

# Nonlinear Systems

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# Chapter 1

# Introduction to theory: basic definitions

A general nonlinear dynamic system may be modeled by a finite number of coupled first-order ordinary differential equations.

$$\dot{x} = f(t, x, u) \quad (1)$$

where  $x = [x_1, \dots, x_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ : state vector,  $\mathbf{n}$ : system order,  
 $u = [u_1, \dots, u_m]^T \in \mathbb{R}^m$ : input vector (control, disturbance).

$\mathbf{f}(\cdot)$  is a vector field in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ : a function associating a vector to n-dim point  $\mathbf{x}$ .

**Initial condition:**  $x(t_0) = (x_1(t_0), x_2(t_0), \dots, x_n(t_0))$

Eq. (1) is called **state equation**.

**Solution** is in the form  $x(t_0, t)$  that defines a family of time trajectories in the state space (also referred as phase space). Imposing the initial condition  $x(t_0)$  determines one unique trajectory.

Another equation named **output equation**:

$$y = h(t, x, u) \quad (2)$$

where  $y = [y_1, \dots, y_p]^T \in \mathbb{R}^p$ : output vector.

Eqs. (1) and (2) together are called **state-space model**.

# Introduction to theory: basic definitions

**Analysis** : unforced state equations

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x), & f : \mathbb{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n && \text{time-invariant (autonomous)} \\ \dot{x} &= f(t, x), & f : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n && \text{time-varying (Non-autonomous)} \end{aligned}$$

**Control design:**

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x, u), & f : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n && \text{autonomous with inputs} \\ \dot{x} &= f(t, x, u), & f : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n && \text{Non-autonomous with inputs} \\ \dot{x} &= f(x) + g(x)u, & f : \mathbb{R}^n &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n, g : \mathbb{R}^m &\rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n && \text{affine in } u \end{aligned}$$

**Linear systems:** if  $f$  and  $h$  are linear functions of  $x$  and  $u$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(x) &\rightarrow \dot{x} &= Ax && \text{autonomous} \\ \dot{x} &= f(x, u) &\rightarrow \dot{x} &= Ax + Bu \\ \dot{x} &= f(t, x, u) &\rightarrow \dot{x} &= A(t)x + B(t)u \end{aligned}$$

# Introduction to theory: basic definitions

## For linear systems

The Linear Systems satisfy the superposition principals:

- 1 Homogeneity:  $f(\alpha x) = \alpha f(x), \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ .
- 2 Additivity:  $f(x + y) = f(x) + f(y), \forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Unique equilibrium point.

Stability is independent of initial conditions  $x(t) = x(0)e^{At}$

# Introduction to theory: basic definitions

## For nonlinear systems

Non superposition principle  $\implies$  More complex behavior

Example : Under-water vehicle  $\dot{v} + |v|v = u$

Settles faster in response to positive step.

Scaling input does not result into the same scaling in output.

$$u = 1$$

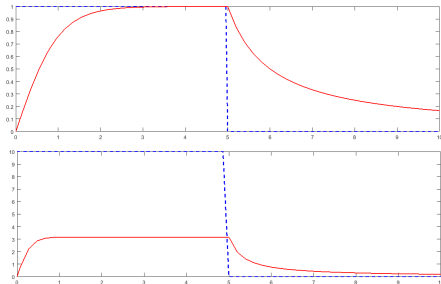
$$\implies 0 + |v_s|v_s = 1$$

$$\implies v_s = 1$$

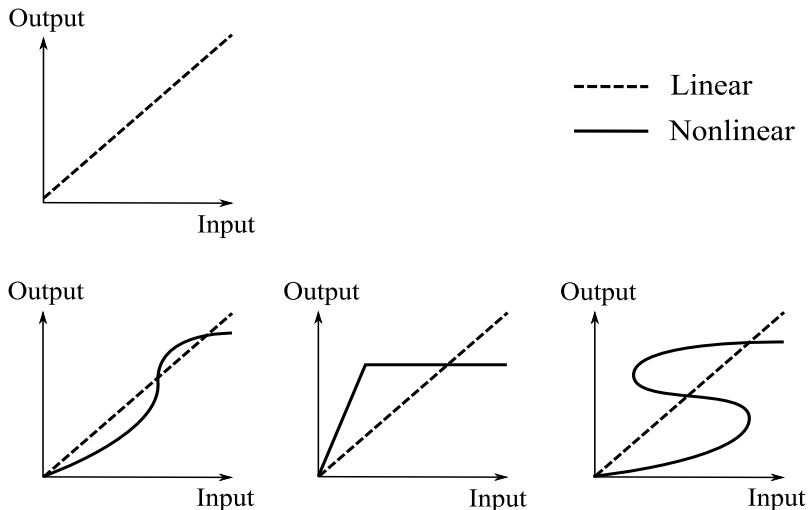
$$u = 10$$

$$\implies 0 + |v_s|v_s = 10$$

$$\implies v_s = \sqrt{10}$$



# Nonlinear System Examples



**Figure:** A nonlinear system is a system in which the change of the output is not proportional to the change of the input.

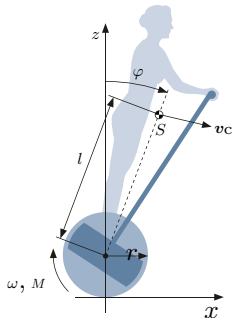
# Nonlinear System Examples

## Systems with essential nonlinearities in the model

### Self-balancing vehicle

$$\ddot{x} = \frac{c}{a} (\dot{\varphi}^2 \sin(\varphi) - \ddot{\varphi} \cos(\varphi)) + \frac{M}{ar},$$

$$\ddot{\varphi} = \frac{c}{b} (g \sin(\varphi) - \ddot{x} \cos(\varphi)) - \frac{M}{b},$$

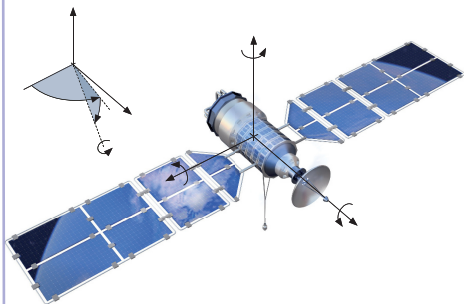


### Euler's rotation equations

$$J_x \dot{\omega}_x = -(J_z - J_y) \omega_y \omega_z + M_x$$

$$J_y \dot{\omega}_y = -(J_x - J_z) \omega_x \omega_z + M_y$$

$$J_z \dot{\omega}_z = -(J_y - J_x) \omega_x \omega_y + M_z$$





# Nonlinear System Examples

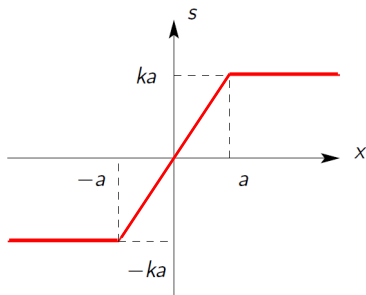
## Systems with saturation

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= Ax + Bsat(u) \\ u &= PID(x)\end{aligned}$$

$$sat(u) = \begin{cases} u & \text{If } |u| \leq 1 \\ sgn(u) & \text{If } |u| \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

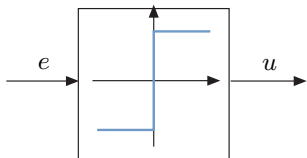
The output is proportional to input for a limited range.

Output becomes constant if input is outside this range.

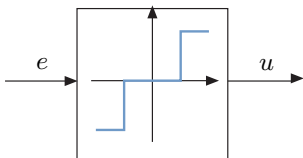


# Common Nonlinearities

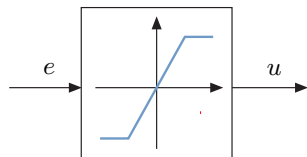
memoryless



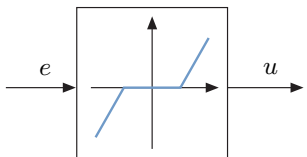
Two-position element



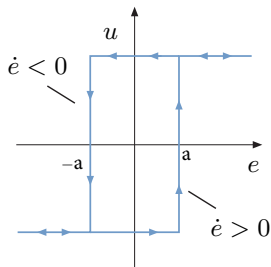
Three-position element



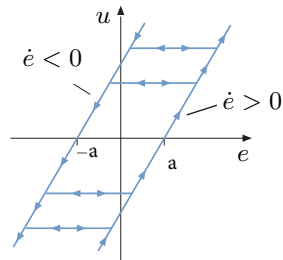
(Saturation characteristic)



Dead zone



Hysteresis characteristic curve



Backlash characteristic curve

# Equilibrium points

An **equilibrium point** represents a **stationary condition** of a dynamical system. The state  $x_e \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a **fixed point** for  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  if  $f(x_e) = 0, \forall t \geq 0$ .

If a dynamical system has an initial condition  $x(0)$  at an equilibrium point  $x_e$ , then **it will stay at  $x_e$  forever**, i.e.  $x(t) = x_e, \forall t \geq 0$ .

**Example 1:**  $\dot{x} = x(x - 2)^2$

$$f(\bar{x}) = 0 \Rightarrow x(x - 2)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_e = 0 \\ x_e = 2 \end{cases}$$

This system has **two isolated equilibrium points** at 0 and 2.

**Example 2:**

$$\dot{x} = \sin(x), \quad x(0) = x_0 \in \mathbb{R} \quad (3)$$

$x(t) \in \mathbb{R}$  1st order system (scalar state)

$$f(\bar{x}) = \sin(\bar{x}) = 0 \implies \bar{x} = k\pi, \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

This system has **infinite many equilibrium points**.

# Equilibrium points

## Non-isolated equilibria

For a linear system  $\dot{x} = Ax$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

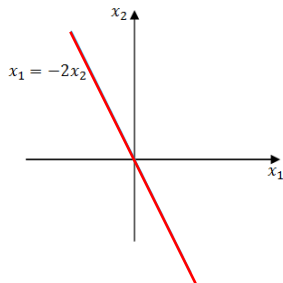
If  $A$  is nonsingular ( $\det(A) \neq 0$ ), then  $x^* = 0$  is the unique equilibrium.

If  $A$  is singular ( $\det(A) = 0$ ), then Null space defines a continuum of equilibria.

### Example:

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix}}_x = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ -2 & -4 \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}}_x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} = 0 \Rightarrow Ax = 0 &\Rightarrow \begin{cases} -2x_1 - 4x_2 = 0 \\ -x_1 - 2x_2 = 0 \end{cases} \\ &\Rightarrow x_1 = -2x_2 \end{aligned}$$



# Linear approximations around an equilibrium

A linear approximation of a system around an equilibrium point can be used to study the behavior of a nonlinear system around the equilibrium point.

Local stability properties of  $x_e$  can be determined by linearizing the vector field  $f(x)$  at  $x_e$ :

$$f(x_e + \tilde{x}) = \underbrace{f(x_e)}_{=0} + \underbrace{\frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \Big|_{x=\bar{x}}}_{\triangleq A} \tilde{x} + \text{higher order terms in } (x - x_e) \quad (4)$$

Thus, the linearized model is :  $\dot{\tilde{x}} = A\tilde{x}$  (5)

The solution of the linearized form (5) has the form :  $\tilde{x} = e^{At}x_0$

- If  $\text{Re}(\lambda_i(A)) < 0$ , then  $x_e$  is locally asymptotically stable.
- If  $\text{Re}(\lambda_i(A)) > 0$  for some eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$  of  $A$ , then  $\bar{x}$  is unstable.

# Linear approximations around an equilibrium

**Example 1:** Linearization of  $\dot{x} = \sin(x)$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{\bar{x}} = \cos(x)|_{\bar{x}} = \begin{cases} \cos(2K\pi) & = 1, & n \text{ even} \\ \sin((2K+1)\pi) & = -1, & n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

$$\bar{x} = n\pi, n = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

**Example 2:** (2nd order system)

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x) \\ f_2(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ -x_1 + x_1^2 x_2 - x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(x)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_1(x)}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial f_2(x)}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial f_2(x)}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 + 2x_1 x_2 & x_1^2 - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

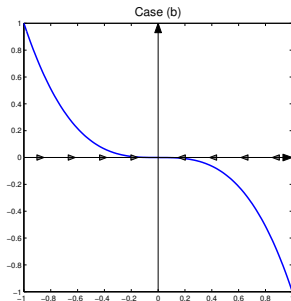
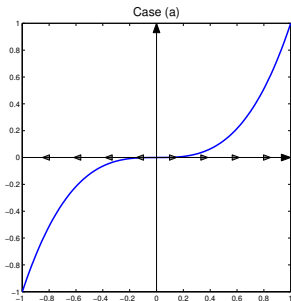
Linearization around  $x_e(0, 0)$  :  $\left. \frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \right|_{x_e} (x - x_e) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$

## Caveats:

- Only local properties can be determined from the linearization.
- If  $Re(\lambda_i) \leq 0$  with some e-values having  $Re(\lambda_i) = 0$ , then linearization is inconclusive as a stability test. Higher order terms determine stability.

**Example:** (a) :  $\dot{x} = x^3$ ,      (b) :  $\dot{x} = -x^3$ .

In both cases, linearized systems around  $\bar{x} = 0$  are the same:  $\dot{x} = 0 \Rightarrow x(t) = x_0$ , but NL systems have different behaviors.



# Essentially Nonlinear Phenomena



# 1. Multiple Isolated equilibrium

**Linear systems** have only one equilibrium point at origin **or** a number of non isolated equilibrium points.

Example: Pendulum (two isolated equilibria)

$$lm\ddot{\theta} = -kl\dot{\theta} - mg \sin(\theta) \quad (6)$$

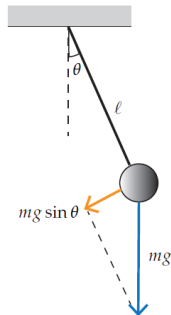
Define  $x = \begin{bmatrix} \theta \\ \dot{\theta} \end{bmatrix}$ . State space :  $S^1 \times \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -\frac{k}{m}x_2 - \frac{g}{l} \sin x_1 \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Equilibria: Two isolated E.P (0,0) and  $(\pi, 0)$ .

Linearization :

$$\frac{\delta f}{\delta x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{g}{l} \cos x_1 & -\frac{k}{l} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{cases} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{g}{l} & -\frac{k}{l} \end{bmatrix} & \text{(stable) at } x_1 = 0 \\ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \frac{g}{l} & -\frac{k}{l} \end{bmatrix} & \text{(unstable) at } x_1 = \pi \end{cases} \quad (8)$$



## Stability may depend upon initial conditions

**Example :** The logistic equation (population dynamics in isolation)

$$\dot{x} = f(x) = \underbrace{rx(k-x)}_{\text{growth rate}}, \quad r > 0, K > 0 \quad (9)$$

$x \in \mathbb{R}_+$  is the population size and  $K$  is the carrying capacity.

Stability can be determined from the sign of  $f(x)$  around the equilibrium.

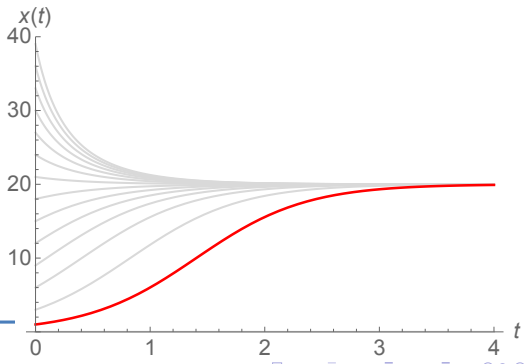
Equilibrium points are : ( $\dot{x}_e = 0$ )

$$\Rightarrow rx_e(K - x_e) = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_e = 0 \\ x_e = K \end{cases}$$

Linearization :

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{x_e} = (rK - 2rx)|_{x_e}$$

$$\begin{cases} \bar{x} = 0 \rightarrow Kr \rightarrow \text{unstable.} \\ \bar{x} = K \rightarrow -Kr \rightarrow \text{stable} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$



## 2. Finite Escape Time

**In linear case :**

$$\dot{x} = \lambda x \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Solution}} \quad x(t) = \exp^{\lambda t} x(0).$$

If  $\lambda > 0 \implies \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |x(t)| = +\infty$ . Only as  $t \rightarrow \infty, |x(t)| \rightarrow \infty$ .

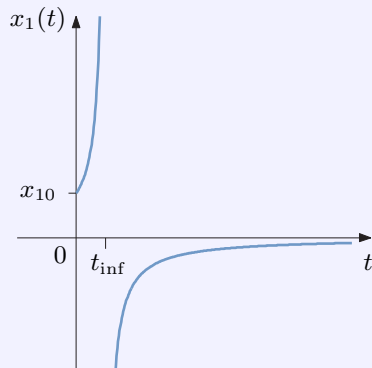
**In nonlinear case :**

**Example :**  $\dot{x} = x^2, x(0) = x_0, x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dx}{dt} = x^2 &\implies \int_{x_0}^{x(t)} \frac{dx}{x^2} = \int_0^t dt \\ &\implies -\frac{1}{x(t)} + \frac{1}{x_0} = t - 0 \end{aligned}$$

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

$$x_0 > 0 \implies t \rightarrow \frac{1}{x_0} \implies x(t) \rightarrow \infty$$



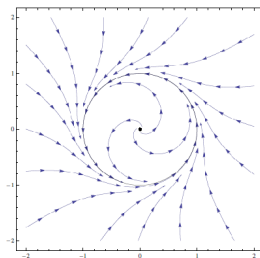
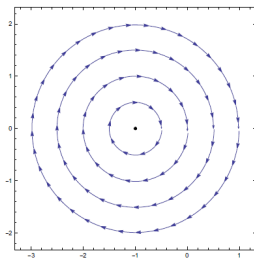
### 3. Limit cycles

Linear oscillators exhibit a continuum of periodic orbits (closed orbit) :

$$x(t + T) = x(t), \quad \forall t > 0, \text{ for some } T > 0$$

Every circle is periodic orbit for  $\dot{x} = Ax$  where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\beta \\ \beta & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (\lambda_{1,2} = \pm j\beta)$$



Every Periodic Orbit is a Cycle but not a Limit Cycle.

In contrast, a limit cycle is an isolated closed trajectory (closed orbit) and can occur only in nonlinear systems.

### 3. Limit cycles

#### Example: Harmonic oscillator

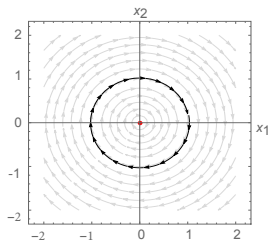
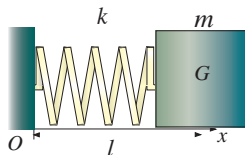
$$\underbrace{m\ddot{x}}_{\text{inertial term}} + \underbrace{kx}_{\text{stiffness term}} = 0 \quad (11)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}}. \quad (\lambda_{1,2} = \pm j\omega_0).$$

Amplitude of oscillations depends on initial conditions.

Can be destroyed by small modelling imperfections.



The harmonic oscillator has closed orbits but no limit cycles. Limit cycles cannot be generated by LTI systems.

The linear oscillator is not structurally stable. A stable oscillators must be produced by nonlinear systems.

### 3. Limit cycles

#### Example : Van der Pol oscillator

$$\ddot{x} - \mu(1 - x^2)\dot{x} + x = 0$$

If  $\mu = 0 \Rightarrow \ddot{x} + x = 0 \leftarrow$  **simple harmonic oscillator**

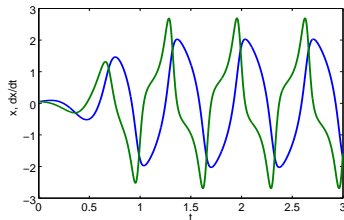
$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 &= x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= \mu(1 - x_1^2)x_2 - x_1 \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

Equilibrium point :  $\dot{x} = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{x} = [0 \ 0]^T$ .

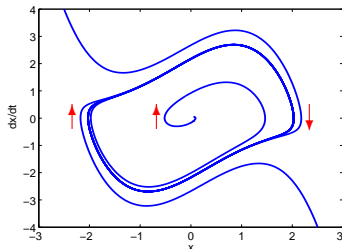
Linearization around  $\bar{x} = (0, 0)$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & \mu \end{bmatrix}$$

Positive sign of  $\mu$  tells us that e.p is unstable.



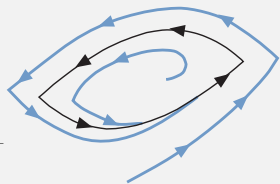
Response with  $x(0) = 0.05, x'(0) = 0.05$



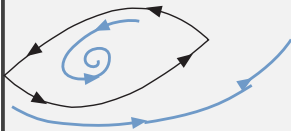
State trajectories  $(x(t), \dot{x}(t))$

### 3. Limit cycles: Examples of limit cycles

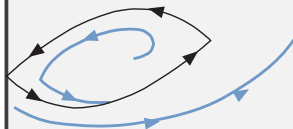
Stable Limite Cycle



Unstable Limite Cycle



SemiStable Limite Cycle



## 4. Chaos

### Chaos

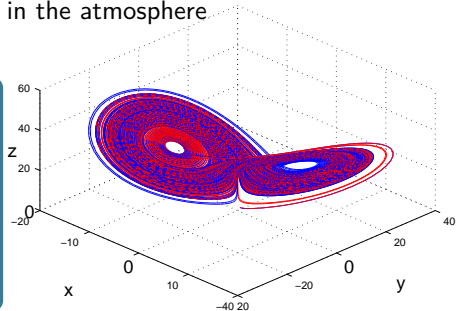
Irregular oscillations, never exactly repeating.

Behavior of nonlinear systems may be extremely sensitive to small changes in initial conditions/input/parameters.

**Example** : Lorenz system (attractor) derived by Ed Lorenz in 1963 as a simplified model of convection rolls in the atmosphere.

The Lorenz system is a 3rd order system (3 states  $x, y, z$ ).

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= \sigma(y - x) \\ \dot{y} &= rx - y - xz \\ \dot{z} &= xy - bz\end{aligned}\quad (13)$$





## 4. Chaos

For continuous-time, time invariant systems,  $n \geq 3$  state variable required for chaos.

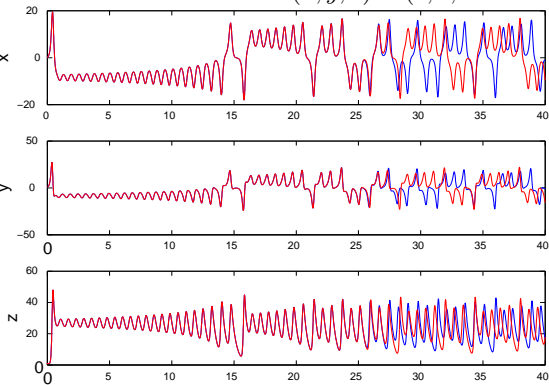
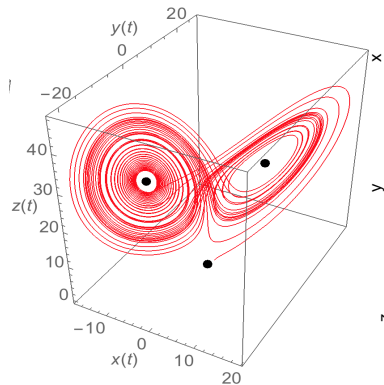
No simple characterization of asymptotic behavior.

Huge sensitivity to initial conditions.

Chaotic behavior with  $\sigma = 10$ ,  $b=8/3$ ,  $r=28$

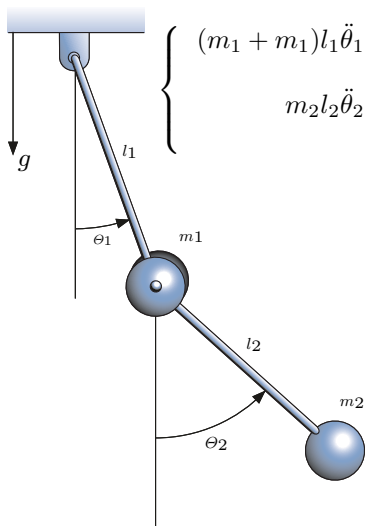
blue:  $(x, y, z) = (0, 1, 1.05)$

red:  $(x, y, z) = (0, 1, 1.050001)$

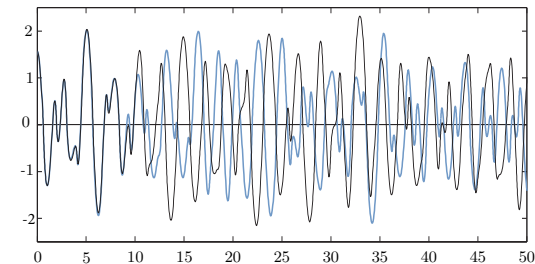


# 4. Chaos

**Example:** The double pendulum (System is implicit for  $l_1 \neq l_2$ )



$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (m_1 + m_2)l_1\ddot{\theta}_1 + m_2l_2\ddot{\theta}_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + m_2l_2\dot{\theta}_2^2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + g(m_1 + m_2) \sin \theta_1 = 0 \\ m_2l_2\ddot{\theta}_2 + m_2l_1\ddot{\theta}_1 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2) - m_2l_1\dot{\theta}_1^2 \sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2) + m_2g \sin \theta_2 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$



Time  $t$  in s

## 5. Bifurcation: Fold bifurcation

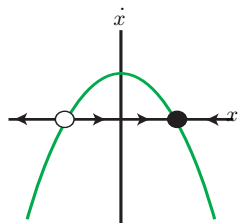
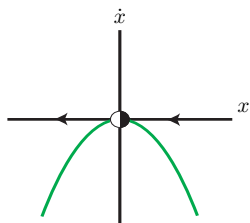
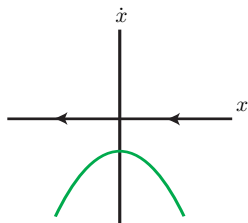
A **bifurcation** is an abrupt change in qualitative behavior as a parameter is varied.  
 Examples : creation (or death) of equilibrium points (or limit cycles) and/or change of their stability properties.

### Fold bifurcation: 1st order system

**Example :**  $\dot{x} = \mu - x^2$ ,

Equilibrium points :

$$\bar{x} = \begin{cases} \pm\sqrt{\mu} & \mu > 0 & \text{one stable equilibrium and one unstable equilibrium} \\ 0 & \mu = 0 & \text{single equilibrium (called a saddle)} \\ \text{none} & \mu < 0 & \text{no equilibria} \end{cases}$$



## 5. Bifurcation: Fold bifurcation

$\mu_c = 0$  is the critical value of parameter  $\mu$  which represents boundary between "no equilibrium points" and the presence of equilibrium points.

Creation/destruction of fixed points is called **saddle node bifurcation**

### Linearization

$$\left. \frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \right|_{\bar{x}} = 2\bar{x} = \begin{cases} 2\sqrt{\mu} & \text{unstable} \\ -2\sqrt{\mu} & \text{stable} \end{cases}$$

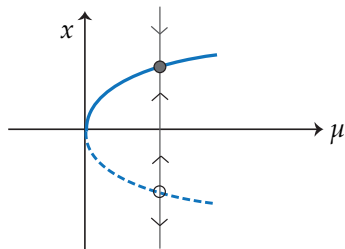
$$\mu > 0.$$

Note:

$$A_c = \left. \frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \right|_{\bar{x}_c = \bar{x}(\mu_c)} = 0 \rightarrow \text{linearization}$$

disappears, no information about stability of the system.

### bifurcation diagram



## 5. Bifurcation: Transcritical bifurcation

### • Transcritical bifurcation:

Example :  $\dot{x} = \mu x - x^2$ ,  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}$

Equilibrium points :  $\bar{x} = 0$ .  $\bar{x} = \mu$ .

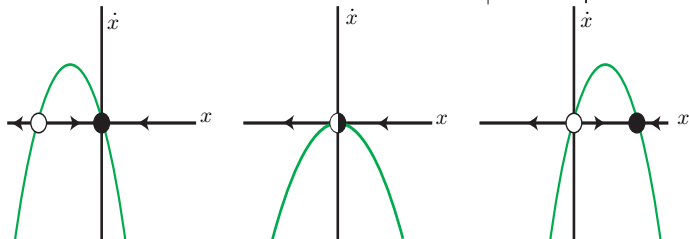
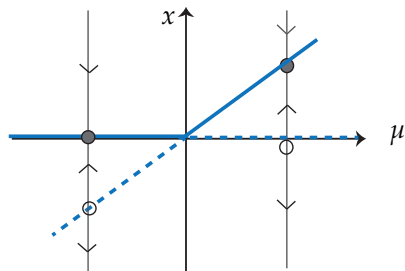
Linearization :

$$\frac{\delta f}{\delta x} = \mu - 2\bar{x} = \begin{cases} \mu & \text{if } \bar{x} = 0 \\ -\mu & \text{if } \bar{x} = \mu \end{cases}$$

$\mu < 0$  :  $\bar{x} = 0$  is stable,  $\bar{x} = \mu$  is unstable.

$\mu > 0$  :  $\bar{x} = 0$  is unstable,  $\bar{x} = \mu$  is stable.

### bifurcation diagram



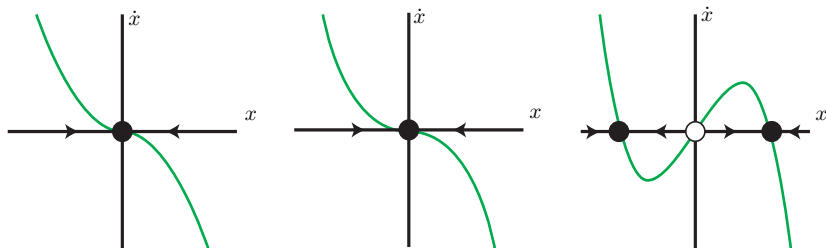
## 5. Bifurcation : Pitchfork bifurcation

**Pitchfork Bifurcation**- 2 types : **supercritical Pitchfork** and **subcritical pitchfork**

**Example 1:**

$$\dot{x} = \mu x - x^3 \quad \text{supercritical}$$

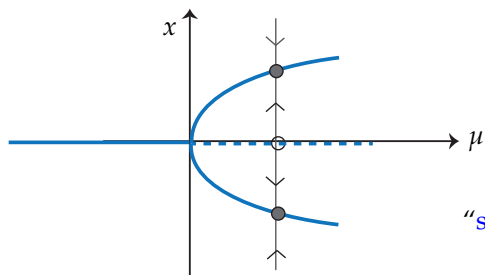
$$\text{Equilibrium points : } f(\bar{x}) = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{x}(\mu - \bar{x}^2) = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{x} = \begin{cases} 0 \\ \pm\sqrt{\mu}, & \mu > 0 \end{cases}$$



2 equilibrium points emerge when we increase  $\mu$ .

## 5. Bifurcation : Pitchfork bifurcation

bifurcation diagram



“supercritical pitchfork”

**Example 2:**  $\dot{x} = \mu x + x^3$ , subcritical pitchfork.

Equilibrium points :

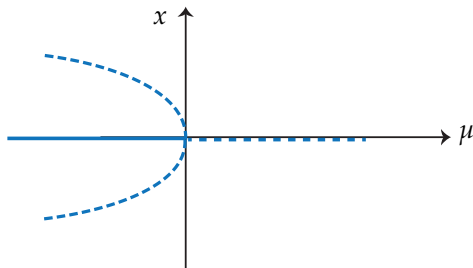
$$f(\bar{x}) = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{x}(\mu - \bar{x}^2) = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{x} = \begin{cases} 0 \\ \pm\sqrt{-\mu}, & \mu < 0 \end{cases}$$

## 5. Bifurcation: Pitchfork bifurcation

Linearization :

$$\left. \frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \right|_{\bar{x}=0} = \mu$$

$$\left. \frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \right|_{\bar{x}=\pm\sqrt{-\mu}} = -2\mu$$



“subcritical pitchfork”





## Chapter 2: Second Order Systems

# Concept of Phase Plane

A second-order autonomous system is represented by two scalar differential equations

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= f_2(x_1, x_2)\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

Let  $x(t) = (x_1(t), x_2(t))$  be the solution of (1) that starts at a certain initial state  $x_0 = (x_{10}, x_{20})$ .

$f(\cdot)$  is called a **vector field**

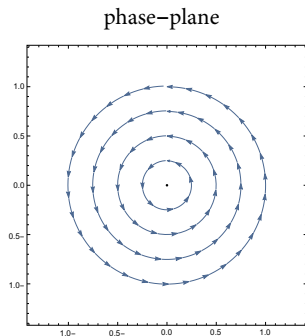
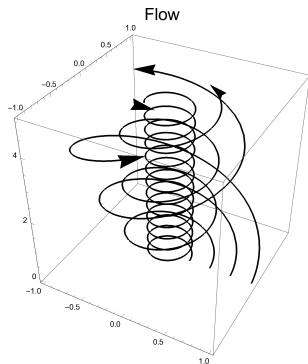
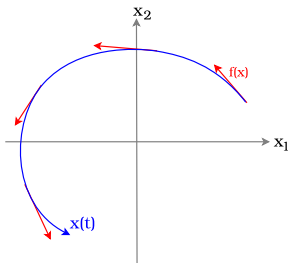
The set of points  $\{(t, x_1(t), x_2(t)); t \in \mathbb{R}\}$  with  $(x_1, x_2)$  a solution of (1) (and  $x_1(t_0) = x_{10}$  and  $x_2(t_0) = x_{20}$  for some  $t_0$ ) is called the **trajectory** or **solution curve** (through  $(x_{10}, x_{20})$ ).

The set of points  $\{(x_1(t), x_2(t)); t \in \mathbb{R}\}$  with  $(x_1, x_2)$  a solution of (1) (and  $x_1(t_0) = x_{10}$  and  $x_2(t_0) = x_{20}$  for some  $t_0$ ) is called the *fOrbit* or **Phase Curve** (through  $(x_{10}, x_{20})$ ).

# Concept of Phase Plane

An orbit that forms a closed curve is called a **closed orbit**.

The family of all trajectories of a dynamical system is called **the phase portrait**.



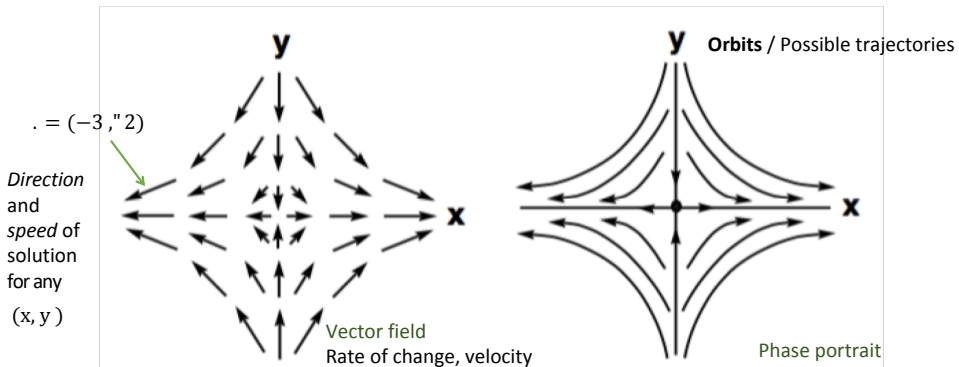
# Vector fields and Orbits

**Example:** Uncoupled system

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = 2x = f_x(x, y) \\ \dot{y} = -3y = f_y(x, y) \end{cases}$$

$\mathbf{f}$  is a **vector field** in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

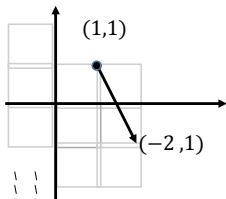
Solution :  $(x_0 e^{2t}, y_0 e^{-3t})$



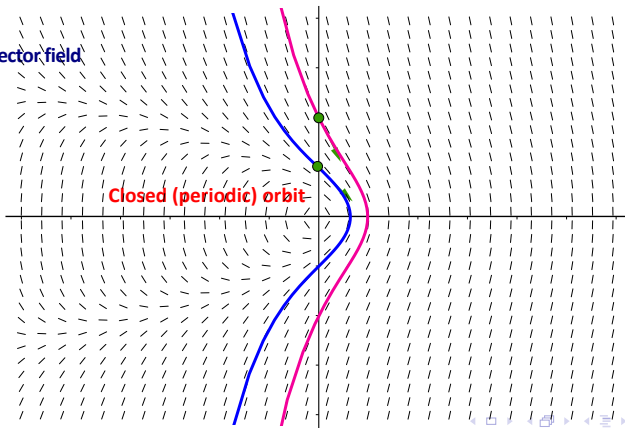
# Vector fields and Orbits

## Example

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = y & = f_x(x, y) & (x, y) \rightarrow f(x, -x - y^2) \\ \dot{y} = -x - y^2 & = f_y(x, y) & (1, 1) \rightarrow (1, -2) \end{cases}$$



(Rescaled) vector field

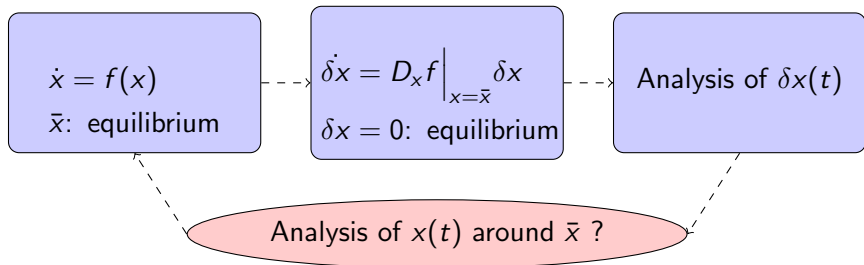


Closed (periodic) orbit

# Phase plan analysis

## Problem

When  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , study state trajectories around an equilibrium state



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

Consider the following linear system

$$\dot{x} = Ax, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

$(a, b, c, d) \in \mathbb{R}$ . Change of coordinates:  $z(t) = T^{-1}x(t)$ ,  $T \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$  invertible.

$$\dot{z}(t) = T^{-1}\dot{x}(t) = T^{-1}Ax(t) = T^{-1}ATz(t) = Jz(t)$$

The system  $\dot{z} = Jz$  is equivalent to the system  $\dot{x} = Ax$ .

## Remark

$A$  and  $J = T^{-1}AT$  are similar  $\implies$  they have the same eigenvalues

One can always choose  $T$  such that  $J$  is in **real Jordan form**

the new coordinates are called **normal**



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

There are three possible Jordan forms for A:

Different real eigenvalues.

Equal real eigenvalues.

Complex conjugate.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & k \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \alpha & \beta \\ -\beta & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $k=0$  or  $1$ .

In addition, we need to consider the case where at least one of the eigenvalues is zero.

## Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

**Case 1:**  $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$   $\lambda_1 \in \mathbb{R}$ , and independent eigenvectors

In this case

$$A\mathbf{v}_1 = \lambda_1\mathbf{v}_1, \quad A\mathbf{v}_2 = \lambda_2\mathbf{v}_2 \implies T = [\mathbf{v}_1 \quad \mathbf{v}_2]$$

where  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$  are the real eigenvectors of  $A$  associated with  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ , respectively.

The change of coordinate  $z = T^{-1}x$ , transforms the system into two decoupled first-order differential equations, i.e.,

$$\dot{z}_1 = \lambda_1 z_1, \quad \dot{z}_2 = \lambda_2 z_2$$

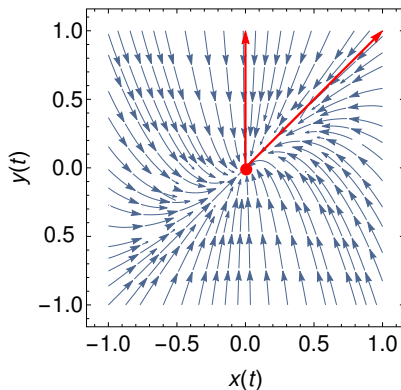
with solution

$$z_1(t) = z_{10}e^{\lambda_1 t}, \quad z_2(t) = z_{20}e^{\lambda_2 t} \implies z_2(t) = \frac{z_{20}}{(z_{10})^{\lambda_2/\lambda_1}} z_1^{\lambda_2/\lambda_1}$$

# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

Case 1a:  $\lambda_1 < 0$  and  $\lambda_2 < 0$

The origin is called **stable node**



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

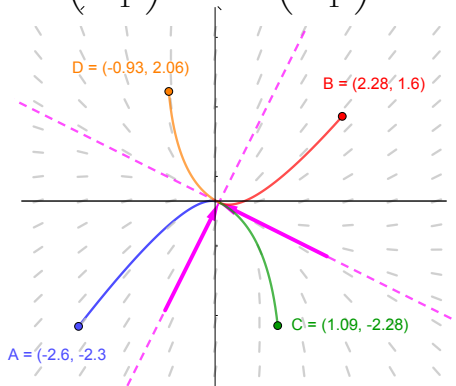
**Example:** Consider the linear system

$$\dot{x} = -6x - 2y$$

$$\dot{y} = -2x - 9y$$

eigenvalues :  $\lambda_1 = -10$ ;  $\lambda_2 = -5 \implies$  *stable node*

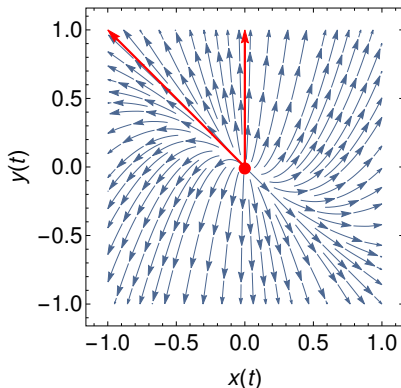
eigen-vectors :  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

Case 1b:  $\lambda_1 > 0$  and  $\lambda_2 > 0$

The origin is called **Unstable Node**



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

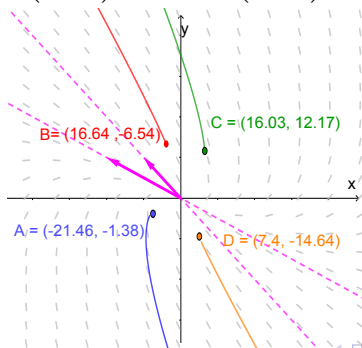
**Example:** Consider the linear system

$$\dot{x} = x - 2y$$

$$\dot{y} = x + 4y$$

eigenvalues :  $\lambda_1 = 2$ ;  $\lambda_2 = 3 \implies$  *unstable node*

eigen-vectors :  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,



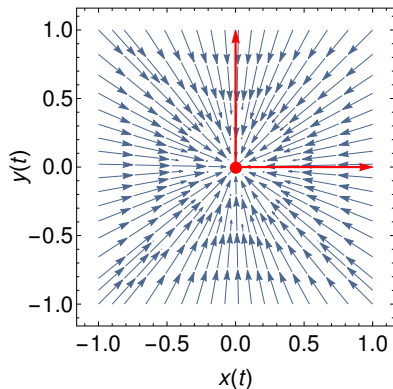
# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

Case 1d:  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$

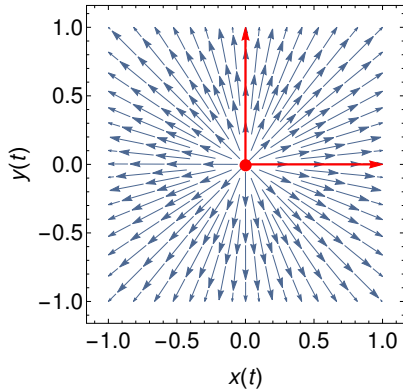
The origin is called **stable/unstable degenerate node**



**Stable degenerate node:**  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 < 0$



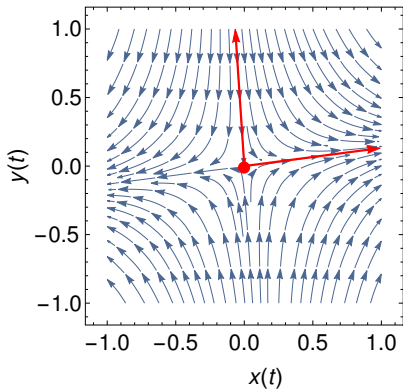
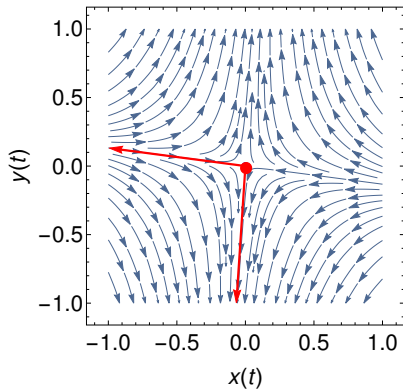
**Unstable degenerate node:**  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 > 0$



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

Case 1b:  $\lambda_1 < 0 < \lambda_2$

The origin is called **saddle**





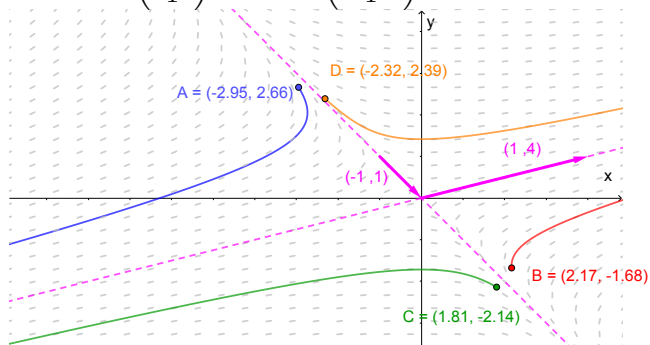
# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

**Example:** Consider the linear system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= 3x + 4y \\ \dot{y} &= x\end{aligned}$$

eigenvalues :  $\lambda_1 = 4$ ;  $\lambda_2 = -1 \implies$  *Saddle*

eigen-vectors :  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,

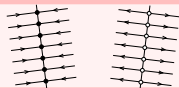


$$\begin{aligned}\dot{z}_1 &= \lambda_1 z_1 \rightarrow \dot{z}_1(t) = z_1(0)e^{\lambda_1 t} \\ \dot{z}_2 &= \lambda_2 z_2 \rightarrow \dot{z}_2(t) = z_2(0)e^{\lambda_2 t}\end{aligned}$$

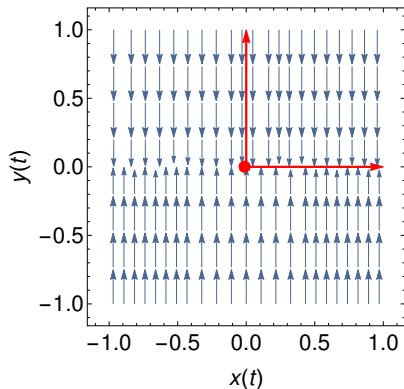
## Case 1e: degenerate saddle

$\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 = 0 \rightarrow$  all states on the  $z_2$  axis are equilibrium states.

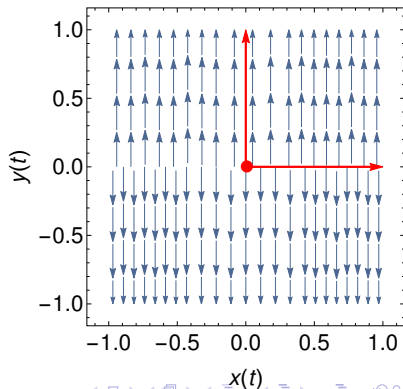
$0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2 \rightarrow$  all states on the  $z_1$  axis are equilibrium states.



$\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 = 0$



$0 = \lambda_1 < \lambda_2$



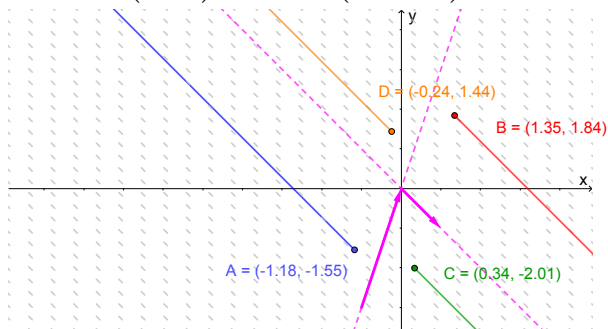
# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

**Example:** Consider the linear system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= 3x - y \\ \dot{y} &= -3x + y\end{aligned}$$

eigenvalues :  $\lambda_1 = 4$ ;  $\lambda_2 = 0 \implies$  *degenerate Source*

eigen-vectors :  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.3333 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$



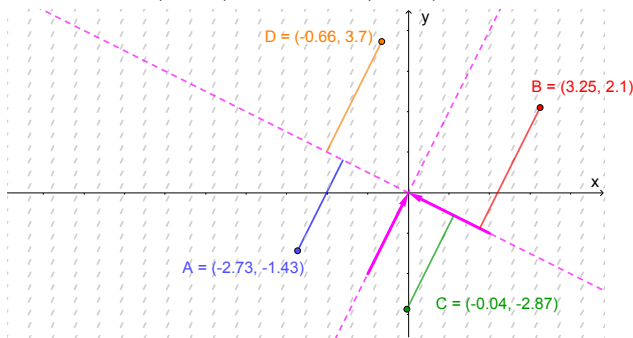
# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

**Example:** Consider the linear system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x} &= x - 2y \\ \dot{y} &= -2x - 4y\end{aligned}$$

eigenvalues :  $\lambda_1 = -5$ ;  $\lambda_2 = 0 \implies$  *Degenerate Sink*

eigen-vectors :  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$



## Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

**Case 2:**  $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$   $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , One can show that the state trajectories are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{z}_1 &= z_{10}e^{\lambda t} + z_{20}te^{\lambda t} \\ \dot{z}_2 &= z_{20}e^{\lambda t} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Assume  $z_{20} \neq 0$ . If  $\lambda \neq 0$ , from (3-b-) one gets

$$e^{\lambda t} = \frac{z_2(t)}{z_{20}} \implies t = \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln \left( \frac{z_2(t)}{z_{20}} \right)$$

and using (3-a-) one obtains

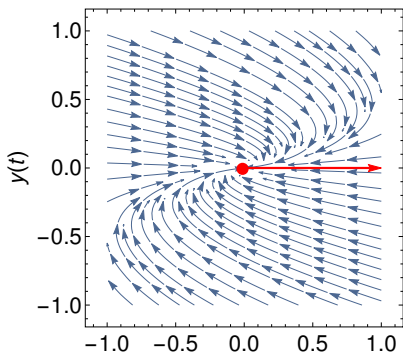
$$z_1(t) = z_{10} \frac{z_2(t)}{z_{20}} + \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln \left( \frac{z_2(t)}{z_{20}} \right) z_2(t)$$

# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

Case 2:  $\lambda \neq 0$

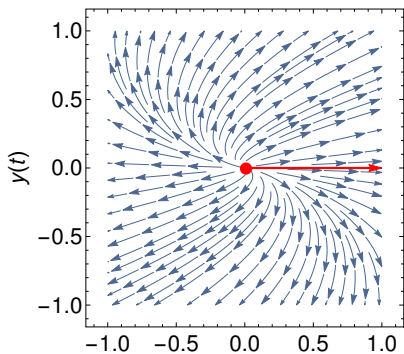
The origin is called **stable/unstable improper node**

Only the  $z_1$  axis is invariant.



$x(t)$

Figure: (a)  $\lambda < 0$ , (b)  $\lambda > 0$



$x(t)$

## Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

**Case 3: Complex conjugate eigenvalues**  $\lambda_{1,2} = \alpha \pm j\beta \in \mathbb{C}$

Let  $\mathbf{v}_1 = u + jv$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2 = u - jv$  be the eigenvectors associated to the eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 = \alpha + j\beta$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \alpha - j\beta$ . One has

$$A(u + jv) = (\alpha + j\beta)(u + jv) \quad A(u - jv) = (\alpha - j\beta)(u - jv)$$

Summing and subtracting:  $Au = \alpha u - \beta v \quad Av = \beta u + \alpha v$

$$\Rightarrow T = [\mathbf{v}_1 \quad \mathbf{v}_2]$$

$\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$  are the real eigenvectors of  $A$  associated with  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ , respectively.

Defining the change of coordinates

$$r = \sqrt{z_1^2 + z_2^2} \quad \theta = \tan^{-1} \left( \frac{z_2}{z_1} \right)$$

we can write the dynamic equations in polar coordinates as

$$\dot{r} = \alpha r, \quad \dot{\theta} = \beta$$

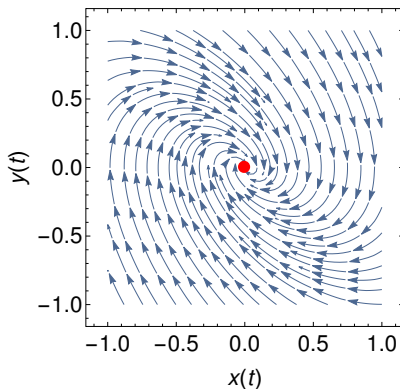
with solution

$$r(t) = r_0 e^{\alpha t}, \quad \theta(t) = \theta_0 + \beta t$$

# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

Case 3a:  $\alpha < 0$

The origin is called **Stable Focus**





# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

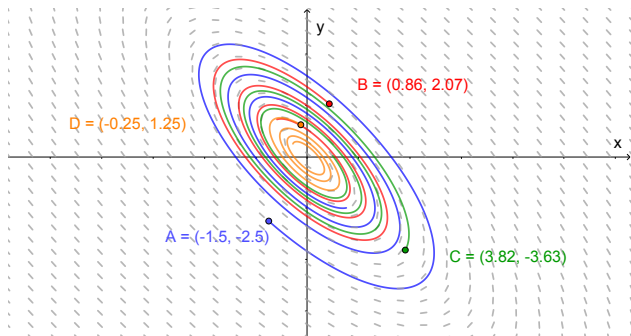
**Example:** Consider the linear system

$$\dot{x} = -2.2x - 2.9y$$

$$\dot{y} = 2.9x + 2y$$

eigenvalues :  $\lambda_1 = -0.1 + 2j$ ;  $\lambda_2 = -0.1 - 2j \implies$  *Stable Focus*

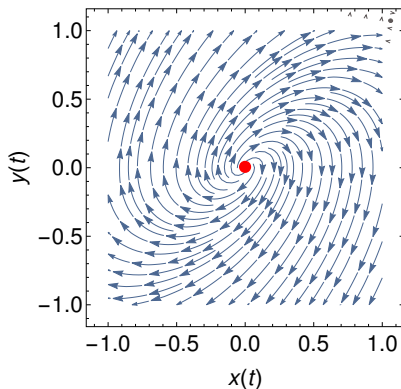
eigen-vectors :  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2.9 \\ -2.1 - 2j \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2.9 \\ -2.1 + 2j \end{pmatrix}$



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

Case 3a:  $\alpha > 0$

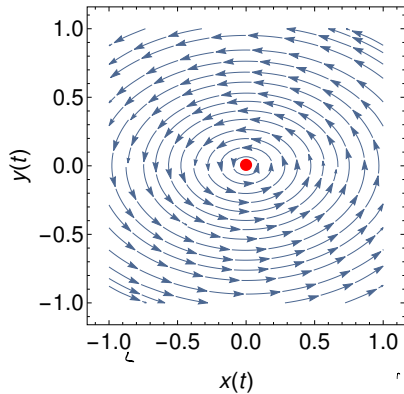
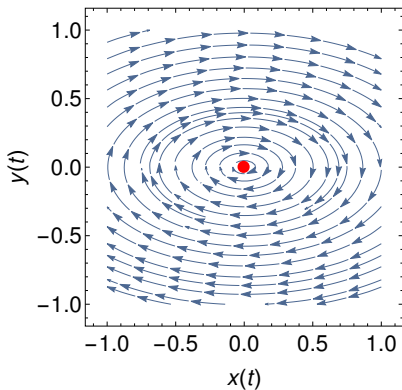
The origin is called **Unstable Focus**



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

Case 3a:  $\alpha$

The origin is called **Center**



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

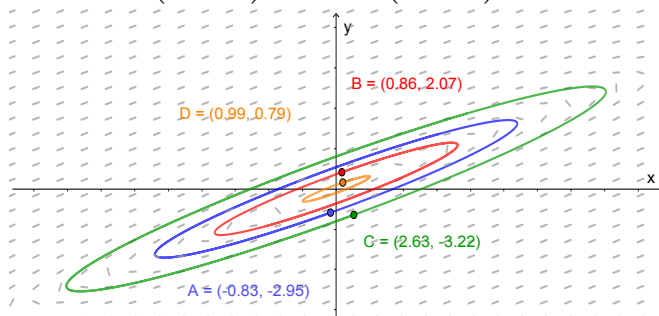
**Example:** Consider the linear system

$$\dot{x} = -3x + 10y$$

$$\dot{y} = -x + 3y$$

eigenvalues :  $\lambda_1 = 0 + j$ ;  $\lambda_2 = 0 - j \implies$  Center

eigen-vectors :  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 3 + j \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 3 - j \end{pmatrix}$



# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

**Phase Diagram** All of these behaviors can be classified according to the trace  $T_r$  and the determinant  $Det$  of the matrix  $A$ . Recall that for a matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

Find the eigenvalues of  $A$  :

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} a - \lambda & b \\ c & d - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 - T_r \lambda + Det = 0$$

Thus the eigenvalues are

$$\begin{aligned} Tr(A) &\equiv a + d = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}Tr(A) = m \quad (\text{mean}) \\ Det(A) &\equiv ad - bc = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = p \quad (\text{product}) \\ \lambda_1, \lambda_2 &= m \pm \sqrt{m^2 - p} \end{aligned}$$

# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems

The values of  $(m, p)$  determine the equilibrium type.

If  $p < 0$ , then the eigenvalues are real with opposite signs (**saddle node**).

if  $m^2 < p$ , then the eigenvalues are complex with a real part (**spiral**: unstable if  $m > 0$  and stable if  $m < 0$ ).

If  $m = 0$  and  $p > 0$ , then the eigenvalues are purely imaginary (a **center**).

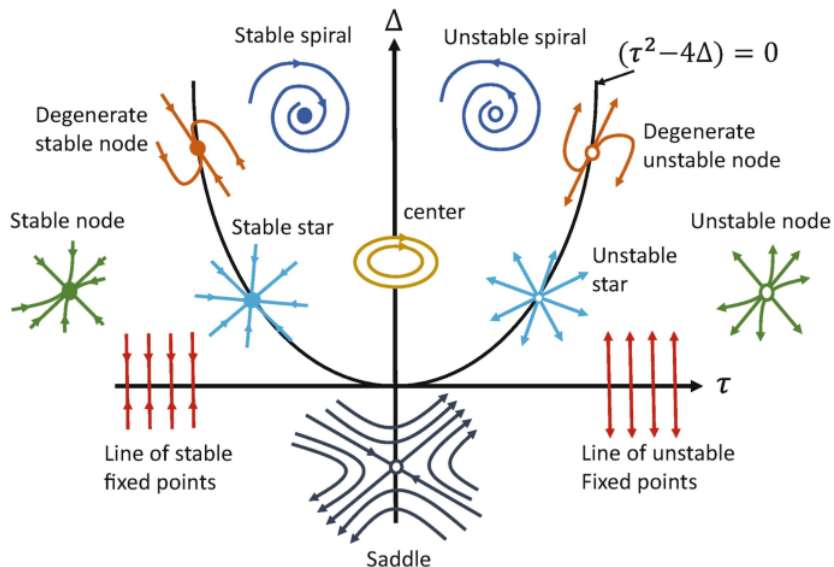
$p > 0$  and  $m^2 > p$  then the eigenvalues are real with the same sign (a **node**: stable if  $m > 0$  and unstable if  $m < 0$ ).

## For linear system

The **global** qualitative behavior is determined by the type of equilibrium point.

**For nonlinear system** Only **local** qualitative behavior in the vicinity of equilibrium point is determined by the type of equilibrium point.

# Behavior of Linear second Order Systems



# Qualitative Behavior Near Equilibria

Given the nonlinear system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= f_1(x_1, x_2) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= f_2(x_1, x_2)\end{aligned}\tag{4}$$

let us assume  $x_e = (x_{1e}, x_{2e})$  is an equilibrium point of (4) i.e.,

$$f_1(x_{1e}, x_{2e}) = f_2(x_{1e}, x_{2e}) = 0$$

$f_1, f_2$  are continuously differentiable about  $(x_{1e}, x_{2e})$

Since we are interested in trajectories near  $(x_{1e}, x_{2e})$ , define

$$x_1 = x_{1e} + \tilde{x}_1, \quad x_2 = x_{2e} + \tilde{x}_2$$

$\tilde{x}_1, \tilde{x}_2$  are small perturbations from equilibrium point.

Expanding (4) into its Taylor series

$$\dot{x}_1 = \dot{x}_{1e} + \dot{\tilde{x}}_1 = \underbrace{f_1(x_{1e}, x_{2e})}_0 + \left. \frac{\delta f_1(x)}{\delta x_1} \right|_{x_e} \tilde{x}_1 + \left. \frac{\delta f_1(x)}{\delta x_2} \right|_{x_e} \tilde{x}_2 + H.O.T$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = \dot{x}_{2e} + \dot{\tilde{x}}_2 = \underbrace{f_2(x_{1e}, x_{2e})}_0 + \left. \frac{\delta f_2(x)}{\delta x_1} \right|_{x_e} \tilde{x}_1 + \left. \frac{\delta f_2(x)}{\delta x_2} \right|_{x_e} \tilde{x}_2 + H.O.T$$



For sufficiently small neighborhood of equilibrium points, H.O.T. are negligible

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\tilde{x}}_1 &= a_{11}\tilde{x}_1 + a_{12}\tilde{x}_2 \\ \dot{\tilde{x}}_2 &= a_{21}\tilde{x}_1 + a_{22}\tilde{x}_2\end{aligned}, \quad a_{i,j} = \left. \frac{\delta f_i}{\delta x} \right|_{x_e}, \quad i = 1, 2.$$

The equilibrium point of the linear system is

$$\tilde{x} = A\tilde{x}, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \left. \frac{\delta f_1}{\delta x_1} \right|_{x_e} & \left. \frac{\delta f_1}{\delta x_2} \right|_{x_e} \\ \left. \frac{\delta f_2}{\delta x_1} \right|_{x_e} & \left. \frac{\delta f_2}{\delta x_2} \right|_{x_e} \end{bmatrix} = \left. \frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \right|_{x_e}$$

Matrix  $\left. \frac{\delta f}{\delta x} \right|_{x_e}$  is called **Jacobian Matrix**.

The trajectories of the nonlinear system in a small neighborhood of an equilibrium point are close to the trajectories of its linearization about that point:

if the origin of the linearized state equation is a

- stable (unstable) node, or a stable (unstable) focus or a saddle point,

then in a small neighborhood of the equilibrium point, the trajectory of the nonlinear system will behave like a

- stable (unstable) node, or a stable (unstable) focus or a saddle point.

# Qualitative Behavior Near Equilibria

## Example

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_2 - x_1^2 + 2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= 2(x_1^2 - x_2^2)\end{aligned}$$

Equilibrium points:  $f(x_e) = 0$  :  $(-1, -1), (2, 2), (1, -1), (-2, 2)$

Linearization :

$$\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_1 & 1 \\ 4x_1 & -4x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linearization around  $(-1, -1)$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \right|_{\bar{x}=(-1,-1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvalues :  $= \{3 \pm j\sqrt{3}\}$

$\Rightarrow$  **Unstable focus** type of equilibrium.

Linearization around  $\bar{x} = (2, 2)$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \right|_{\bar{x}=(2,2)} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvalues :  $= \{-6 \pm 2\sqrt{3}\}$

$\Rightarrow$  **stable node** type of equilibrium.

# Qualitative Behavior Near Equilibria

Linearization around  $\bar{x} = (-1, -1)$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \right|_{\bar{x}=(-1,0)} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

; Eigenvalues :  $\lambda_1 = 1 + \sqrt{13} > 0$

$$\lambda_2 = 1 - \sqrt{13} < 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  **Saddle** type of equilibrium.

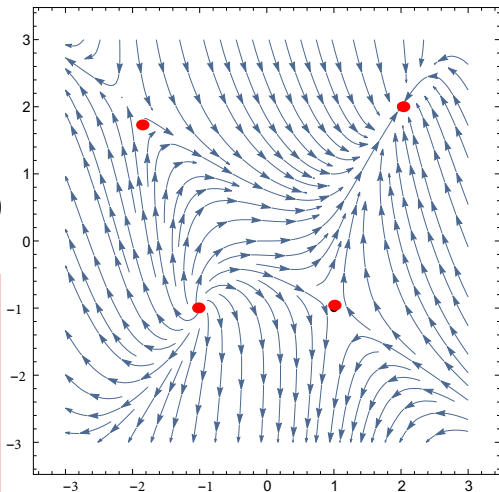
Linearization around  $\bar{x} = (-2, 2)$

$$\left. \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \right|_{\bar{x}=(-2,2)} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ -8 & -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

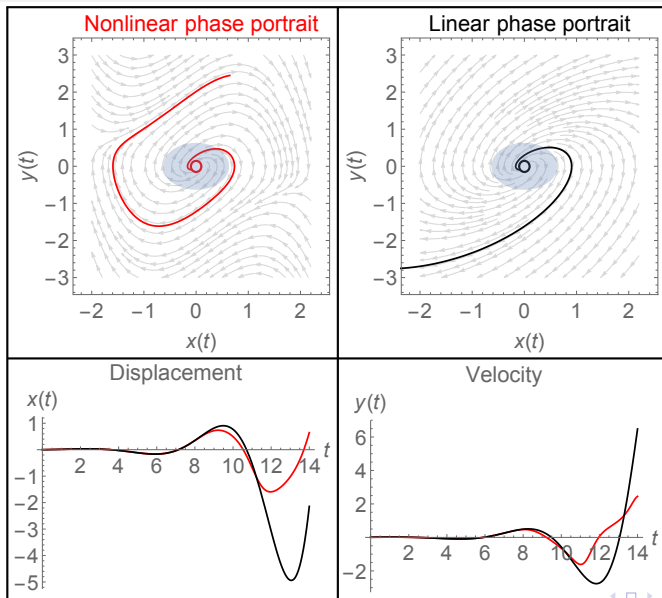
Eigenvalues :  $\lambda_1 = -2 + 2\sqrt{7} > 0$

$$\lambda_2 = -2 - 2\sqrt{7} < 0$$

$\Rightarrow$  **Saddle** type of equilibrium.

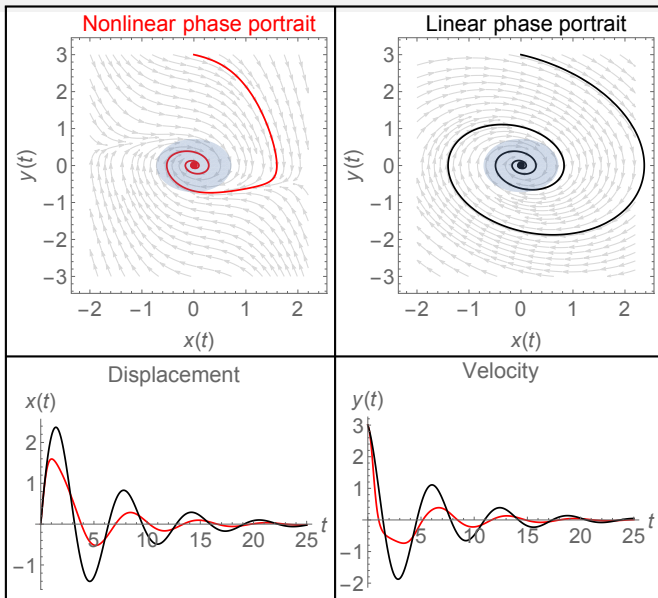


# Qualitative Behavior Near Equilibria



Example: The Liénard equation (red) and its linearization (black). Parameter  $\mu = 0.95$

# Qualitative Behavior Near Equilibria



Example: The Liénard equation (red) and its linearisation (black).  
Parameter  $\mu = -0.35$

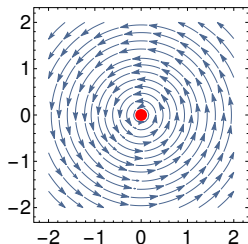
**Example:** ambiguous borderline case

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = -x_2 + \underbrace{\mu x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}_{\text{nonlinear terms}} \\ \dot{x}_2 = x_1 + \underbrace{\mu x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2)}_{\text{nonlinear terms}} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

Fixed point :  $(x_{1e}, x_{2e}) = (0, 0)$ .

Linearization :

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \dot{x}_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial \dot{x}_1}{\partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial \dot{x}_2}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial \dot{x}_2}{\partial x_2} \end{pmatrix} \bigg|_{0,0} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



It is important to note that the linearized system does not depend on the control parameter  $\mu$ .

Classification of the fixed point of the linearized system.

Trace of the system matrix is  $T_r = 0$ .

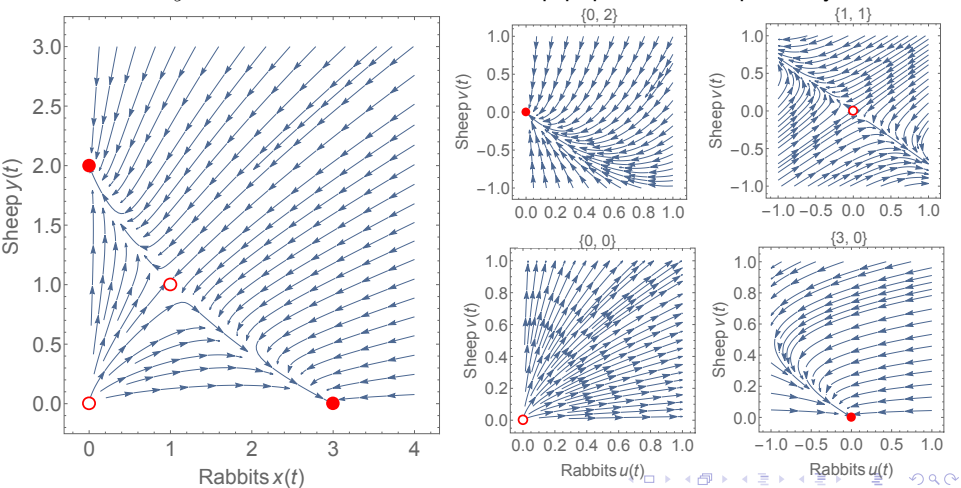
Determinant of the system matrix is  $p = 1$ .

The linear fixed point is a **centre**.

**Example :** The Lotka-Volterra competitive cohabitation model<sup>2</sup> from ecology competitive cohabitation of rabbits and sheep. The model has the following form:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = x(3 - x) - 2xy \\ \dot{y} = y(2 - y) - xy \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  are the sizes of rabbit and sheep populations, respectively.



# Phase Portraits of Nonlinear Systems Near Hyperbolic Equilibria

**Hyperbolic equilibrium point:** linearization has no eigenvalues on the imaginary axis.

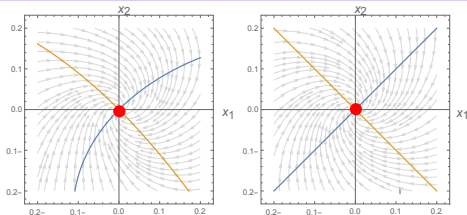
Hartman-Grobman Theorem:

If  $x_e$  is a hyperbolic equilibrium of a planar dynamical system  $\dot{x} = f(x)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$  then there is neighborhood  $U$  around  $x_e$  and a *homeomorphism*<sup>1</sup>

$$h : U \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

that maps the nonlinear trajectories in  $U$  to the linear trajectories in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

homeomorphism: a continuous map with a continuous inverse (i.e. a change of coordinates)



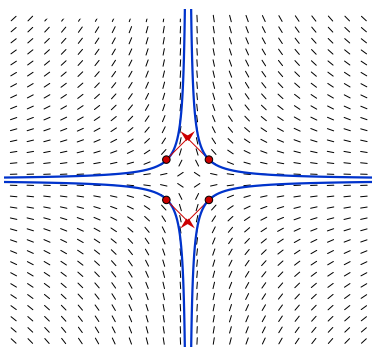
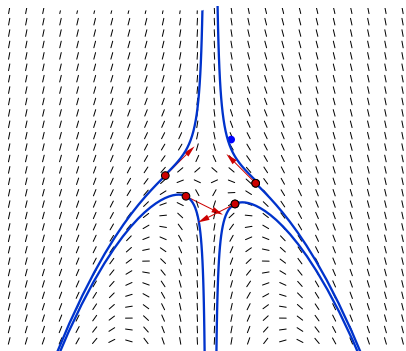


**Example:** Consider the non-linear autonomous system

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= -x_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= x_2 + x_1^2\end{aligned}$$

Equilibrium point :  $\dot{x} = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{x} = (0, 0)^T$ .

Eigenvalues:  $\lambda_1 = -1, \lambda_2 = 1 \implies$  **saddle** type of equilibrium.



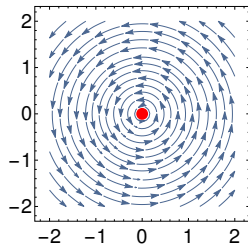
# Phase Portraits of Nonlinear Systems Near Hyperbolic Equilibria

## Example

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= -x_2 + \mu x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= x_1 + \mu x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2)\end{aligned}\quad (7)$$

There is only one equilibrium point at  $(0,0)$ , and the linearized system at this point is

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \implies \lambda_{1,2} = \{\pm J\}$$



$\implies$  the equilibrium point is **center**. Since this equilibrium point is *non-hyperbolic*  $\implies$  No conclusion about the behavior of the nonlinear system near  $(0,0)$

## Phase Portraits of Nonlinear Systems Near Hyperbolic Equilibria

System (7) is analysed in polar coordinates. Usually a direct coordinate transform

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = r \cos \theta \\ x_2 = r \sin \theta \end{cases}, \begin{cases} r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2} \\ \theta = \tan^{-1}(x_2/x_1) \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

where  $r = r(t)$  and  $\theta = \theta(t)$ , is used. We are searching a system in the form:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{r} = f_1(r, \theta) \\ \dot{\theta} = f_2(r, \theta) \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

where functions  $f_1(r, \theta)$  and  $f_2(r, \theta)$  are to be determined. We are interested in temporal dynamics of (9)

$$\begin{cases} 2r\dot{r} = 2x_1\dot{x}_1 + 2x_2\dot{x}_2 \\ \sec^2 \theta \dot{\theta} = (1 + \tan^2 \theta)\dot{\theta} = \frac{x_1\dot{x}_2 - x_2\dot{x}_1}{x_1^2} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \dot{r} = \frac{x_1 f_1(x_1, x_2) + x_2 f_2(x_1, x_2)}{r} \\ \dot{\theta} = \frac{x_1 f_2(x_1, x_2) - x_2 f_1(x_1, x_2)}{x_1^2 + x_2^2} \end{cases}$$

## Phase Portraits of Nonlinear Systems Near Hyperbolic Equilibria

After developing (11). The system (7) has been represented in polar coordinates. Resulting decoupled equations

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= -x_2 + \mu x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= x_1 + \mu x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2) \end{aligned} \implies \begin{cases} \dot{r} = \mu r^3 \\ \dot{\theta} = 1 \end{cases}$$

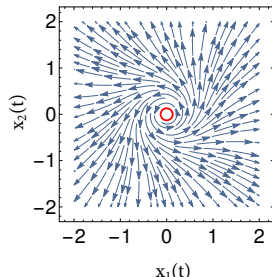
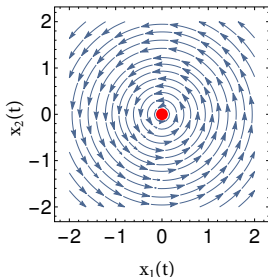
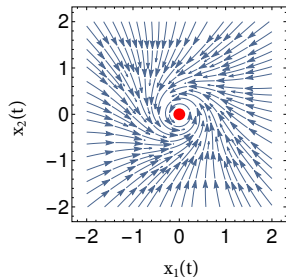


Figure:  $\mu < 0$ ,

$\mu = 0$ ,

$\mu > 0$

# Non-existence of Periodic Orbits

Bendixson criterion gives a sufficient condition for detecting the absence of periodic orbits for second-order systems (Limit cycles or neutrally stable cycles).

Bendixson criterion:

For a time-invariant planar system

$$\dot{x}_1 = f_1(x_1, x_2), \quad \dot{x}_2 = f_2(x_1, x_2)$$

If  $\text{div}(f) = \nabla \cdot f(x) = [\partial/\partial x_1 \quad \partial/\partial x_2] \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \end{bmatrix} = \partial f_1/\partial x_1 + \partial f_2/\partial x_2$  is **not identically zero** and **does not change sign** in a simply connected region  $D$ , then there are no periodic orbits lying entirely in  $D$ .

Example 1:  $\dot{x} = Ax, x \in \mathbb{R}^2$  can have periodic orbits only if  $\text{div } f = \text{trace}(A) = 0$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\beta \\ \beta & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Unless  $\text{trace}(A) = 0 \implies$  non periodic orbits.

## Example 2:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -\delta x_2 + x_1 - x_1^3 + x_1^2 x_2, \quad \delta > 0\end{aligned}$$

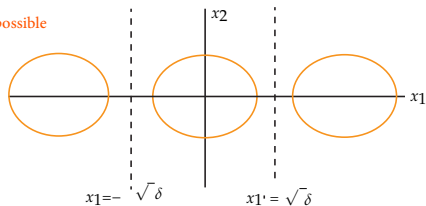
$$\nabla \cdot f(x) = \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_2} = x_1^2 - \delta$$

$$\nabla \cdot f(x) = 0, \quad \text{then} \quad x_1 = \pm\sqrt{\delta}$$

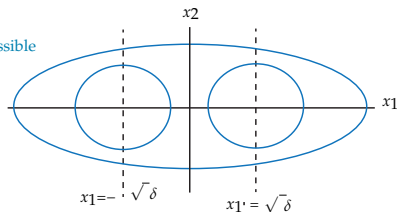
Therefore, no periodic orbit can lie entirely in the region

$$x_1 \in ]-\infty, -\sqrt{\delta}[, \quad ]-\sqrt{\delta}, \sqrt{\delta}[, \quad ]\sqrt{\delta}, +\infty[$$

not possible



possible



# Periodic Orbits in the Plane

Let  $\phi(t, x_0)$  denotes the solution of  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  with initial condition  $x(0) = x_0$ .

## Definition: Invariant sets

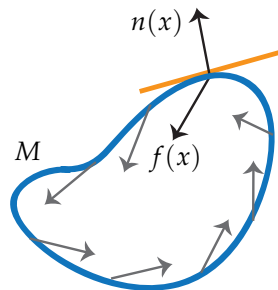
A set  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is **positively invariant** if, for each  $x_0 \in M$ ,  $\phi(t, x_0) \in M$  for all  $t \geq 0$ .

## Theorem

If  $V : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is of class  $\mathcal{C}^1$  and  $M = \{x : V(x) \leq c\}$ , then  $M$  is invariant if

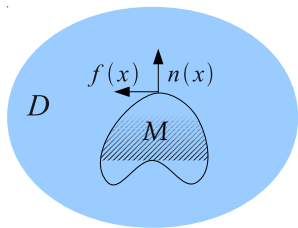
$$f(x) \cdot \nabla V(x) \leq 0 \quad \forall x : V(x) = c$$

i.e. if  $x$  is on the boundary of  $M$ , then the vector  $f(x)$  points into  $M$ .

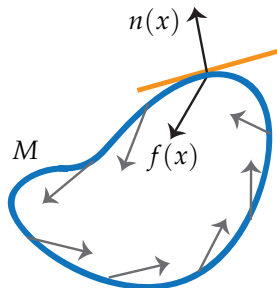


# Non-existence of Periodic Orbits

**Example:** Consider a closed orbit  $\dot{x} = f(x)$ .  
 $f(x)$  is tangential to the trajectory  $x$ . Along this closed trajectory :  $f^T(x) \cdot \vec{n} = 0$ .  
 The interior of any closed trajectory is a positively invariant set.



**Example:**  
 If  $f(x)^T \cdot \vec{n} \leq 0$  then  $M$  is positively invariant.  
 $\vec{n}$ : outward normal on a boundary of  $M$ .  
 Along boundary of  $M$ : for all  $x \in \partial M \Rightarrow [f(x)]^T \cdot \vec{n} \leq 0$ .





# Periodic Orbits in the Plane

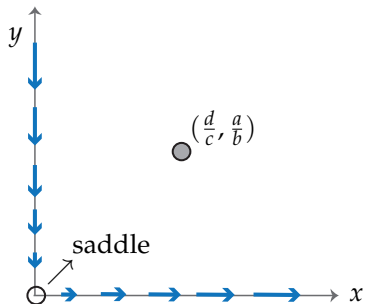
**Example:** Predator-prey model

$$\text{prey : } \dot{x}_1 = (a - bx_2)x_1$$

$$\text{predator : } \dot{x}_2 = (cx_1 - d)x_2$$

$a, b, c, d$  positive parameters.

$$\text{Equilibrium points : } \bar{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \bar{x} = \begin{bmatrix} d/c \\ a/b \end{bmatrix}.$$



Clearly  $[f(x)]^T \cdot \vec{n} = 0$  along the boundary of  $M = \{x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0\}$ , which means the first quadrant  $M$  is positively invariant.

$$\text{Linearization around } \bar{x} = (0, 0) : A = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{\bar{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & -d \end{bmatrix}.$$

$\lambda_1 = a > 0$  and  $\lambda_2 = -d < 0 \implies$  **saddle** type of equilibrium.

# Periodic Orbits in the Plane

## Example 2:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_1 + x_2 - x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -2x_1 + x_2 - x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2)\end{aligned}$$

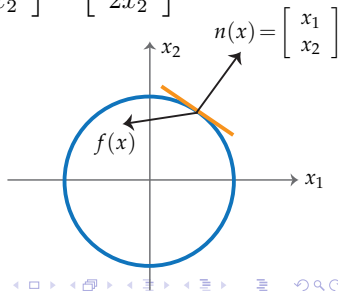
Show that  $B_r := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 / x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq r^2\}$  is positively invariant for sufficiently large  $r$  (to be determined). We want to calculate  $[f(x)]^T n(x)$

$$V(x) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 = r^2 \Rightarrow n(x) = \nabla V(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \partial V / \partial x_1 \\ \partial V / \partial x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_1 \\ 2x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}[f(x)]^T \cdot n(x) &= f_1 \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_1} + f_2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_2} \\ &= -2(x_1^2 + x_2^2)^2 + 2x_1^2 + 2x_2^2 - 2x_1x_2\end{aligned}$$

$$-2x_2x_2 \leq x_1^2 + x_2^2 \quad (\text{completion of squares}).$$

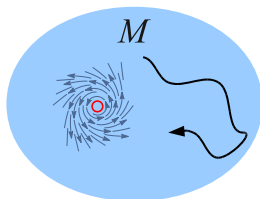
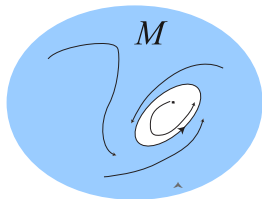
Therefore  $[f(x)]^T \cdot n(x) \leq -2r^2(r^2 - 3/2) \leq 0$  if  $r^2 \geq 3/2$ .



# Existence Theorem of Limit Cycle

Poincaré-Bendixson Theorem:

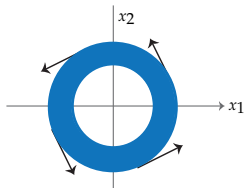
Let  $M$  be a compact (closed and bounded) set in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , which is positively invariant for  $\dot{x} = f(x)$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . If  $M$  does not contain an equilibrium point, then it contains a periodic orbit.



The "no equilibrium condition" in PB Theorem can be relaxed as: "  $M$  can have one equilibrium point which is either an unstable focus or an unstable node, then there is a periodic orbit.

**Example:** harmonic oscillator

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$



For any  $R > r > 0$ , the ring  $\{x : r^2 \leq x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq R^2\}$  is compact, invariant and contains no equilibria.

$[f(x)]^T \cdot n(x) = 0$  everywhere and Poincaré-Bendixon Theorem states there exists a periodic orbit (or more) in  $M$ .

**Example:2**

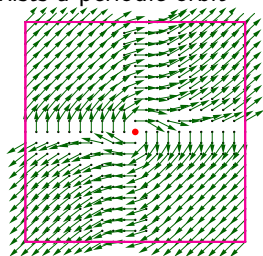
$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= x_2 + x_1 x_2^2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_1 + x_1^2 x_2 \end{aligned}$$

Linearization around the equilibrium at  $\bar{x} = (0 \ 0)^T$  yields

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

which exhibits a continuum of periodic solutions. However, for this nonlinear system, we have

$$\nabla \cdot f(x) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 > 0, \quad \forall x \neq 0$$

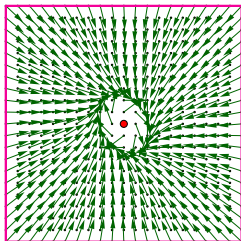


Hence, Bendixson's theorem leads to the conclusion that this dynamical system has no nontrivial periodic solutions.

# Existence Theorem of Limit Cycle

## Example:3

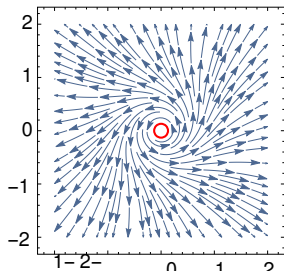
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_1 + x_2 - x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -2x_1 + x_2 - x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2)\end{aligned}$$



$[f(x)]^T \cdot n(x) \leq 0$  iff  $r^2 = x_1^2 + x_2^2 > 3/2$ . i.e.  $B_r = x \in \mathbb{R}^2 / x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq r^2$  is positively invariant  $r \geq \sqrt{3/2}$  but contains the equilibrium  $x_e = 0$ .

$$\left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|_{x_e=0} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \lambda_{1,2} = 1 \pm j\sqrt{2}, \quad \text{unstable focus}$$

Therefore,  $B_r$  must contain a periodic orbit.



# Limit Cycle: Stable Limit Cycle

All trajectories in the vicinity of the limit cycle converges to it as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

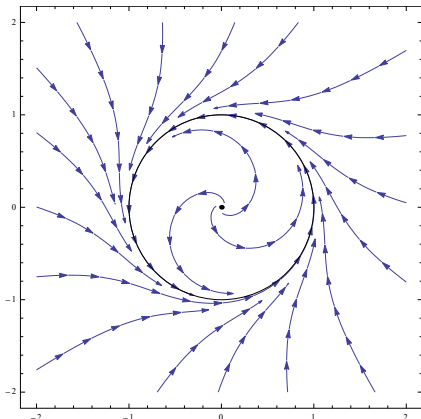
**Example:**

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x}_1 &= x_2 - x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_1 - x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1) \\ \implies \begin{cases} \dot{r} &= -r(r^2 - 1) \\ \dot{\theta} &= -1 \end{cases} \quad (12) \end{aligned}$$

if  $r > 1 \rightarrow \dot{r} > 0$     converging

if  $r < 1 \rightarrow \dot{r} < 0$     converging

if  $r = 1 \rightarrow \dot{r} = 0$     remaining



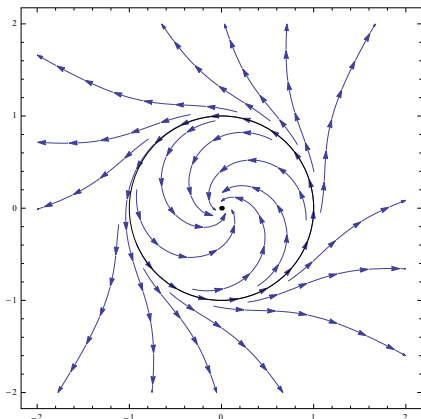
# Limit Cycle: Unstable Limit Cycle

All trajectories in the vicinity of the limit cycle diverges from it as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

## Example

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_2 + x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_1 + x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1) \\ \implies \begin{cases} \dot{r} &= r(r^2 - 1) \\ \dot{\theta} &= -1 \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

if  $r < 1 \rightarrow \dot{r} < 0$     diverging  
 if  $r > 1 \rightarrow \dot{r} > 0$     diverging  
 if  $r = 1 \rightarrow \dot{r} = 0$     remaining



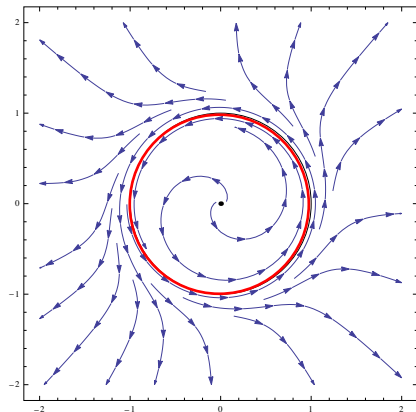
# Limit Cycle: half-stable Limit Cycle

Some of the trajectories in the vicinity of the limit cycle converges to it, while others diverge from it as  $t \rightarrow \infty$

**Example:**

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_2 - x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1)^2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_1 - x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 1)^2 \\ \implies \begin{cases} \dot{r} &= -r(r^2 - 1)^2 \\ \dot{\theta} &= -1 \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$

if  $r < 1 \rightarrow \dot{r} < 0$     diverging  
 if  $r > 1 \rightarrow \dot{r} > 0$     converging  
 if  $r = 1 \rightarrow \dot{r} = 0$     remaining





# Bifurcation: Hopf Bifurcation

**Example:** Supercritical Hopf bifurcation

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 &= -x_2 + x_1(\mu - x_1^2 - x_2^2) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= +x_1 - x_2(\mu - x_1^2 - x_2^2) \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} \dot{r} &= r(\mu - r^2) \\ \dot{\theta} &= 1 \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

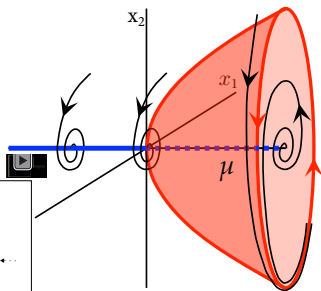
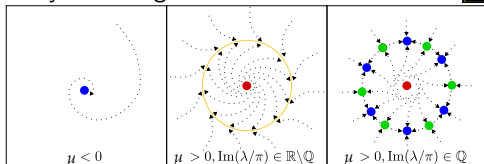
Equilibrium points :  $r(\mu - \bar{r}^2) = 0$ .

Note that a positive equilibrium for the  $r$  subsystem means a limit cycle in the  $(x_1, x_2)$  plane.

$\mu < 0$  : stable equilibrium at  $r = 0$ .

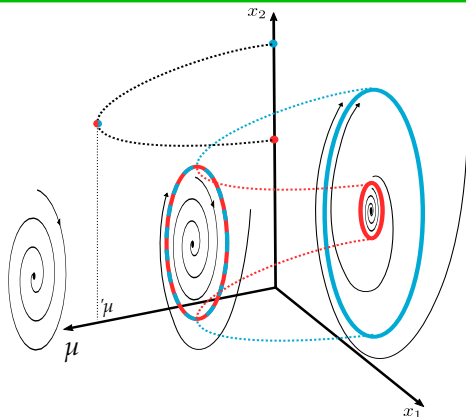
$\mu > 0$  unstable equilibrium point at  $r = 0$   
and stable limit cycle at  $r = \sqrt{\mu}$ .

The origin loses stability at  $\mu = 0$  and a stable limit cycle emerges.



# Bifurcation: Hopf Bifurcation

In Supercritical Hopf bifurcation by increase of  $\mu$  near zero, the stable equilibrium point becomes unstable but a stable limit cycle appears. Hence, this is a Safe bifurcation.





# Chapter 3

# Existence and Uniqueness of Solutions

To be a useful mathematical model of a physical system, the state equation

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

must have the following properties:

- Existence of solution.
- Uniqueness of solution.
- Continuous dependence of solution on initial conditions.
- Continuous dependence of solution on parameters.

The first question ask is the **Cauchy problem**:

## Definition (Cauchy Problem)

The Cauchy problem is to find a unique, continuous  $x : [0, t_f] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  for some  $t_f$  such that  $\dot{x} = f(t, x)$  for all  $t \in [0, t_f]$ .

# Existence of Solutions

There exist many system for which no solutions exists or for which a solution only exists over a finite time interval.

**Example** Consider

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

We have

$$\frac{dx}{x^2} = dt, \quad -\frac{1}{x} = t + C \Rightarrow C = -\frac{1}{x_0}$$

The solution

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

If  $x_0 > 0$ , the maximal solution is defined on  $(-\infty, 1/x_0[$ .

The escape time  $t_e = \frac{1}{x_0}$

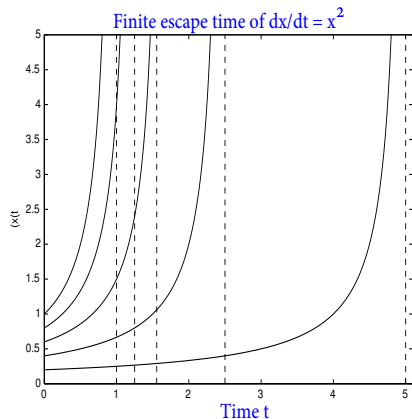


Figure : Simulation of  $x' = x^2$  for several

# Non-Uniqueness

**Example:** A classical example of a system without a **unique** solution is

$$\dot{x} = x^{1/3}, \quad x(0) = 0$$

For the given initial condition, it is easy to verify that

$$x(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad x(t) = \left(\frac{2t}{3}\right)^{3/2}$$

both satisfy the differential equation.

# Existence and Uniqueness of Solutions

## Theorem : Local Existence and Uniqueness

Let  $f(t, x)$  be a piece- wise continuous function in  $t$  and satisfy the Lipschitz condition

$$\|f(t, x) - f(t, y)\| \leq L\|x - y\| \quad (1)$$

$\forall x, y \in \mathcal{B}(x_0, r) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \|x - x_0\| \leq r\}; \forall t \in [t_0, t_1]$ . Then there exists some  $\delta > 0$  such that the state equation  $\dot{x} = f(t, x)$  with  $x(t_0) = x_0$  has a unique solution over  $[t_0, t_0 + \delta]$ .

- If  $f(x)$  is continuous ( $C^0$ ) then a solution exists, but  $C^0$  is not sufficient for uniqueness.
- Sufficient condition for uniqueness: “Lipschitz continuity” (more restrictive than  $C^0$ )  $\implies$  Lipschitz is stronger than continuity.



# Existence and Uniqueness of Solutions

**Example 1:**  $\dot{x} = x^{1/3}, x(0) = 0$ .

For  $x_0 = 0$ , we have two solutions:

$$x(t) \equiv 0, \quad \text{and} \quad x(t) = \left(\frac{2}{3}t\right)^{\frac{2}{3}}.$$

This function is not Lipschitz. The gradient becomes infinite at  $x = 0$ .

**Example 2:**  $f(x) = x^2 \rightarrow x(t) = \frac{x_0}{1-x_0 t}$

$$|f(y) - f(x)| = |y^2 - x^2| = |(x+y)(x-y)| \leq \underbrace{|(x+y)|}_{L(x,y)} \cdot |x-y|$$

**Example 3:**  $f(x) = x^3 \rightarrow x(t) = \frac{x_0}{\sqrt{1-2x_0^2 t}}$ . Interval of existence:  $[1, 1/2x_0^2]$ .

$$|f(y) - f(x)| = |y^3 - x^3| = |(y^2 + xy + x^2)(x-y)| \leq \underbrace{|(y^2 + xy + x^2)|}_{L(x,y)} \cdot |x-y|$$

$f(x) = x^2$  and  $f(x) = x^3$  are both locally Lipschitz but not globally Lipschitz.



# Existence and Uniqueness of Solutions

If  $f(\cdot)$  is differentiable continuously differentiable ( $C^1$ ) then it is locally Lipschitz.

**Example 1:**

$$f(x) = x^2 \Rightarrow \partial f / \partial x = 2x.$$

$$f(x) = x^3 \Rightarrow \partial f / \partial x = 3x^2.$$

**Example 2:**

$$f(x) = x^{1/3} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{3}x^{-2/3} \Rightarrow \text{Not continuous at } 0.$$

$$f(x) = 2\sqrt{x} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \Rightarrow \text{Not continuous at } 0.$$



$f(x) = \text{sat}(x)$

Not differentiable at  $x \pm 1$  but locally Lipschitz:

$$|\text{sat}(x) - \text{sat}(y)| \leq |x - y|, \quad L=1.$$

## Global Existence and Uniqueness

Let  $f(t, x)$  be piece-wise continuous in  $t$  over the interval  $[t_0, t_1]$  and globally Lipschitz in  $x$ . Then

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

has a unique solution over  $[t_0, t_1]$ .

**Example :**  $\text{sat}(\cdot)$  is globally Lipschitz.  $x^3$  is not globally Lipschitz.

1.  $f(\cdot)$  is  $C^0 \Rightarrow$  existence of solution  $x(t)$  on finite interval  $[0, t_f)$ .

2.  $f(\cdot)$  locally Lipschitz  $\Rightarrow$  existence and uniqueness on  $[0, t_f)$ .

3.  $f(\cdot)$  globally Lipschitz  $\Rightarrow$  existence and uniqueness on  $[0, \infty)$ .

# Continuous Dependence on Initial Conditions and Parameters

Theorem:(Continuous dependence on initial conditions)

Let  $x(t), y(t)$  be two solutions of  $\dot{x} = f(t, x)$  starting from  $x_0$  and  $y_0$  and remaining in a set with Lipschitz constant  $L$  on  $[0, T]$ . Then, for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $\delta(\epsilon, T) > 0$  such that :

$$\|x_0 - y_0\| \leq \delta \implies \|x(t) - y(t)\| \leq \epsilon, \forall t \in [0, T]$$

**Example:** 2nd order LTI system with **saddle** type of equilibrium point. This example demonstrate that it is impossible to expect a small difference in trajectory for a small difference in initial conditions.

Lipshitz continuity of  $f \implies$  continuity of solutions with respect to initial conditions.

# Continuous Dependence on Initial Conditions and Parameters

## Continuous dependence on parameters

The previous Theorem also shows continuous dependence on parameter  $\mu$  in  $f(t, x, \mu)$  if we rewrite the system equations as:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{x} &= f(t, x, \mu) \\ \dot{\mu} &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \mu \end{bmatrix} \quad \dot{X} = F(t, X) = \begin{bmatrix} f(t, x, \mu) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



## Chapter 4: Lyapunov Stability Theory

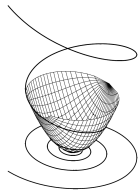
# Stability

Stability theory is divided into three parts:

- Stability of equilibrium points.

- Stability of periodic orbits

- Input/output stability



## Alexander Mikhailovich Lyapunov (1857-1918)

Russian mathematician and physicist.  
Known for his development of the  
stability theory of dynamical systems.

If the total energy is dissipated, then  
the system must be stable.





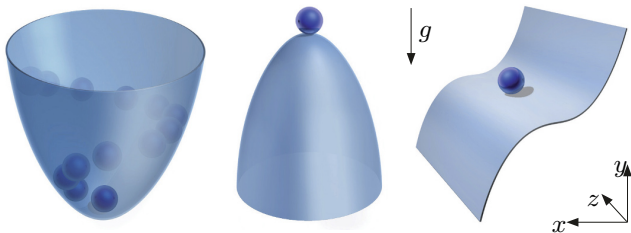
# Stability of Autonomous Systems

Consider the autonomous system

$$\dot{x} = f(x) \quad (1)$$

where  $f : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is a *locally Lipschitz* map from a domain  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  into  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Suppose that the system (1) has an equilibrium point  $\bar{x} \in \mathcal{D}$ , i.e.,  $f(\bar{x}) = 0$ .

Without loss of generality and the simplicity of notation, we assume the equilibrium is located at the origin.



# Autonomous Systems : stability of an equilibrium state

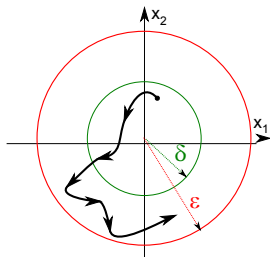
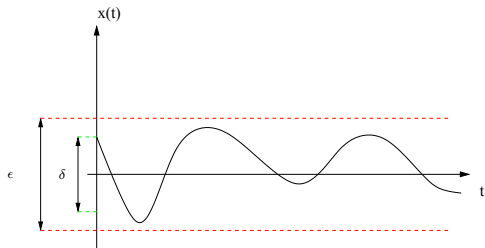
## Stability in the sense of Lyapunov

The equilibrium point  $\bar{x} = 0$  of  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  is

**stable**, if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\|x(0)\| < \delta \implies \|x(t)\| < \epsilon, \forall t \geq 0.$$

**unstable**, if it is not stable.



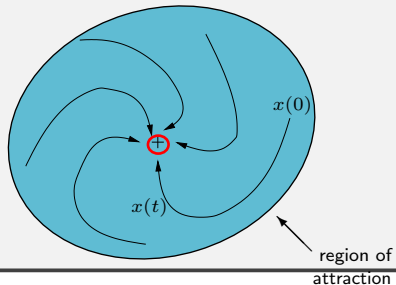
# Autonomous Systems : stability of an equilibrium state

"Stability is a property of the equilibrium, not of the system"

Stability of the equilibrium is equivalent to stability of the system only when there exists only one equilibrium (e.g., linear systems). In this case **stability**  $\equiv$  **global stability**.

The region of **attraction** of the equilibrium point  $\bar{x} = 0$  of (1) is the set of all initial conditions  $x(0)$  for which

$$x(t) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad t \rightarrow \infty.$$



# Autonomous Systems : stability of an equilibrium state

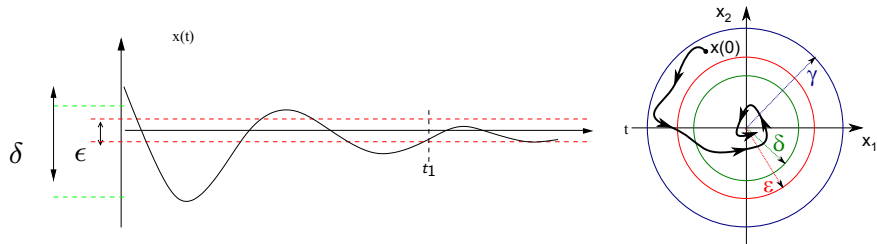
## Stability in the sense of Lyapunov

The equilibrium point  $\bar{x} = 0$  of (1) is

**attractive**, if there exist  $\delta$  such that :

$$\|x(0)\| < \delta \implies \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0.$$

**local asymptotically stable (a.s)** if it is stable and attractive



# Autonomous Systems : stability of an equilibrium state

The equilibrium point  $\bar{x} = 0$  of (1) is

**exponentially stable** (e.s), if there exists  $\alpha > 0, \beta > 0$  and  $\delta > 0$  such that

$$\|x(0)\| < \delta \implies \|x(t)\| \leq \beta \|x(0)\| e^{-\alpha t}, \forall t \geq 0$$

**globally asymptotically stable** (g.a.s) if it is stable and globally attractive, i.e  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} x(t) = 0$ . for all  $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

**globally exponentially stable**(g.e.s), for all  $x(0) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , there exists  $\beta > 0$  and  $\alpha > 0$  such that

$$\|x(t)\| \leq \beta \|x(0)\| e^{-\alpha t}, \forall t \geq 0$$

exponential stability is a special case of asymptotic stability.

Stability, AS, ES: local concepts (for  $x(0)$  sufficiently close to ")

# Remarks on stability

**Attractively does not imply asymptotic stability**

**Example:** Consider the second-order system with state variables  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  whose dynamics are most easily described in polar coordinates via the equations

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{r} &= r(1-r) \\ \dot{\theta} &= \sin^2(\theta/2)\end{aligned}\quad (2)$$

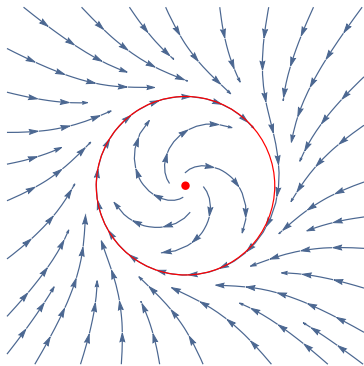
where  $r = \sqrt{x_1^2 + x_2^2}$  and  $\theta = \arctan(x_2/x_1)$ ,  
 $\theta \in [0, 2\pi[$ .

This system has two equilibrium points :

$(r^*, \theta^*) = (0, 0)$  and  $(r^*, \theta^*) = (1, 0)$ .

The fixed point at zero is clearly unstable.

The fixed point with  $r^* = 1$  attracts all other trajectories, but it is not stable by any of our definitions.

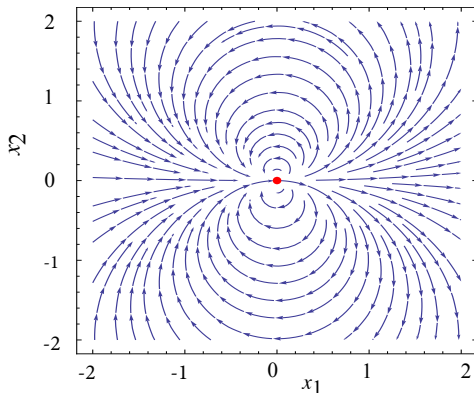


# Remarks on stability : Chaotic attractor

## Example

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_1^2 - x_2^2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= 2x_1x_2\end{aligned}$$

All trajectories converge to  $x_e = 0$   
but  $x_e$  is not stable.



Convergence by itself does not imply Stability

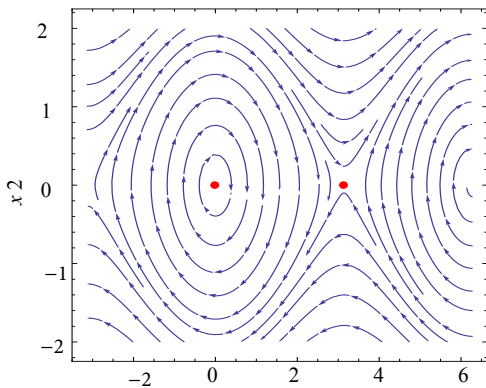
# Remarks on stability

There exist Lyapunov-stable sets that are not attractors.

**Example:** stable system but not attractor

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -\sin(x_1)\end{aligned}$$

Show that an equilibrium point  $x^* = [2k\pi, 0]^T$  is stable but not .attractor





# Remarks on stability

## Example:

$$\dot{x} = -x^2 \implies x(t) = \frac{x(0)}{1 + tx(0)}$$

$\bar{x} = 0$  is GAS (but not GES).

## Problems

How to check the stability properties of  $\bar{x} = 0$  WITHOUT computing state trajectories ?

if  $\bar{x} = 0$  is A.S how to compute a region of attraction ?

The analysis of the linearized system around  $\bar{x} = 0$  MIGHT allow one to check local stability. How to proceed when no conclusion can be drawn using the linearized system ?

Need of a more complete approach: **Lyapunov direct method**

# Remarks on stability

## Example

$$\dot{x} = ax - x^5$$

$\bar{x} = 0$  is an equilibrium state.

Linearized system:  $\dot{x} = ax$

$a < 0 \implies \bar{x} = 0$  is A.S

$a > 0 \implies \bar{x} = 0$  is unstable

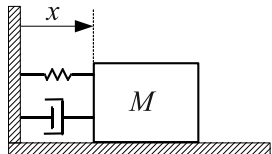
$a=0$  ?

For  $a = 0$  one has  $\dot{x} = -x^5$  and with the Lyapunov direct method one can show that  $\bar{x} = 0$  is AS.

One way to check **stability** is to **plot** trajectories and see what is going on. This approach has limited utility because it requires solution to differential equation (which may difficult to solve!)

# Lyapunov direct method

## Example



Model

$$M\ddot{x} = \underbrace{-b\dot{x}|\dot{x}|}_{\text{NL damping}} - \underbrace{(k_0x + k_1x^3)}_{\text{NL elastic force}}$$

Defining  $x_1 = x$  and  $x_2 = \dot{x}_1$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x}_1 = x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 = -\frac{b}{M}x_2|x_2| - \frac{k_0}{M}x_1 - \frac{k_1}{M}x_1^3 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \bar{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{x}_1 \\ \bar{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is stable/AS/ES}$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k_0}{M} - 3\frac{k_1}{M}x_1^2 & -\frac{2b}{M}x_2\text{sgn}(x_2) \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=\bar{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k_0}{M} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvalues:  $\lambda_{1,2} = \pm j\sqrt{k_0/M}$ .

No conclusion on  $\bar{x} = 0$  using the linearized system.

# Lyapunov direct method

Consider the total energy of the system:

$$V(x) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}Mx_2^2}_{\text{kinetic}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}k_0x^2 + \frac{1}{4}k_1x_1^4}_{\text{potential}}$$

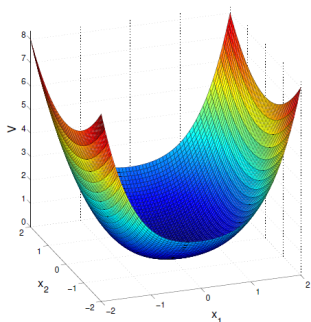
Remark: zero energy  $\Leftrightarrow x_1 = x_2 = 0$  (equilibrium state)

**Instantaneous energy change:**

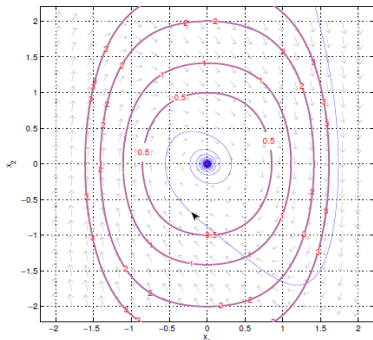
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}(x) &= \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{dx}{dt} = \left[ \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_1} \quad \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_2} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} \frac{dx_1}{dt} \\ \frac{dx_2}{dt} \end{array} \right] = (k_0x_1 + k_1x_1^3) \dot{x}_1 + Mx_2\dot{x}_2 \\ &= (k_0x_1 + k_1x_1^3)x_2 + Mx_2\left(-\frac{b}{M}x_2|x_2| - \frac{k_0}{M}x_1 - \frac{k_1}{M}x_1^3\right) = -bx_2^2|x_2|\end{aligned}$$

$-bx_2^2|x_2| \leq 0$  independently of  $x(0) \Rightarrow$  the energy can only decrease with time independently of  $x(0)$

# Lyapunov direct method: a first example

Energy  $V(x)$ 

Phase plane



Energy is a "measure" of the distance of  $x$  from the origin

- if it can only decrease, then  $\bar{x} = 0$  should be stable.

Lyapunov direct method is based on energy-like functions  $V(x)$  and the analysis of the function

# Derivative along the trajectory

## Definition: Lyapunov Function

Let  $V : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a *continuously differentiable* function defined in a domain  $D \in \mathbb{R}^n$  that contains the origin. The derivative of  $V$  along the trajectory (solution) of  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  denoted by  $\dot{V}(x)$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{V}(x) &= \frac{dV}{dt} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} = \nabla V \cdot f(x) \\ &= \left[ \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_n} \right] \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x) \\ \vdots \\ f_n(x) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

# Lyapunov stability theory

## Definition: Positive Definite Functions

A function  $V : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is positive semi definite in  $\mathcal{D}$  if

- (i).  $V(x) = 0$  if and only if  $x = 0$ .
- (ii).  $V(x) \geq 0, \forall x \text{ in } \mathcal{D} - \{0\}$ .

A function  $V : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is positive definite in  $\mathcal{D}$  if

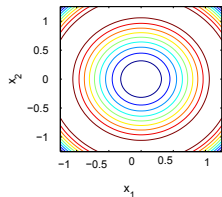
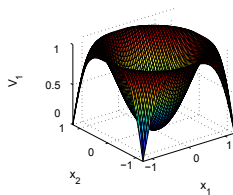
- (ii').  $V(x) > 0, \forall x \text{ in } \mathcal{D} - \{0\}$ .

A function  $V : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is negative definite in  $\mathcal{D}$  if  $-V$  is positive definite (semi definite).

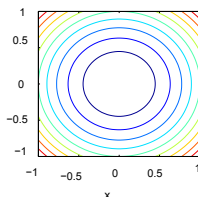
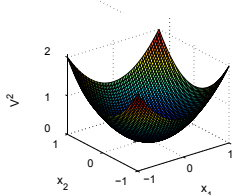
# Lyapunov stability theory

## Examples of positive definite functions

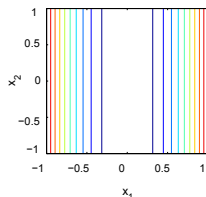
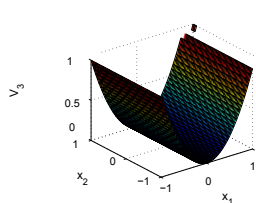
$$V_1(x) = \sin(\|x\|^2), \text{ pd}$$


 $V_1(x)$  pd

$$V_2(x) = \|x\|^2, \text{ gpd}$$


 $V_2(x)$  gpd

$$V_3(x) = \|x_1\|^2, \text{ gpsd}$$


 $V_3(x)$  gpsd



# Lyapunov Stability Theorem

## Theorem

1. Let  $\bar{x} = 0$  be an equilibrium for  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  and  $\mathcal{D} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be a domain containing  $\bar{x} = 0$ . If there exists a *continuously differentiable* function  $V : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$V(0) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad V(x) > 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{D} - \{0\} \quad (\text{positive definite})$$

and

$$\dot{V}(x) := \nabla V^T(x)f(x) \leq 0 \quad \forall x \in \text{in } \mathcal{D} \quad (\text{negative semidefinite})$$

then,  $\bar{x} = 0$  is **stable**.

2. If  $\dot{V}(x) < 0, \forall x \in \mathcal{D} - \{0\}$  (negative definite)

then,  $\bar{x} = 0$  is **asymptotically stable**.

3. If, in addition,  $\mathcal{D} = \mathbb{R}^n$ , and

$$\|x\| \rightarrow \infty \implies V(x) \rightarrow \infty. \quad (\text{radially unbounded})$$

then  $\bar{x} = 0$  is **globally asymptotically stable**.

# Lyapunov Stability Theorem

## Example

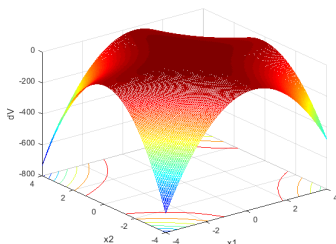
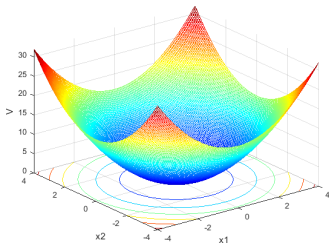
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= -x_1 + x_2^2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= x_1 - x_2 - x_1^2 x_2\end{aligned}$$

Study the stability of the equilibrium state  $\bar{x} = 0$ .

Take the Lyapunov function  $V(x) = x_1^2 + x_2^2$  (positive definite in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ )

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V}(x) &= \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_1} f_1(x) + \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_2} f_2(x) = 2x_1(-x_1 + x_2^2) + 2x_2(x_1 - x_2 - x_1^2 x_2) \\ &= -(x_1 - x_2)^2 - x_2^2(1 - x_1)^2 - x_1^2(1 + x_2^2)\end{aligned}$$

$\dot{V}(x)$  is negative definite  $\implies$  the system is stable



# Lyapunov Stability Theorem

Q.why is radially unboundedness required for G.A.S ?

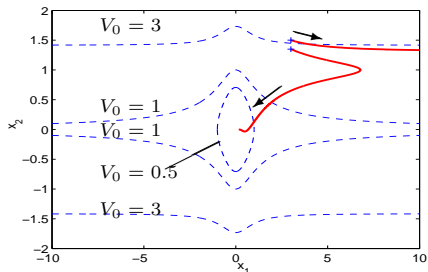
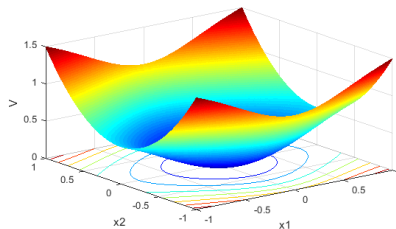
**Example:** Consider the following *positive definite function*

$$V(x) = \frac{x_1^2}{1+x_1^2} + x_2^2$$

if  $x = (x_1, 0)$  then  $\|x\| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $x_1 \rightarrow \infty$ .

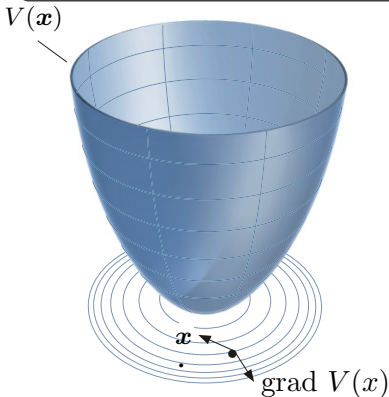
But  $V(x)$  will approach 26 (**not radially unbounded**)

$$\lim_{x_1 \rightarrow \infty} V(x) = \lim_{x_1 \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1+x_1^2}{x_1^2} + (5)^2 = 26 \neq +\infty$$



# Conservation and Dissipation

**Conservation of energy:**  $\dot{V}(x) = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} f(x) = 0$ , i.e., the vector field  $f(x)$  is everywhere orthogonal to the normal  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$  to the level surface  $V(x) = c$ .



**Dissipation of energy:**

$\dot{V}(x) = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} f(x) \leq 0$ , i.e., the vector field  $f(x)$  and the normal  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$  to the level surface ( $V(x) = c$ ) make an obtuse angle.

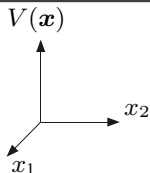


Illustration of the equation  $\dot{V}(x) = \dot{x}^T \text{grad}(V(x)) < 0$

# Lyapunov Stability Theorem

Not necessary to compute state trajectories: it is enough to check the sign of  $V$  and  $\dot{V}$  in a neighborhood of the origin.

## Example:

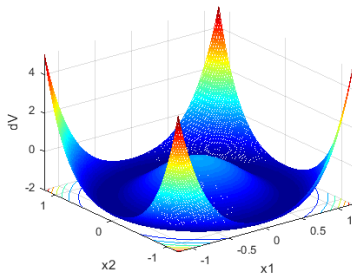
$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2) - 4x_1x_2^2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= x_2(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2) + 4x_1^2x_2\end{aligned}$$

Study the stability of the equilibrium state  $\bar{x} = 0$

Candidate Lyapunov function:  $V(x) = x_1^2 + x_2^2$   
(positive definite in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ )

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V} &= \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_1} f_1(x) + \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_2} f_2(x) \\ &= 2(x_1^2 + x_2^2)(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2)\end{aligned}$$

In the set level  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2 < 0$  one has  $\dot{V}$  is negative definite, therefore  $\bar{x} = 0$  is AS in the ball centered  $B_{\sqrt{2}}(0)$ .

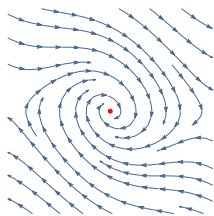


# Lyapunov Stability Theorem

The choice of the Lyapunov function is not unique.

**Example 2:** damped pendulum

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= x_2 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -x_2 - \sin(x_1)\end{aligned}$$



Study the stability of  $\bar{x} = [0 \ 0]^T$

Lyapunov candidate function:  $V(x) = \underbrace{(1 - \cos(x_1))}_{\text{potential en.}} + \underbrace{x_2^2/2}_{\text{kinetic en.}}$

$$\dot{V} = \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_1} f_1(x) + \frac{\partial V}{\partial x_2} f_2(x) = \sin(x_1)x_2 + x_2(-x_2 - \sin(x_1)) = -x_2^2$$

$\dot{V}$  is negative semi definite in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  (and then in  $B_{2\pi(0)}$ )  $\implies \bar{x} = 0$  is stable.

Physical intuition tells us the equilibrium is AS but the chosen Lyapunov function certifies only stability

# Lyapunov instability theorem

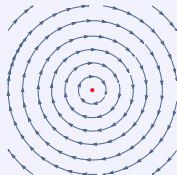
**Example** Study the stability of  $\bar{x} = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= 2x_1 + x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^4) \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -2x_1 + x_2(x_1 + x_2^4)\end{aligned}$$

Linearized system around  $\bar{x} = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{x}_1 &= 2x_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 &= -2x_1\end{aligned} \quad \text{eigenvalues : } \pm 2j$$

No conclusion on stability of (3).



Candidate Lyapunov function:  $V(x) = (x_1^2 + x_2^2)/2$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{V} &= x_2(2x_1 + x_1(x_1^2 + x_2^4)) + x_2(-2x_1 + x_2(x_1 + x_2^4)) \\ &= (x_1^2 + x_2^2)(x_1^2 + x_2^4) \rightarrow \text{positive definite in } \mathbb{R}^2\end{aligned}$$

Then  $\bar{x} = 0$  is unstable

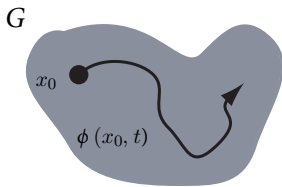
# Invariance Principle: Krasovskii-Lasalle LaSalle's Theorem

LaSalle's invariance principle is a tool for assessing asymptotic stability properties of  $\bar{x} = 0$  for  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  when  $\dot{V}(x)$  is only semi-definite

## Review

A set  $G \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  is (positively) invariant for  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  if

$$x_0 \in G \implies \phi(t, x_0) \in G, \quad \forall t \geq 0.$$





# Invariance Principle: Local LaSalle theorem

## Theorem: LaSalle's Invariance Principle

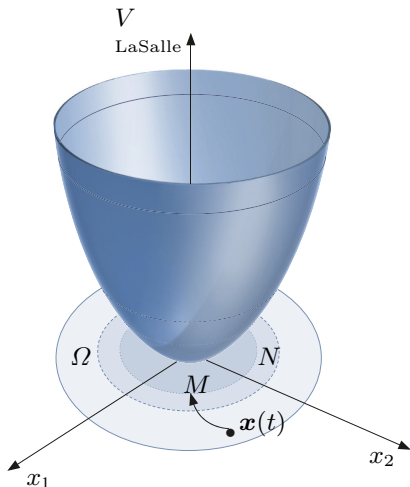
Let  $\dot{x} = f(x)$  be a system with a compact positively invariant set  $\Omega$  and let  $V_{\text{LaSalle}}(x)$  be a continuously differentiable function with

$$\dot{V}_{\text{LaSalle}} \leq 0$$

for all  $x \in \Omega$ . Further, let  $N$  denote the set of all points  $x \in \Omega$  with

$$\dot{V}_{\text{LaSalle}} = 0$$

and let  $M$  denote the largest invariant set in  $N$ . In this case all solutions  $x(t)$  that start within  $\Omega$  tend to the set  $M$  for  $t \rightarrow \infty$



# Invariance Principle: Local LaSalle theorem

## Remarks

The theorem provides sufficient conditions for  $\Omega$  to be a region of attraction for the set  $M$

Notable case: when  $M = \{0\}$  the theorem gives a region of attraction (asymptotic stability) for the equilibrium state  $\bar{x} = 0$ .



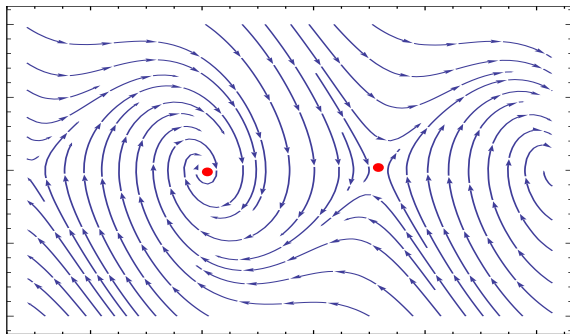
# Invariance Principle: Local LaSalle theorem

Q. what is the largest invariant set ?

1.  $x_2 \equiv 0 \implies \dot{x}_2 \equiv 0$

2.  $\dot{x}_2 = 0 = -\frac{g}{l} \sin(x_1) - \frac{k}{m} \cdot 0 = -\frac{g}{l} \sin(x_1)$

$\sin(x_1) = 0$  must be satisfied. Locally, on the set of  $x_1 \in (-\pi, \pi)$ , this is only satisfied for  $x_1 = 0$ . Thus  $\bar{x} = 0$  is locally asymptotically stable



# Lyapunov theory for LTI systems

Let  $x = \bar{x}$  be an equilibrium for the autonomous nonlinear system

$$\dot{x} = f(x) \quad (6)$$

where  $f : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  is a continuously differentiable function and  $\mathcal{D}$  is a neighborhood of  $\bar{x}$ . Let

$$A = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x) \right|_{x=\bar{x}}$$

Then:

$\bar{x}$  is **asymptotically stable** if  $\text{Re}(\lambda_i) < 0$  for all eigenvalues of  $A$ .

$\bar{x}$  is **stable** if  $\text{Re}(\lambda_i) < 0$  and  $\text{Re}(\lambda_i) = 0$  for one of the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

$\bar{x}$  is **unstable** if  $\text{Re}(\lambda_i) > 0$  for one or more of the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

In linear systems, *local stability*  $\iff$  *global stability*.

In nonlinear systems, this is not true.

# Lyapunov theory for LTI systems

## Review: Positive Definite Matrices

Symmetric matrix  $M = M^T$  is

1. **positive definite** (pd) if  $x^T M x > 0, \forall x \neq 0$ .
2. **positive semi-definite** (psd) if  $x^T M x \geq 0, \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

Lemma:

$$M = M^T > 0 \iff \lambda_i(M) > 0$$

$$M = M^T \geq 0 \iff \lambda_i(M) \geq 0$$

## Properties of the quadratic function $x^T M x$

From (1) and (2) one has

if  $M > 0$ ,  $V(x) = x^T M x$  is a positive definite (pd) function.

if  $M \geq 0$ ,  $V(x) = x^T M x$  is a positive semi-definite (pd) function.

# Lyapunov functions for LTI systems

## Lyapunov functions for LTI systems

For linear system  $\dot{x} = Ax$ .

Consider as Lyapunov candidate function  $V(x) = x^T P x$ ,  $P = P^T > 0$ .

$V(x)$  is quadratic, gpd and radially unbounded.

$$\dot{V}(x) = \dot{x}^T P x + x^T P \dot{x} = x^T (A^T P + P A) x$$

If  $A^T P + P A < 0$ , i.e. there is  $Q > 0$  symmetric such that

$$A^T P + P A = -Q \quad (7)$$

then  $\dot{V}$  is globally negative definite and by the second Lyapunov method the origin is globally asymptotically stable.

$A^T P + P A = -Q$  is called Lyapunov equation

# Lyapunov theorem for LTI systems

## Remarks

For LTI systems it is enough to consider quadratic Lyapunov functions.

Algorithm:

- choose  $Q > 0$  (e.g.  $Q=I$ )
- solve  $A^T P + P A = -Q$  (linear systems in the entries of the symmetric matrix  $P$ )
- The LTI system is AS if and only if  $P > 0$

**Example:**

$$\dot{x} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 4 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}}_A x$$

Eigenvalues of  $A$  :  $\{-1, -3\} \implies$  (global) asymptotic stability.

Choose  $Q = Q^T = I_{2 \times 2}$ . Let  $P = \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $p_{12} = p_{21}$ .



# Lyapunov theorem for LTI systems

Solve the Lyapunov equation  $A^T P + P A = -Q$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 4 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} p_{11} & p_{12} \\ p_{21} & p_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 4 \\ 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solving for  $p_{11}$ ,  $p_{12}$  and  $p_{22}$  gives

$$\begin{cases} 2p_{11} & = & -1 \\ -4p_{12} + 4p_{11} & = & 0 \\ 8p_{12} - 6p_{22} & = & -1 \end{cases}$$

Solving the linear systems one gets

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 5/6 \end{bmatrix} > 0$$

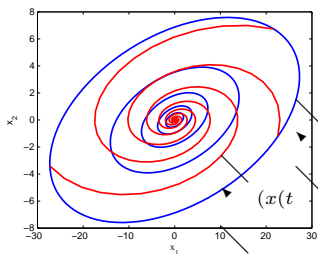
Since  $P > 0 \implies$  the systems is AS.

## Example

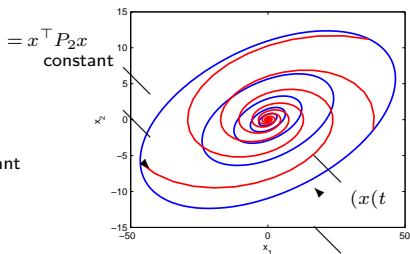
$$\dot{x} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -16 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}}_A x \quad \text{Eigenvalues of } A : \{-1 \pm j\sqrt{15}\}$$

Solve  $PA + A^T P = -Q$  for P:

$$Q_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow P_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.33 & -0.5 \\ -0.5 & 4.25 \end{bmatrix}, Q_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.41 & -0.19 \\ -0.19 & 0.11 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow P_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.12 & -0.21 \\ -0.21 & 1.67 \end{bmatrix}$$



$= x^T P_1 x$   
constant



$= x^T P_2 x$   
constant

any choice of  $Q > 0$  gives  $P > 0$  (since  $A$  is strictly stable)  
but not every  $P > 0$  gives  $Q > 0$