

$$\ddot{\Theta} + \omega^2 \sin \Theta = 0$$

IC:  $\Theta(t=0) = \varepsilon$   
 $\dot{\Theta}(t=0) = 0$

$$\omega^2 = \frac{g}{L}$$

E & C:  $f(t, \Theta, \dot{\Theta}) = -\omega^2 \sin \Theta$  (1)

$$\ddot{\Theta} = f(t, \Theta, \dot{\Theta})$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \Theta} = -\omega^2 \cos \Theta$$
 (2)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \dot{\Theta}} = 0$$
 (3)

Theorem: (1)-(3) are continuous fcts of  $t, \Theta$  &  $\dot{\Theta}$

$\Rightarrow$  unique soln. exists for small  $t$ .

## Existence and Uniqueness for *non-linear* 2nd order ODEs

Consider the *non-linear* second-order ODE

$$y'' = f(x, y, y') \quad (1)$$

subject to the initial conditions

$$y(X) = Y, \quad y'(X) = Z, \quad (2)$$

where the constants  $X, Y$  and  $Z$ , and the function  $f(x, y, y')$ , are given.

### Theorem

If  $f(x, y, y')$  and  $\frac{\partial f(x, y, y')}{\partial y}$  and  $\frac{\partial f(x, y, y')}{\partial y'}$  are continuous functions of  $x, y$  and  $y'$  in a region  $|x - X| < a$ ,  $|y - Y| < b$  and  $|y' - Z| < c$ , where  $a, b, c > 0$  then there **exists exactly one** solution to the initial value problem defined by (1) and (2) in an interval  $|x - X| < h \leq a$ , where  $h > 0$ .

### Notes:

- The statement is easily generalised to (even) higher-order ODEs.
- The theorem only provides a local statement!
- The statement only applies to initial value problems!
- The criteria listed are *sufficient* to ensure the existence of a unique solution but they are *not necessary*!  $\implies$  An IVP may still have a unique solution even if the conditions are violated.

## [Numerical] experiment: Finite-amplitude oscillation of an undamped pendulum

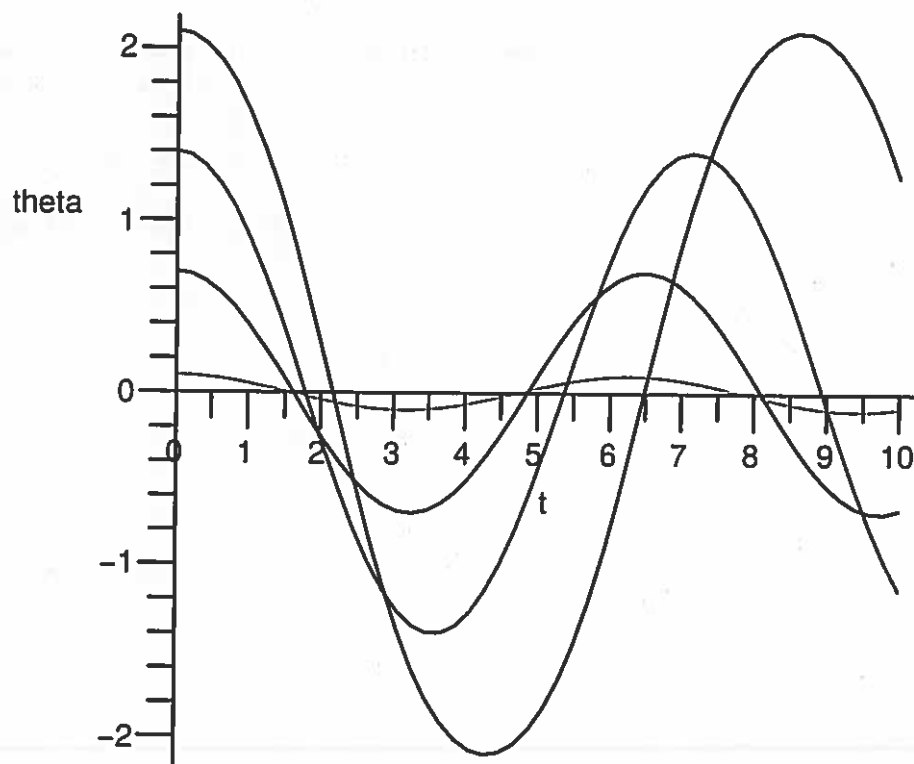
- Governing (non-linear!) ODE:

$$\ddot{\theta} + \sin \theta = 0$$

subject to the initial conditions

$$\theta(t=0) = \epsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \dot{\theta}(t=0) = 0.$$

- Plot for  $\epsilon = 0.1, 0.7, 1.4, 2.1$ :



- **Observation:** Period of the oscillation increases for larger amplitudes.

Now for simplicity  
set  $\omega^2 = 1$ .

$$\ddot{\theta} + \sin \theta = 0$$

$$\theta(t=0) = \epsilon$$

$$\dot{\theta}(t=0) = 0$$

We know from ~~the~~ num./physical experiment that

$$|\theta(t)| \leq \epsilon$$

Now consider  $|\epsilon| \ll 1$ :

$$\sin \theta = \theta - \frac{1}{3!} \theta^3 + \dots$$

So in this limit the problem becomes (approximately):

$$\ddot{\theta} + \theta = 0$$

$$\theta(t=0) = \epsilon$$

$$\dot{\theta}(t=0) = 0$$

NOT THERE

$$\Rightarrow \theta(t) = \epsilon \cos(t)$$

This suggests to use  
an expansion of the form:

$$\Theta(t) = \cancel{\Theta_0(t)} + \epsilon \Theta_1(t) + \epsilon^2 \Theta_2(t) + \dots (*)$$

Plan: into IVP, expand,  
collect powers of  $\epsilon$   
 $\Rightarrow$  sequence of IVPs.

1st step: expand  $\sin \Theta$  in  
Taylor series:

$$\underbrace{\Theta + \Theta - \frac{1}{3!} \Theta^3 + \frac{1}{5!} \Theta^5 - \dots}_{\sin \Theta} = 0$$

insert (\*)

$$\begin{aligned} & \epsilon \Theta_1 + \epsilon^2 \Theta_2 + \epsilon^3 \Theta_3 + \dots + \\ & \epsilon \Theta_1 + \epsilon \Theta_2 + \epsilon^3 \Theta_3 + \dots \\ & - \frac{1}{3!} (\epsilon \Theta_1 + \epsilon^2 \Theta_2 + \epsilon^3 \Theta_3 + \dots)^3 + \dots = 0 \end{aligned}$$

expand  $(\dots)^3$ :

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$$(\dots + \epsilon \Theta_1 + \epsilon^2 \Theta_2 + \dots)$$

$$(\dots + \epsilon \Theta_1 + \epsilon^2 \Theta_2 + \dots)$$

$$(\dots + \epsilon \Theta_1 + \epsilon^2 \Theta_2 + \dots) =$$

$$\epsilon^3 \Theta_1^3 + 3 \epsilon^4 \Theta_1^2 \Theta_2 + \dots$$

collect:

$$\epsilon (\Theta_1 + \Theta_1) +$$

$$\epsilon^2 (\Theta_2 + \Theta_2) +$$

$$\epsilon^3 (\Theta_3 + \Theta_3 - \frac{1}{6} \Theta_1^3) + \dots = 0$$

IC:

$$\Theta(t=0) = \epsilon \Theta_1(t=0) + \epsilon^2 \Theta_2(t=0) + \epsilon^3 \Theta_3(t=0) + \dots = 3$$

$$\frac{\epsilon (\Theta_1(t=0) - 1) + \epsilon^2 (\Theta_2(t=0)) + \epsilon^3 (\Theta_3(t=0))}{+ \dots} \geq 0$$

$$\Theta(t=0) = \epsilon \Theta_1(t=0) + \epsilon^2 \Theta_2(t=0) + \epsilon^3 \Theta_3(t=0) + \dots = 0$$

Collect powers of  $\epsilon$  in ODE & ICs:

$$\epsilon^0: \ddot{\Theta}_0 + \Theta_0 = 0$$

$$\dot{\Theta}_0(t=0) = 0$$

$$\Theta_0(t=0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \Theta_0(t) = 0$$

NOT SHOWN

$$\epsilon^1: \ddot{\Theta}_1 + \Theta_1 = 0$$

$$\dot{\Theta}_1(t=0) = 1$$

$$\Theta_1(t=0) = 0$$

$$\Theta_1(t) = \cos(t)$$

$$\epsilon^2: \ddot{\Theta}_2 + \Theta_2 = 0$$

$$\dot{\Theta}_2(t=0) = 0$$

$$\Theta_2(t=0) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \Theta_2(t) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}^3: \quad \ddot{\Theta}_3 + \Theta_3 &= \frac{1}{6} \Theta_1^2 \\ \Theta_3(t=0) &= 0 \\ \dot{\Theta}_3(t=0) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$\cos(t)$

$$\Theta_3(t) = \frac{1}{192} (\cos(t) - \cos(3t)) + \frac{1}{16} t \sin(t)$$

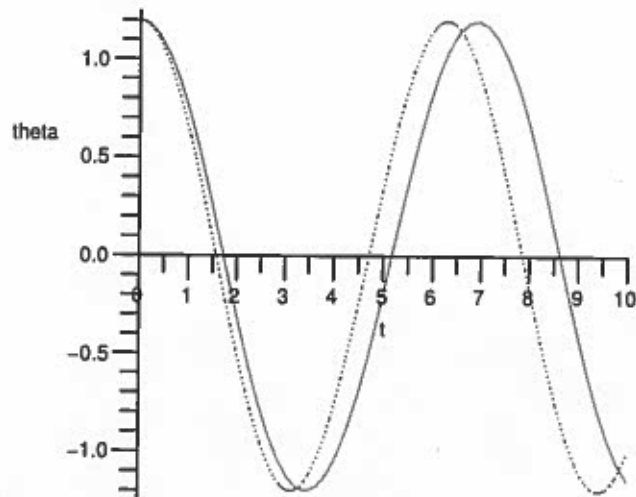
etc.

Key feature: we solve a sequence of linear problems!

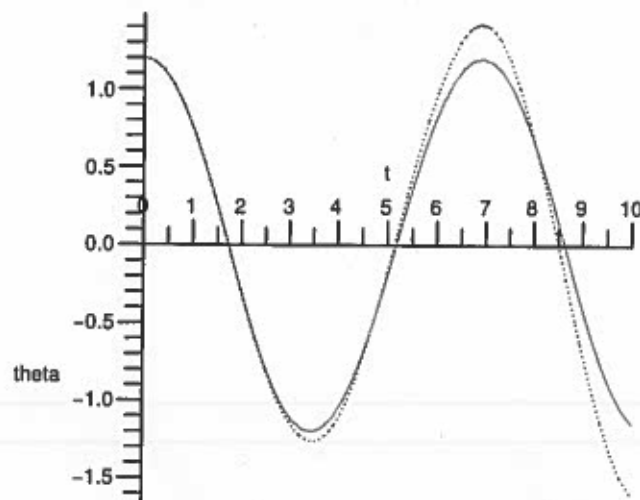


## Comparison between perturbation solution and “exact” solution for $\epsilon = 1.2$

- One-term perturbation solution (red), exact solution (green):

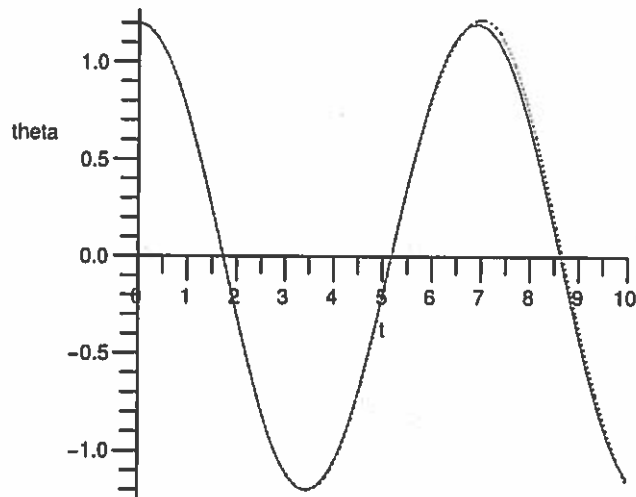


- Two-term perturbation solution (red), exact solution (green):

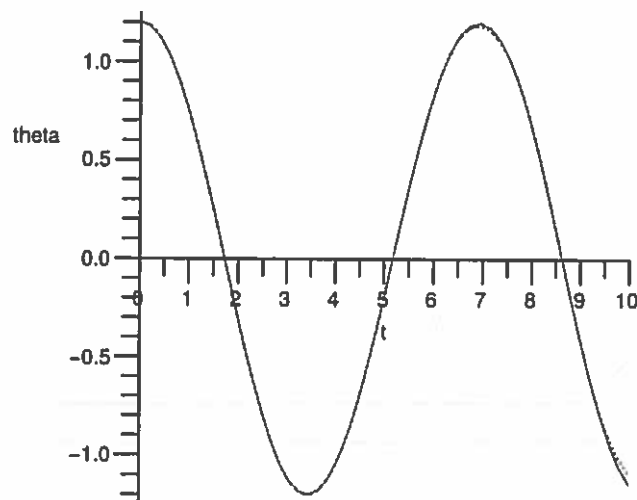


## Comparison between perturbation solution and “exact” solution for $\epsilon = 1.2$ (cont.)

- Three-term perturbation solution (red), exact solution (green):

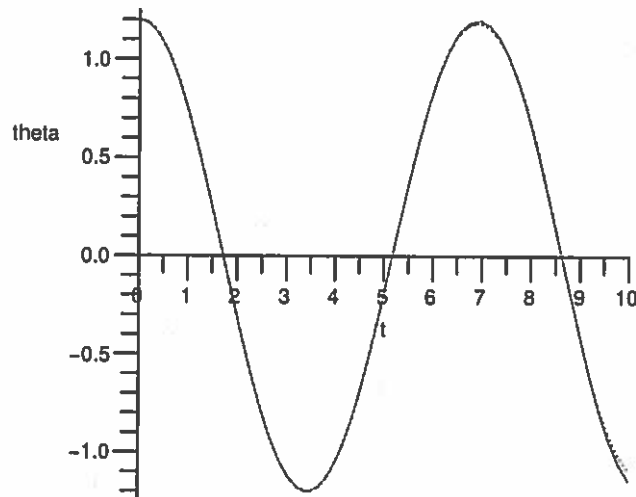


- Four-term perturbation solution (red), exact solution (green):

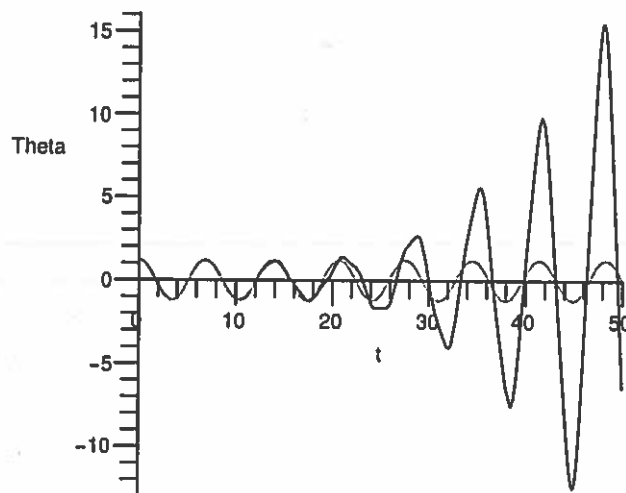


## Comparison between perturbation solution and “exact” solution for $\epsilon = 1.2$ (cont.)

- Four-term perturbation solution (red), exact solution (green):



- Agreement over a finite time-interval is very pleasing. However, over sufficiently large times, the perturbation solution diverges:



## “Multinomial expansions”

- One tedious task that one tends to face regularly when using perturbation methods is that of raising a power series in  $\epsilon$  to some integer power

$$S = (x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \epsilon^2 x_2 + \dots)^n, \quad (1)$$

and collecting the terms multiplied by the same power of  $\epsilon$ , i.e. re-writing  $S$  in the form

$$S = S_0(x_0) + \epsilon S_1(x_0, x_1) + \epsilon^2 S_2(x_0, x_1, x_2) + \dots \quad (2)$$

where the functions  $S_i(x_0, x_1, \dots)$  do not depend on  $\epsilon$ .

- Formally, the expansion of  $S$  may be obtained by using the “multinomial series” (a generalisation of the binomial series) as

$$(a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_k)^n = \sum_{\substack{n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_k \in \mathbb{N}_0 \\ n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_k = n}} \frac{n!}{n_1! n_2! \dots n_k!} a_1^{n_1} a_2^{n_2} \dots a_k^{n_k}$$

see, e.g. <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/MultinomialSeries.html>

- However, we usually only need the first few terms in (2) for low-ish powers of  $n$ . Here they are:

$$(x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \epsilon^2 x_2 + \dots)^2 = (x_0^2) + \epsilon (2x_0 x_1) + \epsilon^2 (x_1^2 + 2x_0 x_2) + \dots$$

$$(x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \epsilon^2 x_2 + \dots)^3 = (x_0^3) + \epsilon (3x_0^2 x_1) + \epsilon^2 (3x_0 x_1^2 + 3x_0^2 x_2) + \dots$$

$$(x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \epsilon^2 x_2 + \dots)^4 = (x_0^4) + \epsilon (4x_0^3 x_1) + \epsilon^2 (4x_0^2 x_1^2 + 6x_0^2 x_2) + \dots$$

- **Exercise:** Convince yourself that you understand how these terms arise. **Hint:** Either use the multinomial series given above, or write  $S$  explicitly as a product of  $n$  power series [e.g. for  $n = 2$ :  $S = (x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \dots)(x_0 + \epsilon x_1 + \dots)$ ] and inspect which combination of terms gives rise to what powers of  $\epsilon$ .
- **Relax!** In an exam these expressions would be provided!