

```
> restart;
```

Numeric solutions of ODEs in Maple

The purpose of this worksheet is to introduce Maple's **dsolve/numeric** command. There are many examples of differential equations that Maple cannot solve analytically, in these cases a default call to **dsolve** returns a null (blank) result:

```
> ode := diff(y(x), x, x) + y(x)^2 = x^2;
dsolve(ode);
```

$$ode := \frac{d^2}{dx^2} y(x) + y(x)^2 = x^2 \quad (1)$$

If this happens, one can obtain a solution numerically by specifying initial conditions and providing the option "numeric":

```
> ICs := y(0) = 0, D(y)(0) = 1/2;
sol := dsolve({ode, ICs}, numeric);
```

$$ICs := y(0) = 0, D(y)(0) = \frac{1}{2}$$
$$sol := \text{proc}(x_rkf45) \dots \text{end proc} \quad (2)$$

The output of **dsolve** is by default a Maple procedure of a single argument. If we call this procedure with argument x , we obtain information about the solution at that value of the independent variable:

```
> sol(1);
```

$$\left[x = 1., y(x) = 0.560986197489666, \frac{d}{dx} y(x) = 0.739332218315567 \right] \quad (3)$$

That is, we get a list giving us a numeric approximation to the value of the unknown and its first derivative at our choice of x . If the equation we wanted to solve was higher order (say n^{th} order), we would have more elements in the list corresponding to all the derivatives of y up to $(n - 1)^{\text{th}}$ order. The default behaviour of **dsolve/numeric** is to return a procedure which itself returns a list; however, we can instead have it return a list of procedures but using the optional command "output = listprocedure".

```
> sol := dsolve({ode, ICs}, numeric, output=listprocedure);
```

$$sol := \left[x = \text{proc}(x) \dots \text{end proc}, y(x) = \text{proc}(x) \dots \text{end proc}, \frac{d}{dx} y(x) = \text{proc}(x) \right] \quad (4)$$

...

```
end proc]
```

Here, we get a list of three equations. The RHS of each equation is a procedure that calculates what is represented on the LHS. For example, the RHS of the second element is a procedure that calculates $y(x)$. We can isolate this particular procedure as follows:

```
> y_sol := sol[2];
y_sol := rhs(y_sol);
```

$$y_sol := y(x) = \text{proc}(x) \dots \text{end proc}$$
$$y_sol := \text{proc}(x) \dots \text{end proc} \quad (5)$$

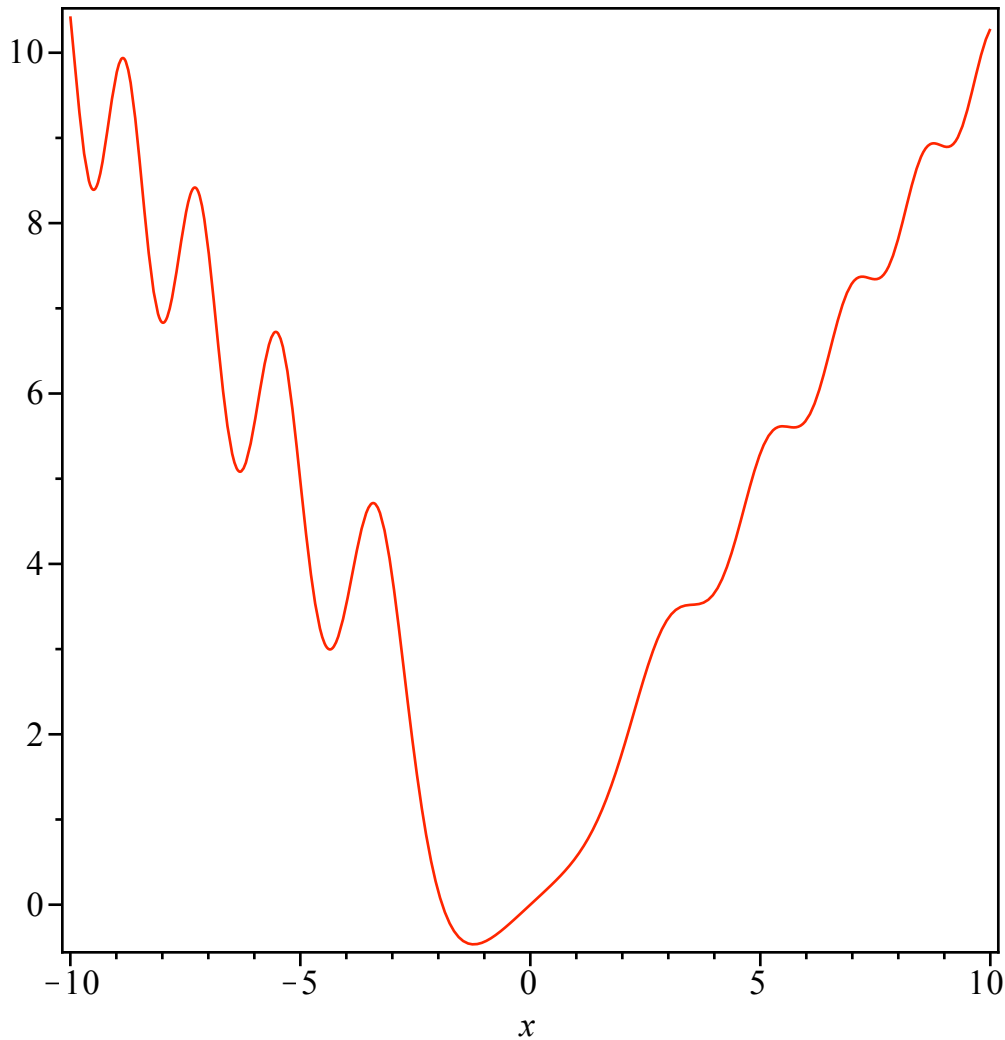
Now, **y_sol** is a procedure that just returns the numeric solution for y as a function of x :

```
> y_sol(2);
```

$$1.79279104009982 \quad (6)$$

This procedure can readily be used to obtain a plot of the numeric solution of the ODE:

```
> plot(y_sol(x), x=-10..10, axes=boxed);
```



This is not the only way to obtain a plot of the numeric solution of an ODE, look at `?plots/odeplot` for an alternate method (I recommend the one given here, however). The `dsolve/numeric` command can also be used to solve systems of ODEs such as the following [this is a predator-prey model from mathematical biology where $X(T)$ and $Y(T)$ represent the populations of humans and fish, respectively]

```
> ODE1 := diff(X(T), T) = -X(T)*(-1+Y(T));
   ODE2 := diff(Y(T), T) = Y(T)*(-1+X(T))*alpha;
```

$$ODE1 := \frac{d}{dT} X(T) = -X(T) (-1 + Y(T))$$

$$ODE2 := \frac{d}{dT} Y(T) = Y(T) (-1 + X(T)) \alpha$$

(7)

Here is the code to generate procedures `X_sol` and `Y_sol` giving the numeric solution for the two unknowns for a particular choice of initial data and α .

```
> alpha := 1;
   X0 := 2;
   Y0 := 1;
   ans := dsolve([ODE1, ODE2, X(0)=X0, Y(0)=Y0], numeric, output=
   listprocedure);
```

```

X_sol := rhs(ans[2]);
Y_sol := rhs(ans[3]);

alpha := 1
X0 := 2
Y0 := 1

ans := [T = proc(T) ... end proc, X(T) = proc(T) ... end proc, Y(T) = proc(T)
...
end proc]

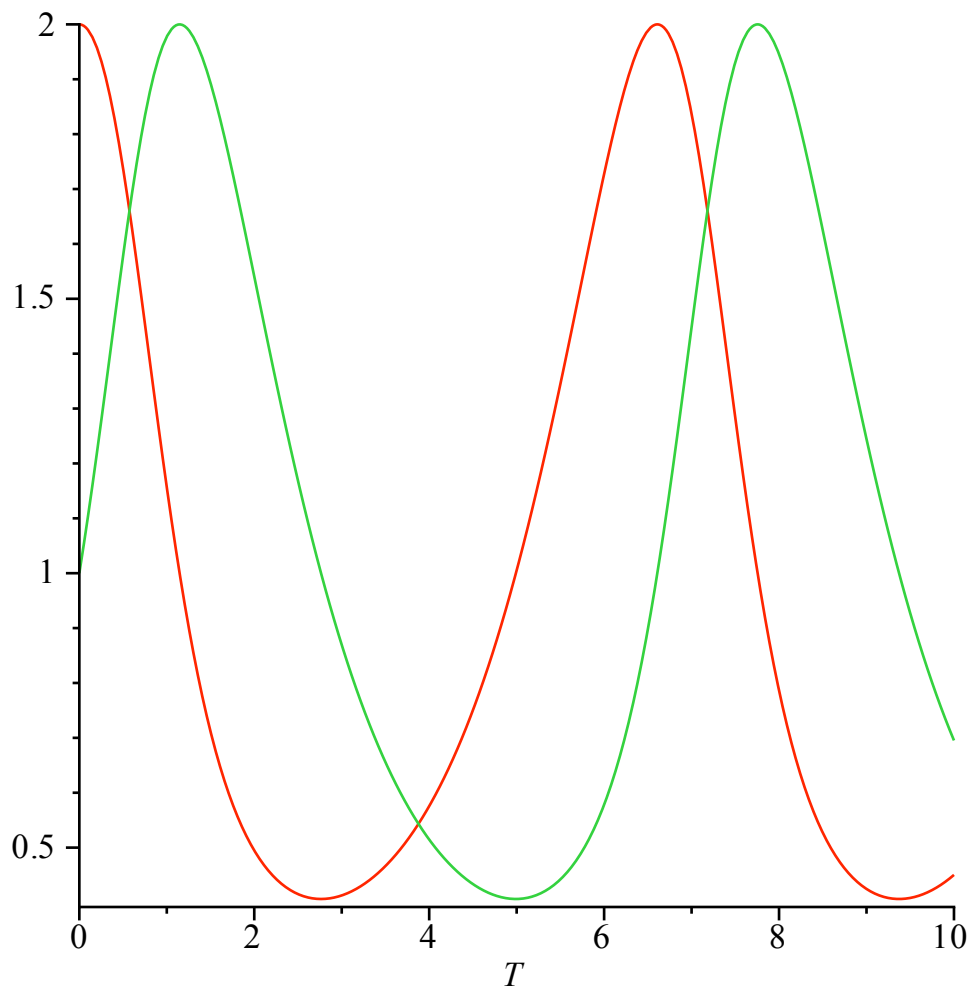
X_sol := proc(T) ... end proc
Y_sol := proc(T) ... end proc

```

(8)

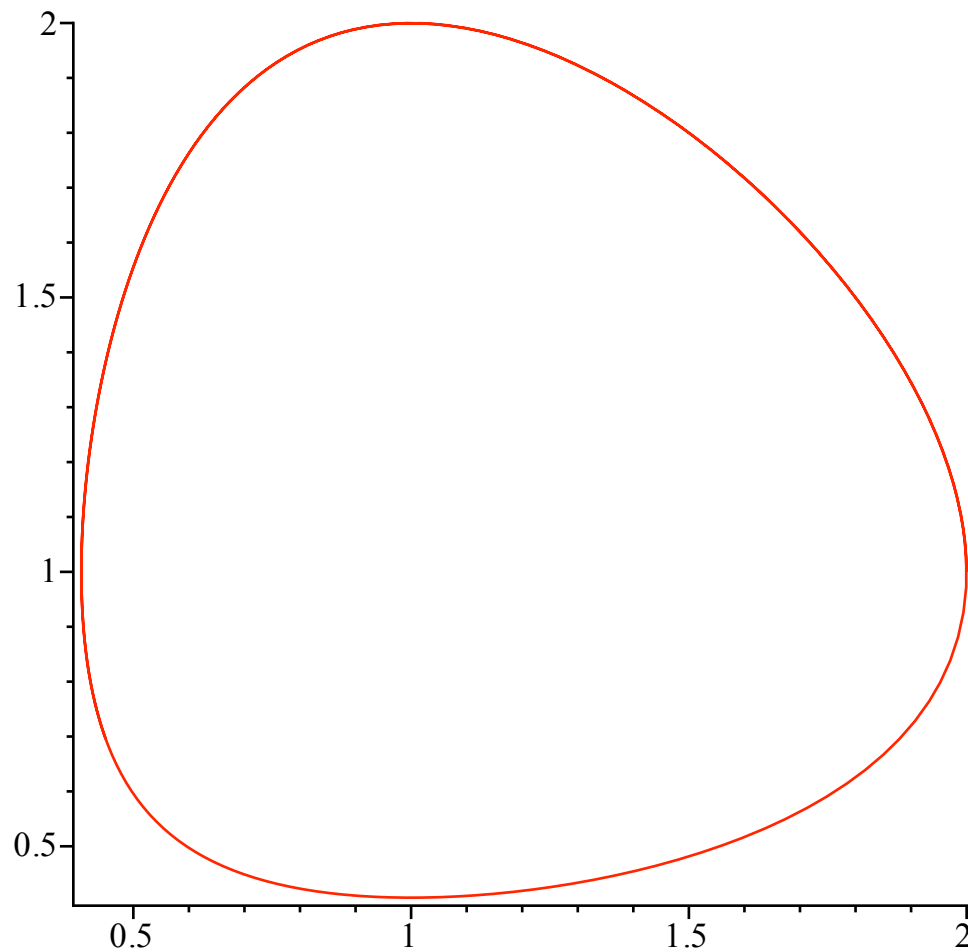
Here is a plot of the two solutions:

```
> plot([X_sol(T), Y_sol(T)], T=0..10);
```



A phase portrait of the system is an implicitly defined curve where the horizontal coordinate is $X(T)$ and the vertical coordinate is $Y(T)$:

```
> plot([X_sol(T), Y_sol(T)], T=0..10);
```



The above numeric solution was for a particular choice of initial data. Lets generate a series of ten solution curves for a number of choices of initial data (N.B. now we choose $\alpha = 10$):

```
> alpha := 10;
  for i from 1 to 10 do:
    X0 := 1+i/10;
    Y0 := 1;
    ans := dsolve([ODE1,ODE2,X(0)=X0,Y(0)=Y0],numeric,output=
listprocedure);
    X_sol[i] := rhs(ans[2]);
    Y_sol[i] := rhs(ans[3]);
    print(i);
  od:
```

$\alpha := 10$

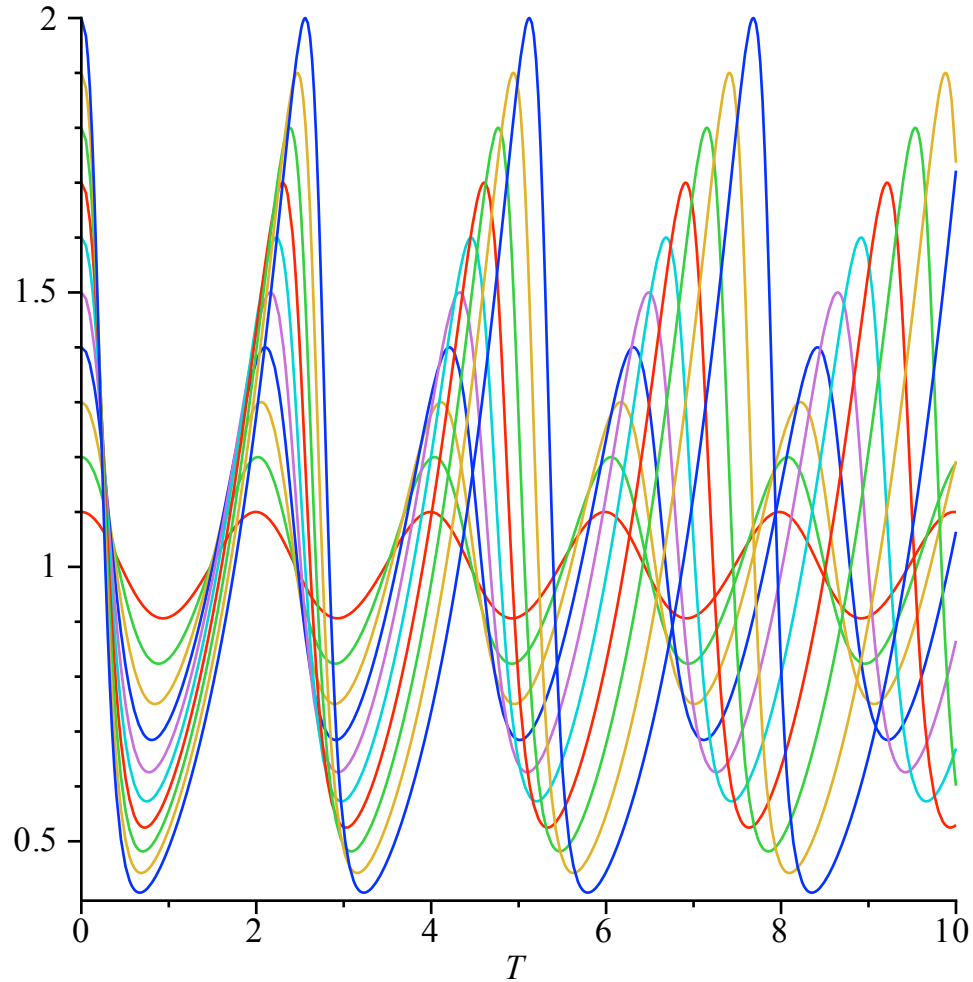
1
2
3
4
5
6
7

8
9
10

(9)

Here is a plot of the X solutions as a function of T:

```
> plot([seq(X_sol[i](T), i=1..10)], T=0..10);
```



Here is a plot of the phase portrait of each of the solutions:

```
> plot([seq([X_sol[i](T), Y_sol[i](T), T=0..10], i=1..10)]);
```

