

## 5 - differences between linear and nonlinear equations

### linear equations

$$\frac{dy}{dt} + p(t) \cdot y = q(t)$$

$$f(t, y) = q(t) - p(t)y$$

\* principle of superposition

### non-linear equations

includes:  $y^2$ ,  $yy'$ ,  $e^y$ ,  $\sin(y)$

$$f(t, y) = y^2$$

\* possibility of finite time blow-up

\* existence and uniqueness for initial value problems

### principle of superposition

- linear equations  $\rightarrow$  fails in non-linear equations
- combining given solutions to produce new solutions

### existence and uniqueness theorem

- linear equations  $\rightarrow y(t_0) = y_0$  is given  
 $\rightarrow q(t), p(t)$  are continuous on  $(a, b)$   
 $\rightarrow t_0 \in (a, b)$

} has unique solution valid for  $(a, b) \rightarrow$  at least

- non-linear equations  $\rightarrow y' = f(t, y)$ , and  $y(t_0) = y_0$  are given  
 $\rightarrow f(t, y), \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  are continuous on  $(a, b) \times (c, d)$   
 $\rightarrow f(t_0, y_0) \in (a, b) \times (c, d)$

} has a unique solution,  $t$  is in smaller subinterval of  $(a, b)$  (b.c. of finite time blow up)

### finite time blow-up

- nonlinear equations
- the domain of the solution may not extend to the largest interval which the relevant functions are continuous

example:

$$y' = y^2 \quad y(0) = y_0 > 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad y = \frac{1}{t+c} \quad \begin{matrix} t=0 \\ y_0 = \frac{1}{c} \end{matrix} \quad c = \frac{1}{y_0} \quad \rightarrow \quad y(t) = -\frac{1}{t - \frac{1}{y_0}}$$

\*  $f(t, y) = y^2$  continuous  $\rightarrow$  but solution is defined

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 2y$  — on  $\mathbb{R}$  — only on  $(-\infty, \frac{1}{y_0})$  (not all  $(-\infty, \infty)$ )

solution **blows up** at  $\frac{1}{y_0} \rightarrow$  depends on initial condition

★ the general solution of a linear first order ode can be written as a formula in terms of the functions  $p(t)$  and  $q(t)$ .

### examples

①  $(t-3)y' + (\ln t)y = 2t$ ,  $y(1)=2$  interval of solution for given initial value, certain to exist?

$$y' + \frac{\ln t}{t-3} y = \frac{2t}{t-3}$$

$$t > 0 \quad (0, 3) \text{ or } (3, \infty)$$

$$t-3 \neq 0 \quad \hookrightarrow \text{given } y_0(1) \text{ so } \rightarrow (0, 3)$$

$$t \neq 3$$

②  $t(t-4)y' + y = 0$ ,  $y(2)=1$

$$y' + \frac{y}{t(t-4)} = 0$$

$$t \neq 0, 4$$

$$(-\infty, 0) \text{ or } (0, 4) \text{ or } (4, \infty) \rightarrow (0, 4)$$

answer is

③  $y' + (\tan t)y = \sin t$ ,  $y(\pi)=0$

$$\tan t = \frac{\sin t}{\cos t}$$

$$\cos t \neq 0$$

$$t \neq \frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2}, \frac{5\pi}{2} \dots \rightarrow (\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{3\pi}{2})$$

④  $(\ln t)y' + y = \cot t$ ,  $y(2)=3$

$$y' + \frac{y}{\ln t} = \frac{\cot t}{\ln t}$$

$$\ln t \neq 0$$

$$t \neq 1 \quad t > 0$$

$$(0, 1) \quad (1, \infty)$$

$$\cot t = \frac{\cos t}{\sin t} \neq 0$$

$$0, \pi, 2\pi$$

$$\pi = 3.14$$

$$(1, \pi)$$

①  $y' = 2ty^2$   $y(0)=y_0$  interval, solution?

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = 2ty^2 \quad \frac{1}{y^2} = t^2 + c \quad t=0 \rightarrow c = \frac{1}{y_0^2} \quad \frac{1}{y^2} = t^2 + \frac{1}{y_0^2} \rightarrow y = \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 + \frac{1}{y_0^2}}}$$

$$y^2 \quad y \quad y=y_0 \quad y_0 \quad y \quad y_0 \quad - \quad t = \frac{1}{y_0}$$

blows up at  $t = \sqrt{\frac{1}{y_0}}$

unique solution theorem;

$$y' = f(t, y) = 2ty^2 \rightarrow \text{continuous everywhere}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = (2ty^2)' = 4ty \rightarrow \text{continuous everywhere}$$

if  $y_0 < 0$  never zero  $\rightarrow$  unique solution exists  $-\infty < t < \infty$   
 if  $y_0 > 0$  unique solution exists  $-\sqrt{\frac{1}{y_0}} < t < \sqrt{\frac{1}{y_0}}$

① superposition  $\rightarrow y' - 2y = 0$  show  $\phi(t) = e^{2t}$  is a solution:

$$2e^{2t} - 2e^{2t} = 0 \text{ also show } c\phi(t) \text{ is a solution:}$$

$$2 \cdot c e^{2t} - 2c e^{2t} = 0 \rightarrow \text{so it is linear ODE}$$

$\rightarrow y' + y^2 = 0$  show  $\phi(t) = \frac{1}{t}$  is a solution:

$$-\frac{1}{t^2} + \frac{1}{t^2} = 0 \text{ also show } c \cdot \phi(t) \text{ is not a solution (when } c \neq 1, 0)$$

$$-\frac{c}{t^2} + \frac{c^2}{t^2} \neq 0 \rightarrow \text{so it is nonlinear ODE.}$$

☆  $y' = \frac{8+t^3}{3y-y^2}$   $y(2)=1$  existence and uniqueness theorem?

$$y' = \frac{8+t^3}{y(3-y)} \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \left( \frac{8+t^3}{(3y-y^2)^2} \right)' = \frac{-1(8+t^3)(3-2y)}{(3y-y^2)^2} \quad y \neq 0, 3$$

