

# CS 450: Numerical Analysis

## Lecture 23

### Chapter 8 Initial Value Problems for Ordinary Differential Equations

#### Introduction to Numerical Solutions to ODEs

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# Ordinary Differential Equations

$$y(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

- ▶ An *ordinary differential equation (ODE)* usually describes time-varying system by a function  $y(t)$  that satisfies a set of equations in its derivatives

$$g(t, y, y', \dots, y^{(k)}) = 0 \quad | \text{implicit}$$

$$y^{(k)} = f(t, y, y', y'', \dots, y^{(k-1)}) \quad | \text{explicit}$$

- ▶ An ODE of any *order*  $k$  can be transformed into a first-order ODE

1st order  $y' = f(t, y)$  |  $y^{(k)}$  appears |  $u = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y^{(k-2)} \\ y^{(k-1)} \end{bmatrix}$  |  $u' = f(t, u) = \begin{bmatrix} u_2 \\ u_3 \\ \vdots \\ u_k \\ f(t, u) \end{bmatrix}$  |  $u_i = y^{(i-1)}(t)$

## Example: Newton's Second Law

- ▶  $F = ma$  corresponds to a second order ODE

$$F(t, y, \underline{y'}) = m y'' \quad \text{order two}$$

$$y'' = \underbrace{F(t, y, y')} / m$$

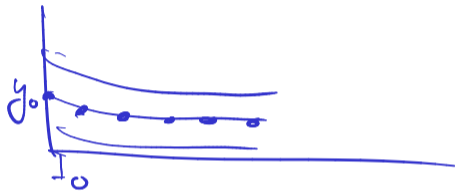
- ▶ We can transform it into a first order ODE in two variables

$$u = \begin{bmatrix} y \\ y' \end{bmatrix} \quad u' = f(t, u) = \begin{bmatrix} u_2 \\ \underbrace{F(t, u)} / m \end{bmatrix}$$

## Initial Value Problems

- ▶ Generally, a first order ODE specifies only the derivative, so the solutions are non-unique, an *initial condition* addresses this:

$$\text{IVP} \quad y_0 = y(t_0)$$



- ▶ Given an initial condition, an ODE must satisfy an integral equation for any given point  $t$ :

$$y(t) = y_0 + \int_{t_0}^t \underbrace{f(s, y(s))}_{y'(s)} ds \quad y' = f(t)$$

# Existence and Uniqueness of Solutions

- ▶ For an ODE to have a unique solution, it must be defined on a closed domain

Aside  $D$  and be *Lipschitz continuous*:

constant coefficients

$$y' = Ay$$

$$= A(t)y$$

$$y = e^{At} y$$

Lipschitz continuity

$$\|f(t, y) - f(t, \hat{y})\| \leq \|y - \hat{y}\|$$

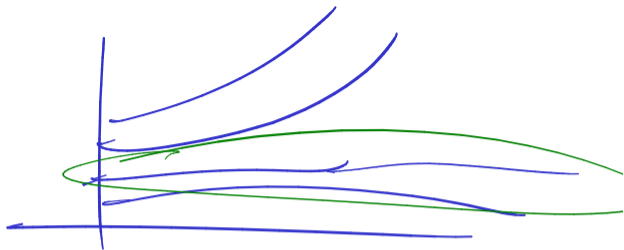
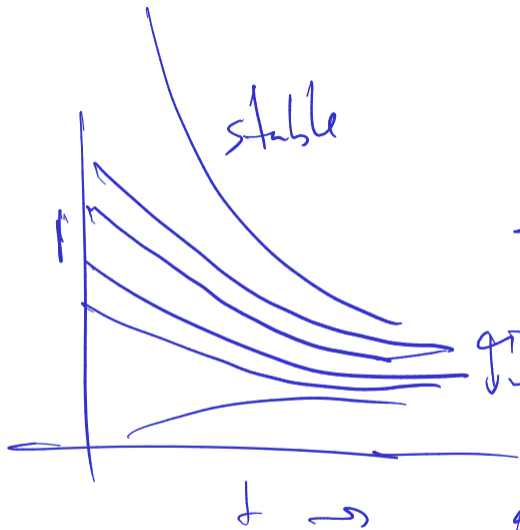
if  $f$  is differentiable

$$L = \max \|J_f\|$$

- ▶ The solutions of an ODE can be stable, unstable, or asymptotically stable:

stable if perturbation to  $y_0$  results in perturbation in  $y$  that is bounded  
otherwise unstable

so asymptotic stability means  $\|y(t) - y_0\| \rightarrow 0$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$



$\updownarrow$  gap  $\rightarrow 0$

then

asymptotically  
stable

## Stability of 1D ODEs

- ▶ The solution to the scalar ODE  $y' = \lambda y$  is  $y(t) = y_0 e^{\lambda t}$ , with stability dependent on  $\lambda$ :

$\lambda > 0$  unstable

$\lambda \leq 0$  stable

$\lambda < 0$  asymptotically stable

- ▶ A linear ODE generally has the form  $y' = Ay$ , with stability dependent on the spectral radius (largest eigenvalue) of  $A$ : constant coefficients

$$y(t) = y_0 e^{\lambda t}$$

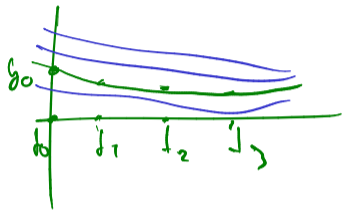
eigenvalues of  $A$

$\lambda_i < 0$  for all  $i$ , then we have asymptotic stability

# Numerical Solutions to ODEs

- ▶ Basic methods for numerical ODEs seek to obtain the solution  $y$  at a set of points:

discretize the domain  
 $y(t_k)$  for  $\{t_k\}_{k=1}^n$



- ▶ Euler's method provides the simplest method (attempt) for obtaining a numerical solution:

Forward Euler method

$$y(t_k) = y(t_{k-1}) + h f(t_{k-1}, y(t_{k-1}))$$



# Error in Numerical Methods for ODEs

- ▶ Truncation error is typically the main quantity of interest, which can be defined *globally* or *locally*

$$e_k = y(t_k) - \hat{y}_k(t_k)$$

$$e_k = -y(t_k) + \hat{y}_k$$

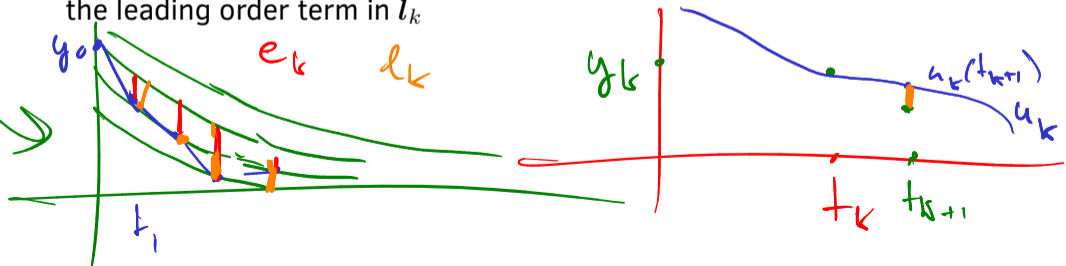
↑  
computed

local errors

$$l_k = \hat{y}_k - u_{k-1}(t_k)$$

$u_k$  is true soln to IVP with  $y_0(t_k) = \hat{y}_k$

- ▶ The *order of accuracy* of Euler's method is one less than than the order of the leading order term in  $l_k$



# Stability of Numerical Methods for ODEs

- ▶ Stability can be defined for numerical methods similarly to ODEs themselves

defined similarly to stability of problem

← even if ODE is stable, method may be unstable

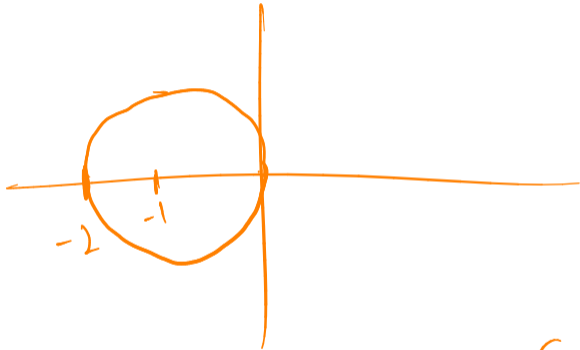
- ▶ To analyze stability, can consider application to linear scalar ODE, e.g. for Euler's method:

$$y' = -\lambda y \quad | \quad y_k = y_{k-1} + h \underbrace{\lambda y_{k-1}}_{y'(t_{k-1})} = \underbrace{(1+h\lambda)}_{\text{growth factor}} y_{k-1}$$

$$|1+h\lambda| \leq 1$$

$$h\lambda \in [-2, 0] \Rightarrow \text{stability}$$

complex plane



Stability region for  
forward Euler

## Implicit Methods

- ▶ Implicit methods for ODEs form a sequence of solutions that satisfy conditions on a local approximation to the solution:

Backward Euler

$$y_{k+1} = y_k + h \underbrace{f(t_{k+1}, y_{k+1})}$$

- ▶ The backward Euler method for a simple linear scalar ODE stability region is the left half of the complex plane:

$$y' = \lambda y$$

$$y_{k+1} = y_k + h \lambda y_{k+1} \Rightarrow (1 - h\lambda) y_{k+1} = y_k$$

when  $\lambda \leq 0$ ,  $\left| \frac{1}{1-h\lambda} \right| \leq 1$ , wherever  $\lambda \leq 0$

$$y_{k+1} = \frac{1}{1-h\lambda} y_k$$