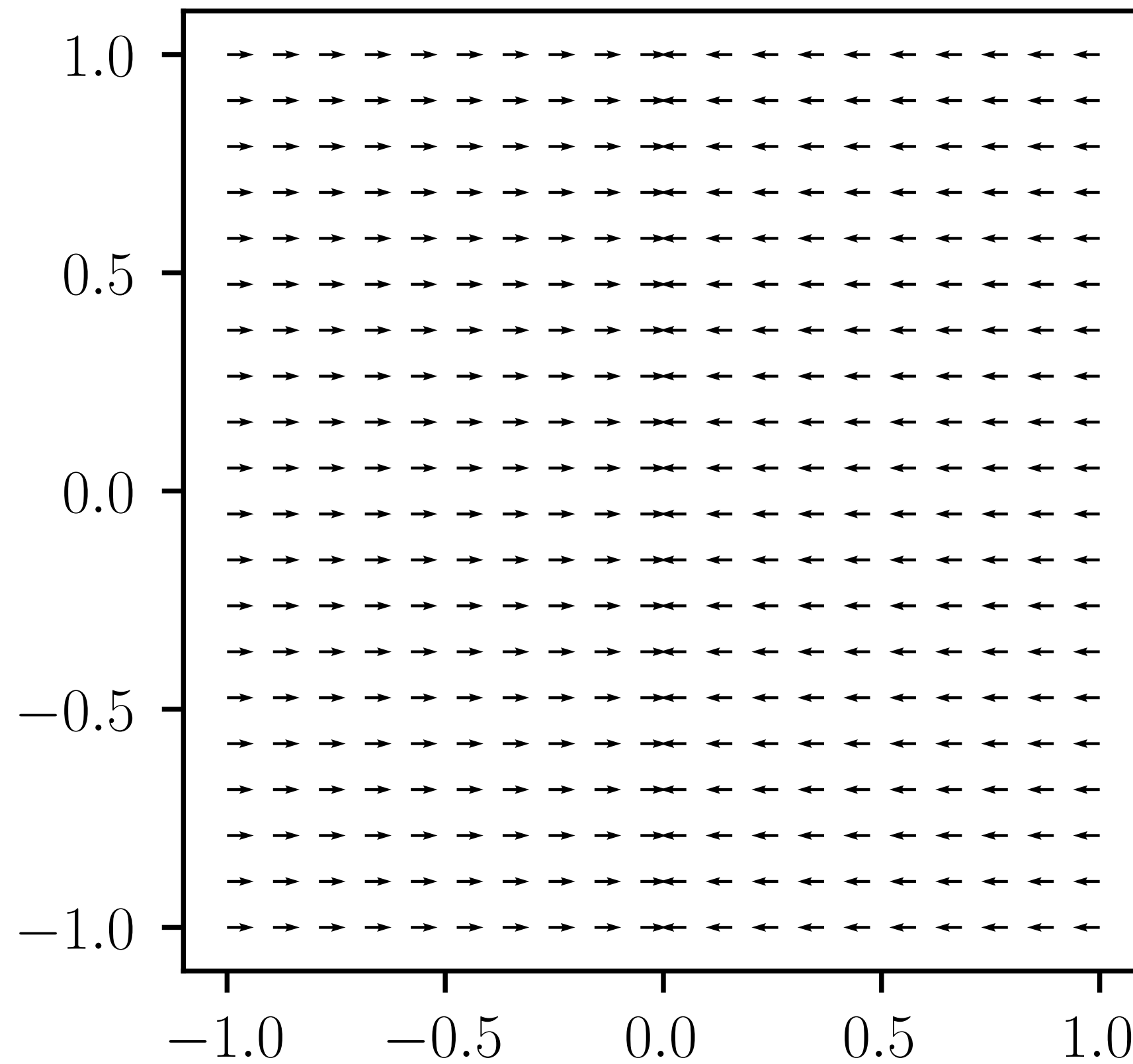
Consider the scalar IVP with initial value $x(0) = (0, 0)$ and right-hand side

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \begin{cases} (+1, 0) & \text{if } x_1 < 0 \\ (-1, 0) & \text{if } x_1 \geq 0. \end{cases}$$



NO LOCAL SOLUTION

```
def f(x1x2):  
    x1, x2 = x1x2  
    dx1 = 1.0 if x1 < 0.0 else -1.0  
    return array([dx1, 0.0])  
  
figure()  
x1 = x2 = linspace(-1.0, 1.0, 20)  
gca().set_aspect(1.0)  
quiver(*Q(f, x1, x2), color="k")
```



NO LOCAL SOLUTION

This system has no solution, not even a local one,
when $x(0) = (0, 0)$.



PROOF

- Assume that $x : [0, \tau[\rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a local solution.
- Since $\dot{x}(0) = -1 < 0$, for some small enough $0 < \epsilon < \tau$ and any $t \in]0, \epsilon]$, we have $x(t) < 0$.
- Consequently, $\dot{x}(t) = +1$ and thus by integration

$$x(\epsilon) = x(0) + \int_0^\epsilon \dot{x}(t) dt = \epsilon > 0,$$

which is a contradiction.

GOOD NEWS (1/3)

However, a local solution exists under very mild assumptions.



EXISTENCE

If f is continuous,

- There is a (at least one) **local** solution to the IVP
 $\dot{x} = f(x)$ and $x(t_0) = x_0$.
- Any local solution on some $[t_0, \tau[$ can be extended to a (at least one) **maximal** one on some $[t_0, t_\infty[$.



Note: a maximal solution is **global** iff $t_\infty = +\infty$.



MAXIMAL SOLUTIONS

A solution on $[t_0, \tau[$ is maximal if and only if either

- $\tau = +\infty$: the solution is global, or
- $\tau < +\infty$ and $\lim_{t \rightarrow \tau} \|x(t)\| = +\infty$.

In plain words : a non-global solution cannot be extended further in time if and only if it “blows up”.



COROLLARY

Let's assume that a local maximal solution exists.

You wonder if this solution is defined in $[t_0, t_f[$ or blows up before t_f .

For example, you wonder if a solution is global (if $t_f = +\infty$ or $t_f < +\infty$.)



PROVE EXISTENCE

Task. Show that any solution which defined on some sub-interval $[t_0, \tau]$ with $\tau < t_f$ would is bounded.

Then, no solution can be maximal on any such $[0, \tau[$ (since it doesn't blow up !). Since a maximal solution does exist, its domain is $[0, t_\infty[$ with $t_\infty \geq t_f$.

\Rightarrow a solution is defined on $[t_0, t_f[$.

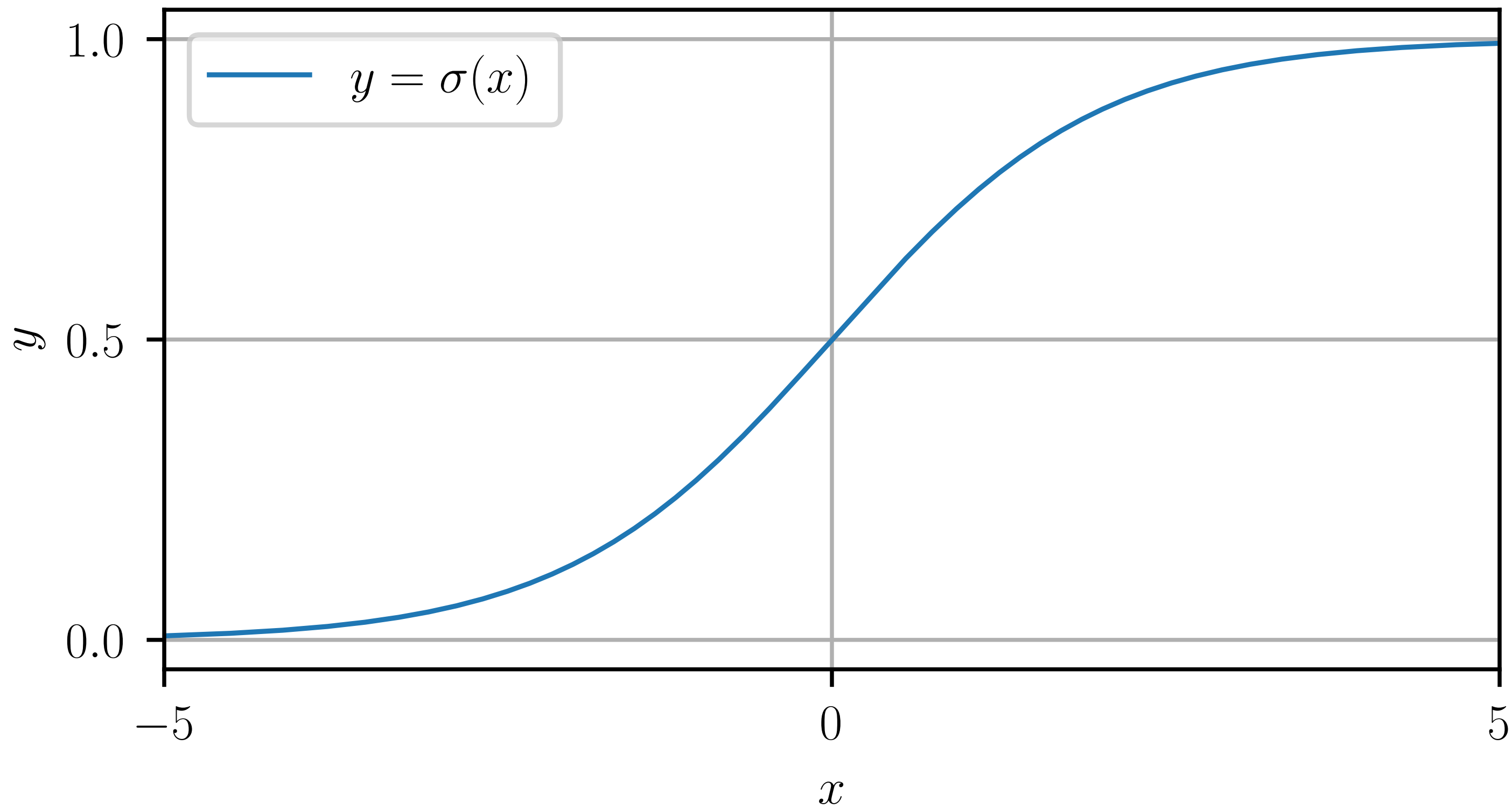
SIGMOID

Consider the dynamical system

$$\dot{x} = \sigma(x) := \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}.$$



```
def sigma(x):  
    return 1 / (1 + exp(-x))  
figure()  
x = linspace(-7.0, 7.0, 1000)  
plot(x, sigma(x), label="$y=\sigma(x)$")  
grid(True)
```

1. EXISTENCE

Show that there is a (at least one) maximal solution to each initial condition.

2. GLOBAL


Show that any such solution is global.



SIGMOID

1. EXISTENCE

The sigmoid function σ is continuous.

Consequently,  **Existence** proves the existence of a (at least one) maximal solution.


2. GLOBAL

Let $x : [0, \tau[\rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a maximal solution to the IVP.
We have

$$0 \leq \dot{x}(t) = \sigma(x(t)) \leq 1, \quad 0 \leq t < \tau$$

and by integration,

$$|x(t)| \leq |x(0)| + t$$

Thus, it cannot blow-up in finite time; by  **Maximal Solutions**, it is global.

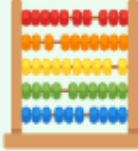
PENDULUM

Consider the pendulum, subject to a torque c

$$ml^2\ddot{\theta} + b\dot{\theta} + mgl \sin \theta = c(\theta, \dot{\theta})$$

We assume that the torque provides a bounded power:

$$P := c(\theta, \dot{\theta})\dot{\theta} \leq P_M < +\infty.$$

1. 

Show that for any initial state, there is a global solution $(\theta, \dot{\theta})$.

 **Hint.** Compute the derivative with respect to t of

$$E = \frac{1}{2} m \ell^2 \dot{\theta}^2 - m g \ell \cos \theta.$$




PENDULUM

1.

Since the system vector field

$$(\theta, \dot{\theta}) \rightarrow \left(\dot{\theta}, (-b/m\ell^2)\dot{\theta} - (g/\ell) \sin \theta + c(\theta, \dot{\theta})/m\ell^2 \right)$$

is continuous,  **Existence** yields the existence of a (at least one) maximal solution.

Additionally,

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{E} &= \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{2} m \ell^2 \dot{\theta}^2 - m g \ell \cos \theta \right) \\ &= -b \dot{\theta}^2 + c(\theta, \dot{\theta}) \dot{\theta} \\ &\leq P_M < +\infty.\end{aligned}$$

By integration

$$E(t) = \frac{1}{2}m\ell^2\dot{\theta}^2(t) - mg\ell \cos \theta(t) \leq E(0) + P_M t$$


Hence, since $|\cos \theta(t)| \leq 1$,

$$|\dot{\theta}(t)| \leq \sqrt{\frac{2E(0)}{m\ell^2} + \frac{2g}{\ell} + \frac{2P_M}{m\ell^2}t}$$

Thus, $\dot{\theta}(t)$ cannot blow-up in finite time. Since

$$|\theta(t)| \leq |\theta(0)| + \int_0^t |\dot{\theta}(s)| ds,$$

$\theta(t)$ cannot blow-up in finite time either.

By  **Maximal Solutions**, any maximal solution is global.

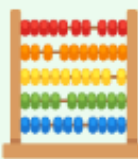


LINEAR SYSTEMS

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$.

Consider the dynamical system

$$\dot{x} = Ax, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

1. 

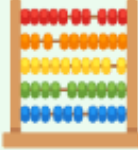
Show that

$$y(t) := \|x(t)\|^2$$

is differentiable and satisfies

$$\dot{y}(t) \leq 2\alpha y(t)$$

for some $\alpha \geq 0$. 

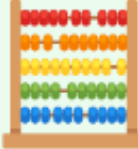
2. 


Let

$$z(t) := y(t)e^{-2\alpha t}.$$

Compute $\dot{z}(t)$ and deduce that

$$0 \leq y(t) \leq y(0)e^{2\alpha t}.$$

3. 

Prove that for any initial state $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ there is a corresponding global solution $x(t)$. 



LINEAR SYSTEMS

1.

By definition of $y(t)$ and since $\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t)$,

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{y}(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \|x(t)\|^2 \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} x(t)^t x(t) \\ &= \dot{x}(t)^t x(t) + x(t)^t \dot{x}(t) \\ &= x(t)^t A^t x(t) + x(t)^t A x(t).\end{aligned}$$

Let α denote the largest **singular value** of A (i.e. the operator norm $\|A\|$).

$$\alpha := \sigma_{\max}(A) = \|A\|.$$

For any vector $u \in \mathbb{R}^n$, we have

$$\|Au\| \leq \|A\| \|u\|.$$

By the **triangle inequality** and the **Cauchy-Schwarz inequality**, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{y}(t) &= \|x(t)^t A^t x(t) + x(t)^t A x(t)\| \\ &\leq \|(Ax(t))^t x(t)\| + \|x(t)^t (Ax(t))\| \\ &\leq \|Ax(t)\| \|x(t)\| + \|x(t)\| \|Ax(t)\| \\ &\leq \|A\| \|x(t)\| \|x(t)\| + \|x(t)\| \|A\| \|x(t)\| \\ &= 2\|A\| y(t)\end{aligned}$$

and thus $\dot{y}(t) \leq 2\alpha y(t)$ with $\alpha := \|A\|$.

2.

Since $y(t) = \|x(t)\|^2$, the inequality $0 \leq y(t)$ is clear.

Since $z(t) = y(t)e^{-2\alpha t}$,

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{z}(t) &= \frac{d}{dt}y(t)e^{-2\alpha t} \\ &= \dot{y}(t)e^{-2\alpha t} + y(t)(-2\alpha e^{-2\alpha t}) \\ &= (\dot{y}(t) - 2\alpha y(t))e^{-2\alpha t} \\ &\leq 0.\end{aligned}$$

By integration

$$\begin{aligned} y(t)e^{-2\alpha t} = z(t) &= z(0) + \int_0^t \dot{z}(s) \, ds \\ &\leq z(0) = y(0), \end{aligned}$$

hence

$$y(t) \leq y(0)e^{2\alpha t}.$$

3.

The vector field

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow Ax$$

is continuous, thus by  **Existence** there is a maximal solution $x : [0, t_\infty[$ for any initial state $x(0)$.

Moreover,

$$\|x(t)\| = \sqrt{\|y(t)\|} \leq \sqrt{y(0)e^{2\alpha t}} = \|x(0)\|e^{\alpha t}.$$

Hence there is no finite-time blow-up and the maximal solution is global.



UNIQUENESS

In the current context, **uniqueness** means uniqueness of the maximal solution to an IVP.

BAD NEWS (2/3)

Uniqueness of solutions, even the maximal ones, is not granted either.

NON-UNIQUENESS

The IVP

$$\dot{x} = \sqrt{x}, \quad x(0) = 0$$

has several maximal (global) solutions.

PROOF

For any $\tau \geq 0$, x_τ is a solution:

$$x_\tau(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t \leq \tau, \\ 1/4 \times (t - \tau)^2 & \text{if } t > \tau. \end{cases}$$

GOOD NEWS (2/3)

However, uniqueness of maximal solution holds under mild assumptions.



JACOBIAN MATRIX

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n), \quad f(x) = (f_1(x), \dots, f_n(x)).$$

Jacobian matrix of f :

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} := \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_n}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$



UNIQUENESS

If $\partial f / \partial x$ exists and is continuous, the maximal solution is unique.

BAD NEWS (3/3)

An infinitely small error in the initial value could result in a finite error in the solution, even in finite time.

That would severely undermine the utility of any approximation method.



CONTINUITY

Instead of denoting $x(t)$ the solution, use $x(t, x_0)$ to emphasize the dependency w.r.t. the initial state.

Continuity w.r.t. the initial state means that if $x(t, x_0)$ is defined on $[t_0, \tau]$ and $t \in [t_0, \tau]$:

$$x(t, y) \rightarrow x(t, x_0) \text{ when } y \rightarrow x_0$$

and that this convergence is uniform w.r.t. t .

GOOD NEWS (3/3)

However, continuity w.r.t. the initial value holds under mild assumptions.



CONTINUITY

Assume that $\partial f / \partial x$ exists and is continuous.

Then the dynamical system is continuous w.r.t. the initial state.



PREY-PREDATOR

Let

$$\dot{x} = \alpha x - \beta xy$$

$$\dot{y} = \delta xy - \gamma y$$

with $\alpha = 2/3$, $\beta = 4/3$, $\delta = \gamma = 1.0$.



```
alpha = 2 / 3; beta = 4 / 3; delta = gamma = 1.0
```

```
def fun(t, y):
```

```
    x, y = y
```

```
    u = alpha * x - beta * x * y
```

```
    v = delta * x * y - gamma * y
```

```
    return array([u, v])
```




```
tf = 3.0
result = solve_ivp(
    fun,
    t_span=(0.0, tf),
    y0=[1.5, 1.5],
    max_step=0.01)
x, y = result["y"][0], result["y"][1]
```




```
def display_streamplot():  
    ax = gca()  
    xr = yr = linspace(0.0, 2.0, 1000)  
    def f(y):  
        return fun(0, y)  
    streamplot(*Q(f, xr, yr), color="grey")
```



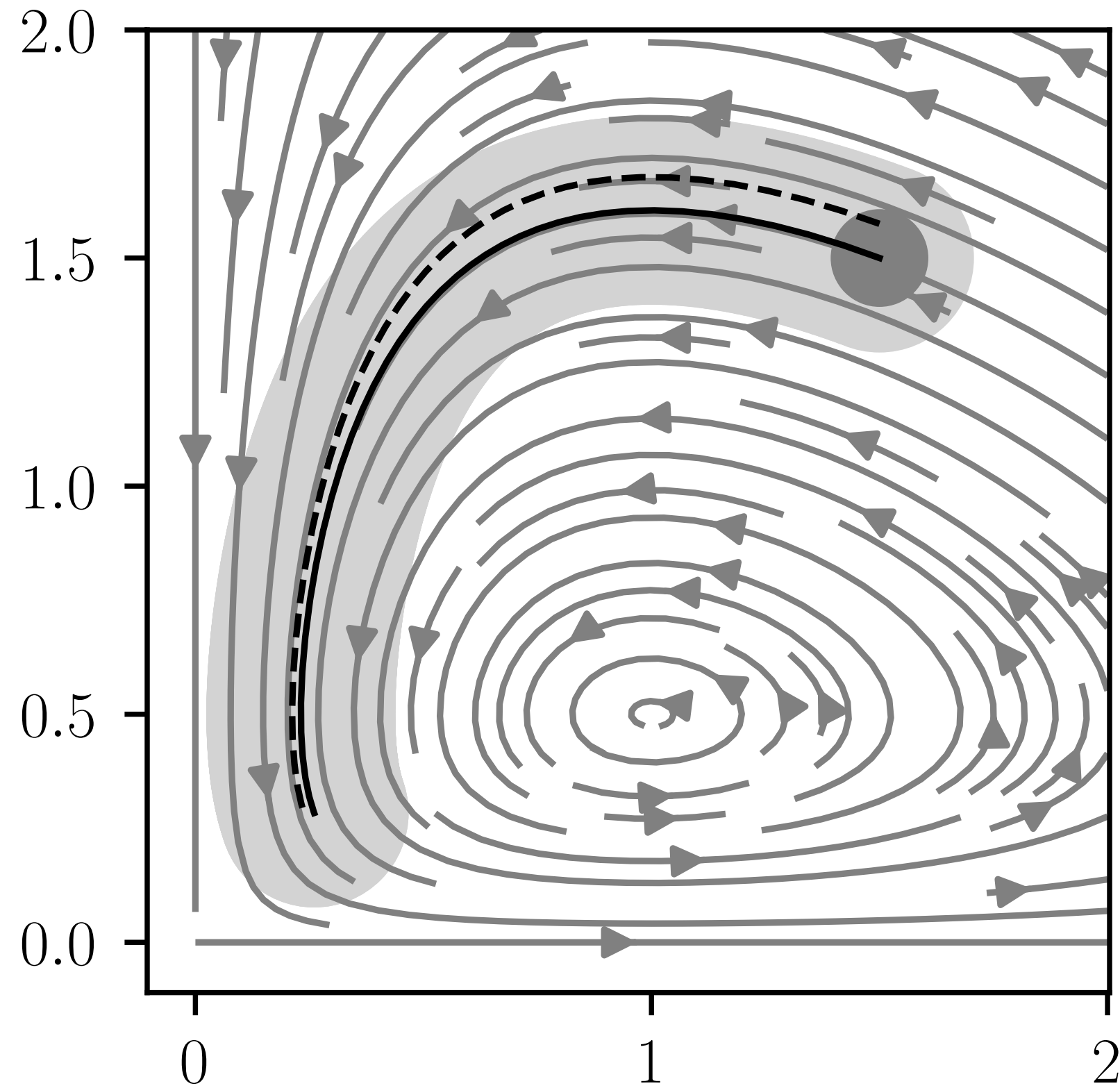

```
def display_reference_solution():  
    for xy in zip(x, y):  
        x_, y_ = xy  
        gca().add_artist(Circle((x_, y_),  
                                0.2, color="#d3d3d3"))  
    gca().add_artist(Circle((x[0], y[0]), 0.1,  
                            color="#808080"))  
    plot(x, y, "k")
```




```
def display_alternate_solution():  
    result = solve_ivp(fun,  
                        t_span=[0.0, tf],  
                        y0=[1.5, 1.575],  
                        max_step=0.01)  
    x, y = result["y"][0], result["y"][1]  
    plot(x, y, "k--")
```




```
figure()  
display_streamplot()  
display_reference_solution()  
display_alternate_solution()  
axis([0,2,0,2]); axis("square")
```

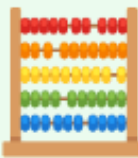





CONTINUITY

Let $h \geq 0$ and $x^h(t)$ be the solution of the IVP

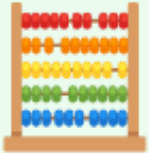
$$\dot{x} = x, \quad x^h(0) = 1 + h.$$

1. 

Let $\epsilon > 0$ and $\tau \geq 0$.

Find the largest $\delta > 0$ such that $|h| < \delta$ ensures that

for any $t \in [t_0, \tau]$, $|x^h(t) - x^0(t)| \leq \epsilon$

2. 

What is the behavior of δ when τ goes to infinity?



CONTINUITY

2.

The solution $x^h(t)$ to the IVP is

$$x^h(t) = (1 + h)e^t.$$

Hence,

$$|x^h(t) - x^0(t)| = |(1 + h)e^t - e^t| = |h|e^t$$

$$\max_{t \in [0, \tau]} |x^h(t) - x^0(t)| = |h|e^\tau.$$

Thus, the smallest δ such that $|h| \leq \delta$ yields

$$\max_{t \in [0, \tau]} |x^h(t) - x^0(t)| \leq \epsilon.$$

is $\delta = \epsilon e^{-\tau}$.

2. 

For any $\varepsilon > 0$,

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow +\infty} \delta = 0.$$



CONTINUITY ISSUES

Consider the IVP

$$\dot{x} = \sqrt{|x|}, \quad x(0) = x_0 \in \mathbb{R}.$$


1.  

Solve numerically this IVP for $t \in [0, 1]$ and $x_0 = 0$ and plot the result.

Then, solve it again for $x_0 = 0.1$, $x_0 = 0.01$, etc. and plot the results.

2.

Does the solution seem to be continuous with respect to the initial value?

3. 

Explain this experimental result.



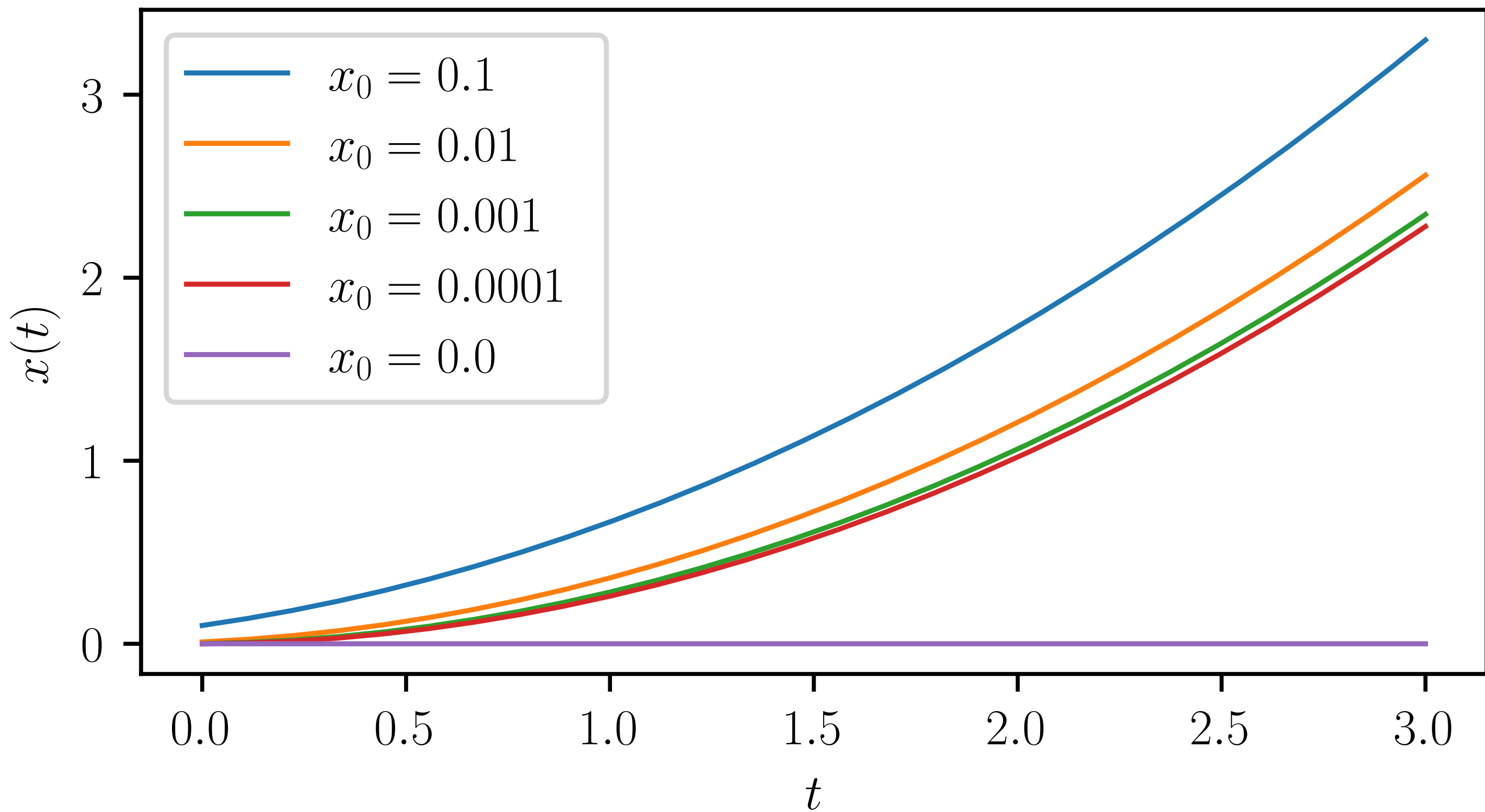
CONTINUITY ISSUES

1.

```
def fun(t, y):  
    x = y[0]  
    dx = sqrt(abs(y))  
    return [dx]  
tspan = [0.0, 3.0]  
t = linspace(tspan[0], tspan[1], 1000)
```




```
figure()
for x0 in [0.1, 0.01, 0.001, 0.0001, 0.0]:
    r = solve_ivp(fun, tspan, [x0],
                  dense_output=True)
    plot(t, r["sol"](t)[0],
         label=f"$x_0 = {x0}$")
xlabel("$t$"); ylabel("$x(t)$")
legend()
```

2.

The solution does not seem to be continuous with respect to the initial value since the graph of the solution seems to have a limit when $x_0 \rightarrow 0^+$, but this limit is different from $x(t) = 0$ which is the numerical solution when $x_0 = 0$.

3.

The jacobian matrix of the vector field is not defined when $x = 0$, thus the continuity was not guaranteed to begin with. Actually, uniqueness of the solution does not even hold here, see  [Non-Uniqueness](#). The function $x(t) = 0$ is valid when $x_0 = 0$, but so is

$$x(t) = \frac{1}{4}t^2$$

and the numerical solution seems to converge to the second one when $x_0 \rightarrow 0^+$.



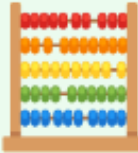
PREY-PREDATOR

Consider the system

$$\dot{x} = \alpha x - \beta xy$$

$$\dot{y} = \delta xy - \gamma y$$


where α , β , δ and γ are positive.

1. 

Prove that the system is well-posed.

2.

Prove that all maximal solutions such that $x(0) > 0$ and $y(0) > 0$ are global and satisfy $x(t) > 0$ and $y(t) > 0$ for every $t \geq 0$.

Hint . Compute the ODE satisfied by $u = \ln x$ and $v = \ln y$ and then the derivative w.r.t. time of

$$V := \delta e^u - \gamma u + \beta e^v - \alpha v.$$



PREY-PREDATOR



The jacobian matrix of the system vector field

$$f(x, y) = (\alpha x - \beta xy, \delta xy - \gamma y)$$

is defined and continuous:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial (x, y)} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha - \beta y & -\beta x \\ \delta y & \delta x - \gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

thus the system is well-posed.



The (continuously differentiable) change of variable

$$F : (x, y) \mapsto (u, v) := (\ln x, \ln y)$$

is a bijection between $]0, +\infty[^2$ and \mathbb{R}^2 .

Since

$$\frac{d}{dt} \ln x = \frac{\dot{x}}{x}, \quad \frac{d}{dt} \ln y = \frac{\dot{y}}{y}$$

the prey-predator ODE is equivalent to

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{u} &= \alpha - \beta e^v \\ \dot{v} &= \delta e^u - \gamma \end{aligned}$$

Accordingly,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt}V &= \delta e^u \dot{u} - \gamma \dot{u} + \beta e^v \dot{v} - \alpha \dot{v} \\ &= (\delta e^u - \gamma) \dot{u} + (\beta e^v - \alpha) \dot{v} \\ &= (\delta e^u - \gamma)(\alpha - \beta e^v) + (\beta e^v - \alpha)(\delta e^u - \gamma) \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Therefore $V(u(t), v(t))$ is constant.

Now, the function

$$\phi(u) := \delta e^u - \gamma u, \quad \psi(v) := \beta e^v - \alpha v$$

are continuous and

$$\lim_{|u| \rightarrow +\infty} \phi(u) = +\infty, \quad \lim_{|v| \rightarrow +\infty} \psi(v) = +\infty.$$

As $V(u, v) = \phi(u) + \psi(v)$,

$$\lim_{\|(u,v)\| \rightarrow +\infty} V(u, v) = +\infty.$$

Consequently, since $V(x(t), y(t))$ is constant, the solution $(u(t), v(t))$ **cannot** blow up (either in finite or infinite time).

Therefore the solution $(u(t), v(t))$ is global as is the solution in the original variables $(x(t), y(t))$.

Since $(x, y) = F^{-1}(u, v)$ and the domain of F is $]0, +\infty[^2$, $x(t) > 0$ and $y(t) > 0$ for any $t \geq 0$.